

## **Constitutional Mandates for Agencies and Services**

While considering budgeting priorities of the Alaska Legislature it is instructive to review the scope of the obligations put forth in the Constitution of the State of Alaska that carry budgetary implications.

### **Obligations for Providing or Funding Education**

#### *Article 7, Section 1. Public Education*

The legislature shall by general law establish and maintain a system of public schools open to all children of the State, and may provide for other public educational institutions. Schools and institutions so established shall be free from sectarian control. No money shall be paid from public funds for the direct benefit of any religious or other private educational institution.

### **Obligations Related to Health or Public Health**

#### *Article 7, Section 4. Public Health*

The legislature shall provide for the promotion and protection of public health.

### **Obligations Related to Public Welfare**

#### *Article 7, Section 4. Public Welfare*

The legislature shall provide for public welfare.

### **Obligations Related to Finance and Taxation**

#### *Article 9, Section 12. Budget*

The governor shall submit to the legislature, at a time fixed by law, a budget for the next fiscal year setting forth all proposed expenditures and anticipated income of all departments, offices, and agencies of the State. The governor, at the same time, shall submit a general appropriation bill to authorize the proposed expenditures, ad a bill or bills covering recommendations in the budget for new or additional revenues.

## Obligations Related to Community Government and Support

### *Article 10, Section 6. Unorganized Boroughs*

The legislature shall provide for the performance of services it deems necessary or advisable in unorganized boroughs, allowing for maximum local participation and responsibility. It may exercise any power or function in an unorganized borough which the assembly may exercise in an organized borough.

### *Article 10, Section 14. Local Government Agency*

An agency shall be established by law in the executive branch of the state government to advise and assist local governments. It shall review their activities, collect and publish local government information, and perform other duties prescribed by law.