

CLERK'S OFFICE

APPROVED

Date: 3-29-11

Submitted by: ASSEMBLY MEMBERS GRAY-JACKSON

Prepared by: Assembly Counsel's Office

For reading: March 29, 2011

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

AR NO. 2011-93

A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY IN SUPPORT OF ALASKA SENATE BILL 53, REESTABLISHING ALASKA WOMEN'S COMMISSION.

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4 WHEREAS, passage of Senate Bill (SB) 53 will reestablish the Alaska Commission on
5 the Status of Women with nine non-salaried public members appointed by the governor on a
6 nonpartisan and nondiscriminatory basis, with consideration given to recommendations made by
7 civic organizations, employer groups, labor unions, homemakers' clubs, and other organizations
8 having an interest in the welfare and status of women; geographical and occupational diversity;
9 representation of senior citizens, minorities, low income families, persons with disabilities, and
10 women with differing numbers of children; and
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12 WHEREAS, the Alaska Legislature first established the Alaska Commission on the Status
13 of Women in 1978, to serve as a statewide network for study and action on a variety of issues
14 including the achievement of equal legal, economic, social and political status specifically for
15 women in Alaska; and
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17 WHEREAS, in 1983, the Alaska Commission on the Status of Women was renewed and
18 renamed the Alaska Women's Commission, and continued to develop and produce a
19 comprehensive statewide plan that identified the needs of children and youth, publishing annual
20 reports and making recommendations to enhance the quality of life for women and children in
21 Alaska; and
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23 WHEREAS, the Alaska Women's Commission merged with the Alaska Human Relations
24 Commission in 1993, but the Alaska Human Relations Commission has never been funded and
25 was declared inactive in 1996; and
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27 WHEREAS, Alaska has the highest rates of sexual assault and domestic violence in the
28 nation, with women and children continuing to be the most common victims of domestic abuse;
29 and
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31 WHEREAS, Alaska has a struggling foster child care system and Alaska's high school
32 students, both male and female, drop out at alarming rates; and
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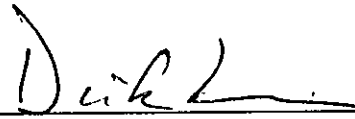
34 WHEREAS, there is an extreme and renewed need for a commission focused on
35 women's issues and the reestablishment of the Alaska Women's Commission is an additional
36 step toward reversing the current trends that have negatively impacted women and children in
37 our community and throughout our state;
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39 NOW, THEREFORE, the Anchorage Assembly resolves:
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41 The Anchorage Assembly supports passage of Senate Bill 53, reestablishing the
42 Alaska Commission on the Status of Women, and all our state legislators are encouraged
43 during this legislative session, to move forward measures to support and address the
44 challenges faced by women and children within our communities, thereby strengthening
45 our state and ensuring our future.

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PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 29th day of March, 2011.



Chair

ATTEST:



Municipal Clerk