

March 17, 2021

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support Set Free Alaska's proposal for Alaska's recidivism reduction and recovery project. This is an essential program for Alaskans supporting individual, family, and community restoration. Specifically, with reducing recidivism, cultivating a community of wellness through robust recovery support services, and promoting public safety.

I am the former Director of Haven House Juneau, a recovery residence providing housing, peer support services, recovery and reentry assistance, advocacy and healing for women returning home from incarceration. A proud life-long Alaskan, a mother of three adult children, a woman in recovery from substance use disorder and formerly incarcerated, all contributes to my fierce dedication to these complex social issues and passion to always be a part of the solution.

Set Free Alaska's proposal for the Alaska Recidivism Reduction Project aligns with my own vision and many other Alaskan's of seeing individuals, families, and communities experience healing, restoration, and transformation.

Currently, I am the founder of KLN Consulting LLC. An organization dedicated to creating community-based solutions for reentry and recovery programs through consulting, training, and storytelling. This includes working with many recovery residences and reentry programs across Alaska to ensure best practices, standards, ethical guidelines, and people centered care are a priority within. I have been a part of and actively involved with the National Alliance for Recovery Residences for the last 8 years, a national certification entity for recovery residences. I have had the honor to work closely with Set Free Alaska over the years on many levels, including recently with their vision of the Alaska recidivism reduction and recovery project, which includes these elements of recovery housing within a therapeutic community.

I have visited and consulted with dozens of reentry community programs and recovery residences across Alaska and the United States. The model Set Free Alaska has proposed is of great excellence and delivers the comprehensive and robust recovery continuum of care desperately needed in Alaska.

Access to stable housing, supportive services, and opportunities for education and employment can help promote social inclusion for people who are formerly incarcerated or are at risk of engaging in criminal behavior, especially those with substance use disorders. Programs that connect our formerly incarcerated Alaskans with housing and supportive services to facilitate their successful reentry into society have been shown to reduce recidivism among target populations across the country. These programs can reduce the high rates of homelessness among formerly incarcerated Alaskans and provide the stability that they need to gain employment and avoid returning to prison.

Please support the Alaska Recidivism Reduction and Recovery Project.

Gratitude,

Kara Lee Nelson

A thick, black, horizontal brushstroke used to redact the signature of Kara Lee Nelson.

Anchorage, Alaska

From: Jo Karaffa
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Budget
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 2:49:01 PM

Pretty sure this won't get read, but if I have to learn how to live within the budget of my income than y'all should learn as well. If we do away with all per- deims that all politicians receive I'm pretty certain shit will get resolved alot sooner. The per- deims are way out of our budget an if cuts need to be made, we need to start there. Politicians should not be getting rich off not serving what the people actually want.

Also when can we start making it a law that when people's driver's licenses need to be renewed one should have to take the written again an pass in order to renew your license? With all the changes in laws an insurance it would be a good policy to refresh minds on how to drive correctly an maybe reduce accidents. Also when renewing car registration one should have to prove proof of insurance.

From: Diana Williams
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Budget suggestion
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 2:50:39 PM

I sent an e-mail to the governor's office a while back and never got a response. My question is why the Department of Corrections doesn't take native inmates to the native hospital. My understanding is that natives get free health care at ANH. I don't know what the State pays to the private hospitals, but I'm thinking it's more than free.

Also, I would like to see the native corporations do a lot more for the native homeless population. Why is the City of Anchorage buying properties to house the homeless, when it seems the native corporations have plenty of land and funds, and should be able to build/buy sufficient shelter and provide treatment for their own people. I don't know what percentage of the homeless population is native, but I know that the majority of panhandlers I see on the street are native. I don't know how much State money ends up going into shelters, but I would like to see more funding for education/training and not just providing safe places for people to get drunk/high. That is no solution.

Thanks for your time,
Diana Williams



Virus-free. www.avast.com

From: Catherine Nicholas
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Caps
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 2:58:23 PM

On all pay for Congress, Senator's, Representative's.
All above should pay for their travel expenses, stay with relative's or friend's.
Change law's so above do not get retirement from Social Security above the minimum allowed. They have generally made too much \$\$ off their business extras while in politics.

Disolve all college debt.that way we can get higher quality of work as folks become less stressed.

Stop all money's going towards superpac, no \$\$ should be allowed into elections.

Good day!

From: felicity.young
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Budget
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 3:01:39 PM

Please accept Governor Dunleavy's proposed cuts to spending. Alaska's government spending rates are untenable. The PFD was never intended to fill the gap for out of control spending.
Felicity Young
Meadow Lakes

From: John Jensen
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Budget
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 3:03:47 PM

Let me say again that I do not support the concept of big PFD payouts. I do not run my personal finances that way. It is essential that we do not start spending down our capital. We need to inflation proof the PFD. Fortunately, oil prices are up a bit which should help our budget crisis. In addition, like it or not, Alaska, to include individual Alaskans, will be getting federal help as you know and this will not be insignificant.

Especially when the administration refuses to talk rationally about any increased revenues from anywhere, I am not sympathetic to the governor's "...special interests and big government defenders. . ." rhetoric. There is no free lunch; future generations of Alaskans will pay for any big PFD payout now. In fact, I think that they are already paying.

Thank you. John Jensen, [REDACTED]



National Alliance on Mental Illness

Affiliates in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, and North Slope
Serving all of Alaska

March 17, 2021

Senator Click Bishop, Co-Chair
Senator Bert Stedman, Co-Chair
Senate Finance Committee
Alaska State Senate
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801

RE: Governor's FY22 Budget: Operating (SB49), Mental Health (SB51)

Dear Co-Chairs and members of the Senate Finance Committee,

NAMI Alaska would like to voice our opposition to the Governor's FY22 state operating budget actions to utilize Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority's Trust Reserve Funds in lieu of state general fund dollars, as well as the reduction in funding for Public Assistance Field Services, the Civil Legal Services Fund, Sobering Centers, Therapeutic Courts, and the proposed \$6 million funding source change for API from state general funds to the Mental Health Trust Reserve funds.

We support the Trust and partner advisory boards in directing state resources and implementing measures that expand Alaska's revenue base, preserve its savings accounts, and protect dedicated funds for the purposes they were statutorily/constitutionally intended. Increased revenue means continued resources for critical programs and services that support Alaska's most vulnerable citizens.

Adequate services are essential to persons living with mental illness in achieving stability. Alaskans experiencing mental illness, developmental disabilities, chronic alcoholism, traumatic brain injury, or Alzheimer's disease or a related disorder are all Trust beneficiaries. In many cases, these beneficiaries are some of the most vulnerable populations in the state.

NAMI Alaska supports a comprehensive array of treatment, services and supports that address prevention, early intervention, recovery, and support should be available to children, adolescents and adults living with mental illnesses and their families. NAMI Alaska applauds the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority (Trust) and its support of behavioral health programs through the [Alaska Comprehensive Integrated Mental Health Program Plan](#) now in place.

NAMI Alaska • PO Box 201753 • Anchorage, AK 99520-1753
(907)277-1300 • Fax (907)277-8456 • alaskanami@gmail.com

By statute, the Trust must make recommendations for state general fund spending which are developed in coordination with the Trust's contribution to funding state programs. This year, the Trust developed a list of general fund recommendations for many programs/projects/grants to support Trust beneficiaries. The Governor's proposed FY22 budget replaces the board of trustee-approved general fund recommendations with \$4.29 million in Trust Budget Reserves. We understand these direct appropriations were not discussed with the Trust and were not approved by the board of trustees. An overdraw on the Trust's Reserves could have negative impacts on current and future spending and support for Trust beneficiaries.

Cuts to the mental health budget on the State of Alaska level, especially in regard to mental wellness and mental health programs, do not save money in the long run. In the long run, investing in behavioral health services will bring a large return-on-investment to the state.

NAMI Alaska is opposed to any reductions in these budgets, including diversion of Trust funds without the Trust's approval.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony.

Respectfully,



Ann Ringstad
Executive Director

cc: Mike Abbott, CEO
Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority

NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, is the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness. NAMI advocates for access to services, treatment, supports and research and is steadfast in its commitment to raise awareness and build a community for hope for all of those in need.

NAMI Alaska is the Alaska state chapter of NAMI and has been helping people affected by mental illness since 1984. NAMI Alaska envisions a state where all people affected by mental illness live healthy, fulfilling lives supported by a caring, culturally sensitive community. There are over 600 local NAMI affiliates nationwide, of which four are in Alaska: NAMI Anchorage, NAMI Fairbanks, NAMI Juneau, and NAMI North Slope. They are volunteer-centered organizations, working in their local communities to raise awareness and provide essential and free education, advocacy, and support group programs.

