From: <u>Lisa Wells</u>

To: Senate Finance Committee

Subject: HB72

Date: Monday, March 30, 2015 10:39:50 PM

I am writing to encourage you to continue to fund Best Beginnings and the Imagination Library. My kids love receiving their books. Every time we check the mail, my kids pipe up from the back seat, "Did we get books?! Did we get books?!"

Getting kids excited about reading early means they enter kindergarten with a positive mindset. That positive mindset makes learning easier, and the child more successful. That early success in the classroom in turn reinforces that positive mindset. Every friend of mine who is an elementary school teacher says the number one thing that prepares kids for school is whether or not their parents read to them. If we want to make educating our children easier and less costly, we need to invest early. The Imagination Library is a program we should be expanding, not cutting.

Sincerely, Lisa Wells 3309 North Shore Drive Anchorage, AK 99502

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone