

Operating  
Budget Public  
Testimony  
Public  
Broadcasting  
System

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** daniel papke <missingakick@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 12:48 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** SB 22 Opposition

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to voice strong objection to the proposed SB 22.

The main focus of my opposition to this bill is in the gutting of funds for public broadcasting, and more specifically, to public radio.

I am a 17 year resident of Skagway AK, as well as a new land owner.

Here, as in all rural locations in our state, which is to say nearly all locations in our state, public radio is a lifeline for us. Public radio is where we get our weather, our news, our safety updates and information, road conditions, reporting, ties to the outside world, listener personals, and, regardless of the perceived importance, our entertainment. Personally, I cannot even imagine rural life without the radio. Perhaps, for just a moment, you might be willing to give it a try. Entertain me on this, please: imagine waking up in rural Alaska, turning on the radio, and there's no sound. Imagine getting in your car, again silence. Imagine having no idea what the weather is going to be that day, that week. Imagine having no idea what the road conditions are. Imagine working in silence, coming home in silence, spending the weekends in silence.

Please consider that radio is utterly crucial to many of us in Alaska. And please consider that the funding of public radio is a tiny drop in the bucket of your overall yearly budget. Maybe you can take one less business trip this year? That might fund a good chunk of public radio. Maybe you could not buy new office chairs this year? I am certain that there are ways to save money in our state that aren't so invasive to the quality of life of the very citizens that enable you to even be in the position to make these decisions. I mean, there comes a point where you have to ask yourselves: how much cutting can there be? Please, ask yourselves that. If you keep cutting and cutting and cutting and cutting, eventually you will only be serving the purpose of keeping yourselves employed. We pay various taxes, we give you half of our dividends, and now there's talk of us paying you income tax. And for what? So you can keep providing less and less services? What is the point? Do you think we elected you to just keep taking services away from us? Not "hand-outs" mind you. I work hard for my paycheck and I take pride in that. I'm talking about quality of life, radio, arts, entertainment, roads, ferry service, the things that make working worth it. Take the money from the oil giants who come in, get rich, and then leave. Take the money from the tourists who will pay it gladly because they've spent their lives dreaming of coming to Alaska. Take it from the cruise ship industry, from the timber industry, from any of the rich and privileged entities that see far more "hand outs" than any of us blue collar workers would ever even dare to ask for.

Please, I beg of you, reconsider this bill as it stands. Find ways to balance your budget that don't harm the people who live and work here. We can only give up so much.

Please show the people of Alaska that you care about us, that you support the arts and the humanities. Show us that culture is important to you. Show the rest of the world that there is more to Alaska than just oil.

Please do not kill the radio.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to voice my opinion,

Daniel Papke  
Carpenter/Joiner  
Public Radio Enthusiast

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** neil waggoner <akneil@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 12:33 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Do not cut funding for Alaska public broadcasting.

Dear Alaska Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to voice my opposition to funding cuts to Alaska public broadcasting. Public media provides information to people across Alaska and is integral to having a well informed and educated population. I have been listening to alaska public media since I was a young child and it would be a disservice to society in Alaska if funding is cut.

Please institute an income tax, rework the tax credits for the oil companies so they pay their share, and cap the PFD at \$1,000 with

Thanks for considering my comment.

Neil Waggoner, PE  
1911 Alder Dr  
Anchorage, AK 99508

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Linda Herff <l\_herff@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 12:12 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** SB 22

I am requesting that you please consider keeping our ferries running and our public radio station and PBS running.

Both are life bloods here in South East Alaska. Along with everything else that will be cut, these are 2 items that help

keep us together on a daily basis.

Thank you so much,

Linda Herff

P.O. Box 1186

Petersburg, AK 99833

email: l\_herff@hotmail.com

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Bill Tremblay <brtrembla@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 11:44 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Fund Public Radio and Television

The safety of the citizens of the State of Alaska shouldn't be a political football. Many communities across the State of Alaska depend on public radio and television for weather and emergency broadcasting. What are the alternatives? Not every community has access to cable or other radio stations.

Before attacking these programs, you really need to look at the local support in volunteers, members to the stations, businesses who underwrite programs (both local and State-wide contributors), and local governments who depend on these stations. I suggest that these are the constituents who you will lose if you don't continue to support public radio and television.

Bill Tremblay  
P.O. Box 662  
Petersburg, AK 99833  
(907) 772-4461

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** David Berg <David@AlaskaFerry.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 11:02 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Cc:** orin@kfsk.org; 'Tom Abbott'  
**Subject:** funding for public broadcasting

Federal funding for public radio is based upon your legislative support from the State of Alaska.

Our local radio station, KFSK-FM, is our only available radio station and supplies both local news, but also State, Nation and International news. It's not like the big cities in Alaska where there are commercial options for radio news.

Your funding of Public Radio in Alaska is vitally important for us to stay abreast of the important things that are happening around the world. Please consider re-instating public radio funding.

Thanks

Dave

David Berg

218 Mitkof Hwy

Petersburg, AK 99833-1435

907-772-3818

[www.alaskaferryvacations.com](http://www.alaskaferryvacations.com)

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Sara Loewen <sara.loewen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 11:01 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** please

Our public radio station is very important to this small fishing community.

Please maintain funding for public media in line with Governor Walker's proposal.

Thank you,

Sara Loewen

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Kristin Hall <heykristinhall@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 10:50 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Keep Public Broadcasting Strong in Alaska

Good day,

While I know the state's current budget situation is complicated and hard to prioritize, I am disappointed to see the Senate Finance Subcommittee's proposed budget cuts to public broadcasting in SB22. Please bear in mind one of the very platforms citizens are able to view Legislative hearings is through 360 North. Senator Dunleavy himself has encouraged citizens to utilize this invaluable service. **360 North is a service made possible by public broadcasting.** I see it irresponsible to make this recommendation without communicating, this too, is currently on the chopping block.

The Committee is currently proposing to zero out funding for Alaska public broadcasting and cut the satellite funds by \$160,000. This would lead to a devastating breakdown to our statewide news service and many of the smaller rural stations around the state cannot afford additional cuts (after seeing astronomical cuts over the past two fiscal years).

Nearly the entire annual appropriation of approximately 2.63 million for the entire statewide public media system consisting of twenty-six radio licensees, four television licensees, and one statewide radio news network, the Alaska Public Radio Network (APRN), a collaborative system reaching 95% of the state's population would be eliminated by the proposed budget submitted by the Senate Finance Committee.

Here's a complete list of stations impacted.

### Alaska Public Broadcasting Stations & Organizations

Anchorage	KSKA-FM/KAKM-TV/APRN	Ketchikan	KRBD-FM
Anchorage	KNBA-FM	Kodiak	KMXT-FM
Barrow	KBRW-AM/FM	Kotzebue	KOTZ-AM/FM
Bethel	KYUK-AM/FM/TV	McGrath	KSKO-FM
Chevak	KCUK-FM	Petersburg	KFSK-FM
Dillingham	KDLG-AM/FM	Sand Point	KSDP-AM
Fairbanks	KUAC-FM/TV	Saint Paul	KUHB-FM
Fort Yukon	KZPA-AM	Sitka	KCAW-FM
Galena	KIYU-FM	Talkeetna	KTNA-FM
Haines	KHNS-FM	Unalaska	KUCB-FM
Homer	KBBI-AM	Unalakleet	KNSA-AM
Juneau	KTOO-FM/TV, KRNN, KXLL	Valdez	KCHU-AM
Kenai	KDLL-FM	Wrangell	KSTK-FM

In addition, the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission and Alaska Public Broadcasting, Inc will be completely eliminated. APRN, the only statewide radio news organization served by 40 journalism

professionals who live in specific geographic regions and population centers throughout the state will no longer exist.

I know there are many priorities to address in what seems like little time to do so, and ensuring these issues are communicated to our citizens through public broadcasting is imperative to the livelihood of the state and its citizens. We are only able to take on these issues as well informed citizens. I urge you to protect the future of public broadcasting in the state of Alaska.

Again, thank you for your service and dedication.

Respectfully,  
K. Hall

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Berube, Brian J <bjberube@anthc.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 10:40 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Public Broadcast Funding

Good Morning,

I now live in Anchorage but spent many years in rural Alaska. While living there I learned just how crucial public radio is to our states residents. It's not only where we get our news but how we communicate travel risks, weather, coordinate search and rescue and entertain eachother. Public broadcasting is essential everywhere, but can be a life and death issue in our unique state.

Please protect this vital public institution and do not zero out their funding.

Thanks

Brian Berube

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Russell Lyman <russ@cloudburstproductions.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 10:29 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** budget regarding public broadcasting

Hello Members of the Finance Committee,

I am an Alaskan constituent who lives in Haines, AK.

