



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

ASSEMBLY MEMORANDUM

No. AM 392-2021(A)

Meeting Date: June 22, 2021

1 **From: Assembly Members Zaletel, Constant, and Weddleton**

2
3 **Subject: AO 2021-55(S-1): AN ORDINANCE OF THE ANCHORAGE**
4 **ASSEMBLY ESTABLISHING A MUNICIPAL LICENSE**
5 **REQUIREMENT FOR HOMELESS AND TRANSIENT SHELTERS**
6 **BY ADDING A NEW CHAPTER TO THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL**
7 **CODE AND OTHER RELATED CODE AMENDMENTS.**
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9 Following the public hearing on AO 2021-55(S) at the June 8, 2021 regular
10 Assembly Meeting, sponsors of this legislation have agreed to incorporate several
11 changes, including most of the amendments proposed at that meeting. The
12 substantive changes in the S-1 version are:

- 13 • In the list of powers of the Anchorage Health Department, changes
14 “supervising” to “monitoring for compliance.” (p. 1 line 31)
- 15 • In several places, changes the term “collocated” to “colocated,” a subtle
16 difference but the common dictionary meaning of the latter aligns with the
17 intended context. (p. 2 lines 31 and 38; p. 4 lines 2 and 4; page 12 line 16)
- 18 • Adds the phrase “unspecified number within a familial group” to the
19 emergency shelter exemption from licensing, in order to exempt a these
20 when it shelters families, regardless of the number of persons sheltered. (p.
21 2 line 41)
- 22 • Clarifies language in the prohibition to issue a license applicant who has been
23 convicted of a barrier crime. (p. 4 line 32)
- 24 • Adds grounds to deny a license application if the applicant cannot
25 demonstrate it can mitigate impacts on the area sufficiently. (p. 10 line 27)
- 26 • Changes the policy and procedure for background checks required of a
27 licensee to be less burdensome, replacing with a standard to ensure the
28 safety of everyone. (p. 11 line 31)
- 29 • Requires a shelter’s policies and practices to also deter and reduce impacts
30 on surrounding area residents, businesses and properties. (p. 12 line 5)
- 31 • Removes the requirement to provide continuity for repeat overnight clients,
32 to maintain the emergency overnight sheltering character. (p. 12 line 9)
- 33 • Revises the enforcement and appeals processes. Notices of violation will be
34 issued by AHD staff for fines, and if appealed will be heard by the
35 Administrative Hearing Officer under usual procedures for civil fines under
36 Title 14. Plan of improvement and variance issues will be heard and decided
37 by the AHD director, and appeals from these are heard by the AHO for a final
38 decision under procedures of Chapter 3.60. License suspension or
39 revocation actions will be heard by the AHO to make findings of fact,
40 conclusions of law, and issue a recommended decision to the Assembly. The
41 Assembly makes the final decision on a license suspension or revocation by

1 Resolution. After the final process in each of the foregoing, an appeal may
2 be taken to the superior court. Because the appeals process is now fully
3 described in the Enforcement section, the Appeals section is deleted. (p. 15-
4 16)

- 5 • Adds a new AO Section to add a section to AMC 16.120.020 that requires
6 any designated emergency shelter set up or activated under a Mayor's
7 proclamation of emergency that will serve more than 150 people to have
8 Assembly approval. (p. 18 line 8)

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10 **We request your support for the S-1 version of the ordinance.**

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12 Prepared by: Assembly Counsel

13 Respectfully submitted: Meg Zaletel, Assembly Member
14 District 4, Midtown

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16 Christopher Constant, Assembly Vice-Chair
17 District 1, Downtown

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19 John Weddleton, Assembly Member
20 District 6, South Anchorage, Girdwood, and Turnagain
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