



# Alaska State Legislature

1970

Source:

HCR 74

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 74

Relating to the unification of local governments.

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### BE IT RESOLVED

#### BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

WHEREAS there is a significant social value in having government close to the people in order to promote a feeling of identity between the citizens and their government; and

WHEREAS such a government encourages citizen participation, the furnishing of voluntary services to the government, and the willing acceptance of the decisions of the government; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of these principles, many urban areas in other states are decentralizing larger governmental agencies and establishing advisory and neighborhood councils to assist in the government; and

WHEREAS the charter and actions of the City and Borough of Juneau, Alaska, the first municipality to unify under AS 29.85, will serve as models for other areas of the state; and

WHEREAS, under AS 07.15.050(c), a general law borough assembly "may provide for appointed or elected boards to supervise the furnishing of special services in service areas";

BE IT RESOLVED that the legislature urges the Assembly of the City and Borough of Juneau, Alaska to consider charter amendments or other appropriate action to (1) increase the size of the city-borough assembly in order to allow smaller population election districts, based insofar as feasible on traditional community boundaries, to have their own representatives; (2) eliminate or modify borough-wide voting for assemblymen; (3) enable the

voters of Juneau, Douglas and other neighborhoods and communities to choose service area advisory boards which will have some measure of control over the furnishing, financing, and level of services in their respective "unincorporated city service areas"; perhaps will have some administrative authority or supervision over service area programs, and will provide a forum and focus for consideration of neighborhood problems and programs; and (4) provide for a service area advisory board to be dissolved only by a vote of the residents of the service area when the board is no longer considered necessary.