



HAINES BOROUGH, ALASKA
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April 1, 2014

Senator Pete Kelly and Senator Kevin Meyer, Co-Chairs Senate Finance;
Senator Fairclough, Vice-Chair Senate Finance;
Senator Dunleavy, Senator Bishop, Senator Olson, Senator Hoffman, members Senate Finance
Committee

Dear Senator Kelly and Senator Meyer, Vice Chair Fairclough and Members of the Senate Finance
Committee:

On behalf of the Haines Borough, I would like to thank you for the HB266 amendment to restore \$3
million to the Municipal Revenue Sharing as conveyed to us in the 28-18 e-Bulletin published by the
Alaska Municipal League. We understand that his cut will affect our FY16 budgets.

Though we are a home rule Borough, 98% of the land mass is owned by the state and federal
governments. 1.3% is in private ownership; 0.3% is owned by the Haines Borough. Our intention is to
own only as much public land as is in the public's interest (land for schools, local parks, government
services including fire, police, administration, roads, sewer, water). The fact that so much of our land
mass is controlled by the state and federal governments is a significant impediment to economic
development. Thus, we feel justified in leaning on the state and federal governments to provide what
amounts to "payment-in-lieu" of the property taxes that would be able to support our services if the
land were privately held.

For these reasons, we sincerely hope that you will support the Governor's request to restore the full
\$10 million to municipal revenue sharing.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Scott
Mayor, Haines Borough

Cc: Governor Sean Parnell
Senator Bert Stedman
Senator Dennis Egan
Representative Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins
Representative Sam Kito
Members, Haines Borough Assembly