

*Kenai Peninsula Borough  
Alaska  
Proclamation*

WHEREAS, Healthy children are the most important resource in the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) is the leading cause of mental retardation in Alaska, the United States, and all of western civilization and is 100% preventable; and

WHEREAS, within Alaska 1.63 births per 1,000 live births are born with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. This is one tenth of the total number of live births with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. Alaska has the highest known incidence of FASD in the United States. Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) are a major cause of numerous social disorders including learning disabilities, school failure, juvenile delinquency, homelessness, unemployment, mental illness and crime.

WHEREAS, researchers estimate that the annual cost to Alaskans in health care and social services related to FAS is between \$21 and \$42 million.

WHEREAS, on September 9, 2006, people around the world will be observing the seventh International Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Awareness Day, in order that on the ninth day, of the ninth month of the year, the world will remember that during the nine months of pregnancy a woman should abstain from alcohol.

NOW THEREFORE, I, John J. Williams, Mayor of the Kenai Peninsula Borough, do hereby proclaim September 9, 2006, as:

**Fetal Alcohol Syndrome  
Awareness Day**

on the Kenai Peninsula, to promote awareness of the effects of prenatal exposure to alcohol, to increase compassion for those individuals so affected, to minimize further effects, and to ensure healthier communities across Alaska in the future.

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John J. Williams  
Kenai Peninsula Borough Mayor

