

**NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH
RESOLUTION 20-65**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWEST
ARCTIC BOROUGH ASSEMBLY CONFIRMING THE
APPOINTMENT OF TAHAYLA BAKER AS YOUTH
ADVISORY REPRESENTATIVE TO THE ASSEMBLY.**

WHEREAS: Section 2.04.040(D) of the Northwest Arctic Borough Code authorizes the Mayor to nominate two youth representatives to the Assembly and provides that the Assembly shall appoint two youth representatives to the Assembly; and

WHEREAS: the Mayor has nominated Tahayla Baker to be the youth representative for 2020-2021.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: by the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly that Tahayla Baker is hereby appointed as youth representative pursuant to Northwest Arctic Borough Code Section 2.04.040(D).

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 22nd DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2020.



Nathan Hadley, Jr., Assembly President

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 22nd DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2020.



Lucy S. Nelson, Mayor

SIGNED AND ATTESTED TO THIS 22nd DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2020.



Helena Hildreth, Borough Clerk

ATTEST:



Lucy Nelson
Northwest Arctic Borough Mayor
P.O. Box 1110
Kotzebue, AK 99752

August 28, 2020

Dear Mayor Lucy Nelson,

Uvafa atiba Qubluq, Qikiqtabrufmifarufa. My name is Tahayla Baker, I was born and raised here in Kotzebue, Alaska. As an aware, concerned, young, cultured woman, I am writing to you to express my interest in becoming an Assembly Youth Representative. Being a highly motivated student with big dreams, I believe I am the perfect person for this opportunity. I have extensively been involved in my school and community, which has allowed me to develop strong communication and problem-solving skills. Recently, I achieved my greatest academic goal, which was my acceptance into Stanford University. I would not have been able to accomplish such a thing without my family and my culture, hence the reason I intend to bring my education back home after college to share.

When I step back and look at my community, I realize that my people are struggling. I can see that they have forgotten their own roots, identities, and the traditional values that have been passed down for centuries. My new academic/career goal is to study psychology and later become the school counselor at Kotzebue Middle High School, because there needs to be a Native role model that the students can look up to. After watching the youth in my district go from being so driven to succeed, to giving everything up in a split second, I want to be the one that pulls them away from the trigger of giving in. I wish to set an example to the future students of my school to show them that if I can do what I set my mind to, they can certainly do it, as well. I know first-hand some of the issues teens around our region face each day, and I am confident in myself to bring up any issue that I believe needs attention. I am optimistic about the future and ready to work with leaders in our region to help solve any problems our people may face. I am ready to contribute more to my region through this position.

I believe we must have more Native leaders in the community because they are essential in maximizing the growth of our people and region. With the knowledge I received while growing up submerged in the Iñupiaq culture, and the knowledge I will receive at Stanford, I believe I will be able to contribute significant things to help our culture persevere and our people thrive. I cannot wait to see the kinds of things I can achieve by using my voice and representing at this prestigious school. Thank you for your time and consideration to read my letter, and giving students a chance to be successful.

Sincerely,

Tahayla Baker