CITY OF DILLINGHAM, ALASKA

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-14

A RESOLUTION OF THE DILLINGHAM CITY COUNCIL IN SUPPORT OF ALASKA STATE HOUSE BILL 350 (HB-350), WHICH WOULD END THE CURRENT SCHOOL BOND DEBT MORATORIUM ON JULY 1, 2022 AND INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF REIMBURSABLE SCHOOL BOND DEBT

WHEREAS, The City of Dillingham recognizes its partnership role with the Dillingham City School District in ensuring a robust and competitive primary and secondary education for all students in the District; and

WHEREAS, Alaska public schools have been flat-funded by the State since 2017, even as the cost for essential services and goods have increased rapidly during the same period of time; and

WHEREAS, The current School Bond Debt Moratorium and existing rates for School Bond Debt reimbursement continue to negatively impacted the City's ability to compensate for rising costs and provide adequate funding to meet the needs of our local schools; and

WHEREAS, Leaving the current moratorium in place, and keeping reimbursement rates at their present levels, will only exacerbate existing challenges to fund our municipal responsibilities, repay our school facility bond debt, and provide the school district sufficient resources to pay for teacher retention and recruitment, classroom instruction, extra-curricular activities, student transportation services, facility needs, and all other associated and necessary expenditures; and

WHEREAS. Passage of Alaska House Bill 350 (HB-350) would provide a positive financial adjustment and help both the City and School District better meet their obligations to the students and citizens of Dillingham.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Dillingham City Council hereby declares its support for House Bill 350 (HB-350) and other efforts to increase funding for the public education system currently being debated at the Alaska State Legislature.

PASSED and ADOPTED by the Dillingham City Council on April 7, 2022.

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Alice Ruby, Mayor

[SEAL]

ATTEST:

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Lori Goodell, City Clerk