

From: [Sharon Neth](#)
To: [Senate Finance Committee](#)
Subject: proposed cuts in Alaska's Public Broadcasting
Date: Tuesday, March 08, 2016 9:08:43 AM

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I am greatly concerned over the proposed 100% cuts to Alaska's Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

I have lived in Bethel for over thirty years. We do not and never have had cable in our home. Public Broadcasting is the only way we can keep up on what is happening locally, in our region, throughout our state, our nation, and our world, with information presented in a clear, non-biased format. We also savor the quality of the programming, which includes PBS Newshour, Masterpiece Theatre, Nova, Front Line, The American Experience, among others. When my sons were younger, they watched a Nova program on trebuchets, and proceeded to construct one out of Legos that actually worked! I was finding small Lincoln logs and other "canons" that they'd been firing under furniture for weeks afterwards! One of those sons is now a mechanical engineer. The other, who watched Rob Ross paint "happy little clouds" every day after school as a young boy, is now a talented, world renown graphic artist, with gig posters in museums in Moscow, Russia and Havana, Cuba. He also has public sculptures in Bethel and Anchorage. Both of these sons live in Anchorage and continue to listen to the public radio programming they grew up listening to in our home. Because of this, they are knowledgeable about, and very concerned about what happens locally, statewide, and nationally; and go to the polls to vote faithfully. PBS has been and continues to be very important to our family, and our sons are an example of the investment Alaska has put into Public Broadcasting.

If we lost Public Broadcasting, those of us in Rural Alaska would lose our connection to important events that all Alaskans should be aware of; and we would be less educated in current events, science, and history. For those living in villages around us, the negative impact would be even more. Our local public radio station, KYUK, is critical to all of us in this area.

Please DO NOT eliminate Public Broadcasting from our state.

Sincerely,

Sharon Neth

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