

Operating Budget Public Testimony: Public Broadcasting System

Doniece Gott

From: Michael Wald <michael@arcticwild.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 12:34 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Cc: Rep. Sam Kito; Sen. Dennis Egan
Subject: Public Broadcasting Senate Bill 22

Dear Legislators

I live in rural Alaska and believe in a strong and active democracy. An informed populace is critical to democracy and State and Local news are important in creating an educated public. Please fund public broadcasting so that small towns and villages across the state will continue to have access to local news and information.

Clearly Alaska needs to make some hard choices about expenditures but Public Broadcasting serves a great need for relatively little cost.

Thank you for taking the time to read my email. I hope you will fully fund Public Radio in Alaska.

Michael Wald
Co-owner Arctic Wild
Michael@arcticwild.com
907-479-8203
www.arcticwild.com

Doniece Gott

From: Donald Poling <donpoling@aptalaska.net>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 11:24 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: SB22 - Don't cut funding for public media

I'm from Haines, Alaska and our only radio station, which serves Haines, Klukwan and Skagway, would be totally cut off if public radio funds are not renewed. We depend on public radio as one of the means by which we remain in touch with each other in our communities. - Dr. Don Poling, Haines, Alaska. 907-766-2065

Doniece Gott

From: Bockmon <bockmon@gci.net>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 11:20 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Cc: Sen. Mia Costello
Subject: Public Media

I am appalled that the Senate is proposing zero funding for public broadcasting and a significant cut to satellite, which will effectively ending management of the Alaska Rural Communications Service and Satellite Infrastructure system.

Alaska public broadcasting provides vital free over-the-air and online non-commercial public service programming and community-based services to unserved and underserved audiences throughout Alaska.

You keep ignoring the fact that there are services provide by the state government that Alaskans want and are willing to pay for. I make a significant personal donation to Alaska Public Media, but state support is critical to the system across the state. I want it funded and I am willing to pay for it through reduced PFDs and an income tax.

Julia Bockmon

Alaska, Anchorage

Doniece Gott

From: Candace Cahill <candace_cahill@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 11:15 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: SB 22

March 16, 2017

I am writing in support of funding for Public Broadcasting in Alaska. The proposed cut to funding currently under consideration in the Alaska State Legislature would have devastating effects, specifically on many rural areas. In addition, it would eradicate the access to our state government through the current coverage of our State Legislative sessions.

As a resident of Skagway, the only radio station available to me is KHNS, local public radio. It provides up-to-date and accurate information about everything from weather forecasts and road closures to community events and NPR programming.

Our local PBS station is one of the few local stations available to everyone. There is even evidence to suggest that the educational fare on public television for children is considerably more beneficial than that being offered by the private sector: just try to compare Sesame Street to Toddlers & Tiara's or Power Rangers!

Thank you for your consideration.

Candace Cahill
Skagway, Alaska
907-983-6675

Doniece Gott

From: tamar harrison <tidaldrift@outlook.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 11:03 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: SB22 - Don't cut funding to public media

Hello,

I live in Skagway, and I'm writing to ask you not to cut funding to public radio. I understand that this is part of a larger bill, and that our state has major financial issues, but our radio station is an essential part of our community. It provides emergency info, road conditions and weather etc, but it also helps to knit us all together, in our small towns but also to the wider nation and world, through news and commentary. Please reconsider and do not cut funding to our beloved public radio. Thank you Tamar Harrison

Doniece Gott

From: James Alborough <james@bearstar.net>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 11:01 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Cc: Rep. Sam Kito; Sen. Dennis Egan
Subject: SB22 - Don't cut funding to public media

Dear Lawmakers,

I would like to voice my support for continued funding of public media. Our local station, KHNS.org, is our sole source of daily news and public affairs programming. Like many Alaskans, we don't have TV or any other news source besides our public radio station and therefore funding this critical communications channel is very important.

Thank you for your consideration,
James Alborough, Haines Alaska.

James Alborough
907-766-2082

Doniece Gott

From: Brenda Campen <bcampen1562@icloud.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 11:19 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee; Sen. Bert Stedman; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Mike Dunleavy; Sen. Anna MacKinnon; Sen. Donny Olson; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Pete Kelly
Subject: funds for public broadcasting

Dear Senators:

I understand that the Senate Finance Subcommittee has proposed to zero out funding for Alaska public broadcasting and to make a large cut to satellite funds. Please, NO. I use both APRN and Alaska Public Media every single day. I also support it by annual contributions. I live both in Sitka and Angoon, and find the service of public broadcasting essential for news and weather, but also for helping to bind communities of the region together. The satellite connections allow small communities to connect and stay engaged economically, socially, and culturally. KCAW-FM in Sitka is a model for the best of community/regional broadcasting. My young adult children live in remote locations in SE Alaska and are engaged in commercial fishing and resource conservation. They have grown up with, and rely on, the news, weather, economic reports, interviews, assembly meeting broadcasts.....it's much more than listening to music! When they are off-shore with no WiFi signal, the consistency of a radio signal is critical.

Those living in the urban/suburban areas of Alaska have more options, and may not understand the importance of public broadcasting, and see the cuts as an reasonable way to reduce state expenditures. I will continue to support public broadcasting, but with the rising cost of living and the other cuts in state and federal funding, many are not able to continue or increase their support. There is a role for the state to play in this, and with the proposed cuts on the national level of funds for public broadcasting, science, arts, health care, Alaska can be a model for other states to follow in maintaining its public broadcasting support. We use it. We need it.

I know that Alaska is in a fiscal crisis. I support revenue options such as an income tax, sales tax, and a cap on the PFD. I will do my part. Please, do yours, and continue funding for Alaska Public Media.

Sincerely,
Brenda Campen

Doniece Gott

From: J. Gwen Kennedy Ph. D. <gwen@gkennedy.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:43 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska Public Media funding

Dear Senators,

Public media in Alaska is more significant than anywhere else, due to our geography and extensive rural reach. Our role in early childhood education, public safety, and creating informed and civil discussion is vital now more than ever in our State's current political and economic environment.

- 1) We provide early childhood education with PBS Kids programming 24/7 and *In My Family*, providing families and children the educational foundation that research shows they need to be successful in their lifetime.
- 2) Our radio and TV stations are an essential part of the early warning system and provide timely updates on weather and road conditions in Anchorage and the Mat-Su.
- 3) Our news reporters, call-in talk shows, and State elections programs, *Running and Debate for the State*, provide a way for our legislators and other elected officials to connect to voters and 96% of our Alaska population on critical matters facing our State.

Over the last two years the Alaska public broadcasting system has incurred state cuts of over 35%. Alaska Public Media worked with our 25 radio station partners to help reduce their costs and in some cases, keep them on the air. We have reduced operating costs on the television side through collaborations with Juneau and Bethel. More cuts will put the whole system at risk. Zeroing it out of the budget will cripple the system.

Public media plays an important role in our present fiscal and economic challenges and in creating informed and successful citizens of the future. Reinstate funding for public media.

Respectfully,

Gwen Kennedy
Alaska Public Media Board President

J. Gwen Kennedy, PhD.
2421 Hastings Lane
Anchorage, AK 99504
907-337-4562
gwen@gkennedy.com

Doniece Gott

From: Kay Clements <gm@khns.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:34 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Cc: Rep. Sam Kito; Sen. Dennis Egan
Subject: SB22 - Don't cut funding for public media

KHNS is situated in Haines serving Skagway, Haines and Klukwan - all three of them are small communities at the top of the Lynn Canal. Our residents depend on this radio station as their source of emergency broadcasting, weather and road conditions and all things local. Communication is vital - *there is no other source*. This is a public safety and information issue.

Please approve funding for public broadcasting proposed by Governor Walker and the House.

Kay Clements

KHNS General Manager

907-766-2020 x.3

PO Box 1109

Haines, AK 99827

gm@khns.org

Lovalaska
Pick.Click.Give.

Doniece Gott

From: Steven Hunt <huntsteven@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:31 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: No cuts, please

Please do not cut funding for Alaska public broadcasting. It provides much needed information to many people in our state. It is the only media I listen to and watch because it is the only media that is balanced and intelligent.

Thank you.

Steven Hunt
Anchorage, AK

Doniece Gott

From: Brad Owens <bowensak@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:19 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Cuts to Alaska Public Media broadcast network funding

I urge you **not** to **cut** funding to the Alaska Public Media network.

This vital public network reaches 97% of Alaskans over 24 local stations throughout Alaska.

It is supported by 8,030 members who contribute to maintain the operation of the 24 local broadcast stations in Alaska.

Alaska Public Media also has more than 200 sponsors.

Brad Owens
2207 Belair Drive
Anchorage AK 99517

Doniece Gott

From: sherry <sherrycorrington@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:10 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: No on 22

Please veto sb22 and any other bill that threatens to cut the source of assistance for public radio which is the lifeline to rural communities. Try taxing the oil corporations instead for a change.

Sherry Corrington
Skagway Alaska

Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Marybee Kaufman <marybeeart@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:05 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Do not cut funding to the Alaska Public Media

To::
Finance.Committee@akleg.gov
Dear Alaska Senators:

Today, the Senate Finance Subcommittee chose to zero out the budget for Alaska Public Media. I realize that Alaska faces a major budget shortfall and must make difficult fiscal choices, however, as part of the Alaska public broadcasting community, Alaska Public Media provides free over-the-air and online non-commercial public service programming and community-based services to unserved and underserved audiences throughout Alaska.

I live 30 miles from the nearest village and it is the Alaska Public Media that keeps me in touch with the people and events and communities that make Alaska strong and resilient.

Please reconsider this catastrophic budget cut as I believe Alaska Public Media provides a vital service to the people of Alaska.

Thank you for your consideration,

Mary Bee Kaufman

P.O.Box 226

Cantwell, Alaska 99729

Doniece Gott

From: Jessica Flickinger <jessica_flickinger@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:00 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska Public Media

Alaska Public Media is an essential part of life in many places in rural Alaska. Living in Bethel, we depend on KYUK as one of our few radio stations for vital news and community stories. As a parent, I also consider PBS to be such important programming for my children (and myself). Please stand with rural Alaskans and our families to consider funding this valuable resource.

Jessica Flickinger
Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Linda Isaac <linda-yoga@live.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 9:42 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: State Support for Alaska Public Broadcasting

Dear Finance Committee Members,

I realize the difficult decisions during this trying budget era. Not enough funds for the essentials.

I implore you to look further at the role of public media for an informed citizenry and its role in important communication functions like emergency broadcasting.

Public media, the ARC and the satellite system are essential for all Alaskans to be connected. The major market stations are able to raise funds for 93% of their expenses, however small, rural stations are not. The children in these communities deserve commercial-free, educational programming, and their families life-long-learning opportunities through free media.

Thank you for your consideration.

Linda Isaac

2515 Susitna Drive

Anchorage, AK 99517

Doniece Gott

From: Shona Wilson <sewilson37@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 9:39 AM
To: Sen. Pete Kelly; Sen. Anna MacKinnon; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Mike Dunleavy; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Donny Olson; Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Please do not cut funding to Alaska Public Media

Hello,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Anchorage, one of your constituents. I listen to Alaska public media daily to keep me up to date with what's going on locally in my community and to learn about issues facing the state at large. Alaska is often forgotten by the main stream media and I rely on not for profit media to keep me informed. I love listening with my son to Raven to learn the Native word of the day.

Getting daily updates on the Iditarod would never happen in the national media. Please don't cut this service!

Shona Mull

2902 Wesleyan Dr

Anchorage, AK 99508

Doniece Gott

From: Thomas Moore <tlmooreak907@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 9:37 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public media funding

I've recently heard that there is a proposal to cut all funding for public media in Alaska. I'm writing not only to announce my opposition to this but also to inform you of the dangers of this cut

First off, there are small communities that rely solely on public funded media sources like radio and TV news. If funding is cut, they may lose access and be completely cut off from receiving vital information

Secondly, the United States, Alaska, and any governed community really absolutely needs public media. Publicly funded news organizations are vital for providing factual, unbiased news information to the people. Without that we will be in danger of more propaganda from news companies who try to produce stories with a biased spin, rather than information that is universally factual.

Please do not cut funding for public media, and don't support this measure. The press is one of the most crucial elements in the US constitution, and we need it more than ever.

Thank you,

Thomas Moore

Regarding Senate Bill 22 on March 16, 2017:

To the Senate Finance Committee Regarding Budget Cuts to Public Broadcasting

I oppose cutting the funds to Public Broadcasting, specifically Public Radio. In rural settings, which is to say most of Alaska, Public Radio is a lifeline for emergency broadcasting, essential weather services, and news from the local to international level. In the fjords of Southeast Alaska, where I live, we have a radio station that reaches our community and outlying areas. There are no commercial stations. Not everyone can afford internet access or cable. But in the case of emergencies a tsunami warning, or escaped prisoner or lockdown at the schools, KFSK can reach everyone and it has in the recent past.

