From: karinbodony@exede.net
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public Radio Funding

Date: Tuesday, March 08, 2016 1:08:19 PM

Good afternoon,

I am writing to ask you to consider restoring funding for Public Radio in Alaska. In rural communities of Alaska, Public Radio is a central part of community life. Through Public Radio we receive national, state and local news. It is a vital tool for communicating information related to hunting and fishing, including openings and closures, and important public health and safety information related to things like wildfires and floods. In much of Alaska there are areas where there is no cell phone coverage, and people rely on their radio to get information. Our Public Radio station also shares important community events, including basketball games, dog races, and other activities that connect us to people in surrounding villages.

Unless you have spent time in rural Alaska, it can be difficult to comprehend how vital the radio still is in these communities. Please take this into consideration while working on the budget for the coming fiscal year. I understand that you are facing huge difficulties and must make difficult choices, but I do not believe a 100 percent cut to Public Radio funding should be one of those choices.

Respectfully,

Karin Bodony

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