

Hi Tammie:

Thank you for sharing this important information. I am writing in to request that the PFD be left as it's original intention to be provided to the People of Alaska. This money is best spent by the people and this money strengthens the Alaska economy. As the ISER research indicates cutting the PFD is the worst economic decision that can be made for State of Alaska. Do NOT change the PFD, it is best to be provided for the people!

Respectfully;
Kathleen Shoop

Representative Wilson,

Please submit as public testimony on HJR23

I do not support HJR23. The Permanent Dividend Fund is not the governments money. It is the people's royalties as we are shareholders of the land and resources. The Permanent Dividend Fund should not be part of the budget. The people should be able to decide what to do with their royalties. We demand a vote.

Hands off the Permanent Dividend Fund. Return what was withheld from my family of 3's 2016 and 2017 Dividend. You did not have consent to touch it then or now.

Start practicing responsible budgeting. Stop the reckless spending. The budget is out of control and getting more of the people's money will not fix irresponsible spending. It will only make it worse.

Regards,

Francesca Allegrezza
Anchorage

Dear Rep Wilson,

Please stop this nonsense. The Permanent Fund Dividend belongs to the people of Alaska, not the State of Alaska.

The State of Alaska Constitution will need to be amended, to allow this to happen. Right now, I cannot for-see any compelling legal reason for that to happen.

Governor Hammond would be rolling over in his grave if he knew what was going on now!

Signed,
Rodney L. Koeller
North Pole, Alaska 99705

Representative Wilson,

I am writing to express my concerns over HJR23. The PFD wasn't created to fund the government or government operations and trying to change its original purpose is wrong. It's stealing from hard working Alaskans who rely on it to help alleviate Alaska's high living costs. Our economy is struggling and taking that money out of the economy won't do our state any favors. A strong government means nothing when the people are struggling.

There have not been adequate cuts to state government employees. The only cuts we as the public see is in our school system and that's the last place that should be cut. Salaries should be looked at, and reorganization's need to be made within state departments before the government starts taking money that was designed to go to Alaskans and before taking away educational resources to our school systems.

Thank you,
Veronica Temple Hoxie

Hello,

I guess the Kabuki dance is back. The house leadership insists on trying, once again, to hoodwink their constituency - now with the New Math or common core calculations in the PMOV. I urge you with all possible emphasis to vote NO on ANY part of HJR23.

We need honest and open discussion and transparency from Edgmon's house - and we are not getting it. Please get him to be honest with us. It is time to focus on BUDGET CUTS, not the PFD and revenue bills. If we, eventually, need to generate revenue from the PFD or Taxes, it should not be until we cut the budget.

I have read the "Compensation and Travel Report of Executive Positions" and all I have to say is ARE YOU KIDDING ME! Cut the budget. NO MORE CHINESE GASLINE! Quit screwing around with the PFD and bills like HJR23.

It is time to get HJR34 out of committee. This is the only bill that has a prayer of satisfying your constituents.

All the best
Kevin and Linn McCabe

Tammy,

I am opposed to the stripping of the PFD. This action in no way represents responsible budgeting and actions from our Representatives in Juneau. We are the richest state in the Union in Natural Resources and we can't find a way to utilize this. The job is not being done.

David Houx

I can't holler any louder or be any more specific about how much damage the surprise taking of half our money has done. Everyone I know suffered a financial hit that will take years to recover from. The level of anger is palpable. The amount of crime has doubled. There's more.

Robbi Douglass

Public Testimony for HJR-23

I oppose House Joint Resolution 23 because it ignores the basic premise as to why Alaska has a sovereign wealth fund. The Permanent Fund was established as a financial vehicle to allow Alaskans the opportunity to share in the benefit of the use of Our commonly owned resources. HJR-23 proposes to fundamentally change how this is done, thus reducing the benefit to Alaskans by allowing Our government to take more from the private economy to fund an ever expanding government. This bill almost completely ignores the current statutes regarding how the dividend is calculated while ensuring that government is allowed the lion's share of the earnings to spend on deficit budgeting.

