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June 1, 2020

Municipality of Skagway Finance Committee e.deach@skagway.org

Re: Resolution No. 20-22R: Emergency Assistance and Economic Stimulus Program

Finance Committee, Assembly Members and Mayor Cremata,

We are so appreciative of all the work you have done and continue to do for the well being of our community and residents. The most recent economic stimulus program we believe will have a significant positive impact to individuals, families, and businesses alike and would like to put our complete support towards the resolution as it is written. We understand there were several edits proposed by the committee which seem to go against the basic principle of the program.

Exempting children under the age of 14 from eligibility would hurt one the most vulnerable populations in our community that we work to support and protect at every other opportunity. Financial pressures to any family is great right now as we all struggle to make ends meet but to a family of five that extra support for their children takes some of the burden off and may be the difference between that family losing their home or even remaining in Skagway.

Exempting anyone working more than 20 hours per week would in many instances punish those who have sought out whatever work they could find when their regularly scheduled jobs fell through. Working less hours, for likely less money doesn't mean that someone is meeting their financial obligations.

Increasing payments for business owners is important but without customers they won't be able to remain open for very long. By putting the money in the hands of residents and encouraging them to shop locally, we can support our businesses throughout the winter.

Thank you for your consideration and again for all your efforts.

Mark & Cody Jennings

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