



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

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**DAVID R. CAREY
BOROUGH MAYOR**

MEMORANDUM

TO: Gary Knopp, Assembly President
Members, Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

FROM: Charlie Pierce, Assembly Member *CP*
Linda Murphy, Assembly Member *L.M.*

DATE: April 21, 2011

SUBJECT: Ordinance 2011-14, amending KPB 22.30.110 to eliminate the provision the provision of health insurance benefits for assembly members

The cost of healthcare and health insurance has risen sharply in the last ten years with the current monthly cost of health insurance per borough employee approximating \$1,400 to \$1,425. Assembly members, who are not full-time borough employees, are given the same health insurance benefits on the same level and basis as provided for borough department heads pursuant to the borough code. In our view this is an inappropriate use of taxpayer funds especially in today's economy. Removing this benefit should not affect the quality of assembly candidates as we do not believe that people run for this office to receive health insurance benefits.

The assembly is seeking ways to reduce costs and in our view this is a cost that should not be borne by the taxpayers. Accordingly, we are proposing this ordinance to eliminate the provision of health insurance benefits to assembly members. Your favorable consideration of this ordinance would be appreciated.