



ALASKA  
MUNICIPAL  
LEAGUE

January  
2023

# Leaning Local

Strengthening Local Governments

Senate  
Community  
and Regional  
Affairs

Nils  
Andreassen

An abstract graphic of a molecular structure, consisting of various sized blue circles (nodes) connected by thin blue lines (edges), is centered in the background of the slide. The circles vary in size, with some being significantly larger than others, creating a sense of depth and complexity. The lines are thin and connect the nodes in a non-linear, branching pattern.

# AML ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

# Mission \* Purpose \* Objectives

## **The purpose of the Alaska Municipal League is:**

- To safeguard the interests, rights, and privileges of Alaskan municipalities as they may be affected by Federal and State governmental actions.
- To secure cooperation among municipalities of the State in a thorough study of local problems and in the application of efficient methods of local government.
- To provide means whereby municipal officials may interchange ideas, experiences, and obtain expert advice.

## **The objectives of the Alaska Municipal League are:**

- To perpetuate and develop the League as an agency for the cooperation of municipalities in the state of Alaska for the practical study of municipal affairs.
- To promote application of the best methods in all branches of municipal service by holding at least one conference annually for the discussion of problems of administration.
- To gather and circulate information and experience concerning the most approved methods of municipal administration.
- To secure general and municipal legislation at the state and federal levels which will be beneficial to the municipalities and inhabitants thereof, and to oppose legislation injurious thereto.
- To engage in the study and preparation of uniform ordinances, resolutions, and practices; and to do any and all other things necessary and proper for the benefit of the municipalities of Alaska.
- To develop appropriate membership services and programs that strengthen Alaskan local governments' ability to govern their own affairs and improve

## Broad Scope



**TUESDAY, AUGUST 9**  
Dena'ina Civic and  
Convention Center  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

## Tennessee's Road to Public Pension Plan Success

Municipality	2012 Rate	2012 Rev	2013
Bethel	0.00%		
Juneau	3.00%		
Cordova			
Craig	6.00%		
Denali Borough			
Dillingham	10.00%		1
Fairbanks	5.00%		
Fairbanks North Star Bc	5.00%		
False Pass			
Galena	0.00%		
Hoonah	0.00%		
Kake	0.00%		
Kotzebue	6.00%		
North Pole	5.00%		
Saint Mary's	3.00%		

State officials explain the importance of outreach and education around retirement readiness

ARTICLE

November 4, 2022

Read time: 7 min

Projects: [Public Sector Retirement Systems](#)

ev	2020 Rate	2020 Rev	2021 Rate	2021 Rev
333	15%	\$629,669	15%	\$385,889
197	3%	\$949,200	3%	\$859,703
			6%	\$41,607
334	6%	\$122,462	6%	\$122,462
			5%	\$55,795
278	10%	\$299,005	10%	\$231,923
448	5%	\$2,333,130	5%	\$2,346,009
445	5%	\$1,031,438	5%	\$1,110,744
354				
50	6%	\$20,284	6%	\$20,551
80	6%	\$82,879	6%	\$65,592
119	3%	\$19,318	3%	\$618
124	6%	\$278,294	6%	\$315,512
343	5%	\$23,486	3%	\$5,234

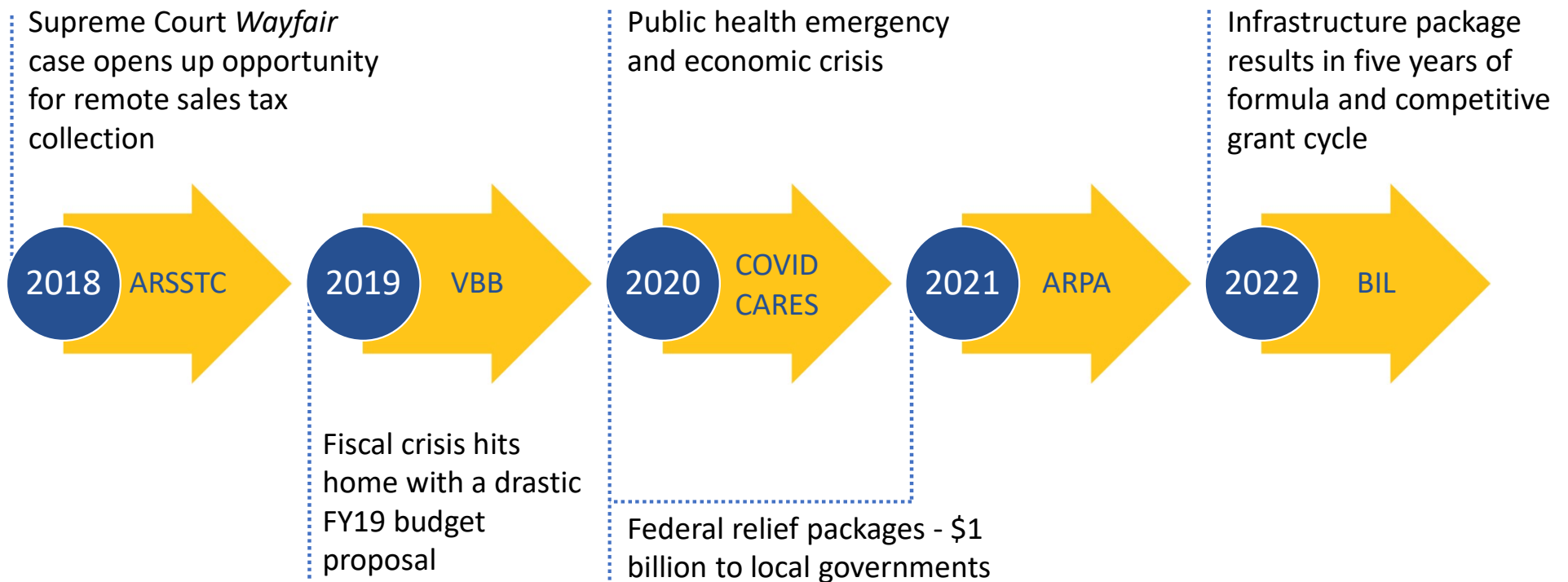
Thomas Lochner, Chief Strategy Officer, Arctic Slope  
Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc.



U.S. SENATOR FOR ALASKA  
**DAN SULLIVAN**



## Five Years



# Federal Funding Coordination

## ALASKA FEDERAL FUNDING

[HOME](#) [GRANTS](#) ▾ [ARPA](#) ▾ [INFRASTRUCTURE](#) ▾ [TRACKING](#) ▾ [RESOURCES](#) ▾ [🔍](#)

### Maximizing Alaska's benefits from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)

Between federal relief and infrastructure investment, Alaska's State, local, and Tribal governments have the opportunity to make formative change and address incredible need.

Begin your search here...

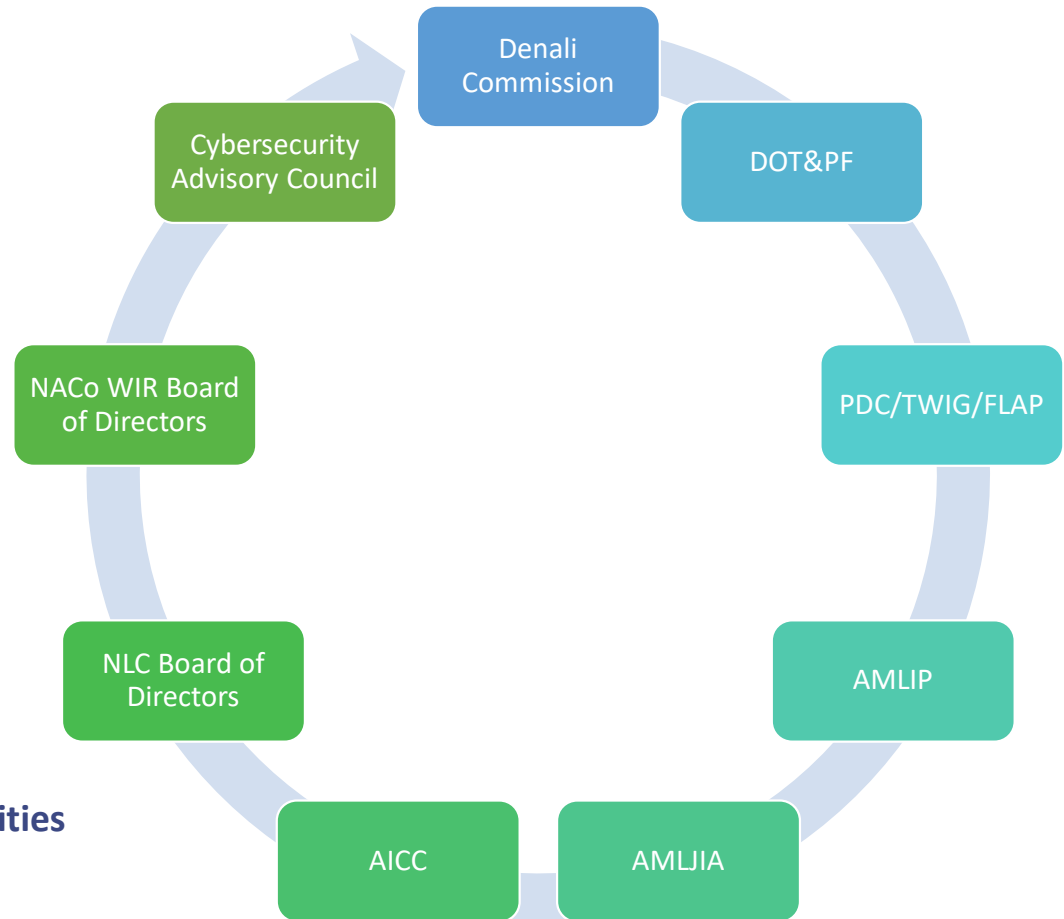
Search

This website is a clearinghouse for information and resources to help Alaska organizations make the most of federal funding available under the **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)** and the **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)**. This collaborative effort focus on resources relevant to Alaskans, tracking funds coming to Alaska as well as current grant opportunities.

## Roles to Remember

**Partnerships**

- National Association of Counties
- National League of Cities
- Alaska Infrastructure Coordinating Committee
- AML Joint Insurance Association
- AML Investment Pool
- Federal Lands Access Program
- Alaska Dept. of Transportation and Public Facilities





# ALASKA'S LOCAL GOVERNMENTS



# ALASKA'S LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

## Education

34 municipal  
school districts

4 greater than  
State contribution

## Transportation/ Public Works

Road Miles = DOT&PF  
37 Electric Utilities  
72 Ports and Harbors  
112 Water/Wastewater

## Public Safety

70 with police powers

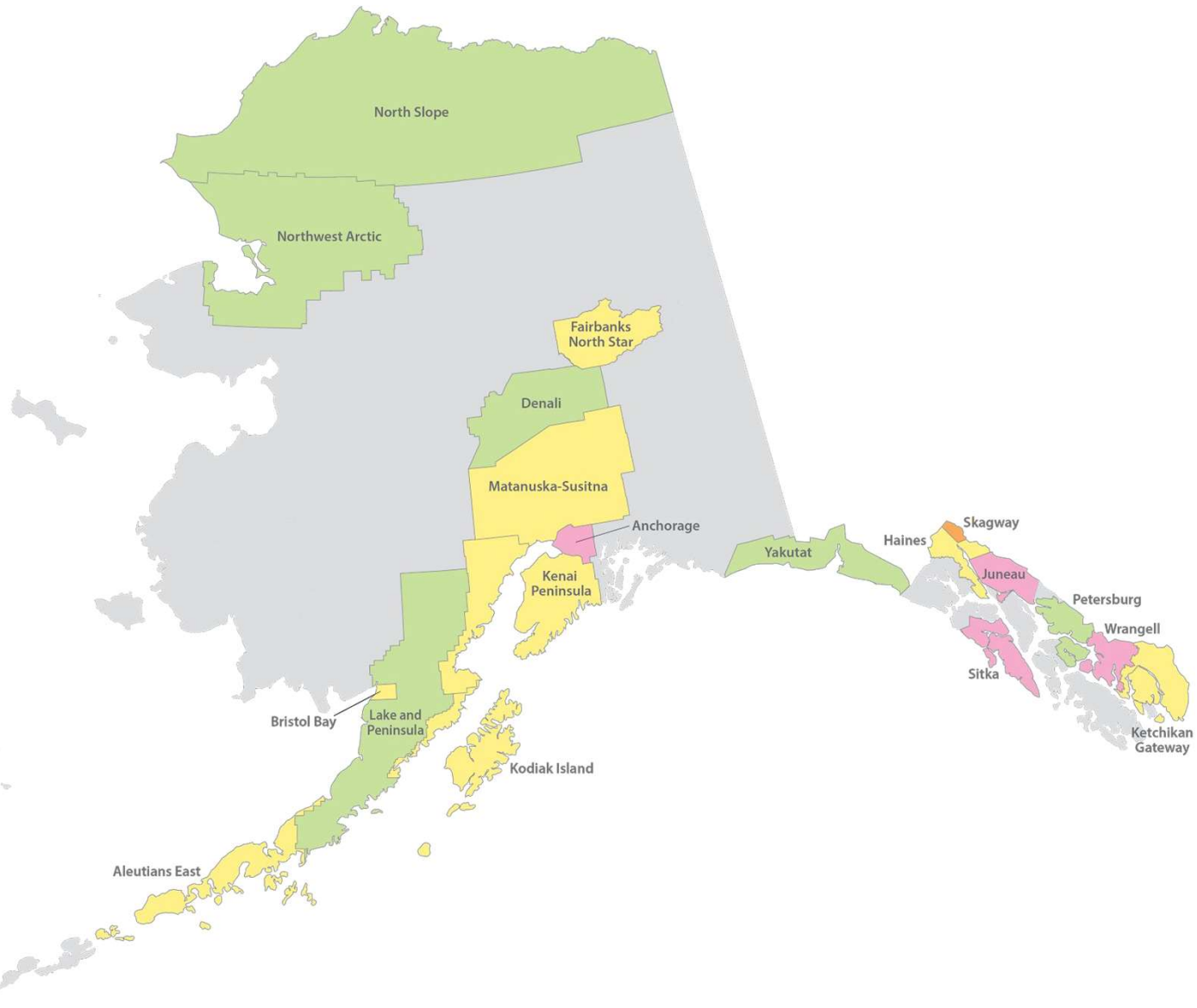
40 with combined  
budgets \$75 million  
more than DPS

