House Finance Committee,

I think the \$35 million for the access road should be taken out. It should be put in much more important things. This project is very dangerous. Will destroy animal habitat.

It still is a road to nowhere. A huge waste of money.

Brenda J Juneau P. O. Box 155 Talkeetna, AK 99676 4-14-14

House Finance Committee Alaska State Capitol Building Juneau, Alaska (letter sent via email)

Dear Representatives:

## RE: Alaska's Budget and Spending

I am asking you not to give supplemental funding to the proposed Susitna-Watana dam project. The State has already poured millions into it and the results of the studies may indicate that it isn't a feasible project. Studies during the '80s indicated that it wasn't feasible. AEA hasn't had a great track record as far as projects go, and it looks like this project is no different. Delays in completing studies, and the rush to complete studies in less time than is scientifically warranted, equals flawed results...results that try to fit someone's agenda rather than do the work the studies were intended to do: obtain accurate data. The total cost of the project (all of the costs have not been figured into AEA's estimates: land acquisition, upgrade of the power lines, decommissioning costs, cost over runs) could easily be double the figure that AEA has suggested.

In a time when Alaska's funds are limited, we don't have enough money for 2 mega projects. Alaska needs a natural gas line much more than it needs a dam. It would be money better spent and it would help more Alaskans. It would provide energy for heating, which is desperately needed, as well as electricity. There is already a right of way from the North Slope to the rail belt. A lot of the ground work has already been done. Many studies have already been completed.

Again, please do not give supplemental funding to the proposed Susitna-Watana dam project. The State's money could be better spent on a natural gas line, which would benefit more people. Spend Alaskans' money wisely.

Respectfully,

Cathy Teich 907-733-2155 cathyt@mtaonline.net

# 14 April 2014

To : House Finance Committee, Interior Alaska Delegation Members, and All Alaska Legislators

Through the: Fairbanks Legislative Information Office 1292 Sadler Way Suite 308 Fairbanks, AK 99701

This is a letter of support for the "Boreal Alaska: Learning, Adaptation, Production" (BAKLAP) project. BAKLAP through its Science Technology Engineering Art and Math (STEAM) component has engaged numerous K-20 students in Alaska has greatly enhanced STEAM education and has reached Alaska community members. I am greatly involved in STEM education and know of the many educational and community benefits BAKLAP has provided. Among them is BAKLAP's providing a much needed service of increasing interest and hands-on experience in STEAM education to K-12 students in schools where the emphasis has been mainly on mathematics and reading. I strongly urge the House Finance Committee to put the BAKLAP funding back in the Capital Budget and all Alaska legislators to approve it. BAKLAP needs this funding for its crucial work to reach even greater numbers of Alaskan students and communities.

Thank you for your help on this matter and for the important work you all do.

Sincerely,

Eline B. Spann

Elena B. Sparrow 1127 Park Drive Fairbanks, AK 99709] 907-474-9284

From:	Joni Scharfenberg
To:	House Finance
Subject:	Aacd funding
Date:	Monday, April 14, 2014 7:56:20 PM

As one of 12 soil and water districts statewide, the Fairbanks district works with private landowner natural resource issues. Fswcd needs Aacd funding as match and administrative costs to be able to utilize the hundreds of thousands of dollars it receives from private and federal funders towards agriculture, soil, water, forestry, mining, energy, invasive weeds, and education programs that benefit Alaskans.please consider funding Aacd as requested to continue the private landowner needs that soil and water districts address. Thanks for your support. Joni scharfenberg Fswcd coordinator

Sent from my iPhone

I, Melissa Sikes, am testifying in support of the BAKLAP (Boreal Alaska: Learning, Adaptation, Production) program and urge you to put it back into the capitol budget.

As a Natural Resource Education Specialist for the Fairbanks Soil and Water Conservation District, I wholeheartedly believe that the BAKLAP program is an essential program that provides support and training for teachers to teach about Boreal ecology. Hands-on experiential science is a vital component of student success and this program is an essential part of learners being engaged in this type of quality education.

The BAKLAP program helps students to acquire knowledge of natural processes and develop skills for understanding and addressing issues related to Boreal ecology. Acquiring natural resource and environmental literacy depends on children going outdoors to experience and interact with nature on a regular basis. The type of education BAKLAP supports is helping students to build critical thinking skills. It encourages students to question, investigate, hypothesize, interpret, and analyze data and to develop conclusions about pertinent and relevant real world problems.

This type of education helps students to develop the critical thinking skills they need to understand the complexities of ecological issues and to understand how to use our valuable state natural resources wisely and to learn how to maintain them for future generations.

Please continue to support BAKLAP at the state level with budget inclusion.

Sincerely, Melissa Sikes Natural Resource Education Specialist Fairbanks Soil and Water Conservation District.

April 14, 2014 Watershed School 4975 Decathlon Ave Fairbanks, AK 99709l

To whom it may concern,

I am writing as a Kindergarten teacher in Fairbanks in support of funding for BAKLAP. I teach at the Watershed School and been lucky enough to work with this wonderful program and amazingly experienced staff for several years now.

I feel that my students have been very privileged to have the opportunities that BAKLAP provided. Over the past few years I have watched each class of 5 and 6 year olds grow and blossom in their science understanding from participating. Each class has had great opportunities to learn first hand through experiments about birch trees. They've had wonderful experiences observing, asking questions, collecting scientific data, doing scientific drawings, analyzing data and making conclusions. In short, they learn to be scientists. In fact, one of the best moments each year is when the students suddenly realize they are scientists!

The staff and graduate students in BAKLAP are such excellent mentors for my students of what a scientist is. Whether it's the very quiet child who now suddenly is talkative and has many science questions, the distant student who is now actively engaged, or the students that now see themselves as scientists and loudly exclaim that as their future career....all of my students lives have been touched by our participation with BAKLAP.

With the help of BAKLAP I feel we can help students become better stewards of our natural world!

Thank you for considering continued funding for BAKLAP.

Sincerely, Marlene McDermott Watershed Kindergarten Teacher Fairbanks, Alaska April 3, 2014

Dear Senator Kelly,

I am writing a letter of support and commendation for the BAKLAP Program. I recently graduated from the University of Alaska – Fairbanks with a degree in Natural Resource Management. Since that time, I have had the privilege of working with the BAKLAP program in conducting research, facilitating outreach, and participating in education programs with local schools. BAKLAP highlights some fundamental lessons I learned in college – namely the importance of natural resources and our dependence upon them, and the necessity of interacting with, incorporating, and educating the local community. BAKLAP has provided me with the unique opportunity of incorporating what I have learned at UAF into important, real world scenarios.

I lastly want to speak to the importance of biomass in Alaska. As you know, our demands on our environment are changing, particularly with respect to how we heat our homes and use the energy that enables us to live in this wonderful State. In addition, our environment is dynamically changing in ways that we know, and ways that we don't know. As someone who has spent the last several years conducting research in Alaskan forests at the State and federal level, I can attest to the important work that BAKLAP provides with respect to biomass and our State's future.

Senator Kelly, this is a difficult year full of budget demands and constraints. However, I think it is in the State's best interest to see the BAKLAP program through to completion. It has done wonderful things for our State and will continue to do so to its completion.

Thank you for your time,

**Ryan Jess** 

Dear Representatives,

I am a long time resident of Kasilof, a grain and vegetable grower, and one of the supervisors of the Kenai Soil and Water Conservation District.

I am writing you to strongly urge you to include funding for the state-wide Soil & Water Conservation Districts in the up and coming Capital Budget.

I can't impress upon you enough how much agriculture in Alaska has changed in the last twenty years, how dramatically the number of businesses and individuals wishing to "buy Alaska" when it comes to local food has grown, and how dramatically the number of growers and farmers eager to serve them has grown as well.

This year the Federal Government, partially in response to serious drought throughout the western US over the last few years (the current source of most vegetables nation-wide) has stepped up the USDA high-tunnel program across the country so that local areas might better take care of themselves in the face of growing climate-change uncertainties. In the local Kenai conservation district alone 50 new high-tunnel greenhouses have been raised by private individuals now able to grow a wide variety of essential vegetables for themselves and their communities. This high-tunnel greenhouse program has been substantially enabled, and furthered by the activities local Soil & Water Conservation District boards, one of many services the boards deliver locally to their constituents.

