

**NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH ASSEMBLY  
RESOLUTION 22-14**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWEST  
ARCTIC BOROUGH ASSEMBLY HONORING  
AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF REPRESENTATIVE DON YOUNG.**

**WHEREAS,** Donald Edwin Young was born on June 9, 1933, in Meridian, California. He grew up on a family farm. He earned a bachelor's degree in teaching at Chico State College, now known as California State University Chico, in 1958. Between earning his degree, he served in the U.S. Army's 41st Tank Battalion from 1955 to 1957; and

**WHEREAS,** Young came to Alaska in 1959, the same year Alaska became a state, and credited Jack London's "Call of the Wild," which his father used to read to him, for drawing him north; and

**WHEREAS,** in Alaska, Young settled in Fort Yukon. He held jobs in areas like construction, trapping and commercial fishing. He was a tug and barge operator who delivered supplies to villages along the Yukon River, and he taught fifth grade at a Bureau of Indian Affairs school. He was elected mayor of Fort Yukon in 1964 and elected to the state House two years later. He served two terms before winning election to the state Senate; and

**WHEREAS,** in March 1973 he was elected to the United States House of Representatives in a close special election and served 24 additional and consecutive terms. He counted among his career highlights passage of legislation his first year in office that allowed for construction of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline system, which became the state's economic lifeline. He served as chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee from 1995 to 2001 and then as the chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee from 2001-2007; and

**WHEREAS,** Young was a champion for Alaska Native peoples, including as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs of the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives. He fiercely defended Alaska and Alaskans as the sole Representative for the largest State

in the United States and devoted himself to fulfilling the immense promise of his home State; and

**WHEREAS,** Young was a leader in strengthening the role of Alaska in providing for the national defense of the United States through his support for the Coast Guard, the Alaskan Command, and the ballistic missile defense and his steadfast commitment to the leadership of the United States in the Arctic. Young sponsored at least 85 bills that were enacted into Federal law and sponsored and cosponsored many more measures that were part of broader legislation; and

**WHEREAS,** Young authored and advocated for generational laws and amendments, including for the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, SAFETEA-LU, Multinational Species Conservation Funds Reauthorization Act, and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act; and

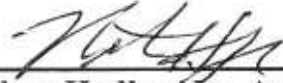
**WHEREAS,** on December 5, 2017, Young became the 45th Dean of the House of Representatives, reflecting his status as its most senior member. He was the longest-serving Republican in the history of Congress. Young ultimately served the 49th State with dedication and distinction for 49 years and 13 days, which is more than 3/4 of the period in which Alaska has been a State.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly mourns the death of Representative Don Young, congressman for all Alaska and the 45th Dean of the House of Representatives.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly honors Representative Young for his lifetime of service to Alaska and the United States, his spirited bipartisanship, and his enduring respect for and devotion to the House of Representatives.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** at the time that the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly adjourns today, the Assembly stands adjourned as a further mark of respect to the life and legacy of the Honorable Don Young

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 10<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MAY, 2022.



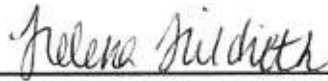
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nathan Hadley, Jr., Assembly President

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 10<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MAY, 2022.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Dickie Moto, Sr., Mayor

SIGNED AND ATTESTED TO THIS 10<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MAY, 2022.



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Helena Hildreth, Borough Clerk

ATTEST:

