

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name

Amber Sweetland

Address



Sitka, AK 99801

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

I feel we need to talk about revenue and
stop talking about cuts. We can only
cut things so far without killing our state.
We need to talk about taxes. We need to
start demanding what Alaskans pay for
the services they need.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Angel Bond.

Address [REDACTED]

Cooper Landing, AK 99572

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

We need to invest in our children and their
education. Education is an investment in the
future and our children are our future.
We need to look at re-allocating the marijuana
tax revenue to help pay for education. We need
other revenue sources. Implement a state wide
sales tax and decrease our PFD. Don't decimate our
state and our education for our children. Small Schools Matter!

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Barbara Blakeley

Address [REDACTED]

Sterling, AK 99672

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

I strongly support the governor's budget. We have to get a grip!!
Throwing money at education has not seemed to help. We have to
be responsible for our actions. We can't spend more than we
make! I would be willing to pay more or give up my dividend
if I believed our legislature would make good decisions with
my money. That has not been the case. Please reign this in
now, so we can prosper in the future.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name

Billie Hardy

Address

Soldotna, AK 99669

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

My husband and I have made Alaska our home for 45 years.

NO to SB 23 + 24, the \$2.4 billion in dividends over 3 yrs.
NO to SB 57 and HB 59 which repeals credit for municipal payments against state levy on oil properties.

No taking away revenue sharing on fisheries taxes.
~~This would put a huge financial burden on all of us residents.~~

You were wise to pass POMV last year. Follow that and use some of the PF income to cover critical expenses, as intended.

Make cuts, but not enough to further damage our economy.

Then if the budget won't balance, do what is necessary to cut oil tax credits and a flat tax.

A \$630 PFD would be a good idea.

Do Not use the \$2 billion in savings.

Do Not enshrine the PFD in the constitution.

Do Not put it to a vote of the people. They will always vote themselves money.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Bro. Tom Patmor

Address [REDACTED]

Clam Gulch, AK 99568

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

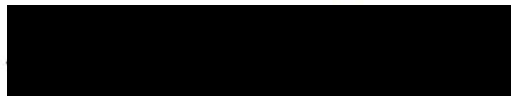
Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name DR CASEY J RUDKIN

Address



SOLDOTNA AK 99669

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

DEVASTATING CUTS TO THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA SYSTEM
WILL HURT STUDENTS NOW & HURT THE STATE ITSELF IN
THE LONG TERM. STUDENTS WHO CAN'T GET AN EDUCATION
NEAR THEIR HOMES MAY MOVE AWAY FOR COLLEGE & NOT
COME BACK, CAUSING BRAIN DRAIN. ADDITIONALLY, EVEN THE
BUDGET THREATS & UNCERTAINTY ARE COSTING US TEACHERS
& STUDENTS. BALANCING THE BUDGET WILL REQUIRE
ROLLING BACK OIL TAX CREDITS & LIKELY INSTITUTING
AN INCOME TAX, TO CAPTURE INCOME REVENUE THAT
IS LEAVING THE STATE.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Cathy Carrow

Address



Soldotna, AK 99669

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

Oppose Governor's Budget

For Education, Early Childhood → university
For Property tax sales tax to Local
For Income tax / PFD pay for government
For Oil Tax - get rid of oil tax credit
~~it is a tax~~

Thank you for being here and taking
testimony.

Alaska House of Representatives

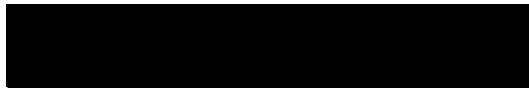


House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name

Christine Hutchison

Address



Kenai, AK 99611

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget



Please do your moral duty and
limit spending to the amount of
revenue w/out consideration of the
use of permanent fund dollars

Alaska House of Representatives

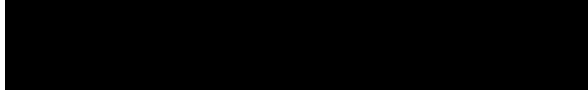


House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name

Christine Hutchinson

Address



Kenai AK

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

*Please review the subsidy to the
Marine Highway; the abundance of
AKA Chancellors, and remember
tax and services pushed to the
lowest possible level is the
best for people what and
exactly how they pay for it!*

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Ms. Claudia (Victoria) Calderon

Address [REDACTED]

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

i am a student at Soldotna high school, i have three siblings who will be attending high school next year. i am affraid for this cut. with the cuts to education, if you go through with this you will be taking not just extracurricular activity but individuality and motivation in so many high school and middle school students. there has been talk about Saki (Soldotna high school) and ~~the~~ ~~major~~ i have not spoken to one kid who would want this to pass. us students (most of us) rather have a smaller dividend then lose our individuality. I am terrified for not just myself, but also my siblings. and personally i would feel terrible getting a 3000 PFD.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name

Connie Ferguson

Address



Sterling, AK 99672

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget



Please repeal SB21, institute an
income tax and use the permanent fund
to ensure Alaskans and Alaska have a
future. We need you to lead, NOW. Thank You

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Cynthia Detrow

Address [REDACTED]

Sterling, AK 99672

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

I am in favor of using as much of the PFD as is necessary to maintain the level of services we currently have. I do not support Gov. Dunleavy's proposed budget. I am willing to give up my PFD and pay a state income tax in order to provide the current level of services. I would also support a state-wide sales tax. I oppose continued oil tax credits.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Dan Harrison

Address 
Sitka AK 99669

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

I am not in favor of Danbury's Budget.
I am in favor of fully funding Education.
I am in favor of repealing the oil Tax credit.
I am in favor of an income tax.