## Quality of Life

47 Public Libraries  
Parks and Recreation  
Community Pools

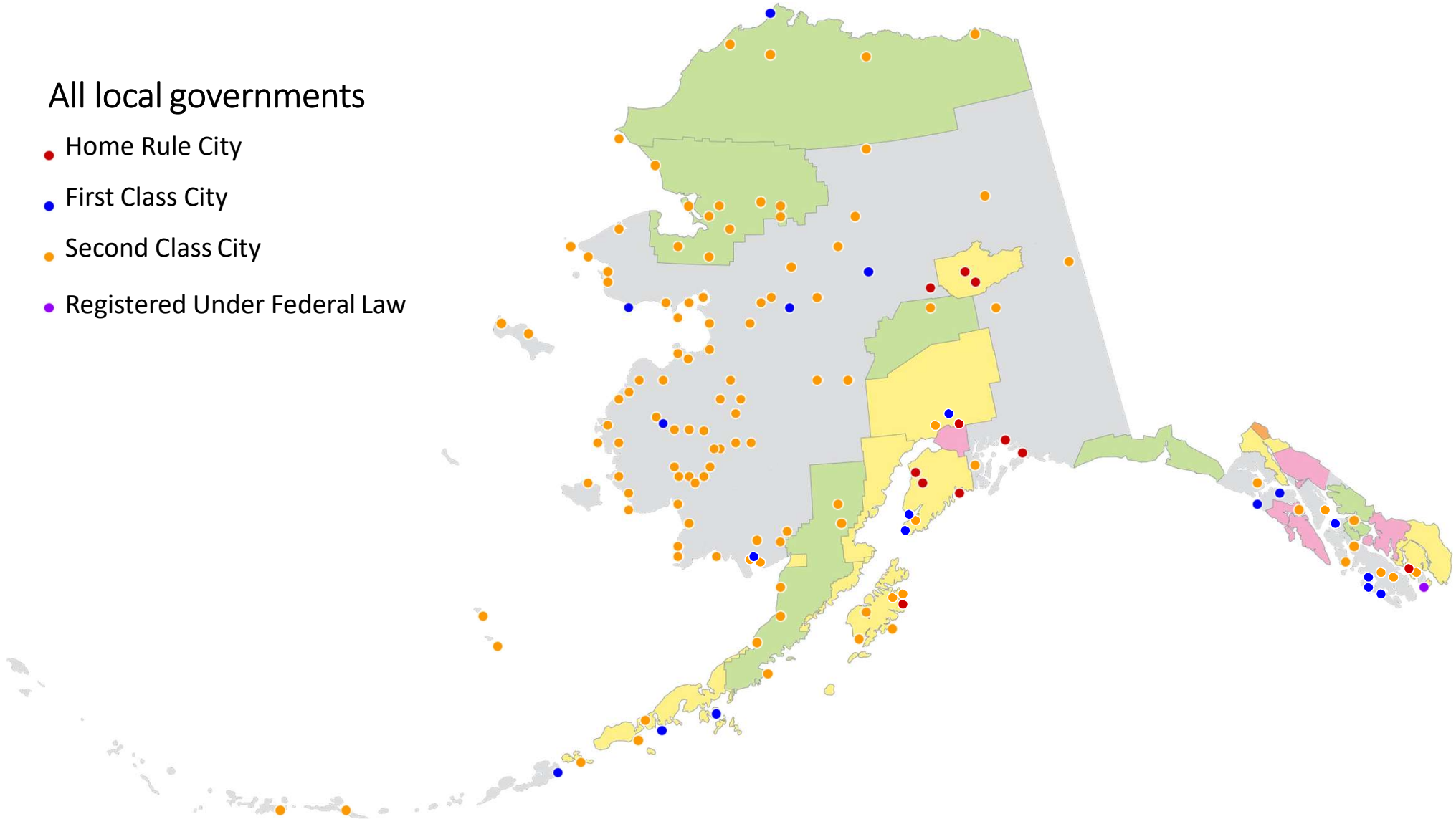
# Borough Classification

- Non-unified Home Rule
- Unified Home Rule
- First Class Borough
- Second Class Borough
- Unorganized Borough



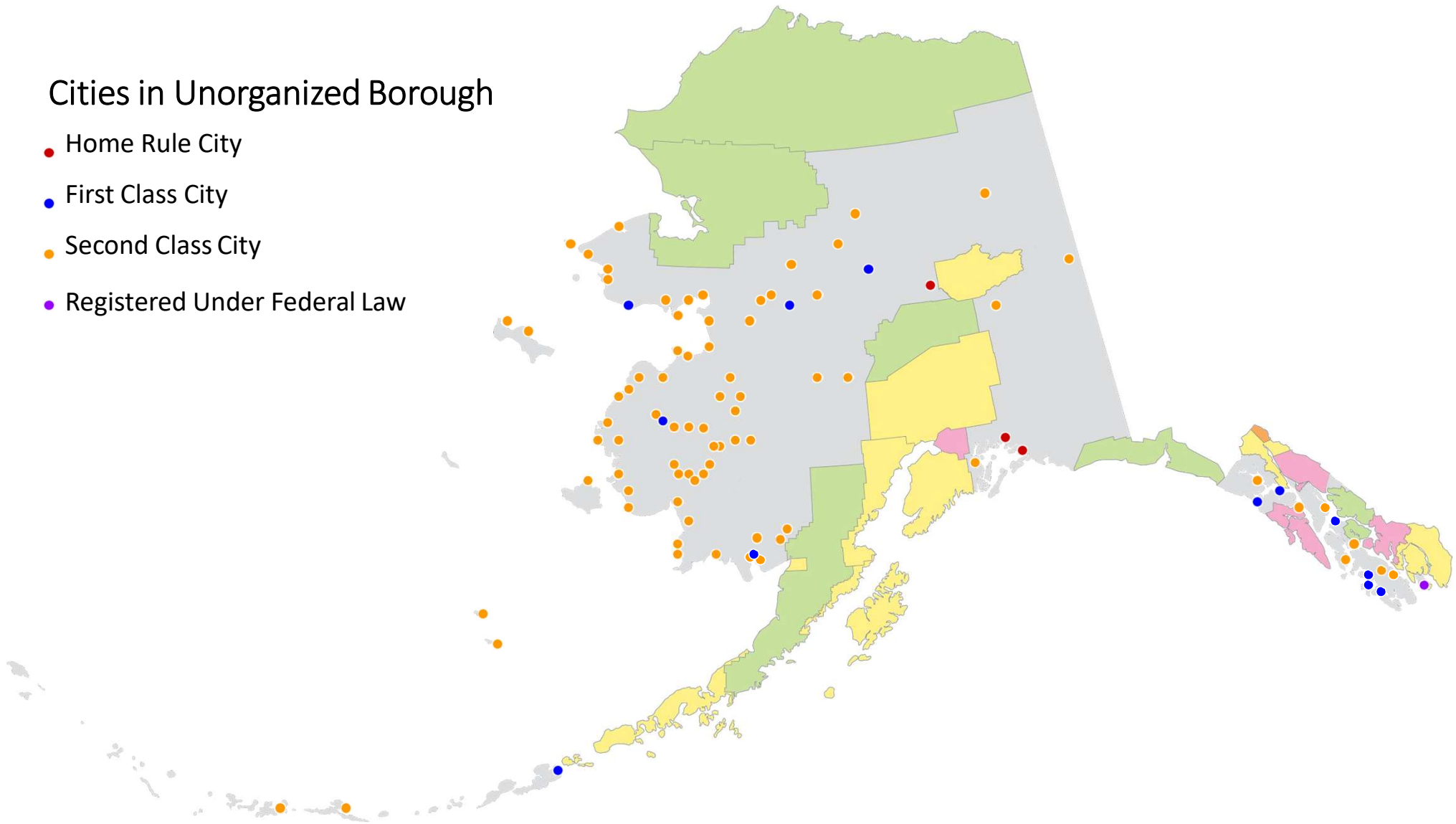
## All local governments

- Home Rule City
- First Class City
- Second Class City
- Registered Under Federal Law



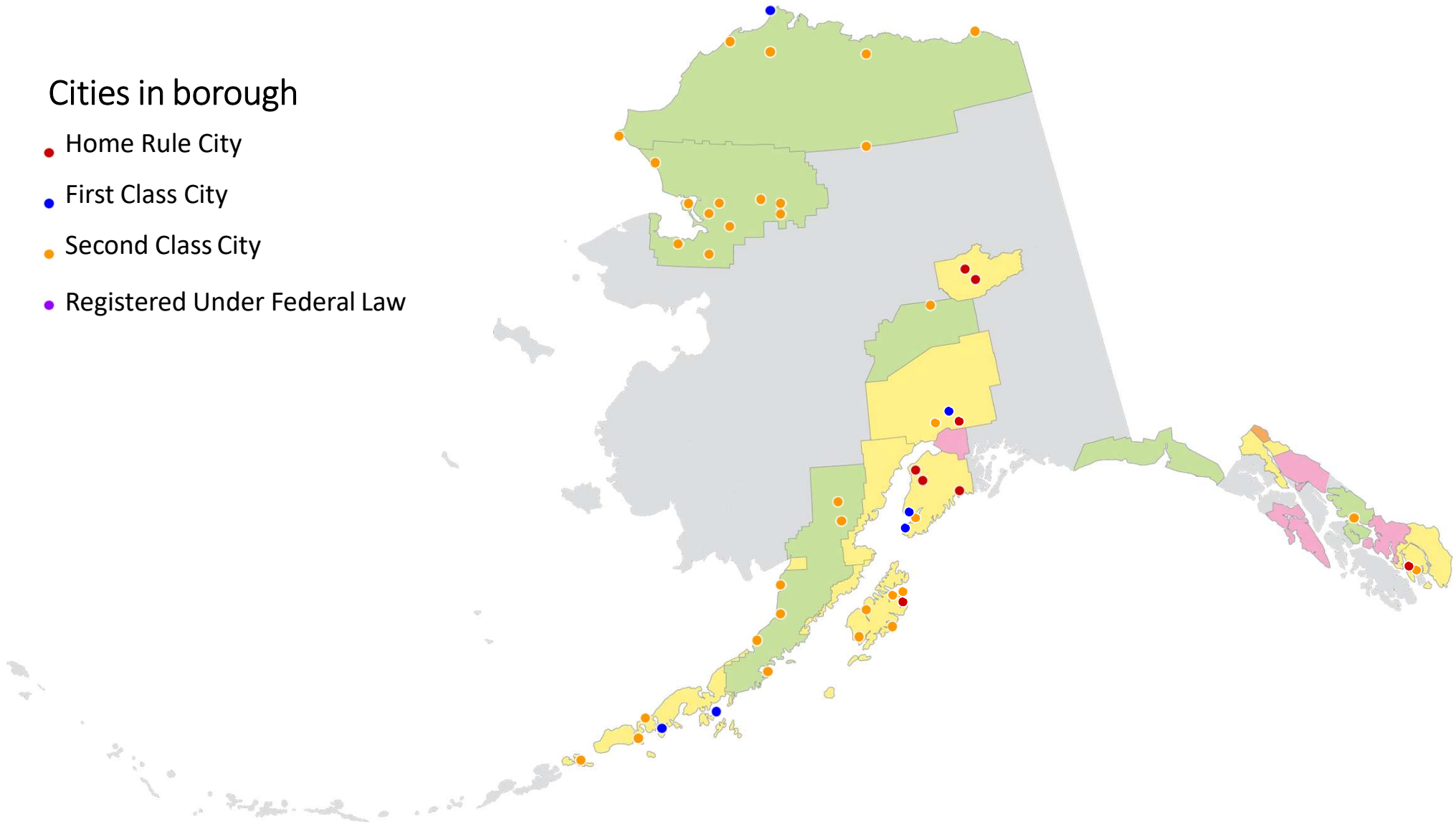
## Cities in Unorganized Borough

- Home Rule City
- First Class City
- Second Class City
- Registered Under Federal Law