From: [miranda.littlefield](#)
To: [Senate Finance Committee](#)
Subject: Stop over spending
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 3:26:58 PM

Tired of hearing about huge state spending. We have 2 projects just recently in sitka. A state pool a that is never open at the state boarding school. And the current waste of millions...the road to Shee Atika's land. Literally to no where! The state government is robbing our dividends for projects all over the state like these. I whole heartedly support governor Dunlvey's plan to stop government spending. And repay Alaskans their dividends. I to can make bad choices with money. But I'd rather it be my choice with my money.

Thanks

Miranda Littlefield

Sitka

Sent from my iPhone

From: Richard Cook
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Governor's proposal is a very bad Idea
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 3:28:40 PM

You've already done serious damage by slashing programs. I oppose the proposal to further reduce the budget. Instead, I favor the adoption of a State income tax. You cannot continue to eat away at the academic credibility of the State's university system without suffering longterm consequences. Similarly, ADF&G has become a shell of the agency it once was, and at a time when solid science is even more urgently needed. There are countless other ways in which your administration has been as bad for the State as tRump was for the nation. We cannot continue to deny the reality that the State of Alaska needs substantial State services; that those services cost money; and that to cover those costs, we need to adopt a State income tax. To do otherwise is merely to postpone the inevitable. i would also support further reductions — or even the elimination of — the PFD, if that's what it takes to restore the credibility of the State's university system, as well as the capacity of State agencies, like ADF&G, to fulfill their missions.

Richard Cook

From: J & K YEAFOLI
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Operating and Capital Budget
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 3:32:37 PM

Finance Committee,

With regards to planning for future budgets, it is my strong desire and expectation that fiscal responsibility be exercised in the form of reining in spending. The Federal debt is already obscenely high and has been driven higher by the disingenuous COVID bill just signed. It is not good for Alaska to keep spending what we don't have and hoping it will work out later. You will have to make some hard decisions, and I support efforts to reduce the budget in 2022. Responsible Alaskans will understand and adapt.

John Yeafoli
Anchorage, AK

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

From: Karl Schleich
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Please: Create a fiscal plan that is balanced, long-term, sustainable and fair.
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 3:36:25 PM

Dear Finance Committee,

I know you are taking public testimony today and tomorrow. I have included a letter I sent to my Senator and Representative on May 17, 2019. My feelings haven't changed much, however, what has changed is we are dangerously close to destroying our ability to establish a long-term fiscal plan. The idea of a super PFD is outrageous and irresponsible, especially when we know the Federal stimulus is on it's way and will do more for the neediest Alaskans than a one time super PFD would do.

I know you have difficult decisions to make. It has never been more important to rise above the partisan politics and do what I expect ALL Legislators know is the fiscally responsible way to proceed: Create a fiscal plan that is balanced, long-term, sustainable and fair.

Here is my past letter that still holds true.....

May 17, 2019

Dear Senator Giessel and Representative Pruitt,

Happy Memorial Day! Just another update of ongoing correspondence this past session:

So you are now in Special Session and all of the forces are conspiring to influence the legislature to take particular actions. You are in my thoughts and prayers as the onslaught continues. Sadly, our legislative process is designed to have so many dis-unifying influences emerge. I was saddened to see the use of social media to attack some of your colleagues for their efforts to create a sustainable, long-term plan.

Indeed, this is a time for unity! A Unity around a fiscal plan that is balanced, long-term, sustainable and fair. The legislature is on the right path in spite of the forces to do otherwise. The recent public hearing, fueled by partisan social media MUST be balanced with the kind of feedback you have received all session and your own sense of what is balanced, principled and fair. I trust you and your colleagues are recognizing the need to settle differences and compromise in order to build a unified base that will withstand a governor who might be wanting to use his veto power to keep his political promises, regardless of the long-term health and lack of sustainability of a fiscal plan.

As has been communicated in previous correspondence with you I applaud and support plans that:

1. **Maintain existing services** while tolerating some budget cuts; I appreciate that the budget has been systematically reduced over the past several years;
2. Recognizing the **appropriate role the Permanent Fund Earnings Reserve** plays in a long-term fiscal plan; a smaller PFD is acceptable in order to maintain services and a continuation of a PFD; be careful in how much of the Earnings Reserve is made "unaccessible" in order to NOT run out of fiscal tools in the future;
3. A **consideration of new revenues**. I appreciate how unrealistic this is in a

compromising effort, however, know that I support a combination of revenues including increase fuel tax, progressive income tax, or a seasonal sales tax.

Thank you again for your ongoing service in the legislature. Good luck in the coming days as you work to successfully close this session.

Sincerely,

Karl Schleich

[REDACTED]

From: renn.nelson
To: Senate Finance Committee
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 3:48:37 PM

The budget i trust governor Dunleavy and his budget suggestions

SINCERELY

Renn Nelson Craig Alaska



From: Julie soper
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Budget Budget Budget
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 3:51:49 PM

It is time for the legislators start listening to Alaskans especially with the year we just had...Stop Spending and Start Budgeting!! Help Alaskans get back on their feet with the PFD, There is NO REASON we shouldn't receive a Good PFD with where it's at and another reason for you all to STOP TAPPING into it...So we can get the Economy Going Again and look out for ALASKANS FIRST!!!

Or it's time to Start Voting People OUT of Office if your not willing to listen to US ALASKANS!!!

And Also Stop acting like Children and Start acting like Grownups...If I was your Parent a few of you need to be grounded and some privileges taken away!!!

Get to work and get the job done

Julie Soper
Shemya and Kenai,Ak

From: Margaret Bauer
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: FY22 State Operating Budget
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 3:52:03 PM

Thank you to the Senate Finance Committee for your support of the FY22 operating budget including the early childhood resources and services such as Best Beginnings, Infant Learning and early learning coordination, Pre-K, Parents as Teachers and other family support. These critical resources are of vital importance to our Alaskan children and their future. Any cuts to these early education programs would mean less access to high quality care throughout Alaska. As a long time educator of early childhood education in Alaska (36 years), I have had the privilege to interact with young children and families who participate in these programs, through my teaching, board service, community participation and advocacy. My own children were a product of quality early learning experiences in Anchorage and are both competent young adults with college bachelor and master degrees in Project Management and Mental Health. They remain in Alaska, contributing to our economy and workforce development. Please designate the additional Federal funds to the early childhood supports and services. Thank you for your continued support of Alaska's youngest children and their families.

Sincerely,
Margaret Bauer


From: Mark Bloch
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: The Budget
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 3:56:22 PM

To the committee:

Under no circumstances should you accept the Governor's budget and especially his PFD proposal. He wants to rob future generations of the PFD with his proposal as well as making Alaska's budget impossible to balance.

I urge you to consider taxing those of us who can afford it so that those who really are in need of the PFD's can continue to get them.

Please do the right thing which may mean doing politically difficult things.

Protect the corpus of the PFD; protect the people of Alaska with common sense decision making. If you continue to cut education, policing, caring for seniors etc. and fail to be forward looking, you will only continue the negative flow of the population to the Outside.

Thank you.

Mark Bloch

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: Lisa Crombie
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Pfd and taxes
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 4:01:01 PM

It's way past time to raise taxes on big oil to fund our government. Repeal SB21 and pay out the full dividend. The cutting of the pfd is the most regressive tax option and disproportionately hurts lower income Alaskans who count on this money to pay for essentials. Instead of choosing between deep cuts to the budget or paying a full dividend, you should be changing laws to get more revenue from Alaska's natural resources. Also, to generate more income for the state, we should join other states in offering lottery tickets such as Powerball and Mega Millions. Declare a state of emergency so we can access federal COVID funds for food stamps and the Pandemic EBT program. You should be doing everything thing you can to get COVID relief funds directly to Alaskans. Do the right thing for a change.

Sincerely,
Lisa Crombie

Sent from my iPhone

From: Colleen Sherman
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: O & C Budget
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 4:09:21 PM

Look, I've just spent most of my day just going over the various allocations and appropriations of the 2019 Budget. Since I didn't see the same listing for Year 2021 am assuming these all still apply. I would need a lot more than a day to look over everything and don't have that experience and time, since I only received this notice today, so am leaving it up to people that Hopefully have more experience and fiscal responsibility to get rid of "FAT" and ridiculous entities to make our government SMALLER rather than continually growing beyond its means.

For example: (a couple things I came across)

- * \$1,000,000 for Cold Climate Housing Research Center?
- * \$200,000 for Mt. Edgecumbe H.S. Aquatic Center? (since when does a high school need an Aquatic Center!?)
- * North Slope Air Quality Study - REALLY!
- * \$3,576,798 North Slope Boro Com. Winter Access Trails - to where?