Thank you on my behalf.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name

Don Smith

Address

[Redacted]
Soldotna, Ak 99669

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

Don't touch the Permanent Fund without a vote of the people
We need to streamline our govt now rather than later.
Recently drove to Tok, Ak and saw many turnouts plowed
by SOA-DOT but almost no turnouts with the bathrooms
if they were plowed bathrooms were closed. Every time budget
cuts come about SOA agencies try to hurt the public
by closing the bathroom facilities along our highways
instead of cutting elsewhere. We may have to go back
to where FEMA money goes to the private sector instead of
SOA-DOT. Put the funds back in the private sector rather
than, in govt agencies.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name DANIEL STACY

Address [REDACTED]

COOPERS LANDING, AK 99572

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

WHAT ROLE OUR GOVERNMENT PLAYS IN OUR LIFE IS AT THE CORE OF THE HARD CHOICES THAT MUST BE MADE TO BALANCE OUR BUDGET. I WANT A STATE GOVERNMENT THAT IS COMMITTED TO EDUCATION, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND INCREASED INVESTMENT IN DIVERSIFYING THE ECONOMY OF THAT POWER OUR ECONOMY. MY WIFE AND I DO NOT HAVE CHILDREN BUT WE STRONGLY SUPPORT EDUCATION AND RECOGNIZE IT IS ONE OF THE BEST RETURNS ON INVESTMENT ONE DOLLAR CAN BE SPENT ON. WE DO NOT UTILIZE THE FERRY BUT WE RECOGNIZE ITS IMPORTANCE TO THE STATE AND ITS CITIZENS. THE SAME IS TRUE FOR COUNTLESS SERVICES I MAY NEVER ~~SEE~~ TAKE ADVANTAGE OF DIRECTLY BUT I AM NOT IN FAVOR OF THEIR ELIMINATION JUST BECAUSE I DON'T USE THEM MYSELF.

HARD CHOICES AND COMPROMISES MUST BE MADE TO RESPONSIBLY BALANCE THE BUDGET WHILE PRESERVING THE SERVICES WE DEPEND ON.

MAKE SPENDING MORE DOES NOT EQUAL BETTER OUTCOMES. MOST CAN AGREE ON THIS BUT MAKE CUTS DO NOT EQUAL BETTER OUTCOMES EITHER. IT IS TIME MAKE RECOGNIZE THIS.

FOCUSED AND JUSTIFIED CUTS ARE A NECESSARY COMPONENT OF ANY SOLUTION. OUR PROBLEM THE OUR CREDITS ARE A BETTER PLACE TO START THAN EDUCATION BUT CUTS ARE NOT INTELLECTUALLY HONEST WHEN THEY ~~FORGET~~ SIMPLY SHIFT THE BURDEN TO OTHER PARTS LIKE THE BUDGET. WE CANNOT FIND OUR WAY OUT OF OUR BUDGET CRISIS BY CUTTING ALONE. PROMISES THAT WE CAN DO SO ARE AS BANKRUPT AS THE RESULTS THEY WILL GENERATE. A RESPONSIBLE BUDGET MUST INCLUDE MECHANISMS FOR GENERATING REVENUE THAT PROVIDE LONG TERM STABILITY AND OFFSET THE BUDGET SWINGS IN REVENUE CAUSED BY VOLATILE OIL PRICES.



REVENUE FROM THOSE THAT BENEFIT FROM THE SERVICES WHETHER THEY LIVE IN THE STATE OR NOT.

IT IS UNREASONABLE TO EXPECT THAT WE SHOULD NOT HAVE TO PAY INTO A SYSTEM THAT PROVIDES US SERVICES OR THAT WE SHOULD SLASH THOSE SERVICES WHOLESIDE BEFORE WE EVEN CONSIDER DISCUSSING PAYING INTO THAT SYSTEM.

I PERSONALLY WOULD PAY FROM MY PFD TO SUPPORT THESE SERVICES BUT UTILIZING IT TO BALANCE THE BUDGET IS A REGRESSIVE FORM OF TAXATION THAT PLACES THE BURDEN ENTIRELY ON ALIENANTS AND UNFAIRLY ON THOSE WHOSE INCOME IS ~~NOT~~ MORE LARGELY COMPOSED OF THE PFD AND SO I DO NOT SUPPORT ITS USE IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES.

I DO NOT SUPPORT GOVERNOR DUNSTON'S CUTS AND NEITHER SHOULD YOU.
THANK YOU.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name

David Athons

Address

[REDACTED]

Kenai AK 99647

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget



Budget as suggested by the Governor would be very detrimental
to all our communities. I support the following:

1) Cap the PFD

2) Implement an income tax to capture revenue from thousands
who travel here to work.

