

March 19th, 2015

Greetings Senators of the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee,

First and foremost, thank you for your service and dedication to the People and Communities of Alaska. We commend your conscience, good judgment, and leadership in this, our 29th Alaska State legislature.

We write you today as the Board of Directors of the Friends of the Juneau-Douglas City Museum. On behalf of our Members, the fifty museums and cultural centers across the State, and the public at large, we request that you accept and include our Resolution of Support for Senate Bill 61, sponsored by Senator Stevens, with House Companion Bill 52, sponsored by Representative Herron.

Please support our houses of the past so that we may continue to call upon them in navigating the present and future.

Thank you again, enjoy your spring,



Joel Probst, Friends of the Juneau-Douglas City Museum President
Mike Blackwell – Katrina Woolford Pearson – Jim Geraghty
Don Harris – Mike Pearson – Jean McBride – Kathryn Cohen

SB 61

SENATE BILL NO. 61 BY SENATOR STEVENS, entitled:

"An Act establishing a museum construction grant program in the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development."

HB 52

HOUSE BILL NO. 52 by Representative HERRON, entitled:

"An Act establishing a museum construction grant program in the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development."

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF THE FRIENDS OF THE JUNEAU-DOUGLAS CITY MUSEUM HOUSE BILL 52 AND SENATE BILL 61, ESTABLISHING A MUSEUM CONSTRUCTION GRANT PROGRAM IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, The Friends of the Juneau-Douglas City Museum is organized exclusively to engage in activities within the provisions of Section 501(c)(3) to maintain an association of persons interested in the mission of the Juneau-Douglas City Museum; focus public attention on the Juneau-Douglas City Museum, facility, and needs; stimulate use of Juneau-Douglas City Museum services; receive and encourage gifts, endowments and bequests to the Juneau-Douglas City Museum; support and cooperate with the Juneau-Douglas City Museum in developing special services, programs, and exhibits; and do all and everything incidental to and in furtherance of the accomplishment of the objects and purposes stated herein.

WHEREAS, Museums and cultural centers are anchor institutions in Alaskan communities of every size and contribute to our economy and wellbeing through employment and cultural tourism while protecting and promoting important regional cultural history.

WHEREAS, Museums and cultural centers protect and preserve the artifacts and stories that reflect our history and culture, promoting local pride and establishing our sense of place.

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of Alaska, in its current legislative session, will be considering whether to approve HB 52 and SB 61, acts establishing a matching grant program for museum construction, expansion, and major renovation; and

WHEREAS, an entity, individual, organization, or municipality in charge of construction, expansion, or major renovation of an eligible museum may apply to the department for a matching grant under regulations adopted by the department; and

WHEREAS, subject to appropriation, the department shall award not more than 50 percent of the total proposed grant project costs to an eligible applicant; and

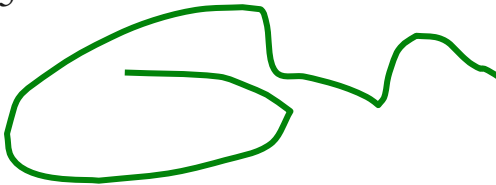
WHEREAS, “major renovation” means a significant physical upgrade that allows a museum to better preserve artifacts and present artifacts to the public or improve space to allow a museum to provide improved educational services to the public; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Friends of the Juneau-Douglas City Museum as follows:

Section 1: That the Friends of the Juneau-Douglas City Museum supports the passage of Legislative House Bill 52 and Legislative Senate Bill 61.

Section 2: This resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND APPROVED by a duly constituted quorum of the Friends of the Juneau-Douglas City Museum on this 17th day of March 2015



Joel Probst, Friends of the Juneau-Douglas City Museum President
Mike Blackwell – Katrina Woolford Pearson – Jim Geraghty
Don Harris – Mike Pearson – Jean McBride – Kathryn Cohen