

Sponsored By: Assemblymember McKee
Amended: 04/02/19
Adopted: 04/02/19

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 19-035**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY RECOGNIZING
AND HONORING THE IDITAROD TRAIL SLED DOG RACE.

WHEREAS, the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race is an Alaska tradition and source of pride for Alaskans from Ketchikan to Utqiagvik; and

WHEREAS, the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race involves human and canine athletes making their way across 1,049 miles of Alaska's challenging wilderness and weather, and serves as a tribute to Alaska's history and importance of sled dogs; and

WHEREAS, the Iditarod Trail, now a National Historic Trail, had its beginnings as a mail and supply route from the coastal towns of Seward and Knik to the interior mining camps at Flat, Ophir, Ruby and beyond to the west coast communities of Unalakleet, Elim, Golovin, White Mountain, and Nome; and

WHEREAS, the Iditarod Trail became a lifesaving highway for epidemic-stricken Nome; and

WHEREAS, throughout the years, sled dogs were important to day-to-day life in the villages and population centers throughout Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the Iditarod's route encompasses large metropolitan areas and remote villages, bringing excitement, economic activity,

and recreational opportunities for the areas it crosses, involving and engaging school children, elders, and everyone in between; and

WHEREAS, the Iditarod enjoys particularly strong ties to the Matanuska-Susitna Valley, including being home to Iditarod Headquarters and numerous Iditarod mushers; and

WHEREAS, exceptional standards of care exist for both Iditarod mushers and their canine athletes, and professional medical care is provided along the route to monitor and care for dogs and mushers; and


WHEREAS, Alaskans support the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race and want to see the tradition continue.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Assembly hereby recognizes and honors The Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race for its proud history, commitment to healthy mushers and canine athletes, and contributions Alaska's culture.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly this 2 day
of April, 2019.


VERN HALTER, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:


LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk
(SEAL)

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: Sykes, Beck, McKee, Leonard, Mayfield, Sumner,
and Boeve