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Judith Bittner, Member
Alisha Drabek, Member
Michael Hawfield, Member

Wayne Jensen, Member
Rebecca Poulson, Member
Jonathon Ross, Member
Douglas Veltre, Member

RESOLUTION OF CONCERN REGARDING FUNDING FOR THE OFFICE OF HISTORY & ARCHAEOLOGY

WHEREAS, the Alaska Historical Commission is a citizen's board of the State of Alaska charged with advising the Governor and Legislature on matters regarding the state's history and archaeology; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Historical Commission reviews and makes recommendations for the State Historic Preservation Office programs of the Office of History and Archaeology, Alaska Department of Natural Resources, as established by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and for which Alaska has an approved state program; and

WHEREAS, the programs are annually funded by a federal grant from the National Historic Preservation Fund administered by the National Park Service that must be matched 40% with state funds; and

WHEREAS, the federal grant is for the state's Office of History and Archaeology as well as for distribution to local governments with approved preservation programs and to owners to rehabilitate recognized historic properties around the state, and hence, it is administratively brought into the state through both capital and operating budgets; and

WHEREAS, **the proposed FY20 state capital budget does not include \$150,000 in required state General Fund Match money or the authorization to bring in subsequent available federal grants, up to \$500,000 (about half of the federal grant) to be distributed to communities and owners of historic properties; and**

WHEREAS, not having the authorization or funds will hinder the state in preservation of its heritage, hamper required environmental review of resource development projects, and threaten the state's approved status to qualify for the annual federal grant;

NOW THEREFORE, the Alaska Historical Commission asks that the \$150,000 in state general fund match in the FY20 capital budget for the National Historic Preservation Fund be restored, as well as authorization to bring in the federal funds with a line item of \$500,000 for it—recognizing these are needed for the State of Alaska to have an approved State Historic Preservation Office and program, and importantly, will not unnecessarily impede state development projects.

Adopted this 8th day of March 2019 by the citizen members of the Alaska Historical Commission:

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