

State Of Alaska Legislative Affairs Agency Kenai LIO 145 Main St Lp, Ste 217 Kenai, AK 99611 907-283-2030

Date:02/18/16
Please accept the enclosed original(s) of written testimony for the teleconference hearing that was scheduled onSB139
A copy of this testimony was transmitted to your committee via email on02/18/16
Thank You,
Kenai I IO

February 18, 2016

Dear Alaskan Legislator:

Please consider the following suggestions to bring State spending under control. I urge you to take bold steps to reign in the inflated State budget. My suggestions are as follows;

- 1. Cut the State Budget to 2000-2004 levels. Reduce each department back to that level of funding.
- 2. Cut the University of Alaska budget to 2000-2004 levels. Close about twelve of the campuses in small communities.
- 3. Repeal SB21. Repeal all oil and gas tax credits. Impose a production tax per barrel of oil produced. Big oil lobbyists have hoodwinked Alaska and this must stop.
- 4. Impose a tax on natural gas in the ground of the big three. The tax should be at least \$500 million per year until a gas line is built. It is our gas and Big Oil must pay for their failure to bring it to market.
- 5. Impose a tax on each commercially caught fish by species. Impose a tax on all sport caught fish per box or cooler shipped out of state. Tax all charter fishing services.
- 6. Release from prison all low level drug offenders and nonviolent crime offenders. Place them on home arrest with ankle bracelet monitoring which they will pay for.
- 7. Stop the Defined Benefit Pension system for all newly hired Alaskan Judges. The unfunded liability is \$59 million. It is completely unfair to all other state employees who are under a Defined Payment Pension with a 401K. This will save money over time.
- 8. Revamp the Alaska Permanent Fund. Provide for all interested Alaskans a onetime only cash out from the Permanent Fund. Each person who elects the one time cash option of \$20,000 will not be eligible for the annual permanent fund dividend again. Those citizens who elect to stay in the annual dividend program may do so but will not receive a cash out option ever again. This cash out plan will stimulate the Alaskan economy. It will reduce the damage from job losses (See 1 and 2 above) in the State government and the private sector economy. This cash out option will remove the yearly arguments about the use of the fund by reducing the number of applicants by at least sixty percent.

In conclusion, I ask that as an elected official you consider the ordinary working Alaskan. The big corporations have controlled politics in Alaska too long. Remember who you work for. The bloated State budget must be cut drastically. The free ride for the oil companies must end now. Take bold steps to eliminate the deficit. Stop the foolish accounting of new oil, old oil, credits, and incentives. Do not touch the Permanent Fund for state government operation. Do not impose income taxes on working Alaskans while the oil companies pay nothing for our oil. I ask for your leadership and support on implementing these suggestions. Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Rice 907-262-1540 Post Office Box 4063 Soldotna, Alaska 99669 jimbob@gci.net