I'm writing in response to news of your plan to zero-out funding for public broadcasting, and ask that you re-consider. Our local public radio station is our source of local, and regional, information on such public safety issues as marine and local weather updates and road closures, as well as a source of local news, and playing a role in early childhood education and promoting civil discussions. Cutting all funding will have the effect of completely shutting down our public broadcasting.

It is a very small piece of the overall budget, so please continue funding for public broadcasting.

Thank you,  
Russ Lyman  
Haines, Alaska  
russ@cloudburstproductions.net

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Elizabeth Van Burgh <betsvburgh@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 10:26 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** SB22 - Don't cut funding for public media

PLEASE do NOT CUT FUNDING for Public Radio. It is vital to our small towns here in Alaska. Many of us do not have reliable internet service to be able to get news. Local and state news, wx forecasts, ferry info, etc are very important to us, as well as good national news. We do not have TV to take its place.

Please think about many of us who live in small towns and depend heavily on Public Radio.

Thank you

Elizabeth Van Burgh  
Box 122  
Haines, AK

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Sandra Garity <aksandy612@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 10:11 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Public Radio Funding

I am responding to the budget cut of public radio funding. We are at the end of the road here and fairly isolated. This community relies heavily on the current and available information that we get from the radio. Many of us here do not have television and the radio is our source of information and entertainment and a vital part of our everyday lives. We rely on the public radio for essential daily local, regional and state information. We also receive essential local and community health, public safety and emergency information by radio. In the situation of a Tsunami, the risk zones are announced as well as the sirens are originated from the radio station.

Our weather is regularly updated, which is a large part of our lives whether by land, air or water. The local radio station serves a broad area. Without the information by radio it would take longer to respond and impact our public safety.

I am requesting to please fund this very important part of our lives locally and in Alaska.

Thank you

Sandra Garity

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Joe Bottoms <joebottoms1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 10:08 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Public radio testimony

Hello,

I want to add my voice to the record about why public radio is important to me. In Alaska, more than anywhere else, public radio is a crucial community link accessible through the one media that is virtually guaranteed to be had universally by the population. Facing an uncertain economic future in the state, it is more important than ever to support means that build inclusive communities rather than allowing avenues of local connectivity to go stagnant while the people form niches that divides the community.

Thanks for your time,

Joe Bottoms  
Kodiak

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Melissa Reese <mrrhodesreese@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 2:22 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee; Sen. Pete Kelly; Sen. Anna MacKinnon; Sen. Peter Micciche;  
Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Mike Dunleavy; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Donny Olson  
**Subject:** Alaska Public Media

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing in support of funding for Alaska Public Media. I am a Juneau resident and believe that public media is an integral component of Alaskan communities. Without access to Alaska Public Media communities will be in the dark about significant events that are occurring in or around their communities.

When I travel throughout the state one of the first things I do is determine the public media station so I can be aware of significant events going on within the community. It could be something as simple as being aware of a community music festival or being informed when tragedy strikes, like the recent event that occurred in the Bering Sea. Alaska Public Media is also there when emergencies occur. If there is a loss of power, which is a regular occurrence in this state, Alaska Pubic Media can be picked up on a battery powered radio informing residents about the theoretical emergency situation. I hope this committee reconsiders cutting funds from essential programs to close the budget gap. Cutting funding means cutting jobs and that causes economic loss, especially in rural communities.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Melissa Rhodes-Reese  
PO Box 210443  
Auke Bay, AK  
99821

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Theresa Wirak <theresawirak@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 2:14 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Cc:** Sen. Dennis Egan; Sen. Dennis Egan  
**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**

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**From:** Becky Aschenbrenner <weebee@mtaonline.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 2:13 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Public Broadcasting

Dear Alaska Senators:

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

Thank you for your consideration,

Becky Aschenbrenner  
Cantwell, Alaska

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Dawn Dinwoodie <dinwoodiedawn@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 2:09 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

Please do not cut any funding to Alaska public broadcasting. This is essential service for rural Alaska. I live in urban AK and believe in the importance of public broadcasting to rural Alaska because my family in the interior of Alaska rely on this essential service. I enjoy public broadcasting in Anchorage as well. The late Sen. Ted Stevens believed in investing in rural Alaska and the importance of public broadcasting for all of Alaska due to the nature of our state's size and the importance of rural Alaska. Ted Stevens did not shun rural Alaska or believe its residents were to be treated any less than Alaskans that lived in the city.

Suggested areas to cut include the office building that you built downtown for yourselves and your own travel and admin budgets.

Thank you,  
Dawn Dinwoodie

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Therese Tomasoski <tomasoski@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 1:52 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Public Media, budget

Dear Finance Committee,

I understand we need to cut the budget but public media is very important to me and my community. It is an excellent source of news and entertainment. I listen To APRN daily and enjoy the shows On AK public media. I honestly would rather have a sales tax then all these ridiculous cuts to education and services our community needs. Due to school budget cuts, school sports are going to be \$300 each! If we want our children to be healthy individuals that can work as a team and become strong leaders, we need to get the price reasonable. Already the community complains that there is nothing for teens to do and wonder why they get involved in drugs and now we make it unaffordable to play a school sport! We are only hurting ourselves in the future and it won't be sustainable.

We were lucky to get a PFD, but it is not a right. The oil isn't there any more and we as Alaskans need to learn not to depend on it. Use that money to balance the budget. Making a choice that people don't always like initially is hard but please know that they're people out here that understand and will support you.

Thanks,

Therese Tomasoski  
17405 MARCUS Baker Dr  
Palmer, AK 99645

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Kathy Marchlinski <vkmarchlinski@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 1:51 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Public Radio

I am writing to implore you not to cut funding for public radio and broadcasting in Alaska. In Cantwell, AK, Fairbanks public radio is the only station we can get and in Anchorage, it is the only station we listen to. Since we value our local stations, we most often watch public television at home. It is a drop in the bucket money-wise and adds so much to the quality of our lives here in Alaska.

Thank you,

Registered voter, property owner  
Virginia Marchlinski

Sent from my iPhone

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Laura Creighton, DC <lmc3dc@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 1:51 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Cc:** Sen. Gary Stevens  
**Subject:** Support Public Broadcasting.

Senate Finance Committee:

I urge you to maintain support for public broadcasting in Alaska, in line with Governor Walker's proposal. I've lived in Kodiak for 13 years, and have found the local public radio station, KMXT, incredibly valuable. They offer daily news and community announcements, and are a central hub of information. Public broadcasting is one of America's best investments, at only \$1.35 per citizen per year.

Thank you,

Laura Creighton, DC

Creighton Chiropractic Clinic  
Kodiak, AK

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** George Reifenstein <reifenak@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 1:48 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Supporting Funding for Public Broadcasting

Dear Senate Finance Committee:

I've been an Alaskan resident for 48 years, serve on the KTOO board of directors and ask that you preserve a responsible level of funding for public broadcasting. With larger stations providing content and support to a network of smaller stations and signal translators public broadcasting provides a community service that reaches over 95% of Alaska's population.

In addition to its role in broadcasting state and federal Emergency Alert System and public health and safety alerts, our public broadcasting system fulfills a vital need in bringing rural and urban Alaska together with relevant local, regional and state news coverage. Programs like Gavel Alaska and collaborations like APRN bring legislative sessions and other important governmental proceedings into our lives to provide a connection in understanding how our state works.

I oppose any further reductions in funding to Public broadcasting and ask that you consider these comments during your budget deliberations.

Thank You,  
George Reifenstein  
4202 Auke Lane  
Juneau, AK 99801

Thursday, March 16, 2017

## **Dear ladies and gentlemen of the Alaska Senate Finance Committee:**

I am a long-time member of the non-profit corporation known most commonly by their radio call sign as KTOO in Juneau, Alaska. I occasionally volunteer my personal time to the station during pledge drives, and am an annual contributor of enough of my own money to the station's operations to be a member of their Summit Club. I am also a member of KTOO's Community Advisory Board which meets three times a year for one hour during lunch. I have to bring my own lunch to those meetings. KTOO does not offer free coffee. **I freely offer my personal time and personal funds to KTOO because I believe in supporting a well-equipped, decently financed, and competently staffed news and communication system in my own community. More specifically, I support KTOO because it enables individuals to express themselves and make presentations, interactively, through the statewide digital network, to all the other communities around the state, the nation, and the world.**

**Therefore,** I am writing to urge each of the members of your committee to support the continued appropriation of "backbone" funds essential to the maintenance and operations of public radio and television outlets across the state of Alaska. More importantly, financing these services should be increased in the budget now under your consideration. In that way, public communications – as with other basic community services like education, and police and fire protection – can be assured in the same way, in stable annual budgets.

**Public financing and support of non-commercial radio and television communications across the state of Alaska tie the people of Alaska together.** These communications occur increasingly in real time as communications technology improves. At the very least this communication capability is the backbone of a statewide system of public safety when time is of the essence following community disaster, or private injury or sickness, or in calling attention to the sudden possibility of local economic opportunity. Most importantly, remote communications technologies in education and medicine are maturing rapidly, and are making it possible to bring interactive distance education, and real time medical services and procedures into every community in Alaska no matter how remote from Alaska's rail belt.