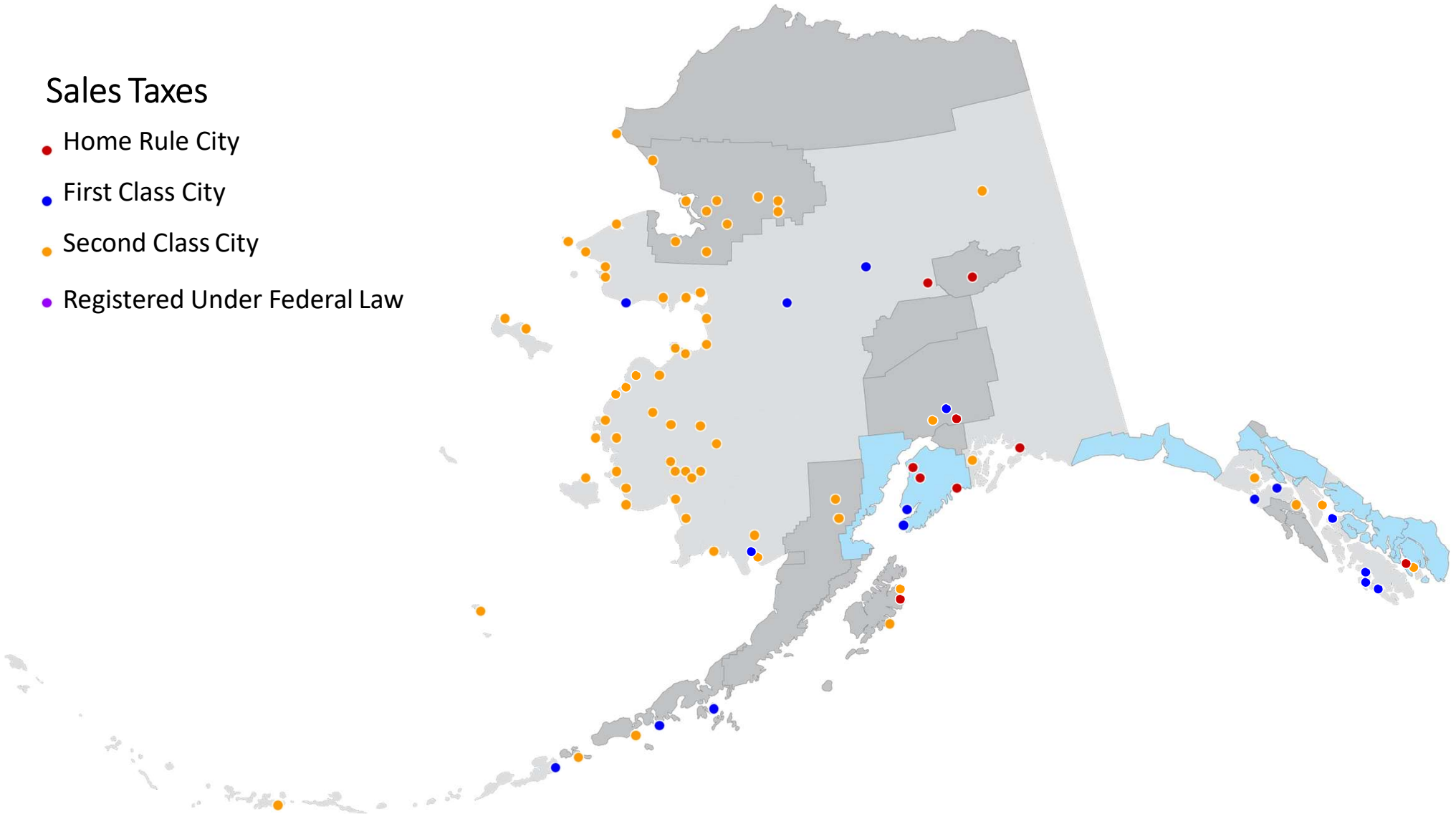
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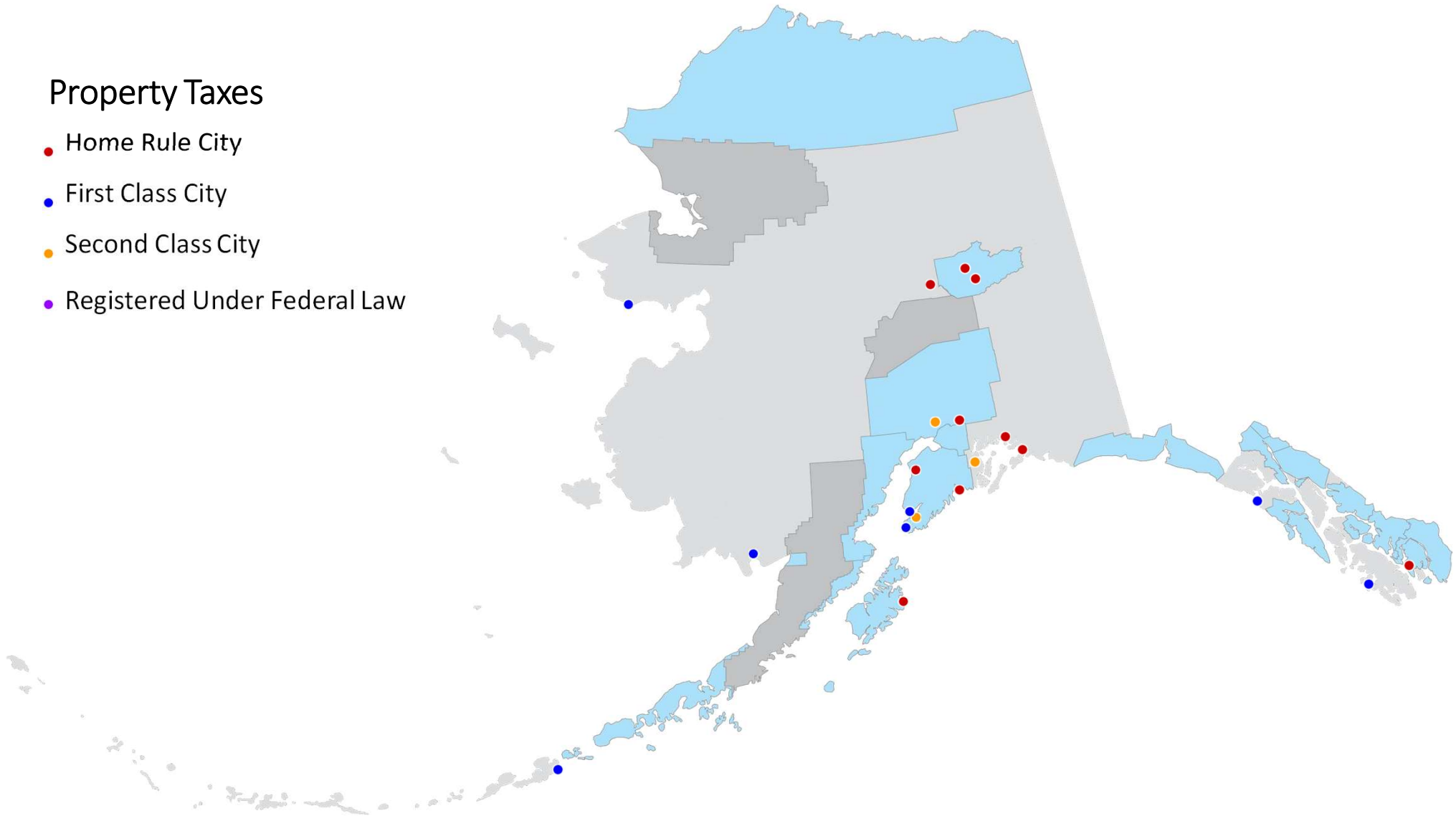


## Sales Taxes

- Home Rule City
- First Class City
- Second Class City
- Registered Under Federal Law

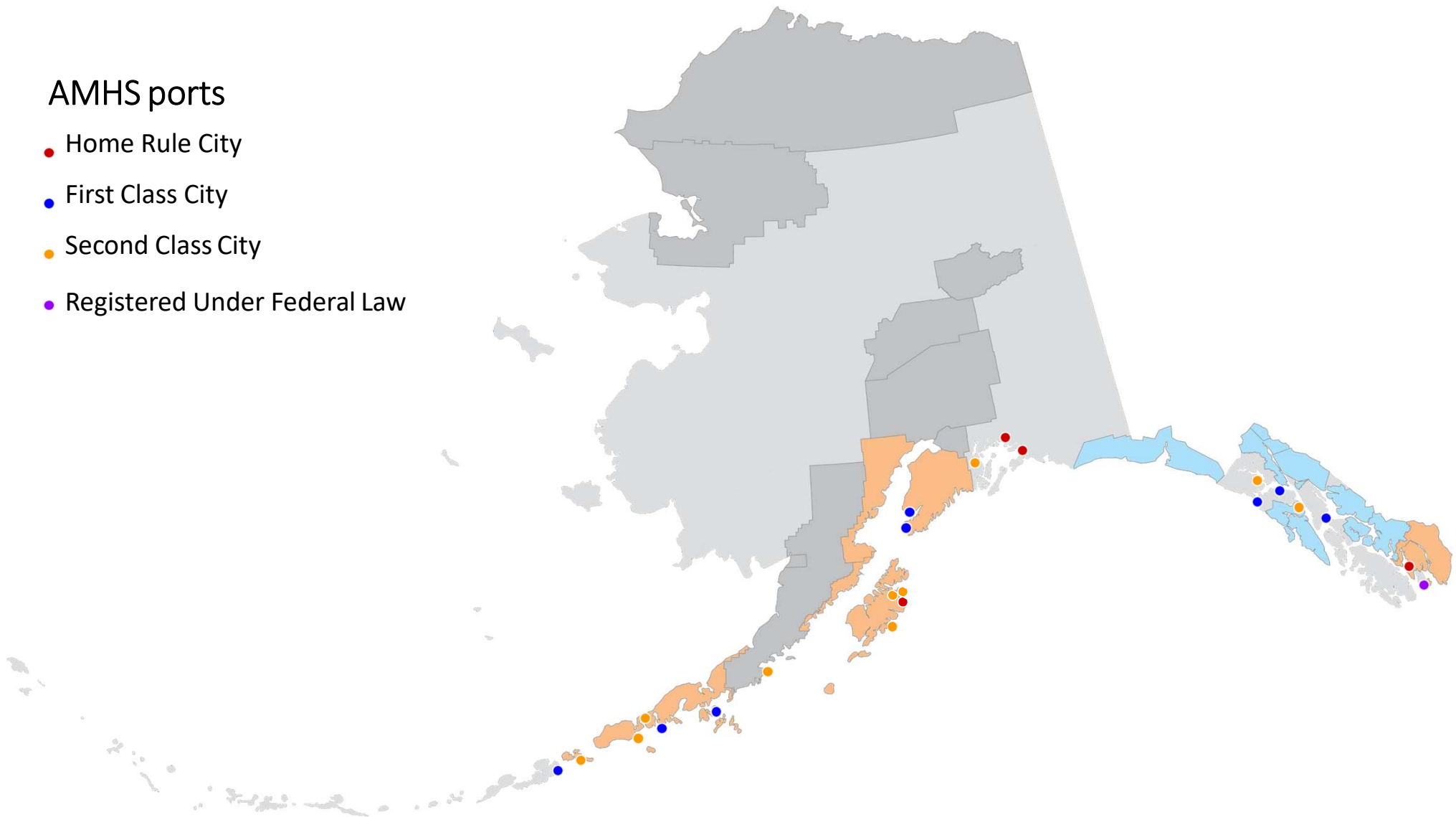


- Home Rule City
- First Class City
- Second Class City
- Registered Under Federal Law



