

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

ORDINANCE OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Serial No. 2020-32

An Ordinance Establishing a Systemic Racism Review Committee.

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

WHEREAS, systemic racism can create disparities in the social fabric of a community through legislation related to education, criminal justice, employment, elections, housing, and political power; and

WHEREAS, systemic racism may not be as overt as individual racism but it can have similar emotional, economic, physical, and liberty consequences; 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 people to apply and encourages racial minority groups to nominate 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.

Section 2. System Racism Review Committee Established.

(a) There is established a Systemic Racism Review Committee consisting of seven people.

(1) The Assembly shall appoint members of the Committee to staggered three-year terms. Members shall be selected to provide the most balanced representation possible. Members shall have experience identifying unlawful discrimination—including based on race, color, or national origin—experience identifying social justice inequity, or intimate knowledge of local tribal culture and practices. The Assembly must appoint only candidates that it believes would legitimately represent the long term interests of those groups. A member of the Committee shall be eligible for reappointment.

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(b) 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.
- (2) Reviewing all resolutions to advise whether the resolution likely includes a systematic racism policy.
- (3) Presenting options for curing the potential systemic racism.
- (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.

(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 three or more affirmative votes to be approved.

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

Section 3. 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