




Municipality of Anchorage
Mayor Dave Bronson

Office of the Mayor

Date: November 16, 2021
To: Anchorage Assembly
From: Mayor Dave Bronson 
Subject: Veto of Ordinance No. AO 2021-92(S)

Pursuant to Section 2.30.100 of the Anchorage Municipal Code (AMC) and Section 5.02 of the Municipal Charter (Charter), I hereby veto AO 2021-92(S) passed at the Assembly's regular meeting of November 10, 2021.

I have reviewed the ordinance, heard the Assembly's justifications for and against the ordinance, and understand the sentiments expressed during public testimony. While I respect the Assembly's power of confirmation, this ordinance violates Charter and principles of separation of powers. Specifically, the Assembly has granted to itself powers necessarily contained within the power to appoint granted to the mayor under the Charter.

By placing limitations on the administration's right to delegate for longer than sixty days the responsibilities of a position subject to confirmation and by granting itself the power to confirm with or without a memorandum of appointment from the mayor, the Assembly is making its own determination of when a mayor intends to appoint someone to a position subject to confirmation. The Assembly is also placing unnecessary obstacles on the administration's ability to efficiently and effectively run the municipality.

Assignments of administrative functions may include approving leave, approving timecards, assigning work, deciding personnel matters, and approving office supply purchases. A delegation of authority may include some or all of these functions. These functions are administrative functions within the executive branch. The Assembly's attempt to control this internal function of the executive branch is a violation of the separation of powers and an overreach by the Assembly because it delegates powers granted to the mayor under Alaska law and the Charter.

This ordinance attempts to consolidate power in the Assembly even though there has been no attempt to subvert the Assembly's power of confirmation. I have willingly and timely notified the Assembly of all of my appointments that are subject to Assembly confirmation.