Last 4th of July there was a fatal car accident downtown. Traffic was halted in and out of town as EMT's struggled to save lives. All the festivities were cancelled as the community gathered to mourn. KFSK was able to keep the community updated about traffic diversions, where people could gather and how they could help. This was extremely helpful to police and EMTs and the devastated people of our community. KFSK is the "official voice" in times of emergency.

This is not an isolated incident. I remember tsunami warnings where the radio station broadcast live updates throughout the night. Then there was the escaped prisoner running through town...the lockdown at the school and at the hospital.

Then on an everyday basis, there are the marine forecasts, the report on road conditions in winter, the live assembly meetings, school board meetings. Talk of Alaska is a statewide call-in program. Political debates and speeches are broadcast. This keeps residents informed.

Public radio is the backbone of communication in our community. There is cell phone service, but it does not reach everywhere, and fails regularly. In those places, people can still get radio service though. Cable television and satellite radio do not broadcast news or emergency information of local relevance.

KFSK has pared down expenses as much as it can, with reductions in staff, increased automation and shared services, like engineering and bookkeeping. What remains is a vital service with a record amount of local support. That local support is not enough to pay the whole bill. We need the State money to keep Public radio going. It is a lifeline here in rural Alaska. Don't cut it off.

Julie Hursey

Petersburg, Alaska

Doniece Gott

From: Chris Grabowski <crgak@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 9:32 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Senate Bill 22

I am writing you to request that you oppose cutting funding for Alaska public broadcasting.

I am a volunteer DJ at KTNA and I know that public radio is a vital lifeline for our communities.

Please continue to fund public broadcasting.

thank you,

*Chris Grabowski
Talkeetna, AK*

US Citizen & registered voter

Doniece Gott

From: Ms. Nelle <nellegreene@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 12:18 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: SB22 - Don't cut funding for public media

We in rural Alaska depend on our radio station for *emergency bulletins*, as well as news and entertainment. You will be cutting a lifeline for us if we don't have our radio station -- KHNS. Already, our community (~2,500 residents) gives over \$60,000 to help defray costs. We cannot fund it 100%.

Do not take away our vital source.

Cordially,
Nelle Jurgeleit-Greene
PO Box 515
Haines, AK 99827

Doniece Gott

From: Yvonne Granger <ymgranger@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 12:17 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: public boradcasting

Please do not eliminate funding from public broadcasting. Here in Alaska (my zip is 99827) we heavily rely on our public radio station for up to the minute info on the roads, ferries, etc. It is a very important component to our public safety. They have a bare bones budget as it is, and cutting/eliminating funding would throttle them and other small town stations across the state.

Thank you
Yvonne Granger
Haines, AK

Doniece Gott

From: Kip Kermoian <alaskakip@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 12:11 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Cc: Rep. Sam Kito; Sen. Dennis Egan
Subject: Senate Bill 22

Dear Committee Members,

We encourage you to vote "NO" on Senate Bill 22; Public Media has become THE MOST ESSENTIAL means for Alaskan communities to be aware of often time-critical public safety issues, providing non-commercial news, information and public service programming statewide. It keeps us informed about critical issues in both state and federal arenas so that we can participate in policy conversations, such as this one - a right that should be encouraged, if our democracy is to thrive.

Non-commercialized information and communication is a critical to foster independent thought away from the political will of only those, an ever shrinking consortium of wealthy individuals and corporations, who control non--public media.

We respectfully ask that you consider the long-term implications of silencing such a critical public service and vote "NO" on Senate Bill 22

Sincerely,

Kip & Patty Kermoian

Doniece Gott

From: Theresa Wirak <theresawirak@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 12:06 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: SB22 - Don't cut funding for public media

Dear Finance Committee,

I am a resident in Haines, Alaska. I depend on public radio for information regarding weather conditions, ferry schedules, and communicating with other community members. I and hundreds of other Alaskans depend on public radio for a reliable news source. Do what is right for Alaskans and do not cut funding for public media. Please increase funding for public media!

Thank you for your time,

Theresa Wirak

po box 1744
Haines, AK
99827

Doniece Gott

From: Beth Bolander <beeth_1969@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 12:00 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public radio

Hello,

I am a registered nurse living in Haines, and working in Juneau. I rely very heavily on the ferry system and public radio for information about the ferry system. I also rely on my local radio station for state, local, national and international news.

Please fund public radio!!

Beth Bolander

Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Scott Miller <scottysusan@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 2:49 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public radio funding

I am informed that there is a proposal to eliminate all funding for public radio in Alaska. This would be a disaster for us. Public radio is so important, especially in Alaska. It is where we turn in times of disaster(think about earthquakes, fires and floods - all of which happen to us). We depend on the unbiased news and information especially local news and info. The local connection would not exist in most of Alaska without public radio.
Please don't take it away.

Doniece Gott

From: John Faunce <fauncejr@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 6:32 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska Public Media

Dear Finance Committee Members, I have been an Alaska resident for the past 18 years and have recently retired from the University of Alaska Anchorage. I am very much aware of how valuable public media is to all Alaskans, and have personally been a donor for many years. However, I also realize that donations from myself and others are simply not enough to allow Alaska Public Media to cover our entire state without some support from the State. Although I appreciate the significant budgetary challenges you are faced with, I urge you not to reduce or eliminate the funding to this critical service to our State. Thanks much, John Faunce Anchorage, Ak

Sent by Snail eMail 

Doniece Gott

From: Maureen Knutsen <maureen.knutsen@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 6:28 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public broadcasting funding

Dear Finance Committee members,

I am writing to ask that you reinstate funding for public broadcasting.

This is an essential service for rural Alaska communities in Bristol Bay where I live and around the state.

KDLG in Dillingham, our public radio station, serves a large area with many small communities by providing local news and weather (including marine weather).

In the summertime, we depend on KDLG for fishing announcements and other information when we are out on fishing boats and in set-net camps.

The proposed cut could threaten stations' eligibility for federal funding and besides the loss of a critical source of information, local communities would lose local jobs, resulting in a negative economic impact to those communities.

I have been depending on KDLG since 1976. Besides being a listener, I am a monthly donor and serve on the station's advisory board. This station is an integral part of our communities in Bristol Bay and beyond.

I hope that you can find a way to continue funding public broadcasting, which is a small budget item with an outsized impact in small rural communities.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Maureen Knutsen
PO Box 134
Naknek, AK 99633
907-246-6675

Doniece Gott

From: Jim Welch <jwelch666@cs.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 6:15 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: enough cutting

"The Senate Finance Subcommittee closed out their budget today. They propose to zero out all funding for Alaska public broadcasting and cut the satellite funds by \$160,000, effectively ending management of the Alaska Rural Communications Service and Satellite Infrastructure system."

This is just not right! It's too important for the minimal savings realized. Same with more cuts to the University. Enough trying to solve the deficit with cuts alone. Additional revenue is what we need, even if it's income tax.

Jim Welch
15536 Husky St.
Eagle River, AK 99577

Doniece Gott

From: Cindy Lelake <lakecindy60@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 5:58 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: No cuts to Alaska Public Media, please!

Senators:

Alaska Public Media is an unbiased information lifeline!
Please do not cut funding for this essential service.

Respectfully,

Cindy Lelake
Anchorage

Sent from my iPad

Doniece Gott

From: Cheryl & Mark Lovegreen <lovegrn@alaska.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 5:55 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Do NOT cut public broadcasting

Just when I thought the public uproar over past proposals to cut public broadcasting would keep it safe, here's another proposed cut. We have already had the discussion about how public broadcasting helps all communities in Alaska, especially rural ones, and provides public safety functions. Please take the cuts to Alaska public broadcasting and satellite funds out of the proposed budget and leave public broadcasting as is.

Thanks for your time.

Cheryl Lovegreen

Doniece Gott

From: Tom <thsphoto@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 5:48 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public Broadcasting

Dear Committee

Please maintain all funding for public media. It is far and away the most neutral of all press agencies and deserves full funding.

Thank you for your attention.

Tom Smith

Thos. H. Smith, O.D.
2527 N Leah Circle
Wasilla, AK 99654

907.414.9996

Doniece Gott

From: Paula Payne <paula@cordovalibrary.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 5:47 PM
To: Sen. Pete Kelly; Sen. Anna MacKinnon; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Mike Dunleavy; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Donny Olson; Senate Finance Committee
Cc: Paula Payne (strongestwoman@yahoo.com)
Subject: public tv and public radio important

Dear Senators,

Public radio and TV are crucial to our culture. Public Radio and Public TV are important to all Americans, especially Alaskans! In rural Alaska public radio is often the ONLY radio station we can get.

May I repeat: In rural Alaska public radio is often the ONLY radio station we can get.

If you don't understand how important public radio and TV are please view this short video of Mister Rogers testifying before the senate subcommittee on communications for funding for Public TV at the height of the Vietnam war. It will melt your heart. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fKy7ljRr0AA>

I believe the role of government is to take care of its citizenry and preserve the culture. Government is *not* a business, nor need be run like a business.

Thank you for your time.

Paula

Paula Payne

Cultural Program Leader

Cordova Library/Museum

Cordova, Alaska 99574

907)424-6667 or 6665

Doniece Gott

From: sarah warnock <sarahewarnock@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 5:30 PM
To: Sen. Pete Kelly; Sen. Anna MacKinnon; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Mike Dunleavy; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Donny Olson; Senate Finance Committee
Subject: More cuts means job loss and longer recession

Please don't cut everything we love about Alaska - public broadcasting, education, support for salmon habitat...

I have studied the problem and like many others support taxes, tapping PFD earnings - anything but more cuts to stop job loss and loss of what I love about my home!

Thank you!
Sarah Warnock
sarahewarnock@yahoo.com

Doniece Gott

From: Patricia Abney <paabney@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 5:27 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public Broadcasting

Please fund public broadcasting. I depend on it for unbiased information to keep me an informed and active citizen in my community, state and nation.

It essential as it is the only communication some Alaskans have.

Respectfully

Pat Abney

Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Mary Weiss <mtw3211@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 4:51 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee

Surely there must be another place to cut. Public radio is my lifeline that connects me with the rest of the world and with my local community. I live in Bethel and I wake up in the morning to find out what is happening in the world. On the weekend I so enjoy listening to the public radio shows "weekend edition, the "puzzle master," "Wait Wait dont tell me" and the classical music that KYUK, my local radio station plays on Sunday evenings hosted by a local resident. There are so many good shows. Even the "Birthday show" and "Talk line" that is are local call in shows that are extremely popular. "talk line" is a great way to find out what local people are concerned about. Of all the items on the budget I believe that public radio and TV provide the most enjoyment and information to the most people per dollar. Please do not cut public radio. My understanding is that its budget was cut last year also. Do not cut public radio!

Mary Weiss

Doniece Gott

From: Carrie Given <carrie.given@galenanet.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 4:50 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Cc: KIYU
Subject: Funding for public broadcasting and satellite funding (ARCS-TV)

To Whom it May Concern,

Public broadcasting, especially public radio and ARCS-TV satellite coverage is a vital communication tool in rural Alaska. Many villages rely on this coverage as the main (or only) source of information and communication of local, state and national issues. As a republic and democratic government, it is highly important that citizens are informed of the issues in our state and country, in order to be responsible, law abiding citizens, and participate in the greater community of Alaska. Also, many communities rely on public broadcasting as a form of recreation, and relaxation. It is not a unique idea that good mental health is promoted through entertaining connections to the world around us. In the long winters of Alaska, public radio is often that link, allowing those with "cabin fever" the opportunity to explore music, educational topics, discussions, and other programs that expand the mind and link village residents to the growing world outside our cabins in the woods.

Many rural residents don't have the resources to travel to Fairbanks or Anchorage, where many of the state's competitions occur, from high school to world-wide events. It is only through public broadcasting over the radio, and through ARCS-TV that these competitions can be viewed or heard. Many elders promote these events through stories to young people; many young people have this one moment to shine on a stage larger than themselves. What a shame it would be to not have these services, which no cable, or satellite company will ever provide.

Finally, and vitally important, is the role our public broadcasting teams play in disasters and emergencies. Often the radio station, no matter where in the state, is the first link in the communication chain that allows community members, emergency responders and government officials to stay informed and connected during a catastrophe. Speaking as a resident who was part of the Galena Flood of 2013, the local radio station, by broadcasting updates and staying on the air as long as possible, was one very real reason that no one was hurt or killed, as the community worked together to save individuals and coordinate evacuations. The radio station was also vital in the recovery after the flood, providing timely information from the local, state and federal government to residents, not just in Galena, but up and down the Yukon River, as we all began the rebuilding process.

