

Public Broadcasting – Federal Funding threats with 100% reduction in state funding

The Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission (APBC) allocates **\$2,716,600** in state funding to 27 public broadcasting stations in the Alaska grantee pool.

The APBC has no direct role in federal or local funding stations receive. However, State of Alaska funding has a significant role in helping many stations qualify for federal funding from CPB. The federal formula for stations has several levers that come into play for Alaska stations. A significant one is called Non-Federal Financial Support or (NFFS). Stations that are required to reach a minimum of \$300,000 NFFS annually are at risk of failing to qualify for federal funds when 100% state funding goes away. With a 100% cut in State funding an additional \$1.7 million in federal dollars could be lost to Alaskan stations.

Radio federal funding in jeopardy **\$1,048,859**

TV federal funding in jeopardy **\$863,467**

Total potential federal funding loss \$1,727,349

- 39% of the stations will lose between 20-40% of their operating revenue.
- 20% of the stations will lose 45-91% of operating revenue

The combined loss of state funding at all stations and resulting partial or full federal funding loss will mean a loss of jobs, possibly as many as 50. The significant reduction in state and resulting federal match funding loss in FY16 and F17 means that stations, especially rural stations, have already reduced program acquisition funds, news staffing and delayed equipment replacement. For many stations reduced staffing is the only place to significantly reduce their budget expense in FY20. Many stations have increased fundraising in the last few years however in our current economy business and local support cannot increase at a rate to replace state funding. In addition, fundraising requires staff so the trend is for more fundraising staff proportionally reducing news and information programming that Alaskans depend upon from their local stations. Emergency alerts and natural disaster response is best delivered locally and in many places in Alaska local means only public broadcasting.

Total local revenue \$13,887,171

Total federal revenue \$7,710,656

Total state revenue \$2,716,600