Introduced By: Date: Action: Vote: Chilson January 22, 2020 Adopted as Amended 5 Yes, 1 No

CITY OF SOLDOTNA RESOLUTION 2020-006

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ALASKA HOUSE BILL 198, AN ACT RELATING TO AGGRAVATING FACTORS CONSIDERED AT SENTENCING

WHEREAS, Alaska Statute 12.55.155 defines factors in aggravation and mitigation relating to the sentencing of a defendant convicted of an offense, allowing a court to increase the severity of a sentence for aggravating factors; and

WHEREAS, AS 12.55.155(c)(22) specifies factors to include an offense directed at "a victim because of that person's race, sex, color, creed, physical or mental disability, ancestry, or national origin"; and

WHEREAS, hate crime protections outlined in AS 12.55.155(c)(22) do not currently include sexual orientation or gender identity; and

WHEREAS, Soldotna is a diverse community, with residents who fall along the full range of the sexual orientation and gender identity spectrums; and

WHEREAS, the fundamental civil and human rights of all individuals should be upheld regardless of a person's race, sex, color, creed, disability, ancestry, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity; and

WHEREAS, acts of racism, bigotry, xenophobia, religious discrimination, and acts of discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity have no place in our community; and

WHEREAS, Alaska House Bill 198 would amend AS 12.55.155(c) (22) to expand hate crime protections to include "sexual orientation or gender identity";

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOLDOTNA, ALASKA:

- Section 1. That the Council of the City of Soldotna supports the expansion of hate crime protections under AS 12.55.155(c)(22) to include "sexual orientation or gender identity" through Alaska House Bill 198 as currently submitted.
- Section 2. That copies of this resolution shall be mailed to Alaska Representative Gary Knopp, Alaska Representative Ben Carpenter, Alaska Representative, Sarah Vance, and Alaska Senator Peter Micciche.

<u>Section 3</u>. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL THIS 22ND DAY OF JANUARY, 2020.

Pete Sprague, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michelle M. Saner, MMC, City Clerk

20RES006

Page 1 of 2

Yes: L. Parker, Whitney, Ruffridge, P. Parker, Chilson No: Carey

Page 2 of 2 20RES006