Run it like your household!!! Don't buy/spend on things that are unnecessary and/or redundant.

That's why we have elected you.

And for God's sake DON'T SELL OUT ALASKA TO CHINA!!! (another subject) Gov. Dunleavy!

Sincerely,
Colleen Sherman
Soldotna

From: Ken Culp
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public testimony
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 4:21:38 PM

As a long time alaska resident, I feel the PFD was stolen by former Governor Walker, instead of making the hard decisions to make govt cut backs, our statutory PFD was taken from us without a vote of the people. I support our current governor who is trying to give us our full PFD and extra to stimulate our economy during this time of covid. Our pfd is at record highs and we need to take care of our people period. To Our elected folks in Juneau remember you work for the people not special interest groups!!!

Mr Culp
Anchorage Alaska
Sent from my iPhone

From: Angela Modrell
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska Budget
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 4:26:39 PM

As an Alaska resident you understand the reason most of us live up here. We want our freedoms, land, space, and rights afforded to us by God. We are independent and self sufficient. When a neighbor is in need we provide and share. We are not a welfare state. Since the government decided to take over the mineral rights, you owe us for profits from our property. If you are not going to pay us the full amount due to property owners and residents, Permanent Fund as it was designed, then you need to return our land/mineral rights.

You decided to experiment with the catch and release law enforcement system and look where that has gotten us. Do what is right for the people of Alaska, not the lower 48 and special interests. You were elected by the people, act like it.

Thank you,
Angela Modrell

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

From: Jon Sharpe
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Governor's Proposed Budget
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 4:29:25 PM

Dear Legislators,

Taken as a whole, Gov. Dunleavy's proposals appear to me to be a veiled attempt to destroy the Permanent Fund. The past POMV rules should be maintained, any Permanent Fund Dividends should be based on this rule, as should government support. Overdrawing from the fund will become a habit, and our financial situation will not be improved. I suggest a careful revision of oil taxes and implementation of an income tax and other taxes to approach our current deficit. The Governor's proposal to make tax issues a ballot issue is also wrong-headed.

Jon Sharpe

From: James Toussaint
To: Senate Finance Committee; Sen. Tom Begich
Subject: Budget
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 4:33:12 PM

It has been obvious for almost a decade that Alaska needs new revenue. We cannot cut our way out of this budget deficit, as most of you and Mr. Dunleavy have proposed every year, and keep this state liveable. Excellent or at least good schools, infrastructure, healthcare and other services are essential for people to want to live here or businesses to move here - these take money. It is long past time to reinstate the state income tax. I am willing to pay my share to make this a desirable place to live and work.

Jim Toussaint

From: Ray Dahl
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Budget
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 4:33:46 PM

The income for the state is "x". State expenditures can not exceed "95%" of the state income. Thus, "5%" of the state income ("X") will be set aside to build a capital reserve (set aside) and managed separately mirroring the permanent fund management discipline.

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

From: Nobody D1
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Adopt the Governor's Fiscal
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 4:35:25 PM

Alaska Legislature please adopt Governor Dunleavy's proposals that would reduce spending by nearly \$300 million in Fiscal Year 2022. The Governor is standing tall for all Alaskans and now it's the Legislatures turn to stand tall with our Governor to bring about this fiscal proposal for all Alaskans.

From: James Brooks
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska 2021 Budget Input
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 4:37:31 PM

Dear Leaders and Members of the legislature's finance committee:

I will apologize in advance for being a fiscal conservative. You will know my bias for by concepts expressed below.

I read and follow your committee testimony and discussions almost daily. You may have an opportunity, this year, to protect the fiscal future of Alaska. First, projected revenues are improving. The price of oil and gas are improving. Second, there is stimulus money from 2020 and 2021 that may be able to help fund government spending in 2021 and outyears. You may be able to not only reduce the size of our government with a fiscal cushion for the transition but retire school construction debts and shift monies to offset PERS and TERS retirement fund obligations. If this could be done absent spending PFD funds, you can protect the same and have that money as a fall back in future years.

I am chagrined that representatives of our government propose to gain efficiencies by reorganization, centralization, decentralization, etc. Managers proposing the same should be asked for the savings by smaller government up front. Please explore removing them for not taking these actions as stewards of our resources prior to appealing to you for appropriations and promises of future action. Absent them coming to you with real budget reductions and savings, ask that they be replaced promptly. Only linking the reduction of buildings, offices, and staff to the state's savings in this year and the budget year will make these conversations real. How many of their assistants are being eliminated? How many office buildings and warehouses are closing and being sold? Cut the funding for 10% of their budget and staff positions this year when you have the money to fund severance packages from stimulus monies and oil revenue increases. Cut the funding for each government entity by 5% each year thereafter until the budget is balanced.

How many university chancellors and administrators that failed to keep academic programs credentialed have been removed? How many campuses in the University of Alaska System are closing? We should have one campus; Fairbanks. Sell the other two campuses to the highest bidder and right size our college and graduate level education investments. Shift the funds to K-12 education. Use the capital proceeds to retire the debt of school bonds across the state and repair the K-12 facilities.

We have been in an oil and gas recession for years. We no longer have the largess of oil profits, oil taxes, and revenues. Please look to Shell, BP, and Conoco Phillips for leadership based on oil and gas reality.

Raise the taxes on gas at the pump and fund our highways and their maintenance. Fund the ferry system with some of this money.

Increase the cost of hunting and fishing licenses and fines for traffic violations to fund our State

Troopers and Wildlife Officers.

Sell the prison facilities to private firms and outsource the prison systems to private corporations. Send every possible felon to the lowest cost facility that can be found in the lower – 48. They are felons.

Sell the API campus and outsource it to a vendor that will provide mental health services to our communities. The unions and state employees are so entrenched there that progress is almost impossible until they are replaced by others. Our streets are over run by people that have real mental health needs and our current systems are failing them daily. Act to replace the systems and the people. You will not save money in this realm. The unmet needs are too dramatic. We desperately need a series of outpatient drug and mental health clinics to serve the community. Use the monies from the sale of API to fund the outpatient facilities. Incorporate the mental health facilities into the housing and support facilities for our homeless. Our jails and our streets are full of those that have been poorly served by the current systems.

Please fund K-12 education to the maximum extent possible. Please link funding to ratios of student to actual teacher FTE's in the classroom. Please reduce funding for administrators until we reach lower – 48 norms. The WSJ article on reduction of administrators to increase in classroom teacher ratios and the results of the same is enlightening; Choctahatchee High School in Florida led the way on this 25 years ago. Otherwise, you will keep funding education and we will continue to reap excuses for under performance, closed schools, poor reading skills, poor STEM results, etc. from layers of administrators.

Put people in charge of the Mental Health Trust that can actually run a trust and generate consistent streams of revenue for our public. There is no longer slack in our systems for under performance. When they fail, they fail the Alaska Public. Please use the Jack Welch method. One year of warning for under performers and then, replace them.

Please look at the Medicaid travel budget and the Medicaid expenditures per capita? Please look at the amount of social transfer payments per capita in Alaska. This is not sustainable.

I am asking that you set PFD payments at minimal levels. Combined with stimulus payments, this is not the time to expend this money.

As I read the testimony presented to you during this session, I am frequently dismayed by the lack of fiscal discipline and accountability. You have my sympathies. The only thing more embarrassing is the performance of the house side of the legislature.

I have not noted our representatives asking for proposals to reduce spending by a target. Please consider that in your pre-testimony guidance. There is no magic pot of money to bail us out. Inflation, debt funding for the deficit spending (ours and the federal governments), and efforts to eliminate fossil fuels are going to adversely impact everyone in our outyear budgets. Only containing the size and cost of government today will protect our public in the future.

Thank you,

James Brooks

From: Richard Towers
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Budget
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 4:40:44 PM

I agree with the governor and when you learn about The Making of Lot 9A, at https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__newnewalaska.com&d=DwlFAg&c=O8iJasR7RZ-J0Fd9RXD9ZA&r=Og2bEwh8nUkz6WCNOVV8Xhdx19TYEKI281q8edrIG4&m=HKJv51oMOp-4XhvEwqdZXeniu6LKxNOIB2p7PXBetNs&s=x_gOEthXiq2Ec4u96lc47Tb0gD29-_8Ztyo82UZKg-g&c=, you will quickly understand what, financially speaking, has been called good enough for government work in Alaska for way too long.

