WHEREAS, The Pratt Museum is a national award-winning museum on the Kenai Peninsula that serves more than 35,000 visitors and engages more than 4,000 education program participants annually; and

WHEREAS, The Pratt Museum is consistently recognized as one of Alaska’s leading cultural institutions and a model among community museums across the nation; and

WHEREAS, The Pratt Museum is a regional economic engine, generating about $1 million in annual economic activity and drawing visitors to the Kenai Peninsula from across the state, nation and world; and

WHEREAS, The Pratt Museum is embarking on a construction project to better serve its visitors and the community long into the future by providing new exhibits; full handicap accessibility; expanded research capacity to serve students and scholars; and improved ability to expand and preserve the largest collections in the sciences, arts, and humanities on the Kenai Peninsula; and

WHEREAS, An appropriation of $1,500,000 from the United States Senate will provide necessary funding to start construction of the Pratt Museum’s $8.5 million new facility and site redesign project; and

WHEREAS, The Pratt Museum’s construction project is included in the City of Homer 2011-2016 Capital Improvement Plan and the City of Homer annually supports the Pratt Museum with operational and capital project funding;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:

SECTION 1. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly hereby expresses support for the Pratt Museum’s Senate appropriation grant request in the amount of $1,500,000 for construction of the Museum’s New Facility and Site Redesign Project.

SECTION 2. That a copy of this resolution shall be provided to Senators Lisa Murkowski and Mark Begich and Congressman Don Young.
SECTION 3. That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 15TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2011.

ATTEST:

Gary Knopp, Assembly President

Johni Blankenship, Borough Clerk

Yes: Haggerty, Johnson, McClure, Murphy, Pierce, Smalley, Smith, Tauriainen, Knopp
No: None
Absent: None