I understand that in the world of modern technology, where with the touch of a button most people can access information, entertainment and each other, it is difficult to see the value of public broadcasting such as radio and television. I can understand that as legislators fighting the budget battle, this might seem low hanging fruit, easily helping to lower the debt. But to those residents who live in a place already without many of the services urban residents take for granted, cutting the vital link of public broadcasting is a stab in the heart, a loss of connection, and a heartbreak of many magnitudes. Please fund public broadcasting, and satellite services to rural Alaska. Please continue to value the connections and communities that make this state so culturally diverse, so strong, and truly The Last Frontier.

Respectfully,

Carrie Given

Teacher

Galena City School District

Doniece Gott

From: Annette Kittleson <annette.kittleson@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 9:41 PM
To: Sen. Pete Kelly; Sen. Anna MacKinnon; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Mike Dunleavy; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Donny Olson; Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public tv

Dear Senators,
I support PBS but I can't support it alone. Along with other members we need support from the state. PBS has great educational programs that are good for our children as well as for adults. Please, with your support we can continue this valuable asset.
Respectfully,
Annette Kittleson

Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: paulrstang@gmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 9:16 PM
To: Sen. Pete Kelly; Sen. Anna MacKinnon; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Mike Dunleavy; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Donny Olson; Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska Public Media

Dear Senators,

Don't cut any funding for Alaska Public Media and don't cut any money from the satellite program.

Funding is essential for objective programming, which is sorely needed in this age of distorted facts and fake news coming from too many of our politicians. APM must continue to get full state and local funding.

Thank you

Paul Stang,

Anchorage resident

Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: paulrstang@gmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 9:15 PM
To: Sen. Pete Kelly; Sen. Anna MacKinnon; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Mike Dunleavy; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Donny Olson; Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska Public Media

Dear Senators,

Don't cut any funding for Alaska Public Media and don't cut any money from the satellite program of the:

Alaska Rural Communications Service and Satellite Infrastructure system.

Funding is essential for objective programming, which is sorely needed in this age of distorted facts and fake news coming from too many of our politicians. APM must continue to get full state and local funding so Alaskans can understand what is actually happening statewide and nationally.

Thank you.

Paul Stang,

Anchorage resident

Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Travis Sharp <travisjsharp@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 9:10 PM
To: Sen. Pete Kelly; Sen. Anna MacKinnon; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Mike Dunleavy; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Donny Olson; Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Continue Funding Alaska Public Broadcasting!

Dear Sir and Ma'am,

PLEASE vote to CONTINUE funding for Alaska Public Broadcasting. Especially in light of today's current political and media climate, we NEED educational and non discriminatory media in our lives. We have no cable news media in our home and rely on the quality of broadcasting we get through radio on Alaska Public Media. Please continue funding this important aspect of our Alaskan lives.

Sincerely,

Travis Sharp
Anchorage, AK

Doniece Gott

From: Lynden Carola <lynden.carola@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 8:42 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Please cut all public funding to AK Public Media ASAP!!

Dear Finance Committee,

I'm writing to you to request that you cut all public funding to Alaska Public Media. This is an outdated service. Right now everyone in the state can listen to any news broadcast from anywhere in the world online! We as Alaskans need to live within our means. Sometimes that means cutting programs that are no longer needed. Please stand up for working Alaskans who don't want to pay more in taxes for unneeded government programs.

Thank you.

Lynden Grothe
(907)529-3699

Doniece Gott

From: Jeanette Alas <jeanettealas@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 8:40 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee; Sen. Tom Begich
Subject: Alaska Public Broadcasting funding

Dear Senators,

I heard today that the Senate Finance Committee has proposed to cut all funding to public broadcasting in the state. This would be a detriment to Alaskans, and I urge you to reconsider. Publicly available, unbiased, and easily accessible news is a critical resource for our state. For residents of rural communities, like my former home of Unalaska, it is often the fastest and most reliable way to get crucial local, national, and international information. For many urban residents, such as myself, it is the most relied upon way for me to get my daily news. Public media makes all Alaskans better informed decision-makers. Thank you for reconsidering this funding cut. I am a huge supporter of Alaska Public Media.

Sincerely,
Jeanette Alas

Doniece Gott

From: Jourdan Shapiro <jourdan747@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 8:32 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Donny Olson; Senate Finance Committee
Subject: No cuts to PUBLIC MEDIA

As an Anchorage resident, I am asking you to please keep funding Alaska Public Media.

Thanks,
Jourdan Shapiro

Sent from my iPad

Doniece Gott

From: Robert Silva <c2silva@att.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 8:25 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: \$\$\$cutting

Don't cut funding for public broadcasting. We are a small community and public broadcasting keeps all of us linked/informed. My husband and I have contributed yearly since we arrived in Alaska in 1979, it is our 'go to station' radio/TV.

C. Silva

Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Nina Faust <fausbail@horizonsatellite.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 8:26 PM
To: Sen. Pete Kelly; Sen. Anna MacKinnon; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Mike Dunleavy; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Donny Olson; Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Re: Public Broadcasting

> On Mar 14, 2017, at 8:24 PM, Nina Faust <fausbail@horizonsatellite.com> wrote:

>

> P.O. Box 2994

> Homer AK 99603

>

> March 14, 2017

>

>

> Senate Finance Committee

> Alaska State Senate

> Juneau, AK

>

> Dear Senate Finance Committee Members:

>

> I strongly support Public Broadcasting for Alaska and the satellite network that brings Public Media as well as other stations to our rural communities. For our State to work best, we need an informed citizenry. Public Broadcasting, through Alaska Statewide News, NPR, statewide call-in programs, and all the other programming about our rural community that Alaska Public Media makes, is an important link that ties us all together.

>

> We in more urban areas on the road system learn about our rural villages through special programming on Channel 7. The rural communities get news feeds from Juneau through Gavel to Gavel. Local PBS radio stations provide state and local news that keep us informed. This is not a frivolous thing. An informed and educated electorate are better voters and participants in local communities and affairs of State.

>

> Please keep this vital service. In times of emergency, our Public Broadcasting system may be our only link to most communities. Let us not in our haste to cut every program, sever the ties that may be essential to help people in times of need.

>

> Sincerely,

>

>

>

> Nina Faust

Doniece Gott

From: Nina Faust <fausbail@horizonsatellite.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 8:24 PM
To: Sen. Pete Kelly; Sen. Anna MacKinnon; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Mike Dunleavy; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Donny Olson; Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public Broadcasting

P.O. Box 2994
Homer AK 99603

March 14, 2017

Senate Finance Committee
Alaska State Senate
Juneau, AK

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members:

I strongly support Public Broadcasting for Alaska and the satellite network that brings Public Media as well as other stations to our rural communities. For our State to work best, we need an informed citizenry. Public Broadcasting, through Alaska Statewide News, NPR, statewide call-in programs, and all the other programming about our rural community that Alaska Public Media makes, is an important link that ties us all together.

We in more urban areas on the road system learn about our rural villages through special programming on Channel 7. The rural communities get news feeds from Juneau through Gavel to Gavel. Local PBS radio stations provide state and local news that keep us informed. This is not a frivolous thing. An informed and educated electorate are better voters and participants in local communities and affairs of State.

Please keep this vital service. In times of emergency, our Public Broadcasting system may be our only link to most communities. Let us not in our haste to cut every program, sever the ties that may be essential to help people in times of need.

Sincerely,

Nina Faust

Doniece Gott

From: Judith A. James <jamesj@eou.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 9:17 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public Broadcasting

Dear Finance Committee members

My name is Judith James, resident of Homer/Kachemak City, Alaska.
I was born in the Territory and grew up on a remote homestead near Homer.

I am writing to ask the Committee to keep funding for Alaska Public Broadcasting in the Budget.

Our local Public Radio Station, KBBI, is a valuable resource and provides an important service for our community, including emergency and public safety.

Thank you for work in these difficult times.

Judith James

Doniece Gott

From: Allison Mendel <AMendel@mendelcolbert.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 7:59 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public television/radio

Do not end funding of our public media. It is essential to life in Alaska, and the cost is a very small part of the budget. Making Alaska unlivable is not a way out of our fiscal dilemma. Do you stop buying coffee when your household budget is a little tight? I will never vote for anyone who thinks this is a good idea.

Allison Mendel
Anchorage

Sent from my iPad

Doniece Gott

From: Sjlwanch@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 7:43 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: DON'T CUT PUBLIC BROADCASTING

Dear Senators,

I heavily rely on public broadcasting for reliable national and international news. But I also listen to it in order to feel part of, and learn more about, our state. I live in Anchorage, but I can't imagine what it would be like to be in the rural areas of Alaska without public broadcasting. Please do not cut public broadcasting's budget. Yes, I already donate as a sustainer to public broadcasting. And I would prefer to pay more through some form of taxation than lose what we gain from public broadcasting.

Sandra J. Wicks
3237 W. 31st Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99517
907-243-7661

***"Kindness is the language the blind can see
and the deaf can hear." - Mark Twain***

Doniece Gott

From: Penny Hlavna <alaskapenny@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 7:35 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: PBS is essential

As a man, PBS is important to me. When else could I watch things like Ken Burns the Civil War, information on new missile systems, Nature, Nova, Science for Alaska, Gavel to Gavel what's going on in Juneau, and the music specials,

Doniece Gott

From: Lynn Spence <ltakeokaspence@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 7:32 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Funding for Public Radio is important

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am a resident of Homer, Alaska and I support funding for Public Radio. In our community we receive information about weather, local, national and international news, announcements on what is going on in our community, and special needs of community members. Public radio responds to the community information needs in a way that private radio is not always motivated to do because there is not always a financial incentive. Our community uses Public Radio to make our community better and more connected. It is part of our fabric of life. Public radio connects people and that is something worth supporting.

Please keep funding for Public radio in the budget.

I am also a supported of a state income tax. I am a full time worker who has many years of work ahead of me. I support an income tax because I want the services the state helps to fund.

Sincerely,

Lynn Takeoka Spence
331 Mountain View Drive
Homer, AK 99603
907 299-6646

Doniece Gott

From: Jim Kerr <jim.the.juggler@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 7:24 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Preserve Funding for Public Broadcasting

Honorable Senators on the Finance Committee,

Please do everything you can to preserve funding for public broadcasting.

Respectfully,

O Jim Kerr, Juggler, Musician, Performer, Instructor
O o
o O 907-345-8787 h | 440-4277 c |
\ O - PO BOX 113347
\+___/ ANCHORAGE, AK 99511
v
| Gravity, not just a good idea, it's the law
^ <http://www.manofgravity.com/>
/\
/ \ jim.the.juggler@gmail.com

"The poem fails when it strays too far from the song, and the song fails when it strays too far from the dance."

Jimmie Dale Gilmore paraphrasing Ezra Pound

Doniece Gott

From: Bruce Wright <baw.csi@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 7:22 PM
To: Sen. Pete Kelly; Sen. Anna MacKinnon; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Mike Dunleavy; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Donny Olson; Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Don't cut funding to Alaska Public Media's annual operational budget

Annually, the **State investment represents 7% of Alaska Public Media's annual operational budget (FY17)**. Each year we leverage that investment and raise an additional \$4.2 million from individual donors, corporate partners, foundations and other community partnerships. We then reinvest those funds to provide state-wide television, radio and news partnerships. The only reason you would support cutting **Alaska Public Media's annual operational budget is to reduce my access to truer media report.**

Bruce Wright
Palmer, AK 99645

Doniece Gott

From: Penny Hlavna <alaskapenny@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 7:16 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: please don't destroy PBS

Having a public radio station and TV station is important to me. I am disabled and would dearly miss Things like Underground, Victoria, Nature, Neil Degrasse Tyson and info about space and the universe. And having the news from a source that is not political is especially important with the political scene today

Doniece Gott

From: Jane Gnass <janegnass@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 7:06 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: State support of Alaska Public Broadcasting

State Senate Finance Committee Members:

Public Radio is a fundamental part of my day, including my daily news and information source, delivered with intelligence and respect for humanity. Public Radio challenges me to look differently at how I view statewide and world events. It is probably the only thing I trust for news, essentially because it has less bias than almost any other news source. The arts and entertainment is intelligent and comes to life by radio. Through Public Radio, I feel a greater connection to our state community, I learn about health issues, get motivated to recreate outdoors, learn of about news events that concern Alaskans, and feel more of a kinship with the other residents in our big state, including hearing directly from fisherman on fishing issues, and hearing from rural Alaskans about their news and events. The Alaska Rural Communications Service (ARCS) is an essential part of Alaska's Public Media for our communities to connect for statewide & worldwide news and information. Removing support of this public news and information source would be a great loss to many, and a tremendous loss for the community support that Public Radio and Public Television provides.