**Finally,** Alaska's publicly financed radio and television systems connect us with the rest of the world, and make it possible for Alaskans in every community to participate in events outside our community and across the planet using web access technologies like those of KTOO's 360 North and KTOO.org. With those facilities residents here can participate, and can be as well-educated, as well-informed on the news of the day, and as up-to-date on the cultural historic, and business events, of our times, as it is with most of the people in all the great cities and places of the world.

This is the modern world of global communications, and we Alaskans want your assurance that we will each have our place in it.

**To the members of this committee:** Please don't reduce the amount of state of Alaska general funds, under consideration by your committee, or take them away from the mix of public, private, non-profit, and personal funds, and volunteer time, like mine, that are necessary to maintain high production standards in the operation of Alaska's public communication's system and programming. Rather, do the right thing and propose an increase in the amount of those state general funds for the 2018 fiscal year.

**Jerry Smetzer; Juneau, Alaska; (907) 586-1215**

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Tony Habra <ahabra@hbsd.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 12:59 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** SB22 - Don't cut funding for public media

To whom it may concern,

In our community, no Public Radio means no radio. Fiscal responsibility is important, but we will not be able to cut our way to solvency. Time to raise some money instead of cutting things the small communities rely upon for communication.

Thank you for work and consideration,

Tony Habra  
(907) 766-6725  
Haines Borough School District

*Graduating lifelong learners with the confidence, skills and knowledge to realize their aspirations and contribute to a changing world.*

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Melanie Lesh <jimel@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 12:49 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Cc:** Bill Legere  
**Subject:** Save Public Broadcasting in Alaska SFC Testimony

March 16, 2017

Members of Senate Finance Committee

Dear Senators,

Please accept my written testimony for the record in favor of restoring the Department of Administration Public Services component to the Governor's budget request level. You hear from just the tip of the iceberg each year of public radio and television listeners. I for one completely disagree with the SFC Administration subcommittee's recommendations to obliterate public funding for Public Communications Services. I would love to echo the words of Sen. Egan in his defense of public broadcasting.

This service is more important in Alaska than in any other state.

I am a long-time former legislative staffer, and a board member for Coast Alaska.

As a resident of Gustavus – a small, remote community near Glacier Bay National Park in Southeast, I rely heavily on public broadcasting for my connection to the rest of the region, state, national and international news — especially what is happening in the Legislature. Public broadcasting is critical to those of us in rural Alaska who are completely dependent on this service for news, weather, and other vital communications.

These cuts threaten to cut off my community with the vital link of radio service. Many communities served by public broadcasting do not also have commercial stations. We also do not have broadband internet service which severely restricts our ability to use the internet for our news and public alert needs.

In my case; KTOO – an urban radio station — has chosen to serve Hoonah, Excursion Inlet, Icy Strait ~ and Gustavus with our only broadcast service; which requires ongoing investments in infrastructure and maintenance.

Public broadcasting connects our state. Unlike power and utilities, **there is an Alaska communication grid.** Public broadcasting is it!

Please do not dismantle this crucial grid, or interpret the loss of oil related state revenues in a way that will damage existing infrastructures.

Personally - I'd like to see the legislature renew a state income and/or sales tax -- and ask citizens to ante up -- and **contribute**, a familiar word to public broadcasting members (we pay what we can afford to help sustain public radio).

Finally, I would like to thank you all for carefully utilizing the state's rainy day accounts — we've been preparing for these lean years for decades.

Sincerely,

Melanie G. Lesh

P.O. Box 6  
Gustavus, AK 99826  
(907) 697-2354

	Column	Trans Type	Total Expenditures	Personal Services	Travel	Services	Commodities	Capital Outlay	Grants	Misc	PP1	PP1	18P
<b>Public Communications Services</b>													
Public Broadcasting Commission													
5 DOA 4 - Delete Public Broadcasting Commission Funding	SCS2	Dec	-46.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	46.7	0.0	0	0	0
Offered by Senator Durlevy													
1004 Gen Fund (UGF)			-46.7										
<b>* Allocation Difference *</b>			-46.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	46.7	0.0	0	0	0
<b>Public Broadcasting - Radio</b>													
5 DOA 5 - Eliminate state assistance for Radio public broadcasting	SCS2	Dec	-2,036.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2,036.6	0.0	0	0	0
Offered by Senator Durlevy													
1004 Gen Fund (UGF)			-2,036.6										
<b>* Allocation Difference *</b>			-2,036.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2,036.6	0.0	0	0	0
<b>Public Broadcasting - T.V.</b>													
5 DOA 6 - Eliminate state assistance for TV public broadcasting	SCS2	Dec	-633.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	633.3	0.0	0	0	0
Offered by Senator Durlevy													
1004 Gen Fund (UGF)			-633.3										
<b>* Allocation Difference *</b>			-633.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	633.3	0.0	0	0	0
<b>Satellite Infrastructure</b>													
5 DOA 7 - Eliminate Satellite Infrastructure Grant to Public Broadcasting	SCS2	Dec	160.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-160.0	0.0	0	0	0
Offered by Senator Durlevy													
1004 Gen Fund (UGF)			160.0						-160.0				
<b>* Allocation Difference *</b>			160.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-160.0	0.0	0	0	0
<b>** Appropriation Difference **</b>			2,876.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-2,876.6	0.0	0	0	0
<b>Legal and Advocacy Services</b>													
Office of Public Advocacy													
5 DOA 8 - Delete unrealizable federal receipts	SCS2	Dec	-200.0	0.0	0.0	-200.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
Offered by Senator Durlevy													
1002 Fed Rcpts (Fed)			-200.0			-200.0							
<b>* Allocation Difference *</b>			-200.0	0.0	0.0	-200.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
<b>** Appropriation Difference **</b>			-200.0	0.0	0.0	-200.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
<b>Alaska Public Offices Commission</b>													
Alaska Public Offices Commission													
5 DOA 9 - Delete unrealizable GF/Program Receipt authority	SCS2	Dec	-100.0	0.0	0.0	-100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
Offered by Senator Durlevy													
1005 GF/Prgrm (OGF)			-100.0			-100.0							

2017-03-15 14:18:39

Legislative Finance Division

Page: 2

Senator Egan's testimony excerpted:

- Because eliminating all the state funding for public telecommunications is a big mistake. I spent 45 years as a private sector broadcaster. For most of those years I owned a bunch of private stations. But here I am again speaking up for the public guys!

- It's important to realize how Alaska would lose if this money stays out of the budget.

- It looks like a little satellite money is still in here. But even if ARCS' funding isn't eliminated, this cut kills the public TV stations that push out almost all of ARCS' content to the 185 villages it serves.

- So it's effectively gone — that means no Alaska TV out there: no emergency communications about tsunamis or winter storms, no statewide news, no Alaska weather.

- Alaska's 26 public radio stations and 4 public TV stations have handled a huge level of cuts already. 5 years ago TV was 30% higher than this. Radio was 65% higher.
  
- So this amendment restores the governor's request level — which is already really underfunded.
  
- o The governor's request is so low that Alaska stations will leave 6% of the federal funds for radio and 14% for TV on the table.
  
- o If we go to zero, it's game over for 26 radio stations, 60 translators, and 4 TV stations.
  
- That means a bunch of private sector jobs. Between state support, federal money, and local contributions, this cut would drive Alaska another 170, maybe 200 jobs deeper into this recession.
  
- And there's another thing that would go away if we don't pass the amendment: Gavel to Gavel coverage of the Legislature.
  
- o It's funded by local Juneau tax dollars and private donations.
  
- o But it's only possible because there's already a TV station in place to add it on to. If the amendment doesn't pass, and the cut goes through, Alaskans won't be able to watch what we do during the session. Transparency in Alaska government would go bye-bye.
  
- Mr. Chairman, I ask you to adopt the amendment.

ALASKA PUBLIC MEDIA  
3877 University Drive  
Anchorage, Alaska 99508  
M 907.550.8400  
F 907.550.8401



March 16, 2017

Senate Finance Committee Co-Chairs  
Honorable Senator Pete Kelly  
Honorable Senator Anna MacKinnon

Dear Senators,

First, thank you for your service. The tireless and often thankless work in which you engage on behalf of all Alaskans often goes unrecognized. Especially, during the challenging economic times in which we find ourselves. However, after learning that the Senate Finance Committee you co-chair recommends completely defund public broadcasting in our state, I am compelled to write and share with you, from my perspective as a professional broadcaster with over ten years of experience, information about a vital service Alaskan's stand to lose if these cuts become law.

