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February 26, 2018

To: State of Alaska Legislature
Re: HCR No. 19, a resolution urging Governor Bill Walker to issue an administrative order recognizing a linguistic 2 emergency.

Dear Governor Walker,

The Anchorage Public Library is in support of the proposed resolution to issue an administrative order recognizing a linguistic emergency and initiating and strengthening, legislative and policy measures that prioritize the survival and continued use of Alaska Native languages.

Our Library is also concerned about this issue and over the past year we have been working with the Alaska Native Heritage Center, First Alaskans Institute, the Native Village of Eklutna and other partners to determine how the Anchorage Public Library can play a stronger role in the preservation, education and celebration of Alaska Native languages.

We welcome any efforts from the State of Alaska to further prioritize this important cause and will gladly become a partner in any future efforts.

Thank you,

Mary Jo Torgeson
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MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE