

Draft Resolution 2009 – 1

Aviation Advisory Board

Whereas the Aviation Advisory Board was established by Senate Bill Number 133 and signed into law and

Whereas the purpose of the Aviation Advisory Board is to advise and provide recommendations to the Commissioner of Transportation and Public Facilities regarding the Alaska's airports and aviation systems, and

Whereas at the scheduled meeting of March 25, 2009 in Juneau, the Board discussed the importance of air transportation and the fact that 82% of Alaska Communities are not accessible by road or water transportation, and

Whereas air transportation provides the only access to critical life sustaining supplies, education services and medical services to many communities and citizens, and

Whereas the average Alaska community relies on air service 8 times more for personnel transportation and 40 more for freight transportation than even the most remote states and communities in the contiguous 48 states, and

Whereas the cost of constructing and maintaining airport infrastructure for this vital transportation link is escalating far beyond the current available funding sources, and

Whereas it is the responsibility of all of our leaders to find more efficient ways to provide and maintain the state's aviation infrastructure to support this critical transportation link in rural Alaska.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; the Aviation Advisory Board respectfully requests and recommends that the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities undertake a study of those communities which are in close proximity to one another and which may be positioned to share and utilize common assets and airport infrastructure to better leverage available funding.

Signed  _____ Date 4-6-2009

James L Dodson, Vice Chair, Aviation Advisory Board