- Home Rule City
- First Class City
- Second Class City
- Registered Under Federal Law

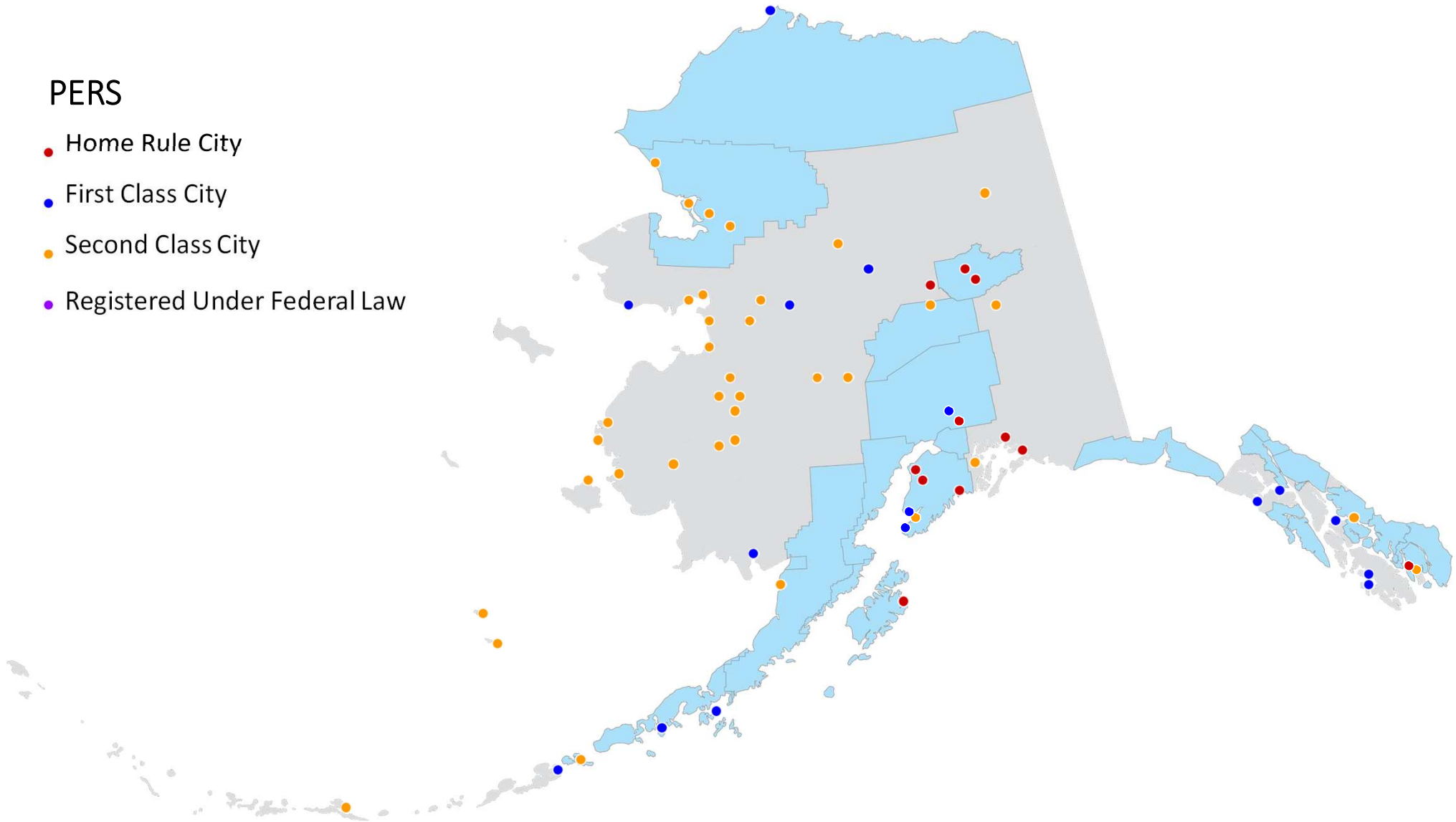
- Home Rule City
- First Class City
- Second Class City
- Registered Under Federal Law





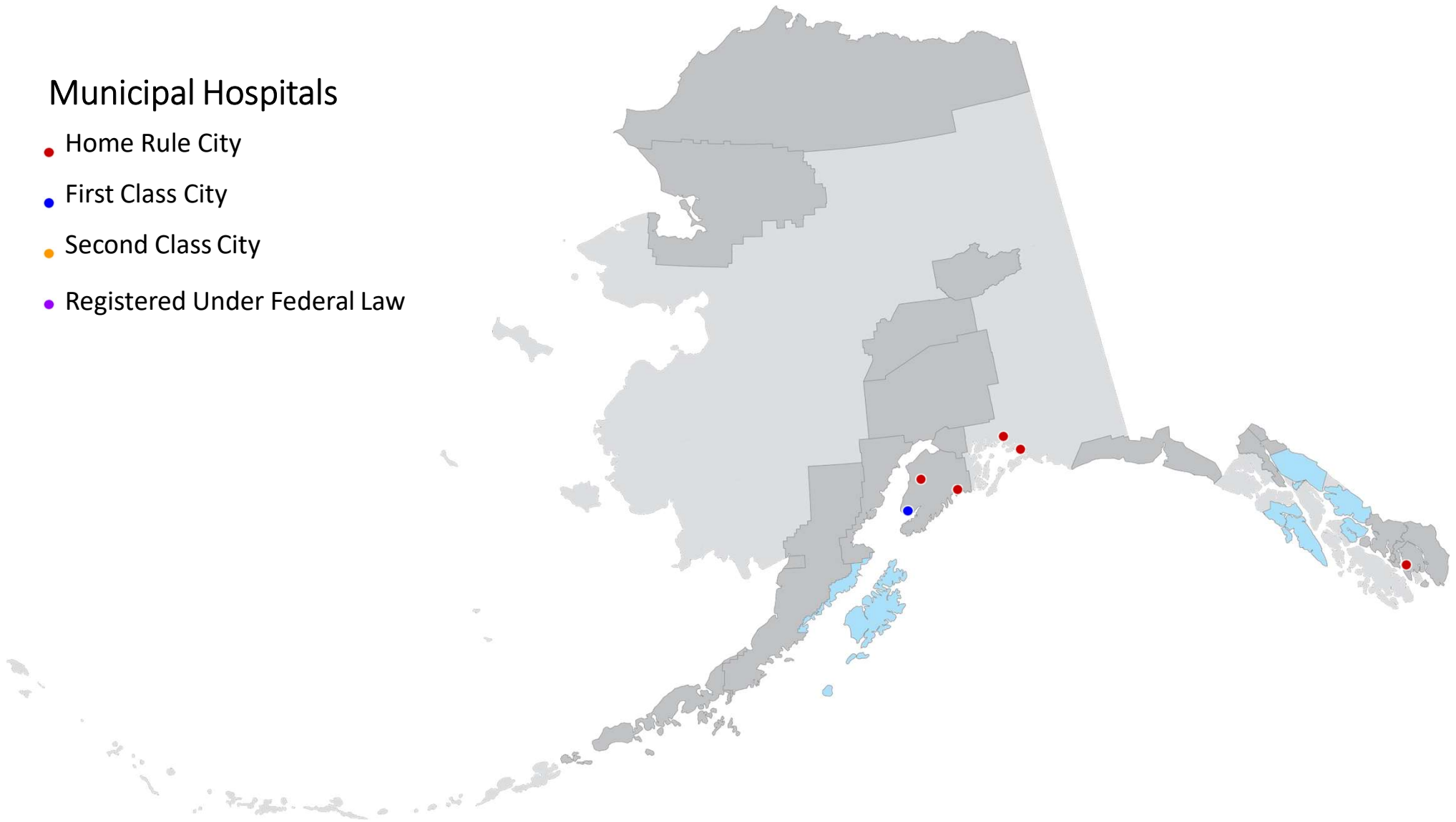
- Home Rule City
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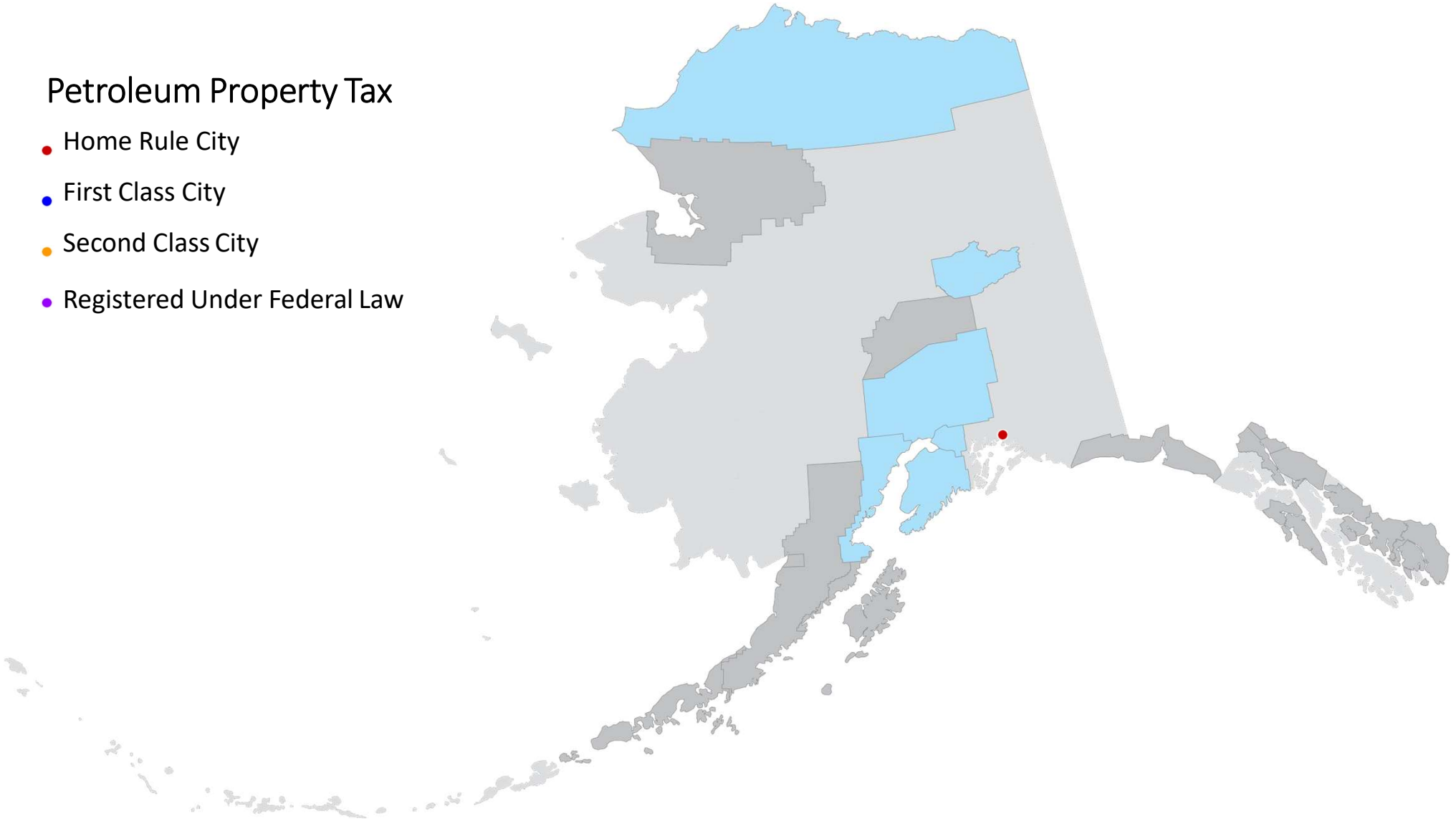
## Municipal Hospitals

- Home Rule City
- First Class City
- Second Class City
- Registered Under Federal Law



