

Submitted by: Assemblymembers Traini and Tesche  
Prepared by: Municipal Clerk  
For reading: December 18, 2007

Anchorage, Alaska  
AR 2007-300

1 **A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY SUPPORTING ADOPTION**  
2 **OF A CLEAN ELECTIONS SYSTEM IN ALASKA.**

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3  
4 THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES:

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6 **WHEREAS**, several former and current legislators have recently been indicted for accepting  
7 money in exchange for votes; and

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9 **WHEREAS**, votes taken by these individuals may have cost the state more than \$1 billion  
10 annually in unrealized oil tax revenues, revenue that is critical to supporting the operations of our local  
11 governments; and

12  
13 **WHEREAS**, this scandal has undermined public confidence in the integrity of Alaska's elected  
14 officials; and

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16 **WHEREAS**, adoption of a Clean Elections system can help restore public trust in government,  
17 eliminate the potential for and perception of corruption, and promote greater accountability to voters; and

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19 **WHEREAS**, under Clean Elections, candidates who demonstrate broad public support and agree  
20 to forego private contributions can qualify for public financing of their campaigns; and

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22 **WHEREAS**, Clean Elections is law in seven states and is extremely popular with voters as well as  
23 candidates; and

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25 **WHEREAS**, Clean Elections affirms the principle of "one person, one vote" by curtailing the  
26 influence of special interest money and enabling citizens of all backgrounds to participate equally in the  
27 democratic process; and

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29 **WHEREAS**, Clean Elections opens the door to a greater diversity of candidates who will  
30 represent the public interest; and

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32 **WHEREAS**, Clean Elections system saves money by eliminating funding for pet projects  
33 advocated by special interests; and

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35 **WHEREAS**, the time has come for Clean Elections in Alaska;

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37 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY** that  
38 Governor Sarah Palin and the Alaska State Legislature be urged to expeditiously implement a Clean  
39 Elections system in Alaska.

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41 PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Municipal Clerk



**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE  
ASSEMBLY MEMORANDUM**

No. AM 793-2007

**Meeting Date:** December 18, 2007

1       **From:** Assemblymembers Traini and Tesche  
2       **Subject:** **AR 2007-300 - A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL**  
3                   **ASSEMBLY SUPPORTING ADOPTION OF A CLEAN ELECTIONS**  
4                   **SYSTEM IN ALASKA.**  
5

6       The resolution is modeled on the recent action by the Kodiak Assembly “Supporting Adoption of  
7       a Clean Election System in Alaska.” Attached is a Kodiak Mirror article that explains that  
8       Assembly’s action.  
9

10       Bills for a Clean Elections system were introduced in both houses during the last regular  
11       legislative session, in both cases sponsored by one representative and senator from the two major  
12       parties. The bills were referred to three committees in each house, so they saw no action this  
13       year.  
14

15       An initiative petition is now being circulated by Alaskans for Clean Elections so that the people  
16       have a chance to vote on the issue in November 2008, if the legislature does not act during the  
17       forthcoming session. To make it on the ballot, the initiative requires 23,831 valid signatures. To  
18       assure acceptance, the goal is to submit 30,000 signatures by the January 15 deadline, the day the  
19       legislature convenes. Close to twenty thousand have been obtained towards that goal.  
20

21       The Clean Elections proposal has received strong bipartisan support. Governor Wally Hickel is  
22       an enthusiastic supporter, as is Mayor Jim Whittaker of Fairbanks. Many municipal officials  
23       signed the petition circulated at the recent AML meeting in Fairbanks, as did Native regional  
24       corporation executives and business people from all over the state.  
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26       Respectfully submitted:

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28       Dick Traini  
29       Assemblymember, Section 4

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28       Allan Tesche  
29       Assemblymember, Section 1