It is my belief that the Alaska House of Representatives should join in supporting Senate Joint Resolution 1. Alaskans deserve a voice in determining what happens to Our resources. Finagling new ways to increase government revenue while reducing the incomes of Alaskan citizens is not how governance is supposed to work. The Alaska Constitution is very clear about this and also plainly explains that We the people are the source of government that exists solely for the good of the people as a whole. The people as a whole does not mean outside and foreign special interests.

Please accept this testimony to be entered into public record.

Sincerely,

Jon Corbett

In reply to your HAC & SAC facebook post I wrote: "Unfortunately the original PFD has already been killed by the AK Supreme Court. The Statutes have no teeth, since apparently the Leg can fund all or none of the Dividend. HJR 23 is a POMV with a 33/67 split, but it will never fly with the People. The Gov't wants a guaranteed income from the Fund. That's why they must have a Const. Amend. As it stands, only the Earnings can be touched. Go with a 50/50 split and both sides get what they want ! Is a POMV too risky ? Brad Keithley proposes a floating POMV...still 4.5 to 5% makes sense if the Fund can average 6.75 to 7.25%. Constitutional protection for the Dividend is the other Goal. I suggest that the Legislature receive for spending just what they are offering the People."

I realize the Permanent Fund Defenders are pushing to have the current statutes enshrined. The POMV restructure puts the Fund at a greater level of risk. Yet I believe both purposes of the Fund can be fulfilled, and done so equitably, that is, the Gov't can receive a steady stream of income, and the People can receive their Dividends unabated, without threat of under funding. There is no doubt that both purposes were intended historically and can be fulfilled going forward. (Hammond's 50/50 plan is still the gold standard.) That is what HJR 23 is attempting to do. SJR 9 comes even closer, with a 44/56 split.

While the demands on closing the budget deficit are at an all time high, this is no reason to establish an inequitable arrangement in the Constitution. With huge amounts owed in Credits (800 million) and now tax deductions annually (1 billion) to Oil, one must wonder where the priorities of our Gov't lie. A full audit would no doubt reveal where the largesse of spending has occurred after years of easy money. How to achieve a better relationship with Oil would seem to be a paramount concern, since we have a major short fall in revenue.

In conclusion, continuing to tap or tax the Dividend is the poorest of strategies, since it has been shown that the money is not currently needed for gov't spending, and those who benefit from the PFD are virtually all the People in our State, in one manner or another. It is a false narrative to claim that the Dividend must be taken or Alaskans will be taxed. Taking the Dividend is the most regressive tax that could have been devised. I applaud the efforts of the House in moving to reach a compromise. Now go the distance and enshrine the People's Dividend at half the annual distribution.

Andrew Brewer
Citizen of Alaska

Dear Tammie,

I would like to let you know that I support HJR 23 if the
split is as close to 50/50 as possible. Please float an amendment.

We get Constitutional protection and a limited government where we can
have more mature conversations about genuine budget reductions.

Perfect timing for Governor Dunleavy!

my regards,

Michael Chambers

Please submit to the Committee for Monday's testimony.

For the record

Dear Committee,
Regarding HJR23,

I would appreciate it if you would disregard this bill. It is terribly unfair to the residents of Alaska. About 3 yrs ago, the price of fuel plummeted and the budget suffered as a result. The legislators panicked and made some big decisions really fast to prevent a financial catastrophe. But in those decisions, there was still wasteful spending and our dividends were partially stolen. But now look, fuel is rising again. I was expecting the dividends to be returned, but instead, this bomb is dropped on us? I saw and commented on the budget in a previous email. Some of the way the money was directed was ridiculous.

I am asking you to scratch HJR23. Never make a permanent decision to a temporary problem. Focus instead on appropriate ways to distribute and save money in the existing budget. No on HJR23.

