

Introduced by: Mayor Cleworth
Date: December 10, 2012

RESOLUTION NO. 4552

A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO THE INCLUSION OF ALASKA BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) IN THE NORTH AMERICAN EMISSION CONTROL AREA (ECA)

WHEREAS, the cruise industry is a major component of the Interior region travel-related economy, with 58% of summer visitors to Fairbanks being on cruise-land tours; and

WHEREAS, the health of the state's economy is directly tied to the cost of living and doing business in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the cruise industry may need to reduce port times because of the ECA rulings, thereby reducing business opportunities for hundreds of Alaska owned and operated tour businesses; and

WHEREAS, the potential effect on Alaska's economy due to the industry redeploying vessels because of the cost of doing business within the North American ECA could be devastating; and

WHEREAS, the EPA conducted no state-specific air sampling before proposing this rule. The EPA's "one size fits all" proposal does not work for Alaska's unique transportation corridor, and the regulations place a heavy financial burden on the ability of local economies to absorb increased shipping costs for food and supplies, as well as the ability to insure that tourism, a vital part of Alaska's economy, is not severely impacted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Fairbanks supports the State of Alaska in its lawsuit against the EPA for the inclusion of Alaska in the North American Emissions Control Area. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City of Fairbanks requests that the EPA exempt Alaska until such time as reasonable fuel standards can be proposed based on actual data and a balanced policy can be developed that considers the economic impact on all of Alaska's communities.

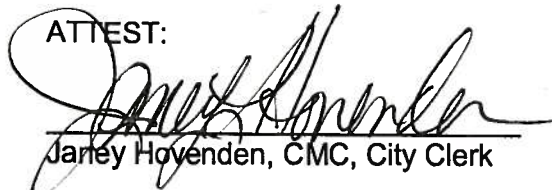
PASSED and APPROVED this 10th day of December 2012.



JERRY CLEWORTH, MAYOR

AYES: PASSED and APPROVED on the Consent Agenda
NAYS:
ABSENT:
APPROVED: December 10, 2012

ATTEST:



Jarney Hovenden, CMC, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM



Paul Ewers, City Attorney



RESOLUTION No. 03-2012

**A RESOLUTION OF THE FAIRBANKS CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU (FCVB)
IN OPPOSITION TO THE INCLUSION OF ALASKA BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)
IN THE NORTH AMERICAN EMISSION CONTROL AREA (ECA)**

WHEREAS, the cruise industry is a major component of the Interior region travel-related economy annually with 58% of summer visitors to Fairbanks being on a cruise land tour; and

WHEREAS, the health of the state's economy is directly tied to the cost of living and doing business in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, Alaska is already an expensive place to do business when compared to the lower 48 states largely due to its remote location and cost of transportation of food and supplies throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, the cruise industry may need to reduce port times because of the ECA rulings, thereby reducing business opportunities for hundreds of Alaska owned- and operated-tour businesses; and

WHEREAS, the potential effect on the Alaska economy due to the industry redeploying vessels because of the costs of doing business within the North American ECA area could be devastating; and

WHEREAS, the EPA conducted no state-specific air sampling before proposing this rule thus putting into question the veracity of the modeling data; and

WHEREAS, ships leaving populated areas such as Los Angeles only need to burn such fuel for short periods of time until they reach the 200 mile mark. However, ships traveling through southeast and southern Alaska oceans must make their entire voyage in the North American ECA area burning the expensive fuel the entire time; and

WHEREAS, the fuel is markedly more expensive causing the cost of shipping food and supplies to increase substantially; and

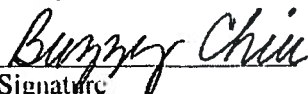
WHEREAS, FCVB does desire good air quality standards based on sound modeling and testing for its citizens and visitors; and

WHEREAS, while FCVB is supportive of clean air and appropriate emission control, the EPA's one size fits all does not work for Alaska's unique transportation corridor. Further, the regulations place a heavy financial burden on local economies' ability to absorb increased shipping costs for food and supplies as well as insuring that tourism, a vital part of Alaska's economy is not severely impacted -- especially on questionable data.

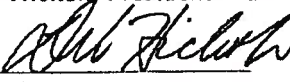
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Fairbanks Convention & Visitors Bureau supports the State of Alaska in its lawsuit against the EPA for the inclusion of Alaska in the North American Emissions Control Area. Be it further resolved that the Fairbanks Convention & Visitors Bureau requests that the EPA exempt Alaska until such time as reasonable fuel standards can be proposed based on actual data and a balanced policy be developed that considers the economic impact on all of Alaska's communities.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Board of Directors of the Fairbanks Convention and Visitors Bureau on October 31, 2012.

Buzzy Chiu, Chair, Board of Directors


Signature

Deb Hickok, President and CEO


Signature