

By: Council Member Sullivan-Leonard

Adopted: August 13, 2012

Vote: Holler, Katkus, Sullivan-Leonard, and Wall in favor. Woodruff opposed.

Harris absent.

**CITY OF WASILLA  
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 12-20**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE WASILLA CITY COUNCIL OPPOSING BALLOT  
MEASURE TWO, COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM, TO BE VOTED  
UPON AT THE UPCOMING STATE PRIMARY ELECTION ON AUGUST 28, 2012.**

WHEREAS, the Alaska Constitution provides that Alaska's resources shall be made available for maximum use consistent with the public interest; and

WHEREAS, Alaska's current regulatory process for permitting resource development protects the environment, human health and safety, and subsistence values; and

WHEREAS, input from coastal communities is an important part of the project approval process and the concerns of local citizens are reflected in decisions about coastal development; and

WHEREAS, Ballot Measure 2 has the potential to undermine ongoing and future development projects across Alaska that help drive the economy and create jobs; that the impact of the measure is so broad it could affect oil, gas, mining, fishing, retail, tourism, small businesses and even individual property owners with burdensome new regulations; and

WHEREAS, Ballot Measure 2 would create a new, unaccountable and unelected policy board to set coastal statewide policy composed of decision makers without the necessary technical knowledge or expertise to oversee responsible coastal development; and

WHEREAS, Ballot Measure 2 would create endless legal battles over current and future development, with no clear timeline for resolution; and

WHEREAS, Ballot Measure 2 does not simply restore the prior coastal zone management program; but instead, substitutes a new, needlessly complex and bureaucratic regulatory regime; and

WHEREAS, Ballot Measure 2 is so defective, poorly written and ill-defined that it:

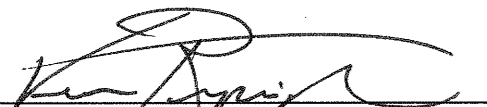
- Delegates authority over coastal management decisions to a handful of unelected officials with few concrete standards to guide their decision-making; and
- Fails to establish a timely permitting process or eliminate duplicative processes; and
- Allows individual coastal districts to veto a permit based on standards that may have no scientific basis, even if that permit meets all state and federal standards; and
- Greatly expands the scope of Alaska's "coasts" to include any use or resource elsewhere that could affect a coastal region; and

WHEREAS, a truly effective coastal management program needs clear and reasonable triggers for accountability, specific timelines and firm deadlines for completion of the required review process; and

WHEREAS, Alaskans share a longstanding commitment to a balanced approach to development with strong environmental standards; that Ballot Measure 2 alters that balance in a dangerous way.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wasilla City Council opposes the passage of Ballot Measure 2 to be voted upon in the Alaska statewide primary election on August 28, 2012.

ADOPTED by the Wasilla City Council on August 13, 2012.

  
VERNE E. RUPRIGHT, Mayor

ATTEST:



KRISTIE SMITHERS, MMC, City Clerk

[SEAL]



**Resolution Serial No. 12-20: OPPOSING BALLOT MEASURE TWO, COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM, TO BE VOTED UPON AT THE UPCOMING STATE PRIMARY ELECTION ON AUGUST 28, 2012.**

**Agenda of:** July 9, 2012

**Date:** July 2, 2012

**Originator:** Council Member Sullivan-Leonard *(CSL)*

Route to:	Department	Signature	Date
X	Finance Director	<i>[Signature]</i>	7/2/12
X	Interim Deputy Administrator	<i>[Signature]</i>	7/2/12
X	City Clerk	<i>[Signature]</i>	7/2/12

**REVIEWED BY MAYOR VERNE E. RUPRIGHT:** *[Signature]*

**FISCAL IMPACT:**  yes or  no      Funds Available     Yes or  No

**Account name/number:**

**Attachments:**

Resolution Serial No. 12-20 (2 pages)

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:** I am submitting Resolution Serial No.12-20 to you for your review and support.

Ballot Measure 2 will be on the upcoming primary ballot on August 28, 2012. It is an initiative that will create another level of government that is not necessary. At a time when the Mat-Su Borough is looking to develop capital projects to spur our economy this is not the time to implement another level of bureaucracy to stop needed infrastructure and economic growth.