3) Adjust / repeal SB21

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name

DAVID WARTINBER

Address



SOLDOTNA AK 99669

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget



EDUCATION AT ALL LEVELS MUST BE
SUPPORTED AND FUNDED

THE PROPOSED BUDGET MUST BE
CHANGED DRAMATICALLY

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Dawn Edwards-Smith

Address [REDACTED]

Soldotna AK 99669

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

I employ the legislature to stand by the people of Alaska and provide those services that support our communities. The PFD was not designed to create a system which would bankrupt our communities. If we cannot meet our budget needs then we need to secure additional revenue sources. The future of our state needs the legislature to stand up and present a budget that ~~can~~ continues the services which support our great state, even if that means additional taxes, or fewer subsidies, or other revenue sources.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Debbie V. Cary

Address [REDACTED]

Niuvichik AK 99639

Comments: *Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget*

☒ *es*

*See attached
(2 pages)*

Debbie V. Cary

Ninilchik Alaska 99639

Hi, thank you for the opportunity to speak and thank you for your service to the State of Alaska my name is Debbie Cary P O. Box 39317 Ninilchik Alaska. I would like to ask you a simple question. **What defines you as an ALASKAN?** If being an Alaskan means you receive a Permanent Fund Check each October then by all means, please pass this Draconian budget because I can guarantee you it will hurt all Alaskans, but you will still get your PFD.

That is not the type of Alaskan I am. I am a community member, who volunteers within my community, a business owner of a small business in a small rural community for the past 29 years, a mother who has raised 4 of her own children and counseled countless others in my tenure in Alaska and I currently serve on the KPBSD School Board to name a few. I am an Alaskan because I have always been proud of what Alaskans do for each other, how Alaskans care about their neighbors and how Alaskans are always there for each other in times of need.

I would like to share a story about Alaskans and what was a defining moment in my life, about what solidified the meaning of ALASKAN for me. In 2002 I was home alone with my two-year-old daughter, the phone wasn't working, which was a little odd, I was out of milk, and to top it off I was sick. Because the phone wasn't working, in true Alaskan style I got myself and my daughter in the car to drive to work to tell them I was too sick to come to work. When I reached the Deep Creek Bridge, I realized something was terribly wrong, the Deep Creek Bridge had been wiped out by a flood, I was trapped between it and the Stariski Bridge. There was a small store, so I went inside to use the phone and to buy some milk because my two-year-old needed her milk, but they were out of, but I was able to use the phone. I called my husband and told him what was going on within hours I had neighbors bringing me milk and stopping by to see if they could help. People stopped in for the next three days to ensure my daughter and I were okay because that is simply what Alaskans do. We have fund raisers for those in need, we give when we have nothing to give, we listen when someone needs to talk, we provide a shoulder when someone needs to cry, we preserve, and we take care of each other. Why, because we care, because we are ALASKANS. I am sure each of you can think of a story that defines you as an ALASKAN.

I implore you to look at how these proposed cuts will devastate all of Alaska. Are we Alaskans who care about our neighbors? I for one do not wish to see these cuts implemented in this manner. I recently had someone tell me these cuts is like having a surgeon going into surgery with no means to stop the bleeding. The patient will DIE.

As Alaskans we are the LAST FRONTIER, we care about each other. I would like to mention some of the devastating affects these cuts will have to Kenai Peninsula. As a school board member, we are focusing on how to make 20 plus million dollars in reductions. These cuts could include the closure of ALL pools and theaters, the elimination of ALL extracurricular activities, reduction in staff, increase in classroom sizes and the closure of schools.

While I believe we all need to look for efficiencies in all aspects of government I must ask if a systematic approach of slow cuts might not serve Alaskans more effectively? Should we have a planned approach and priotize the needs of all Alaskans?

The idea that the governor's budget does not include any new taxes is ludicrous. The governor's budget puts the burden of taxation on the individual municipalities and boroughs while systematically stripping them of their ability to fund their communities by taking away the Oil and Gas Property Tax Money, by taking away the Fish Tax Money, by shifting the responsibility of School Debt reimbursement to the communities, by eliminating Community Revenue Sharing money all of these things will hurt the Borough's ability to fund essential services. These cuts represent over a \$20 million dollars to the Kenai Peninsula Borough coupled with \$20 million dollars to the school district. Our Borough cannot sustain a \$40 million dollar cut in one year. This is not the approach needed to ensure we have a striving Borough that meets the needs of the people. In my earlier example of the surgeon I must ask who you want in charge of the scalpel an educated or uneducated person.

As an Alaskan I would like to offer the idea of a strategic step-down approach to reducing funding while implementing a sustainable tax structure to share the burden of taxation to all that use our wonderful state. I am willing to pay a state-wide sales tax, an income tax and to give a percentage of my PFD to guarantee Alaska remains healthy and viable for today, tomorrow and the future, **Are you?**

Debbre V. Cary



NINTCHIK AK
99639

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Emily Sims

Address [REDACTED]

Seldovia AK 99669

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

Children are our future! Cutting funding to education is criminal. Education is continually being used as an emotional jab to get people to vote, then the money promised is never fully put toward education. Closing schools, laying off teachers, adding more students to classrooms (which has been proven to be detrimental to learning) & eliminating sports as well as extra curricular programs (that help keep kids in school) are just a few of the items that will happen if this proposed budget goes through.

As a 30 year veteran vocational education teacher, I have seen these cuts/promises/failure to prove up with the funding more than once. Our country is in crisis without the needed work force in the trades. My Foods + Culinary Arts program has been very successful in allowing students to find their niche in the work world as well as being more competent adults

Thank you for your consideration. Emily Sims

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Gary J. Turner

Address



Seldovia AK 99669

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget



~~See attached~~

See attached 2-page document.

