

1 **CITY OF HOMER**  
2 **HOMER, ALASKA**

3 City Manager/Port Director

4 **RESOLUTION 17-091**

5  
6 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA, IN  
7 SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 92: AN ACT RELATING TO ABANDONED  
8 AND DERELICT VESSELS.  
9

10 WHEREAS, Hundreds of derelict vessels currently litter Alaska's coastline and harbors  
11 and these numbers will increase every year unless action is taken to address aging fleets and  
12 changing commercial fisheries; and  
13

14 WHEREAS, In the past two years alone there have been numerous derelict vessel  
15 situations that have cost the state, municipalities, and the federal government considerable  
16 expense, including two ex-Navy tugs in Adak, abandoned barges in Steamboat Slough near  
17 Bethel, and the tug Challenger that sunk off Juneau; and  
18

19 WHEREAS, The Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators  
20 recognizes the widespread costs and then environmental and navigational risks for both  
21 municipalities and the state associated with derelict vessels; and  
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23 WHEREAS, Neighboring states have dramatically strengthened their derelict vessel  
24 prevention laws in the past five years to better prevent, track and manage derelict vessels,  
25 including raising fees to support state management of derelict vessels and requiring vessel  
26 insurance; and  
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28 WHEREAS, In 1990 the Alaska legislature passed a resolution acknowledging the need  
29 to better understand and address the existing and growing problem of derelict vessels around  
30 the state; and  
31

32 WHEREAS, The State of Alaska has outdated statutes regarding derelict vessels which  
33 lack the ability to track vessel owners, agency enforcement authority, statewide coordination  
34 of response, funding or vessel insurance requirements; and  
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36 WHEREAS, In 2013 the AAHPA supported the creation of the ad-hoc derelict vessel task  
37 force which includes representatives from state and federal agencies as well as the AAHPA,  
38 regional tribal representatives, federal and state legislative offices, and private industry; and  
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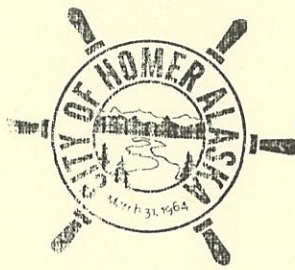
40 WHEREAS, Over nine full-day meetings, the task force developed thoughtful, robust and  
41 meaningful proposed changes that will help all stakeholders around the state, including  
42 harbor facilities, better address and prevent derelict vessels; and

43 WHEREAS, This will help our members protect harbor infrastructure, keep valuable  
44 moorage space in our harbors available, and will prevent unsustainable economic,  
45 environmental and navigational hazards; and

46  
47 WHEREAS, The proposed changes will improve communication and coordination  
48 between Alaska's harbors and state and federal agencies, directly leading to decreased costs  
49 associated with managing derelict vessels.

50  
51 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Homer, Alaska, fully  
52 supports the passage by the state legislature of Senate Bill 92.

53  
54 PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of Homer, Alaska, this 30<sup>th</sup> day of October,  
55 2017.



CITY OF HOMER

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Bryan Zak", is written over a horizontal line.

BRYAN ZAK, MAYOR

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64 ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Melissa Jacobsen", is written over a horizontal line.

65  
66 MELISSA JACOBSEN, MMC, CITY CLERK

67  
68  
69 Fiscal Note: N/A