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Presented: 06/29/2020
Drafted by: R. Palmer III

ORDINANCE OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Serial No. 2020-32(b) vRedline

An Ordinance Establishing a Systemic Racism Review Committee.

WHEREAS, discrimination based on race in institutional policies ~~can~~leads to systemic racism; and

WHEREAS, systemic racism ~~can~~creates disparities in the social and civic fabric of a community through legislation related to all aspects of society, including but not limited to education, criminal justice, employment, elections, housing, and political power; and

WHEREAS, systemic racism is as overt and covert ~~may not be as overt~~ as individual racism and but it has ~~can have~~ similar emotional, economic, physical, and liberty consequences though it may be harder for individuals to see even when revealed in disparities and data; and

WHEREAS, systemic racism is similar to disparate impact discrimination, which is generally defined as a facially neutral act, practice, or policy that has a significant discriminatory impact on a protected group, and

WHEREAS, the Assembly would benefit from having a systemic racism review of legislation before a resolution or an ordinance is up for public hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Assembly encourages racially diverse individuals ~~people~~ to apply and encourages racial minority groups to nominate individuals ~~people~~ to help advise the Assembly.

THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA:

Section 1. Classification. This ordinance is a non-code ordinance.

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2 **Section 2. Systemic Racism Review Committee Established.**

3 (a) Establishment. There is established a Systemic Racism Review Committee
4 consisting of seven individuals ~~people~~.

5 (1) The Assembly shall appoint members of the Committee to staggered three-year
6 terms. Members of the Committee shall serve at the pleasure of the Assembly.
7 Terms shall commence on July 1. Appointments to fill vacancies shall be for the
8 unexpired term. In the event a seat has six months or less remaining to the
9 unexpired term, the Assembly, at its discretion, may choose to appoint the
10 member to the remainder of the current term as well as to the full term
11 immediately following the expiration date of the unexpired term. No member
12 who has served for three consecutive terms or nine years shall again be eligible
13 for appointment until one full year has intervened, provided, however, that this
14 restriction shall not apply if there are no other qualified applicants at the time
15 reappointment is considered by the Assembly.

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17 (2) Members shall be selected to provide the most balanced representation possible.
18 Members shall have experience identifying unlawful discrimination—including
19 based on race, color, or national origin—experience identifying social justice
20 inequity, or intimate knowledge of local cultures and practices, including tribal
21 culture and practices. ~~The Assembly must appoint only candidates that it~~
22 ~~believes would legitimately represent the long term interests of those groups. A~~
23 ~~member of the Committee shall be eligible for reappointment.~~
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(b) **Duties.** The Committee is charged with:

- (1) Reviewing all ordinances after introduction and before public hearing to advise whether the ordinance likely includes a systemic racism policy or implication.
- (2) Reviewing all resolutions to advise whether the resolution likely perpetuates ~~includes a systemic systematic racism policy~~.
- (3) Presenting options for curing the potential systemic racism or implications.
- (4) Presenting the Committee’s analysis and conclusions timely to the Assembly in a short statement for each item of legislation.

(c) **Procedure.** The Committee’s procedure shall be governed by the Advisory Board Rules of Procedure, as such may be amended from time to time. Nothing in this Ordinance shall be read to preclude the Assembly from acting upon emergency ordinances and resolutions.

(d) **Officers, Meetings, and Quorum.** In accordance with the Advisory Board Rules of Procedure, the Committee shall select its own officers, and shall hold regular meetings on a schedule established by the Committee, as well as such special meetings as required to conduct business. The presence of four members constitutes a quorum and any action of the Committee requires four ~~three~~ or more affirmative votes to be approved.

(e) **Staff Assistance.** Staff support to the Committee shall be provided by the City Attorney Manager, or designee, as available and appropriate.

(f) **Legislation Procedure.** The Committee should meet and send the legislative report to the Manager at least six days before the Assembly meeting (i.e. Wednesday for a Monday meeting). However, legislation may be scheduled for

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public hearing and the Assembly may adopt legislation that has not been reviewed by the Committee. If the Assembly adopts legislation before the Committee has reviewed it, the Committee should review the adopted legislation as soon as possible.

Section 3. Sunset Clause. The Committee created by Section 2 shall cease to exist and the provisions of Section 2 shall automatically terminate three years from the effective date of this ordinance unless the Assembly extends the committee to exist until disbanded by the Assembly.

Section 4. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be effective 30 days after its adoption.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2020.

Beth A. Weldon, Mayor

Attest:

Elizabeth J. McEwen, Municipal Clerk