Public broadcasting, or what we now call public media, operates on three mission-driven principles: the creation and distribution of instructional, educational and cultural programming; civil dialog, civic information, and community engagement; **and free, reliable, redundant access to potentially lifesaving public safety information and alerts.**

The cuts proposed by your committee put all of these services in jeopardy, especially in rural communities throughout our state. One area of loss, however, gives me the greatest concern. **That is the potentially quick erosion of Alaska's public safety information infrastructure.**

The Alaskan EAS service is governed by a State EAS Plan. This plan designates distribution systems and listening and relaying assignments for stations. Public radio stations represent eleven (11) out of the State's twenty-two (22) "Local Primary Stations", those stations who are the primary source of EAS information in their region. All eleven (11) are rural stations. ARCS provides a "State Relay Network", a source that sixteen (16) of the primary stations use, as do many other "downstream" stations in both urban and rural markets. You can see that the system is integrated and interdependent.

EAS and PBS-AWARN, vital public safety information services of which Alaska Public Media is a primary provider, **will be lost in sole service rural communities throughout the state.**

The ARCS television distribution system, for which there is no market driven substitute, passes on EAS and PBS-AWARN alerts to broadcasters in rural and urban communities via satellite. EAS and PBS-AWARN will be eliminated should the finding cuts proposed by the Senate Finance Committee be adopted. This means, television viewers in the villages will not see and hear EAS or PBS-AWARN alerts at home on their over-the-air TV sets. Bush radio listeners in communities served by translators fed by the satellite system will lose that distribution channel. Radio listeners with only one station would lose local and regional EAS access. Television stations in Anchorage, Mat Su, Kenia, Juneau, Fairbanks, and Bethel will lose access to ARCS as a listening assignment, weakening EAS and PBS-AWARN capabilities.

ALASKA PUBLIC MEDIA  
3877 University Drive  
Anchorage, Alaska 99508  
M 907.550.8400  
F 907.550.8401



Eventually, state funding cuts will lead to the erosion of these same public safety and infrastructure resources in urban centers that rely on state funding to offset operating expenses that currently fund capital expenditures in support of a collaborative, interdependent statewide public broadcasting system.

Here is an example: Later this month the system will conduct its annual "Live Code" Tsunami Test. It is a unique use of the EAS system to see how effective a real tsunami alert would be should such an event occur. Stations in Anchorage will not broadcast the alert because Anchorage is not in the tsunami zone. However, Anchorage television stations operate translators down the Kenai Peninsula. Alaska Public Media depends on the signal over the ARCS satellite to capture the alert and relay it to translators down the line. These cuts threaten that capability and could one day endanger and potentially lead to greater loss of life if these potentially lifesaving services should cease to exist.

In addition, due in large part to these potential cuts, Alaska will fall behind the Lower 48 when the FCC approves a new digital broadcast transmission standard ATSC 3.0. Public broadcasting in Alaska will be unable to secure the financial resources to leverage new technologies that allow transmission of lifesaving digital information to police, fire, and first responder vehicles. Las Vegas, Houston, Boston, and many other public media institutions have used state investment to build new and innovative lifesaving public safety communications infrastructures.

It should be recognized, that the state investment in Alaska Public Media represents 7% of AKPM's annual budget and costs the state about .54 cents per each Alaskan we serve. With that investment, each year AKPM leverages the state investment and raises an additional \$4.2 Million from individual donors, corporate partners, foundations, and other community partnerships. And AKPM reinvests these community funds to provide state-wide television in partnership with Juneau, Bethel, and APBI-ARCS, statewide radio infrastructure investment (currently the Murdock Foundation and AKPM have funded receiver upgrade project for twenty-four (24) APRN members stations), and a statewide news and information service (with forty (40) journalism professionals employed in the far corners of our state).

It is my hope that this new information will you to reconsider the Senate Finance Committee's recommendation to defund public broadcasting. Should you require additional information or have questions of me, please do not hesitate -- email, write, or call.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward J. Ulman  
CEO & General Manager  
Alaska Public Media

**2016 LOCAL CONTENT AND SERVICE  
 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY**



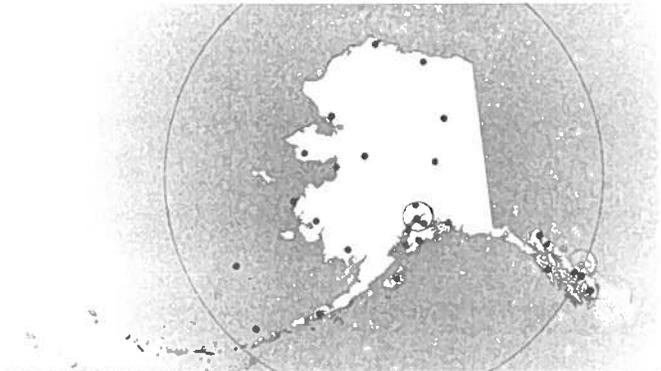
***Connecting Alaskans. Life Informed.***

Alaska Public Media (AKPM) is committed to meeting the needs of our community and state by providing unparalleled programming and services. Our multiple media platforms reach 97 percent of Alaskans including the state's coastal population through: statewide news from the Alaska Public Radio Network (APRN); KAKM-TV, the Alaska Rural Communications System (ARCS), shared television service with KTOO in Juneau and KYUK in Bethel; KSKA-FM and its translators, as well as alaskapublic.org.

We are a shared Public Broadcasting System (PBS) and National Public Radio (NPR) affiliate and a 501(c)(3) organization.

AKPM works to educate people of all ages, partner with local public safety officials to help save lives and provide civic leadership resources to strengthen our democracy. As some of the last locally owned and operated media outlets in the country, public media is an essential community partner that strives to address the specific needs of our communities through on-air, online and on-the-ground resources.

These missions take AKPM far beyond the radio airwaves and the television screen by providing valuable resources to our community.



<p><b>TV reaches</b>  <b>86%</b>          of Alaskans</p>	<p><b>Radio reaches</b>  <b>63%</b>          of Alaskans</p>
<p><b>Statewide news reaches</b>  <b>97%</b>          of Alaskans on 24 member stations</p>	
<p><b>Alaska Public Media has</b>  <b>8,030 members</b>          and  <b>200+ sponsors</b></p>	

EDUCATION

# ALASKA'S LARGEST CLASSROOM



## In My Family

Partnering with and promoting Alaska Native language speakers is the primary goal of *In My Family*. The local children's program features a handmade puppet, Raven,

who learns new words in various Alaska Native languages. Community hosts - who represent a broad spectrum of languages - are eager and pleased to take part. Sixty-two video segments have been created so far; made possible in part by funding from CIRI.

## Line One: Your Health Connection

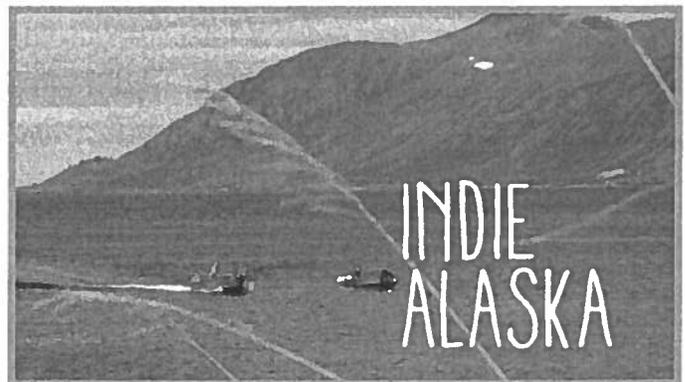
*Line One: Your Health Connection* is a weekly health news, interview and call-in program broadcast live on Monday afternoons at 2 p.m. on KSKA FM 91.1 in Anchorage, Alaska. Hosted by Dr. Thad Woodard, Line One focuses on the latest developments in health care and features national experts and discussions of important health issues and topics.

## Frontier Scientists

From the Alaska Arctic comes a fascinating TV series of programs that entertain as well as inspire. *Frontier Scientists* aims to excite the general public about ongoing science in Alaska and the Arctic. Frontier Scientists is independently produced and funded through a National Science Foundation grant in partnership AKPM.

## PBS KIDS Programming

Each week Alaska Public Television provides more than 50 hours of commercial-free, educational, trusted children's programming your kids enjoy. *PBS KIDS* is committed to making a positive impact on the lives of children through curriculum-based entertainment with positive role models and content designed to nurture a child's total well-being. With a 360-degree approach toward learning and reaching children, PBS KIDS leverages the full spectrum of media and technology to build knowledge, critical thinking, imagination and curiosity. PBS KIDS encourages children to interact as respectful citizens in a diverse society.



## Indie Alaska

*Indie Alaska* is an original video series produced by AKPM in partnership with PBS Digital Studios. More than 110 videos capture the diverse and colorful lifestyles of everyday Alaskans at work and at play. With over 2 million online views, these videos, which also air on television throughout the state, present a fresh and authentic look at living in Alaska.

