

On Fri, Jul 30, 2021 at 16:11 Alaska Outdoor Alliance <[REDACTED]> wrote:

My comment to add to the in-person and zoom enable public comments being solicited by the fiscal policy working group. I know you both know this but I hope you'll enter these comments in the public record.

Right now, as I read reporting in the media, it feels like legislators are aiming at a fiscal solution that does little more than keep the state treading water.

We need solution(s) that allow state government to provide basic services for the welfare of Alaskans and not at the expense of passing down the burden to munis and boroughs. The state needs funds and institutions - that are transparent and accountable to the people! - to invest in infrastructure and our communities to set the state up for success that attracts investment and inspires young adults to plan to raise families and launch careers here.

Every session, the partisan debate over the PFD and oil taxes completely sucks the air out of the room leaving little to no room for legislating on behalf of the people, their kids and grandkids. Every day we continue to wallow in this partisan quagmire, other states gain competitive advantage, money and opportunity are left on the table and the future looks more bleak.

Thank you for your selfless service to Alaska.

Cheers,  
lee

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Lee Hart  
Founder, Alaska Outdoor Alliance  
*Confluence • Alaska Outdoor Week*

[REDACTED]  
*#outdoorsmeansbusiness #recreateresponsibly*

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 30, 2021 8:15 PM  
**To:** Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>  
**Cc:** Rep. Andi Story <Rep.Andi.Story@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Revenue Options

Hello, Alaska Legislature:

I am in favor of a progressive Alaska Income Tax to raise revenues. If properly structured it would result in the highest earners paying the most for the services that they benefit from, including the benefit of having people in the lower income brackets get the economic support they need to thrive and earn more and thus pay more taxes. It would also capture income from the seasonal workers who come here and use our infrastructure and leave w/o contributing to the public coffers.

This tax could be as simple as a percent of Federal Income Tax based on Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT) to capture *some* of the tax dodges that high income earners have.

In case, you wondered, I am a high income resident of Alaska and would likely be subjected to a substantial income tax, relative to others.

Sheri Williams  
Juneau, Alaska

**From:** Kerri Mullis [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 30, 2021 9:57 PM  
**To:** Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>  
**Cc:** Rep. Mike Prax <Rep.Mike.Prax@akleg.gov>; Rep. George Rauscher <Rep.George.Rauscher@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Dividend Underpayment for Years since 2016

To Anna McKennon, Acting Director, Permanent Fund Division, Alaska Dept of Revenue, PO Box [1104640](#), Juneau, Ak

My name - Kerri Ann Mullis

My Address - [REDACTED]

My email - [REDACTED]

My phone - [REDACTED]

I am writing to notify you that I have not received my full amount of the Permanent Fund Dividend I was eligible to receive for the dividend years circled below : 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021.

As you know an individual who complies with the stipulations of AS.43.23.005(a) is eligible to receive one permanent fund dividend in an amount to be determined under AS.43.23.025. I complied with the stipulations of AS.43.23.025 for years (circled) 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020. (Electronic application forms attesting to these facts are on file with your office). Therefore, to the best of my knowledge, I was eligible for and should have received the following payments:

\$2,085 for the dividend year of 2016, \$2,458 for the dividend year of 2017, \$2,924 for the dividend year of 2018, \$2,884 for the dividend year of 2019, \$2,895 for the dividend year of 2020, and \$3,687 for the dividend year of 2021.

But I have only received the following payments :

\$1,022 on October 16, 2016, \$1,100 in October 2017, \$1,600 on October 2018, \$1,606 on October 2019, \$992 for 2020 and nothing for 2021.

Based on the annual rate of return posted on line 1 -column g, of the June 30th reports by the APFC board of trustees and the backed owed balances, I am owed the unpaid balance, plus the earnings on that sum. (Circle one below)

2016

\$13,564.60

2017

\$11,746.18

2018  
\$9,650.96

2019  
\$7,806.31

2020  
\$6,131.59

If you wish, you may deposit the payment to the bank account I listed on the PFD application form I submitted for the 2021 PFD Dividend year. Otherwise, please mail the check to the mailing address on file at your office.

