

A RESOLUTION OF THE DOWNTOWN COMMUNITY COUNCIL TO SUPPORT A CONSOLIDATED VOICE FOR DOWNTOWN BY COMBINING HOUSE DISTRICTS SEATS 17 AND 23 INTO ONE SENATE PAIR

WHEREAS, the United States Constitution empowers Congress to carry out the census every 10 years to count every person living in the United States and use that count to determine representation in Congress; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Constitution requires setting new boundaries for the Alaska house districts and senate districts after the decennial census of the United States; and

WHEREAS, for the past ten years the Downtown Community Council has been represented by one House District and one Senate District; and

WHEREAS, the final 2021 redistricting maps divide Downtown Anchorage into two separate House districts; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Redistricting Board met over for the last several months and in compliance with the Constitution has promulgated a map; and

WHEREAS, that map was challenged by a number of communities and has been heard in the Superior and Supreme Courts; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Supreme Court found that the pairing of House District 21 and 22 into Senate K is unconstitutional and that this pairing must be changed; and

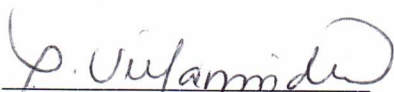
WHEREAS, On the promulgated maps the Downtown area of Anchorage was divided into house districts 17 and 23 in the 2021 map. Currently, these two districts fall into Senate seats and half of downtown is paired with the Chugiak-Eagle Birchwood; and

WHEREAS, it appears that any pairing of Eagle River and Hillside or Eagle River and Downtown simply shifts the unconstitutional problem from one senate pairing to another, and

WHEREAS, The Downtown Community Council understands that there are a lot of factors the Redistricting Board needed to consider when drawing the maps, but still regrets the division of our downtown core. This situation is lamentable, but the option of furthering this fracture by putting us in two Senate seats is unnecessary and further dissolves the voice of the downtown core; and

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED, that the Downtown Community Council hereby requests the Alaska Redistricting Board to support a consolidated downtown voice and to pair House Seat 17 and House Seat 23 downtown into one Senate Seat.

PASSED and APPROVED by the Downtown Community Council this 6th day of April, 2022.



Signed: Silvia Villamides

Its: President

Downtown Community Council