

From: [Kimberly Szczatko](#)
To: [Senate Finance Committee](#)
Subject: Public Radio Funding
Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 10:09:22 AM

I am writing in regard to public radio funding, specifically KSTK public radio in Wrangell, Alaska. KSTK is the only radio station that serves our area with an emergency alert system, local news and information, entertainment, and sports announcing for our local high school. A severe cut in our funding would lead to layoffs, which will hurt our local economy that is still struggling to cope with the loss of the timber industry. Please reconsider your stance on cuts to Public Radio as it affects every small town in Alaska.

A 100% cut in State funding would mean:

- Elimination of all news and informational services. If KSTK cut 100% of its current programming, that would only account for 1/3 of the amount the Senate is proposing to cut. KSTK currently spends \$42,000 annually on all programming. If KSTK cut *every* program including all NPR, all APRN and all other programs from Prairie Home Companion to National Native News, it would not come close to the \$137,000 loss.
- Layoffs will lead to loss of federal funding. The CPB funds KSTK as a level "C" station. Reduction of even half of one position would change our status. *Best* case scenario - if KSTK reduces employees it would result in a minimum of \$19,000 cut in funding from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.
- Loss of Wrangell's Emergency Alert System. KSTK is Wrangell's LP1, or Local Primary that provides Wrangell with the Emergency Alert System to tell citizens what to do in the event of an emergency.
- Inability to recoup lost revenue from our service area.
- KSTK shuts down after decades of service.

Kimberly Szczatko, M.S.Ed.
Tech Prep Regional Coordinator
University of Alaska Southeast
11120 Glacier Highway
Juneau, Alaska 99801
Phone: 907.796.6427
Fax: 907.796.6571
kszczatko@uas.alaska.edu
www.uas.alaska.edu/techprep

"Success isn't just about what you accomplish in your life.
It's about what you inspire others to do."