My 3/23/19 Testimony to House Finance Committee "Road Show"

Gary Turner

Speaker Edgmon, Representatives Knopp, Johnson and Carpenter. Thank you for providing me the opportunity to speak before you tonight.

I'm Gary Turner, [REDACTED] Soldotna. I've been the director of UAA's Kenai Peninsula College for 17 years. We have a Kenai River Campus in Soldotna, in Homer our Kachemak Bay Campus, and in Seward our Resurrection Bay Extension Site.

While we hope the 41% cut to the university will not be supported by the House or Senate, a number of UA employees are realizing that they need to start making their decisions to leave or stay, sooner rather than later.

Some of these employees have young families and their decision to look for other jobs is not just based on the potential cuts to UA, but also to K-12 and other services supported by the state, to include funding ^{for} ~~by~~ municipalities.

In January I was prepared to make employment offers to a new math professor and English professor; these positions had been vacated due to retirements. Once the budget was released, I informed the candidates we would not be proceeding due to the looming budget cuts. I didn't want to make them offers in January and then call them in June and say,

“Sorry I was just kidding.” As a result of this, KPC will likely not be able to meet the demand for English and math classes starting in the fall.

We are extremely proud of what KPC has accomplished over the years, particularly when you consider we’ve had to cut our budget by about \$2 million over the last five years. That’s a huge dent for a small college, but we have persevered. We are now cut to the bone. More cuts will cut into the marrow and take off limbs.

I ask that you think of these things as you debate the budget. Your constituents across the state deserve a first class university. With your help and belief in your university, we will continue to provide a quality education for the next 100 years. That should be a legacy we all aspire to because we don’t want future generations saying “How could they have let this happen!?”

Thank you for listening and your service to our state. I have a KPC lapel pin for each of you to show our appreciation for your visit as we give all visiting dignitaries. Permission to approach?

One for Vance. Give to Gary.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Glen Smalley

Address [REDACTED]

Kasilof, AK. 99610

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

- How much money did the House of Reps waste \$100k + $\frac{2}{3}$ of 90 days session
- DO AWAY w/ SERVICES NOT WORKING. 511 Rel. conditions
- TAX Slope workers income
- NO Special tax breaks to oil CO's
- FIRE TOP 4 LEVELS of HAA Admin. FOR LOOSING ACCREDITATION
High Replacements @ Lower to Reasonable SALARIES
- CALL MEDICARE WHAT IT REALLY IS "WELFARE"
- LOOK @ ORIGINAL PFD structure
- DIDN'T take Rocket scientist to do the math on when ~~they~~ the oil was going to slow down
- Legislation should have PLANNED AHEAD FOR a sustainable Budget.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name

Glenn Heeren

Address

[REDACTED]

Soldotna AK 99669

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget



I Support Governor Dunleavy's plans for
Alaska. I want my full PFD. Cut
government Spending.

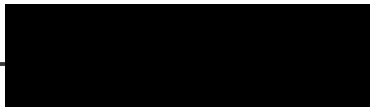
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House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name GREGORY A. ANDERSEN

Address



KENAI, AK 99611

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget



I OPPOSE THE PROPOSED BUDGET. IT IS HARD TO TAKE ANY-
THING THAT THE GOVERNOR SAYS WITH ANY MEANT. BRINGING
IN OUTSIDE PEOPLE TO CUT THE BUDGET IS WRONG. THEY
HAVE NO TIES TO THE STATE, AND DONT CARE ABOUT THE
RAMIFICATIONS. PLEASE CREATE A WORKABLE
BUDGET THAT FULLY FUNDS REQUIRED SERVICES.
STOP BONDING PROJECTS - TAX OIL COMPANIES CORRECTLY,
TAX OUT OF STATE WORKERS.

I PERSONALLY WOULD GIVE UP MY PFD TO
FUND EDUCATION.

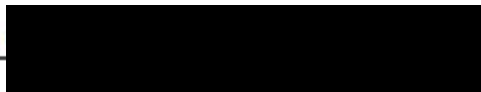
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House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Harold A Jackson III

Address



Seldotna, AK 99669

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

We can not spend more money than
we take in.

We will all have to tighten up
our belts

The last thing we need is an
Income Tax

We can not keep passing our
out of control spending on to
our grandchildren

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Heather Hooper

Address



Kenai, AK 99611

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

I do not support the governors proposed budget. I came to AK 16 years ago and have been a teacher here for 14 years. I earned my teaching license and masters at UAF through a post baccalurate program. I am proud that I was educated through the UA college system. I urge you to support education so that my children can have a quality education K-12 and I can encourage them to continue with their education post-high school. I want to raise my family here and cannot imagine living and working anywhere else. I am so disheartened to see what these proposed budget cuts are already doing to teachers at my school. Just this past week I have written a letter of rec. for a teacher leaving due to the uncertainty of the current climate. Over the last 5 years I have noticed first hand efforts to reduce spending in our school and district. It is my hope that this budget can be quickly resolved and that we can continue to provide a great education. I am in support of using my PFD, and a progressive tax income. Thank you for your hard work on these tough issues. I truly hope AK can remain my home and a place others will be able to live in.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Indyha Edwards-Smith

Address [REDACTED]
Soldotna AK 99669

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

by ~~cutting~~ these budget cut
by doubling these cut's into action. it will limit
Alaska's future. kids are the future and we deserve
full funding. soon enough we will inherit Alaska
and we deserve to have the best chance.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Janet Middleton

Address

Fritz Creek, Ak, 99603

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

I strongly support full funding for education
from Kindergarten through university level.