As you are aware, our state is already subject to strict oversight by EPA and other environmental standards and regulations that are cumbersome and cause many projects to take years to complete. This ballot measure would affect our many sectors that are working hard to get our economy moving forward through: oil and gas development, mining, fishing, retail, tourism and small business development. Let's stop the growth of government and support the economic growth in Alaska. I ask for your support to pass this resolution to send a clear message that the City of Wasilla does not support Ballot Measure 2.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Adopt Resolution Serial No. 12-20.

**Kristie Smithers**

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**Subject:** FW: info for council on BM 2

Kristie,

Please add the following informative opinions on the Alaska Coastal Zone Management Program, Ballot Measure 2 to the upcoming agenda for council's review and consideration.

Thanks,

Colleen

## **Representative Cathy Muñoz**

### **Why the Coastal Management Initiative is flawed**



When people ask me what I think about the Alaska Coastal Management Program initiative, Ballot Measure 2, which appears on the August 28 primary election ballot, I tell them that Alaskans are not getting the full story on the potential impacts of the proposal. The initiative is completely different from the one that nearly passed the legislature in 2011. It calls for a new permitting authority with much more regulatory power than in the recent past.

In a KCAW news report of a Sitka Chamber of Commerce presentation on this issue, former Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner Kurt Fredricksson was quoted as saying, "One of my biggest concerns with Ballot Measure 2 is the board. As I mentioned earlier, I sat before boards that were very impressive, and they were made up of locally elected officials. That to me is very important." Mr. Fredricksson argued that special interests could capture seats on the initiative's appointed board.

This newly created board would determine if a development were consistent with local coastal district policy. These are criteria established by coastal districts in addition to state and federal permitting requirements. In other words, even if my project - such as fixing up my house, deck, or dock - were successful in obtaining air and water quality permits through state or federal agencies, the coastal management policy board would have the authority to deny my permit request if it were deemed "not consistent" with local district policy.

The Alaska Coastal Management Program was established in the 1970s as a means of giving coastal states more input in the permitting process. This came about at a time when citizens were increasingly alarmed with environmental pollution. The federal clean air and water acts had not yet become law. Many of the current state and federal permitting requirements were not yet in place. The permitting landscape is much different today than it was in the 1970s. Think of the 20-year permitting process that the Kensington Mine endured or of Royal Dutch Shell's difficulties in getting permits for offshore drilling exploration in the Arctic Ocean.

Proponents say that Ballot Measure 2 will preserve Alaska's voice. It will do much more than that - it will establish an independent board with authority over legitimate developments, both large and small, and, in the process, will make doing business in Alaska considerably more difficult.

*Cathy Muñoz*

## **MY Turn**

### **Why coastal zone initiative, Prop 2, should be defeated**

#### **Frank Murkowski**

Frank Murkowski was governor of Alaska from 2002 to 2006, its U.S. senator from 1980 to 2002 and chairman of the Senate Energy Committee from 1995 to 2001.

(The following is a condensed version of former Gov. Murkowski's recently published editorial, reprinted with his permission.)

Make no mistake, the Coastal Zone Planning initiative that will appear on this August's Primary Ballot as Proposition 2 is very different from the bill that passed the House 40-0 in the 2011 session of the Legislature. Proposition 2 will do nothing more than add more government and another permitting layer that will delay projects and cost jobs.

As proof -- only 7 out of 60 Alaska legislators supported what will be Proposition 2 when it was proposed as legislation in the 2012 session of the Legislature. Remember --

- *There had been debate on Coastal Zone for two years, so legislators were fully aware of the impact of the differing proposals.*
- *The vote in the 2011 session showed that all 40 House members and many from industry were willing to support reasonable coastal zone legislation.*
- *Yet, only 7 legislators supported what will be Proposition 2 in the form of legislation -- 6 Democrats and 1 Republican from Homer.*

If 53 Republicans and Democrats can agree on something, we should all take a step back and really consider what the initiative that will appear on the primary ballot will do and won't do.

Proposition 2 provides no state standards to limit the extent of a coastal district. The complexities, inconsistencies, and ambiguities will cause litigation, and litigation will cause significant delays in obtaining consistency determinations and cost Alaska jobs.

The initiative is being promoted by government people who want to add more government and more conditions to projects that have been approved by state and federal agencies. More government stands in stark contrast to Alaskans who are saying we already have too much government in our lives.

For all these reasons I urge the defeat of Ballot Proposition 2.