

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

From: Austin Jones [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 12:26 AM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: Preserve the PFD!

I strongly encourage the fiscal planning group to preserve the PFD and give what rightly belongs to the people of Alaska. CUT big government and pet projects. The PFD is at an all-time high, and now is the time to help families of Alaska recover from this pandemic.

Enough is enough the PFD belongs to the people!!!

Austin Jones (Family of 4)
Nome, AK

From: carl clark [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 1:06 AM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject:

The PFD has already been embedded in our laws. It specifies how it is to be calculated and distributed. The legislature has only to follow the law as they expect the constituents to do. If they are exceeding the budget, do as we must and spend less. It may be painful but is the only real solution. We live off the grid and must pay own way without state aid and it is difficult but can be done.

Carl and Mary Rose Clark

[REDACTED]

Palmer. Alaska

From: Kurt Schmidt [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 1:55 AM

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

Subject: PFD IMPERATIVE -Follow the Traditional Statutory Method of Calculation used for the past 30 plus years!

The Alaska Legislature must use the traditional statutory PFD formula.... there is indeed enough money to pay a full statutory PFD amount of over \$3600 this year....

DO NOT USE the SB 26 method which limits the draw to 5%.

If the legislature continues to ignore the time tested laws of the traditional PFD CALCULATION and also ignore the people, then legislature is no longer representing the people.... And then citizens need explore alternative ways to address these rogue politicians, and RESTORE THE STATUTORY PFD CALCULATION.

Sincerely,

Kurt Schmidt

Delta Junction, Alaska

From: Kathleen Kitson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 6:25 AM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: PFD

You need to pay the full PFD and the back PFD. Stealing from the people isn't helping our economy. You steal from your constituents and give yourself a raise. How selfish can you be. You are in a position that is supposed to be protecting the people not taking advantage of them.

Kathleen Kitson

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

<https://www.doterra.com/US/en/site/kathleenkitson>

From: Emily Foster [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 7:54 AM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: Save our PFD!

The question of the people's revenue from the state resources was decided on a long time ago. Anyone in our government that feels the PFD is up for grabs because of our over inflated government's spending habits needs to be fired ASAP. Don't try to rewrite laws that give the revenue to the people. Other parts of the state government should be cut and never should the people's money be touched. Please give us the money that has already been taken from our PFDs for the last several years and give us the money we are owed in the future.

Emily Foster
[REDACTED]

--

Emily Foster
Alaska Wellness Woman

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

From: Debi Higdon. [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 8:06 AM

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

Subject: Alaska's budget

I am and have been a lifelong conservative but from what I have seen from the Alaskan Republicans, well I changed my voting status to independent. They are rotten to the core, from before Palin was governor. She tried to fix the mess we were in but they/their greed was too much for her to deal with alone. People weren't ready to see what was in front of them and seems they still aren't. The political groups figured out a way to take our money from us and now they are just trying to make pretty so we won't get rid of them next election. What a bunch of garbage! Sad to see our state like this.

Sent from my iPad

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

From: Lila Henderson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 8:07 AM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: Protect the PFD

To whom it may concern:

I am writing as an Alaskan citizen to beg you to please listen to the people in this state. The people are tired of wasteful spending and the theft of the Alaskan PFD. You are there to serve the people of Alaska. We ask that you do your job and carry out the will of the people. I am respectfully pleading with you on the behalf of my children and future generations. The full PFD needs to be given to the people and the PFD needs to be protected in the future by putting it in the AK constitution. Listen to what the people are asking. Cut what needs to be cut from the budget and stop the overspending. The people know who the PFD belongs to. Thank you your efforts, Sincerely, Lila Henderson Nikiski, AK

[REDACTED]

From: David Howell [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 8:27 AM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: Public Comment

Hi,

Thank you for taking public comment on this important issue. I would like to comment in favor of having the 5% POMV added to the constitution. With regards to the PFD I believe it is clear that the state can no longer afford the old statutory dividend and really cannot afford the governor's 50/50 POMV split. I would be more in favor of having the 5% POMV draw cover government and whatever is left used as a PFD. I don't believe adding the PFD in any form to the constitution is a good idea as it ties up future funds that are uncertain to be there.

I am in favor of a sales or income tax, whichever has enough votes as it has long been clear that Alaska needs a tax. However prior to instituting a tax I would like to see the Kenai and Mat-Su boroughs become first class boroughs. It is long past time that they start paying for the many services the state provides them that they don't provide in Juneau and Anchorage.

