

Sponsored By: Assemblymember Mayfield
Adopted: 09/18/18

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 18-065**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY SUPPORTING THE ALASKA AVALANCHE INFORMATION CENTER (AAIC) HATCHER PASS CENTER'S EFFORTS TO PROVIDE CRITICAL INFORMATION ON BACKCOUNTRY SAFETY TO RAISE AWARENESS AND PREPARE SKIERS AND RIDERS FOR SAFE MOUNTAIN TRAVEL.

WHEREAS, Alaska is ranked number one in the nation for both snowmobile and avalanche related injuries and deaths per capita; and

WHEREAS, Alaska is a recreation Mecca attracting thousands each winter to snowmachine, hike, ski, snowboard, and sled; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Avalanche Information Center is a non-profit organization providing avalanche forecast and education services in six regions around Alaska including the Matanuska-Susitna Borough; and

WHEREAS, Alaskan's, youth, and new visitors to this state continue to be attracted to the rugged wilderness and mountains of this state due to advances in technology and motorized vehicles like snowmobiles, snow cats, airplanes and helicopters, which puts them at greater risk for avalanches and snowmobile related injuries; and

WHEREAS, providing education, critical information and messaging regarding backcountry travel will raise awareness and

reduce the number of incidents and fatalities associated with avalanches;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Matanuska Susitna Borough Assembly recognizes the need for backcountry and avalanche safety education and awareness to help reduce unintentional injuries and deaths and supports the efforts of the Alaska Avalanche Information Center, Hatcher Pass Center, to inform and educate those that travel, work and recreate in mountain terrain through education outreach and the placement of safety signage warning of the potential danger at critical access points with written permission by land owners.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly this 18 day of September, 2018.


VERN HALTER, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:


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

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: Sykes, Beck, McKee, Leonard, Mayfield, and Doty