

## **Public Broadcasting Funding in Alaska – Impacts of 100% reduction in state funding**

The Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission (APBC) develops policy to allocate the \$2,716,600 in state funding to 27 public broadcasting stations in the Alaska grantee pool. (See accompanying document for FY19 station allocations.)

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 the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB). The federal formula for funding stations has several levers that come into play for Alaska stations. A significant one is called Non-Federal Financial Support or (NFFS) for short. 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 CPB CSG Grants in Jeopardy     \$942,699

TV CPB CSG Grants in Jeopardy             \$784,650

**Total CPB CSG Funding Loss without adequate NFFS     \$1,727,349**

Calculated loss of federal incentive funding across all stations:

Radio \$106,160

TV    \$78,817

**Total CPB incentive match loss on all stations             \$184,977**

- 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 which is positive 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 remaining staff will trend more to fundraising 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.

Elimination of funding for satellite services (not under the APBC purview) means the loss of the satellite delivered content and collaboration capability and the end of distribution for Statewide News (formerly APRN).

Funding from communities and businesses across the state:

Local memberships:                             \$5,005,153

Business support: \$3,271,180

Grants and non-member donations: \$3,627,384

Auctions, Special events and other: \$1,983,454

**TOTAL local revenue \$16,671,373**

**Total federal revenue \$7,710,656**

**Total state revenue \$2,716,600**

Alaskans care about and contribute significant local dollars to public broadcasting stations. The combination of state, federal, and local dollars are what support critical emergency alert infrastructure and local and state news reporting as well as important content by and for Alaskans.