If we can continue to grow the Permanent Fund corpus and truly live off a POMV draw we would be the envy of the nation. Please do not continue to spend down our savings as the corpus of the fund will be next.

Thank you for your time.

Best,
David

From: Mary Beth Bragiel [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 8:37 AM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: comments on PFD

The Permanent Fund Dividend account earned 16 BILLION dollars in the last reporting period, and yet you are still unwilling to pay citizens a full PFD according to law? This is wrong. Follow the law. That is what law abiding citizens are supposed to do. As our elected representatives, we expect you to follow suit.

Additionally, we expect you to set a reasonable budget and quit constantly increasing state spending. Go back to the essentials--infrastructure (roads, etc), safety, and public education. And, by the way, public education needs a lot of help. We spend the most money in the country per capita on education and get the worst results. Quit spending money on special interests. Stick to the basics.

Please remember that you were elected to represent the people--not yourselves or those who might have some sort of sway over you. What's more important--the government, or the people the government exists to serve?

Thank you for reading our input.

Dr. and Mrs. Greg Bragiel

Anchorage

From: Andy Warwick [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 8:45 AM

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

Cc: Rep. Bart LeBon <Rep.Bart.Lebon@akleg.gov>; Rep. Steve Thompson <Rep.Steve.Thompson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Mike Prax <Rep.Mike.Prax@akleg.gov>; Rep. Grier Hopkins <Rep.Grier.Hopkins@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Mike Cronk <Rep.Mike.Cronk@akleg.gov>

Subject: Fiscal policy

First I want to thank all of you for taking the time to serve on this important working group. I appreciate your substantial commitment to public service.

In my opinion all of the appropriable monies from Permanent Fund should be used to provide the services of state government. I was a member of the Alaska State Legislature when the Permanent Fund was discussed, and Commissioner of Administration when it was created. My view back then was that we needed to lock away some of our oil wealth as it wouldn't last forever, and if we didn't do that, the Legislature would spend it all and when the spicket ran dry we would have nothing to show for it. I (and others) viewed this as a "rainy day" account. Recently I saw the Fund reached \$80,000,000,000. I'd say Alaska did a good job preserving its wealth. But, over the years the "rainy day" concept morphed into an entitlement attitude that has caused political disagreements.

As you all intimately know, Alaska has budgetary revenue needs. I'm in favor of fulfilling those needs in the most efficient manner possible as I want Alaska to have the services and amenities to attract people to live and visit here. If we continue the PFD, we will likely have a personal state income tax. We will also need to increase the taxes on businesses as the personal income tax will not sufficiently close the gap. And, keep in mind that close to 20% of the PFD goes to the federal government in the form of federal income taxes. If the PFD was \$1,000 and 650,000 checks went out, the IRS would get approximately \$130,000,000 of it.

In summary, it defies logic to tax people so you can give them money, and then mail the IRS a check for \$130,000,000. But, that's what we do. Interestingly, most of this entitlement concept is coming from Republicans who you would think would loathe taxing people and then giving them money for doing nothing. It's the Alaskan version of the Andrew Yang's Freedom Dividend.

Thank you for listening,

Andy Warwick, CPA

Fairbanks

From: Connie Fredenberg [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 9:25 AM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: Public Comment

The State broke its PFD promise and now some legislators and the Governor are holding the Power Cost Equalization Fund hostage so they can pass their ideas on how to fix it. Rural Alaskans get hit twice.

The semantic shenanigans you are playing are about to create a spectacular economic disaster in 195 rural Alaskan communities. A disaster that sits squarely on your shoulders, Governor Dunleavy and Valley Legislators. Residents and Clinics, government offices and washeterias, VPSO offices and water plants will be hammered with unexpected, unmanageable increases in the cost of electricity overnight.

Fight for our PFD by raising taxes on the oil industry and implementing a personal income tax to fund the State's budget. Tax those making a good living off our State's resources and infrastructure – including the many oil patch workers and fishermen who come up here to work and then take all that money back to their state to spend. Stop pretending we can have nice things with no taxes. Those days are over.

Do the right thing – and do it fast. The RCA just set all PCE payment rates to zero retroactive to July 1st. Otherwise, the people in 195 communities across rural Alaska are going to wake up to an electric bill the first week of August that's 2 to 5 times higher than they expected and can afford. As the lights go out across the remote parts of the State, hundreds of energy refugees will flood Alaska's cities. Get going or get ready.

