

To my Alaskan Senate,

I Thomas Willard a life-long Alaskan and Mat-Su resident, adamantly oppose HB 111 and the massive strain it adds to the already strained populace. I personally cannot afford and have been shown no proof that our government has done anything to earn the extra money or warrant the necessary growth of our government. I have never once seen our government do anything to combat the cost of living here, one of the highest in the nation. All I have seen is our Government time and again try to take take take from the people it purports to represent.

It is time for our government to take a time out and only fund the essentials. It needs to be sat down and remain in the confines of a realistic budget. This government of ours needs to take a step back and look at more interesting options, such as pulling excessive funds from boroughs and municipalities that are wasting money. An example of such waste is the ridiculous overpass being altered on Mudloon rd. in Anchorage. I cannot think of a greater waste of money while this legislature decides whether or not they are going to steal even more money from the Alaskan populace. You have failed to protect our dividend half of which you know was stolen by this legislature. Our economy is going to die with careless acts such as this. People are going to leave and businesses will follow.

You stand at a unique fork in the road right now. You can take the slow path back to prosperity, where the government makes the hard cuts on itself and goes without all the bloated programs we don't need, E.G. the contracts for the DMV express. There is plenty more to cut, according to what I've read the Senate Majority does not support this tax, and you know there are hard cuts yet to be made. The other road you can take is one we seem to have already put our foot on as a state. A road that leads to misery and the downfall of our great state. We as Alaskans have already have to endure one year where a near record dividend was cut in half and stolen. For what?

A government cannot exist with a peaceful, happy, prosperous-populace without a strong economy. Perhaps as Alaskans we don't need government employees to do things like, clean up parks, perhaps it is our time to step up and spend our time on the things our government money is being wasted on. Maybe interesting ideas should be used, such as, instead of points off licenses for non-moving violations(non-dangerous violations I.E. Registration, no front license plate, or failure to register) these infractions could be met with community service and all the things our government doesn't need to be doing for us.

I do sincerely hope, you as our collective senate listen to you constituency. We are watching and we are paying attention. There is only so much we can endure as people and businesses.

Thank you for your time,

Thomas S. Willard