PUBLIC SAFETY

## A POWERFUL PARTNER

### Alaska Public Media's Emergency Response Plan

In the event of an emergency, AKPM stands ready to respond with critical, lifesaving information from local, state and national agencies. Under the direction of AKPM's news department, broadcast radio, television, and online platforms have and can deliver timely, accurate news and information to ensure public safety and awareness.

AKPM's Emergency Response Plan, which is reviewed and updated annually, takes full advantage of our 24/7 broadcast and online capabilities to serve should a natural and/or man-made emergency occur. In fall 2012, the AKPM news team worked around the clock during a two-day windstorm in Anchorage and Mat-Su areas. We opened up the airwaves to deliver word-of-mouth reports about damage, traffic and safety from vetted citizen journalists throughout the metro area.

### AWARN/EAS

AWARN/EAS provides a diverse, redundant path between FEMA and cellular service providers. Using one-to-many satellite distribution and terrestrial broadcast, PBS AWARN reaches cellular carriers over-the-air. If a cybersecurity incident or internet disruption to a carrier facility breaks the primary connection to FEMA, the PBS AWARN system provides an immediate alternate source of inbound Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) messages. Going beyond industry-standard best practices for system design and operation, PBS AWARN ensures WEA availability to any cellular service provider.



### Alaska Weather

The National Weather Service's statewide public television show *Alaska Weather* is made possible through an extensive production and broadcasting partnership with AKPM. Alaska Weather airs on KAKM-TV in Anchorage, Mat-Su, Kenai, Juneau, Bethel, on KUAC-TV in Fairbanks, 360 North, and the Alaska Public Broadcasting's Alaska Rural Communications Service (ARCS).

### AMBER Alerts

The AMBER Alert Program is a voluntary partnership between law enforcement agencies, broadcasters, transportation agencies and the wireless industry to activate an urgent bulletin in the most serious child-abduction cases. AMBER Alerts instantly galvanize the entire community to assist in the search for and the safe recovery of the child. AMBER Alerts are broadcast through radio, television, road signs and all available technology referred to as the AMBER Alert Secondary Distribution Program. These broadcasts let law enforcement use the eyes and ears of the public to help quickly locate an abducted child.

CIVICS

# STRENGTHENING CITIZENSHIP



## Alaska Public Radio Network

The Alaska Public Radio Network (APRN) provides statewide news from a central newsroom in Anchorage featuring 10 full-time reporters, along with a reporter in Washington D.C., a reporter in Juneau, a videographer, and contributing reporters at over 20 partner public radio stations throughout the state. APRN captures the voices and images of Alaska and shares them with the world. News stories are heard, read, and viewed via the following statewide segments and programs:

- **Alaska Economic Report** – A weekly feature report that examines recent economic activity affecting Alaskans.
- **Alaska Morning News** – A daily news program featuring multiple segments heard during NPR Morning Edition on radio stations throughout the state.
- **Alaska News Nightly** – A 30-minute news program produced five days a week.
- **Alaska's Energy Desk** – A regional journalism collaborative focused on covering energy and environment in Alaska that produces in-depth enterprise reporting for radio, video, and web. The team represents Alaska Public Media in Anchorage, KTOO in Juneau, and KUCB in

Unalaska and is supported with a grant from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

- **Talk of Alaska** – A weekly one-hour statewide call-in program distributed live on the 25 stations of APRN. Listen live and participate each Tuesday at 10 a.m. or subscribe to the podcast to hear the voices of Alaska.



## Community in Unity

*Community in Unity* gives a voice to the voiceless by bridging neighborhoods, fostering diversity and understanding by providing an opportunity to listen, connect, and inform Anchorage citizens in a safe and respectful environment. AKPM opens its studio to the public for this community dialogue program, which airs on radio, to discuss race, gender, family, substance abuse, working poor, housing, immigration, aging and complex issues facing children in the 21st century.

### Debate for the State

Alaska Public Media hosted and produced two debates, one featuring four candidates running for the U.S. House of Representatives and one featuring four candidates running for the U.S. Senate. These live programs aired on Thursday, November 3 throughout the state on public television and radio. C-Span, which is carried on cable systems nationwide, re-broadcast the Senate debate.

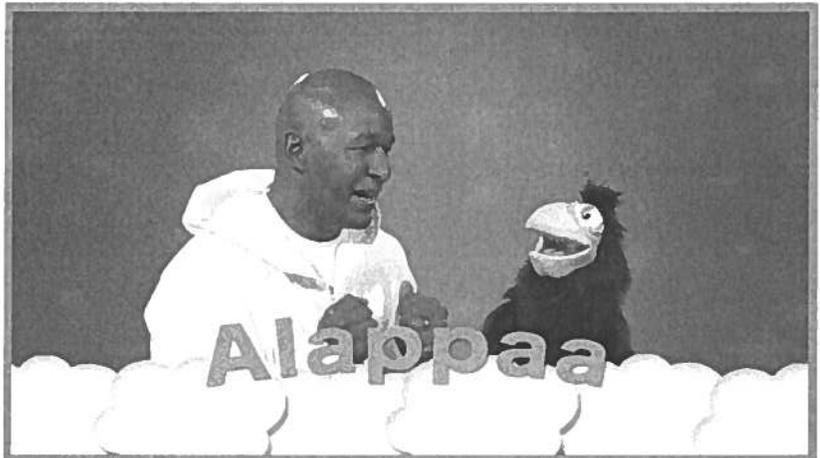
As with all original production at AKPM, these programs were made available online. Debate for the State takes place every two years.

### Running: State Elections

Known to Alaskans as the video voter guide, *Running* captures statewide candidate viewpoints and positions on issues before the primary and the general election. Every candidate running for public office is invited to share their take on the issues of interest to Alaska's citizens. *Running* airs on public television and radio, and can be viewed, listened to and shared online.



**Alaska's Energy Desk: How are Alaska's glaciers transforming the world?** In the past 250 years, glaciers in Glacier Bay National Park have contributed to a higher global sea level. Scientist Dr. Michael Loso explains just how much higher the global water level has risen.



**In My Family: Cold** Jeff Kinneeveauk teaches Raven how to say cold in Iñupiat.

*"Both KSKA and KAKM public radio and television provide essential educational programming that profoundly benefits the entire Anchorage community educationally and thus contributes to our overall well-being. Thank you for the diverse array of programming offered on a daily basis. Our family looks forward to what each day will bring and how our lives we will be enriched. Keep up the good work!"*

*Alexander and Kathleen, Anchorage*

The numerous individuals and institutions that contribute to our company and programs help us keep Alaskans proudly connected to each other, aware of important issues and inspired to live a better, more informed life. Help share these moments by choosing to support Alaska Public Media today.

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Lynne Cameron <bebbpe23@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 3:09 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Budget proposed

Please reinstate Public Broadcasting into the state budget. Especially in Alaska where we are remote from population centers, this service is vital. Here in the northern Lynn Canal Public Broadcasting delivers at least 75% of our news, and the only source of local news tying our communities together

Sent from my iPad

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Heidi Robichaud <scrimqueen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 3:08 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** SB22 - Don't cut funding for public media

I am a 40 year alaska resident, professional and parent and a lifelong listener of public radio and other media. As a social worker, I am keenly aware of the importance of noncommercial sources of information, entertainment and public services. As a 30 year resident of southeast alaska, I am keenly aware of the importance of public radio, KHNS in Haines, in providing critical and emergency community information and local programming and news.

Please do whatever you can to prevent funding cuts to public media. Citizens already pitch in to support public radio, and are willing to do even more, but listeners alone cannot afford all the costs of providing this essential non commercial service. With cuts looming on the federal level as well, I cannot imagine a world without public radio.

Thank you so much for your support.

Heidi Robichaud and Scott Carey  
Haines, Alaska 99827

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Kelly Krueger <kelly.krueger22@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 2:56 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Alaska Public Radio - Do not cut funding!

Hello,

I'm emailing to voice my concerns over Senate Bill 22 to zero out all funding for Alaska public broadcasting. I live on Kodiak Island, where KMXT is the public radio station for Kodiak.

KMXT is my main source for news on the island, whether it be local, statewide or nation. Being in an isolated island community, having this local radio station as a news outlet is essential. KMXT has wonderful programs, such as the Alaska Fisheries Report, Talk of the Rock, and more.

Recently, KMXT had their annual "Winter Twang" music festival. The venue for this festival was packed. The amount of support for KMXT within our small community is immense.

Please consider this as you propose to cut all funding for Alaska public broadcasting. Many rural communities like Kodiak depend on public radio for news, programs, community announcements, and more.

