From: <u>Levitation 49</u>

**To:** <u>Senate Finance Committee</u>

Subject: Do NOT cut funding for Public Radio Date: Tuesday, March 08, 2016 1:54:00 PM

Dear Sen. Dunleavy and Finance Committee,

Please do NOT eliminate state funding for pubic radio. KCHU is the lifeblood of the community here in Valdez and the Copper River Basin. They cover important stories and disseminate information about news, people as well as local and statewide initiatives that matter to our community in ways we cannot otherwise get such information.

Our other media outlets do not go into the depth and provide context like KCHU. If they went away it would be a serious blow to engaging and critical debate and information sharing in our area and even across the state since AK Public Media sometimes rebroadcasts the fine stories KCHU produces.

Please do NOT cut funding to public radio. We all need the best informed electorate and citizenry to help us all chart a new course through the current fiscal challenges and create a path forward to a brighter future for Alaska.

Thanks for your time and consideration.

Lee Hart

**Executive Director** 

Levitation 49

P.O. Box 1783 Valdez, AK 99686