

**PETERSBURG BOROUGH  
RESOLUTION #2026-10**

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A RETURN TO A DEFINED BENEFIT  
RETIREMENT SYSTEM FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYEES, INCLUDING HOUSE BILL 78**

**WHEREAS**, the ability of the Petersburg Borough and the State of Alaska to attract and retain qualified, experienced public employees is essential to maintaining effective and reliable public services; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Alaska's transition in 2006 from a defined benefit retirement system to a defined contribution retirement system for public employees has been associated with increased employee turnover and loss of experienced personnel, as compared to the former defined benefit system; and

**WHEREAS**, a 2021 study by the Alaska Governor's Working Group on Teacher Retention and Recruitment identified access to a defined benefit retirement system as one of the top factors influencing recruitment and retention of teachers and educators; and

**WHEREAS**, increased turnover and workforce shortages place additional strain on remaining employees, often resulting in higher overtime costs, reduced service levels, and greater difficulty in recruiting qualified applicants; and

**WHEREAS**, providing a defined benefit retirement option may serve as an effective tool to improve recruitment, restore services, and retain experienced public employees for the benefit of Petersburg Borough residents; and

**WHEREAS**, legislation currently under consideration by the Alaska State Legislature, House Bill 78, would provide certain employees within the Public Employees' Retirement System and the Teachers' Retirement System the option to return to a defined benefit retirement plan;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Assembly of the Petersburg Borough expresses its support for House Bill 78, which would allow eligible public employees the option to return to a defined benefit retirement system; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Borough Clerk is directed to distribute copies of this resolution to the Alaska State Legislature and the Office of the Governor.

**PASSED and APPROVED** by the Assembly of the Petersburg Borough, Alaska this 13<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2026.

---

**Jeigh Stanton Gregor, Vice Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

---

**Rebecca Regula, Borough Clerk**