Respectfully,

Kelly Krueger

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Mary Geddes <ismar@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 2:44 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:** SB22 and Funding for Public Media

**Dear Senator Kelly and Other Members of the Senate Finance Committee,**

**As someone who has lived here thirty-three(33) years, and in both urban and rural Alaska, I know that public radio provides an essential non-duplicated service to Alaskans throughout the state. In rural Alaska, public radio is a vital communication link. In urban Alaska, it also provides critical community and public health information and fosters connections with state and local government.**

**My family depends on it.**

**So I was greatly disturbed to hear that the Senate version of the budget provides no funding for public broadcasting and for cuts to satellite services, effectively ending management of the Alaska Rural Communications Service and Infrastructure.**

**The public funds in previous state budgets are absolutely necessary for leveraging support from the private sector. State funds constitute only 7% of public media's budget, but they effectively leverage larger contributions of \$4.2 million from individual donors (like me), businesses, corporations, charities, etc.**

**Public radio is one of the shining examples of a public-private partnership in this state. Don't dismantle it. The support should continue and I am willing to pay for it via an income tax and a cap on any Permanent Fund dividends.**

**Mary Geddes**

**1113 N Street**

**Anchorage, Alaska 99501**

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Jen T <mellingbar@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 2:36 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Keep funding for public radio!!!

I support keeping funding for public radio. As a person who lives in rural Alaska, public radio is crucial for information. It is a glue that holds communities together.

When society starts to cut funding for arts and culture and move it to increasing the military industrial complex, then the values of our country are undermined.

Our country can not survive with only funding to the military.

Arts, culture and science are a vein that helps create and cultivate diversity, and preserving funding for public radio is key.

Please support maintaining funding for public radio!!!

Thank you!

Jennifer Talley  
Po box 1086  
Haines Alaska  
99827

Sent from my iPhone

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Lolita Brache <lolitagrace@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 4:32 PM  
**To:** Sen. Gary Stevens; Sen. Mike Dunleavy; Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** support public RADIO

Dear Senators Stevens, Dunleavy, and members of the Finance Committee:

Thank you for your on going work on behalf of the citizens of Alaska. I recognize that your job is a difficult one. I want you all to know that, like my friends, I AM WILLING TO PAY INCOME TAXES to continue funding essential services such as education, early education, mental health, medical care, and PUBLIC RADIO.

I am very distressed to hear that Senator Dunleavy favors cutting the funding for Alaska Public Radio. I know that here in Homer, our public radio station, KBBI, provides an immense array of public services to our community. I am sure that the Mat Su also benefits from Alaska Public Radio broadcasts.

In Homer I listen to KBBI for weather, marine weather, bushlines, job line, community service announcements, local town events etc. I appreciate the local news covered by the station, and it is where I will be listening should we have a natural emergency such as an earthquake or tsunami. I know KBBI has invested in emergency equipment so they can continue to function in the event of an outage.

KBBI is a member of the Alaska Public Radio Network which will not be able to continue without continued funding. Public radio provides an essential service of in-depth coverage in news and cultural commentary especially important in rural areas.

Loss of the state funding will also result in probable loss of federal dollars and other matching monies which would ultimately shut down all our public radio stations

**I urge you NOT to decrease funding for public broadcasting.**

thank you.

Lolita Brache  
PO Box 2508 Homer, AK  
299 0694

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Billie Haan <haanfam@mtaonline.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 4:30 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Alaska Public Media funding

Hello,

I wanted to include my thoughts on the possible budget cuts to funding for Alaska Public Media and public media in general.

I am definitely against cuts to public media, especially Alaska. In our huge state it brings us all closer together. I love the programming and the news, especially Alaska news nightly. It comes from all over the state. We get to hear about stories that we wouldn't get to otherwise. I do donate every year to APM and I pay taxes, quite a bit of taxes actually compared to our income. I totally support public media. It gives a more fair, and unbiased source of news then I have found elsewhere.

Please support funding for Alaska Public Media! It really is important in such a unique state as ours.

Thank you for your time and effort.

Sincerely,  
Billie Haan  
Palmer, Alaska

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Dustin Craney <dcraney@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 4:11 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Senate Bill 22 - Keep Funding for Public Broadcasting!

I'm writing to express my support for public broadcasting in Alaska. In many of our rural communities, public broadcasting is our lifeline. It's educational, entertaining, informative, and an effective emergency awareness asset.

State funding helps keep our local public radio station on the air. As a member of our Board of Directors and a sustaining member, I feel that I am doing what I can to support this critical organization. Though we have a strong membership base and work hard to consistently increase our fundraising, state (and federal) funding is still necessary to operate the station. Without our station, we would lose local news, weather, emergency alerts, and locally produced shows to three rural communities.

Please consider the direct and noticeable benefits a relatively small investment in public broadcasting has on numerous communities around the state. Please hold funding levels constant from last year. We are finding way to absorb the previous cuts (including losing 1 staff member and reduced hours for our General Manager) but further cuts will directly effect our ability to operate.

Sincerely,  
Dustin Craney  
KHNS Board of Directors  
Serving Haines, Skagway, and Klukwan Alaska.

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Michele <michelescornelius@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 5:28 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** SB22 - Don't cut funding for public media

As an Alaskan, I value Alaskan public broadcasting and do not support any cuts. We depend on our radio programming, this is important to us. Don't cut funding for public media!

Sincerely, Michele Cornelius, Haines, AK

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** pbgibbs@acsalaska.net  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 5:13 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Public Radio and Television Support

I am writing to respectfully request that you support funding for public media in line with Governor Walker's proposal. I do not have TV at my home, but I rely heavily on our local public radio station, KMXT, 100.1 here on Kodiak Island. It is a vital source of local news for our community. It provides the fisheries report, and numerous NPR offerings. It hosts/supports many local activities which bring community members together.

As a community we support our local public radio station as best we can financially through our memberships, taking part in their concerts, etc. to help with station expenses. Yet, without state support we will most likely not be able to continue having this station as we won't be able to fully fund this station.

Please, support public media. It's a vital part of our community here in Kodiak and I'm sure for other communities around the state.

Your efforts and time in this budget process is truly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Patricia B. Gibbs  
539 Visna Way  
Kodiak, Alaska 99615  
907-487-4096

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** William Weiss <wweiss@mtaonline.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 5:12 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** PBS budget cut

The biggest waste of money would be the billion Trump wants to build a stupid fence around the border!! That money could fund worthwhile programs that will benefit all people PBS being one of them along with arts and science! How about education!!!

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Mark Luttrell <prufrock@arctic.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 5:07 PM  
**To:** Sen. Pete Kelly; Senate Finance Committee; Sen. Donny Olson; Sen. Lyman Hoffman;  
Sen. Mike Dunleavy; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Anna MacKinnon  
**Subject:** Support public broadcasting

Senators:

I fully support the valuable, timely and reliable information provided by Alaska Public Media. They perform a unique service to all Alaskans: they provide "free over-the-air and online non-commercial public service programming and community-based services to unserved and underserved audiences throughout Alaska."

Given the daily deluge of serious threats to the core of American democracy, Alaskans NEED a non-partisan source of intelligent, in-depth information.

Alaskans support Alaska Public Media. You should too. You'll hear applause if you don't cut its funding.

Sincerely

Mark Luttrell  
Seward

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Julie Truskowski <jtruskowski1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 9:58 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Alaska Public Media Funding

Senate Finance Subcommittee Members:

Public broadcasting in Alaska is a vital resource, especially to those living in more rural parts of the state. It provides balanced coverage on important issues that is not influenced by advertising dollars. Please reconsider your decision to defund this important program.

Thank you,  
Julie Truskowski

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Libby Stortz <libbystortz@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 9:45 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Cc:** Sen. Donny Olson; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Mike Dunleavy; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Anna MacKinnon; Sen. Pete Kelly  
**Subject:** SB22 Budget cuts to Alaska Public Media

Dear Finance Committee and Senators:

I am writing to urge that you NOT zero out all funding for Alaska public broadcasting NOR Cut the satellite funds by \$160,000, effectively ending management of the Alaska Rural Communications Service and Satellite infrastructure system.

On August 18, 2015, there was a mud/landslide in Sitka, that took the life of my husband William, and that of 2 other people. Alaska public broadcasting provided vital updates and information to my own community of Sitka and to my larger community of Alaska, where I and my husband knew many, many people.

Since that catastrophe, I have relied on Ak public broadcasting services to get through the days and nights as this traumatic event has of course, deeply affected me. In addition, I know that Ak public broadcasting provides important services to underserved communities around the State because my husband, daughter and myself, have provided numerous years of volunteer and financial support to our local station.

Please reconsider this draconian bill and retain funding for all the very important services Alaska public broadcasting provides for our largely rural and under-served Alaskans. The financial and volunteer support provided by residents of our communities, demonstrates it's vital importance.

