

From: [Michelle Renfrew](#)
To: [Senate Finance Committee](#)
Subject: ACT NOW: ensure a sustainable future for Alaska
Date: Friday, March 04, 2016 2:38:59 PM

Dear House Finance Committee members:

As a lifelong resident of Alaska and employee of the University of Alaska Fairbanks , I respectfully request you remedy Alaska's fiscal crisis NOW by using the Permanent Fund Dividend, responsible cuts and new taxes. We all know that none of these things will solve the budget crisis on their own. The PFD must be part of the solution. I have enjoyed the PFD my entire life and my children do too I would give up every penny of the PFD if it meant my children had quality K-12 schools, good roads and community infrastructure, and a vibrant university system.

The proposed \$50 million cut to the University of Alaska as recommended by the House Finance University of Alaska Subcommittee will cripple our University and cause long-term damage to our state. The university's mission and responsibility to Alaskans is to provide teaching, research and service-- you can't separate them. It is an economic engine for the state.

Please only pass SB 174, "An Act relating to the regulation of firearms and knives by the University of Alaska," if you are willing to also introduce a bill that allows Alaskans to carry concealed weapons into the Alaska State Capitol Building and legislative information offices. Please do not ask your constituents to put their own personal safety at risk unless you are willing to do the same yourself. As an employee of the University, this bill greatly concerns me, my co-workers and many students.

In closing, I want to thank you for your service to Alaska. It is not an easy job and I can appreciate the tough decisions that must be made ahead. Please don't wait to solve our budget crisis, we can't afford to wait another year.

Sincerely,

Michelle Renfrew
Life-long Alaskan