

## ARTICLE II. - BILL OF RIGHTS

This Charter guarantees rights to the people of Anchorage that are in addition to rights guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States of America and the Constitution of the State of Alaska. Among rights guaranteed by this Charter are:

- (1) The right of initiative; the right of referendum; and the right to recall public officers, as herein provided.
- (2) The right of immunity from the creation or alteration of a service area, except upon a vote within the area affected.
- (3) The right to establish local community councils to assure maximum community self-determination, exercised in conjunction with others and without infringement upon the rights of other persons.
- (4) The right of immunity from sales taxes, except upon approval by three-fifths (3/5) of the qualified voters voting on the question, except the tax imposed by Charter Section 14.05 shall be effective if approved by a majority (50 percent + one) of the qualified voters voting on the question.
- (5) The right of immunity from official actions of the assembly taken after 12:00 midnight and before 7:00 a.m., actual time.
- (6) The right to the assistance of a municipal ombudsman in dealing with grievances and abuses.
- (7) The right to opportunities in housing, public accommodations, employment, and education without regard to race, religion, sex, color, national origin, marital status, or physical disability; and the right to an equal rights commission at the municipal level in aid thereof.
- (8) The right to a locally directed, ongoing planning process that is based upon the community's goals, objectives and policies for the future.
- (9) The right—whether as a taxpayer, as a municipal employee, or both—to a comprehensive personnel classification and procedures system created by ordinance and based upon merit.
- (10) The right to be heard at public hearings prior to adoption of proposed six-year plans of the school system and the municipality, or approval of the annual budget or any ordinance (except an emergency ordinance as defined herein).
- (11) The right—whether as a contractor, as a taxpayer, or both—to competitive bidding for goods and services furnished to the municipality, subject only to exceptions established by ordinance.
- (12) The right of immunity from emergency ordinances, unless adopted by affirmative votes of all assembly members present and voting, or three-fourths of the total membership.
- (13) The right to have a public record of the actions of the assembly.

(AO No. 93-51, prop. 2, 4-20-93; Prop. 1 of 4-15-97; AO No. 2005-17, § 1, 2-15-05; AO No. 2013-93, prop. 8, 4-1-14)

**Editor's note—** The charter commission's commentary on subsection (9) of this article is printed following the Charter as article II(9) of such commentary.