I also would like to plea for a vote to
support ~~medicaid~~ medicaid and medicaid expansion.

To cut either of these things would be devastating
to our community and families ↵

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name JANIES F MCCORDY

Address

Kenai AK 99611

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

TAX OIL AND GAS COMPENY'S
CORPORATIONS

raise gas tax at gas pump

keep Ferry system at same rate

IN come tax

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name JEFF MIDDLETON

Address [REDACTED]

FRITZ CREEK AK
99603

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

I AM AGAINST THE GOV'S BUDGET. I BELIEVE
IN FULL FUNDING EDUCATION, FERRY SYSTEM,
MEDICARE, AND OTHER PROGRAMS
I WOULD BE OK WITH DIVIDEND CUTS, AND
INCOME TAXES ALSO CUT IN OIL CROIDS

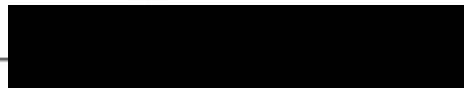
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House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Jenny Derks-Anderson

Address



Kenai, AK 99611

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

I want to go on record in opposition to the
proposed budget of Governor Dunleavy. The cuts are
too deep and potentially damaging to our state. I am
willing to give up my PFD and a pay state income tax
to increase our tax base. What I'm unwilling to support
is cuts to our most precious resources, our people.

Jesse Bjorkman HFIN 3/23/2019

My name is Jesse Bjorkman from Nikiski. I encourage all legislators, everyone in attendance and the thousands watching around the state to support full and forward funding for K12 Education.

Ben Franklin wisely said, "This will be the best security for maintaining our liberties. A nation of well-informed men who have been taught to know and prize the rights which God has given them cannot be enslaved. It is in the religion of ignorance that tyranny begins."

Jesse Bjorkman would put that this way. "Education about our history and the natural law informs ignorance, defends liberty, and destroys tyrants. We must fund and prioritize education in Alaska"

Good government must be of the people, by the people, and then finally for the people. Too often, I believe Alaskans want to skip directly to the last item on this list and demand what government can do for them. When Alaskans put personal private benefit before personal responsibility and service to others, then government becomes an external entity that we Alaskans find no part in. Government becomes an unbearable ogre because we have delegated our responsibility to the Alaskan commons and our local government to someone else who we do not know and do not trust. Wally Hickel said this: "We used to say 'Zat's Go'! Now we say 'Give Me'. We used to say 'North to the future', Now we ask, 'Do we have a future?'

The Alaskan constitution states in Article 1 Section 1 that, "all persons have corresponding obligations to the people and to the State." Your duty to participate in Alaskan government is constitutionally mandated!

You can choose a ready governmental guide in some celestial voice or think your job is through when you leave that polling booth. But if you choose not to decide you still have made a choice. Those who wish to be free must accept their own constitutionally mandated governmental responsibility. Free people must put aside governmental alienation and get on with the real relation of how the fascination with education will shape the underlying theme.

What is the solution to our governmental situation? Personal responsibility. We must all have the courage to ask hard questions and dig deep to find real solutions.

Here are some questions that Alaskans need to answer:

1. Are Alaskans supporting schools with their volunteer time, positive attitudes toward school and celebrations of success?
2. Do the words that Alaskans speak about education praise success or only prophesy failure and low expectations?
3. Is Alaska meeting its Constitutional mandate in developing its resources for the maximum benefit for all Alaskans or only a small minority?
4. What can Alaskans do to make Alaska the best that it can be? Shall we give up the PFD or tax the other guy behind the tree?

Jesse Bjorkman

HFIN

3/23/2018

p2

In closing, the purpose of education in Alaska on the Kenai Peninsula is to:

- Ensure all students will succeed in their education and work
- Give students the opportunity to shape worthwhile and satisfying lives for themselves
- Exemplify the best values of society

So that our students can go on to be effective in improving the character and quality of the world around them.

I urge you to join in this mission and support full forward funding of K12 education in Alaska. Our kids, our students and our future is worth it.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name JONATHAN DILLON

Address



KENAI AK 99611

Comments: *Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget*



I oppose the budget proposed by the Governor and the cuts that budget entails. I would be willing to give up my PFD (in part or wholly), pay a state Sales Tax, pay a state Income Tax, or those options in combination.

In particular, I urge you to oppose the cuts to Education and the University System. Please prioritize full funding for our public schools!

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Judi Fandrei

Address [REDACTED]
Kenai, AK 99611

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget



I have lived in the Kenai Peninsula over 20 years. I do not have children but I strongly support funding our schools, education. I am fortunate to be able to pay our bills, have no debt, being good health, have health insurance and have attended college classes at our local college. Not everyone is as fortunate and as a member of a community it is my responsibility to help others reach their potential and sense of security. If these cuts go through we will consider moving. I believe the PFD has become something seen as "income" - as if it is earned. It has produced a dependency I believe is not healthy or sustainable or realistic. Receiving a permanent fund but cutting services, I believe, will result in a poorer quality of life for everyone. It is short sighted + a temporary "feel good" event.

I fully support a lower permanent fund, or no permanent fund or an income tax to pay for services needed for a healthy + prosperous community.

