

From: [Sen. Anna MacKinnon](#)
To: [Senate Finance Committee](#)
Subject: FW: Restore all FY17 State Grant Funding for Public Broadcasting!
Date: Tuesday, March 08, 2016 1:04:37 PM

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Sent: Tuesday, March 08, 2016 12:10 PM
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Subject: Restore all FY17 State Grant Funding for Public Broadcasting!

Dear Alaska Senate,

I am a loyal fan of public/community radio bringing community news and also alerting listeners in ways to help our community. Please do not take this away from our communities.

Secure/Preserve emergency response and local voices

- We understand the tough choices that the Governor and legislature face due to the financial crisis of the State of Alaska. The Governor has included in the FY17 budget, a 27% cut to public broadcasting.
- KNBA is the official 'Local Primary 2' station in Anchorage and Mat-Su area. In emergency situations and in the event the first station is unable to broadcast emergency alert communications, KNBA will be relied upon to do this. This is out of the nearly 30 radio stations in our market. KNBA and other public stations have the technical infrastructure to disseminate emergency information. While internet and cell service maybe available, these can be unreliable in times of emergency and unaffordable to economically disadvantaged and elderly. The KNBA emergency alert system is key to the welfare and safety to Alaska largest city and local vicinity.
- 100% cut will cause serious financial instability for KNBA, our network of stations and the daily Native news service. Stations airing our National Native News programming will no longer be able to provide this to their communities. The loss of state funding will severely impact KNBA's ability to administer and attract an additional 25% of

federal matching dollars. The daily Native news service and the Native Voice 1 distribution service could lose additional tens of thousands federal matching dollars.

- Broadcast of Yup'ik, Inupiaq and Tlingit language programming would not be available in the Anchorage area and throughout the state, where young Alaskan's are striving to find connection with their identity.
- Commercial broadcasters and other media do not invest the resources to produce daily productions with local Alaska Native voices as only KNBA does.
- KNBA will not be able to recoup the loss of \$108,000 State of Alaska grant with local resources or federal grants and more remote villages with no cash economy would not have a public safety outlet.