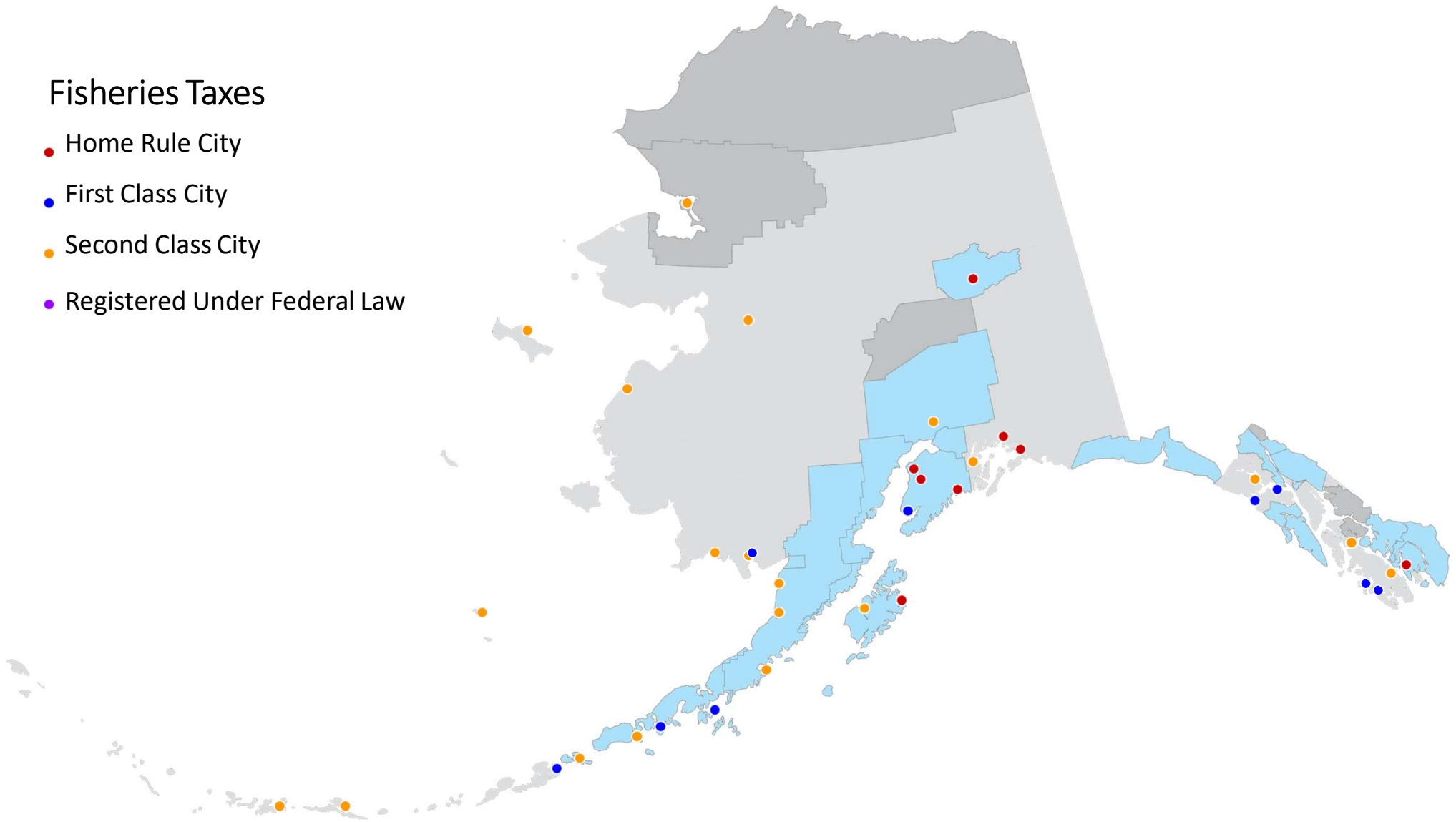
## Petroleum Property Tax

- Home Rule City
- First Class City
- Second Class City
- Registered Under Federal Law



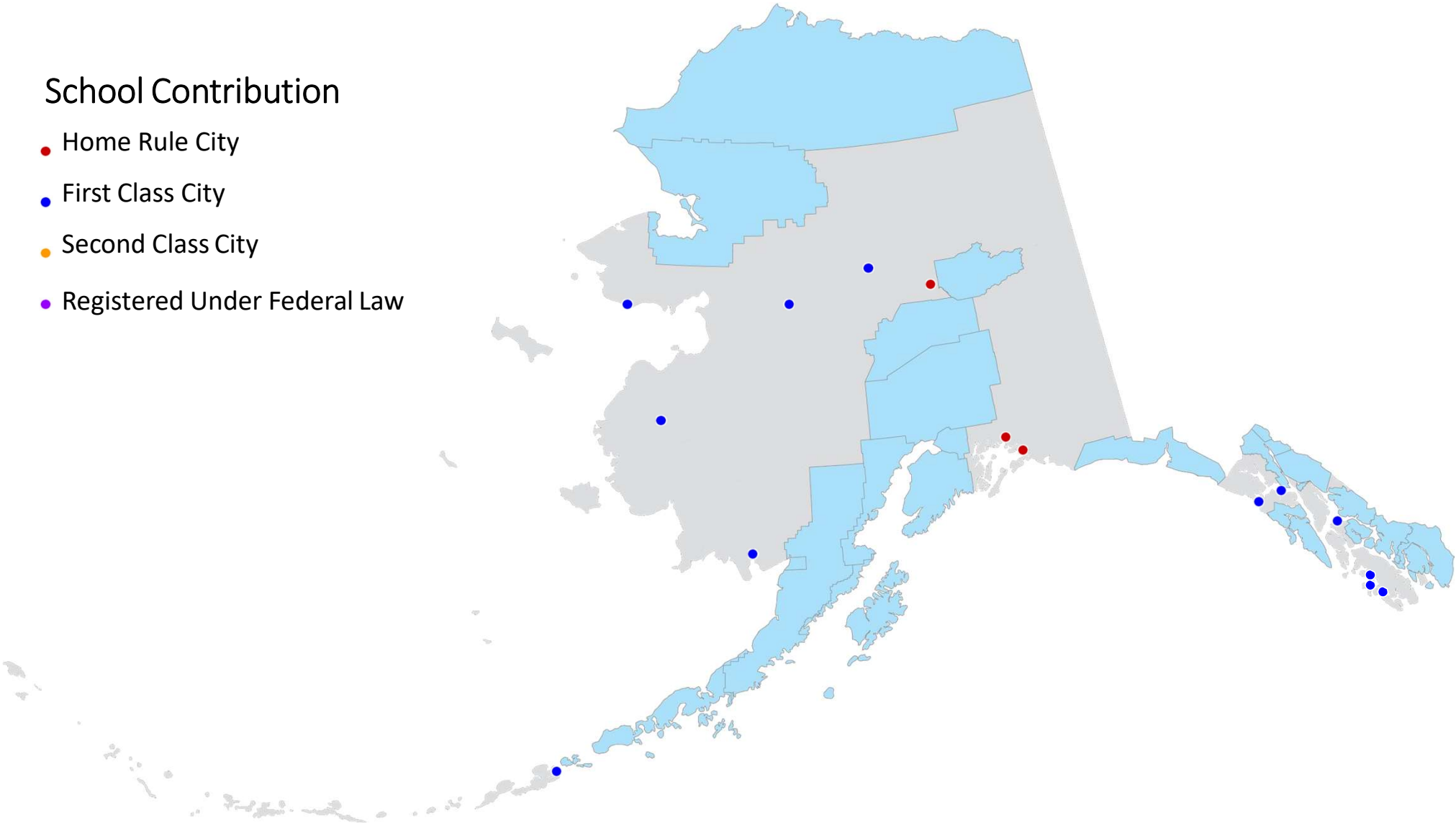
## Fisheries Taxes

- Home Rule City
- First Class City
- Second Class City
- Registered Under Federal Law



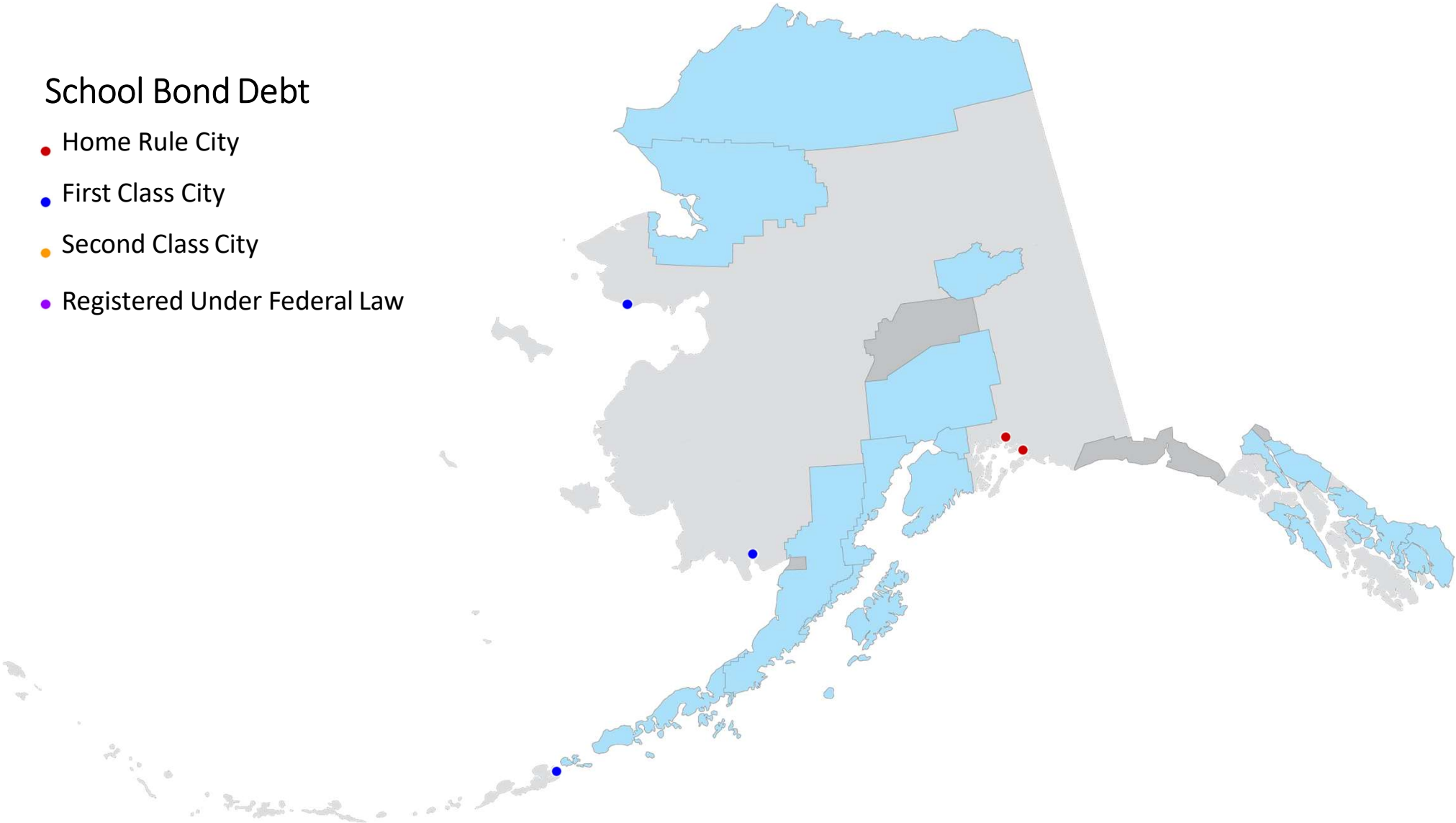
# School Contribution

- Home Rule City
- First Class City
- Second Class City
- Registered Under Federal Law



