

HAINES BOROUGH

RESOLUTION 08-10-143

**Adopted**

A RESOLUTION OF THE HAINES BOROUGH ASSEMBLY SUPPORTING THE EXEMPTION OF STATE DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR MUNICIPAL OFFICERS AND CANDIDATES.

**WHEREAS**, State Statute 39.50, effective in 2008, requires financial business and conflict of interest reporting, available on the state web site, for all state and municipal officials, candidates, board members and commission members and their spouses, domestic partners and dependent children; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alaska Municipal League is NOT opposed to all of the above filing financial business and conflict of interest reports; but does oppose that information being required for family members being posted on the Internet; and

**WHEREAS**, under A.S. 39.50, mayors, council members, assembly members, school board members, city and borough managers, planning & zoning commissioners, and elected utility board members are all required to file these public conflict of interest reports; and

**WHEREAS**, these new rules require sources of income over \$1,000, as well as the amount of the income, thereby requiring all business owners to list how much money his/her business makes and to report such income as salary, social security, interest, dividends, rental income and retirement money (IRAs, etc.); and

**WHEREAS**, this statute also invades the privacy of those people doing business WITH the candidate or municipal official; and

**WHEREAS**, this information is to be posted on the Internet, local municipal officials are concerned with identity theft and invasion of privacy; and

**WHEREAS**, these new rulings have severely limited those people willing to serve their local municipalities, and it will become more and more difficult to find residents to step up to the plate for positions that hold little or no financial gain, yet can be contentious, time consuming and difficult, at best; and

**WHEREAS**, close to one/half of Alaska's municipalities have voted to be exempt from this State disclosure requirements and many had the question on the ballot during the 2008 municipal elections; and

**WHEREAS**, the Haines Borough Assembly has already adopted an ordinance (08-09-189) establishing local financial disclosure regulations in the event of a future exemption from the State requirements;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Haines Borough Assembly supports the automatic exemption of all Alaska municipalities from the State of Alaska Financial Disclosure rule, to be replaced by local financial disclosure forms to be available to all of the public upon request rather than posted on the Internet.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Haines Borough Assembly requests the state create filing forms and regulations for public official financial disclosure reports that separate state officials, local officials and lobbyists from one another.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Haines Borough Assembly fears that the requirement of state disclosure laws will drastically reduce the availability of qualified persons willing to serve in local government.

ADOPTED by a duly constituted quorum of the Haines Borough Assembly this 28<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2008.

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Janice Hill, Mayor

(SEAL)

Attest:

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Julie Cozzi, Borough Clerk