Conventional farming activities, animal, fiber and flower related businesses, have grown up state-wide as well, and for all of those the activities of the Soil & Water Conservation Districts are indispensable. Other examples of essential services provided just this year by the local board, are:

robust on-going, hands-on conservation education programs in local schools; the creation and management of fertilizer cooperatives among local farmers; bringing together and furthering the activities of individuals and businesses involved in turning fish waste, a huge un-used resource in the Kenai area, into valuable fertilizer;

making available essential, but individually costly farming equipment to local growers;

enabling local farmer's markets and a farm-to-restaurant organization;

mapping "soils of local importance" and working to identify and protect agriculturally valuable land;

organization of residents to deal effectively with harmful effects of invasive species (such as the serious consequences of canary grass on valuable fishing streams).

Perhaps over all, the indispensable service provided by the Soil & Water Conservation Districts is the education and networking provided to all those who know that the time when agriculture was not viable in Alaska has long passed.

Thanks for your hard work on behalf of the people of Alaska.

Bill Johnson

johnson@ionia.org

907-262-2667

54932 Burdock Rd. Kasilof, AK 99610 Hi;

My name is Peg Foster, I live with my family north of Talkeetna in the Chase area for the past 30 years. We depend on the Susitna River for winter transportatio, recreation and our well beings. We are asking you to please not allocate any more funds to the Susitna Wantana Dam Project. The State of Alaska can not afford such a mega project and my family and I can not lose one of the last wild rivers in Alaska.

Thank-you for your time,

Peg Foster PO BOx 124 Talkeetna, AK 99676

From:	Elsa Demeksa
To:	House Finance
Subject:	Communities In Schools
Date:	Monday, April 14, 2014 4:53:26 PM

Dear Members of the Finance Committee:

I am writing to ask your support for the appropriation request of Communities In Schools of Juneau. I believe that CIS is an effective (and cost effective) way to help prevent children from dropping out of school.

This model brings the resources of the whole community to assist overworked school staff. Communities In Schools care coordinators understand that so much of what happens in the classroom is a result of what is going on outside of school. By addressing children's unmet needs CIS provides the link between educators and the community.

For a very small investment, we can bring caring adults into the schools to provide the link between school and community so teachers can to focus on teaching.

Thank you.

Elsa Demeksa, Director Communities In Schools of Juneau

From:	Lau Tosi
To:	House Finance
Subject:	East Football Stadium
Date:	Tuesday, April 15, 2014 4:55:19 AM

Please help the East Anchorage with their Football Stadium, 2 million for lighting and bleachers would be way be a great investment for the East Anchorage! Not just for the school but also for the community. Our kids deserve what every other high school in Anchorage (except South) has gotten - a new football stadium. East has NO neighborhood opposition and our kids have worked hard to build a good program.

Thank You Lau Tosi

From:	Steve Henderson
To:	House Finance
Subject:	East High Football Stadium
Date:	Wednesday, April 16, 2014 3:01:35 AM

Dear legislation: We hope that you will consider the need to complete the project started at East High' Football Stadium. The need for lights and bleachers is a need to properly complete the field. Other than South High School fund has been allocated to other High Shools who have their field done and completed. Why should this school be put on the back burner. Please consider these things and approve them to be completed. Sincerely

Concerned Parent

From:	Tundra Paulsen
To:	House Finance
Subject:	East High Football
Date:	Monday, April 14, 2014 9:14:04 PM

I am asking that the state help fund at least 2 million for lighting and bleachers for East High this would be way better than nothing! Our kids deserve what every other high school in Anchorage has gotten - a new football stadium! East has NO neighborhood opposition and our kids have worked hard to build a good program. Thank you

Tundra Paulsen 907-830-3503 If your children spend most of their time in other people's houses, you're lucky; if they all congregate at your house, you're blessed. ~Mignon McLaughlin Your consideration is everything.

Something is better than none at all. Getting a complete upgrade to the field would be a blessing for East High School. Just bleachers and lights to start are just as nice and would be greatly appreciated by the kids, teachers, and everyone in our community who have help build the East High Football Program.

Thank you for listening.

Clarissa Boots

Sent from my iPhone

My children attend East High School and two million for lighting and bleachers is better than nothing! Our kids deserve what every other high school in Anchorage have received.

Martha Mendez 907-947-0826

Sent from my iPhone

From:	Tami Trotter
То:	House Finance
Subject:	East Stadium
Date:	Tuesday, April 15, 2014 2:59:46 PM

The money to finish the East High Stadium is NOT funded, please appropriate \$2 million for lighting and bleachers. Our kids deserve what every other high school in Anchorage (except South) has gotten - a new stadium. East has NO neighborhood opposition and our kids have worked hard to build a good program. This truly would be community stadium. It is utilized by the local community, Special Olympics as well as various other sports teams. East High is in the heart of the community and would serve as a great connection point between trails for large x-c running and skiing events as well.

Thank you for your time.

Tami Trotter

14 April 2014

Dear Representative Kawasaki,

I am writing on behalf the request for funding for the Boreal Alaska—Learning, Adaptation, Production (BAKLAP) project. BAKLAP is an important teaching resource for the Natural Resources Career pathways at Effie Kokrine Early College Charter School, through which our program reaches all facets of science, technology, research, engineering, art, and math (STREAM). With hands-on, skills-based programs such as BAKLAP, we can prepare our students for careers in the Natural Resources pathway, one of the fastest growing pathways today.

Effie Kokrine Charter School opened its doors in 2005 and in 2006 established the first Early College program in the state of Alaska. Effie Kokrine Early College Charter School serves 168 students in grades 7-12. Our population is 60% Alaska Native and 70% of those students are on the federal lunch program. These urban youth are at risk of losing traditional knowledge and with resources like One Tree Alaska and BAKLAP the opportunities for reconnection are limitless.

This year alone, One Tree has devoted one full semester of workshop and STREAM learning experiences for our middle school students. One Tree, students, and Elders discovered the riparian zone of nearby Deadman Slough and produced two art projects that blended Western knowledge with traditional ways of knowing. We look forward to continuing to work with One Tree as we plan and develop nearby Peirce Park into a citizen science park.

Additionally, biomass is one of the most rapidly rising renewable energy sources in the state. Alaska needs to support the research and development of sustainable renewable resources. The future of Alaska will depend on a successful blending of the remaining oil reserves as well as the development of renewable options. We need to instill in our students a sense of responsibility for our natural resources.

While I understand that budgets are tight, I urge you to continue funding this project in order to see it through to completion. Federal funders view state funding to be a non-federal match, which will help allocate more federal funds to our university forestry program.

I urge you to help make natural resource management research, education, and outreach more sustainable in Alaska by approving funding for the BAKLAP program.

Sincerely,

Sue McCullough, Early College Coordinator



# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Please enter into the record my testimony to the <u>Service Finance</u> <u>Committee</u> Committee on <u>3B119 Capital Bulget / Barnette</u> <u>Committee Name</u> Bill/Subject <u>Phase 4 Funds</u> We humbly request that you include Barnette Magnet Phase 4 in the Capital Budget. It Saves money as it is projected to go from the highest cost school in regards to maintenance and Utilities to the lowest Cost school after completion. It provides jobs in the current Economy. It shows citizens of Alaska that you care about the health and Safety of Children in our "State. It's in line with Gov. Parnell's guidelines of funding Projects that have started and weeded completion First. It saves tax payers money it you fund the CIP. List through # 4 and then give an additional \$ 4 million to complete the Project. Unlike you, the citizens don't have a capital fund and an operating Lund to USE. So it you'd tip Therefore, we and an operating the citizens to pay more for public education and Can't ask the citizens to pay more for public education and building sepair. We respectfully, Request that a Motion is hade and seconded L. L. Tammi L. Ganguli to the Macue Phace 4 Testifier Testifier Testifier Magnet Phase 4 Barnette Magnet Phase & Capital Budget. Thunk you. 1000 BARNette St, FBKS 14K 99701 25 D ALLEN ADALE RO Address / Phone Number 907 750 1466



#### 301 Cushman St., Suite 301, Fairbanks, AK 99701

April 10, 2014

Alaska State Legislature State Capitol Building Juneau, AK 99501

Dear Alaska State Legislature,

The Mission of the Fairbanks Economic Development Corporation (FEDC) is to safe-guard the economy of the Interior region, increase economic opportunity for the residents and businesses of the greater Fairbanks community, and secure the highest possible quality of life for the residents of the Fairbanks North Star Borough. Today, ruinously high cost of energy and EPA Clean Air non-attainment (PM2.5) represent an existential threat to our community. For this reason, **FEDC asks you to re-include \$2 million in State capital support for the FNSB Wood Stove Change-Out program** as it is one of our community's best, and most successful, immediately available tools for meeting both prongs of that threat.

