

From: [Karen Quitslund](#)
To: [Senate Finance Committee](#)
Subject: Comments on FY2016 Senate Finance Budget Subcommittee for DEED
Date: Monday, March 30, 2015 11:40:45 AM

Dear Senators of the Finance Committee,

I am very concerned with the financial situation of Alaska and understand that reductions need to be made for the State to adopt a fiscally responsible budget within the limitations of funding sources. The impacts of these reductions at the local level in communities such as Petersburg are distressing. The Petersburg School District is a pillar in this community's foundation and education is one of the top concerns for our citizens. The economic domino effect and the forecasts for this trend to continue highlight an absolute need for the State of Alaska to generate other revenue sources; oil cannot and should not be Alaska's financial driver. I would implore the Finance Committee to explore other revenue options such as the Permanent Fund and/or implementing a State Income tax. Our public education system is at the mercy of State and local funding and needs to be at the top of our State's priority list. I appreciate your dedication to our state and realize that tough decisions are being made, thank you for your service and time.

Karen Quitslund

Petersburg Resident

Mother of two children in public school

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