Kenai Peninsula Borough School District

Resolution Number 09-10-4 Opposition to Proposition 1

As members of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School Board, we believe Proposition 1 on the August 2010 primary election ballot poses grave problems for the rights of citizens to influence their government and improve the lives of children. The ballot measure seeks to prohibit, as a criminal act, any school district from hiring a lobbyist or any superintendent to advocate for state funds. This initiative, if passed, would disenfranchise tens of thousands of Alaskans from their own government.

Rationale: The broad brush of Proposition 1 seeks to ban the use of tax dollars for any partisan activity, but in so doing threatens criminal penalties against any public official, state employee, public body, school district, council or candidate for office who "directly or indirectly" violates the terms of the initiative. For our republic to work, our citizens have to be involved. Proposition 1 blocks our ability to be involved and undermines our civic responsibility. The First Amendment guarantees our right to free speech and to associate with other citizens; this initiative assumes anybody who receives public dollars, "directly or indirectly," is capable of breaking the law.

As public officials, we believe in corruption-free government. However, Proposition 1 is misdirected in this regard and would shackle the hands of anybody who does business with the government, "directly or indirectly."

Adopted by the Kenai Peninsula Borough School Board on this 7th day of June 2010.

Joe Arness, President

Joe Arness, Presiden School Board

Attest:

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Sally E. Táchick Notary Public My Commission Expires 7/25/13