A direct response to recent years' precipitous rise in fuel oil prices has been a marked increase in the use of wood for space heating. Unfortunately, the climatic and topographic conditions that already made this community highly susceptible to the "arctic smog," have trapped those increasing particulate emissions, making it harder and harder for the community to redress the terrible air quality we experience throughout the winter.

The Wood Stove Change-Out program helps alleviate this "damned if you do, damned if you don't" dilemma. It encourages residents to decommission older, more polluting appliances, and acquire and use newer, cleaner, more efficient wood-burning technologies. It is also one of the least onerous components of the FNSB and State's PM2.5 abatement plan; the other mechanisms, like forced use of low-sulfur diesel or burn-bans, necessarily limit consumer choice and drive up consumer cost.

The likely impact of Flint Hills Resources' operational shutdown will be increased costs for both fuel oil and electricity, the risk of EPA sanction due to non-attainment grows by the day and increased access to cleaner, cheaper LNG to the community (the real solution to the cost-of-energy / air quality dilemma) is still a couple years away: Now is the exact wrong time to defund the only immediate-term program addressing Fairbanks' most pressing challenges.

The Legislature can and should, without strings, appropriate \$2 million to the continuation of the FNSB Wood Stove Change-Out program.

Respectfully,

Jim Dodson, President & CEO Fairbanks Economic Development Corporation

Dear Legislators,

I have been a 21st CCLC Afterschool Program Coordinator for the past 14 years, the last six at Mtn. View Elementary. One of the things we teach our students is to look ahead and set goals. We talk to them about preparing for middle school, high school and college. My 21st CCLC students will be attending East High School in the future. How does their future look when the state doesn't even care if they have their own sports stadium? How do I explain to them that all the other schools (South pending) have a stadium, but not their future school? What reason do I give them? It's certainly not neighborhood concerns, because there is none of that. The whole community is in support of a stadium at East. Is this just another example of the disparate treatment they feel every day as Mtn. View students with the "haves" and "have nots"? Being from a high poverty area should not dictate the value of their sports programs and facilities. As ASD students, they should be entitled to the same privileges as all other ASD students. This means have their own stadium at East!

My own two teenagers attend East now, are on the Honor Roll and both play sports. Being a Bartlett grad, it's taken some time to learn to cheer for our old rival, East. What's even more difficult is not being able to cheer for them in their own stadium.

I urge you to appropriate funds for a stadium at East High. For the students there now, and for my 21st CCLC students here at Mtn. View -- future East students. I want them to know that people in government care about their future and want to give them the best! At the very least, please fund \$2 million for lighting and bleachers (and, if you've ever sat on the current bleachers, you would know why!).

Thank you, Denielle

Denielle Baldwin, Coordinator Mountain View 21st CCLC

4005 McPhee Avenue Anchorage, AK 99508 (907) 742-3938 phone (907) 742-3911 fax

From:	Benita Washburn
То:	House Finance
Subject:	Funding for East High football stadium
Date:	Monday, April 14, 2014 9:26:27 PM

I understand that the state legislature is taking public testimony on the capital budget. I also understand that the money to finish the East High school Football Stadium is NOT funded. As a mother of 2 student athletes at East, this seems very unfair. Our kids at East deserve what every other high school in Anchorage has gotten - a new football stadium. East has NO neighborhood opposition (unlike South Anchorage High and THEY got funding!) Our kids have worked hard to build a good program. This team has kept many kids in school and with passing grades because they want to play football. In the past three years that I've had kids at East, the student involvement and school spirit has increased each year. 2 million for lighting and bleachers would be way better than nothing!

Thank you, Benita Washburn

Sent from my iPad

From:	<u>Alpha Hawk</u>
To:	House Finance
Subject:	Funding for East High School Football Field
Date:	Tuesday, April 15, 2014 2:09:31 AM

I am a parent with children who attend East High School and I ask that you please place at least 2 million into the budget in order for our school to have a completed Football field with lights and bleachers like the other schools. We have worked hard as a community to keep our community safe and thriving. East is a historical landmark and an significant part of Alaska's past and a greater part of its future. Lights, bleachers, action. For Alaskans future. Thank you

From:	Janet DALEY
To:	House Finance
Cc:	House Finance
Subject:	Funding for Fairbanks Woodstove Changeout Program
Date:	Monday, April 14, 2014 9:12:13 PM

Members of the House Finance Committee,

My name is Janet Daley and I am a 15 year resident of Fairbanks. I want to express my deep concern about the withdrawal of capital funding for the Fairbanks Clean Air Initiative Woodstove Changeout program. This program is proving successful and is needed in order for Fairbanks to be successful in meeting the DEC attainment standards. Our family uses properly dried and cured wood in a recently replaced woodstove to provide some of our heat and mitigate our costs. We are committed to doing everything we can to keep emissions as low as possible and believe that the changeout program provides the incentive many need to make that step. A commitment by the Borough and the State to clean air will prevent people from leaving our city and will help bring in investment.

As a former employee of UAF, I support funding for the power plant upgrade. However, UAF serves a state wide community and Interior Alaska programs should not be cut in order to fund this upgrade.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely, Janet Daley 3875 Geist Rd. #E113 Fairbanks, 99709 As a parent of an East High student funding for lights and bleachers to complete the stadium at the high school would be a very good thing to do for the students and athletes at the school. The kids work hard to compete and the parents support the programs. Other schools in the district have completed stadiums, why not East.

Sent from my iPad

From:	Jennie Hafele
To:	House Finance; House Finance Legislation
Cc:	Rep. David Guttenberg; Rep. Doug Isaacson; Rep. Eric Feige; Rep. Pete Higgins; Rep. Scott Kawasaki; Rep. Steve Thompson; Rep. Tammie Wilson; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. John Coghill; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Pete Kelly
Subject: Date:	FW: BAKLAP Capital Budget Support Letter Monday, April 14, 2014 12:19:22 PM

Please enter into the record the email below on SB 119 in the House Finance Committee dated 2/14/2014

#### Jennie Hafele

Fairbanks Legislative Information Office 1292 Sadler Way Suite 308 Fairbanks, Alaska 99701 Phone: 907-452-4448 Fax: 907-456-3346 Click <u>HERE</u> to visit the Alaska State Legislature Website Click <u>HERE</u> to watch live streaming of the Alaska State Legislature Click <u>HERE</u> to send your legislator a Public Opinion Message during session

From: Jesse Hensel [jesse.hensel@gmail.com] Sent: Monday, April 14, 2014 11:38 AM To: LIO Fairbanks; Jan Dawe Subject: BAKLAP Capital Budget Support Letter

## Dear Legislative Information Offices, I want to make the following comment part of the public record. Please circulate my comment to the House Finance Committee and the Interior Alaska Delegation.

Please continue to fund BAKLAP. I was born and raised in Alaska, but I went out of the state for college and graduate school. In 2010 OneTree invited me to return to Fairbanks to teach art and science to educators and k-12 students. I loved doing germination experiments with students of all ages and teaching sculpture, painting, drawing, weaving and engineering. I was so inspired by the program that I decided to become a classroom teacher myself. I completed a Masters of Education at UAF and now I teach Kindergarten and First Grade at Arctic Light Elementary. I continue to incorporate ideas from OneTree in my classroom and I volunteer for the program. Currently my class is germinating Tamarack, measuring growth, counting leaves, and making scientific illustrations. If not for OneTree I may well have stayed in New York and never have become a teacher. OneTree connects hundreds of students to meaningful art and science (that aligns with and expands far beyond the mandated state standards). Please continue to support this program by including it in the capital budget.

Jesse Hensel

From:	Karisse Ackerman
To:	House Finance; Rep. Scott Kawasaki; Rep. Tammie Wilson; Rep. Doug Isaacson; Rep. Steve Thompson; Rep.
	Pete Higgins; Rep. David Guttenberg; Rep. Eric Feige; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Pete Kelly; Sen. John Coghill;
	<u>Sen. Lyman Hoffman</u>
Subject:	FW: Baklap
Date:	Wednesday, April 16, 2014 8:10:45 AM

Please see comments and request below, submitted to the Fairbanks LIO last night. Thank you , Karisse

From: Nina Harun [mailto:nharun@mosquitonet.com] Sent: Tuesday, April 15, 2014 10:31 PM To: LIO Fairbanks Subject: Baklap

I would like letter is circulated to the House Finance Committee, sent to the Interior Ak delegation and made part of the public record.