GO There, finance committee. Thank you very much!
This is Dick Towers

From: Hagen David
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: budget opinion
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 5:01:58 PM

Dear Governor Dunleavy and legislators,

I strongly support using Permanent Fund interest to fund the state budget, even if this means very small or even a temporary stop to PFDs.

Furthermore, I strongly support some sort of statewide tax. Simply put, citizens should be expected to contribute to the funding of the public services they enjoy.

These two steps provide the only mathematically possible way to balance the budget without unrealistic and unacceptable cuts to statewide services.

I have lived in Alaska for over 50 years and thus have a very large circle of friends, colleagues, and neighbors, both Republicans and Democrats. I honestly don't know a single person who is not willing to give up much or all of his or her permanent fund dividend, and almost no one who objects to a statewide tax. While far from being a person of wealth, I would happily pay taxes and forgo my entire PFD for the good of my neighbors and the state.

Sincerely,

David Hagen
Anchorage

From: R
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Budget
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 5:04:47 PM

Finance Committee,

I have been Alaskan for 21 years. As an emergency physician, I have seen the public services decline drastically over this time. The idea that we can continue to cut services to our community is crazy and ultimately not cost effective. As we continue to decrease our investment into the communities, we will see a proportional decrease in our return from these communities. If we continue this downward spiral, I doubt I will continue to stay in Alaska. Please stop the stealing of services and fund the government more robustly.

Sincerely,

Richard Navitsky

[REDACTED]

From: John Klapperich
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Reduce budget substantially more.
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 5:06:05 PM

My wife and I raised our three daughters in Palmer/Wasilla, we started our family during \$ 9.00 BBL Oil. The schools were open, and delivered an excellent education, roads were built, sanded and plowed, adequate troopers, fire, all state offices and services more than adequate, life was good. We started with nothing and worked and never went without, all three daughters graduated from college debt free, working during all phases of education, and are now flourishing because of what Alaska offered from 1985 to 2005. What the legislature has allowed and advocated regarding the expanding budget since then is a tragedy, the LARGESSE of the State budget is doing an extreme disservice to all residents of Alaska, especially infants to age 18.

Use the 1985 operating budget add cost of living every year, then divide that total by today's population and "LIVE WITH IT". Telling people what they need to hear is leadership, telling them what they want to hear is not only wrong it shows, that you have clearly chosen a career you were not created for. I am a big fan of Governor Dunleavy, but we need the Wally Hickel Mantra;
"It's not what Alaska can do for you, but what can you do for Alaska".

Thank you,

Off to 6:00 PM Susitna Rotary "Service above Self" .

John

John Klapperich
C/O Klapperich & Associates LLC

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: Clancy Hughes
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Budget testament as requested
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 5:09:03 PM

Two issues: somehow limit State employees benefits to be more inline with everyone else. Secondly, introduce a tariff on all imports. A low percentage could provide considerable revenue, and a higher percentage could come from foreign imports. First such would stimulate Alaska production while, second, not hurting the consumer in that more AK liquidity would remain in Alaska and circulate, thus further increasing production.

The Federal control of excise tax could probably be overturned with plenty of argument that AK presents a special case. Furthermore, states need to assert more state's rights in face of federal overreach and incompetence.

Sincerely,

Clancy

Clancy Hughes, m.d.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



From: [John Heritscko](#)
To: [Senate Finance Committee](#)
Cc: governor@alaska.gov
Subject: Budget Input from a Citizen
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 5:10:39 PM

Dear Legislators;

Please stop using our PFD for Government. That was not it's intended purpose. What other way is there to ensure Alaskans share in the mineral wealth of this State . I understand that mineral wealth is designated for all Alaskans, not just the ones on government assistance programs. The working Alaskan uses few government services and is not allowed the mineral wealth of his private property. The welfare state participant uses a majority of government services, without hardship .

The PFD reaches all Alaskans fairly. Not just the ones enjoying government services.

If someone wanted their PFD to go for government then the persons PFD can be redirected through the click pick give protocol. It would not take much to adjust the software to allow the State to be a pick click give recipient. That way Alaskans are treated fairly. The money is needed now more than ever. Thank you

John Heritscko

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

From: Phyllis Adams
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Budget
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 5:12:34 PM

-Do not raise the PFD amount or send pfd checks every quarter (check those receiving PFD checks illegally eg. Snowbirds, fishermen & slope workers)

-Support public school funding

-Support health care

-support covid checks and testing of people coming into the state as workers, snowbirds or tourists

Sent from my iPhone

From: Grant Smith
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public Input on budget
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 5:16:17 PM

Dear finance committee. It's time you started living within your means. Please adopt our Governors budget proposal. It's a good 1st step. Also please stop using the PFD as an open checkbook.

From G's X



March 17, 2021

Dear members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I am writing to oppose the proposed decrease in funding for Sobering Centers, and urge you to restore funding for Sobering Centers in Fairbanks and Bethel to their FY21 levels. These facilities save lives, improve public safety and connect people with lasting services to help them achieve sobriety.

Recover Alaska is a multi-sector action group working to reduce excessive alcohol use and its harms across the state. Our vision is for Alaskans to live free from the harms of alcohol misuse, so we are all empowered to achieve our full potential. One important part of our mission is increasing access to treatment and supporting recovery, which for many starts with a safe transition out of crisis.

Sobering Centers have shown to be effective in Alaska by reducing the burden on more costly emergency services. The center in Bethel, operated by YKHC, opened to meet a real need for a safe place where people could detox and be referred to long-term treatment. The Fairbanks center, operated by TCC, was also based on this model. These centers are tailored specifically to this need. Both facilities provide a critical service at a lower cost than the two alternatives: holding someone in jail or in the emergency department. The worst alternative is having no available options, with a person forced to sleep outside and be vulnerable to cold weather, victimization, and other safety threats.

Sobering Centers provide a no-frills level of service, with minimal staffing — however, they also connect a person in crisis with opportunities for recovery through a brief screening and a referral (SBIRT) to other services in the community. This screening is voluntary for clients, but a required step for the facility to be reimbursed through Medicaid for any services, including newly reimbursable services through the state's 1115 behavioral health waiver. Only a portion of current clients consent to the screening and are also Medicaid eligible; it is not realistic to expect this proposed cut to be fully offset.

Both the TCC and YKHC centers rely on state funding to maintain 24/7 operations and anticipate an increase in demand as the state returns to a post-COVID normal. A funding cut, without realistic expectation to replace this revenue with Medicaid billing, may force a reduction of hours or cutting a case manager position, a key staff member who helps make the connection to treatment and other services. Without this service available full-time, vulnerable clients will go to jail, emergency departments, or remain unprotected outside.

Recover Alaska supports access to treatment and maintaining a variety of avenues to get there, including helping people in crisis take the first steps to real change. Cutting this funding would likely shift the burden to more expensive services and reduce opportunities for referrals to services. We strongly urge you to restore full funding for these facilities, which are critical for both health and public safety.

Thank you for your consideration, and your service to our state.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Hall

Executive Director

From: pstark@mosquitonet.com
To: [Senate Finance Committee](#)
Subject: Senate Bill 49
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 5:21:53 PM

Please continue supporting needed early childhood programs, including Head Start, Best Beginnings and Imagination Library, and Parents as Teachers. These programs are currently funded in the proposed budget, along with child care services and Pre-K programs, and are an important part of providing high-quality early childhood education to Alaska's children.

Local and national research show that children who participate in the Imagination Library enter kindergarten more prepared and are more likely to succeed in school. The lasting benefits of early childhood education are a worthwhile investment in Alaska's future.

Please continue to support these programs.

Sincerely,

Patricia Stark



From: ray
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: spending
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 5:27:48 PM

I believe govt spending is out of control! Stop taking our pfd's and taxes and spending it on stupid pork projects! Any covid funds from the federal govt needs to go to those who need it, small businesses and those who have lost their jobs or had hours cut. Not your feel good pet projects to get your name on a building. Also, we need to end all EO's and open Anchorage back up!

Sent from Mail for Windows 10



Virus-free. www.avg.com

From: Katherine West
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Budget
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 5:31:47 PM

The goal is to attempt to balance the budget. Do NOT increase the PFD. I believe the Governor's plan would be disastrous for this State and would encourage more people to come to Alaska for the PFD while living off welfare. It is not an entitlement or a right. Institute an income tax instead.

Katherine West

From: Kyle Schneider
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Budget
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 5:58:46 PM

To the members of the Finance Committee:

Fully and effectively funding the education of Alaskan students (and their brick-and-mortar schools) should be priority number one for the Legislature. There is simply no greater responsibility at hand, particularly given the challenges our teachers have overcome on behalf of our students during the pandemic. This should be done through the repeal of SB 21, the institution of an income tax (of the same nature as former Rep. Seaton's design), and a reduction in the PFD payout (or complete cessation thereof).

