

**From:** [Kay Clements](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Public Broadcasting  
**Date:** Friday, March 04, 2016 12:02:43 PM

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Esteemed Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

Hello, my name is Jeff Bochart and I am President of the Board of Directors for KHNS in Haines, AK. I have phoned some of you and so please forgive my redundancy in following with this letter. I am doing so because I cannot stress enough how important our seemingly small radio station is to us. KHNS (like many other community radio stations) is crucial to the lifeblood of this small town. Many Alaskans living in our larger bergs do not, perhaps, understand this. You see, because of our small numbers we are acquainted with nearly all of each other in our town/borough. So, this station does much to interconnect us.

Some folks live in isolated situations within the broadcast range of these stations, with no communications system other than local radio. And thus there have been emergency situations taken care of, if not lives saved, because of message services provided. Our local news is very important to us indeed as we're kept up to date locally. KHNS is indeed like a living member of our community.

In short, we need community radio *for our community*. In a larger town with much larger numbers, folks as a whole are more anonymous and more insulated from each other. There are other systems in place with which to stay in tune with events, opportunities, music, and the like. Out here is much different. We would lose more than a little lifeblood if our funding were to be drastically cut.

Thank you for your consideration. These situations are likely to recur for the next few years at least. I invite you to come visit us, or a station like us. I honestly believe that, if you give it your full attention, you will see what I am writing you about.

Sincerely,

Jeff Bochart

President Board of Directors

KHNS

Haines, AK

**Lovalaska**

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