

NATIVE VILLAGE OF PORT LIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-10R

**A RESOLUTION OF THE NATIVE VILLAGE OF PORT LIONS TRADITIONAL TRIBAL COUNCIL
IN SUPPORT OF ALASKA NATIVE LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAMS.**

WHEREAS, the Native Village of Port Lions is a federally recognized Indian Tribe as defined in Section 3(c) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the Port Lions Traditional Tribal Council is the governing body of the Native Village of Port Lions; and

WHEREAS, the Native Village of Port Lions has consistently implemented and operated successful membership and community services since its formal inception in August, 1978; and

WHEREAS, the Port Lions Traditional Tribal Council agrees with the Recommendations of the Alaska Native Language Preservation and Advisory Council in their 2016 Report to the Governor where they strongly urged “the Alaska legislature to adopt HB 157 in support of language immersion schools and for training for Alaska Native language teachers in a framework that leads to teacher certification,” and

WHEREAS, HB 102 is the 2017 version of the bill wherein it is described as, “An Act relating to instruction in a language other than English; and relating to limited teacher certificates,” and

WHEREAS, SB 75 is the Senate companion of the proposed legislation; and

WHEREAS, Alaska’s current teacher certification laws contribute to the difficulty school districts have in hiring quality language immersion instructors; and

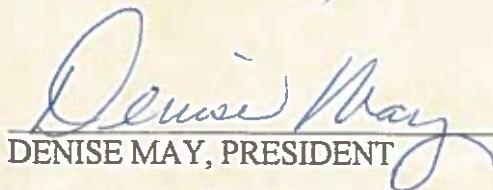
WHEREAS, providing school districts greater flexibility in the hiring of language immersion teachers, would give districts, including Port Lions School, more flexibility to offer and expand high-quality and highly-sought-after language immersion programs; and

WHEREAS, expanding the scope of the existing Type M and Type I limited teacher certificates, as proposed in HB 102 and SB 75, would allow districts to hire qualified native speakers of Indigenous languages that are a struggle to hire;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Native Village of Port Lions Traditional Tribal Council supports legislation such as HB 102 and SB 75 that will provide greater flexibility for school districts to fill teaching positions in the Alaska Native language immersion programs.

CERTIFICATION:

We, the undersigned officers of the Port Lions Traditional Tribal Council, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted on the twenty-ninth day of April, 2017, with a quorum present and 4 votes for, 0 votes against, and 0 abstaining.


DENISE MAY, PRESIDENT


NANCY NELSON, COUNCIL MEMBER