The Governor's proposed budget is an evisceration of the future of the state, and a handout to the prison system, the petrochemical industry, and Outside actors.

Thank you for your time and action in this matter.

--

Regards,
Kyle Schneider

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: Gordon Crenshaw
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Finance committee
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 6:13:48 PM

To whom it may concern I have watched as this state has progressed for the past 46 years. I watched as Mr Hamilton protected the permanent fund and then upon his death this body both Republican and Democrats have slowly tried to turn the fund into your greed for what ever you can get. You talk of cutting \$300 million, well it should be 1 billion or more. You'll need to ask what does it really take to run this state and that is the bottom line. The projects that are lining your pockets are and should be illegal, You'll can't even do what was voted on. The capitol is Willow but have you moved it yet be you Republican or Democrat. It has never been voted other than to build the capitol at your price when it can be built for much less. Do your DAMN jobs. I'm sure this won't be read to the public, it doesn't mean you'll want see it.

Gordon Dale Crenshaw
Wasilla, AK

From: John W Blaine
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Operating Budget - FY2022
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 6:15:18 PM

We're fortunate to have Senator Murkowski. All this talk about censoring her for her moral opposition to former President Trump seems disingenuous. She is an extraordinarily valuable/important voter in the US Senate, as President Biden has already shown.

Her moral courage has put her in a position to do more for Alaska than anyone has ever done, perhaps, excluding Senator Ted Stevens. Just look at what she has brought to Alaska in the current \$1.9 trillion Covid Relief legislation.

That aside, I hope you will use the unforeseen funds to provide more for the University of Alaska, and do what you can to protect the Permanent Fund for future generations.

With \$1,400 for almost every Alaskan taxpayer, plus the additional funds for children, and more for schools and municipalities, we can get along without the large PFD the Governor wants to pass out.

Continue the PFD, but cap it; raise gasoline taxes; protect the Permanent Fund.

And say a prayer of thanks for the higher oil prices we are seeing, and the federal funds that will help us get through a difficult time.

Thank you for your consideration,

John Blaine

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: Stu Reder
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: The budget
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 6:52:18 PM

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to ask you to get to a balanced budget which doesn't involve decreasing my PFD by so much as \$.01. if you do not know how to do this, please ask our Governor.

Thank you for doing as I ask.

Stu Reder
Talkeetna


"Things turn out best for people who make the
Best of the way things turn out."

---- Art Linkletter

From: Georgia Garr
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska state budget
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 7:02:03 PM

Time to address the elephant in the room, Education . One percent of the population (school teachers) are consuming Forty Five percent of the State budget. Time to take education on line. That is where it is headed anyway. Also during this pandemic , it's time to pay out the full dividend to all the people, state employees have lost nothing, but the other citizens have. Sincerely Captain David Bartlett

Sent from my iPhone

From: Alfred Doner
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: BUDGET
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 7:04:40 PM

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN .

I CAME TO ALASKA FOR WORK OPPORTUNITY IN AND I ALWAYS HAD WORK.
IF

I WERE LOOKING FOR WORK NOW I WOULD GO ELSEWHERE. THE DEMOCRAT
SPENDERS ARE KILLING THE STATE AND THE REPUBLIC. I DON'T HAVE ANY
GRANDCHILDREN AND IN A WAY I AM GLAD. THERE IS NO OPPORTUNITY IN
ALASKA. THE MONKEYS ARE RUNNING THE ZOO!

THE GOVERNOR HAS HIS FINGER UP AND HE WILL DOUBLE HIS RETIREMENT
IF HE LAYS LOW, AND THAT IS WHAT HE IS DOING.

AL DONER

Governor,

Perhaps you & your network would find this information useful for protecting the interests of the Peoples of Alaska & the United States.

I've included you're A.G. as well as the A.G. of Texas for reasons the following contents propose whether or not I gain anything, I consider these times urgent for all my neighbors and citizens.

Respectfully offered,

Jonathan Mollick _____

Office of Alaska Governor
Attn: Mike Dunleavy
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, Alaska 99811

CC:

Alaska Department of Law
Attn: Attorney General
Treg Taylor
1031 West 4th Avenue, Suite 200
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-1994

CC:

Office of Attorney General
Attn: Ken Paxton
P.O. Box 12548
Austin, Texas 78711-2548

8/16/2019

President Trump
& my Alaska Senators & Representative,

GOOGLE, Facebook, Amazon; etcetera ("THEM") exist because of PEOPLE.
People have become the product, and if not, information produced has.
Either way, I've a novel idea...untapped benefit and taxation with representation.

I've heard that it's difficult for The US Government to obtain taxes from "THEM" but not from
People who invest in "THEM."
It does not have to be so, here's how.

I've heard about US Anti-Trust chatter occurring & uncooperativeness with The US Government
by one or more of these "Entities" as well as GOOGLE planning to "Algorithm Elections."

Given the former, consider these (GOOGLE is used as an example):

1. If People are products then should The US Government receive some Tariff tax from
GOOGLE as well as those Countries wherein People reside and who use GOOGLE since
GOOGLE is "manufacturing" outside The US?
2. If Information is produced by People (wherever it is produced) then should the People
be receiving compensation for product they produce? Wouldn't that allow any Country
wherein People who use GOOGLE to obtain income from GOOGLE for manufacturing
product for GOOGLE allowing Countries to tax not only People but GOOGLE for income
or that income?
3. Both can retro-compensate any Person who "used" "THEM."
4. If Tariffs: couldn't "TECH Tariffs" become a powerful negotiation tool by The US, like
monetary installments to DENMARK for purchase of GREENLAND, acquiring assets such
as BITCOIN and GOLD or for building The SPACE FORCE.
5. If distributed as Income (as suggested) then People benefit and pay tax on it for use in
Country and/or Community.

Thanks

Jonathan

Identifying Congressional work & tax violations of The Constitution of the United States

Recently while writing a letter to elected officials I thought of an idea that would compensate people who “work” and “produce” for someone else and are not compensated for that “work.” (“work”* flow chart page 3 of document.)

It troubled me when I understood that a large corporation was profiting and not paying its ‘fair’ tax while benefitting off of the “work” of others.

I then realized that there must be something that declares such as unfair or even unlawful...and I believe I am supported by **The Constitution of the United States.**

See below:

Consider (Article 1 section 8 at end) the following identifiers....

If there are corporations located in other states who pay taxes in those states but not in all states then anyone who is “working” and not benefitting from that corporation is essentially an indentured servant (or more draconian a slave) beholden to that corporation.

Congress has Not protected the rights of individual citizens to receive due compensation for work NOR has congress properly “collect”ed “taxes” (in this case corporations or citizens compensated by corporations who have yet to be compensated) to “provide for the common defence and general welfare of the United States” in a “uniform” manner “throughout the United States.”

And, by NOT providing for the general welfare, Congress has neglected “To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes”;... especially when United States Citizens uncompensated “work” benefits not only corporations but other foreign nations at the loss to United States citizens.

Additionally, (in Article 1 section 9 at end) Congress has illegally and unlawfully aggrieved many United States Citizens by showing “Preference” to corporations in the “Regulation of Commerce” (or lack thereof) by NOT taxing “work” of United States citizens that has been exported outside and across state lines to and for the benefit of corporations who are NOT being taxed or argue they should not be taxed.

Moreover, (in Article 1 section 10 at end) Congress (which is OF THE PEOPLE) has harmed THE PEOPLE by not protecting THE PEOPLE from loss of right to compensation by not only NOT collecting tax on wages on citizen “work.” But also by, egregiously not proactively offering STATES the consent of Congress to collect from corporations payment for their States citizens and possibly even taxation for harmed United States Citizens for payment to “the Treasury of the United States” to collect not only what belongs to Citizens but to States and The United States Treasury.

SUMMARY:

The presentation, "Identifying Congressional work & tax violations of The Constitution of the United States" and the letter to The US President Trump & Federal Alaska elected officials presents the following as justification for US CONGRESS to authorize a company (my company with protected & exclusive intellectual rights Federally or other funded but where I may choose (with select advisors) the organizational structure and those Individuals, entities or consultants) for the creation of multiple software programs for the purposes of tracking Corporate dues owed to US citizens, taxes due to STATES and/or The U.S. Treasury, and other now not known commerce or exchange items, as well as tariffs owed or estimated owed from Foreign Nations, to their citizens & to the US treasury depending on what Congress & The President approve for providing for protecting and welfare spheres of past, current or future Citizenry, Executive Policies, National Security and Commerce.

Big Tech or rather (for example) social media observes the client at every stage of using their product and harvest the activity observed of those clients.

"Big Tech" provides the medium or format for observation of all interaction that takes place on its format intended to capture clients for long term use on that format in order to be observed.

The observation is technical.

It is not planting but it is harvesting.

The product harvested is a person's "work--activity."

That activity is not compensated/

Till now those who use the formats or platforms provided have benefitted from the use of those formats or platforms while being observed and having their activity tracked and collected during electronic & human observation. However, those who perform activity being tracked or observed have not been compensated for that activity even though benefiting from the simple use of the format or platform.

A question is: do the benefits of activity on a format or platform outweigh the value of being compensated and if not, then there is a value of that activity that must be compensated as a product produced for the format or platform who creates a different product from the collective activities of others.

WORK cycle chart theory:

ACTIVITY BEGUN = PARTICIPATION
PARTICIPATION = INTERACTION
INTERACTION = SOCIALBILITY
SOCIALBILITY = COMMUNITY
COMMUNITY = HELP & IMPROVING
HELP & IMPROVING = IMPROVEMENT
IMPROVEMENT = COMPENSATION/REWARD
COMPENSATION/REWARD = REST
REST = UTILIZE COMPENSATION
UTILIZE COMPENSATION = ACTIVITY BEGUN AGAIN
ACTIVITY has worth and is "work."

From: [Jon Bear](#)
To: [Senate Finance Committee](#); [Sen. Jesse Kiehl](#); [Dale Anderson](#); [Flynn, Thomas S. \(LAW\)](#)
Subject: Alternative Revenue Stream?
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 7:50:46 PM
Attachments: [Feb 8, 2021.docx](#)
[The Idea & Background.docx](#)

Hello all,

I thought of this idea a few years ago & shared with outside legal counsel.

Most recently, it has been sent to Gov. Dunleavy and others as you shall read herein.

And now to each of you it is sent given your current obligations in: Senate finance, local representation (Senator Kiehl), broad experience such as Mr. Anderson and Mr. Flynn in the AK Department of Law for Labor & a somewhat related matter (recently).

This is my unvetted suggestion and not financed in any way, at this time.

'You' may say, "what the ?? is this person asking for state finance for when we are negotiating allotting limited monies unable to give for new projects?"

I am not asking for \$.

Money may come from this for future work but I am suggesting the existence of a new "Resource" for Alaska.

The idea (if adopted) could be an alternative revenue beyond Natural Resources fickle pricing that Alaska remains dependent on or addicted to....depending on the 'winds of economies.'

Long term (for however long that is), the idea offers alternatives of experience not now available for Alaskans as well as education & jobs for Alaska's most precious resource, youth.

Thankyou for considering this as a future funding source &/or a project to unfetter Alaska State Financing altering the course of Alaska future and more.

Please see attached in unedited form from the 'originals'.

Jonathan

From: MARY TOMLINSON
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: upcoming budget
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 8:12:00 PM

I shall keep it simple. Use the PFD as it was originally meant to be, aka FULL FUNDING. BALANCE the budget, NO MORE Borrowing from the PFD.

Sincerely,
Mary L Tomlinson
Wasilla, Ak 99623

From: Anne Fuller
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: about the state budget
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 8:38:21 PM

My name is Anne Fuller. I live in Juneau.

Budgeting is making decisions about what matters.

For me, basic government includes good public schools, excellent public libraries, and reasonable efforts to protect health and safety.

I applaud the withdrawal of the proposal to create a new commissioner (by splitting HSS)
I think the state should get along without special assistants to commissioners. more than one deputy commissioner, or assistant commissioners - the departments are getting top-heavy.

I am dismayed by proposal to shift DMV from public offices to private, profit-making entities.
And charging for driver's tests is wrong.

It seems fair to analyze our funding and our population with the aim of treating Alaskans fairly with capital improvements and maintenance projects as well as agency service.

Yes, we need taxes that help all of us contribute to our state. We need to use COVID funds to improve schooling and school facilities.
Increasing fuel taxes is a good idea.

Thank you for considering these matters carefully.

Anne Fuller

From: Andy Cizek
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Reduce the budget.
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 9:08:03 PM

Hi. I'm for the governor's reduced budget proposals and ask that you approve that and continue reducing the budget accordingly In the future so this state doesn't go completely broke. Please quit supporting special interests and do what's best for the state of Alaska instead of just a few people groups. Thank you.

Keep looking up!!!!

Andy

From: Brad and Kym
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: FY 2022 Budget
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 9:14:52 PM

Dear committee members,

As a concerned Alaska resident, I am writing to request that you review and approve the Governors' budget proposal that contains large cuts to the state budget. The unsustainable spending of our past has to stop. Even with the short term influx of revenue from the Federal Government and the potential for oil tax revenue going up with the increased cost per barrel rising, those are not reasons to expand spending today. As you and I both know, once an allotment of \$ gets budgeted it is very difficult to reverse that trend down the road. A big deficit will occur if action is not taken this year. Serious reductions are needed in the area of the State University system as well as state funding for school districts. Medicaid expansion has created a tidal wave of expenditure that should be reigned in. Although these projects may not be favorable targets to address, please do what is right for the state and its future vs. your political aspirations.

Sincerely,

Dr. Bradley Cross
Soldotna, AK 99669

From: Kelley Cizek
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Reduce the Budget
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 9:18:55 PM

I would like the legislators to support Governor Dunleavy's budget reductions.
We cannot afford, as a state, to continue to grow government and to continue to spend money we do not have.
Thank you,
Kelley Cizek

Sent from my iPhone

From: Bill Moulton
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Re: Fiscal Budget 2022
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 10:17:26 PM

Finance Committee - The robbing of the Alaska PFD needs to stop! The Alaska PFD should have never been used for the budget; it was set up for the people of Alaska, not to be robbed and used for the budget to bail you out. The PFD belongs to the people of Alaska and future generations; you need to find other ways to balance your budget and spend wisely instead of wasting money for things that are not needed. The Alaska people deserve to get the PFD payment that was due them-- stop the robbing!!! The Alaska Voters will remember who you are that keeps taking from the PFD.

Patricia Moulton, Petersburg, Alaska

From: Beverly Lewanski
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Dunleavy's proposed budget for 2021
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 10:36:12 PM

Dear Finance Committee,

I'm not familiar with the proposed 2022 budget cuts. I looked on-line and failed to find a constituent friendly budget to review,

Let's begin by saying I'm represented by Senator Lora Reinbold. She does not keep me informed nor does she respond to my emails!

Representative Merrick does respond and supports the notion that we cannot afford a \$5,000 PFD. Please do not allow Alaskans this absurd amount of money at the expense of budget cuts to health, safety, and educational needs of this state!

I'm a 35 year resident of this state and am more than willing to pay an income tax and a state-wide sales tax. I also want oil companies to pay an increased revenue to Alaska! We've not been given a fair share from oil companies for far too many years.

I also believe our smaller villages are unsustainable!

Sincerely,

Bev Lewanski

Sent from Outlook

From: Lisa Fiegel
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Written testimony about OPERATING, MENTAL HEALTH, and CAPITAL BUDGETS (SB 49, SB 51, SB 50)
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 11:13:26 PM

Alaska Legislators:

My name is Pastor Lisa Smith Fiegel and I'm ordained in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). My husband and children and I live in Anchorage. I also serve as a member of the board of directors for AK Child& Family, Anchorage, a residential treatment center for children that also provides therapeutic foster care services.

