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ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RESOLUTION #BOD2009-03

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE ARMY TO REINSTATE THE RETIREMENT PAY TO THE FORMER MEMBERS OF THE ALASKA TERRITORIAL GUARD

WHEREAS, retired surviving members of the Alaska Territorial Guard served with honor during WWII, defending the United States and the State of Alaska from the threat of Japanese attack; and

WHEREAS, this action comes even though a law was passed qualifying time served in the unpaid guard as active federal service; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Territorial Guard members served their country for free and were never paid for their service; and

WHEREAS, many of these former guard members live in small, remote Alaskan villages where expenses are high, services are few and jobs are scarce (especially in light of the fact that most of these former Guard members are in their 80s); and

WHEREAS, Senator Murkowski and Senator Begich are preparing legislation clarifying the service in the territorial guard counts as active duty for calculating retirement pay; and

WHEREAS, Alaska's U.S. delegation has also sent a letter to President Barack Obama, asking him to "ensure that those affected by this series fo events do not lose the safety net."

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Municipal League Board of Directors requests of the U.S. Army that pay be reinstated to the former members of the Alaska Territorial Guard.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Alaska Municipal League Board of Directors on this 30th day of January, 2009.

Signed:

Denise Michels, President, Alaska Municipal League

Attest:

Kathie Wasserman, Executive Director, Alaska Municipal League