

RESOLUTION

Of the Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education (Council) and Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)

WHEREAS the State of Alaska is reliant on taxes and royalties from oil and gas production, with the vast majority of state operations supported by general funds from oil and gas revenues;

WHEREAS declining production and oil prices have resulted in untenable state budget deficits;

WHEREAS the services and programs that the State provides for Alaskans' with disabilities basic needs – food, shelter, heat, housing, healthcare, education, employment – are critical to the health and safety of our neighbors and communities;

WHEREAS the long-range economic health of Alaska is dependent on the health and wellness of Alaska's citizens and communities;

WHEREAS Alaskans and our communities currently contribute through a variety of private mechanisms and have expressed a desire to contribute further through public mechanisms to support critical state operations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this the 1st day of February, 2017 by the Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education (COUNCIL), together with the Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) that:

1. the Alaska Legislature and Executive Branch should work together to create and implement a long-range fiscal plan that is comprehensive, promotes strong rural and urban communities, and protects Alaska's most vulnerable populations, health, education and cultural life; and
2. such a long-range fiscal plan should include a diverse array of possible revenue sources for the State General Fund, while also considering the impact to Alaska's most vulnerable and rural populations.

Amy Simpson

Chairperson
Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education

Michael Christian

Chairperson
Statewide Independent Living Council