

Dear Senators and Representatives,

As an Alaskan I am deeply concerned about the Senate's proposal to defund the University beyond the cuts already requested by Governor Walker. I understand that the State faces an acute budget crisis, but this seems like an unproductive way to solve the problem. The University is a critical component to the quality of life in this state. It is a major employer, a unique institute for higher education, and a binding part of the communities surrounding it. I fear the proposed reduction of funding will debilitate the University beyond what even the State intends.

I am ready and willing to consider a state tax of some form or another in order to retain a healthy University. The University is what brought me to the state of Alaska, I was an employee for a period of time before finding work in the private sector, and as an alumni I have continued to enjoy taking classes there.

All representatives in the House and Senate need to think carefully about the dangers of cutting the University this deeply. Such acts could have negative ramifications to the economy that out-weigh any savings to the budget. As an active voter I will be playing close attention the votes of all representatives and Senators on this issue.

Sincerely,

Anna Ramsburgh