From: <u>Sarah Carter</u>

To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Best Beginnings Alaska

Date: Monday, March 30, 2015 10:04:22 PM

My name is Sarah Carter and I am a single mother. For me money is tight and I look forward to receiving a new book for my son every month.

Before receiving books from Best Beginnings my son did not show any interest in books. After I started receiving new and different books every month from Best Beginnings, I found a book my son showed interest in-"Your Kind of Mommy" by. Marjorie Blain Parker

Eventually he started showing interest in more than that one book. It's been several months now and he loves several of the books we have received from Best Beginnings.

I understand that the state needs to make cuts but I beg of you not to cut programs that deal with the children of our city and our state.

They need to have the chance to learn and imagine. Without books, the written word will die. Our children will never be able to utilize their imagination to the fullest capacity.

Without this service I may have never found the one book that sparked my son's interest in reading books.

I cherish the time my son sits in my lap and I can read to him. I cherish the smile on his face with the turn of every page. I truly look forward every month to receiving a new book every month because I know that it's possibly another book I can enjoy with my son.

Seeing the smile on his face is one of the best things in my life and if something as simple as reading a book makes him smile then I would be a fool not to. Please do not take that joy away from me and other parents like myself.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.

Sincerely, Sarah Carter