#### Dear Legislators,

Greetings I am an 8th grade student at Randy Smith Middle School in Fairbanks. I am writing to ask you to support the One Tree program that is part of BAKLAP (Boreal Alaska: Learning, Adaptation, Production). In seventh grade Jan Dawe of OneTree came into my school and gave us the opportunity to do a long term experiment on birch trees. This allowed the program to collect data but I think that a more important result was that it gave lots of kids at my school the chance to do real hands on science. This was very interesting for us and I was able to do real science. Now I want to be a scientist when i grow up. In addition to this, the program gave me opportunity to learn and talk with scientists during the summer at UAF. I urge to support this program. It has been life changing for me and many others who have volunteered as citizen-scientists. Please continue the OneTree program and the BAKLAP program.

Sincerely,

Joey Harun-DeLong

2401 Cordes Dr. Fairbanks, AK 99709 (907) 455=6369

Jennie Hafele
House Finance
Rep. David Guttenberg; Rep. Doug Isaacson; Rep. Eric Feige; Rep. Pete Higgins; Rep. Scott Kawasaki; Rep. Steve Thompson; Rep. Tammie Wilson; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. John Coghill; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Pete Kelly
FW: Citizen Remarks to the AK House Finance Committee at April 14th 2014 Hearing on the Capital Budget Tuesday, April 15, 2014 1:11:29 PM

Please enter into the record the testimony below to SB 119 in the House Finance Committee dated 4/14/2014.

Jennie Hafele Fairbanks Legislative Information Office 1292 Sadler Way Suite 308 Fairbanks, Alaska 99701 Phone: 907-452-4448 Fax: 907-456-3346 Click HERE to visit the Alaska State Legislature Website Click HERE to visit the Alaska State Legislature Website Click HERE to send your legislator a Public Opinion Message during session

From: Don and Carolyn Gray [dcgray@mac.com]
Sent: Monday, April 14, 2014 9:04 PM
To: LIO Fairbanks
Subject: Citizen Remarks to the AK House Finance Committee at April 14th 2014 Hearing on the Capital Budget

My name is Don Gray and I live at 399 Hillside Drive, Fairbanks, Alaska. I'm a 43 year AK & Fairbanks resident. If I'd gone to high school here, I would have been in Jeff Cook and Andy Warwick's Lathrop HS class of 1962. I served 8 years on the Alaska State Board of Education and 2 years as vice-president to President Barney Gottstein in 1989-90. The Best reasons for my testimony tonight are my 6-year old twin grandsons who are in kindergarten at the Anchorage school districts' Rilke Schule Charter School for Math, Science and German Language & Culture. They are the reason for my passion.

Chairmen Austerman and Stolze, Vice-Chair Neuman, Sirs and Madams:

Regarding the University of Alaska Statewide Power Plant. Absolutely essential to replace this expired shelf life plant. After 50 years it is done/ended/kaput.

Yes, it is COAL FIRED, but as Dr. Bjørn Lomborg, founder of the *Copenhagen Consensus Center* & professor at *Copenhagen School of Business* cited in his book, *Cool it! The Skeptical Environmentalist's Guide to Global Warming*, (and also in *Great Decisions /* the Foreign Policy Association's 2014 video and group discussion), the "focus ought to be on more cost-effective strategies... (R&D vetted solutions as they are discovered),...rather than attempting today's ineffective and expensive solutions". That means, for now, build a coal-fired plant that is as clean as science can produce at a price we can afford as our current solution. In future, R&D will discover practical ways to obtain clean energy from sources like wind, tidal, earth heat differential produced power, (as at Bernie Kahrl's Chena Hot Springs resort), maybe even solar, at prices we can afford to pay.

You would be irresponsible to let the source of our future wealth, the University of Alaska,

freeze up in the dark and be destroyed. We can't afford the replacement cost. PERIOD. Therefore, YES--to UA Statewide power unit replacement.

Regarding the 2.5 PPM wood stove replacement program appropriation: it is a laughably tiny cost (~\$125Million???) vs. the economic risk and likely expense. The cost of losing Eielson AFB, potential EPA fines and medical costs for the large percent of Fairbanks, North Pole, Fox and Ester residents who need CLEAN AIR to BREATH and who CAN'T hold their breath long enough to avoid the carcinogenic smoke is potentially enormous, as well as dangerous/hazardous to health. Again, a No-Brainer. YES--to monies appropriated for continuing the FNSB wood stove replacement program.

Regarding a Capital appropriation for TRS/PRS Debt repayment:

The biggest error came when an inexperienced administration settled the \$2 Billion lawsuit vs. the Retirement Actuary, Mercer, for 25 cents on the dollar ~4 years ago. NYT finance columnist Grechen Morgenstern wrote in December, before the later May/June settlement that Mercer was terribly exposed because of their unsound advice to hold back payments in the mid-1990's when paper stock market profits seemed adequate to fund future state obligations instead of using hard cash revenues. Big mistake by an experienced and expensive trusted advisor, compounded by the legislature's decision not to bring suit using the in house State of Alaska Attorney General, forcing the administration to use expensive Outside (NYC) counsel on retainer which added another \$100,000,000 (\$100M) deducted from the settlement corpus. Governor Parnell is correct to seek large up-front payments to retire the debt obligation as quickly as possible NOW to prevent getting eaten alive by interest payments in just a very few years. Don't believe credit card companies who tell victims to "just make the minimum payment"; in the end, the total bill is always much larger. Therefore, a Third No-brainer. PAY Capital down Now and have lower payment costs later.

Lastly, EDUCATION, in the opinion of many, is truly a CAPITAL COST. If one short funds the Basic Student Allotment, (BSA), FIVE years in a row, the capacity of our economic generator for future skilled labor, innovative management, talented scientists & mechanics, government & private sector skilled employees will dry up. The Legislature has not added funds even for inflation for the BSA since FY2011=four years of no increase in the main source of funds for lights, heat, transportation, books & materials, administrators...and teachers. There exists almost enough money in the hands of your counterparts, the Senate co-chairmen and committee, to add \$404 per BSA unit but great reluctance by them to fund it because of fear of a future without oil income. A justifiable fear if we thought the lease holders will walk away after their leases mature in 2019. Maybe someone else might bid on them? No, those leases don't go up for competitive bid as long as the oil is pumped done the TAPS pipeline. And there is plenty of Higher Cost Oil ready to be exploited into Higher Priced future Markets.

*Certainty*, as opposed to *Uncertainty*, and the ability to plan, are VITAL in business. Money spent this fiscal year by Exxon Mobil, BP and ConocoPhillips is based on plans made 2,3, 5 years ago, not just a spur of the moment whim because of your tax giveback last year. Oil companies, like oil tankers, don't turn on a dime. They are very very deliberate and very efficient, and with wise management, very profitable.

Thank you.

Don Gray Fairbanks, AK 907-457-5737 <u>dcgray@mac.com</u>

From:	Jennie Hafele
To:	House Finance
Cc:	Rep. David Guttenberg; Rep. Doug Isaacson; Rep. Eric Feige; Rep. Pete Higgins; Rep. Scott Kawasaki; Rep. Steve Thompson; Rep. Tammie Wilson; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. John Coghill; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Pete Kelly
Subject:	FW: Public Testimony: SB 119 Please add Barnette Magnet Phase 4 Funding to the Capital Budget
Date:	Tuesday, April 15, 2014 1:09:04 PM

Please enter into the record the attached testimony to SB 119 in the House Finance Committee dated 4/14/2014.

Jennie Hafele Fairbanks Legislative Information Office 1292 Sadler Way Suite 308 Fairbanks, Alaska 99701 Phone: 907-452-4448 Fax: 907-456-3346 Click HERE to visit the Alaska State Legislature Website Click HERE to visit the Alaska State Legislature Website Click HERE to send your legislator a Public Opinion Message during session

From: Barnette Magnet PTA [barnettemagnetpta@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 14, 2014 6:49 PM
To: Sen. Pete Kelly; LIO Fairbanks; Senate Finance Committee; Rep. Tammie Wilson; Rep. Pete
Higgins; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. John Coghill; Rep. Scott Kawasaki; Rep. Steve Thompson; Rep. Doug
Isaacson

Subject: Public Testimony: SB 119 Please add Barnette Magnet Phase 4 Funding to the Capital Budget

We at Barnette Magnet School thank the Legislators and Governor for helping us to begin our renovation. We are almost done. We have completed 3 phases as well as the planning for the final phase. Phase 4 is the #1 capital priority for our School District and School Board. It is also #4 on DEED's CIP List.

Our parents, staff and community members have sent in testimony, phone calls and emails on why funding this project is important to us. I would like to identify reasons why funding this project should be top priority to you.

