

From: [Jessica Belanger](#)
To: [Senate Finance Committee](#)
Subject: Alaska state cut recommendations
Date: Tuesday, March 08, 2016 2:54:33 PM

Good afternoon,

As an Alaskan resident in Wasilla I see lots of fraud and misuse of State benefits. A good way to fix the budget is if we implement limits and restrictions for benefits.

For example the state has recently made the food stamps have a work requirement to work X amount of hours or only get 3 free months. This is only takes affect in Anchorage but it should be applied to other big cities like Wasilla and Fairbanks. There should be limited items you can buy on food stamps. They should not be wasting money on energy drinks, candy, and nonessential foods.

Also why is the state paying for people's rent and utilities continuously? This program should have time limit like other cash assistance and clients should relenquish their PFD if they have the state pay their way. We should do away with PFD hold harmless and make the money countable to public assistance programs. If a family receives thousands of dollars from PFD they should budget and use it for their food, housing, and personal needs. Not rely on public assistance.

Instead of cutting the senior benefits there should be more requirements. For example clients should meet the 5 year bar that all other programs have for being an American citizen and they should be Alaskan residents that stay in Alaska. Not come and go from the lower 48. If they can afford to go on extended vacations they don't need public assistance.

Thank you for your time if you have any questions please call me at 232-6006,

Jessica Belanger