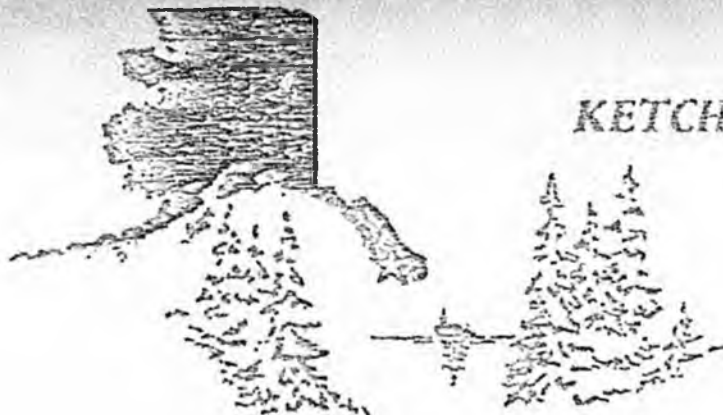


HB

873



KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH

344 FRONT STREET
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA 99901

March 27, 1978

Re: EB 873

The Honorable Lisa Rudd
Chairman
House Community & Regional
Affairs Committee
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Chairman Rudd:

In our borough, a second-class borough, there are twelve (12) elected officials: mayor, elected-at-large; four (4) assemblymen, elected-at-large from the area outside the City of Ketchikan; a seven (7) assemblymen appointed from the City Council. As a second-class borough the provisions of AS 29.23.530 apply. All our twelve (12) elected officials have 3-year staggered terms. Under the existing provisions of AS 29.23.530 in order to effect an entire salary change for all elected official positions, three elections must take place before all members are receiving the same salary.

A Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly salary change (from \$100 to \$150) commenced with the October, 1976 election and will be completed when those elected in October, 1978 take office at which time all eleven will again be receiving the same compensation.

Having observed this transition from \$100 to 150 per month, it is apparent that among the elected officials, the procedure involved is a point of irritation as all have the same responsibilities.

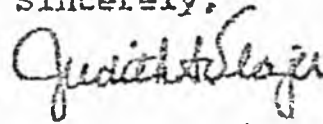
I believe there are sufficient checks in our local government structures to preclude the actions of elected officials from becoming actions directed toward overt personal

The Honorable Lisa Rudd
March 27, 1978
Page two

gain at the expense of the local taxpayers. Those local governments to which the existing requirements apply are those smaller municipalities where actions of the elected officials are constantly subject to very close public scrutiny. Elected officials salaries must be set by ordinance on which public hearings are held, these salaries are included in the annual budget on which public hearings are held, and the appropriations needed to pay these salaries are made by ordinance on which public hearing are held.

Therefore, I am of the opinion that the present provisions of AS 29.23.530 are unduly restrictive and I support Bd 873 as proposed.

Sincerely,



Judith A. Slajer
Borough Manager

JAS:jw

cc: KGB Assenby and Mayor
Jim Rolle, Ex. Director, AML

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH

Box 1267, Fairbanks, Alaska 99707

April 3, 1978

Ms. Lisa Rudd
Alaska House of Representatives
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

RE: HB 873 "An act relating to the salaries of elected municipal officials"

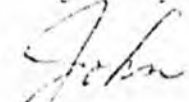
Dear Ms. Rudd:

I wish to present testimony in favor of passage of HB 873.

Having had the privilege of being elected a full time Borough Chairman in October of 1968, when the budget was set in June of 1968 for a part time Borough Chairman, I found that compensation could not be increased because of the wording in the statute. I am very happy to see HB 873 introduced as this would amend this restriction.

I concur that wages should not be decreased, as a person running for that office naturally would expect to receive the compensation shown in the budget, but should, on the other hand, not be restricted from receiving just compensation for his efforts.

Very truly yours,


JOHN A. CARLSON
Borough Mayor

JAC:mkr

*Acknowledged by phone
4/6/78 A.E.*