By funding this project you would demonstrate to Alaska's citizens that the health and safety of our children is important to you. This renovation will remedy the health and safety issues our students, staff and volunteers endure. It renovated the oldest structure in our district, to bring into compliance with health and safety codes. It also eliminates a structure that is not sound enough to renovate. This final phase has been given emergency status by DEED. By funding Phase 4, you would also save citizens and the state money. By funding the CIP List through #4 and providing an additional \$4 million to complete Phase 4, you save taxpayers money and spend less state funds to complete this project. If it goes up for Bond the cost will increase. After completion of Phase 4, the efficiencies gained in maintenance and utilities will result in lasting savings for our state. Our school will go from the highest cost school to the lowest cost school in regards to maintenance and utility expenditures. These efficiencies can be studied once Phase 4 is completed and incorporated in future builds across the state.

Also, funding Barnette Magnet Phase 4 falls in line with the Governor's request to prioritize funding for projects underway before funding new projects. If funded the renovation will provide much needed employment for Alaskans.

These are the reasons funding this renovation should be your top priority. We thank you for your past support and are confident you will do the "heavy lifting" necessary to include the funds for Barnette Magnet Phase 4 on this year's Capital Budget. Thank you for your time and dedication, Barnette Magnet PTA Alaska cannot afford to find the Susitna Dam project. Please stop the over spending.

Jennifer Reed Fairbanks

From:	Jennie Hafele
To:	House Finance
Cc:	Rep. David Guttenberg; Rep. Doug Isaacson; Rep. Eric Feige; Rep. Pete Higgins; Rep. Scott Kawasaki; Rep. Steve
	Thompson; Rep. Tammie Wilson; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. John Coghill; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Pete Kelly
Subject:	FW: Support for continuation funding of BAKLAP
Date:	Tuesday, April 15, 2014 1:10:20 PM

Please enter into the record the testimony below to SB 119 in the House Finance Committee dated 4/14/2014.

Jennie Hafele Fairbanks Legislative Information Office 1292 Sadler Way Suite 308 Fairbanks, Alaska 99701 Phone: 907-452-4448 Fax: 907-456-3346 Click HERE to visit the Alaska State Legislature Website Click HERE to watch live streaming of the Alaska State Legislature Click HERE to send your legislator a Public Opinion Message during session

#### From: **Margo Klass** <<u>margoklass@icloud.com</u>> Date: Mon, Apr 14, 2014 at 3:40 PM Subject: Support for continuation funding of BAKLAP To: "<u>house.finance@akledge.gov</u>" <<u>house.finance@akledge.gov</u>>

I am on the STEAM Education Team for BAKLAP and wish to add my voice to others who support the work of BAKLAP and want to see its funding continued.

Why?

...for the large number of students it reaches in our public schools and beyond.

... for the significant scientific contributions it makes to sustainability.

...for the community of learners it generates: students, teachers, scientists, artists, community members.

...for the creativity it infuses into our communities through the collaborations of science and art.

The work of BAKLAP is well underway. It has momentum through established programs and personnel. Please provide continued funding for this important initiative.

Sincerely, Margo Klass

(Testimony submitted in writing because I am traveling during session. Thank you.) Sent from my iPad

Janice C. Dawe, Research Faculty School of Natural Resources and Extension Co-Director of BAKLAP, Director of BAKLAP's K-20 STEAM Education component 388-1772 jan.dawe@alaska.edu Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Joni Scharfenberg <<u>jonisc@gmail.com</u>> Date: April 14, 2014 at 6:10:39 PM AKDT To: "Rep.David.Guttenberg" <<u>Rep.David.Guttenberg@legis.state.ak.us</u>>, <u>Rep.Steve.Thompson@akleg.gov</u>, "Rep. Tammie Wilson" <<u>Rep.Tammie.Wilson@akleg.gov</u>> Subject: North Pole funding

The Fairbanks Soil and Water Conservation District is the lead organization to be working on the eradication of the invasive aquatic Elodea in Chena slough, Chena lakes, and the chena river. FSWCD requested funding for a partnership with the city of North Pole to help with this project. Please consider funding to assist with this invasive threat to our waterways. thank-you, Joni Scharfenberber FSWCD coordinator

From:	Elizabeth Ripley
To:	Rep. Alan Austerman; Rep. Bill Stoltze; Rep. Mark Neuman; Rep. Les Gara; Rep. Bryce Edgmon; Rep. Cathy
	Munoz; Rep. David Guttenberg; Rep. Lindsey Holmes; Rep. Mia Costello; Rep. Mike Hawker; Rep. Steve
	Thompson; Rep. Tammie Wilson; House Finance
Subject:	FY15 Capital Budget priorities from the Mat-Su Health Foundation
Date:	Monday, April 14, 2014 7:12:13 PM

Rep. Stoltze, Rep. Austerman, Members of House Finance,

At a time when our State budget faces declining revenue, we appreciate how you are prioritizing state capital investments based on their cost and return on investment for Alaska residents. In recognition of your careful budgeting, the Mat-Su Health Foundation advances only four projects for consideration in the capital budget, and all of them are in CAPSIS:

1. \$250K for Pre-Development Program

2. \$500K for Recover Alaska to pilot a one-stop shop to access substance abuse services

- 3. \$4M for CCS Early Learning, the Head Start provider for Mat-Su and Eagle River
- 4. \$8.2M for Wasilla Public Library

The Wasilla Public Library and CCS Early Learning projects both graduated from the Pre-Development Program, which is funded by the AK Mental Health Trust Authority, Denali Commission, Rasmuson Foundation and the Mat-Su Health Foundation. The program is administered by the Foraker Group and ensures that capital projects are well-planned, right sized and sustainable. Wasilla Public Library and CCS Early Learning projects both meet these criteria. The \$250K request is to help us with this Pre-Development work.

The MSHF has invested over \$500K in the CCS Early Learning Project. If \$4M is not doable this year for CCS Early Learning, we ask that you prioritize a \$1M appropriation for FY15 to enable them to prep the site and complete the utility work. Thank you

### Elizabeth Ripley, Executive Director

Mat-Su Health Foundation

950 E. Bogard Road, Ste. 218

Wasilla, AK 99654

(907) 352-2863

(907) 352-2865 fax

eripley@healthymatsu.org



Cordova Chamber of Commerce PO Box 99 Cordova, AK 99574 907-424-7260 www.cordovachamber.net

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Christa Hoover, Director

Written testimony to Alaska State House Finance Committee house.finance@akleg.gov by Jennifer Gibbins President, Cordova Chamber of Commerce April 14, 2014

Thank you members of the House Finance Committee.

I am Jennifer Gibbins, a local business owner and president of the Cordova Chamber of Commerce.

As Chamber president, I wish to speak to you very briefly today about the economic importance of the Cordova Center project to the community of Cordova.

A bump of 20% or 30% in sales associated with a group coming to town means that a shop owner is in the black. This is vitally important in rural Alaska. It means jobs, kids in school and a vibrant community.

It means local sales taxes for the City to continue to provide services - and it means that the small businesses that our fishing fleet expects when they return for the season, are still here.

And that means those fishermen will continue to fish here - contributing \$44.1 million in ex-vessel income to the State, which equates to \$1.4 million in fisheries tax revenue.

No doubt the Cordova Center will add to the quality of life for our residents, but from the standpoint of the Chamber of Commerce, this is a vitally needed economic development project.

Our goal for the Cordova Center is to keep our fleet here, our local small businesses strong and our economy growing.

We thank you very much for the opportunity to share these thoughts with you today and appreciate your consideration of our funding request in the amount of \$6.5 million for The Cordova Center.

cc: Rep. Alan Austerman Rep.Alan.Austerman@akleg.gov 14 April 14

House Finance Committee,

I am a 42-year Juneau resident and small business owner.

Please remove the "Juneau Access (HD 31-32)" project from the Capital Budget, SB 119, because this \$ 35 million project, if funded and executed by DOTPF, would damage Juneau's prospects for:

- a. Remaining Alaska's Capital City;
- b. Becoming a more resilient community, able to withstand the shocks of unpredictable future events.

"The Road" has always been a costly distraction for the people and business community of Juneau, a myth that if only people from Up North could drive to Juneau to influence our state government, we'd be spared the distress of a capital move. Very few would choose to drive to Juneau during legislative sessions, if they could.

Specifically, this \$ 35 million appropriation would:

1. Probably be used to extend the pioneer road beyond Cascade Point, around Berners Bay, toward, or as far as, Kensington Mine.

2. Prolong the delusion, among many Juneau people, that if citizens from elsewhere in Alaska could drive to their capital, especially during legislative sessions, Juneau's tenure as Alaska's Capital would be greatly strengthened.