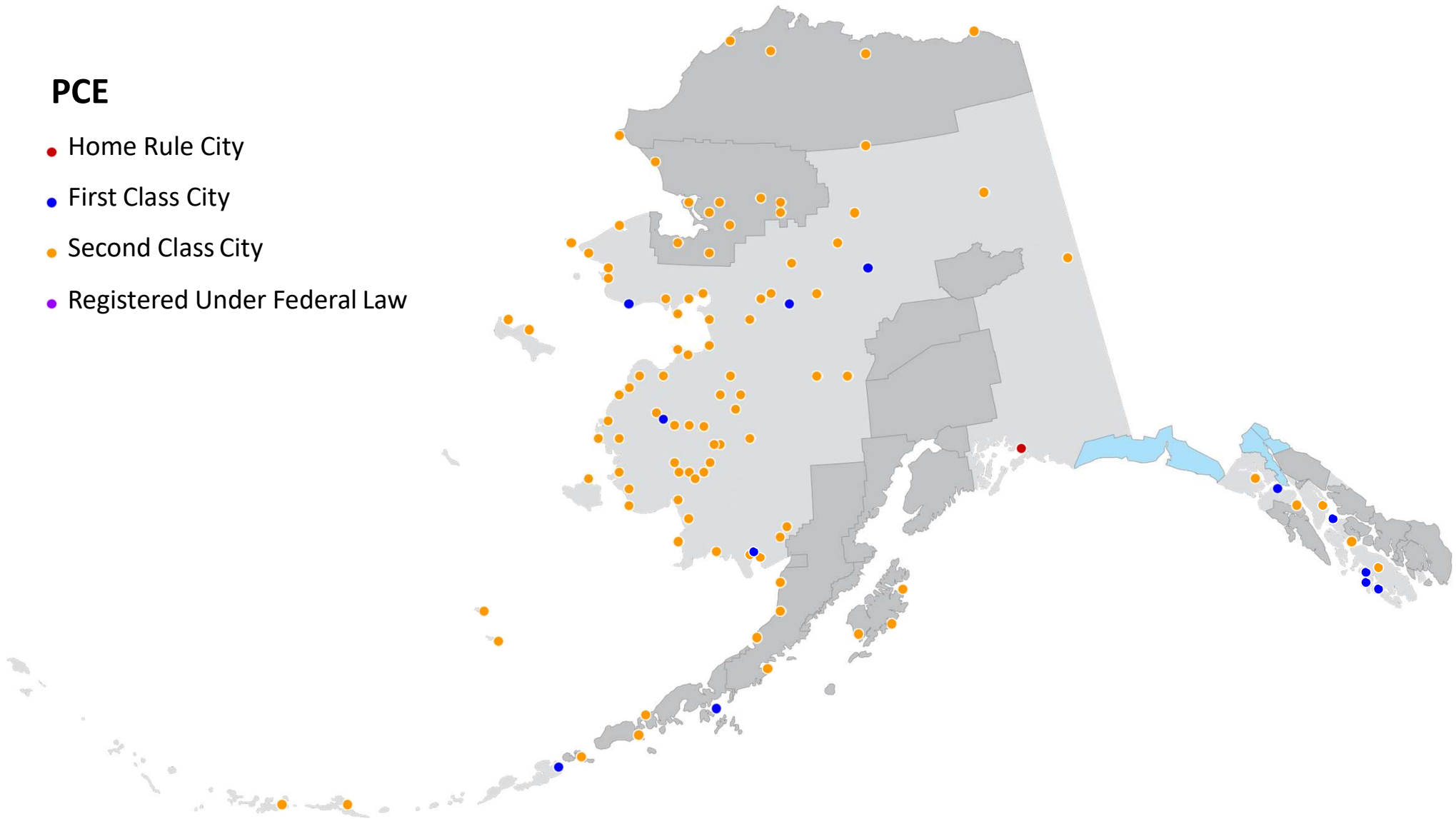
# School Bond Debt

- Home Rule City
- First Class City
- Second Class City
- Registered Under Federal Law



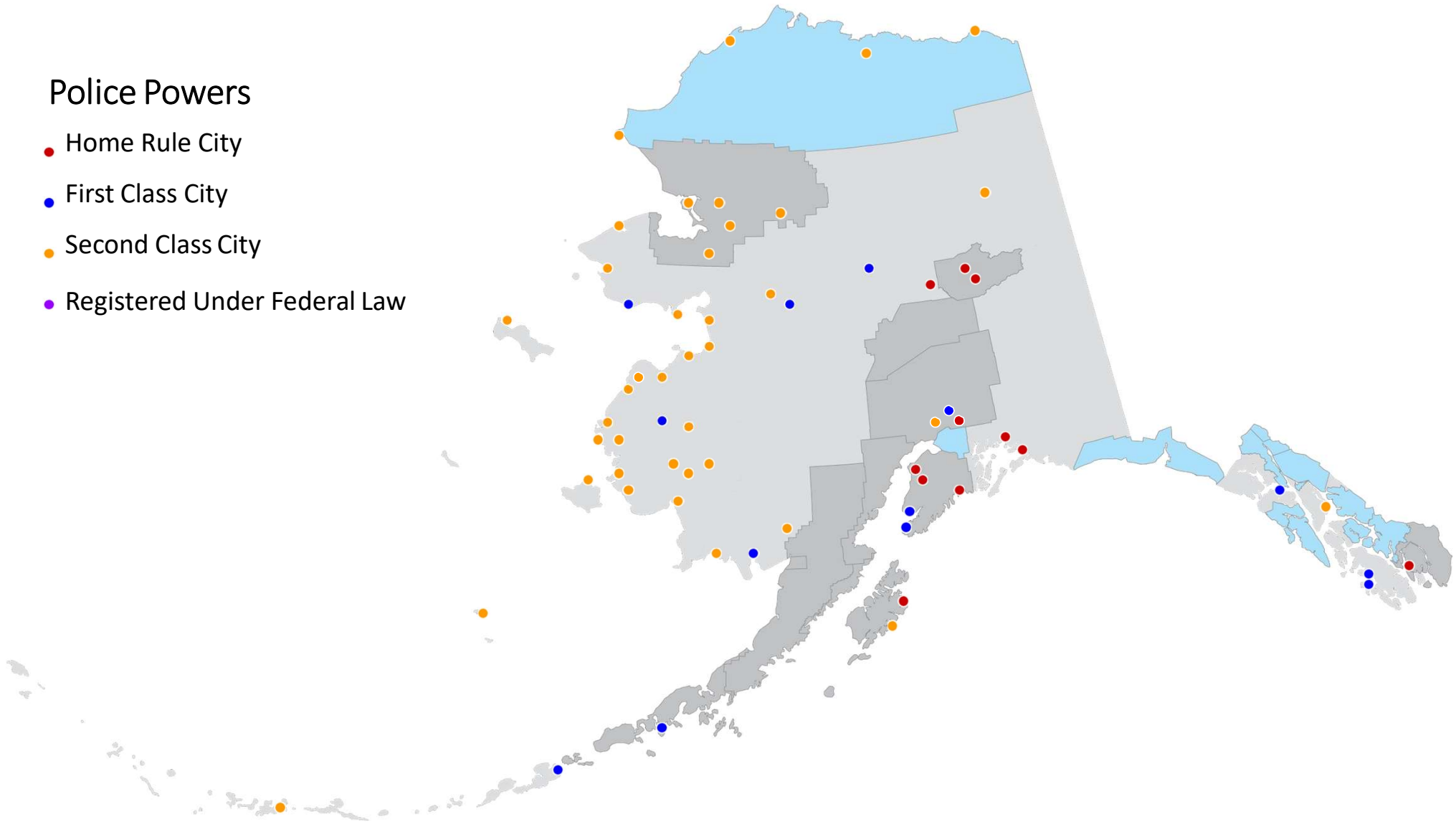
## PCE

- Home Rule City
- First Class City
- Second Class City
- Registered Under Federal Law



## Police Powers

- Home Rule City
- First Class City
- Second Class City
- Registered Under Federal Law







# AML MEMBER PRIORITIES AND ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

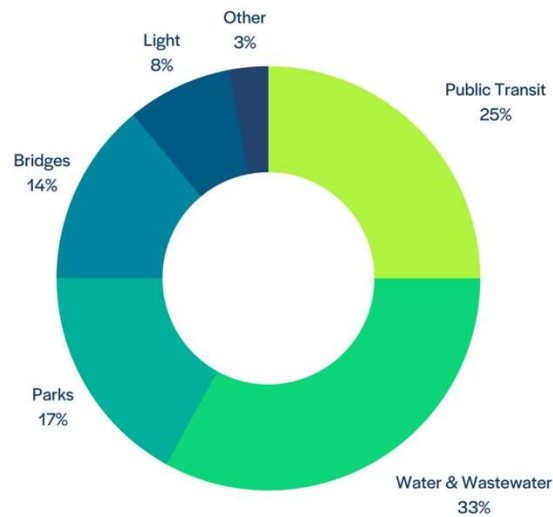
# Cross-Cutting Impacts

## Inflation Is Cutting Into States' Big Infrastructure Windfall

STATELINE ARTICLE | November 30, 2022 | By: Jenni Bergal | Read time: 3 min

### Projects Affected by Supply Chain Issues

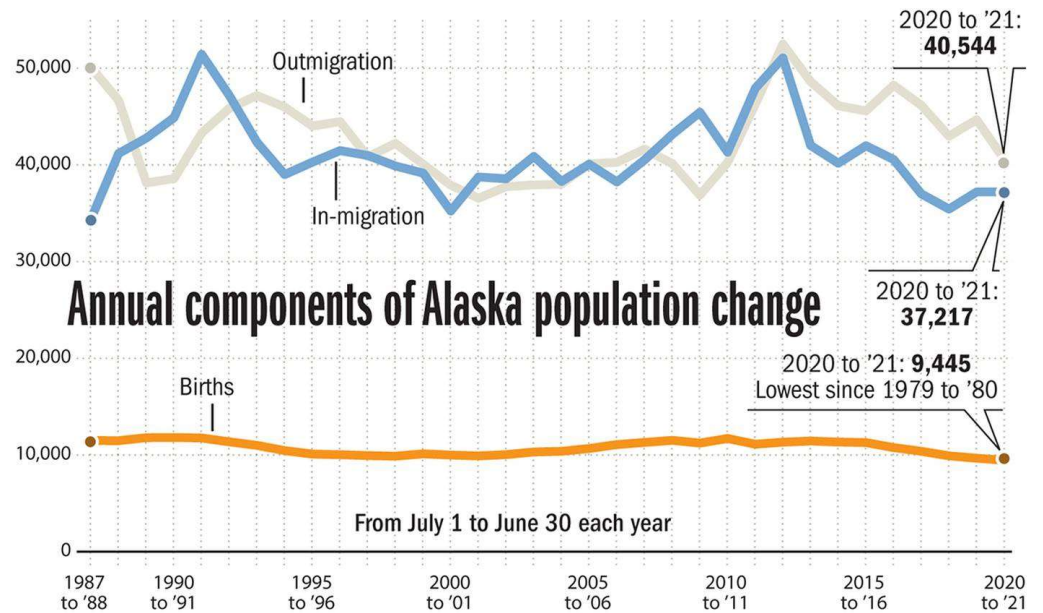
Project Breakdown by Percentage of 'Mentions'



Sources: Capital Plans from over 20,000 Municipalities and 3,000 Counties. Analysis results are generated from a search of over 1.6B documents in the Citylitics Data Warehouse with results isolated for cities with an existing groundwater source.

CITYLITICS

### Average sales price changes for single-family homes, 2013-2022



Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

KEVIN POWELL / Anchorage Daily News

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES

## PERS

- Remove high interest rate on non-payment
- Evaluate and payoff arrearages
- Evaluate and remove salary floor
- Increase State contributions to reduce non-State employer rate
- Evaluate opportunity for State to take over liability for employers who try to leave system

Portion of FY24 Healthcare Normal Cost Contributed to Healthcare

Projected FY24 DB Payroll  
Projected FY24 DCR Payroll  
Projected FY24 Total Payroll