Thank you,  
Libby Stortz,  
Sitka, Alaska

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Ann Hackett <homeraha@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 9:36 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Public Broadcasting

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members,

I am writing to voice my support for public broadcasting. KBBI provides essential service to Homer and surrounding areas. In times of emergency, it is where I can turn for information. I live in an area at the end of East End Road where there is only very spotty cell service. There have been times, such as during wildfire and severe winter storms, when my home was cut off from both power (so internet was unavailable) and phone service. I was so grateful to be able to turn on KBBI for news updates on my battery- powered radio. Additionally it serves as a forum for local news and community service radio shows like Coffee Table and other community services, such as bush lines, information lines, ride lines, and others. Our community greatly values the volunteer music programming that is part of our local tradition. I also value the type of excellent programming that isn't available through other radio venues, such as Science Friday and BBC World Service.

I strongly believe that public broadcasting is one of the essential services that government needs to support, especially in Alaska. I do not support a state budget that included cuts to public broadcasting!

Sincerely,

Ann Agosti-Hackett

PO Box 15344

Fritz Creek, AK 99603

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Jeanne Kitayama <jeannek@aptalaska.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 9:34 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Funding for public radio

Not only is public radio a life-line in rural Alaska, it also brings community together.

There are still many places in Alaska where there is no internet service, but there is access to public radio. So weather and emergency alerts can reach those places in the moment. It's an eery moment when you are out in those remote homes and the radio goes off the air for even a few moments — it's a total disconnect from the world.

On the community side we are so fortunate to have KHNS staff and volunteers who do so well to meet a diverse population's needs. Music, nationally syndicated programs, news, public announcements, basketball coverage, and more, all contribute to a station that we listen to and depend on throughout the day.

I urge you to support funding for public radio, which is a vibrant and indispensable resource in Alaska.

Sincerely,  
Jeanne Kitayama  
PO Box 911  
Haines, AK. 99827  
jeannek@aptalaska.net

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Ed Hays <hays6780257@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 9:12 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** SB22 - Don't cut funding to public media

To: Alaska Legislative Finance Committee

I am a resident of Haines and I want to tell you how important our public radio station, KHNS, is to our community. Our station is the center of our community, providing messaging, news, and entertainment. Our community supports our station with member donations. Please help us keep the government funding we receive. This is important to our community.

Thank you.

Ed Hays  
P.O. Box 98  
Haines, AK 99827  
Phone: 907-766-3798

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Betty Siegel <siegelbetty@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 9:16 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Alaska Public Media

We need Alaska Public Media in Alaska! It is a vital part of most Alaskan's life. Please do not be short-sighted and cut this funding. You could be looking into resources to supplement it or fully fund it instead. (Think oil subsidies!)

Thank you for your attention.

Elizabeth Siegel  
1501 Race Rd. PO Box 357  
Homer, AK 99603

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Pita Benz <pitabenzalaska@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 9:13 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Budget issues and choices

Dear Finance Committee members:

**I strongly urge you to include funding at last year's level for public broadcasting.**

An informed electorate is the bedrock of democracy. In Alaska a primary way to engage citizens is public broadcasting.

I "walk the talk" - contributing time and money to Alaska Public Media, so I am not just asking the state for a handout, I have skin in the game.

Pita Benz  
9767 Atelier Dr  
Anchorage, AK

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Ailis Vann <ailisvann@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 9:13 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Public Media

Please do not cut funding for Public Media. It is a vital source of information for our community, region, state, and nation. Where would we be without public media? Nova, Sesame Street, Frontline, mister Rogers neighborhood, and local news and election information?

Having this community resource is priceless, and I urge you to not cut funding locally, statewide, or nationwide. We need solid, accurate information more than ever, and Public Media is the only source for it.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ailis Vann  
Palmer, AK

Remember to breathe.... :)

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Melisa Miller <ladyminak@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 9:01 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Fund Education, Health Services, Public Broadcasting

Dear Senator,

Public broadcasting is a community security blanket for all of rural Alaska. Local weather, wind and sea conditions, emergency coverage, community calendars and programming are essential services for Alaskans. No other resources cover local events, communication from state leaders and the voices of Alaskans like Public Broadcasting. There is simply no comparison for quality information distribution. These essential services are top quality because they are funded by the public, our state revenue dollars.

We Alaskans need to diversify our income stream and invest in the people, land and sea that make up Alaska. We do not need to balance the budget by cutting education, public broadcasting, health services or management of our resources on the land and in the water. Growth and prosperity require investment. Education, public broadcasting, health and human services, land and sea management are investments. Focus on natural resource extraction should only be a minor part of a robust investment portfolio for our state. My children are being raised as proud Alaskans. Alaskans take care of Alaskans. Invest in our future. Fund Public Broadcasting, Education, Health and Human Services.

Melisa Miller  
Kachemak Bay, Alaska

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Sarah Mittelstadt Bean <sarah@arcticorganics.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 8:57 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Fund Alaska Public Media

I urge you to continue funding Alaska Public Media. It provides an unequalled source of in-depth news and information in our state. We expect you to fund education for young people, as well as to keep adults informed (via Alaska Public Media), in the name of democracy!

Sincerely,  
Sarah Bean

1305 N. Smith Rd.  
Palmer, Alaska 99645  
(907)746-1087

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Amy Coughran <amylabesky@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 8:56 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Public radio.

I am writing to you from Skagway, AK, 99840. I am pleading that you vote against the budget proposal bill that includes cutting all federal funding for public radio. We in Southeast Alaska rely on KHNS / NPR for our local, state, and national news. We also enjoy our local music shows. This forum gives us a chance as a community to share what is going on in our community. We live feed announcing our children's sports events while they play at home and travel around SE. Please consider this vital communication tool and vote against the bill that includes defunding public radio.

Amy Coughran, RN. SE Alaskan resident.

Sent from my iPhone

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Tim Andrew <tandrew.ak@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 8:01 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:** Maintain Funding for Public Television & Radio

Honorable Senators,

I'm writing to you today to urge you to support maintained funding for public television and radio in our state budget. I know that during this time of budgetary crisis (and I do see this as a crisis at this point) we need to scrutinize our public expenditures. However, it is quite clear that the funding we provide to public television and radio in our great state comes back to us— citizens all over the state— as a service to help us be a better informed citizenry. Given the cuts sustained to statewide public broadcasting in recent years, we would be at risk of a loss of federal funding for this critical service if our funding levels dip much lower. As you well know, in many communities in our state, public broadcasting is the only means for sharing statewide news and information. This is not an extravagance, this is a necessity.

Please vote to keep the “public” in public broadcasting and support funding public television and radio at present levels.

Thank you for your time and for your public service, Tim Andrew

5251 E. 41st Avenue  
Anchorage, AK 99508

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Marilyn Windust <marewindust@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 5:54 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** SB22 - Don't cut funding for public media

To whom it may concern, While living in remote Alaska, public radio was our ONLY connection to our community and the world. We had no TV and no internet. Many, many people live in this same circumstance. It is imperative for public safety, and to our system, to have an informed public. Please DO NOT cut funding for public radio. Thank you, Marilyn Windust

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Linda H <caribouherd@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 1:05 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee; Sen. Gary Stevens  
**Subject:** Funding of Public Radio

Public radio and television provides important information for local and rural communities within Alaska. This is particularly evident in Kodiak, Alaska. We depend on the local radio for a variety of programming including emergency services. We appreciate your support of public radio and television in past years and hope you continue to provide to maintain support of public media in line with Governor Walker's proposal.

Thank you,

Linda Himelbloom  
P.O. Box 1866  
Kodiak, AK 99615-1866

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Bill Annis <hainesbill06@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 12:48 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee

Hello. I'm from Haines, Alaska and I depend on my Public Radio station for news and many daily features. The station serves three vital communities each one depending on its daily news, weather updates, and local features. The station would likely be cut off if funds for public broadcasting services were not renewed. I ask you to support funding for public radio broadcasting in SE Alaska. Bill Annis

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Verner Wilson III <vernstor@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 12:04 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Don't cut Alaska Public Radio!

Dear Sir or Ma'am,

Please do not cut public funding for Public Radio in Alaska. It is crucial for us in rural Alaska and for fisheries. It's a lifeline and I know people who truly depend on it as their only way of communicating in the far reaches for summer camp, etc.

Sincerely,  
Verner Wilson III  
Dillingham, AK

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Harold Spence <hobig@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:43 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Funding for public radio

Dear Senators,

Please find a way to fund public radio at 100 percent of last year's funding. The services performed by Public Radio are too important to Alaskans, especially those in rural areas, to have them disappear.

Sincerely  
Harold Spence  
Homer, AK  
907-299-1798

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Patty Brown <pattyb@aptalaska.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:18 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** SB22 - Don't cut funding for public media

Public media is essential to those of us in places far from regular commercial radio. It connects members of our community with each other and with the outside world. That is one way we can keep our communities healthy and safe. Plus we match the contributions with local fundraisers and huge donations of time.

Do NOT cut this funding.

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Ron Jackson <rjackson@haines.ak.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:16 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** public radio

PS to my previous msg: I always give our local station money from pick-click-give from my pfd as well as donate during fundraisers. Even though retired on a fixed income, I believe in the importance to me and the community of our local public radio station (and only radio station!)