Constance Fredenberg

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Palmer, AK 99645

From: Dixie D. Banner [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 9:25 AM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: Public Testimony

1. Quit playing games at our expense!
 2. Cut the dam Budget, now not later!
 3. Listen to the People of AK - we are your employers! You will be issued pink slips otherwise!
Note we are tired telling you over and over what is expected/needed/wanted!
 4. Quit screwing us over in regards to the PFD! Guarded it with a Constitutional Ruling! It is not your money to manage!
 5. You have screwed around for the past 5 years and the laws we expected to pass are no longer viable because of reindeer games (failure to work as a team and allowing personal agendas trump accountability!)
 6. Why do we have to tell repeatedly tell what we want - you return back to Juneau and facilitate rulings completely opposing what we want!
 7. Selling out your vote for personal gain will offer consequences! The House's failure to form in an orderly fashion at the beginning of the session was BS!
 8. Your failure to manage a crisis (financial/employment and Security crisis), is totally UNSAT! Come winter AK will be facilitating a major crisis!
 9. Do your job (adhere to the wishes of Alaskans) or resign! We are fed up with the games!
- Dixie

From: Dixie D. Banner [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 9:30 AM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: Remember you are public employees not a ruling class!

Cut the budget and quit manipulating the PFD! If you are unable to do your job and can not honor your commitment to serve - leave Juneau!

**Public service. We don't
elect people to rule, or
even lead, us.
We elect people to serve
us.
Has this concept been
lost?**

Sent from my iPhone

From: Super Dave [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 9:36 AM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Cc: Sen. Mia Costello <Sen.Mia.Costello@akleg.gov>; Rep. Matt Claman <Rep.Matt.Claman@akleg.gov>
Subject: Fiscal Policy

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am a retired 43 year resident of Alaska and a subscriber to the Anchorage Daily News. Yesterday, July 29, 2021 in the Opinion section was a commentary by Cliff Groh, "Alaska's cockpit standoff and the need to land the plane". I don't know him, but many of you may, as it appears he has had experience with the State Legislature and Alaska's fiscal system.

As I understand, he will be going to Juneau for the next Special Session addressing the Legislature on the big-picture of fiscal policy and the PFD. After reading his common sense bullet points, I encourage all of you to give his proposals serious thought. I believe most Alaskans could get behind his ideas.

Let's get some common sense, solid non-negotiable guidelines to go by so every new Legislature, no matter who has a majority, has some starting points and no need for special sessions. Or, at least, fewer.

Oh, and if the current Governor won't sign off on it, maybe the next one will, cause I doubt he will see another term.

Come on Guys! Let's get this done!

Thank You, David Luck

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: LIO Juneau <LIO.Juneau@akleg.gov>
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 9:49 AM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: FW: Pfd

From: Diane Ivy-Dahlin [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 29, 2021 4:40 PM
To: LIO Juneau <LIO.Juneau@akleg.gov>
Subject: Pfd

Greetings.

I am a long time Alaskan. I use my PFD money to supplement my income to purchase, fuel, food, transportation, housing, repairs, clothing, Medical and so much more.

Now with cost rising on a daily base it us getting harder to be retired in Alaska. Gas is rising .10 a week. Food, housing and other normal expenses.

October used to be a month we could count on a little help without going on state assisted programs or seeking other resources to allow us to live throughout the winter months.

Stocking up was our term to fill the shelf's. Sometimes we pooped our resources to help programs, support youth in schools and sports, music etc.

Not having a consistent date or a structure formula has set a poor example and has developed a never ending fight between the legislatures and citizens.

You have caused mistrust with many. I have watched so much waste and hate on the floor since this illegal process began.

Do not touch the PFD anymore.

Pay the full amount per the statute and formula and pay back the past due. You owe Alaskans their share. Stop delaying and get back to business. If Alaska can't afford these over price porked projects them let them be

You have stolen money From every eligible Alaskan, from the small child to the oldest. It's hurting families.

I fully support 100% either letting Alaskan 's vote and decide this once and for all or get your act together and pay out the PFD per statute.