3. Continue distracting us from investing in capital projects and community design that would make Juneau more attractive, resilient, energy-efficient, sustainable, and visitor-friendly -- a better Capital City and Community in every way.

4. Not be a productive use of state and federal funds. It would not provide a high benefit / cost ratio. It will deprive more worthy projects elsewhere in Alaska of both capital and maintenance funds. We Alaskans are responsible for the wise use of both Alaska and United States treasure; road extension beyond Echo Cove is not a wise use.

5. Provoke envy and resentment among other Alaskans because Juneau has grabbed a share of scarce state and federal transportation funds in its continued foolish pursuit of about \$500 million more, to extend "the road" beyond Echo Cove and Cascade Point to a new dead end and ferry terminal 50 miles further up Lynn Canal. Statewide support for keeping the Capital in Juneau will consequently suffer.

6. Provoke ridicule, within Alaska and beyond, that Juneau has commandeered scarce resources to either:

- a. Build a "road to nowhere", or
- b. Build a road at public expense to benefit a single private enterprise, the Kensington Mine, for the few decades that its ore body will last.

7. Be inadequate for anything other than a pioneer roadbuilding project, which would badly damage the wilderness and recreational values of Berners Bay, and probably to some extent damage its important biological productivity. A pioneer road will not be commercially useful; we would be back for more Juneau Access roadbuilding money from Alaska funds, in many future legislatures.

The complete \$ 500 million "Road" alternative for Juneau Access Improvement would move the ferry terminal 55 miles north, decreasing and discouraging Juneau access, especially for legislators. Only those driving vehicles from Juneau to Haines and beyond will benefit. All others must bear the cost and inconvenience of transportation to and from the Juneau community. Ferry service to the present Auke Bay terminal would probably diminish. Juneau would be less accessible than it is now.

Legislative appropriation for the Juneau Access project before the Supplemental EIS is available from DOTPF is premature and unwise. Is DOTPF withholding the EIS until after this project's inclusion in the capital budget? If so, why? What don't they want legislators to know? We are grateful for DOTPF's expertise in designing and managing transportation projects. But, we need to help them direct their resources, to avoid unintended negative consequences to Alaska, including to Juneau and to other Lynn Canal communities.

Please relieve the people and community of Juneau from the delusion and distraction that "the road" extension north of Echo Cove would somehow anchor the Capital in Juneau, so that Juneau's citizens may instead:

a. Focus our creativity and resources on making Juneau more attractive, resilient, energyefficient, sustainable, and visitor-friendly -- a better Capital City and Community in every way, for many future generations. This will help guide us in our recently-launched "Economic Development Plan", initiated by the CBJ Assembly. <u>http://www.juneaueconomicplan.org/</u>

b. Prevent negative feelings toward Juneau, statewide and nationwide.

Thank you for your consideration.

Bill Leighty Box 20993, Juneau, AK 99802 907-586-1426 206-719-5554 cell wleighty@earthlink.net

# KAWERAK, INC.



P.O. BOX 948 NOME, AK 99762 TEL: (907)443-5231 FAX: (907)443-4452

April 9, 2014

Senator Donny Olson State Capitol PO Box 1630, Room 508 Juneau, AK 99801-1182

#### Subject: FY2015 CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST -Kawerak Cultural Center

Dear Senator Olson,

Kawerak, Inc. is a tribally authorized nonprofit organization whose vision is building on the inherent strength of our cultural values we shall assist our tribes and residents to create a positive future.

Kawerak, Inc. respectfully requests your assistance to include a total of \$1.9 million within the State FY2015 Capital Budget funding for the Kawerak Cultural Center to be included in the City of Nome's museum/library building. These needed funds will be used together with the Rasmuson Foundation monies to build out the portion that would include Kawerak's Cultural Center. The Bering Strait Region is the only region in the entire State of Alaska that does not have a cultural center dedicated to the celebration of the three indigenous cultures; Inupiat, Central Yupik and Saint Lawrence Island Yupik.

The representatives from Kawerak's Regional Conference attendees show a sign of support for the Cultural Center by signing this letter and we encourage your advocacy for funding the Kawerak Cultural Center with allocating \$1.9 million in funding. If you have any questions regarding this matter; I can be reached at 907-443-5231 or you can contact Amy Russell-Jamgochian, Kawerak Cultural Center Project Director at 907-443-4340.

Sincerely,

nBahnke

Melanie Bahnke, President

Name	Signature	Community
Loretta Bullard	J. Bullon	NOME
Moriah Sallaffie	morial Selffiel	Nome

40 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE VILLAGES OF:

BREVIG MISSION• COUNCIL• DIOMEDE• ELIM• GAMBELL• GOLOVIN• KING ISLAND• KOYUK• MARY'S IGLOO• NOME• SAVOONGA SHAKTOOLIK• SHISHMAREF• SOLOMON• STEBBINS• ST. MICHAEL• TELLER• UNALAKLEET• WALES• WHITE MOUNTAIN

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Community Signature Name Richard W. Hawkins ichardw. Haropu Dome AK, 99762 Kose Kockum - clerk fortin -Cla Nome, AK NOME, ALC BOM METCANE Vince Pikonganna King Island Wa Selan ongas King Island AK, Dioios K. Ale Angun his England JOSEPH KUNNER un KT MARY KUNNUK Mattendinano MAH HEW TINLAWS DIOMELE GLENN IYAMAK m lola FRANCIS AWAM PROYACU SANDRAT. Tahbone , Jahove Nome Nome Carleton Tahbone oul Sara Sector Brevic Msn tt Day Brevis Mon Tim Henry Sr 1m Henry Brevig Mission Xaotost Shauna Sector 1110 Jolene Okleasik Delanot eller Nales ncy M Kitchen alex aggie A Komonaseak Messie + W dat Wellert all Ione Edward Kakarul Dr E m. DAWN Dronnor Non LAUM OCHAMOV

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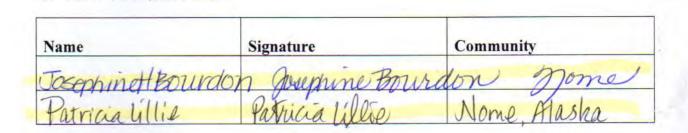
Community Signature Name Tome tu HmAn Ublion CON netwag aville ayne Rosale Name Nome None til Vaina P Kusten Bey Nome Bobly Conner Nome OBBI Jo Conner ome lar eora Kenick Sen me me un Aton OME me Pruce Davis Bonnie Davis Bonnie Davis Nona Nope Karlin J. Itchat 11. Soudakova prome Tohnson P. Eningowok Shishmart BOURDON other Bourd STHER lome. EARLP JOHNSON Jone Pland John J. Rillock our 118 Grace Pullock Face Tuelock none Morie Sadana ho Stelemens Tellou amer (3/1) 000 hepes ichol Darb

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Signature Community Name Donna James me Luisa Machuca None SKK natile Huch the. Golovin hincole Duane L'acola Sambell ucy Apatiki ent.k. line Walunga Sembell Linette Torres Fairbanks fines villie Brown White Maintein Gene Saward Vance ome Javard rchorage alm JANIS KOZLOWSKI Katerina Wessels Inchorage Res Ross Tozzi Re Ray Jon Nome NOOVUILE Ralph Naturne Ralph Nazuryk UNa lableet, AK Renber Moses Mixsake Realearmilsone Taslanne norme Dylanne Nassuk Nome AK phirah Lagneaux. ome Al Donnette Mome AL >lennete hvistian Jome onna Kar one Al 11 un Gennar Moon -Kimoktoak Freida VomerAK ome, t anna 1 6 Darlen Milegioch DarleneMillignoc omo A

Name Signature Community Alc me ask 10 na Jean Ummyga omo ome lanan Se Nonge sel 4K 1 6 C mel Cal Simon lanna Strickling recon 5 OMP anna



From:	H Shepherd CWA
To:	House Finance
Subject:	No Funding for Susitn-Watana Hydropower
Date:	Tuesday, April 15, 2014 1:14:23 PM

The Hon. Members of the House Finance Committee:

The Alaska Senate just passed their budget bill and did not include the \$32.7 million in supplemental funds for the Susitna-Watan Hydro Power project. Now it's the House's turn to work on the budget bill, and the governor will try his best to get them to put the \$32.7 million back in the budget.

With so much need for spending on environmentally sound and productive programs in Alaska there is no room for wasteful spending on economically unrealistic, salmon killing projects like the proposed Susitna dam. Please end the session with a budget that only funds the projects that are important to Alaskans.