Thank you for this opportunity

We are all in this together,
responsible for each other.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name

Katie Crealow

Address

Soldotna AK, 99669

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget



As a student with future plans, I believe we need to fund education fully. If this does not happen, drastic measures will be taken by our school districts which will decrease my opportunities such as sports scholarships and/or extra curricular/educational scholarships. As a high school student I always hear "Alaska Kids Come First", Prove it!

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name

Kaitlin Vadla

Address

[REDACTED]

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget



I received a wonderful education at Nihilchik + Soldotna schools ('04). I am a product of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District. I came back to live + work on the peninsula because of the great quality of life here. Our community's future depends on the level of education we provide our youth. KPBSD has already cut over \$10 million in the last 5 years. It cannot sustain draconian cuts proposed by Governor's budget. I want full funding for K-12 + University.

How to balance the budget:

- ① Statewide Income tax (most equitable + captures out-of-state workers)
- ② Eliminate per/barel tax credit
- ③ Smaller PFD.
- ④ Statewide Sales tax.
- ⑤ whatever creative way you can! Thx for your work, collaboration, and compromise.

Alaska House of Representatives

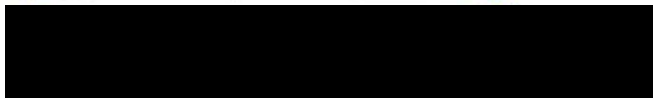


House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name

Karen Corbell

Address



Homer, Alaska 99603

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget



Yes

I am a ~~MA~~ proud 38 yr. Alaskan.
I live in Homer, Alaska. I graduated from
Homer High and graduated with an Alaska UAA
teaching degree. Please work fast to find a multi-
faceted approach that shares this financial burden.
Many individuals lives are being effected by the
uncertainties the current budget proposal presents.
I would like to see the finance community come up with
budget solutions that will provide All stakeholders
opportunities to have a successful life that passes
down to future generations.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name KYLE GRAHAM

Address [REDACTED] KENAI AK ~~99501~~
99611

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

DEAR COMMITTEE -
THANKS FOR OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT - I HAVE A
FAMILY OF 5 - 3 OF WHICH ARE IN
THE KPS SCHOOL SYSTEM - ALASKA IS OUR
DREAM PLACE AND WE CHOOSE TO LIVE HERE
EVEN THOUGH IT IS TOUGH FINANCIALLY.
WE DO NOT VALUE THE PFD EVEN THOUGH
THE \$ HELPS. WHAT WE DO VALUE IS
GOOD SCHOOLS / FAMILY / NATURE - YOU CANNOT
BUY US OFF WITH A PFD AND A STATE
WITH NO FUTURE.

WINSTON CHURCHILL -

"AMERICANS CAN ALWAYS BE COUNTED
ON TO DO THE RIGHT THING AFTER
~~THEY~~ THEY HAVE TRIED EVERYTHING ELSE"

DO THE RIGHT THING

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name

Laura McGinnis

Address

[REDACTED]

Niuchik, AK 99639

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget



I believe this budget is unethical and unconstitutional. You can not pass this budget. I am willing to pay a state income tax and or sales tax to make sure we have funding for education and our Emergency support services. This budget is not the answer.

As someone who has helped fundraise for non profits to the tune of over \$200,000 in the past 15 years- we will pay for these cuts one way or another. an income tax is the only equitable way to share this cost.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Laura Johnson

Address [REDACTED]

Cooper Landing, AK 99572

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

Please use our entire PFD's to help us with our budget.
Sales tax for entire state. Kenai peninsula sales tax as an
example. Don't cut education. Small schools matter.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name LAURIE RADZINSKI

Address [REDACTED]

COOPER LANDING AK 99572

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

I WANTED TO PAY AN INCOME TAX WHEN I MADE OVER
100,000 A YEAR AND I STILL WOULD BE WILLING
EVEN THOUGH I MAKE LESS THAN 30,000 A YEAR

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name LISA PARKER

Address [REDACTED]

SOCOMMA AK
99669

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

PFD - I am supporting a reduced PFD
check. It is more important to fund essential
state services first before distributing PFD.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Margaret Shalit

Address



Nikiski, AK 99635

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

My husband and I, along with our three year old daughter,
are Nikiski residents. Due to cuts in the oil industry, my
husband decided to switch fields. It was the fire program
at KPC which helped him gain employment at the Nikiski
Fire Department. It is through the Special Education Distance
program at VAS which has allowed me to earn my degree,
while also maintaining other priorities such as: housework,
working when times were tough, and moving multiple times,
and also remaining in Alaska. I know it isn't a question of
whether our schools are good enough, although many don't
seem to understand that we pay more per student due to the
great expanse of our state, but if we make these cuts, then
it ~~will be~~ the quality of our educators and employees
will become more of an issue. Making cuts to education
is simply not how you build an economy. I support a

4-day school week, which falls in line with proven
methods of high-quality education being offered in places
such as: Norway, Sweden & Iceland. However, the current
FY20 cuts are anathema against progress. We will not be
condemned

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Margaret C. Zerbinos

Address



Soldotna AK 99669

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

I vote for PF of \$630 or less.

I am supportive of a State
Income Tax.