There is literally nothing that would take the place of this important connection I have with local, federal, and worldwide current affairs, arts and information. It would leave me less informed, less connected, and possibly feeling more cut-off from life in-state and Outside. That does not bode well for a good economic future. Whether I'm sitting in my car sipping tea at a trailhead or 100 miles up the highway, waiting for the aurora to kick in, driving to get my son from school, or cooking dinner, I feel connected and educated by listening to Public Radio. Public television excels at delivering commercial-free programming for children, and science and news programs that challenge the intellect for adults and children. Children that watch public television are better off than those watching television with commercial programming.

I encourage your support of Alaska Public Radio, Alaska Public Media, and the Alaska Rural Communications Service.

Jane Gnass
Born in Alaska
State resident for over 39 years

Doniece Gott

From: Santa Claus <santaclaus@usa.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 6:54 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Cc: Kim Pigg
Subject: Support of Alaska Public Broadcasting Funding

March 14, 2017

TO: Alaska Legislature Finance Committee Members:

I'm writing in support of full level funding for Public Broadcasting throughout Alaska.

Please note that I am an Alaska Public Broadcasting Commissioner and reside in North Pole.

Our public broadcasting stations throughout Alaska provide:

Essential daily news and information at the local, regional, and state levels;
Essential local emergency health and safety information; and,
Coverage of valued community services and events that enable communities to discover and engage in art, cultural, school, and sporting activities and events.

Alaska Public Broadcasting consistently has demonstrated its ability to utilize its funding in ways that maximize results and to collaborate with and among its member stations and partners to provide the very best service and programming throughout our state -- resulting in savings related to streamlined services and utilizing shared news and program content and personnel whenever and wherever feasible. Several of our local and state-wide programs have garnered national attention, distribution, and award recognition.

Alaska state budget and service cuts to public broadcasting would result in a decrease in or elimination of federal funds for local public broadcasting stations and cause several stations to fail to meet minimum eligibility criteria for federal grants. And, such cuts would precipitate work-force reductions and loss of local jobs, compounding a marked decrease in local funding, in an already shrinking economy, and creating an inability to pay for valued program services that APRN and others currently provide.

Furthermore, any cuts to satellite funding effectively would end the use and management of the satellite system that provides statewide distribution of public broadcasting radio and television content to the ARCS system. Such cuts also would threaten the use of ARCS as an emergency communications platform statewide for all broadcasters. And, cuts would eliminate the ability to distribute public radio and television signals statewide to translators in rural communities that, otherwise, might not have any broadcast service at all.

I encourage, and trust that, you will support and maintain full level funding for Public Broadcasting throughout Alaska.

Respectfully,

Santa Claus
907-388-3836
North Pole, AK 99705-0122

Doniece Gott

From: Susan LaKonski <lakomskisusan909@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 6:35 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Please don't cut funding for public radio

Please don't cut funding for AK public radio. It provides essential services to my family.

Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Susan Cook <sbaileycCook@gci.net>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 9:47 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska Public Media funding

Alaska Public Media is vital to our community. DO NOT cut the funding! In these changing and chaotic times we need all forms of free speech and open communication more than ever before. Do not be narrow-minded.



Susan Cook, 3rd Act Consulting

Technical assistance & consultation

Specializing in healthcare business

sbaileycCook@gci.net

(907) 338-2207

Doniece Gott

From: Jody Drew <jody_drew@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 9:40 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: ARCS and KYUK funding

Dear Senator Dunleavy and all,

If you zero out funding for these critical broadcasting services you will be disproportionately harming American Indians and Alaska Natives who make up the vast majority of rural Alaskan residents. Out here in the YK Delta, we literally depend on the ARCS satellite feed and KYUK for critical news and weather information, and for our link to the wider world of news and entertainment. We have only limited broadband, and spotty cellular phone service. Sometimes the radio is our only means of connection.

While I understand the financial crisis Alaska faces, indeed I have long advocated an income tax, the benefit to our budget, of cutting out the ARCS and KYUK funding is minimal but the cost of the cut is enormous. Federal money largely provides for the operation of these public broadcast services. State money provides the minimum required to qualify for the Federal money.

Please maintain our access to public broadcasting.

Thank you,

Jody Drew

Bethel AK

(907) 545-0580

Doniece Gott

From: Brenda Knapp <bkjuneau@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 9:44 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Cc: Brenda Knapp; Sen. Dennis Egan
Subject: support funding for public broadcasting

Finance Committee Co-Chairs Hoffman and MacKinnon, and Committee Members Bishop, Dunleavy, Miccichi, von Imhof and Olson:

I urge you to support funding for public broadcasting services. Public radio and television provide critical news and educational programming as well as quality entertainment services for all Alaskans. In the rural areas these services provide a lifeline of valuable information for residents who often do not have access to other reliable high quality sources. I personally do my part by being a long time sustaining member of public broadcasting along with many other residents across our great state. We need you, our elected representatives, to assure our state does its part too by continuing funding for these vital services.

Thank you.

*Brenda Knapp
P.O.Box 20423
Juneau, Alaska 99802
907-586-5693
907-209-3144 (cell)
bkjuneau@yahoo.com*

Doniece Gott

From: Cynthia Morelli <cmorelli@alaska.net>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 9:44 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: public broadcasting

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

Public broadcasting here in Homer, KBBI, provides a public service of information to our community - especially crucial should a disaster occur such as earthquake/tsunami. We need to keep this service on the air. Please keep funding for public radio.

Sincerely,
Cynthia Morelli
60159 Lookout Ridge Ave
Homer, AK 99603

Doniece Gott

From: Eva Wissmann <wissmaneva@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 9:39 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public Media

PLEASE DO NOT CUT PUBLIC MEDIA. It is a source of truth for what is happening politically. Also, a source for the arts especially for those who cannot afford to attend live performances. Also, quality entertainment for children.

EVA Wissmann
Anchorage, ak

Doniece Gott

From: Christie.L.Watson@wellsfargo.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 9:31 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Don't Eliminate Alaska Public Broadcasting Funding

Good Morning,

I know everyone needs to tighten our belts to balance the budget, but eliminating funding for public media disrupts an essential state service. A smaller cut may be appropriate, but eliminating funding completely is not.

Besides enjoying several fun programs on the weekend, I listen to APRN every morning, and evening to keep informed on the latest local, state, national, and worldwide news and events. There isn't another resource out there with very local to international coverage. I believe in their mission, and support the organization at the leadership level.

Please reconsider this budget line item.

Thank you,

Christie

Christie Watson

Principal Business Relationship Manager, Vice President

Alaska Commercial Banking Group

Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. 1 301 W Northern Lights Ste 212 1 Anchorage, AK 99503

MAC K3212-023

Tel 907-263-2639 Fax 907-265-2141 Cell 907-351-0561

Doniece Gott

From: Melissa Aronson <aronson@aptalaska.net>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 9:13 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public media funding

PLEASE restore all the funding for public media. Alaskans, especially rural Alaskans, depend on it for emergency announcements, weather reports, news, and connection to the rest of the state.

The first responsibility of government is to protect the people and public media serves that function through emergency alerts, weather warnings, local information on roads, closing of schools and offices, and so on.

I live in Haines and depend on KHNS for all sorts of information. Just a few minutes ago, for example, we had a warning that our roads are icy and a warning to stay off the roads. Any time there is something of concern to me (usually weather), I immediately turn on KHNS to see what is happening. I faithfully listen to the weather report every day.

PLEASE! Restore all funding for public media.

Melissa Aronson
PO Box 616
371 Beach Rd.
Haines AK 99827
907-766-2185

Doniece Gott

From: Barbara Baugh <barbara@baughak.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 8:25 AM
To: Sen. Donny Olson; Senate Finance Committee; Sen. Anna MacKinnon;
krognes@alaskapublic.org
Cc: Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Mike Dunleavy; Sen. Peter Micciche
Subject: Alaska Public Media

Dear Senators,

I am writing to support Alaska Public Broadcasting Funding. I know you propose to zero out all funding and cut the satellite funds by \$160,000.

I am assuming you haven't lived in Alaska very long or you wouldn't dare be considering this.

We arrived in the late 60's and Public Radio was alive and well and very vital to the well being of all our villages. I used to love to listen to the broadcasts where a person in one village would tell another about how they were coming to visit or they had a sick child and bring some medicine the next time they came, etc. It was a lifeline to all the Bush communities. .

Everyone in those days listened to the radio for local and state news.

It is the only source of programming....non commercial---serving the unserved and underserved audiences throughout Alaska.

Please consider your votes carefully. Thousands of Alaskans are affected by your vote on this.

Barbara Baugh
2431 West 100th Ave.
Anchorage, Ak. 99515

Doniece Gott

From: Debbie Ramin <DebbieR@akmls.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 8:19 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: PBS Funds

Please do not cut PBS funding. PBS is the only place to get good free programing for all ages. They have been the backbone of education, travel, cooking and Alaska shows since the 1970's.

On another note since writing I have been watching the finance committee meetings. Why you seem intent on cutting everything while giving raises, not cutting ANY wasteful spending, being totally partisan in anything brought up either Republicans is playing with the lives of the people in the state of Alaska. Did you ever think that part of people's PFD's may go to help fund and offset state costs from donations to agencies like PBS? Not with half of it being cut or taken completely. I sit and listen day after day how you can berate any cuts anywhere for communities in the bush, welfare, state jobs, bonuses, university waste and say over and over how could anyone take from these young, old and remote communities and you take half the PFD and want it all while you can use yours for toys and vacations? I heard state workers, teachers, municipal workers, union leaders and workers all call in and say hey take the PFD we don't care it's an extra. Well shit yes it is because you have free medical, raises and bonuses every year, a job you can't be fired from, retirement and matched contributions more than any private company can afford and if in a tire lifelong medical. How about you all have to live on the \$50K you are paid, no per diem (MOVE THE CAPITAL), no top of the line medical coverage for life. Live like many many people do and see if you need your PFD besides it belonging to the people not you! It's easy to do what you are doing when if you add all the govt, state, municipality, educational jobs in the state probably add up to over 1/2 the population, all secure all fat paychecks easy to say tax tax give give but that is coming out of my paycheck where I am mouth to mouth paycheck to paycheck I haven't left the state in 4 years (what is a vacation) I work 52 weeks a year for a vacation, I am savings as best I can for future medical because Medicare does not cover eyes, hearing or teeth. DO YOU EVER sit up and worry that you or a child has a toothache needs to go to the dentist and wonder how can I pay it? I seriously doubt it. You are ruining our state and playing games 7-4, 7-4, 7-4 votes every day, no discussion, no willingness to even talk about it and pass notes to each other and laugh while your constituents call in with heartfelt stories and complaints. **I see this**, do you forget you are on TV. I am disgusted with you all, get over yourselves, work together. What are you teaching children of the future you disagree with don't compromise at all? Not accept things and protest and cry and riot if you don't get your way? We are NOT ENTITLED to everything without work, get a real job and see how you would feel about what you hear, what you have to do to survive. If I was in Juneau I would be there every day and calling you the untruthful hypocrites that you are and anyone watching can see that. Please stop making cuts where they affect something good, hold to your promises given people in Boroughs and make some hard cuts EVERYWHERE FIRST AND STOP playing Partisan games with the lives of people that do not have the money and easy financial lives forever you have. and over half the state do. **DO YOUR JOB** and listen talk and be willing to compromise.

Sad, angered and disgusted

Debbie Ramin

Doniece Gott

From: Paul Gardner <paulgnak@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 8:13 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: pos funding

Good Morning,

I don't believe government should be funding PBS in any way. its called free market and capitalism. If they need money, they need to figure it out..

thank-you for your time and have a Great Day!

Paul Gardner

Doniece Gott

From: mri@alaska.net
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 8:04 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public Broad Casting

Finance Committee, include full funding for Alaska Public Broad Casting System. The work of Public Media in Alaska is highly a effective service source of communications for the people and voters of the state. It is effective in reaching the remote areas of Alaska with Alaska affairs, news and education.

We are sponsors of the programming due to the capable work and performance of presentations.

Let me know.

Make it a great day,
Aaron Morse

Doniece Gott

From: Michele Schuh <michele@schuhusa.net>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 7:51 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Balanced budget and public media

I support the balanced budget work and a result that stabilizes our fiscal future. I am prepared to pay income taxes to support education and other high value services. Please don't cut those further.