Thank you for your time,

Pamela Samash

Nenana, AK

I respectfully ask that the legislature of Alaska and the Walker Administration stop attempting to plunder the PFD. The greed of the majority of Alaskan politicians at the expense of the Alaskan people has got to stop. The amount of money wasted by those entrusted over the years to safeguard Alaska future and prosperity could have been used to build an infrastructure and an economy envied by the world and used to draw industry and manufacturing to Alaska. But instead you continue to waste our money and work against our best interest to profit yourself and those who benefit from you robbing the Alaskan people in the name of progress and prosperity.

So, with that said, restore the people's PFD and leave our money alone!

Sincerely,
Jeffrey M. Gresio

Hello Representative Talerico,

I ask you to keep in mind your constituents and vote No on HJR23. The PFD is a tremendous boost to the Alaskan economy and helps boost all small businesses in Alaska. Don't be 'just another politician' think of your constituents. The PFD is something for all Alaskans to be proud of! Thank you

Mark Wacht
McCarthy Alaska

Good Morning,

I understand the purpose of the PFD, but government has grown way to big and many people rely upon that bit of money to help with high fuel costs to heat their homes, and other items they need to stay here in Alaska. The State needs to take a long look at their spending, with people leaving the numbers have gone down but the Gov spending goes higher and higher. With the fear of a income/wage tax coming on the table, the question arises again about how are the people going to lose money with that then lose the PFD and property taxes always going up the State is pushing its own people which they have told they will make the right decisions out of the state. The State needs to take a long look at their spending in special projects and the amount of personal they employ and the rate at which they are paid. The average person doesn't even come close to their income. My out look is the Government needs to start DOING MORE WITH LESS and support the peoples wishes. The PFD needs to be left alone to do what it was meant to do and government needs to stay within their spending means.

Thank you for your time.

Lisa Young

Dear Legislators,

My parents instilled a strong sense of patriotism in my siblings and me. I, in turn, passed that reverence on to my six children. Over the years, I have gradually become more and more disillusioned with my federal government, but still held out hope for my state legislators. I find my faith in you waning.

The PFD is the People's money. Many depend on it for heating their homes, stocking their freezers, making trips to the "outside" to visit family that are afar. We have come to depend on that yearly check. Some would have us feel guilty for growing dependent on money from the government. I don't feel one ounce of guilt, but those of you who are not standing up for the people's money certainly should. There is NO gray area here. You should do everything in your power to preserve the PFD in a way that adheres to the original intent of its inception.

I will be watching, and voting accordingly.

Jean Herndon
Palmer, AK

Dear politicians,

Stop dipping into the cookie jar that is intended for us residents of Alaska!

I hope that you have not yet abandoned what you aspired to be when you ran for office like so many other politicians before you.

The will of the people is clear and you were circumventing it by even flirting with the idea of touching our money!

Too many Alaskans that are low income it is something they depend on to get through the winter. Quite possibly many of you have become calloused and arrogant in your privileged position!

Make no mistake, the people of Alaska are going to make you answer for ignoring the will of your honorable constituents!

You vote to take away what is rightfully ours and we will rightfully that you out of office do not second-guess us!

Time to tightened your belts instead of looking for ways to finance frivolous projects!

Thanks,

Chad Wemple
Palmer, AK

To Rep. Tammie Wilson,

I am an Alaska resident, living in rural AK. I urge you to stop the State from abusing the PFD, that was meant for the residents. State and Federal government need to stop abusing these funds. Throughout time the Government sees a sum of money and decide they need it, i.e. Social Security and look how it is abused and had to be bailed out by the Rail Road!.

The State of Alaska needs to learn to budget their monies in a appropriate manner for the times, Gov. Walker spent 9 million last year for gay and lesbian studies in AK schools, was this a necessary expense at this time? Alaska needs to reign the spending and taxing is not a solution either, as they will only go up and never go away.

Regards,

Lyle Beauchamp

I guess i don't understand...this is the first ive heard of this
The Alaskan people depend on pfds , maybe they shouldn't but they
Its so wrong if they take our pfd
Isnt it in Alaska constitution that it belongs to the people
Ruth Decker

Representative Tammie Wilson,

Please tell the House to stop stealing our PFD. They are directly hurting Alaskans.

The PFD allows me to pay my bills and spend money locally. It is a much larger part of my annual finances than the spoiled people in Juneau can relate to.