Please stop sinking money into the dam!

Hal Shepherd, Director Center for Water Advocacy P.O. Box 15332 Fritz Creek, AK 99603 (907)491-1355

From:	joe irvine
To:	House Finance
Subject:	No more money for a dam on the Big Susitna River
Date:	Monday, April 14, 2014 4:28:11 PM

House Finance Committee members,

Please do not give any more funds towards a dam on the Big Su. We already have a serious problem with salmon returns in the rivers & streams of the Upper Cook Inlet and Fish & Game isn't sure why. Why would you fund a dam that could jeopardize salmon returns until we know why the salmon returns are so bad right now?

We need money for Health & Human Services for needy Alaskans not more money down the proposed Susitna Dam rat hole.

Get a gas pipe line built!

Joe Irvine po box 139 Palmer, AK

From:	Mike Wood
To:	House Finance
Subject:	No Susitna Dam Supplemental
Date:	Monday, April 14, 2014 8:40:32 PM

I am writing to request the House continue to follow the wise judgment of the Senates actions last week and not add supplemental funding for the Susitna Dam back into SB119.

The Senate listened to the people last week and followed through on their commitment to reduce spending. The people have clearly voiced their opposition to Governor Parnell's request to add another 32.7 million dollars toward the Susitna-Watana Mega Boondoggle. I sincerely request that the House Finance Committee follow the Senates lead and not allocate any more funds to this doomed project and focus on Alaska's Energy future by investing in a gas pipeline.

Thank You

Sincerely, Mike Wood

Chase, Alaska



### PORT OF NOME - CAUSEWAY MIDDLE DOCK PROJECT CAPITAL PROJECTS FUNDING – \$3M

- 1. The City of Nome is seeking \$3 million in capital project funding to attain construction of the Port Causeway Middle Dock Project, currently estimated at \$9.4 million. To date, the City has secured \$6.4M in public, private and federal dollars. Project is fully designed and bid ready.
- 2. The Middle Dock is critically needed to meet growing demand for dock space and alleviate an escalating congestion problem. Originally designed at 475', the length has been shortened to 240' to reduce the costs to a more affordable level in hopes of constructing in 2014.
- 3. Vessel traffic at the Port of Nome has increased significantly over the last 5 years, with a noticeable rise in the last two years. This requires vessels to anchor offshore and await dock space, which drives up costs and creates shipping delays. The majority of this demand is driven by regional economic development, which utilizes Nome's hub port function to ship cargo, fuel and gravel throughout the region. This commodity movement supports all regional villages, as well as points north to Barrow and south to the Bristol Bay area. (Even exporting sand to Dutch Harbor in 2012.)

	Recent	Historical
Shipping volume trends:	5 <u>year average</u>	<u>25 year average</u>
Cargo Tons	122,733	59,159
Fuel Gallons	13,302,807	12,458,511

- 4. The Port's current financial obligation to NOAA for repayment of the CEIP loan to build the Causeway is \$300K per year, which is a significant hit to our annual revenues, in addition to our existing operational and maintenance expense. We simply are unable to fund the \$3M short-fall needed to build this critical project, as it remains the City's number one priority.
- 5. Existing project funding provided by the State of Alaska:
  - a. DCCED GO Bond Funds awarded F13 of \$10M to these projects:
    - i. Deep Water Port Study \$850K
    - ii. Middle Dock Project \$5M
    - iii. High Ramp & Float Phasing Project \$4M
    - iv. Harbor Repairs & Upgrades Design \$150K
  - b. DCCED Designated Leg. Grant awarded F14 of \$500K
    - i. High Ramp & Float Phasing Project \$500K
  - c. DOT Harbor Facility Grant awarded F13 \$1.5M
    - i. Harbor Repairs & Upgrades Construction \$1.5M
- 6. There are significant drawbacks to postponing construction; increased shipping costs caused by delays in accessing dock space, as well as environmental risk exposure to locations like Golovnin Bay where the many vessels waiting at anchor seek refuge during storm events.

#### A CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE COMPONENT VITAL TO THE REGION'S ECONOMIC GROWTH.

Kyoko Okano University of Alaska Fairbanks PO Box 756100 Fairbanks, AK 99775-6100 907 (474) 1844

To AK State Legislature

Dear Sir and Madam;

I am a graduate student at University of Alaska Fairbanks. I am writing this letter to ask for a support on BAKLAP — "Boreal Alaska: Learning, Adaptation, Production."

One Tree Alaska, an outreach program led by Dr. Janice Dawe of UAF, is funded by BAKLAP. It connects communities and academics and educates local K-12 students and their educators. It also helps graduate students learn how to teach and connect local people. One Tree Alaska has an interdisciplinary composition; arts, such as drawing and sciences such as measuring trees and learning tree species are taught simultaneously.

I started being involved in One Tree Alaska as a field volunteer in the summer of 2013. As a science graduate student who lacked teaching experiences yet was interested in teaching, I needed hand-on training for teaching and experiences of mingling local schools. I was also offered opportunities to lead K-12 teachers for scientific field work. Because of this experience, I am currently confidently teaching two laboratory sections in an undergraduate biology class. I would like to keep volunteering One Tree Alaska so that I would be able to attend a classroom in a local K-12 school and help students' learning sciences.

One Tree Alaska is an active educational program that is needed in Fairbanks community, including K12 students, teachers, and graduate students. One Tree Alaska is financially supported by BAKLAP, and it will need financial support continuously. Please include funding for BAKLAP in the capital budget.

Sincerely,

Kyoko Okano Master's Student Biology and Wildlife University of Alaska Fairbanks House Finance Committee:

I would like to add my comment to testimony regarding the funding of the Susitna-Watana dam project. Even if this project was a good idea which it is not - we can't afford to do it, while also pursuing myriad other mega projects. Please do not approve any further waste of our limited money on this project.

(907) 982-2698 www.ravensong.us http://unpluggedinalaska.com Greetings -

Please vote "yes" to include the Municipality of Anchorage's \$10 million dollar capital budget request to redo the entrance to the Loussac Library. The current entrance is hazardous.

I'm a senior citizen and I have to walk up the steps sideways - one step at a time. The steps are too narrow and too steep. I know at least 5 senior citizens who cannot use the Loussac because of the current unsafe entrance.

I love my Loussac Library and want it to be safe for everyone.

Thanks so much for your consideration of my request.

Nancy Groszek 2512 Saint Elias Drive Anchorage, Alaska 99517 (907) 248-5802 When we talk about bang for the buck, the Anchorage Imagination Library gives it to the State in spades.

By mailing a book a month to a child from birth to their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday -- without cost—we are boosting school readiness, an ability to learn and thus a love of learning, and improving family engagement in the learning process. (Good studies and our own metrics are showing this.) You all know the long term benefits of that. With this year's State assistance, we have increased enrollment another 1,000 kids (to over 9,000 of the 20,000 estimated in Anchorage) fiscal year-to-date.

AIL is making inroads in increasing enrollment in neighborhoods with higher numbers of atrisk kids. Just last holiday season as we canvassed the waiting area for "Gift", the Christmas meal/gift give-away program, we were thrilled with the number of people who said, 'Oh, our kids get them. Look, here is one of the books" and then turned to nearby 'doubting parents' to say, 'You should enroll. It is great." We have a long ways to go, still, to get books in the hands that need them. But with your continued support, our volunteer team can continue to increase the enrollment!

With enrollment growing, we need to ask everyone who can help to increase their giving. Please approve our request for \$25,000 this year.

As a poor kid growing up, Dolly Parton realized the importance of getting books in youngsters' hands. Her organization provides us with the means to get those books to kids at an average cost of \$2.10 per book each month. Again, thank you so much for your support in covering some of the costs.

Sincerely,

Carol Howarth

Finance Chair

Anchorage Imagination Library

Home: 2471 Belmont Dr., Anchorage, AK 99517

April 14, 2014

Whitney Wolff PO Box 96 Talkeetna, AK 99676

Members of the House Finance Committee,

This testimony is in opposition to funding of the Susitna Watana Hydro project (although the Senate Finance Committee did not include the Governor's request for 32.7 million in supplemental funds in the current CS, I would urge House Finance to support this wise restraint with our current limited state funds )

Speaking as the Chair of the Talkeetna Community Council, Inc., this project compromises the resources of the Northern Susitna Valley which sustain regional small businesses, recreation based tourism and subsistence uses by families throughout the state.