I am concerned about Medicaid Program Reduction in the Operating, Mental Health and Capital Budgets, particularly as it impacts many of the most vulnerable Alaskans, which our agency serves. Here are some concerns:

- COVID has created unique challenges for behavioral health that we are likely to have to deal with for some time. We are seeing new Alaskans that have not interacted with the behavioral health system before needing help. COVID has also triggered a lot of dangerous behaviors and thrown a lot of people who were in recovery, into relapse. Our organization has pivoted its business and clinical practice to try and meet this demand. We are also dealing with our own challenges as private businesses transitioning to remote work options, instituting new policies and procedures, and converting space to keep both clients and staff safe. We need the funding and support from you now more than ever.
- Behavioral health providers are transitioning from Medicaid State Plan Services to the new 1115 Medicaid Waiver Services. We are also working with an Administrative Services Organization. These new initiatives are a massive system change and require a lot from behavioral health providers. We are having to change our billing systems and electronic health records, train staff, and convert treatment space among other things to adapt. We believe a lot of these changes will improve access to quality treatment, but the behavioral health providers are bearing a lot of the costs necessary to transition our system. No funding has been made available to help support us with these transition costs. On top of that, behavioral health grants have been cut over the past few years. We need time to build new service capacity to replace the revenue from the State Plan Services being phased out and cuts to the grants. Additional cuts would threaten the overall success of the Medicaid Reform efforts we started with SB74 and our ability to provide care.
- The proposed flat-funded budget is not enough to meet Alaskans' mental health and substance abuse treatment needs. We know this because we manage waitlists of people waiting to get in. We also know this because of the continued high rates of suicide, the prevalence of homeless individuals with undiagnosed and untreated behavioral health problems, the prevalence of individuals with behavioral problems in our prisons, the number of incidences of kids being removed from home because their parents/caregivers are struggling with undiagnosed and untreated behavioral health problems, the number of interactions with law enforcement involving behavioral health, the number of kids sent out of state to get the care they need, and the backlog and problems getting folks into API.
- When the federal CARES Act passed, it included an enhanced federal match (FMAP) of 6.2% for state Medicaid programs. Many states passed some or all of that enhanced rate on to Medicaid providers; Alaska did not. At the end of FY20, Alaska's Medicaid program had a slight surplus due mostly to people avoiding care out of concerns they might catch COVID and not being able to get access to the care they needed. Medicaid swept the surplus back into the General Fund. The Recovery Act that was just signed into law again provides states an

enhanced FMAP rate. Behavioral health providers need financial help to meet the needs of our fellow Alaskans.

Thank you for hearing my concerns and for your faithful work on behalf of all Alaskans, particularly the most vulnerable.

Best,
Pastor Lisa Smith Fiegel,
Anchorage

From: Sue Sherif
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: State Operating Budget - Alaska Library Network
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 11:53:31 PM

To: The Senate Finance Committee

I am a resident of Senator Click Bishop's district. I am writing to ask you to support the Alaska Library Network by restoring \$635,000 to the Alaska State Library budget for the Alaska Library Network.

The Alaska Library Network allows individual Alaska public, school, and university libraries to collaborate to achieve efficiencies of scale while it allows individual Alaskans of all ages to search for library books, complete homework assignments, look for vetted health care information and more from their library or from their homes. It provides a statewide catalog for most Alaska public and academic libraries. It provides access to online resources through SLED, the Statewide Library Electronic Doorway, to services such as online magazine articles, the online services of Live Homework Help, Tumblebooks for school age children and Sesame Street books for younger people, to name a few.

With the coordination and group buying power of the Alaska Library Network, libraries of all types can provide access to ebooks through the Alaska Digital Library. Most of these services would be unaffordable for individual communities. Through the collaboration possible by the network, libraries can pool their resources to negotiate contracts and buy these services that are not available on the open internet.

The network has provided access to information and books while library buildings have been closed in the pandemic.

In the year we have just been through and with the uncertainty about our economic future, it only makes sense to make this investment of less than one dollar per Alaskan to support a service that achieves economies for Alaskans' local and state governments. In a year when most students have been out of school, the services of the network provide online access to education materials for K-12 through the university level and free access to information to those who may have fallen ill or faced unemployment. In tough times like these, I know you have heard that your charge is to make every dollar go farther. Support of the Alaska Library Network is a fiscally responsible and sensible expenditure. This is exactly the type of program we should be maintaining in the quest to produce a conservative, responsible, and sustainable operating budget.

Thank you for your consideration of this addition to the State Library budget and for your service to us all.

Sue Sherif

From: Carla Merrill
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: My Opinion to Fiscal Needs?
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 5:47:25 AM

The PFD needs to be permanently off limits to government hands and only interest could be used. Governor Hammond had it set up the right way and Governor Walker walked all over, around, and under.

No taxes need to be used.

Government spending needs to stop.

Other business needs to be started in place of oil. Think of green, solar,

Thank you,

Carla Merrill

From: David Murphree
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Balanced budget
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 7:46:42 AM

Cut whatever needed to balance the budget and stop spending money we do not have in AK. Keep your fingers out of the PFD.

Sent from my iPad

From: Carol Juergens
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: State budget concerns
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 7:58:57 AM

To Whom It May Concern:

At Governor Dunleavy's invitation I am writing to say that I strongly disapprove of his budget. We need to keep the PFD payments smaller and provide more money for essential government spending such as schools, the university, health and safety services. If need be, we should institute an income tax.

Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,

Carol Juergens
40 year Alaskan resident and retired business owner

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: Gretchen Roffler
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: comment on the Operating and Capital budget
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 7:59:43 AM

Greetings Committee members,

I am writing to express dismay over Gov. Dunleavy's plan to spend down the PFD earnings reserve to distribute checks to Alaskans. I received an email from the Office of the Governor encouraging me to speak out against "the special interests and big government defenders get their way, while they continue to take your PFD."

It is appalling that the Governor considers meeting people's basic human needs such as education, transportation, and health services through government services a "special interest". I disagree and state clearly here, I am in favor of government spending to keep our society operational. I am not in favor of the large PFD payouts because they come at the expense of services people rely on. I am especially appalled at the cuts to the AMHS - this is unacceptable and deserves to be revisited.

Thank you for your consideration,
Gretchen Roffler
Douglas, AK

From: Thomas Dinnocenzo
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: State Budget...
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 8:31:43 AM

Greetings and Thank you all for your service to the residents of Alaska.

The State of Alaska is spending much more than it is able to take in. We are not the Federal government so cannot print our way out of debt. I am writing to encourage you to shrink this bloated state government. The Governors proposal is before you and it in my opinion is not cutting the budget nearly enough. However with the present climate in Juneau it may have to suffice for this year. And, by the way do not include the peoples share of the oil revenue in any of these budgetary negotiations. The permanent fund dividend belongs to the people... Please keep this in mind when you are in session working on this.

Thank you
Thomas Dinnocenzo

From: Natalie Martin
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Operating and Capital Budget
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 8:37:59 AM

Senate Finance Committee,

I would like to take this opportunity to let my voice be heard.

I would like you to adopt Governor Dunleavy's budget proposals. A reduction in our state's spending by \$300 million through FY 2022, while also not relying on and taking from our PFD, are both positive for Alaska and Alaskans.

Thank you for your vote to stand with Alaska and her great people,
Natalie Martin

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

From: Frank Cook
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Comment Regarding Budget
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 8:39:51 AM

State services are more important than spending cuts.
Too much cutting will certainly damage our economy.
Taking away the PFD to use for state expense is an unfair tax for low income people.
Sales tax is bad for the economy.
I would rather see an income tax instituted as fair as possible.
We need more road/highway work done.
We need our state parks open and taken care of.
We need our state education system working at full capacity.
We need our state services like DMV offices (NOT private contractors).
We need our safety nets for the disadvantaged.
"Too much government" is getting to be some kind of cliché.
Please use logic, reason, and compassion for your decision making.
Frank Cook
Tok, AK.

From: woodratrun
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Budget
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 8:48:46 AM

The budget has increased by 60% since 2014 . Our population hasnt just the size of government. It is time to cut and stop stealing our money. Just because you can dont mean you should. The legislature has taken more than \$5000.00 from every Alaskan and it is time to CUT the budget

From: Dave Peck
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Budget
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 9:08:09 AM

I endorse the Governor's efforts to keep the budget under control.

But I also have a lot of concern relating to federal efforts to control how we run our state by mandating certain expenditures and policy. For instance, Medicaid. I always hear about how we can't control Medicaid because the Feds require us to run it the way they want us to run it.

We should be encouraging our federal representatives to change these Medicaid laws yet, for some reason we never hear anything about that. You know, it's federal. It's out of our hands. Yet we are required to fund it with a huge pile of state funds that could otherwise be saved or used in other ways thus reducing our budget.

Finally, I believe we should close at least one University campus. There are only 750,000 some people in our entire state. We have a good community college system that can take up some slack.

Our PFD is important because it is one of the few things that causes legislators to control spending. It also allows all Alaskans to share directly in our resource wealth. Budget limits based on revenue need to be in our Constitution as does the PFD formula.

Dave Peck
Kenai, Ak

Sent from my iPod

From: Alan Rice
To: Senate Finance Committee
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 9:29:02 AM

I am a senior citizen living happily in Anchorage. Thankyou all
For taking great care of me these last 10 years. In 2011, I moved here from California.
I am old and can see clearly that IT IS OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE TO ALL , THAT
WE MOVE RAPIDLY TO A NON-FOSSIL FUEL DEPENDENT PLANET, NATION.
STATE , MUNICIPALITY, AND FAMILY CULTURE.
I deeply regret I have not noticed this fact much earlier, but will effort drastic change on my
part hereafter to achieve these ends.
Wuestions: Please feel free to contact Me, by any means. GODSPEED. -Al Rice

From: JOHN FILO
To: Senate Finance Committee
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 9:38:44 AM

You talk about fraud, waste and abuse, when is the government of this state going to wake up and do the right thing for the people of this state instead of constantly filling your pockets with our money. What about the millions of dollars that was spent on researching for a bridge across the Knik? That bridge is only to fill the coffers of the people that own the property out there and then the traffic that will pour into the city will cause an absolute quagmire. All the money that was lost on the dock because of incompetents and what did the state get back from the lawsuit, peanuts. What about a commuter train to Palmer/Wasilla to alleviate some of the travel by car? What about renter population who don't pay any tax because property owners pay it and all the tourists who buy goods and don't pay tax.