I DO NOT support Dunlevy's
Budget! The most vulnerable people
would be hurt the most.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name

MARK LARSON

Address

Kenai AK 99611

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

This budget is ludicrous. I believe in cutting where possible. However; it should include a hefty dose of revenue. This should come from reducing our PFD portions and include an income tax for salaries above a certain level. I am particularly concerned about the proposed education budget. The strength of our education system is what keeps families and industries in the state. The proposed cuts will drive people away.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name

Melanie Beverly

Address



Soldotna

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget



I am completely against taxing the pfd to make up the state budget deficit. The residents rely on the pfd especially people in the rural community, as well as businesses

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Meredith Harber

Address [REDACTED]
Soldotna, AK 99669

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

As a new Alaskan, I don't feel the same entitlement to the PFD as some more seasoned Alaskans. I do believe the PFD has important and critical value to our subsistence-living Alaskan Natives. I am terrified of the proposed budget by Gov. Dunleavy, who is unwilling to hold a true public meeting for transparency and accountability. These cuts suggest that we don't value our youth, our old and our vulnerable. I moved recently from Oklahoma, where the budget struggles related to over-reliance on oil and gas have left the state in disarray. Public schools are reduced to four-day school weeks and only provide bussing for students with IEPs. Driving through parts of Oklahoma, you'll witness towns that boomed (with the oil) and have now busted—they're ghost towns. I fear Alaska will follow suit with these budget cuts. I support a ^{state} sales tax, increased taxes for out-of-state residents employed in AK, reduced tax credits for oil + gas companies, or perhaps an income tax. With any of these budget decisions, Subsistence Natives needs to be a core concern/awareness. This budget proposal makes me weep for the community I have chosen to make my home.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Merrie Culp-Washburn

Address [REDACTED]
Kenai, AK 99611

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

although local impacts are important
the budget needs to be balanced and
the legislature needs to keep the portion
of the peoples PFD for the people and
not touch it without a vote of the people.
The PFD brings more revenue to small
communities than any other source.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Nathan Erfurth

Address [REDACTED]
Kenai AK 99669

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

OUR STUDENTS AND OUR CHILDREN DESERVE BETTER THAN
THIS IRRESPONSIBLE AND COUNTERPRODUCTIVE MISALLOCATION
OF PRIORITIES. AND IF YOU FEEL LIKE EDUCATION HAS
PROBLEMS, YOU ARE RIGHT. BUT CUTTING FUNDING AND
EXPECTING "BETTER OUTCOMES" AS A RESULT IS SHORTSIGHTED.
THAT'S LIKE SAYING THERE ARE TOO MANY FOREST
FIRES: LET'S CUT THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name

Paula Murray

Address



Kenai, AK 99611

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

I do not want to see these devastating cuts made to our education, transportation, healthcare, and public safety systems. Please find a way to create a sustainable budget that includes those services. I would be willing to give up my PFD or pay an income tax to keep this state a place that ~~is~~ I will continue to live in due to the quality of life that it provides for its citizens. Thank you.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Peggy Mullen

Address [REDACTED]
Soldotna AK 99669

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒


Thanks for coming to hear us. Thanks for FOM last year, and for organizing the House in a thoughtful manner.
Pfd for villages and low income residents is important. A progressive income tax could protect low income people and allow us to garner funds from outside workers and those of us who could afford to pay. Conoco Phillips says Alaska provides the best return on investment in their portfolio. Working on a more equitable oil tax structure. Sales tax are the mainstay of municipalities. I like a baseline \$1,000 dividend that rises as general fund revenues rise.
the governor's meeting on monday with libertarians is not as honest as your work. thanks again for your hard work.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Rebecca Porter

Address 

NIKISKI, AK 99635

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

Hello,

Thank you for hearing us Alaskans as we speak up about what matters to us concerning this budget and Alaska overall.

I have been an Alaskan resident for over 35 years, my husband is a 3rd generation Alaskan and we are part of the community in Nikiski. Our children go to Nikiski schools, the very schools my husband ~~I~~ also attended. Our schools are important to us, our families are important to us, our futures are important to us! Obviously, something has to change, we know this to be true. But there needs to be better ways to achieve this than cutting the future of our children. Small towns create community, community supports student success, and ~~creates accountability which creates investments~~ our state Needs to find a way to invest into the future of our people—children are our future, so please don't forget this!

Take the PFD? sales tax statewide (not just rural!)
tax oil? Something needs to be found Anchorage?
to increase income! Even children know to build lemonade
stands when they want something!

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name

ROBERT EDLER

Address



SOLDOTNA, AK 99669

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget



I SUPPORT THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET REDUCTIONS
AND THE RESTORATION OF THE PFD!

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Robin Dahlman

Address [REDACTED]
Soldotna, AK 99669

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

Thank you for being TRANSPARENT in holding an OPEN forum with our important community of Kenai Peninsula. I fully support EDUCATION for all levels!!!! It is unconstitutional to support the proposed cuts put forth by our current governor. Don't take from the people, but DON'T just give freely without investment by the people, for the people. We must access a source or sources of consistent revenue to build up Alaska.... Alaskan people.

I'm willing to pay for the values I hold... I love Alaska and its people. I will pay for services I ~~value~~ value particularly for EDUCATION! Look at the access you have currently - right now - to pull from oil tax credit of \$1.2 BILLION by July 1st, 2019! I am FOR income tax. I support fully funding all levels preK → Higher Ed. of education.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Robin Nardini
Whitney Duncan
Address _____

[REDACTED]
Soldotna

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

What about the money the state makes
from the weed shops.