Speaking as a small business owner and concerned Alaskan - The State cannot afford multiple mega projects and the continued funding of competitive energy projects puts the state's bonding capacity at risk. Alaskans should not spend 5.2 billion on this risky project which has already sustained problems and is currently a year off schedule. Alaskan's need energy projects which meet our critical heating needs. The Susitna dam does not meet these needs!

The gas line project creates export revenue, a rural Alaskan energy fund, and potential future relief to communities relying on #1 diesel heating oil.

Thank you for your service and the challenging work with the capital budget ,

Whitney Wolff

From:	Rita Jo Shoultz
To:	House Finance
Subject:	SB119 budget
Date:	Monday, April 14, 2014 9:09:20 PM

This evening I called in and listened for almost 3 hours. I decided a written note might be more appreciated. I admire your fortitude. I hope someone was bringing you food!

I am a 48 year resident of Fritz Creek (outside Homer) and am the President of the Kenai Peninsula Farm Bureau and an officer with the State Board of Farm Bureau.

I am respectfully requesting you fund the budget for Soil and Water Conservation. You heard at least 11 testimonies this evening (thus my written request) and were presented with many of the larger issues and responsibilities of S&WC. As a Farm Bureau person, I get to see the little things S&WC does on the Peninsula.

This winter I visited several of our local schools to talk about the Community Garden Program offered by SW&C. At one elementary school I had a wonderful experience. A second grader asked me if he could show me his garden. We ventured outside to see his garden box where he preceded to tell me about how he grew potatoes. He talked about the radius, the circumference, weight and other important facts about his potatoes. He shared upon harvesting the potatoes they made potato soup for a pot luck for students and their families. From the look on that little boy's face, I'm sure he was seeing his potato garden all over again while in reality we were gazing at a box of ice and snow.

Currently SW&C is working on bridge work at the head of Kachemak Bay to reduce erosion and protect critical wetlands.

With the hundreds of high tunnels constructed on the Peninsula, the soil testing and information provided by S&WC has been invaluable.

I realize you have a daunting job. I hope you are able to continue to fund the RC&D. Rita Jo Shoultz

Sent from my iPad Rita Jo Shoultz Alaska Perfect Peony cell 907 299-0261 www.alaskaperfectpeony.com -----Original Message-----From: Rachel Harrison [mailto:rachelh@mtaonline.net] Sent: Monday, April 14, 2014 3:17 PM To: LIO Mat-Su Subject: Re: Susitna Dam...

On Apr 14, 2014, at 1:19 PM, Rachel Harrison <rachelh@mtaonline.net> wrote:

> I am opposed to funding the Susitna Dam for the volumes of reasons that have been discussed. What comes to mind is a famous quote from a speech given over a hundred and fifty years ago in the northwest. It speaks true even today.

> "Whatever befalls the earth, befalls the sons and daughters of the earth. We did not weave the webs of life, we are merely strands in it. Whatever we do to the web we do to ourselves."

> Chief Seattle

> .,

> Keep the Susitna River strong and free.

>

> Thank you,

> Rachel Harrison

10 : Rep. David Sattenberg Sen. Tyman Haffman Re: 134 Kdap Junding March 7, 2014 Wear Senator Heffman and Representative Suttenherg : I am a self - employed log house builder and carpenter who has worked in the Interior for forty-three years I recently volunteered to show middle school students haw to make knitting reedles from birch logs, under the acquir of BaktaP and Dr. Janice Pawe. This activity provides students with a fine motor skill Astivity; teaches them the concept of value-added entrepreneurship; and puts them in a (sometimes) freak Contact with their leareal forest. Students combine science, technology, engeneering, mothematics and artistic judgment to produce a marketable product - a valuable economic lesson. I ask you to support Baktap in the budget as

the program is a richly engaging approach to learning. As one teacher said, "The kids are so engaged - no one's watching the clock!"

thank you, Birch Paulsky 6063 Reconstruction Rd. Farbanks, 99709

cc. Senatar Kelly Senator Fairclough Senatar Meyer Senatar Dunleavy Senators Bishap Senater Olson

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Alaska cannot afford to fund the Susitna dam.

Ian Wright Fairbanks

## Anchorage Imagination Library

### Testimony on the 2015 Capital Budget to the House Finance Committee

### April 14, 2014

My name is Juliana Wayman and I volunteer with the Anchorage Imagination Library which works to increase children's literacy by providing books to more than 9,000 children in Anchorage. I am asking you to support the capital request for just \$25,000.

All Anchorage children from birth to age 5 are eligible to participate in the program which works to encourage reading in the home and help prepare children to enter kindergarten ready to succeed. AlL also organizes free events to give parents tools to make reading fun and extend the learning. The program cost is just \$30 per child for a book every month for a year.

Part of Best Beginnings, the AIL program is managed and delivered by volunteers. This keeps administrative costs very low. The state funding would be matched dollar for dollar with private and local contributions. The monthly invoice for books and postage is more than \$18,000 and growing.

The money provided through the capital budget will go towards continuing to grow the program, particularly in AIL's target areas: Mountain View, Fairview and Spenard. Without these funds, AIL could be forced to cap growth and turn away new participants from a low-cost program that has proven benefits. The program is scalable and all capital funding will be put toward books and postage.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Juliana Wayman

Volunteer and parent

Anchorage Imagination Library

www.anchorageimaginationlibrary.com

Dear House Finance Committee,

Please do not increase the funding for the Susitna Dam. Historically mega dams like the proposed Susitna Dam have cost far more (an average of 54% more) than projected, have not produced as much power as anticipated and have done more damage to river watersheds than expected. Damming the Susitna River will be no different. It will cost far more than the advertised 5.1 billion. What big project in Alaska hasn't cost more than its original estimation? Alaska can not take the financial risk nor can we risk the integrity of the Susitna Rivers watershed. Mega dams are an old technology with many proven adverse affects. The future will bring new ways to produce power. We should all strive to conserve more energy and support the development of new ways to meet our power needs. Do not waste money on continuing toward licensing the construction of the Susitna/Wantana Dam. There are far more important programs that are in need of money. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brian Okonek Talkeetna

#### Greetings to all,

This is my first time for me to ever write to you and I hope that my message comes to you in a meaningful way. My wife has lived most of her life in Alaska and I have been here for over four years. I love Alaska and I feel like I have come home living here. So it is with the most sincere belief that all money for the Susitna Dam project be stopped. I lived where there were dams and the loss of the pristine river with it. It created a ton of problems with the Salmon runs and though millions of dollars have been thrown at attempts to restore fish populations nothing has been successful. I oppose the building of this dam and ask for you to do the same by stopping any future funding of this bad project. If we want to make cheap power and be kind to our planet then lets look at solar and wind power along with tidal power. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

John and Laura Sanborn 380 West Arlington Avenue Soldotna, AK 99669 907/399-0426

"No, wilderness is not a luxury but a necessity of the human spirit and as vital to our lives as water and good bread. A civilization which destroys what little remains of the world, the spare, the original, is cutting itself off from its origins and betraying the principle of civilization itself." Edward Abbey

From:	Howard Carbone
To:	House Finance
Subject:	Testimony on SB 119
Date:	Monday, April 14, 2014 6:32:56 PM

I am opposed to giving any more money to the Susitna-Watana Hydro Project. With our tight budget we can't afford two energy mega-projects, and the gas line is obviously the right one for Alaska. Please don't waste any more money on the dam.

Respectfully,

Howard Carbone

From:	Yahoo!
To:	House Finance
Subject:	Watana Dam Project
Date:	Monday, April 14, 2014 4:49:41 PM

Greetings~

This is a request that you do not submit any funds towards the Watana Dam Project. Instead, put those funds back into the Alaska budget. Alaska cannot afford such a mega project, nor does it need it. There are much better alternative energy projects that are affordable and far less damaging to the environment.

Thank you, Robin Song concerned Talkeetna citizen

From:	Eric Bush
To:	House Finance
Subject:	we deserve it !!!!!!
Date:	Tuesday, April 15, 2014 12:27:52 PM

Frankly. I am sick and tired of watching my son play his home games in a piece of crap stadium!! when I played football it was at our own school with our own stadium, it had lights and bleachers! we were proud to play in panther stadium! it was OUR HOUSE! when we traveled we traveled to other schools who had their own stadiums too. think of how if you'r own kids play football, how would they feel between having to defend their OWN turf or travel to some dump owned by the city? East High deserves their OWN stadium! please reconsider and make my sons senior year of ball his most memorable by letting him play at t- bird stadium, complete with lights and bleachers !!!!!!!!!

Eric Bush, Chocoman Authorized xocai distributor #243385 (907) 258-2594 bushfam@gci.net