

## RESOLUTION 25-46

### **A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE ESSENTIAL AIR SERVICE PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the Essential Air Service (EAS) is among the programs proposed for elimination in President Trump's proposed federal budget; and

**WHEREAS**, the EAS Program is critical to approximately 60 rural Alaskan communities; and

**WHEREAS**, all six Aleutians East Borough ("Borough") communities are not connected by roads and rely heavily upon air service; and

**WHEREAS**, the EAS Program allows airlines to bring in mail and freight that includes necessities such as prescription medicine for residents, parts and equipment to keep essential infrastructure operating, food, clothing and other items; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough is responsible for providing air transportation between Akutan and Akun and the EAS funds are necessary for the operations success; and

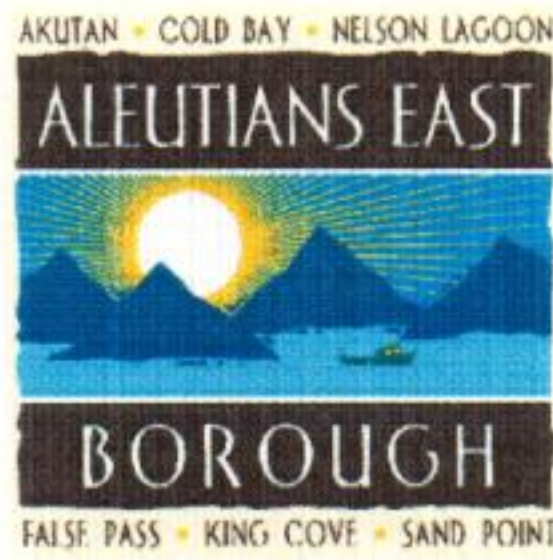
**WHEREAS**, the EAS Program keeps the Borough communities connected to the rest of the world, serving as a critical link to the state and nationwide air transportation system; and

**WHEREAS**, eliminating the EAS Program would cause the Borough communities such as False Pass, King Cove and Akutan to lack immediate and necessary access to life-sustaining necessities; and

**WHEREAS**, without EAS Subsidies, regularly scheduled flights into many rural communities would cease to exist and costs for flights transporting basic goods such as food, fuel and health care supplies would escalate even more than they already have; and

**WHEREAS**, without affordable air service, the only option for the Borough communities that rely upon air carriers with EAS contracts would be charters, which can be far more expensive, putting low-income residents in a serious bind; and





**WHEREAS**, remote communities that rely upon the EAS Program, such as False Pass, King Cove and Akutan, would become even more isolated and removed from the Borough as well as the State of Alaska; and

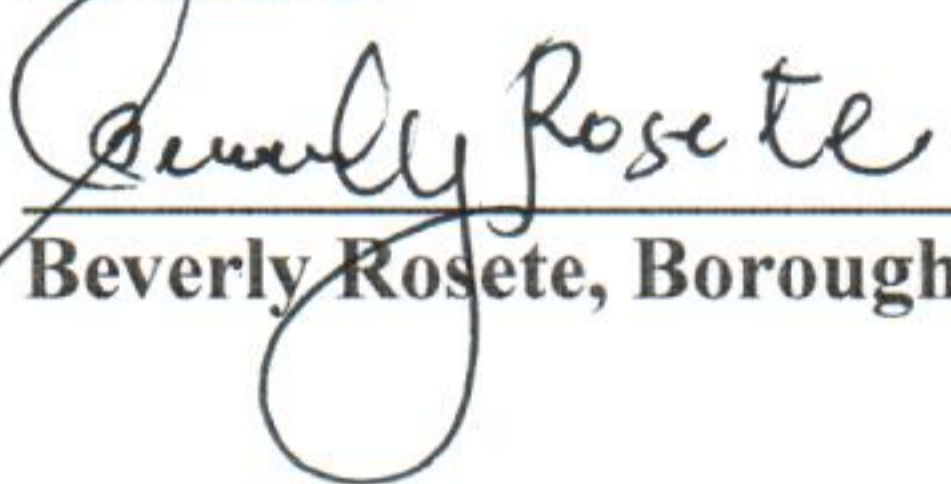
**WHEREAS**, the elimination of the Essential Air Service Program would have a devastating effect on the Borough communities that depend upon guaranteed air transportation.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Aleutians East Borough Assembly urges President Trump and Congress to allow the EAS Program to remain in the federal budget.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** by the Aleutians East Borough on this day 13<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2025.

  
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**Alvin D. Osterback, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

  
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**Beverly Rosete, Borough Clerk**