## LEGAL SERVICES

## **DIVISION OF LEGAL AND RESEARCH SERVICES** LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY STATE OF ALASKA

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## MEMORANDUM

February 5, 2009

SUBJECT: Municipal property taxes; sectional summary (House Bill 10)

(Work Order No. 26-LS0063\S)

TO: Representative Max Gruenberg

Attn: Allison Laffen

FROM: Tamara Brandt Cook TBU

Director

Sec. 1. Permits a borough to charge a city fee for costs of collecting a tax that is not also levied by a majority of the cities in the borough or levied by the borough on an areawide basis.

- Sec. 2. Eliminates the requirement that a widow or widower of a disabled veteran who had qualified for an exemption for taxes on the residence be at least 60 years old in order to also qualify for the exemption. Under Sec. 7, this bill section, but not the rest of the bill, takes effect January 1, 2010.
- Sec. 3. Increases the optional tax exemption on all residential property from up to \$20,000 of the assessed value to \$40,000 of the assessed value.
- Sec. 4. Permits a municipality to classify and exempt from taxation property of certain nonprofit four-year colleges or universities. A private leasehold, contract or other interest in the property remains taxable to the extent of the interest.
- Sec. 5. Permits a municipality by ordinance ratified by the voters to exclude or exempt from taxation property of certain fraternal societies if the property is used for a listed purpose.
- Sec. 6. Allows a municipality to provide for a tax exemption not to exceed \$150,000 of the assessed value of a residence of a law enforcement officer that is within an eligible area designated by the municipality. A municipality that provides the exemption may not request state funds to cover any loss of revenue caused by the exemption. Sets out requirements for an eligible area.

TBC:plm 09-072.plm