### Employer Contributions

DB Pension Plan

1. Normal Cost  
2. Past Service Cost  
3. Total: (1) + (2)

DB Healthcare Plan

4. Normal Cost  
5. Past Service Cost  
6. Total: (4) + (5)

7. DCR Plan  
8. Total: (3) + (6) + (7)

### Additional State Contributions to DB

9. DB Pension Plan  
10. DB Healthcare Plan  
11. Total: (9) + (10)

### Total DB

12. DB Pension Plan: (3) + (9)  
13. DB Healthcare Plan: (6) + (10)  
14. Total: (12) + (13)

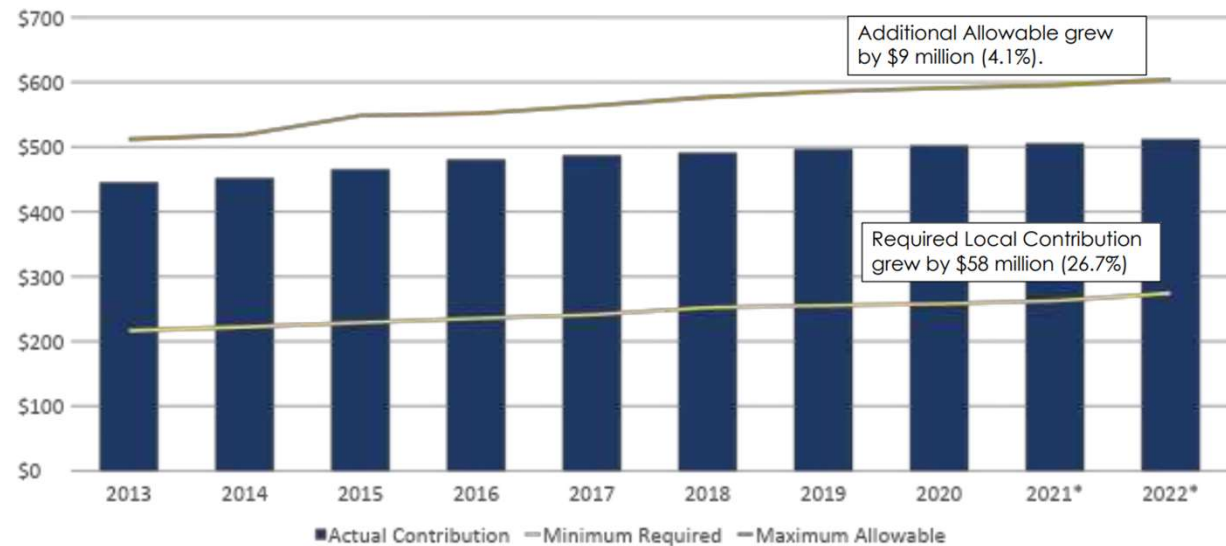
### Total DB and DCR: (7) + (14)

PERS					
Non-State Employers		State as an Employer		All Employers	
	\$ 357,303,000		\$ 354,314,000		\$ 711,617,000
	866,626,000		859,376,000		1,726,002,000
	<u>\$ 1,223,929,000</u>		<u>\$ 1,213,690,000</u>		<u>\$ 2,437,619,000</u>
Percent of Total Payroll	Estimated Dollar Amount	Percent of Total Payroll	Estimated Dollar Amount	Percent of Total Payroll	Estimated Dollar Amount
<b>Employer Contributions</b>					
DB Pension Plan					
1. Normal Cost	2.14%	2.14%		2.14%	
2. Past Service Cost	13.23%	16.33%		16.33%	
3. Total: (1) + (2)	15.37%	18.47%	\$ 224,169,000	18.47%	\$ 224,169,000
DB Healthcare Plan					
4. Normal Cost	0.00%	0.00%		0.00%	
5. Past Service Cost	0.00%	0.00%		0.00%	
6. Total: (4) + (5)	0.00%	0.00%	0	0.00%	0
7. DCR Plan	6.63%	6.63%	80,468,000	6.63%	80,468,000
8. Total: (3) + (6) + (7)	22.00%	25.10%	\$ 304,637,000	25.10%	\$ 304,637,000
<b>Additional State Contributions to DB</b>					
9. DB Pension Plan	3.10%	0.00%	\$ 0	0.00%	\$ 0
10. DB Healthcare Plan	0.00%	0.00%	0	0.00%	0
11. Total: (9) + (10)	3.10%	0.00%	\$ 0	0.00%	\$ 0
<b>Total DB</b>					
12. DB Pension Plan: (3) + (9)	18.47%	18.47%	\$ 224,169,000	18.47%	\$ 224,169,000
13. DB Healthcare Plan: (6) + (10)	0.00%	0.00%	0	0.00%	0
14. Total: (12) + (13)	18.47%	18.47%	\$ 224,169,000	18.47%	\$ 224,169,000
<b>Total DB and DCR: (7) + (14)</b>	<b>25.10%</b>	<b>25.10%</b>	<b>\$ 304,637,000</b>	<b>25.10%</b>	<b>\$ 304,637,000</b>

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES

### Education

- Increase the BSA and adjust for inflation
- Evaluate statewide local contribution
- Replace school bond debt reimbursement program
- Implement base allocation for school construction and major maintenance
- Support ability for districts to consolidate schools without penalty



## Economic Development

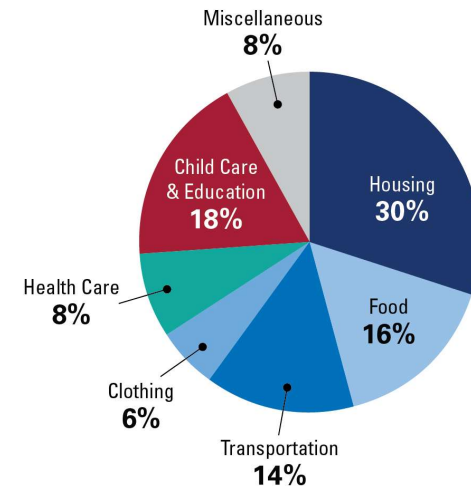
### Housing

- AML conducting statewide review of municipal code, fees, and processes to identify efficiencies
- Ensure State investment into access and utilities on developable State lands
- Review of intergovernmental regulatory alignment

### Child Care

- Evaluate public sector role in managing assets or employing workforce, thereby extending benefits and cost consolidation
- Ensure effective State-level distribution of resources
- Review of intergovernmental regulatory alignment

SPENDING BREAKDOWN FOR U.S. PARENTS

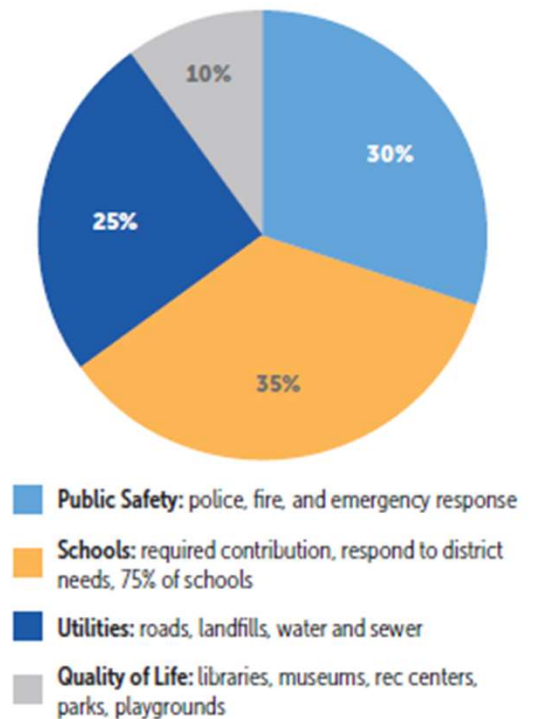


Source: Expenditures on Children by Families, 2013. USDA, Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion. (Misc. Pub. No. 1528-2013). August 2014

## Transportation

1. Budget estimates higher than local planning
2. Transfer of ownership and maintenance
3. Contingency amounts required at the beginning of design and the construction
4. Municipal Harbor Facility Matching Grants
5. Amend statute to encourage RTPOs

Local government spending falls into a few categories:



# Energy

## 1. Renewable Energy Fund

- Ensure adequately funded for community-level projects

## 2. PCE uses

- Reimburse municipal investments that bring down cost below PCE subsidy threshold

### 3. Bulk Fuel Loan

- Increasing cap and lowering rates

## 4. Grid Resilience

- State funding from IIJA to support local utilities



## Fiscal Policy

### 1. Mandatory Exemptions

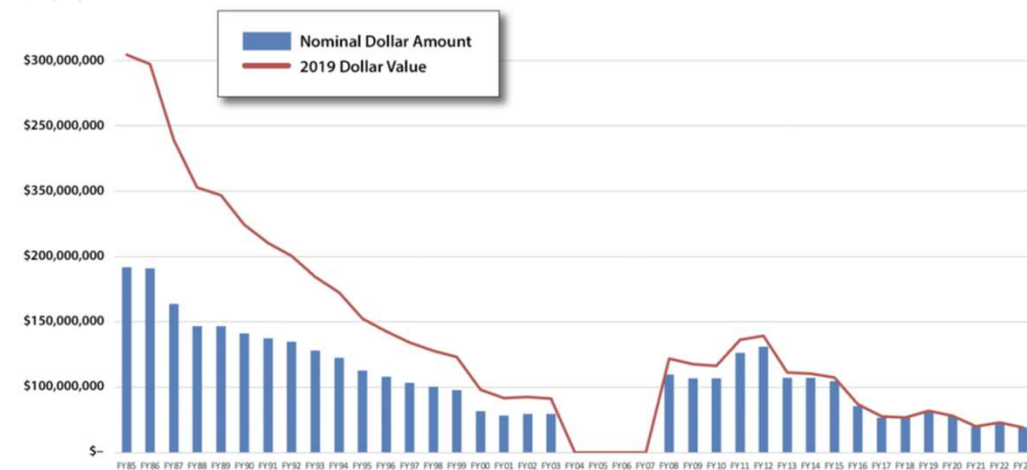
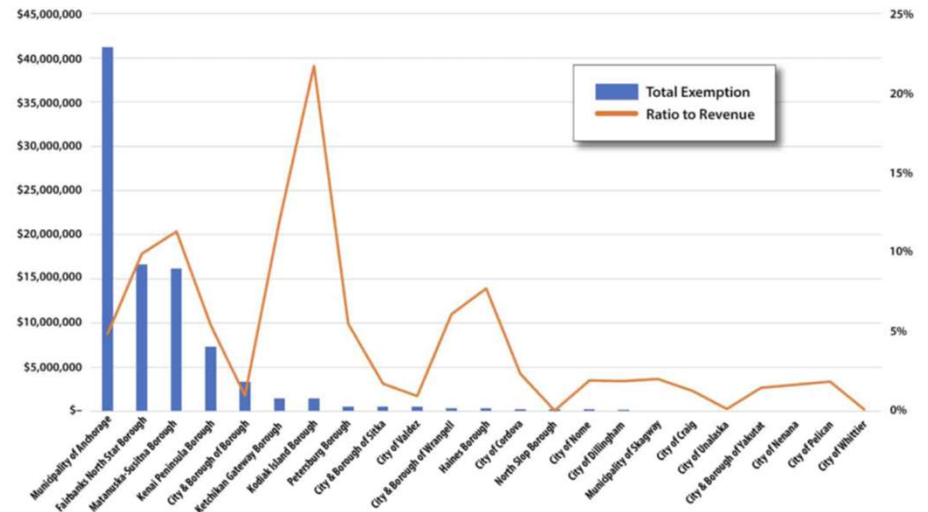
- Reimbursement according to statute

### 2. Presumption Trust

- Unfunded mandate of State-level presumptions that apply mainly to local government workers compensation; provide State reimbursement fund

### 3. Ensure Sustainability of Community Assistance

- \$30 million shortfall for recapitalization minimum
- Allow Fund to accrue return on investments
- Provide for non-federal match access beyond formula





# LOCAL GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES

## Public Health

### Opioid Settlement

- Ensure ability to make both short-term investments, while maintaining sustainability of settlement funding
- Encourage multi-jurisdictional investments
- Envision infrastructure development as needed for support system

### Public Health Dashboard

- Ensure continued use and maintenance of public health data for effective local decision-making