Best regards,

Kerri Mullis

**From:** Lila Smith [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 30, 2021 11:39 PM  
**To:** Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** 32nd Legislative Fiscal Plan Working Group

Please come up with a plan so that the legislature doesn't have to deal with the PFD distribution every year. Let the people vote on a constitutional amendment such as using the 50-50 POMV as proposed by the Governor, or similar. If there are to be any taxes to bridge the budget deficit, they must be a sales tax with a sunset provision. No income taxes!!

STOP wasting time on this PFD matter every year. Try to work together instead of your own personal agenda. GET SOMETHING DONE. We are all tired of this.

For this year, I support a full PFD and back payment of the statutory PFDs withheld from us these past few years. After the COVID pandemic, lots of people are hurting and could use the extra financial help.

Lila M. Smith  
[REDACTED]  
Anchorage, AK 99504

**From:** hugh rosa [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 31, 2021 1:11 AM  
**To:** Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Honorable Ladies Gentelman

In my opinion ,the PFD first and foremost if you make 100.000 a year you are not entitled.Income tax either it be 1 percent or more it will not bankrupt the state of Ak..Property tax of course..Mining tax absolutely..Move the Capital just do it..

-----Original Message-----

From: Jullian Miller [REDACTED]

Sent: Saturday, July 31, 2021 6:50 AM

To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>

Subject: NOW

NOW

**From:** Carl Tape [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 31, 2021 9:05 AM  
**To:** Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** budget, taxes, PFD

Dear Alaska Legislators:

1. Please establish the State budget needed to provide government services of public education (including a strong U of A), public health, and public safety. UAF is a world-class research institution, where modest State funding is amplified by millions of dollars (and jobs) from federal sources.
2. Figure out how much taxes are needed to support the budget.
3. Treat the PFD as excess. If there are PFD funds to be shared with Alaskans, great. But the priority needs to be on item #1.

Thanks for your work on these matters.

Carl Tape  
[REDACTED]  
Fairbanks, Alaska



**From:** Matt Cameron [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 31, 2021 9:17 AM  
**To:** Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Comments about state budget and PFD

Hello AK fiscal policy working group,

I am a lifelong Alaskan and plan to be here for the rest of my life. I am writing to share a few brief comments about the current budget debate and the discussion of the PFD. I couldn't make the meeting here in Fairbanks, and I appreciate the opportunity to write them in.

- I have observed the steady erosion of state services in my lifetime, and this has increased in more recent memory. Given inflation, flat budgets are inherently a cut. A top priority to me is education and state services, and I worry that our teaching positions are non-competitive (at all levels of education). The university system is critical to the long-term prosperity of our state, especially as oil diminishes, and we need to reflect that in our budget priorities. We have cut so much already, it is clear to me that additional cuts are going to drastically diminish the quality of life that we expect as Americans.

- The issue at hand is clear - we need to diversify our revenue. I support a broad-base state income tax for a number of reasons - it will capture seasonal workers who spend little time or money in our communities and have a moderated effect on rural subsistence communities. A sales tax would not accomplish either of those things. I know the 'T' word is anathema in Juneau, but we have delayed the decision for too long and used up our savings account. A state tax isn't new, and it is time we paid our fair share again. Please find the courage to pursue this, we are ready to pay our fair share.

- I don't care about the PFD formula, I care about what kind of PFD is sustainable and best for the state given the conditions at the time. The whole idea of this thing is that it is managed as a trust for the greater good, and will bolster the economy long after the oil runs dry. I absolutely do not support efforts to enshrine the PFD into a formula that would reduce our options for when we face difficult decisions and unexpected scenarios (such as a global pandemic). I urge you to make decisions about the PFD based on the grandkids of our children - what would best serve them decades from now? I support the goal of reaching 100 billion in the principle account while the oil is still flowing so that it provides a sustainable input into our diverse revenue stream for years to come. There is going to be a lot of pressure to get the biggest payout right now, but please have courage and take the long-term perspective.

Thank you for your time and work on this important issue,

Matt Cameron  
[REDACTED]  
Fairbanks, AK 99709

**From:** slyone@gci.net [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 31, 2021 9:36 AM  
**To:** Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** budget and pfd

First of all "Thank you" for all that you do.

