

**NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH
RESOLUTION 19-07**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWEST ARCTIC
BOROUGH SUPPORTING LEGISLATION BY SENATOR
MIKE SHOWER TO CREATE AN ALASKA RURAL POLICE
OFFICER PROGRAM.**

WHEREAS: the Northwest Arctic Borough is a home rule government chartered under the laws of the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS: the Borough has established a Public Safety Department that serves as the point for first responders for all emergencies, and works in partnership with our residents to create a healthy and safe environment within our communities; and

WHEREAS: in carrying out its duties, the Department is responsible for Firefighting, Search & Rescue, the Village Public Safety Officer Program, and any other functions incident to addressing the region's public safety; and

WHEREAS: the Borough firmly supports a model of law enforcement delivery that is cost efficient and carefully designed and implemented to keep rural residents safe; and

WHEREAS: the Alaska Rural Police Officer (ARPO) program has been proposed as a model that will restructure the Department of Public Safety's organization to establish Rural Police Officers on the same level of authority and jurisdiction as fully-certified municipal police officers and Alaska State Troopers while creating a regional council governance structure that delegates authority and administration through local governments; and

WHEREAS: the Borough would like to participate in a pilot project to roll out the Alaska Rural Police Officer Program in order to better serve the region's residents.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: the Northwest Arctic Borough supports the Alaska Rural Police Officer Program model of law enforcement delivery that will:

1. Increase the number of fully-certified law enforcement officers in rural Alaska; and

2. Improve coordination between the State, Tribes, cities, and boroughs; and
3. Reduce spending, vacancy rates in existing AST & VPSO Programs, duplication of programs and services, and cost inefficiencies; and
4. Equalize authority of ARPOs, Alaska State Troopers, Wildlife Troopers, and parole authorities; and
5. Provide ARPO officers equal jurisdiction and authority with any other fully-certified peace officer (i.e., municipal police officer or Alaska State Trooper) while operating independently from the Alaska State Troopers.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 26TH DAY OF MARCH 2019.



Nathan Hadley, Jr., Assembly President

SIGNED AND APPROVED THIS 26TH DAY OF MARCH 2019.



Lucy S. Nelson, Mayor

SIGNED AND ATTESTED TO THIS 26TH DAY OF MARCH 2019.



Stella Atoruk, Borough Clerk

