

Representatives, A state full of resources such as Alaska is, if well managed and fiscally conservative, should never be in want of revenue. If our fair share was being maintained, and not given away in tax credits, we would not even be considering taking from the people of Alaska, even in lean times. A cap and/or restructuring of the PF dividend is so detrimental to the economy and entire state of Alaska, already in recession. And it is robbing the most vulnerable of our state: children, the poor, our elders and veterans. Your support for this bill/budget means that you support stealing from children, from those who have very little and those who have fought for our country. It is indeed a cowardly act. I urge you all to put aside the partisan politics and truly represent the people of Alaska and vote NO on any cap/restructuring of the Peoples Fund and dividend. Say no to new taxes. Listen to ISER, United for Liberty, and the voices of reason out here, we can clearly see where the Legislature hasn't tightened the belt. Don't ask us for more until you do so.

Brandi Wadkins

Soldotna

Vote against state government touching any part of the citizens AK Permanent Fund Dividend.

Darin (Bert) Bertolini

Dear house finance members,

I am writing in opposition to SB26. The permanent fund dividend is vital to the Alaskan economy and should not be restructured or capped. According to the ISER report issued last spring, the PFD infuses the Alaskan economy to a much greater extent than any amount of government spending.

Additionally, the PFD is vital to most Alaskans. Our costs of living are high in this state, especially in rural areas. Alaskans use the funds provided to catch up on medical bills, purchase heating fuel for the winter, and to stock up on supplies. And, while it may seem trivial, many also use it to purchase items for their homes, gifts for their children, and meals at restaurants that they otherwise couldn't afford. These purchases are particularly helpful in keeping our economy on a healthy path.

If passed, the PFD cap would be the most regressive tax you could pass onto the Alaskan people. Our lowest income earners would take the biggest hit.

There is a better way - utilize Hammond's 50/50 plan in conjunction with a draw from savings. And cut spending!

Keep the Alaskan people in mind before you inflict more damage on our fragile economy.

Thank you.

Meghan Nelson  
Juneau, Alaska

Good morning Representatives,

My name is Chad Samskar, and I'm opposed to senate bill SB26.

I would like to encourage you all to vote against this bill, and protect the Permanent Fund. I ask that you give Alaskans an opportunity this upcoming year to vote on a ballot in regards to any restructuring of this fund, so that the people can determine it's outcome.

I understand using the earnings of this fund will make tougher decisions easier to make, but the governments overall spending is where the drastic changes need to occur. Before incorporating a bill like this, cuts need to be made. After which, I'd be in favor of a sales tax initiative first, and then possibly an income tax (taxing non-residents at twice the rate as residents) before ever touching or restructuring of the Permanent Fund to fund a bloated government. There is nothing wrong with how the PFD system exists today, the problem is lack of oversight in government, priorities, and personal accountability.

Please consider your constituents whom elected you to represent their interests when making a decision on this subject, and try addressing this fiscal challenge in one session this year! (if at all possible)

Thank you for your time!

Sincerely,  
Chad Samskar  
Nikiski, AK

Gov Walker vetoed the decision made by the people last year when we voted not to use the PFD's. to many of us Alaskans, he's a crook and should be stopped. Protect our PFD's there are other ways to pay for your bills Gov Walker, my children shouldn't be made to suffer because of your over spending

Rich Gardis Sr.

Dear Legislators,

I do not support SB 26: Permanent Fund Restructure without some sort of new source of revenue, such as a modest income tax. With an income tax, non-residents who earn money here could help support services.

I agree with those who think we have cut enough already and do not want to see additional cuts to schools, state agencies like ADF&G, or other essential state services, all of which provide good jobs for Alaskans.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Maureen Knutsen  
Naknek, AK 99633

Stop raiding our PFD and trying to restructure it. Leave it the way Gov. Hammond set it up for Alaskans. Start making real cuts to State spending and balance the budget.  
Dudley Boehm

Sent from my iPad

Good Afternoon,

As a long time resident in Alaska I recommend that you as our legislators rethink your invasion of the PFD. As you well know that distribution of the PFD to any other areas of the state that are not income generating is a direct violation of the state constitution. The PFD cannot legally be used to supplement the budget deficit. All proceeds generated by the PFD are to be used to generate income producing investments and not used in private or special interests.

You are directly degrading the economic structure of the state by voting for the use of the PFD for making up for the state deficit. And the taking of half of everyone's PFD last year and distribution to special interests was also illegal. A full accounting of where this money was distributed should be published in the local news media as proof that the money was used appropriately and not given to private or special interest groups. If the state is in the red it needs to take serious efforts to reduce the budget and restructure spending. Any business would do this or they would become bankrupt. The Senate and legislation cannot steal from the public and distribute to their special interest groups and think the public will not get involved. I truly believe if this bill passes a class action lawsuit will come to pass in an effort to recover monies taken and used illegally by the state. And it would implicate the state legislation and the Senate as corrupt and in need of serious house cleaning.

Alaska resident born and raised,

Desiree Hardman



NO ON SB26 AND ANY RESTRUCTURE THE FUND/PFD BILL  
J. Cassellius

Have any of you considered a state sales tax and state / Powerball lottery?  
Consider the revenue generated from tourists alone! And with a state sales  
tax, much would be collected through those ordering from Amazon, etc.

Hands off the PDF!

Do your jobs within the time allotted, or go without pay!

Heads are guaranteed to roll next election.

Deborah M. Williams  
Gakona, AK 99586

Hello House Finance,

Why would you even consider stealing royalties that belong to the people? In addition to being theft, economists agree that is the absolute worst thing you can do to an economy during a recession.

