RESOLUTION OF THE SITKA SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION NO: 2017-01
IN SUPPORT OF INCREASE OF PROPERTY TAX

WHEREAS, 29.7% of the yearly revenue of the Sitka School District is provided by the City and Borough of Sitka through its Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska is experiencing a budget shortfall of $4.1 billion and is transferring a large portion of its bonded indebtedness to local municipalities including the City and Borough of Sitka; and

WHEREAS, the resultant budgetary shortfall of the City and Borough of Sitka is anticipated to be $2.5 million to $3.1 million; and

WHEREAS, acting to solve the problem, the Assembly of City and Borough of Sitka has promulgated a ballot measure to be on the plebiscite of October 4, 2016 asking the voters whether they approve an increase of property tax assessment from 6 mills to 8 mills; and

WHEREAS, even with a rate increase of 2 mills, the property tax rate in Sitka is the lowest rate in Southeast Alaska; and

WHEREAS, funding of local schools is through local property taxes in the vast majority of communities in the United States;

THEREFORE, The Sitka School Board by unanimous vote on August 25, 2016 goes on record as supporting the referendum, and

THEREFORE, commits the Sitka School District to providing district financial data supportive of present and anticipated future needs of the Sitka School District and urges the voters of Sitka, both property owners and renters alike to cast an affirmative vote for the millage rate increase from 6 mills to 8 mills in the election of October 4, 2016.


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Tim Fulton, President, Sitka School Board

“Educating our children to realize their potential and contribute in a connected global society.”