

Introduced by: Council Member Cleworth
Introduced: August 24, 2015

RESOLUTION NO. 4686

**A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE CITY OF FAIRBANKS' CONCERN
ABOUT ADDITIONAL STATE OF ALASKA PROGRAMS AFFECTING
FUNDING OF EXISTING PROGRAMS**

WHEREAS, Governor Walker has unilaterally initiated Medicaid expansion; and

WHEREAS, the federal government currently has committed to pay 100% of the cost of Medicaid expansion through 2016, after which participating states will be required to pay an incrementally increasing match, currently set to cap out at 10% in 2020; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska has experienced rapidly diminishing revenues caused by declining oil production and oil prices; and

WHEREAS, many participating states are alarmed at the growing cost of Medicaid expansion and the larger than predicted enrollment ("Medicaid enrollment surges, stirs worry in some states," Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, July 20, 2015); and

WHEREAS, the City of Fairbanks over many years has assumed responsibilities formerly undertaken by the State; and

WHEREAS, the State no longer gives Municipal Assistance and has continued, on an erratic basis, Revenue Sharing, which originally was intended to offset transferred costs from the State and give municipalities their fair share of oil revenue; and

WHEREAS, many Alaskan villages heavily rely on Revenue Sharing, which if cut or eliminated could force villages to eliminate jobs which would result in mandatory PERS termination studies; and

WHEREAS, the State has not dispersed Capital Funds to municipalities for several years and most likely will not restore this funding for some time, which greatly impacts local infrastructure needs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Fairbanks is concerned that any new programs undertaken by the State of Alaska may dilute funds available for Revenue Sharing, capital projects, school districts, the University of Alaska, and other important programs that will impact Fairbanks, and because of this, the City of Fairbanks would be greatly interested in learning the State Administration's plans to make sure this dilution does not come to fruition.

PASSED and APPROVED this 24th day of August 2015.

James D. Williams for Mayor Eberhart

John Eberhart, Mayor

AYES: Gatewood, Walley, Pruhs, Matherly, Staley, Cleworth
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Eberhart
APPROVED: August 24, 2015

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

D. Danyielle Snider
D. Danyielle Snider, CMC, City Clerk

Paul Ewers
Paul Ewers, City Attorney