Meldonna Cody
Soldotna, Alaska

The PFD does NOT belong to Alaskan government! In fact, the Alaskan government belongs to the people of Alaska.

Where you reps and senators got the idea you could just steal it from us is beyond me.

The original document that established the fund was written in such a way that the government could NOT use the fund. It was for future Alaskans to use. Murkowski tried to get it when he was governor and was unable to do so. How Walker and that grubby bunch of legislators took it last year is beyond me. You all, and the judge, that allowed legislators steal it should be fired.

LEAVE the PFD alone! Run our state on a realistic budget and STOP taking what wasn't yours to begin with.

Theresa Walker

I like a 50/50 (people-pfd/government) split better than a 36/64 split. What I'd really like to see is a 70/30 split. I will be checking how representatives voted on this before I go to the voter booth the next few years and encouraging my friends to do the same.

Best Regards,

Michelle Higham
Wasilla AK 99654

This bill is a crime against the people of Alaska. It completely destroys the contract made between the people and the State of Alaska that gave the State the mineral rights that belonged to the people for the State to manage for the people and instead of mineral rights. it came up with a very fair and equitable way to distribute the funds that were derived from this contract arrangement.

Now the Governor and the Legislature want to break that contract and put in its place a different way of distributing the revenues which limits what it pays out to the people and keeps the bulk of the funds for itself.

This is so unfair. Instead of attempting to make the people of Alaska the ones who get hurt in this economic fiasco, reduce spending on those items that are not necessary. We need funding for Safety and Security, Roads and road maintenance (safety issues) and K through 12 School (with some adjustments for overlapping of school Administration). We do not need to be funding the University when they can be self funding and we do not need to fund a lot of the "nice to have" but not necessary arts programs. Those should be self funding as well.

I request that all who will be voting on this issue vote against the change to the way the fund is distributed. I would also like to see some repeal of SB91 which is an issue of safety and security for our people and I want the "born alive" bill to become law.

Thank you

Phylis K. Silverton
Wasilla, AK 99654

No HJR23 Leave our PFD alone
Andrew Navarro

No HJR23 Leave our PFD alone
Josh Maus

Ms. Wilson:

I read your post on Facebook and wanted to add my testimony.

I am a veteran and working father to 11 boys. (Yes, you read that right.) When I retired from the Air Force, I went to work for Halliburton straight out the gate. I loved oilfield work and we were happy in retirement. Well, you know the story with Big Oil -- two years later, I was laid off. At the very same time that my employment dried up, some in Juneau also decided to take a chunk of my PFD. We were depending on that money to get us through an extraordinarily hard time. While I am currently employed, it is no where near the income level I had with Halliburton and it isn't even near the income I had while still on active duty -- the economy here, as you know, is horrible and there aren't many "good" (high earning) jobs out there. (I suspect all my brethren who got laid off in the first several rounds of oilfield cuts took all the better employment out there and by the time I got my notice there was nothing left. Yes, I do, in fact, feel "triple affected" -- lost the oil job that I loved, there were no jobs because everybody else took them when they lost their oil jobs, and the state is taking my PFD because of the downturn in oil.) My family and I are still "starting all over again" after being laid off. That PFD is all that keeps us afloat.

For our family, that PFD pays for things like dental bills and copays, vehicle repairs (winters are rough on my commuting "beater with a heater"), and, quite literally, making sure I am able to put food on the table. We stretch the PFD out over 12 months simply buying food and keeping the bills paid. The PFD helps my family overcome Alaska's exorbitantly HIGH cost of living. Taking it away will devastate my particular family unit.

Which brings me to the million-dollar question that's burning on the minds of all Alaskans. I lost my income and had to make a new path with much less pay. My family had to make some seriously DIFFICULT choices in what we could and could not afford in order to keep ends meeting. We budgeted and cut out every unnecessary expense to conform to our new income levels. Why in the hell isn't the state willing to do the same?