My biggest complaint is the location of our state capitol. The politicians that have financial interests in Juneau and the money the taxpayers pay to have them travel to and from Anchorage. So we the people have a minute say in what goes on so writing letters and talking on the telephone is their answer. Put the capitol where the population is.

Thank you
John Filo

From: Brandee Gerke
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: FY22 Budget
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 9:40:18 AM

Dear Finance Committee Member:

As regards the FY22 Budget, I encourage you to:

- prioritize the sustainability of the State's resources to pay for State services for the foreseeable future;
- amend the PFD formula in law to be more sustainable, accounting for the State's fiscal state and costs for services;
- prioritize education-- K-12 and the University, mental health, public safety, Medicaid, transportation (including the AMHS), and aging and disability services;
- Seek revenue solutions to ensure Alaska's long-term fiscal security.

As regards PFD payments, I support:

- fiscal responsibility to protect the fund's reserves for long term security for Alaska's residents. Don't overspend on the fund to pay full dividends today at the cost of long-term (or even near-term) fiscal disaster;
- not paying the additional 2020 PFD \$1916 per person proposed by the Governor.

Thank you,
Brandee Gerke

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: Lisa Scarborough
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Suggestions
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 9:49:45 AM

I am Lisa Scarborough, director of a local non-profit in Ketchikan. Our organization provides necessary services such as; groceries, toiletries, cleaning items, diapers/wipes/formula, gasoline, bus passes, rent, utilities and security deposits (among other services) to low to middle income individuals and families in our community. With the state's tourism decreased by 75% or so and our retail stores not hiring at full capacity many low-income households will be in financial trouble come this fall-winter-spring. Without full-time jobs to help rebuild up their unemployment they will have little to depend on come winter.

I respectfully request that our legislature consider this situation for all low to middle income Alaskans when they debate the need for PFD funds. This is the time for Alaska to help Alaskans. Without the funds many households will not be able to keep the lights on and food on the table. They will not be able to afford fuel to keep warm. They will not be able to pay rent.

The ERA fund of the Permanent Fund has the money to do this distribution. It is time to help Alaskan's take care of themselves.

I am an advocate of a State Sales tax where everyone will contribute to the needs of Alaska.

Sincerely,

Lisa Scarborough

--

Lisa Scarborough, Director Love In Action liaktn@kpunet.net [REDACTED]

From: Ray Zimmer
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska Workforces
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 9:51:21 AM

My name is Raymond Zimmer, I'm a born and raised Juneau citizen, I went to school at UAF and graduated with a Mining Engineering degree and have worked around the state at various mines and industry.

I believe we need regulation on large industry workforce populations, AK Resident workforce of major industries has been declining for over 10 years. I've personally seen and met workforces that pack up after their shift and catch a plane to the lower 48. I believe the studies that show ~75% AK Resident employment rate of these companies is generous at best!

Our skilled AK Unions workforce can steadily employ 95% AK Residents, and there's no reason we can't hold oil, mining, fishing, tourism industry to the same standards.

Thanks for your time,

Raymond Zimmer

From: Zuzanna Bobinski
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Budget
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 9:53:48 AM

- This proposal hurts rural Alaskans by removing access to important DMV services
- This proposal seeks to replace state-run DMV offices with for-profit private businesses that would cost Alaskans in these areas as much as double or more for the same services they could get at a DMV office
- This proposal discriminates against Alaskans that don't have access to internet services and rely on in-person assistance at DMV offices
- Not outsource there jobs & services to private enterprises to gouge Alaskans outrageous fees. No regulatory foundation

Thank you for keeping Alaska the last frontier

Zuzanna Bobinski

Sent from my iPhone

March 15, 2021

To: Alaska Senate Finance Committee
Regarding: Senate Bill 10

Dear Mr. Chair and members of the committee,

Thank you for your hard work during this extraordinary year to keep Alaska strong and steady through these challenging times. In particular, thank you for holding stable funding for early learning programs such as Pre-K grants, Head Start, Infant Learning, Parents as Teachers, Best Beginnings Imagination Library, and child care supports for working families.

These are the programs that help parents navigate choppy waters during these rough seas. These are the programs that provide safe harbors and a light of hope to help parents cope. Now is the time to invest in our youngest citizens and keep families strong, healthy, and stable.

With a large wave of federal relief funding coming to Alaska, I hope your committee will take a strong role in ensuring the State of Alaska is ready and prepared to make the most of this opportunity. **For example, it is expected that Alaska will receive over 90 million dollars to stabilize child care.** This amount of funding could be transformative in creating greater access and quality of programs, and boost Alaska's economy and workforce when we need it most. But does the DHSS Child Care Program Office have the leadership and staffing in place to quickly and wisely put these funds to the best use before more child care programs permanently close their doors and empty their playgrounds?

I hope you will urge that these funds be devoted to improving the wages for child care providers. Despite being paid an average wage of \$11 per hour, less than gas station attendants, they have stepped up as heroes during the Covid-19 pandemic this past year to keep Alaskan children safe, healthy, and learning. Very few of the over 4,500 individuals working in licensed child care have health insurance provided by their employer. They have endured additional stress and personal risk to enable parents to maintain employment in essential roles in the medical, public safety, transportation, and other work that keeps communities functioning. Early educators deserve our recognition, respect and worthy wages.

Thank you for your work to create a budget that offers a better future for all Alaskans.

Joy Lyon
Executive Director

From: Nils Andreassen
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: FW: Finance-Budget
Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 10:15:16 AM

Please see below for what might be considered public testimony with regard to this budget testimony taking place right now.

Nils Andreassen
Alaska Municipal League

From: City Office <cityofnewhalen@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2021 10:13 AM
To: Senator.Lyman.Hoffman@akleg.gov; Representative.Bryce.Edgmon@akleg.gov
Cc: Nils Andreassen <nils@akml.org>
Subject: Finance-Budget

Dear Senator Hoffman,

It is with great concern for our villages in the Lake Iliamna area that I am writing this letter.

1. For the past several years ever since I have been hired as the City Administrator for Newhalen I have seen and watched our yearly budget dwindling down.

When I first started working 3 years ago our budget was cut down \$3000 and after that it has been cut down \$1000+ yearly!

Our office staff don't get paid much, we are probably the most lowest paid employees, with no medical coverage, no sick leave, no retirement, all leaves are without pay nor do we accumulate any leaves or paid time leaves, we just plainly have leave without pay.

On top of all this, this past year has been a hard year, laying off employees, cutting my time as the administrator to 4 hours a day and the bookkeepers time to 3 hours a day. Just so there is someone in the office, one of us works in the morning and the other in the noon hours..

2. We hope that you continue to support the PCE for our communities. Right now with the PCE we pay 60 cents kilowatt hour for the first 1000 hours after the 1000 hours we pay 57 cents kilowatt hour and that is with the PCE.

3. For the past several years about 10 years + we have had no local public safety officers, no live in troopers, no VPSO, no VPO. It has been a hard many years dealing with bootleggers who we cannot really do anything about, selling booze to our youth and to many of our locals. Many nights elders and children stay home in fear, and the worry about the next person who we may find frozen outside, or crashed with the cars, four wheeler, sno-machine, ect. We need our Trooper back in the Lake Iliamna area and our VPSO back into our community. Please work hard to get these back to us. For our elders, for our youth. We need public safety.

4. Many of our villages are dealing with old water and sewer systems and because many of the old systems are being shut off because the pipes are beginning to erode, we need to have these upgraded so that people can have dependable water and sewer systems for their families. Some homes in Newhalen had their waters shut off because it was more dangerous to keep them going especially during the cold winter with freezing then water pipes burst in homes and then they have to deal with the water .

5. We are in desperate need of good sturdy homes, houses for our community. Many families have two to three families living in a house where there should only be a one family home. Just so some families don't have to live with other families, they move into homes that are already run down and we don't know if the house will even hold up to another windy day.

Please support these bills to keep our communities growing.

Thank you.

Gladys M Askoak/Administrator