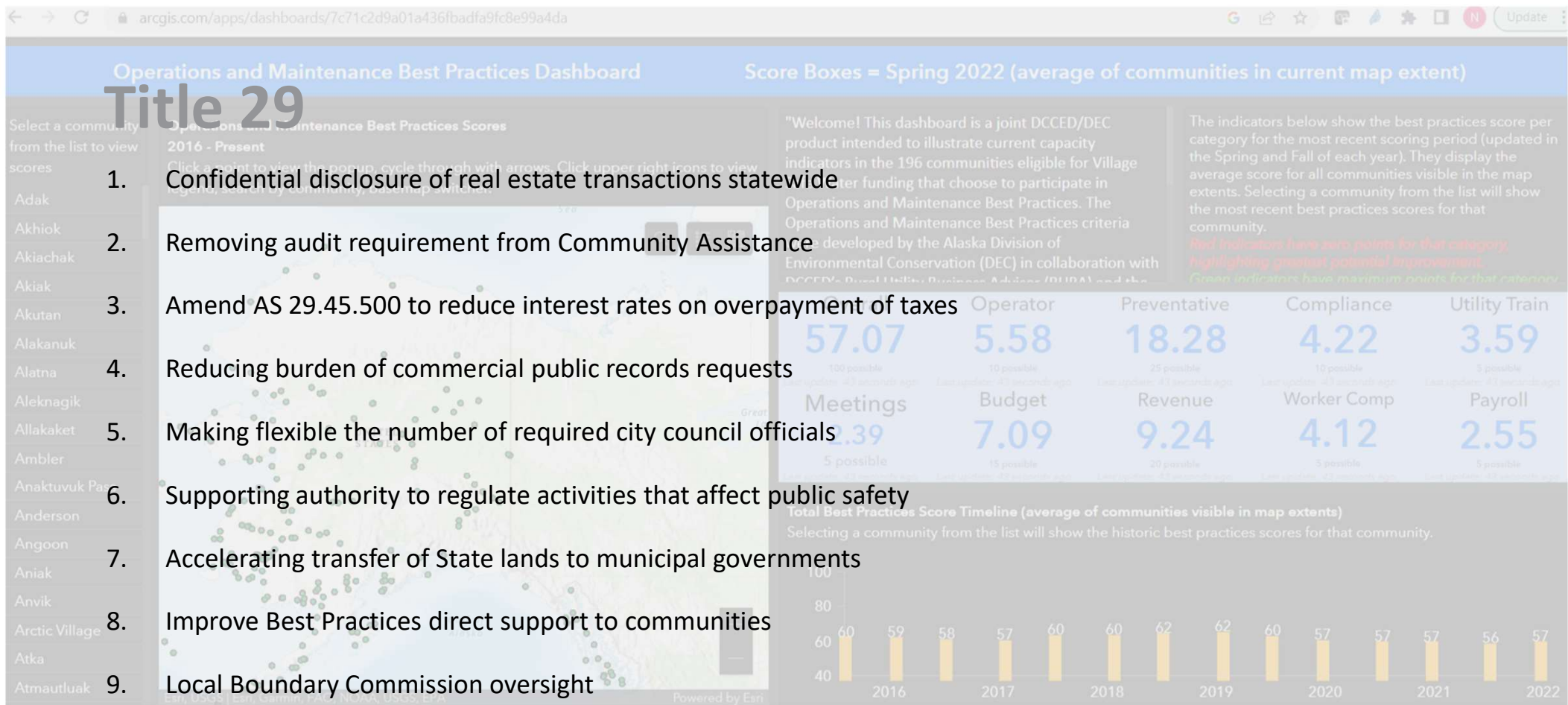
Increase capacity of local government role in public health, through health assessments and grant funding

links to state's opioid page (if any)	Opioid Settlement Spending Plans (contracts, legislation)	% allocated to...				Notes Re: Control, Additional Resources, News
		STATE	FUND	LOCALITIES	MISC.	
<a href="#">Alabama</a>	<a href="#">ORIGINAL NON-PARTICIPANT</a> — but see: <a href="#">4/19/2022 AG press</a> (describing state-local allocations for various settlements); <a href="#">2021 Alabama Opioid Overdose and Addiction Council Annual Report</a> ; <a href="#">Executive Order No. 7108</a> ("Establishing the Alabama Opioid Overdose and Addiction Council")	50*		50		"deposited directly into the State's General Fund," with the legislature to appropriate using a needs assessment from the <a href="#">Alabama Opioid Overdose and Addiction Council</a> " (4/19/2022 AG press)   See also: <a href="#">12/14/2021 Special Master Report</a> with city-by-city payout. "Allocation unclear for portions of \$276 million received by Alabama in opioid lawsuit" (10/30/2022)
<a href="#">Alaska</a>	<a href="#">Admin. Or. No. 324</a> (Governor's Advisory Council on Opioid Remediation) + Council's "Recommendations for the Use of Janssen/Johnson & Johnson (J&J) and Distributors National Opioid Settlement Funds"  See also: <a href="#">AG's 12/15/2022 press</a> ("Alaska Agrees to \$21.5 Million in Opioid Settlements with Walmart, Teva Pharmaceuticals and Allergan; Considering \$21 Million in Settlements with CVS and Walgreens"); <a href="#">3/1/2022 AG press</a>	85*		15		"fifteen percent (15%) to the State Fund ... will be directed into the Abatement Accounts Fund" ( <a href="#">SACORS 2022</a> ) + Advisory Council — "made up of nine voting members and four non-voting members from the Alaska State Legislature" — will advise on spend (Council "incorporated public comments this fall and finalized the Governor's ... report that provides a framework for allocation of settlement funds")   See also: "How should Alaska use \$58.5 million in opioid settlement funds? The state's seeking suggestions" (public comment expired 9/30); "OPINION: Alaska has plenty of work ahead to manage the opioid crisis" (a truly excellent piece written by the executive director of the Alaska Municipal League)
<a href="#">Arizona</a>	<a href="#">One Arizona Distribution of Opioid Settlement Funds Agreement</a> ; see also: <a href="#">AG's 9/15/2022 press</a> ("General Brnovich Announces Grants to 11 Organizations to Combat the Opioid Crisis")	44**		56*		"Localities' share to be distributed to 'each Region or Multicounty Region' (MOU C.3); "State to 'endeavor' to spend 36% of its share on prioritizing initiatives in MOU C.8, including 'Department of Corrections and related prison and jail opioid uses' and 'opioid interdiction and abatement on Arizona's southern border'   See also: AG's <a href="#">Procurement</a> page, which hosts requests for grant proposal applications ('AZAG Settlement Grants'); <a href="#">AG's 10/13/2022 press</a> re: 11/28/2022 grant application deadline
<a href="#">Arkansas</a>	<a href="#">Arkansas Opioids MOU + Cities Distribution Agreement + Counties Distribution Agreement</a> + <a href="#">order establishing the Arkansas Qualified Settlement Fund</a> (QSF)  See also: Assoc. of Arkansas Counties' and Arkansas Municipal League's <a href="#">Joint Statement on Formation of Arkansas Opioid Recovery Partnership</a> ; and <a href="#">Hiring of State Drug Director Kirk Lane</a>	33.3		66.6*		"1/3 each to state, cities, counties   See also: <a href="#">Arkansas Opioid Recovery Partnership</a> (between the Arkansas Municipal League and Association of Arkansas Counties); AORP's <a href="#">Funded Projects Table</a> (very cool); <a href="#">Arkansas Opioid Recovery Partnership Announces Funding Opportunities for Abatement Programs</a> ; "Arkansas Attorney General directs \$140 million in opioid settlement funds to general revenue fund" (12/15/2022), and the <a href="#">Arkansas Opioid Response Dashboard</a> (gated as of 1/23/2023...)

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES

## Title 29

1. Confidential disclosure of real estate transactions statewide
2. Removing audit requirement from Community Assistance
3. Amend AS 29.45.500 to reduce interest rates on overpayment of taxes
4. Reducing burden of commercial public records requests
5. Making flexible the number of required city council officials
6. Supporting authority to regulate activities that affect public safety
7. Accelerating transfer of State lands to municipal governments
8. Improve Best Practices direct support to communities
9. Local Boundary Commission oversight



## Public Safety

Police chiefs launch project to create policy manual for all law agencies in Alaska

Kris Capps Jan 24, 2023

1. Community Jails
  - Local governments providing detainee facilities for State
2. Village Police Officers
  - Basic levels of training, heavy responsibilities, little funding
3. Police Standards
  - Working with AACOP on a grant request to help fund statewide standards model
4. Local Emergency Planning Committees
  - Discontinued State support but still a helpful way to ensure communities are prepared
5. Capital Needs
  - Facilities and equipment needs for effective response



# STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

## AML and Alaska DOT&PF



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 13, 2022

Press Release: 22-0025

Contact: Shannon McCarthy, (907) 269-0448, [shannon.mccarthy@alaska.gov](mailto:shannon.mccarthy@alaska.gov)


### AML & DOT&PF Partner to Capture Transportation Funding for Alaska

*National infrastructure law provides transportation grant opportunities for local & tribal governments.*

**(ANCHORAGE, Alaska)** –Alaska’s local and tribal governments have two powerful allies working together to help them capture federal transportation grant funding for their local marine facilities, roadways bridges, and trails. The Alaska Municipal League (AML) and Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF) have signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to partner and share resources to support local and tribal governments in order to capture competitive, discretionary grants for local transportation projects.


The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (also known as the “Bipartisan Infrastructure Law”), passed in November 2021, providing a once in a generation investment in the nation’s transportation infrastructure, including airports, highways, ports, bridges, and trails.

## AML and Alaska DOT&PF




### Alaska Transportation Funding Opportunity Hub

[Home](#)
[State Programs Overview](#)
[Federal Grants Overview](#)
[Projects](#)
[Contacts and FAQs](#)




#### Submit a Project

Alaska DOT&PF and Alaska Municipal League (AML) have partnered to help you pair your project with a funding program that will best suit your project goals. Once you submit a project intake survey, the information you provide will be used to match the project with opportunities your project is likely to be competitive for. If a match can be found, Alaska DOT&PF or AML will reach out to you to gather more information and help you submit a successful application. The survey is comprehensive in order to help identify the best opportunity match, any information you don't know can be determined at a later date.




#### Discover State Programs

The Alaska Transportation Funding Opportunity Hub currently provides information and support for the TAP and CTP programs. From the program page you can view the program application schedule, review evaluation criteria and submit a notice of intent to apply. Not sure which to apply for, or want your project to be considered for all available opportunities? Submit a project intake survey and it will also act as the Notice of Intent to Apply (NOIA) for state programs. Alaska DOT&PF will add programs as they become available. Be sure and check back regularly.

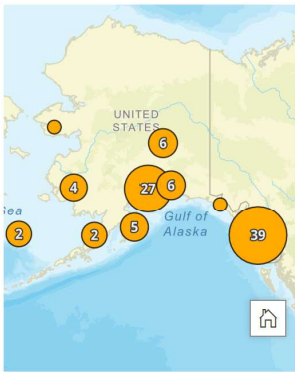


#### Discover Federal Opportunities

Review the list of currently available federal NOFOs. From the Federal Grants page you can view the grant application schedule, review evaluation criteria and submit a project intake survey. AML and DOT&PF will help pair your project with the best federal opportunities. Not sure if you should apply for state programs or federal grants? Submit a project intake survey and it will be considered for both.

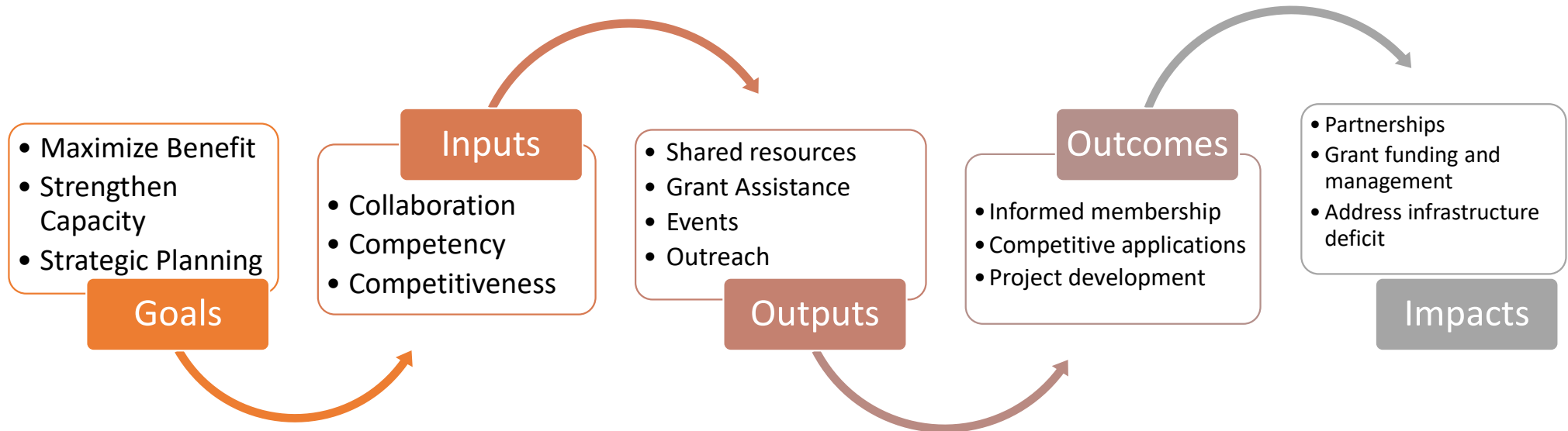


#### Project Map

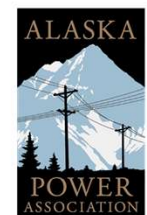




## Infrastructure Logic Model



## Infrastructure Collaboration





# Community Planning and Infrastructure Management

Community Planning and Prioritization

Grant Development and Response

Grant Award, Partnerships, and Match

Procurement and Workforce

Project Management

Grant Reporting and Outcomes

Maintenance and Operations

Asset Management and Sustainability



THANK YOU

# Strengthening Local Governments

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