



COMMONWEALTH
NORTH

Resolution 2009-4

**In support of accepting Stimulus Package energy efficiency funding
May 19, 2009**

WHEREAS, COMMONWEALTH NORTH, Alaska's public policy forum, recognizes that Alaska's level of health care should be improved for all of its citizens, as described in the 2005 Commonwealth North study entitled "Alaska Primary Health Care: Opportunities and Challenges."

WHEREAS, COMMONWEALTH NORTH acknowledges and supports the Governor's efforts to improve energy efficiency in Alaska through programs sponsored by the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation and other State programs, and to promote policies to reach the goal of Alaska becoming a national leader in renewable energy.

WHEREAS, COMMONWEALTH NORTH acknowledges and supports the Governor's leadership in maintaining State's rights.

WHEREAS, accepting the Energy Efficiency Community Block Grant funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 will help Alaska achieve its objective of moving closer to energy independence and:

1. These funds could be made available for community centers, including health clinics.
2. Over the past several years community health centers have become even more important in providing medical treatment to our aging population.
3. Some of the energy efficiency funds could be used for weatherization of many of the older clinics. Rather than simply providing assistance with payment of energy bills, it would be good public policy to reduce those bills through energy efficient weatherization and retrofitting.

WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

COMMONWEALTH NORTH encourages the Governor to accept the Energy Efficiency Community Block Grant funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, to support the work of our community health centers.

This resolution to be forwarded to Governor Sarah Palin and Alaska's congressional delegation.

Approved by the Commonwealth North Board of Directors
May 19, 2009

David Wight, President