

**From:** [math](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Cutting Public Broadcasting?  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 08, 2016 10:04:18 AM

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To whom it may concern:

I have recently heard of proposals to cut funding to Alaska public broadcasting. As an Alaskan, I would like to express that I am **strongly against** any measures to further defund such valuable state entities.

I know that we are facing very difficult financial times, and all areas are essentially subject to scrutiny and potential cuts -- some more than others. Completely removing funding to any program that is widely used is always dangerous, but it's especially dangerous when it's a force as integral to Alaskan communities as public broadcast. Alaskans are, on average, far more cut off than any other Americans. Many of us live on islands or off the roadways, and many of our nearest neighboring cities or towns are hundreds of miles away. It can indeed be expensive to broadcast material across these divides, but sometimes it's all we have. It's important that Alaskans remain connected to the community through news and other broadcasting.

I live in Sitka, and not only is the radio vital for relaying important national news, it's also responsible for reporting on local activities. Even more than this, though, it's vital in creating and supporting community activities.

I strongly urge you to reconsider any efforts to further cut funding to Alaska public broadcasting.

My sincerest gratitude,  
-Math Trafton