-I think this year you should give bigger PFDs because we all need it. Some are losing their housing, some need extra to fix and maintain their cars, fix their existing homes, kid clothes, school supplies, health care like surgeries, eye glasses, dental, the basics like food, the list goes on and on.

-I also think that you should put a PFD formula in the constitution for next year and forever. Include in that formula the up and down percent of the fund. Like this year the 25% increase. Or if it falls a decrease. But put it in there so you don't have to put time into it every year when we all know you have other important things to do to take care of our awesome state.

-Sooner or later you will want to tax the people of Alaska. Yuck. But if you do PLEASE don't tax social security or retirement income. We all live in a state that has a very high cost of living and health care costs. I think folks would move away. Putting our state in a worse situation.

-I could go on but I choose to stick to the basics for now. Keep it simple. And thank you again.

Sincerely,  
Monica Griffin

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: Linda Bruce [REDACTED]

Sent: Saturday, July 31, 2021 9:48 AM

To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>

Subject: PFD

I support a full PFD now. The PFD belongs to the eligible residents of this state and I've lived here long enough to see it challenged, invaded, and eroded because certain politicians think it's now theirs through the egregious actions of an unscrupulous judge and a former governor. Although the original formula should be the fair outcome, I support what is now deemed as a fair PFD formula in the ALASKA constitution. It is time to end this debate, uphold the contract to the people, and institute a fair and equitable PFD.

Linda Bruce

[REDACTED]

Ninilchik, AK

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 31, 2021 9:59 AM  
**To:** Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** APFD

Dear Governor and Legislators,

Thank you for your service. Please settle the PFD once and for all. To not have a 2021 dividend in the budget is crazy. If this was a business, the CEO, board of directors and supervisors would be fired! Follow the law! Balance the budget! Reduce government!

1. Challenge all court's opinions. They are mere men and women and one individual or group should not dictate to the majority. For example, the U.S. Supreme Court in 1857, the Dred Scott v. Sanford case, basically ruled in favor of slavery. The 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment in 1865 showed how wrong they were. Any social issues not based on the Bible are wrong again. To bloat Alaska's budget for paying for transgender surgery or abortions is wrong. Their personal choice should not be funded by public funds. The majority of Alaskans do not think this is okay. Fight for what is right! The consequences are eternal.
2. Read "When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor . . . and Yourself". Alaska has robbed the native culture and the people by helping. Money is never the complete answer.
3. Get the PFD off the table so more important issues may be addresses. Like election reform! Again, one judge determined that a witness was not necessary for a mail in ballot. Every other area of life; retirement benefits, loans, wills, etc. require a "notarized" signature. A photo ID is also required everywhere, travel, medical procedures, etc. Protect my vote!

There are countless other important issues that should be signed into law by now, but die in committee. Why? Settle the PFD! How? I have no idea, as it is mind boggling to understand what is factual or distorted truth. 50/50 split seems like a good compromise if it's accompanied with some conservative fiscal planning and accountability. Go back to the original intent of the PFD.

I am praying for heavenly strategies!

Marty Kincaid  
[REDACTED]  
Palmer, AK 99645

**From:** Walter Tape [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 31, 2021 10:07 AM  
**To:** Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:**

It seems so obvious. The function of government is not to dole out money to individuals. Rather it is to provide the traditional services---public safety, public health, public education at all levels, a quality court system, help to the down-and-outers, and so forth. If taxes are needed to provide those services, so be it. On the other hand, if quality services can be provided and still have money left over, then, fine, use it for PFDs. But the PFD should come last.

Regards,

Walt Tape  
[REDACTED]  
Fairbanks 99709

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Saturday, July 31, 2021 10:38 AM

To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>

Subject: Fiscal Policy

I have lived in Fairbanks for 50 years. I remember having an income tax and a school tax. Neither of these were devastating. The biggest mistake made in Alaska was getting rid of the income tax. Don't get me wrong, I like the Permanent Fund Dividend, but I do not think it should come at the cost of our university, school funds, Infrastructure etc. What has happened to the university is unconscionable. Alaskans need to realize there is no such thing as a free lunch. We have been paid to live here—no income tax and a dividend besides. Please consider having a smaller dividend or no dividend so that we can keep programs that are essential to the well being of our state.

Sincerely yours,

Patricia Stark

[REDACTED]

Fairbanks, AK

999708