



Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference

March 3rd & 4th, 2022 • The Hotel Captain Cook

MEMBERSHIP RESOLUTION FY22-04

**A RESOLUTION BY THE SOUTHWEST ALASKA MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE
MEMBERSHIP SUPPORTING HB 363 “AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE OFFICE OF
BROADBAND; CREATING THE BROADBAND PARITY ADJUSTMENT FUND
AND ESTABLISHING THE STATEWIDE BROADBAND ADVISORY BOARD”**

WHEREAS, the number of communities in our region -both unserved and underserved- by Broadband is one of the highest in the state; and

WHEREAS, there is an unprecedented level of federal funding for broadband grants in Alaska that is intended to build out modern middle and last mile infrastructure in all regions of the state; and

WHEREAS, HB 363 establishes important guidelines for Alaska to qualify for nearly two billion dollars of broadband funds, while creating parity between urban and rural Alaska customers in a manner that allows for high speed, reliable internet services to be provided in an affordable and equitable manner; and

WHEREAS, HB 363 also establishes the Broadband Parity Adjustment Fund (BPAF), which is a separate fund in the Alaska treasury, modeled after the Federal Communications Commission’s (FCC) Emergency Broadband Benefit. The BPAF is created with the express purpose of offsetting consumer costs and making grants to eligible beneficiaries to improve the performance and access to services where, in many instances, it does not currently exist; and

WHEREAS, HB 363 creates the Statewide Broadband Advisory Board to provide informed recommendations on broadband policy goals and objectives. The board will act in an advisory capacity to the Broadband Office to identify project proposals and develop criteria for mapping and data collection, while striving to fulfill the long list of recommendations that emerged from the extensive work of the Governor’s Task Force on Broadband; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference Membership strongly supports the passage of HB 363 in this Legislative session to start the process of bringing middle and final mile broadband infrastructure to rural Alaska swiftly and efficiently.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference Membership this 5th day of March 2022.



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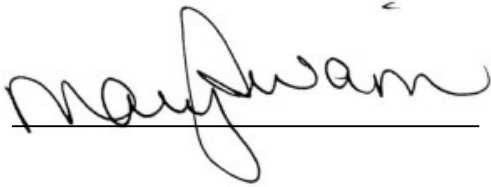
IN WITNESS THERETO:

Paul Gronholdt, SWAMC Board President

Shirley Marquardt, SWAMC Executive Director

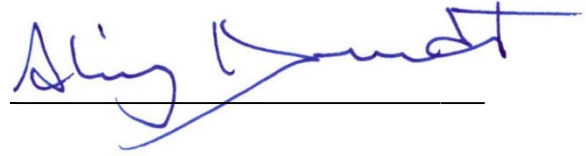
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference Membership this 5th day of March 2021.

IN WITNESS THERETO:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mary Marquardt', written over a horizontal line.

Mary
SWAMC

President
Marquardt, SWAMC Executive Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Shirley Swain', written over a horizontal line.

Swain,
Board
Shirley