Thanks!

Ron Jackson  
Haines Borough Assembly  
907-314-2046

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Ron Jackson <rjackson@haines.ak.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:12 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Public radio funding

Please maintain support to public radio. It is so important to small communities for information sharing on what is happening in our town. Emergencies, road conditions, or just plain what the borough is doing...it is all vital. Because we are a small town private radio is not an option, and the quality of the content is usually terrible.

Thanks for your consideration!

Ron Jackson  
Haines Borough Assembly  
907-314-2046

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** louke ellenbroek <louke.ellenbroek@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 9:47 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** public media

Please do not cut the funds for Alaska Public Media !!!!  
It is a great resource and connects the community .

As a person new to the state I learned a lot, just by listening to this radio station.  
It helped me understand various issues and as a result of that I feel more "at home" and  
I know what lives in the community.

Thank you,

Marie Ellenbroek  
2201 McKenzie drive  
Anchorage AK 99517

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Clyde Boyer and Vivian Finlay <vivandclyde@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 8:54 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Support for continued funding for public broadcasting

Dear Senate Finance Committee members,

We support funding for public broadcasting and would like it to continue at least at the level that it was last year. Public broadcasting provides services to many through excellent and balanced news, varied and well performed TV series, and in rural communities through public radio which is often the only locally broadcast radio. Public broadcasting is usually an informative "life line" to those in many communities, and even in Homer, provides a huge service in terms of local information, as well as State and National, and International. Often we are unable to tune in to any other channel except to our local public radio KBBI, and to Statewide public television.

We urge you to support continued funding for public broadcasting.

Thank you,  
Vivian Finlay and Clyde Boyer (wife and husband)

--  
455 Elderberry Drive,  
Homer, AK. 99603 USA  
(907) 435-3903

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Peter Heisler <peteraheisler@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 8:54 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** SB 22

Hello,

My name is Peter Heisler, and I am a resident of the Turnagain neighborhood in Anchorage.

I am writing to express my opposition to any cuts in state funding to Alaska Public Media. I moved here a year-and-a-half ago and have relied on KSKA and KAKM for news and education ever since. For transplants like me, public media is a godsend--for getting acclimated, learning about goings on around town, and staying informed about local and national news. Alaska Public Media cannot continue to deliver the quality programming it does if its funding is reduced.

Thank you for considering this comment.

Peter Heisler

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Mary Koppes <marykoppes@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 8:17 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** We do NOT want public radio defunded

I'm writing to express my grave concern over the plan to defund public broadcasting in the state. Our local station, like all stations in communities across the state, is a crucial part of my and my neighbors daily life. It is the ONLY point of connection to news, weather and happenings for many of my friends living in outlying communities. Much of that news and info sharing contributes to an informed populace which is imperative for a healthy democracy. Further, our local station provides jobs for professional, educated and involved community members. If they lost their jobs and had to leave Petersburg would be poorer for it. Please, please, please do not further reduce the budget for this important service...they've already seen deep cuts in recent years. Help protect what's important

Thank you,  
Mary Koppes  
Petersburg AK resident (99833)

Sent from my iPhone

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Hayley Patin <hpatin915@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 7:49 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Public Media is Vital to Alaskans

Hello,

My name is Hayley Patin, I live in Eagle River, and I've been a proud Alaskan for the last thirteen years. Having spent my formative years in this wonderful state (and looking to decades more ahead) I try my best to stay informed. Keeping on top of what's going on locally, what needs improvement, and what's making a difference in Alaska is essential to upholding civic responsibility. I sincerely believe that public broadcasting makes a difference in Alaska by connecting the state's varying and distanced communities!

With Alaska Public Media, we are able to reach across the vastness of this great land to the other great people that inhabit it. The issues that face rural communities affect Alaska equally to those in Juneau, Anchorage, or Fairbanks. Being informed about those issues, wherever you are, helps keep them relevant and helps us find solutions. What's accomplished, whether in art or science or enterprise or community, in one part of Alaska ought to be celebrated across the state! Programs like Alaska News Nightly, Outdoor Explorer, Hometown, Alaska, and Talk of Alaska bring me closer to my state, my home, and help me to be a better, more informed, more impassioned Alaskan citizen. I'm a proud, monthly supporter of AK Public Media.

Public media in the United States is absolutely important. It presents unbiased reporting across a variety of topics, it educates the public, and it holds true the fundamental ethics of journalism— all at a relatively minuscule portion of the federal budget. But public media in Alaska? It keeps us together across the great Northern expanse.

I hope that as you represent our state, you consider what public broadcasting means to us, the impact that it has had for how little it has or will continue to cost. For my part, I will continue to support public broadcasting and our wonderful state.

My sincerest thanks for your time,

Hayley Patin

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Shirley Forquer <forqhoak@xyz.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 7:41 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Public Broadcasting

This cut gets to the heart of every community. It is a life line to many residents, especially in times of emergencies. It also keeps the community up to date on national and local news. KBBI raises a lot of money every year but not enough to fully fund the station. How about a percentage cut instead of a total cut? They could struggle by on maybe a 50% drop in revenue.

I'd much rather see the State raising money from an income tax than continuing to cut programs.

The House voted to cut their per diem. How about the Senate doing the same and getting by on less.

Shirley Forquer

235-8317

Homer

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Barbara Anthony <anthony2000\_99615@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 7:31 PM  
**To:** senator\_gary\_stevens@legis.state.ak.us; Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Public Radio funding

KMXT and public television are important to me. We've already taken huge hits out of line with other publicly supported programs in the last two years. State funding is only \$0.54 per Alaskan—and we get incredible value from that investment. Please "maintain funding for public media in line with Governor Walker's proposal."

Thanks you,  
Barbara Anthony Brewster

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Paola Banchemo <paolabanchemo@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 6:47 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Writing to support public media in the state of Alaska

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

For personal reasons, I should be writing you to tell you not to cut the university's budget so severely.

But for moral reasons, I want to urge you not to cut support for **public media in Alaska**. Public media is the way in which many residents get their news. There is not a robust newspaper industry in rural Alaska and there never has been.

Alaska Public Media provides free, informed, noncommercial programming and community-based and produced services to unserved and underserved audiences. I make many decisions as a citizen based on the news and information I hear on my local public radio station. I learn more about my community, my nation and my world by watching public television. I tune into the online services that public media provide to stay informed throughout the day. Support this indispensable service.

Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,

Paola Banchemo  
Anchorage

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** akhikr@gci.net  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 6:34 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Don't Cut Public Media

**Public radio & public TV are my most important links to the world. They provide unbiased & in-depth reporting on local, national and international news. I live in Anchorage, so I have many choices for news and educational content, but I choose NPR and PBS for my main sources because I trust that the information I am receiving is accurate and complete. For many Alaskans who are off of the road system, public radio & TV are their only sources of news and information. Please continue to provide support for these vital links for Alaskans.**

**Thank you,  
Chris Myers  
Anchorage, AK**

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Hector Douglas <hddouglas@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 6:26 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** No cuts Alaska public media

Alaska Public Media and Alaska Public Broadcasting are critical infrastructure. No cuts please.

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Melinda Eggleston <mde@alaska.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 1:10 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** No More Cuts

Dear Senators;

STATE PARKS; Alaskans love our state parks and know how important they are to our quality of life. Our state parks provide unmatched beauty and a variety of recreational opportunities from the marine environment of Southeast Alaska through the most populated section of the state in Southcentral Alaska up to the rugged interior in Fairbanks and out to Western Alaska with the largest state park. **NO MORE CUTS**, our State Parks and communities that house them are suffering. We want to see our Parks funded, staffed & maintained for Alaskans and our tourists.

ALASKA PUBLIC MEDIA is essential. Our public radio and television are our lifelines for our rural & urban communities. 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. We strongly support our public media and hope that our Alaskan Senators will do so as well. **NO MORE CUTS**. We cannot fall backwards in this modern time.

What is it going to take, taxes, permanent fund let's pay for these continued services. **NO MORE CUTS!**

**Melinda "Mindy" Eggleston**

P.O. Box 722

Delta Junction, Alaska

99737

(907) 322-4644

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Mary Jo Mrochinski <maryjomro@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 1:11 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** No Cuts to Public Media

As a citizen of this state, I respectfully request that your Finance Committee and the Alaska Legislature retain funding for Alaska Public Media. The service is widely distributed throughout the state, into rural and remote communities, bringing educational, entertaining, and informative programming that helps all Alaskans keep in touch with American and world events.

When you cut funding for this essential programming, you deprive a significant portion of your constituents of the knowledge they need to make informed decisions about life, education, and furthering the interests of our state. Please keep Alaska Public Media funded!

Thank you for your consideration.

**Mary Jo Mrochinski**  
**Anchorage, Alaska**