Continued funding for public media should not be cut. The base funding levels have been successfully leveraged with federal And private dollars to produce a statewide system of significant value to residents of this state.

I appreciate the difficult choices on the table and encourage you to make the smart choices for our future.

Regards,

Michele Schuh
Anchorage
Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Frank Chandler <frankchandler1@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 7:48 AM
To: Sen. Pete Kelly; Sen. Mike Dunleavy; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Donny Olson; Senate Finance Committee; Sen. Anna MacKinnon
Subject: Please do not cut funding for Alaska Public Media

Dear Senators,

Please do not cut funding for Alaska Public Media! It is the primary source of news, information, and cultural programming available in Alaska. Unlike other states, Alaska has a small population and huge distances between population centers. Alaska Public Media and the Satellite Network provides the best way for the people of the state to receive over-the-air programming.

Thank you for considering my request. Please feel free to contact me at any time to discuss this matter.

With highest regard,

Frank Chandler
7721 Anne Circle
Anchorage, AK 99504-4601
Phone (907) 764-1263

Doniece Gott

From: Theresa Wirak <theresawirak@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 7:46 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Do not cut our public school budget!

Good Morning,

I am a resident of Haines, Alaska 99827. My community was not listed as one with a designated time to testify so I am emailing instead.

My name is Theresa Wirak and I am the 4th grade teacher in Haines. Our title 1 school depends on state, federal and local funding to be a well running school. Rather than take money away from educating the future generation we should be pouring our money and resources into it. These kids are the next lawyers, doctors, teachers, social workers, small business owners. They are our future. I want them to be well educated and to love learning! If we take these opportunities away by taking funding away from schools and paying teachers less, cutting music/art, providing inadequate lunches, then we are sending a direct message- "We do not care about the future." No one feels that way. Let's plan ahead and give this next generation all the hope and support that they need to make this world a better place. Let's start by making sure that public schools are well funded.

Thank you for taking time to make the right choice!

Sincerely,

Theresa Wirak

Doniece Gott

From: mike johnson <omni2000@acsalaska.net>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 6:41 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: PUBLIC MEDIA IS IMPORATNT TO OUR STATE AND COUNTRY

To Whom it May Concern,

It is vital that you continue to fund Public Media because it is a brick in the foundation of our democracy. For us here in Alaska it is sometimes the only way we get information and for the record I cannot understand why anyone in public office would to do something that deceases the flow of information to those that they represent.

If anything we should be seeking a way to increase funding.

Thanks in Advance,

Mike & Debbie Johnson

Doniece Gott

From: kaiaab@acsalaska.net
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 6:32 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: maintain funding for public media in line with Governor Walker's proposal

Dear Members of the Finance Committee,

Public broadcasting is essential to Alaskans, who often live in remote locations where there are few sources for news. While I now live in Juneau, I lived in Kodiak for 12 years, and the local public broadcasting service there (KMXT) provided essential local news, weather and marine weather reports, arts and music events for the community, and served many of the villages on Kodiak Island as well as the town. I know that many other small communities treasure their public broadcasting service, too. Even in Juneau, where there are more outlets for news, KTOO provides needed local news services and reporting on local events and community happenings, as well as jobs for local residents and opportunities for residents to volunteer and learn about broadcasting. Please vote to maintain funding for public media. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Kaia Henrickson

2225 Great Western St. Apt. A
Douglas, AK 99824
907-957-2057

Doniece Gott

From: Kerry <reardonscher@gci.net>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 5:28 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: State Budget

As a longtime Alaskan-& retired teacher- I want to remain in a vibrant, economically sound state--I support Alaska Public Media & the Rural Broadcasting program as part of this vibrant & educated Alaska - I also support public education Including early childhood services in all state PreK programs , Head Start, Parents as Teachers, and Child Care Assistance- -I respectfully urge you to stop cutting everything that is good out of our state - so my son in graduate school can come back & find a professional job in a state with some growth & our house maintains its value-- STOP cutting our way out of this deficit & balance a budget by using revenue sources including permanent fund earnings, capping dividends, AND YES TAXES-- Alaskans have had over 30 years of feeling entitled & I'm tired of hearing about "my" permanent fund -- it is time to pay for services-- Kerry Reardon
907-338-1183
Sent from my iPad

Doniece Gott

From: Toni <toni.direct@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 12:17 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Please no cuts to AK media

Dear Finance Committee Members,

I am writing you to urge you to stop focusing on budget cuts and move onto working on getting new revenue. The largest portions of the budget by far are education and medicaid. Medicaid is not changeable and education is already cut too far. The reason I have strong feelings about education is because I have seen things go from good to marginal and bad in my children's classrooms. The classes are too big, the fees are too high, the teacher moral is too low. We need funds added back into education, not more cuts.

All the other parts of the budget are so small that discussion on how cuts should be made are frankly, not worth the angst. AK Public Media is a great example. It punches well above its weight in terms of already having public support and the budget is simply very, very responsible already. There is not much to cut and even if cuts are made, it won't have a substantial effect on the budget.

Now is the time to get the budget balanced and the ONLY way to do this is to get new revenue. Please move forward on this. Please cap the permanent fund and reinstate an income tax. I lived in AK when we had taxes and no PFD and life worked, maybe better because there was not the culture of freeloading that we have today.

Thank you for your work. Theses are tough days for politicians. We all need to face the hard truths and stick together.

Sincerely,

Antonia Sparrow

Sent from my iPad

Doniece Gott

From: Tor Daley <tordaleycpa@gci.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 10:56 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public broadcasting delivers when there is a need to reach key audiences with factual and trusted information!

Public broadcasting serves all of Alaska every day with the highest quality news and cultural programming; balanced, fair and nonpartisan news and information; well-designed and researched children's programming; essential local emergency, health, and safety, information; and award-winning cultural and educational programs that reflect the best of Alaska. Today, we face the reality of a state that is in financial crisis. The people who have the power to change that — Republicans, Democrats and Independents alike — are increasingly being divided by polarized media and underserved by the weakening traditional media. As a result, there is an increasingly important role for public media to serve as a centering institution for Alaska. The logic of denying public broadcasting funding while emphasizing the importance of branding it as "liberal" or "conservative" is foolhardy. Those who have the wisdom to have attained any significant level of power in this state are often not easily characterized as either. Such branding serves no purpose. The mistake the Alaska legislature may be making — once again — is to use these stereotypes to keep Alaska's public media system in jeopardy and bar much needed access to critical news and cultural programming to rural Alaskans. Total public media funding in this nation is at about 2 percent the rate of its professional peers in Europe and Asia. That makes it exceedingly difficult for public broadcasting to fulfill its promise.

Public media is Alaska and America's best friend. It reaches the people who, on every level of our society, from ordinary voters to community leaders to corporate CEOs, make critical decisions in Alaska. Informing them well, as Newt Gingrich discovered, puts the power of factual information prepared by top professionals, with no editorializing or bias of ownership, directly into the hands of the leadership of Alaska. All parties win in that environment. The loss will come if public media is starved to the point of having to give control over its powerful transmitters and Internet services to whomever is left — well-meaning but inexperienced and often naïve, mission-driven people, with strong political views, for whom material rewards mean little and advocacy is everything.

Tor Daley, CPA

tordaleycpa@gci.net

Cell (907) 301-5003

Fax (866) 258-4903

Secure Document Exchange by SafeSend:

Doniece Gott

From: Ron Feigin <rafeigin@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 10:26 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public Radio

Please do not cut this funding. Public Radio is a way all Alaskans can access reliable state and national news regardless of where we live. Support represents a shared effort of citizens and government-don't diminish the quality of life in Alaska with a false sense of a need to cut and cut. Taxes aren't a 4 letter word.

Ron Feigin

Doniece Gott

From: Thomas Huntley <tom.huntley@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 9:46 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public Media Funding - Critical To Alaskans

Good day.

I am writing you as an Alaskan to strongly urge you to continue supporting Public Media in our great state. I am a resident of Kodiak, and we rely on our Public Radio Station KMXT for news, local information, and more. While I understand that state funds are tight, for only 54 cents per Alaskan, this funding provides incredible value to our cities, towns, and remote villages across this state.

Public radio is more than an information source, however - it is a community resource. When my family and I moved to Kodiak, our then-8 year old daughter attended a summer radio camp put on by KMXT, where she learned how to conduct interviews, edit recordings, mix sound, and produce a short piece of journalism - and she loved it. When the camp concluded, she stayed on, and has continued volunteering once a week to host a music show called "Spotlight," where she can combine her love of music with her newfound passion for radio. This has only been possible with KMXT. Without state funding, I'm afraid this station would vanish, and with it the resource that is so critical to our daughter and our community.

I strongly urge you to continue the critical support in our communities and maintain funding for public media in line with governor Walker's proposal.

Thank you,

Tom Huntley
3476 Spruce Cape Road
Kodiak, AK 99615
360-244-2065

Doniece Gott

From: Michael L. Mott <michael_mott@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 10:33 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska Public Media

Senators;

I was greatly disturbed to read that the Senate Finance Subcommittee voted to eliminate all funding for Public Media. I find public media informative and a critical asset not only in urban areas but also in the Alaskan bush (I worked a number of years in Galena).

With so little quality entertainment on commercial television, I find myself increasingly watching, enjoying, and learning from public media.

Please support continued funding of Alaska public media. Any reduction of funding and resultant cuts in service would be detrimental to the people of Alaska.

Sincerely,

Michael L. Mott

(907) 440-0390

Doniece Gott

From: Michelle DeWitt <michelle.dewitt@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 11:51 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public radio SB 22

I am writing from Bethel to share my concerns about the cuts to public broadcasting, including KYUK in Bethel and the ARCS system.

Cuts are imminent to nearly everything funded by the state. As an Alaskan, I accept that. I ask you, however, to not rely on only cuts. Tax my income, cap my PFD, and institute other revenue-generating options - but we cannot solely cut our way out of the budget crisis. We need to have a state that offers services that provide for a quality of life for Alaskans- and public radio is part of that quality of life. KYUK in our region is not just an "extra" - they provide critical communication that saves lives and connects us to each other.

Finally, the proposed cuts include the state funds that are a Match for federal dollars for public broadcasting in our state. Please be strategic in your cuts and do not cut the state dollars that leverage far more federal dollars. KYUK is a critical and vital part of our fabric in the YK Delta. Please restore funds to public broadcasting.

Michelle DeWitt
PO box 2847
Bethel, AK 99559
907.543.5304

Sorry for any typos- Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Margaret Galovin <margaretg@apiai.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 11:47 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Cc: #Board Members; Dimitri Philemonof; Ozzy Escarate; Linda Davidovics (lindadavidovics@yahoo.com); Steve Hamlin; Kim Pigg (kim@akpb.org)
Subject: Satellite infrastructure & public communications

Dear Honorable Senators Hoffman, MacKinnon, Bishop, Micciche, Dunleavy, von Imhof, and Olson;

I have heard that the Senate Finance Subcommittee for Administration closed out their budget, proposing to zero out funding for public broadcasting and cutting the satellite funds by \$160,000. I realize sacrifices need to be made with the State's fiscal crisis. However, eliminating funds that support public broadcasting services at this time would put many of our rural communities at risk. Cutting funding for management and operation of the satellite infrastructure renders that system virtually inoperable.

The satellite system provides an integrated and efficient distribution system for ARCS, public television and public radio content to communities across Alaska. It runs on a bare minimum of funding from the State. The proposed cuts would eliminate what little support exists for the management of that system. It would also end the distribution of public radio and television signals statewide to translators in rural communities.

There would be significant public safety impacts. ARCS is an Emergency Relay Network, a key component in Alaska's Emergency Alert System (EAS) Plan, feeding real-time emergency alerts to individuals and organizations. Alerts from state and federal authorities are fed into the ARCS satellite signal and carried directly into the homes of ARCS viewers as well as commercial and non-commercial broadcasters EAS systems all across Alaska.

The ARCS system depends on KUAC, KAKM and KTOO for all of its public television programming, including most particularly Alaska Weather which rural residents depend on to plan travel and activities in some of the most extreme environments, in effect making daily life and death decisions. Children's educational programs, important national and international news coverage, and Gavel to Gavel coverage of the legislature itself would be in jeopardy. Removing funds for these stations will reduce, weaken, and could even eliminate these vital programs.

Alaska's public communications systems are at the highest level of integration and inter-reliance in its history. Digital convergence is finally reaching many of the most underserved villages in the country. It is critical that this system be fully deployed and continued so that it can serve the information needs of the people who live in our most remote communities. The new digital ARCS service is presently operating at 70 Alaskan

sites. These proposed cuts will have a direct effect on rural viewers losing access to these essential program services just as rural Alaskans are finally able to see them.

