PETITION TO THE KETCHIKAN BOROUGH ASSEMBLY AND KETCHIKAN CITY COUNCIL

For the following reasons:

- Rising unemployment rates
- Shrinking lines of credit
- Increases in accounts receivable
- Falling demand for goods and services
- Decline of the timber industry
- Likely declines in visitor spending
- Rising cost of living including health and energy costs
- Anticipated declines in fisheries catch limits and ex-vessel prices
- Loss of equity in homes, savings, investment and retirement accounts
- Loss of local population reflected in declining school enrollment
- Anticipated declines in state and federal spending on local projects
- Ordinary and necessary expenses increasingly being paid with borrowed money

We, the undersigned residents of the Ketchikan Gateway Borough hereby urge the Ketchikan Borough Assembly and Ketchikan City Council, for a period of two years:

- not to increase taxes, utility or service charges of any kind
- not to borrow any more money
- not to increase any departmental spending
- not to increase or make new grants to non-governmental entities
- to complete only such projects as are underway and make such repairs as are necessary to maintain existing structures or ensure public safety but not to undertake any new **unfunded** capital construction projects
- to take actions which will put public property on the private tax rolls
- to avoid actions which will convert private property to public property or to tax-exempt property

We further request that for a period of two years millage rates be established at levels which will keep tax payments on properties which have not been improved from their condition in 2008 equal to the payments which were due in 2008.

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