

**PETERSBURG BOROUGH  
RESOLUTION #2022-18**

**A RESOLUTION OPPOSING A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION**

**WHEREAS**, Article X of the Alaska Constitution provides for maximum local self-government, and contains numerous provisions providing for the enhancement of local self-government; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Alaska Constitution, which took effect with Statehood in 1959, has served its citizens well during the past 63 years as one of the strongest constitutions in the nation, and is renowned as a model for its thoroughness, protection of individual liberties, and functionality; and,

**WHEREAS**, Article XIII, Sec. 3 requires that the question of whether to convene a constitutional convention be placed on the ballot of a general election every ten years; and,

**WHEREAS**, Alaska voters overwhelmingly rejected the call for a constitutional convention in 1972 and in successive elections held in 1982, 1992, 2002, and 2012; and,

**WHEREAS**, Article XIII, Sec. 1 provides an alternative wherein the legislature may propose amendments to the Constitution; and,

**WHEREAS**, since statehood, the legislature has proposed 40 amendments, of which 28 have been approved by the voters; and,

**WHEREAS**, a constitutional convention is unnecessary, expensive, and risks proposals to shift public funding for education from the state to local governments, to alter the taxing power of government, and other proposals that could fundamentally harm Alaska's local governments; and,

**WHEREAS**, rural Alaska in particular could suffer impacts to the Power Cost Equalization program, the Alaska Marine Highway System, and rural education funding; and,

**WHEREAS**, at the next general election, on November 8, 2022, Alaska voters will be asked to vote on whether to convene a constitutional convention.

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Borough Assembly of Petersburg, Alaska, finds that a constitutional convention is unnecessary at this time and may negatively impact our local government.

**PASSED and APPROVED by the Petersburg Borough Assembly this 7th day of November, 2022.**

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**Mark Jensen, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

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**Debra K. Thompson, Borough Clerk**