## Petersburg Borough, Petersburg, Alaska RESOLUTION #2016-04

## A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE ALASKA LEGISLATURE CONSIDER LESS SEVERE CUTS TO THE ALASKA PUBLIC BROADCASTING COMMISSION

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska is facing another budget deficit for FY17, and likely additional fiscal years in the future; and

WHEREAS, a budget shortfall of this magnitude results in tough choices and difficult cuts in all facets of State Government all across Alaska: and

**WHEREAS**, the Alaska Public Broadcasting service is a statewide essential service supported by the State of Alaska; and

**WHEREAS**, public broadcasting provides a wealth of civic, cultural, and education information to Alaska residents, public safety and emergency communication services, not to mention programming and entertainment; and

**WHEREAS**, the public broadcasting budget realized a cut in FY16 in the legislative process, and further significant reductions are expected in FY17; and

WHEREAS, cuts to all segments of government are expected for FY17 but the extent of the proposed reduction to public broadcasting seems disproportionate and will adversely affect the availability of service across Alaska, especially in rural Alaska where public broadcasting is often the primary means of entertainment and community and regional information sharing.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** the Petersburg Borough Assembly respectfully requests the Alaska Legislature consider less severe cuts to the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission in the FY17 budget.

Passed and Approved by the Petersburg Borough Assembly on February 1, 2016.

Mark Jeneen, Mayor

Melinda Swihart, Deputy Clerk