If people want to get you out of money
trouble by giving you their PFD then
PICK KLICK and GIVE.

They teach kids in grade school not to
over spend. What the Hell are they doing.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Sara Lucas

Address [REDACTED]
Kenai, AK 99611

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

I am a teacher and I get that because of this my statement may carry different weight than someone in another position. As a younger educator, who is not tenured, a decrease in funding to education could mean I no longer have a job and this is scary. I have taught in Alaska for the past 7 years, and have spent the last 2 with KPBSD. I feel honored to teach for this district, and would love to stay here, but am actively looking at a backup plan as this is the 2nd year, where at this point in time I do not have assigned contract. I love what I do, but I think it might to be time to find a new career where I have stability.

If we decrease funding to education according to Dunleavy's proposal, Alaska will fall way behind other states and the students will be the ones to suffer. Schools are the heart of the community and without good schools everyone will feel the effects. All of the other cuts in conjunction with education will devastate Alaska. I have been here 7 years and with all of these cuts it may be a time to leave the state. I could not live in a state with such a lack in services. I would support a decrease in PFD's and implementing income taxes to help keep our services over the long haul. I support a sustainable budget that all citizens are a contributing part of.

I think many younger teachers are looking at other options. There is already a teacher shortage in our nation. What will Alaska be able to do if there ~~are~~ is a lack of teachers because we choose not to fund education?

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Steve Theno

Address [REDACTED]
Homer 99603

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

I do not favor the budget proposed by the Governor.

I favor a budget that provides a reasonable level of services to the citizens, supporting Health, Safety, Welfare, Education, the University and Transportation.

additional I favor reducing or phasing out the PFD, and providing revenue via sales or income tax.

I would also encourage the legislature to proactively enact a long term responsible fiscal plan for the State. A gradual "step down" of the budget, a squeezing of the PFD and a "little" draw from Savings is not a responsible plan. It is simply kicking the can down the road. Let's do what should have been done years ago!

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name

Tamara McCoy

Address



KASLO, AK 99600

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget



All the teachers here are talking about giving up their dividend or are willing to pay income tax.

How about RESTORING my PFD the people PFD and THEY, the people willing to give up their PFD to donate their own and leave mine alone

The politicians need to learn how to control their spending, stop spending other peoples money, put it to a vote by all people. I know why no one wants to privately run the ferry.... do you?

BECAUSE IT LOSES millions of dollars.

Whose fault is that? Leave the PFD separate from the budget, get creative and start talking about generation of new revenues not income tax

THIS IS NOT FAIR TO 47% OF THE PEOPLE
THAT WORK, SO, WHAT ABOUT PEOPLE
THAT DON'T WORK?

Why is there no discussion of a
Flax tax - across the board?
PFD is a tax that hurts all
middle & lower income earners!
Is that fair?

Shame on you! Shame
on you for putting us here
in this position we are in.
Education? Why are we spending
the most while ranking #44
in the nation?

Joe St. Michel

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name

Tamra Wear

Address



Soldotna AK 99669

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget



It's important for every Alaskan to realize that it's the adults that should pay for the state's financial crisis, not children. Alaskans should give to their state & communities if that means taxes and a smaller PFD then so be it. Students shouldn't have to sit on a bus for an hour to get to school or be in overcrowded classes. Education is not a responsible cut.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Thomas Gossard

Address [REDACTED]

Cooper Landing, AK 99572

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

NO Support for Dunleavy's PROPOSED cuts.
Revisit SB 21 and reduce oil tax credits
Initiate State income tax
Forward FUND EDUCATION

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Virginia Morgan

Address [REDACTED]

Cooper Landing, AK 99572

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

I DO NOT support Dunleavy's proposed cuts. I believe we need to
diversify our revenue sources. I also believe we need to revisit
SB 21 and reduce oil tax credits. We are giving away far too much
money to those large corporations. I fully support a state income
tax, as well. Education should be forward funded.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name Vydeell Baker

Address [REDACTED]
Soldotna, Ak 99669

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

As it stands, our education is more valuable than a yearly allowance, along with our health care. Alaska has the highest rate of STD's, Suicide, etc. There is a reason we need as many people under healthcare that we do. As for students, you're telling us to be future leaders and "inspiring" us. Yet you expect us to do so as our means of doing so are being taken away. Especially for rural areas who already have a lack of proper education. A yearly allowance isn't worth it. That money was extra money, not to be taken from us.

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name

Willow King

Address

[REDACTED]
Soldotna, AK 99618

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget



yes

I support SB14, do away with oil tax credits before deciding to cut funding for education, Medicaid & social services. We need to stop subsidizing development of extraction industries. Diversification & incentivization of Alaska's economy is of paramount importance. (of new industries)
"Envision a state income tax being implemented before cutting the PFD."

Alaska House of Representatives



House Finance Committee Kenai Community Meeting

Name

Zobeida Rudkin

Address

[REDACTED]

HC Soldotna AK 99669

Comments: Do you want comments submitted as public testimony on the Operating Budget ☒

I came to Alaska for the University of Alaska. With the Governor's proposed budget, the University system will be hurt beyond the students. I came to Alaska to be able to study Marine Biology and I have had the opportunity to work on protected Marine Mammals that I would not be able to have done without the University of Alaska. Keeping the University funded would keep the younger generation in Alaska. This proposed cut would force UA to increase tuition above a point where students could pay and thus the students would leave the state.