

CLERK'S OFFICE

APPROVED

8-17-10

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

AR NO. 2010-240

Date:

A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY TO SUPPORT COMPREHENSIVE FEDERAL CLEAN ENERGY LEGISLATION IN THE YEAR 2010.

WHEREAS, concerned about our future, our economy and our community, we cannot afford to wait to act on comprehensive clean energy; and

WHEREAS, currently the United States spends over \$1 billion per day to import oil, draining our economy and enriching countries that are fighting against us; and

WHEREAS, according to a study conducted in 2007 by the Center for Naval Analysis, generals concluded that climate change was a "threat multiplier" requiring the full attention of the Department of Defense and action by the United States government before it was too late; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Defense identified global climate change as a national security threat that brings additional risks and stressors to United States service members stationed overseas, including soldiers deployed from Fort Richardson and Elmendorf - bases located in the Municipality of Anchorage; and

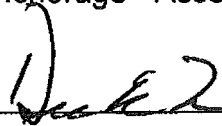
WHEREAS, efforts to reduce pollution and to promote cleaner energy sources will increase demand for natural gas and help create favorable conditions for bringing Alaska's natural gas to market; and

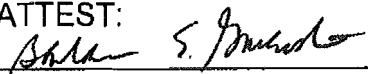
WHEREAS, Alaska has abundant opportunities for renewable energy resources including wind power, geothermal power, hydroelectric power, tidal power, and biomass; and

WHEREAS, statewide efforts to reduce carbon pollution, to increase energy efficiency, and to produce renewable energy provide numerous local benefits by creating new jobs that cannot be exported, developing reliable local power, cutting energy bills and saving taxpayers money;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Anchorage Assembly respectfully requests our Federal Delegation to thoughtfully consider and work together with Congress to pass comprehensive energy legislation in the year 2010 that creates new incentives for natural gas, renewable energy and adoption of energy efficient technologies while reducing our country's dependence on foreign oil and increasing our national security.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 17th day of August, 2010.


Chair

ATTEST:

Municipal Clerk



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
ASSEMBLY MEMORANDUM
No. AM 444-2010

Meeting Date: August 17, 2010

1 **From:** ASSEMBLY MEMBER DRUMMOND
2 **Subject:** **AR 2010-240 — A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL**
3 **ASSEMBLY TO SUPPORT COMPREHENSIVE FEDERAL CLEAN**
4 **ENERGY LEGISLATION IN THE YEAR 2010.**
5
6

7 In February 2010, the *Quadrennial Defense Review Report* concluded that climate
8 change would affect the Department of Defense and would shape its operating
9 environment, roles, and missions. As per the report, extreme weather events may lead
10 to increased demand for defense support for humanitarian assistance or disaster
11 response. According to the report, in some nations, the military is the only institution
12 with the capacity to respond to a large-scale disaster. Selected pages from
13 *Quadrennial Defense Review Report* are attached. The full report may be found at:
14 <http://www.defense.gov/qdr/>
15

16 Additionally, the *Quadrennial Defense Review Report* affirms that the Department of
17 Defense will need to adjust to the impacts of climate change on its facilities and military
18 capabilities. According to the report, climate change will pose challenges for civil
19 society and the Department of Defense, particularly due to the nation's extensive
20 coastal infrastructure. The report stated that the National Intelligence Council judged, in
21 2008, that more than 30 U.S. military installations were already facing elevated levels of
22 risk from rising sea levels. Since the Department of Defense's operational readiness
23 hinges on continued access to land, air, and sea training, the *Quadrennial Defense*
24 *Review Report* recommends that the Department of Defense complete a
25 comprehensive assessment of all installations to assess potential impacts of climate
26 change on its missions and adapt as required.
27

28 In its 2007 report, *National Security and the Threat of Climate Change*, the Center for
29 Naval Analysis determined that atmospheric carbon dioxide levels were greater than
30 (2007) than at any time in the past 650,000 years. Additionally, the average global
31 temperature has continued a steady rise.
32

33 The *National Security and the Threat of Climate Change* report includes
34 recommendations on appropriate action that should begin now to help mitigate the
35 severity of these emergent changes. The Center for Naval Analysis' recommendations
36 include commitment by the United States of America to a stronger national and
37 international role to help stabilize climate change at levels that will avoid significant
38 disruption to global security and stability. Selected pages from *National Security and*
39 *the Threat of Climate Change* are attached. The full report may be found at:
40 <http://securityandclimate.cna.org/>
41

1 Currently, the United States spends over \$1 billion per day to import oil which is draining
2 our economy. The increasing cost of fossil fuel energy is a burden on our community,
3 especially our vulnerable and low-income residents. While in turn, foreign countries,
4 hostile to the United States, are enriched.
5

6 In a recent article out of Juneau, Alaska, *Gas Line Prospects May Be Unknown for*
7 *Months*, Associated Press Writer Becky Bohrer reported that Larry Persily, the federal
8 coordinator for Alaska natural gas projects, said that the odds for an Alaska gas pipeline
9 would increase if federal legislation moves forward that pushes the nation toward
10 greater natural gas use. According to the article, Mr. Persily stated that Alaska's hope
11 for a gas pipeline rests on whether the market needs our gas. Driving that demand
12 growth will be large volume, long-term users like electric companies. As per the article,
13 Mr. Persily added that federal legislation encouraging cleaner energy would help. A
14 copy of *Gas Line Prospects May Be Unknown for Months* is attached.
15

16 Through the Home Energy Rebate Program and Weatherization Assistance Program,
17 thousands of Alaskans statewide are already benefitting from cleaner and more efficient
18 energy use. Of additional benefit to Alaskans, the Home Energy Rebate and
19 Weatherization Assistance Programs have created an estimated 2,000 to 2,500 jobs.
20

21 Under the Home Energy Rebate Program, existing homeowners sign up for an energy
22 rater to rate their homes for energy efficiency. As per the energy raters'
23 recommendations, the homeowner pays for the work to be completed and may be
24 reimbursed up to \$10,000. Under the Home Energy Rebate Program, 24,796 homes
25 have been rated and 6,913 rebates have been paid. An average rebate is \$6,235. The
26 Home Energy Rebate Program estimates that homeowners save \$1,600 per year in
27 energy costs.
28

29 Under the Weatherization Assistance Program, qualified renters and qualified
30 homeowners throughout the state apply for free home weatherization in order to bring
31 their homes up to safe, healthy and energy-efficient standards. Weatherization adds
32 years of life to buildings and brings the benefit of energy conservation, saving
33 homeowners and renters up to 50% off their heating bills. Since 2008, over 6,655
34 homes have been weatherized.
35

36 Our future, our economy and our community depend on comprehensive clean energy.
37 Only through concerted efforts, as a nation, can we thwart this threat to our future and
38 relieve these economic burdens. Our leaders, including those at the federal level, must
39 accept as a national priority the development of renewable energy technology and
40 infrastructure. This AR 2010-240 gives support from and on behalf of the Municipality of
41 Anchorage for the passage of comprehensive clean energy legislation for our country.
42

43 Respectfully submitted:
44

45 Assembly Member Harriet Drummond, Section 3