As a policy matter, weakening Alaska's public communications services at a time when declining statewide economies will increase our resident's dependency on free-to-watch over the air television and radio for much of their news, weather and public safety information, could deprive them of these basic services which other Americans take for granted.

I humbly request that you consider maintaining current funding levels for satellite infrastructure and public communications for fiscal year 2018. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

*)

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(,.'`margaret galovin

(,.*' ,.'` _* * * _*

ARCS Council President

Aleutian Region Representative

(907) 276-2700 work

(907) 337-1330 home

(907) 744-7555 cell

Doniece Gott

From: Ed Yadon <fey594@mtaonline.net>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 11:50 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public Broadcasting

Members of the Finance Committee,

I understand that you are currently considering Senator Dunleavy's proposal to cut state financing for public broadcasting. Our state is in serious financial straits and cuts have to be made. It is your unenviable task to prioritize state projects that must be cut.

To the rural communities served by these locally conceived, built, and maintained non-profit organizations, public broadcasting is an essential service. Through my years of living in a rural cabin off the grid and the road system, KTNA was my link to the events, both local and world-wide that were shaping our collective future. It provided cohesion for communities whose members seldom met in person. It kept us informed and transmitted evacuation information during a recent flood, provided real-time coordination of the search when a senior citizen went missing, and serves as a discussion forum on both local and state issues.

These local stations build strong, healthy communities which, in turn, are the building blocks for a strong, healthy state. Please consider this in your deliberations.

Ed Yadon
Talkeetna

Doniece Gott

From: Abi Woodbridge <abiwoodbridge@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 11:42 AM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Anna MacKinnon; Sen. Pete Kelly; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Mike Dunleavy; Sen. Donny Olson; Sen. Click Bishop; Senate Finance Committee
Subject: FUND Alaska Public Media - PLEASE !!!

Please maintain the State of Alaska's ***present funding level for Alaska Public Media.***

- This is the most effective way for the Rural Population of Alaska to stay *Informed* and *Aware* of what happens in the state (*and around the world*)!
- Being informed and aware of ***all*** the Cultures of Alaska (*and the world*) exposes each of us to different ways of doing things.
 - THAT enhances our individual problem solving abilities...
 - Those infinite ways of resolving issues multiply our world view... therefore:
 - WE HAVE A BETTER CHANCE TO FIX THE CURRENT PROBLEMS FACING *OUR* STATE because we have more ways to look at the issues.
- Rural Alaska DESERVES an equal opportunity to participate in Statewide problem solving.
- **The remarkably broad spectrum of programming supplied by APM via satellite feed and our local broadcasting station KUCB feeds us the knowledge we need.**
- An *Aware & Informed* population enhances *YOUR ability as a legislator* to help make decisions that benefit ***all*** of us.
 - I live in Unalaska and **depend** on Alaska Public Media, ARCS & the Satellite delivery System to keep me connected to the rest of Alaska and the world. (*I can only afford a small monthly donation to KSKA but I do make certain that my donation takes place!*)

So, again - Please - I **URGE YOU** to make certain ***that*** Alaska Public Media including ARCS & the Satellite Infrastructure system stays fully funded!

Sincerely,

Abi Woodbridge

<<< Don't worry spiders, I keep house casually >>>

Issa (1763-1827)

Abi Woodbridge e-mail: abiwoodbridge@gmail.com

PO Box 107 Unalaska, AK 99685 [907-581-2535](tel:907-581-2535)

Doniece Gott

From: Kathleen Menke <ci@akmk.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 11:42 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support public broadcasting and AMH

Dear Finance Committee members of Alaska Legislature..

Public broadcasting provides necessary community and emergency information in a state that is full of broadly dispersed rural communities.

Support public broadcasting. Public radio.

AMH is an investment in communities and commerce statewide, not just port communities.

Tourism/travel related businesses and entrepreneurs will stabilize Alaska economy well into the future.

A regular, reliable AMH says to visitors. You are welcome here.

A sound investment.

AMH also important to health and safety of Alaskans with no road access to health care.

Government duties includes health, safety, transportation.

Regards, Kathleen Menke, Haines

Doniece Gott

From: Kathryn Carssow <kcarssow@live.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 11:28 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska Public Broadcasting funding

Dear Senators,

I respect the challenge of our state's financial situation at this time and do not envy the difficulty of your efforts. None the less, not funding Alaska Public Broadcasting is not an option. Public radio and television is essential. I am a 40-year Alaska resident and have lived in three communities in the state. Especially in this era of fake news, balanced and comprehensive news coverage is only achieved through public broadcasting that ties our communities to one another, to the workings of state government and to the nation. It is an investment in education, democracy and citizen welfare that we cannot afford to discontinue. Bring on income taxes, cut PF dividends - whatever is necessary. Thanks.

Kathryn Carssow

Homer, Alaska

Doniece Gott

From: Sharon Clawson <randevu39@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 11:25 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Cc: Sen. Kevin Meyer
Subject: Pubic Media

As donors and consumers of public media in Anchorage and super voter, 40-years residents of Alaska, we stand **OPPOSED TO CUTS** to public media. To take away rural communications and reduce reliable news information to all Alaskans is wrong. We all benefit from the upscale cultural offerings on public media as well.

We are also in favor of a progressive income tax to return Alaskans who can afford it to responsible contributors to public services.

Sharon and Gordon Clawson
5010 Abbott Road
Anchorage, Alaska 99507



www.KIYU.com

907-656-1488

P.O Box 165 Galena, AK. 99741

3/15/17

To: Finance Committee

From: Big River Public Broadcasting/Galena

Re: potential Public Broadcasting cuts

Please accept this as our letter of concern about potential cuts in Public Broadcasting in Alaska.

As the board of directors of our local public radio station KIYU, based out of Galena, we are concerned that a total loss in funding will create a deficit in services offered by the station that are of great need in Alaska's remote river communities.

KIYU serves the communities of Galena, Ruby, St. Mary's, Tanana, Hughes, Alakaket, Alatna, Koyukuk, Huslia, Nulato among others as well as creating programming used by stations in Fairbanks and Ft. Yukon.

These smaller communities have no other radio services and in some cases, no sufficient internet or cell phone communication. Even long distance landline calling is limited. This means Public Radio is the lifeline for these areas. In many cases, radio is the 911 system alerting listeners to river break-up flooding, fire information, subsistence hunting and fishing issues, community needs and information and more.

Our local and regional news allows the communities we serve to know what is occurring in their area, not just a repeat of the occurrences in the major towns of the state.

Not to mention, the station's daily programming offerings provide culturally relevant content as well as being a consistent companion to many of the area's elders.

Many of our villages have families spread from one to the other and the radio station is a way for them to feel a connection.

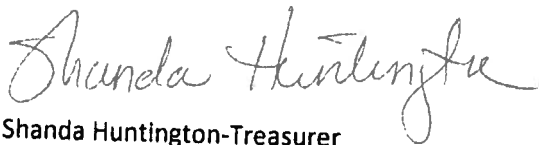
KIYU has been a good steward of the public funding by being fiscally responsible and using the funds to grow its reach with creative programming and outreach to far flung communities.

Many of the services ours and other rural stations provide would simply disappear without state assistance. These losses cannot be made up by corporate support as many larger businesses do not exist in our region.

In addition, loss of ARCS TV and satellite funding has deeper underlying ramifications than just over the air TV loss. This infrastructure allows interconnectivity to our rural stations to provide shared content and transmissions of signals to numerous remote villages that if cut would force stations to resort to more expensive and unreliable delivery methods.

Please consider continued funding of Public Broadcasting, especially for our rural, sole-service radio stations and ARCS-TV. Otherwise, many villages would lose a valuable connection to each other along with valuable information that has proven valuable to the lives of Rural Alaskans.

Thank you for your time and consideration,



Shanda Huntington-Treasurer

Representing

Russ Sweetsir-President

Ayla Kalka-Secretary

Jerry Nollner Sr.-board member

Patrick Lumba-board member

Charlie Green-board member

And the community at large

Doniece Gott

From: Mike Squires <alaskansquid@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 1:42 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: PBS

Please reconsider cuts to PBS as it's the only really good TV we seniors can afford!

Rebecca Squires
Anchorage, AK

Doniece Gott

From: Marilyn Gardner <anmmgardner@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 1:11 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: financial Support for Public Broadcasting

Dear Finance Committee,

Please continue to support Public Broadcasting in Alaska. It is an essential service, particularly for those living in Bush Alaska.

People there rely on it for news, weather reports, and educational programming. Those of us in Anchorage do as well, but it is especially important for people in small town and village Alaska.

Thank you for listening,

Marilyn Gardner
Anchorage

PS I am more than happy to pay an income tax to support necessary services in our state.

Doniece Gott

From: John Letourneau <JohnL@thgcpa.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 1:07 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support Public Broadcasting in Alaska
Attachments: Governor's budget FY 2017 budget retrieved 3-15-2017comp2044.pdf

I am writing in opposition to the Senate Finance Committee action on March 14th proposing to zero out the Public Communications Services section of SB 22.

I believe public broadcasting fills a vital role in Alaska.

I believe the discussion of the benefits of public broadcasting contained in the State of Alaska FY2017 Governor's Operating Budget Component Budget Summary (attached) are an accurate representation of the Core Services.

I believe that Public Broadcasting plays an essential role in achieving the goals set out in the preamble to the Alaska State Constitution of helping the people of Alaska "secure and transmit to succeeding generations our heritage of political, civil, and religious liberty".

I strongly encourage you to fund public broadcasting.

I personally am a long time financial supporter of public broadcasting in the state of Alaska.

John

John A. Letourneau

14120 Jarvi Drive

Anchorage, Alaska 99515

Doniece Gott

From: Barbara Belknap <barbbelknap48@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 1:05 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: I support Alaska Public Media

I was alarmed to learn that the Senate Finance Committee is proposing to eliminate funding for Alaska public broadcasting and reduce the satellite funds. With a state as enormous as Alaska, PBS and Public Radio keep us informed. Informed citizens are better citizens.

For decades, we have watched PBS, and we listen to KTOO Public Radio every day. Our kids, who are now parents, watched Sesame Street every day. We never miss the PBS Newshour, and any special documentaries aired on PBS.

Of all the things to keep intact, ensuring that our citizens are up to date on what's happening in Alaska and the world is one of the most important. It's only natural that we Alaskans would wonder why legislators would think that LESS information (that we get for free) could be good for our communities both large and small.

Alaska Public Media's whole reason for being is summed up in their motto: "Connecting Alaskans. Life Informed." Any effort by the Legislature to sever that connection and reduce the flow of information is contrary to our country's core values.

Barbara J. Belknap

4481 Abby Way

Juneau, Alaska

780-8602

Doniece Gott

From: Rob Baer <kodiakrob@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 12:31 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public Media

Hello,

Thank you for your service to our wonderful state. I wish to express my support for our local public media. It is the only way I receive my news and information. I feel public media is vitally import to remote communities throughout our state. Please maintain funding for public media in line with Gov. Walker's proposal.

Respectfully,

Rob Baer
2847 Lakeview Dr.
Kodiak AK 99615

Doniece Gott

From: Jim Schwartz <schwartz.jp.lf@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 12:26 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Destructive Cuts to Education & Public Broadcasting

Dear Senate Finance Committee members,

I have lived in Alaska for 55 years. I taught school here for 27 years, served on the local school board for 6 years, and fished Bristol Bay for 35 years. I know the future of a stable Alaska depends on well educated & informed residents. The level of cuts you are deciding on for education & public broadcasting will severely harm the students & residents of our state, as well as the economy. You have cut the budget for years it is now time to implement an income tax & commit to Governor Walker's fiscal plan. It works!

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jim Schwartz

PO Box 1506

Petersburg, AK 99833

Sent from my iPad

Doniece Gott

From: Donna Goldsmith <dlugoldsmith@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 11:59 AM
To: Sen. Pete Kelly; Sen. Anna MacKinnon; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Donny Olson; Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Do not cut Alaska Public Media

Dear Senators

I urge you **NOT** to cut funding for Public Media. As each of you know, public broadcasting provides free over-the-air and online non-commercial public service programming and community-based services to unserved and underserved communities throughout Alaska.

This is vital, independent programming. Among other things, it:

- provides important information over the air for remote communities that do not have consistent or easy access to the Internet or other resources
- helps all Alaskans understand what is happening that affects lives throughout our state
- educates all of us about important matters affecting our futures
- provides ideas and new information that can encourage our children and youth to imagine new options for their futures by exposing them to information and ideas that might not otherwise be available to them through other means
- helps connect communities

Please to not reduce or eliminate this vital funding. This is a key resource for us all that improves all of our lives.