Jeffery Urbanski

I do not support HJR23 and I would request that it is voted down. I don't know anyone personally who supports cutting the PFD, capping the PFD or changing the formula of the PFD. We demand that our full PFD is restored and past PFD payments are also restored. Any change to the current formula in State Statute needs to be put to a vote by the people to whom the fund belongs to...

Sincerely,

Kevin J Fortney
2018 voter to protect the full PFD amount.

Dear Representative Wilson:

Reject this bill HJR 23. The Alaska Permanent Fund belongs to all Alaskans not a select few. Vote NO on HJR23 and vote Yes on SJR1. Thank you.

Sincerely Peggy Krise

Dear Representative Wilson,

I am appalled at bill HJR23. We are the smallest state in population, but we have one of the largest (and growing) budgets. It is not cheap to live in Alaska, by anyone's imagination. We already have given up our mineral rights on our own land. Now they want to take the entire PFD, which we all knew was coming when Gov. Walker capped it. Please, please re-think what you are doing to the citizens of this state. The actions of each individual legislator are not being ignored by the voting population, I can promise you. The **ONLY** fair option, if you absolutely do not want to ever pay out another PFD again, is a full pay out to the eligible citizens, but even that is not fair. It is heartbreaking to watch the state I love and call home, and moved to from 5,000 miles away 13 years ago, be destroyed from within by the very people who are voted in to protect it.

Sincerely,
Tammy Jarriel
Sutton, AK

> Ms. Wilson,

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> Our economy today makes the middle class struggle. Even with my husband and I working full time jobs, as a family of 8 sometimes it's hard to make ends meet. The cost of living isn't going down, it's going up. My family and I depend on the dividend to help us during those times of struggle, to ease the burden of the ever rising cost to live here. I don't understand why the dividend is even on the chopping block. It was NEVER designed to be abused this way. For having such a huge impact on the people of this state, how can it not be a vote to the people? The pfd should be a VERY LAST out of desperation resort and we should have a say. Why is a statewide sales tax not the first effort? Or renegotiating our terrible tax deals with the oil companies? We already have sales tax in Wasilla and it's capped per purchase, no big deal. Everyone keeps talking about sacrifice. We have to "sacrifice" our pfd's. No we don't. I understand we can't have our cake and eat it too, but that means if people want to keep their pfd's then they can't complain about a minimal sales tax, that should be the sacrifice.

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> Please, I'm begging the house, A LOT Alaskan families depend on the pfd. It's already taken a toll the last 2 years that our pfd's were taken from us, the years that everyone was counting on the big pfd's to

finally catch their breath. This is all a slap in the face after we trusted Walker when he said he wouldn't touch it.

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> Thank you.

Kera Tuttle

Dear Committee Members,

I oppose HJR 23 POMV PFD. Please vote no and hold your objections. I support SJR 1 which Sen. Wielechowski has introduced.

William Deaton, Cordova

To the Alaska Legislature

House Joint Resolution 23 is an inappropriate response to the state budget deficit. By changing the formula for determining income available and then limiting the amount available for distribution to 33% you are directly reducing a residents dividend by approximately 1/3 this year. This is unacceptable. The CBR has more than \$4.7B, available and the Earnings Reserve Account has \$11.7B available. A full and lawful permanent fund distribution would only require about \$1.5B so why do you want me to believe that the State needs more of my money? And don't forget that it is MY money, alongside every other lawful resident of this state. We are co-owners of Alaskan resources!

Please stop your self-aggrandizement and find within yourself some humility to do the job you swore to do. Represent the people. Shrink the government, stop wasting money on inefficient government projects and balance the budget as if you were personally accountable! Do not restructure the PFD.

Thank you

Tarek Wetzel

Chugiak, AK

House Finance Committee,

I oppose HJR23. A Constitutional Amendment is critical to protect the PFD, but not this one. HJR23 is not acceptable. It's time legislators and the governor started getting public approval for changes to the Fund and PFD. This is the People's Fund. Not a government trust fund. Spend earnings and reserves this year and find a plan that AK citizens will accept instead of railroading us into a raid on the Permanent Fund and PFD.

Best,

Juanita Cassellius