

**PETERSBURG BOROUGH
RESOLUTION #2026-10**

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A RETURN TO A DEFINED BENEFIT
RETIREMENT SYSTEM FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYEES, INCLUDING HOUSE BILL 78**

WHEREAS, the ability of the Petersburg Borough and the State of Alaska to attract and retain qualified, experienced public employees is essential to maintaining effective and reliable public services; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska's transition in 2006 from a defined benefit retirement system to a defined contribution retirement system for public employees has been associated with increased employee turnover and loss of experienced personnel, as compared to the former defined benefit system; and

WHEREAS, a 2021 study by the Alaska Governor's Working Group on Teacher Retention and Recruitment identified access to a defined benefit retirement system as one of the top factors influencing recruitment and retention of teachers and educators; and

WHEREAS, increased turnover and workforce shortages place additional strain on remaining employees, often resulting in higher overtime costs, reduced service levels, and greater difficulty in recruiting qualified applicants; and

WHEREAS, providing a defined benefit retirement option may serve as an effective tool to improve recruitment, restore services, and retain experienced public employees for the benefit of Petersburg Borough residents; and

WHEREAS, legislation currently under consideration by the Alaska State Legislature, House Bill 78, would provide certain employees within the Public Employees' Retirement System and the Teachers' Retirement System the option to return to a defined benefit retirement plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Assembly of the Petersburg Borough expresses its support for House Bill 78, as introduced and prior to the adoption of Amendment 1, which would allow eligible public employees the option to return to a defined benefit retirement system; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk is directed to distribute copies of this resolution to the Alaska State Legislature and the Office of the Governor.

PASSED and APPROVED by the Assembly of the Petersburg Borough, Alaska this 13th day of April, 2026.

ATTEST:



Rebecca Regula, Borough Clerk



Jergh Stanton Gregor, Vice Mayor