Donna J. Goldsmith

Doniece Gott

From: Charles Cary <sheilacary@mac.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 4:40 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska Public Media Funding

Dear Finance Committee Members,

As a 55 year resident of Alaska and a supporter of Alaska Public Media, I ask each of you to support state funding at the FY 2017 levels. This organization provides valuable information and stories to our wide spread and varied communities. Our villages would be severely impacted by any cuts in APM. I support reducing or eliminating the PFD and paying taxes but I firmly believe an informed citizenry is essential for our democracy. Alaska Public Media deserves state funding and they provide all our communities with an essential service! Please continue to support this organization with no reductions in their budget.

Thank you,

Sheila Cary

Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: carolben@gci.net
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 4:25 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: support for public broadcasting

I live in Anchorage, but have spent much of my life in small towns including Unalaska, Seward, Wrangell, and Sitka. I cannot emphasize how important public broadcasting is outside of Alaska's population centers. When weather keeps the planes grounded, there are no newspapers; when internet broadband is slow or non-existent, there is no access to state news and crucial weather information. Those who rely on cable television (if they can afford it) get stations from outside Alaska, so aren't informed as to what's going on. Small towns and villages can't support commercial radio or television stations. Instead, they mobilize volunteers to raise funds and staff their public stations. They do this because they know how important—sometimes life-saving—news and weather information is to their community.

Eliminating state support for public broadcasting will also eliminate federal funding opportunities. These communities are already stepping up with their own dollars to support their local stations. Please don't pull the rug out from under their feet by eliminating public broadcasting. Thank you.

Carol Sturgulewski

5120 Manytell Ave.

Anchorage, AK 99516

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Doniece Gott

From: Cat Coward <travelncat@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 4:21 PM
To: Sen. Pete Kelly; Sen. Anna MacKinnon; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Mike Dunleavy; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Donny Olson; Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska Public Broadcasting

Dear Senators,

My understanding is that the senate finance committee has proposed a budget which zeros out all funding for Alaska public broadcasting, and cuts the satellite funds by \$160,000, which would basically end communications to rural areas. This news literally makes me feel punched in the gut. Alaska public broadcasting is a huge part of my life in terms of where I get my news, how I stay informed about happenings in Alaska and surrounding. I rely on public broadcasting for weather, road conditions, rural news, and fair and balanced national and world news. Alaska public broadcasting receives 7% of it's budget from the State, the rest from donors such as myself and thousands of others around the the State who are committed to public broadcasting.

Please reconsider this decision and continue to fund public broadcasting.

Thank you,
Catherine Coward
6221 Farpoint Dr
Anchorage, AK 99507

Doniece Gott

From: millimom@xyz.net
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 4:20 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public Radio

Dear Senator Kelly, Senator MacKinnon and Members,

Public Radio is absolutely vital to all areas of our State, and especially on the Southern Kenai Peninsula. We depend on public radio in the event of disasters. That is not something to expect of commercial radio stations. In Homer we have experienced this need, and expect we will again.

I understand the wish to still trim the budget, but it is my humble view, it has been done. It is time to look at taxing. I have no problem with an income tax, it is overdue.

Please do not cut Public radio, it, like the Troopers, our Roads and Education need to be protected.

Thank you for listening.

Milli Martin
P.O. Box 2652
Homer, Alaska 99603
907-235-6652

Doniece Gott

From: Patricia Turner Custard <ptc@blackplumebooks.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 4:02 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public Broadcasting Funding

Dear Finance Committee Members,

I have just learned that your proposed budget zeros out funding for public TV and radio as well as the APBC. I implore you to reconsider this.

Public broadcasting brings a wealth of resources, information, and entertainment to homes throughout Alaska. For many, many Alaskans, due to our remote living, public broadcasting is the **only** on-air source. Public broadcasting, thanks to its commitment to local programming, provides a sense of community to otherwise isolated individuals. For those of us in more established areas, this sense of community is no less important; keeping us in touch with our neighbors, our state, and the world. It is vitally important to have a free, over the air service available to all Alaskans and public broadcasting is that service. Through public broadcasting, Alaska and the world is opened up for its viewers. We turn to our local public broadcast station for news, both local and global, for premiere entertainment such as Masterpiece Theater, for educational programs such as Nova, and for a wealth of children's programming that inspires and educates. We listen to our Public Radio station to hear music selected and played for us by our neighbors, to learn of upcoming events in town, to get news of our community, and to celebrate the talents of local artists and performers.

I know that Alaska is in a fiscal crisis and costs must be cut. I appreciate the challenge set before you as the Finance Committee. Please do not mistake public broadcasting as something that can be cut without gravely effecting Alaskans. By zeroing out funding for public TV and radio, you are sending the message that these services are not important and neither are the many, many Alaskans who depend on them. Do not deprive Alaskans of this extremely important resource.

With Respect,
Patricia Turner Custard
17670 Point Lena Loop Road
Juneau, AK 99801
907-2009-4692

Doniece Gott

From: Lisa Matlock <ak.odonata@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 3:42 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Senate Bill 22

Hello Finance Committee Members,

I am a 23-year resident of the state of Alaska. I have tried to educate myself about the current budget challenges faced by the state, so I certainly don't envy the position you are in as you all try to find the most balanced approach to cutting the budget. I have not weighed in on other budgetary subjects to date, as I hear about you making the hard decisions every night on NPR.

Thus, I feel the need to voice my opinion about House Bill 22. I do not want to see state funding cut to Alaska Public Media. I currently live in Anchorage where the radio market is lively. However, I formerly lived in Skagway, Gustavus, Seward, and Homer as well. The smaller rural communities of Alaska absolutely rely on public radio as a connection to the outside world. Alaska News Nightly is a daily need of mine today, as it has been in the past, to keep up with what is most important to me as an Alaskan. I pay for membership to NPR and use Pick,Click,Give to the best of my ability to personally help support Alaska Public Media each year.

We need the public service that Alaska Public Media provides for our collective political health. Please do not cut support to the great connector of Alaska communities to each other.

Thank you,

Lisa Matlock

Doniece Gott

From: Chelsea Lindquist <chelserin@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 3:11 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: No cuts to Public Media

I know you have a hard job. No matter what you do to try and fix Alaska's budget crisis there will be people angry at you. However, I am writing to urge you not to make cuts to Alaska Public Broadcasting. Alaska Public Media provides free over-the-air and online non-commercial public service programming and community-based services to unserved and underserved audiences throughout Alaska.

I understand that services cost money. Which is why I am willing to pay more in taxes for programs like these to stay funded. Whether an income tax or sales tax it is important for Alaskans to pay for the services we use and value.

Thank you for your time.
Chelsea Vukovich
99516

Doniece Gott

From: TAMMY JARRIEL <tjarriel@mtaonline.net>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 3:08 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska Public Broadcasting

Dear Finance Committee members,

I am contacting you to please reconsider your proposal to zero out all funding for Alaska public broadcasting. My family watches Alaska public television many times a week. It serves a very vital need in our state. Before you wonder, yes, I do donate money to KAKM on a monthly basis. Cutting their funding to zero is the wrong thing to do. Please reconsider!!!

Sincerely,
Tammy Jarriel
Sutton, AK

Doniece Gott

From: Kathleen Tarr <ktarralaska@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 9:23 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: State Support for Public Media---PLEASE KEEP IT!

Dear Legislative Finance Committee Members,

I've been an Alaskan since 1978, having lived in the bush, in rural Alaska, and now for many years in Anchorage.

Public media broadcasting is *more important than ever* in this age of digital over-stimulation, news staff reductions, political manipulation and posturing about what is Truth and what is a lie, and our country's continuing decline in educational standards.

Public media provides an important educational and civic service for ALL of Alaska. Public media has historically and consistency created overall excellence in programming, primarily as an educational vehicle for our citizens. This non-biased resource touches on every facet of our society, nationally and regionally---in science, nature, politics, arts & culture, climate, and yes, entertainment by way of its high-quality television series.

Public media supporters are a large, racially diverse, globally-astute group of supporters. They donate money to support the cause of public broadcasting, but private donations alone cannot sustain operations and programming, and citizen fund-drives never will.

I believe the Alaska Legislature has bigger fiscal fish to fry than gutting Public Media's budget! This is not a wise financial move. It is cowardly.

Agreeing and then really adopting a State of Alaska fiscal plan (how many legislative sessions will it ever take to reach this desperately-needed goal?) through some combination of increased state and local taxes, use of of some AK-PF earnings, reduced dividends, making reasonable cuts to state agency budgets, etc., should surely be the priority.

Why can't the legislature show real courage and wisdom and really, for once, move in this direction? I'm appalled, frankly.

I urge you to keep the budget for Alaska Public Media in-tact. I realize that some "sacred cows" must be axed. But as a long-time Alaskan, I believe you will do a great disservice to our communities statewide should you fail to see and to believe in this **essential** service.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Tarr
2303 East 52nd Avenue

Anchorage, AK 99507
907-306-3386

Doniece Gott

From: Carole Holley <caroleanneholley@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 9:07 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: "No" to cuts to public media in SB 22

Dear Finance Committee:

I am greatly concerned about the proposal to zero out all funding for Alaska public broadcasting. I lived in bush Alaska for many years and now permanently reside in Anchorage. I volunteered for our local public radio station in Galena and know how vital that connection was to folks all up and down the Yukon River for state-wide news as well as just what's going on with their family. And, now in Anchorage, I rely on public broadcasting to get my statewide news and hear in-depth coverage about issues facing Alaska. I urge you to reject the proposal to zero out funding for Alaska public broadcasting. While I donate to public radio, I know it's not enough to keep this vital public service running. We count on you to make smart decisions for all Alaskans and funding public media is one of those smart decisions.

All the best,

Carole Holley

Doniece Gott

From: Karen <pitcher@kpunet.net>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 8:51 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Senate Bill 22

Please continue to financially support Alaska Public Media in our state. This is a valuable and vital service which is especially important for rural areas.

Thank you,
Karen Hanson Pitcher
Ketchikan, AK

"In the noisy confusion of life, keep peace in your soul." - Max Ehrmann

Doniece Gott

From: Pamela Bergmann <craniac742@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 8:32 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Request for continued funding for Alaska Public Media and associated satellite funds

Dear Finance Committee Members,

Alaska Public Media provides essential emergency services and news to residents throughout Alaska. It is one of the most important ways for Alaskans to stay connected to each other. I urge you to support continued funding for Alaska Public Media in addition to essential satellite funds. Thank you.

Pamela Bergmann

Anchorage, Alaska, 907-333-0489.

Doniece Gott

From: Alaskids <akkromes@gci.net>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 8:17 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: I understand the State's fiscal situation, but funding for public media is essential.

I strongly encourage you to NOT cut funding for public media. Now more than ever citizens need up to date, FACTUAL and non-biased information. Public media fills that need. I would rather see a sales tax or state income tax implementation.

(Elizabeth) Chadene Krome

Chadene Krome, RN, BSN

T: 907-715-8807 F: 907-373-9867

“You must not lose faith in humanity. Humanity is an ocean; if a few drops of the ocean are dirty, the ocean does not become dirty.”

Mahatma Gandhi

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Doniece Gott

From: Kaylene Johnson-Sullivan <kaylene.johnson@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 8:13 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: SB22

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

We and our family strongly oppose budget cuts to Alaska public broadcasting. Dissemination of information is a cornerstone of democracy and public broadcasting is no less important than public education.

Annually, the State investment represents 7% of Alaska Public Media's annual operational budget (FY17). Each year APM leverages that investment to raise an additional \$4.2 million from individual donors, corporate partners, foundations and other community partnerships. They then reinvest those funds to provide state-wide television, radio and news partnerships. Alaska's rural communities especially rely on public broadcasting to receive news of the world.

Please vote NO to cut funding for Alaska public broadcasting. Thank you.

--

Bill & Kaylene Johnson-Sullivan
Chugiak, AK
907-360-0480

Doniece Gott

From: Elizabeth Figus <ecfigus@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 8:09 AM
To: Sen. Pete Kelly; Sen. Anna MacKinnon; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Mike Dunleavy; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Donny Olson; Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska Public Media

Dear Senators and the Finance Committee:

I am a Juneau resident, writing in support of Public Media funding. Please do not allow funding to be cut for Alaska Public Media. Public broadcasting free of advertising and open to input from all citizens is a cornerstone of democracy. In our great state, rural areas are often under-served in countless ways. Public broadcasting is one way to provide information to all Alaskans, as well as to provide a venue for people to participate in career opportunities, learning, teaching, and sharing stories.