The only right thing to do is vote NO on SB 26.

Cc: Republican Legislators who care for the people.

*Carol Carman*  
*Secretary, Alaska Republican Assembly*

Alaska Government is too Big and You spent all the Money growing It! Get a clue, Cut the size Government!

That means cut State workers by at least 10% across the Board!

The state senators have made it plain that they do not care what Alaskans want. They do not care that Alaskans want to keep their PFD, They believe that Alaskans will forget about them taking all that PFD money out of every ones pocket and spending it like they want to. They say 'to hell with the citizens'.

Senator Dunleavy's fiscal plan. His plan proposes using these funds and making budget cuts rather than raiding the Permanent Fund. See here: \$13.3 billion at end of FY17.

Governor Hammond understood why: "... the best therapy for containing malignant government growth is a diet forcing politicians to spend no more than that for which they are willing to tax."

If they succeed in pushing the bulk of the costs of government off on middle and lower income Alaskans there will be no incentive for the corporate/donor class -- or the politicians who rely on them -- to make further cuts. The corporations and higher income Alaskans will continue to benefit from government spending, but others will pay the bill. In the process, the overall Alaska economy and Alaskans will lose.

Dave Rife

I oppose this bill.

Russ Barnes  
Kodiak, AK 99615

Please be in favor of the SB 26 as it came from the Senate no extra house comments needed.

Nick Pepperworth

Ladies and Gentlemen of the House Finance Committee; I urge you to rescind additional language added to SB26 requiring a broad based tax for education and passing HB111 as requirements for the SB26 to be sent to Governor Walker.

Alaska's fiscal crisis cannot be corrected without addressing the cost of education nor can we grow our economy by discouraging North Slope development. All sectors of the State must share the burden of Alaska's fiscal problems. And if we don't grow oil production along with other resource development and infrastructure improvements throughout Alaska our problems are going to continue to get worse.

Bruce Abel  
Juneau, AK 99801

Please reconsider not capping the PFD and allow us to use this fund that was originally allotted to the Alaskan residents... not the government ...for use in using for fuel, airline tickets, investing in our future, purchasing Christmas presents, getting out of debt ourselves, helping our kids with college here in the state, and so much more. The word permanent in the PFD is not being utilized and I would appreciate that the government reconsider using this for debt that it incurred. There are other ways to cut costs and to help Alaska have healthy spending in its Alaskan government.

Sincerely,  
Nancy Wold



To whom it may concern I hope all Alaskans are sending you a message today, this taking the Permanant Fund to fix the Government budget is not the way to go . People in Alaska depend on that money to make it through the winter, heating fuel, wood extra food and medical expenses home repair the list is numerous and the Seniors are already getting so little they depend on this so much for needed life necessities, Governor Walker said he would not touch the fund and yet that was the first thing he went after. I have lost faith in our Government promises made should be promises kept let's see what happens in the next election just be notified that the people are watching the vote and when you want to be re-elected well we will see what happens then. Case in point the new President of the United States perhaps it is time for us to "Drain The Swamp". Thank you.

Olivia C. Fellers

Hello,

My input is to restore past years full PFD and do NOT reduce the PFD to the citizens under ANY circumstances.

Thank you

CJ Campbell

Wasilla

Free Constantinople!

500 years is enough!

This Bill SB26 is very detrimental to the State of Alaska ! If this Bill SB26 passes , it will hurt Alaskan's in MASS ! This will increase our burden's of recession; Possibly putting us into a statewide depression . THE PFD WAS NOT SET UP TO PAY FOR GOVERNMENT MALFEASANCE ! My late brother " Lazy Mountain Jim " knew very well what this state Government was wanting to do concerning the PFD ; STEAL IT FROM THE PEOPLE OF ALASKA ! That is why he spent ten years calling up to get the annual deposit figure , only to find BILLION'S missing ! This Government has been stealing the money for a DECADE , AND MORE ! SHAME ON ALL OF YOU THAT VOTE TO PASS THIS BILL , OR ANY LIKE IT ! WE ARE WATCHING YOU ! WE WILL REMEMBER WHO YOU ARE ! DO NOT VOTE FOR THIS BILL SB26 ! Do thing's to help Alaska ! NOT HURT ALASKA !

Michael Garhart

Senator Kelly said: "PFD is Alaska's largest expense." The Permanent Fund which is the corpus, Earnings Reserves and then that portion of the ER that is sent to We the People, is a Moose and the Budget is an onion!

The PF main reason was to keep the funds from the government so that the government doesn't spend all the oil industry revenue. The 25% of the PF is for We the People in place of our mineral rights. Over the years the legislature has chosen not to tap in to the ER, which in a lot of ways was good. Now, instead of doing that in a responsible manner, this House wants to spend a huge hunk, add to that a huge income tax, and do all you can to maintain government over that of the people and the economy

I just attended a Mission Critical briefing. You and the Senate are blowing smoke and lying to We the People. We see through the smoke screen. A former member of the legislature that stood against this with radio ads has said it well. That the this bill is not "fixing it", and anyone who says it does, is a liar.

Lastly comment of not impacting Alaska Natives and bush was pure lobbying for discrimination against the rest of Alaskans. I'm not surprised but I am angry at that blatant discrimination!

Stop this theft of our money and stop the smoke screen on the budget.

Mike Coons  
Palmer, AK 99645

No raid or no restructuring of the PFD. The haven't been ANY meaningful reductions in state government spending (i.e. the federal building cafeteria for one) and we're paying out more in oil tax subsidies than we're bringing in! Raiding the PFD is the easiest way to help close the budget gap, but nobody ever promised you that your job would be easy.

Sincerely,

Nicole Harrell