From: <u>Brittany Pope</u>

To: Senate Finance Committee

Subject: FW: Senate Finance Committee Public Testimony Requested on FY2017 Operating Budget

Date: Tuesday, March 08, 2016 4:03:53 PM
Attachments: SFY17 Senior Budget Reductions Senate.pdf

Cuts to the Senior grants could be detrimental to our senior population which is only increasing in Alaska. In rural areas such as Ketchikan, we struggle providing services to seniors due to limited resources. The SDS department is cutting back on the amount of hours and eligibility is becoming more hard to attain, creating hardships. Families are going without services to help them with their loved ones. I believe that we are doing a disservice to our senior population. We are all going to be in that boat one day and I would hope there are services available for us. I believe that if there are other funding sources we can allocate those resources to serve more seniors.

Thank you so much,

**Britt Pope**