I was recently visiting Sand Point, Alaska, on the Aleutian chain. Sand Point has a public radio station, KSDP. At the time of my visit I got to meet with radio station staff, because I stopped in to chat about local events. KSDP is the main source of news in town. During my visit, I got to meet a bright high school student that was interning at the KSDP station. In a community as small as Sand Point (pop. around 1000 people), it is not easy for high school students to find the opportunities offered to kids in larger cities. It is career-building opportunities like the internship at KSDP that Public Media funding helps make possible.

Please do not forget about the trickle down negative effects that funding cuts may have. Please do not forget about residents in rural Alaska. Please help keep our Public Media strong in the great state of Alaska.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Elizabeth Figus
7327490319
PO Box 33646
Juneau, AK 99803

Doniece Gott

From: Donna Rae Faulkner <oceansidefarmsalaska@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 5:30 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: PLEASE KEEP FUNDING IN OUR STATE BUDGET FOR ALASKA PUBLIC BROADCASTING

To our Honorable Senators of the great state of Alaska,

Thank you for your time and good work. We realize that you are entrusted with helping Alaska to navigate thru these challenging fiscal times. **We must trust that you will recognize the tremendous value of Alaska Public Broadcasting and Alaska Public Media (APRN, APBI, small local stations including our KBBI) and we urge you not to drop our state's critical financial support for them.** Our local community is too small to sustain KBBI on its own and without significant loss of services. Citizens and local non-profits in particular depend on Public Broadcasting - for basic current news and information (like maritime weather, state and national current information for citizens, community events) - especially in times of scarcity and emergency (like earthquakes, flooding, extreme weather, health alerts, and possible tsunamis or terrorist attacks.) Public information is critical to our democracy and citizenry!

Public Broadcasting provides wonderful programming, educational listening opportunities, connects citizens and communities across our state and is essential for emergencies and public safety. Though we donate to Alaska Public Broadcasting in a variety of ways, we urge you to continue to support these services in the state budget.

Keep Alaska Great and Informed! Public Broadcasting is available for all Alaskans at no charge and is critical to communities across the state. We can't imagine Alaska without it.

Sincerely,

Donna Rae Faulkner and Don "Iceman" McNamara
Oceanside Farms
58508 East End Road
Homer, Alaska 99603
(907) 235-SURF or (907)299-SURF

Doniece Gott

From: Randy Brown <randystevenbrown@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 5:37 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee

PLEASE. Do not cut public media. Private media is controlled by private interests.

Randy Brown
Alaskan

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Doniece Gott

From: Lynn McAloon <bubandlynn@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 5:39 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: No cuts to public media :Senate Bill 22

Dear Alaska Senators:

Today, the Senate Finance Subcommittee chose to zero out the budget for Alaska Public Media. I realize that Alaska faces a major budget shortfall and must make difficult fiscal choices, however, as part of the Alaska public broadcasting community, Alaska Public Media provides free over-the-air and online non-commercial public service programming and community-based services to unserved and underserved audiences throughout Alaska. Please reconsider these budget cuts as I believe Alaska Public Media provides a vital service to the people of Alaska.

Thank you for your consideration,

Lynn McAloon
PO Box 3
Cantwell, AK 99729

Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Rebekah Riley <rjralaska@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 9:15 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public Broadcasting in Alaska

Public Broadcasting and Media in Alaska is VITAL to adult and child education and entertainment about our state and our world! Via radio, TV, podcasts and live-streaming, the world comes to us!

The majority of my friends and their friends here in Alaska and the lower 48 are consumers of NPR/APRN/APM/PBS and other affiliates. We often speak about the news, the stories, the shows and the world music we hear and see on public broadcasting. As adults who value learning about our state and the world at large, Public Broadcasting is an EXCELLENT tool for us. We don't go to school anymore as adults but still wish to learn about happenings, history and the world at large! Public Broadcasting gives us that.

A lot of folks I know who are not regular consumers enjoy some of the podcasts like the ones at the following link: <http://www.alaskapublic.org/programs/>

Yes, Alaska is in a budget crisis. Mostly due to poor decision-making by the state congress for many years. However, congress is forcing us to face:

Income taxes (too few people here work - make it a sales tax where everyone pays)
Fewer law enforcement and public safety services (crime is on the rise)
Under-maintained winter roads (I can't afford to be in a wreck physically or my car being totaled)
A slashed PFD (take it if it means no income tax)
Slashed education (REALLY? This makes no sense!)
A drug problem with a severe shortage of detox beds and other services (drug abuse is overwhelming us)
Villages with no plumbing or infrastructure support (villages are being washed into the sea and people get sick with no plumbing increasing healthcare costs)
Poor ferry services (folks need to get from place to place for work, etc.)
The list goes ON and ON to now include Public Broadcasting! ENOUGH!

All while you guys continue to receive and ABUSE OUTLANDISH per diems, office slush funds, subsidized cafes (you get that big per diem, a nice salary for 90 days of service and meals out with lobbyists - why do we need to also subsidize your café?), campaign funds to use at your discretion, LIO buildings - yes, plural, and furnishings, needless travel expenses for work that can be done by video conference, paid moving expenses to and from the capitol... This list also goes ON and ON. Do you not read the paper and understand we know this stuff?

These cuts to the services we PAY FOR and PAY YOU to manage for us are all being cut while you guys make poor decisions for our money - lots of it for your personal and office benefit. I cry FOUL on this!

We, your employers, are FED UP with this situation! We are not stupid and completely see that we are being forced into having very little service for our money while you guys take no cuts whatsoever.

Until you guys get your house in order by getting your work done in 90 days (limiting the above funds might be an incentive to do that), diversifying Alaska's economy by stopping relying on and participating in a dying and corrupt oil industry, stopping taking per diem while working within reasonable driving distance from work and

stop giving excuses such as needing more sports coats, not being able to "make due" on an annual salary you make in three months, needing to move your entire family to the capitol (folks work on the slope away from their families for more than 90 days a year); the ON and ON list of corruption, I will not remotely agree with the cuts you propose for us and will make sure my vote counts you out at our next election.

So, back to Public Broadcasting which really is a useful benefit to our society (check out how many supporters they have and at least double that for listeners who do not contribute - it's totally popular because it counts, a LOT!).

To you guys, funding PB is a "drop in the bucket" that can just be erased as a non-essential. Well, I've read in the paper that many congress members consider your outlandish expenses are also a "drop in the bucket" for saving our state so fixing them is not really going to make a difference. Your "drop" is much larger than that of PB and not as important, right - you must admit to this as I'm sure many of you also enjoy PB?

So leave us our educational broadcasting and lessen your "drop in the bucket" and POSSIBLY gain some respect in this crisis. And POSSIBLY keep your seats in the next election.

Respectfully
Rebekah Riley
Wasilla

Doniece Gott

From: René Azzara <azzara@rocketmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 9:41 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Bill 22

Public media is essential for Alaska. I want you to continue to provide full funding with NO CUTS. Our public stations serve as communication and emergency lifelines for rural parts of the state. It provides much of the programming that I watch and value.

Thank you,

René Azzara
48400 Aura Lane
Soldotna, AK 99669

Doniece Gott

From: Sandy Stolle <s_stolle@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 9:50 PM
To: Sen. Anna MacKinnon; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Mike Dunleavy; Sen. Donny Olson; Senate Finance Committee; Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Funding/ AK Public Media

Dear Senators,

I do know that the state has dire fiscal problems, BUT Alaska Public Media is essential for keeping Alaskans connected and informed of important issues. Alaska Weather is essential not only for pilots, mariners, bush travel, and even planing a winter drive to Anchorage for a doctor visit from Seward. That program is just one example. How about explaining the deficient on 'Talk of Alaska'? What would happen if state wide-notices need to go out after a major earthquake.

Do you know how many Alaskans feel so strongly about public media that they pledge their own financial support?

I urge you to support funding for AK Public Media!!!

Sandy Stolle
PO Box 2363
Seward, Ak 99664

Doniece Gott

From: Robert Archibald <robert.e.archibald@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 11:18 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Operating Budget & Alaska Public Radio Funding

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members,

I would like to speak to you about maintaining funding for Public Communication Services, specifically Public Broadcast Radio.

In Homer, Radio Station KBBI, an Alaska Public Radio Station, is supported by several funding sources. Federal funding is based on non federal funding sources, (NFFS).

NFFS is composed of State of Alaska Grant, local membership and underwriting revenue.

If State funding is cut, many Public Radio Stations in Alaska will find it difficult to survive as federal funding will be reduced proportionally.

The importance to the Homer area in having a local radio station which can operate in emergency situations and disseminate information cannot be over emphasized. The importance of factual news during a natural event i.e. volcanic eruption, earth quake, tsunami or fire could mean the difference to life or death.

As a long time Alaskan, I can realize how hard and time consuming this budget crises is and the importance of tightening our belts to improve our states fiscal situation, however the importance of our Alaska Public Radio Station, KBBI should be considered. I urge you to consider all means to continue funding Alaska Communication Services.

Thank you for your service in this difficult time.

Respectfully,

Robert Archibald

PO Box 2460

Homer, AK. 99603

Doniece Gott

From: josef quitslund <quitslund@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 11:30 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: public radio

To whom it may concern

I'm rather dismayed to hear state funding for public radio is talked of being cut entirely, thats how I get my news! As a public good I see it as a Vital connection to community, state, and world news. Our local station, KFSK, is a great community asset, that hosts many views and music that keeps us connected. I know the state is in tough economic times because of the radio, but surely not because of the radio which keeps so many of us engaged and up to date with the state of affairs. I volunteer at the station and have been a member in good standing for many years, and would dread the thought of it's absence not having a ready community connection and being stuck with Fox Views, what a depressing state indeed, if you've ever seen that absurd view of the world. In many small towns we are lucky to have a radio station to carry our various voices that keep us connected and informed, which would cost the state dearly indeed to lose. please consider other funding options, taxes really aren't bad if they are going to public good. Josef Q

Doniece Gott

From: nicole arevalo <genehackmanwho@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 5:52 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Cc: Sen. Gary Stevens
Subject: Public Testimony for Operating Budget

Senators of the Finance Committee,

I request that this testimony also be forwarded to Senator Gary Stevens of my district.

With respect given to your positions as representatives of our populace, I have chosen to testify on one specific aspect of the current State Operating Budget offered by the Senate. It is not sensible to cut State funding to public radio. This funding provides so much to the residents of Alaska, particularly in our vast rural places, and yet represents so very small a portion of the State budget.

Removing State funds from public radio effectively guts the well-developed system that Alaska has created to provide service to our communities. This is not in small part due to the fact that stations rely on this non-federal funding to be eligible for much needed Corporation for Public Broadcasting grants, the loss of which will result in loss of the services that communities rely on. Therefore, if Alaska's Legislature eliminates this small expenditure, stations will be forced to deeply limit or even abandon community services, locally-relevant services that only the medium of public radio can provide in many of Alaska's population areas.

National media services and the internet do offer many worthy news and listening options, but none come close to replacing the coverage of real-time events at the state, regional, and particularly local levels that public radio does for us on a daily basis. Alaska is a small population state that covers a grand area.

Many of our population live in places where television and reliable internet are not available. Local stations provide information that local people rely on and need, particularly in situations of emergency or severe weather- we rely in these services - this fact has been made clear over the last several legislative sessions.

Cutting this item from the State budget serves only to deprive the Alaskan people of news and media services that are relevant to them, specifically, as people of the 49th state. Getting rid of public radio funding certainly would not do much to alleviate the state's budgetary woes.

So, please, make the sensible choice and scratch the elimination of public broadcasting funding from the budget proposal. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Nicole Arevalo
3059 Kachemak Dr
Homer, AK 99603

Doniece Gott

From: jsteelearn <jsteelearn@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 7:35 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: funding for Alaska public broadcasting and the satellite funds

Honorable Alaskan Finance Committee Members:

I write today urging your support to maintain the important funding for Alaskan Public Broadcasting and statewide satellite delivery.

I have lived in Alaska since 1979 and find significant enrichment to my quality of life associated with my personal and the States financial commitment to APB mission and programming.

I urge your support to maintain present funding levels. I also wish to express my support for other revenue sources such as a State income tax, increased taxes on gasoline, alcohol, and tobacco.

Times are challenging and I appreciate your further considerations for a balanced approach that includes increased revenues as part of our approach in dealing with our current financial climate.

Regards,

Jonathan Steele
2501 Douglas Drive
Anchorage, AK 99517

Sent from my iPhone