Sincerely

Lorraine Ivy Dahlin

[REDACTED]

Seward Alaska. 99664

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

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

From: Robin WATKINS [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 9:49 AM

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

Subject: PFD

I understand we need more money to help with the budget. The PFD is for the people. We don't really want taxes. I feel a good compromise is the 50 - 50 plan. Help with the budget but no state taxes.

From: Margo Waring [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 9:50 AM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: public comment

I appreciate the opportunity to address our challenging fiscal issues.

What is the answer to the question being posed for us today? It is the same answer we had in 1974 and every year after. The long term fiscal health of Alaska, its current and future residents, is highest possible taxation of the oil industry to support the general fund budget and contribute to the Permanent Fund, a modest progressive income tax coupled with a modest Permanent Fund Dividend. The PFD should not be part of the Constitution as to do so would place individual enrichment over the general welfare as described year by year in the state's budget. The coupling of income tax and PFD must be reinstated if we are to ward off the frenzy of those who think Alaska is all about a free ride or general enrichment without any responsibility to the larger Alaskan community.

I moved to Alaska in 1969, a time of income tax and school tax, before the Permanent Fund and the Dividend and before Prudhoe Bay development and the Pipeline. I became a policy analyst and planner in the offices of several governors, starting with Gov. Hammond. I also was a staffer for a Republican senator.

Since "day one" with the first Brookings effort to determine what Alaskans wanted to do with oil revenues, Alaskans have been struggling to find balance between revenues and expenditures. Years went into mapping and forecasting oil production and anticipated revenues, to determine

when production declines would shift balances. In fact, production outstripped those initial studies, as has revenue. From day one, we have heard calls for a "fiscal plan". Those with foresight and commitment to the long term fiscal health of Alaskans did yeoman work to stem to outflow of money to special interests, political contributors and industry. We must give thanks to everyone who, often at personal, political, or other cost took on this task with integrity and the best available information. But it has always been a struggle, given the political weight of the oil industry and its supporters intent on enriching that industry at the expense of Alaskans who actually own the resource.

Here we are at another of the dozens of hearings and public sessions I have participated in about the same question. And the answer is the same. If you have a commitment to Alaskans and to Alaska's future, the responsible course of action is, while not xxx to some, is the same as it was at the start: high oil taxes, modest progressive income tax, modest PFD.

Margo Waring



Juneau, Alaska 99801

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

From: Roger Helvie [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 10:02 AM

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

Subject: PFD

Alaska Legislators,

WE SUPPORT A FULL PFD NOW.

PASS A FAIR PFD FORMULA IN THE AK CONSTITUTION!

Thank You

Roger & Jodi Helvie

[REDACTED]

Soldotna, AK 99669

[REDACTED]

From: hugh rosa [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 10:23 AM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: PFD income tax sales tax

To all Honorable Legislators..We could install a state wide sales tax ,why not.There is no very good reason why not..The income tax should also be installed,even a 1 percent would be better than nothing at all...The PFD should be only given to people who live here at least most of the year.The PFD should only be given to people who make under 100.000 a year ...Why not...There are a lot of abuses of the PFD pay out .A lot of people spend very little time in our state.....Quit spending money on per firm rates ,move the Capitol....The sales tax is a must and the income tax is a must.....I must emphasize the PFD ..no way should you get it if you only spend very little time in our state,and if you make 100.000 or more no way should you get a PFD Please no more special sessions do your jobs and do it in regular meetings ...To me the way things are being run is very disrespectful to our citizens....Hugh Rosa

From: Margo Waring [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 10:23 AM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: Re: public comment

So sorry. Here is slightly revised version.

I appreciate the opportunity to address our challenging fiscal issues.

What is the answer to the question being posed for us today? It is the same answer we had in 1974 and every year after. The long term fiscal health of Alaska, its current and future residents, is highest possible taxation of the oil industry to support the general fund budget and contribute to the Permanent Fund, a modest progressive income tax coupled with a modest Permanent Fund Dividend. The PFD should not be part of the Constitution as to do so would place individual enrichment over the general welfare as described year by year in the state's budget. The coupling of income tax and PFD must be reinstated if we are to ward off the frenzy of those who think Alaska is all about a free ride or general enrichment without any responsibility to the larger Alaskan community.

I moved to Alaska in 1969, a time of income tax and school tax, before the Permanent Fund and the Dividend and before Prudhoe Bay development and the Pipeline. I became a policy analyst and planner in the offices of several governors, starting with Gov. Hammond. I also was a staffer for a Republican senator.

Since "day one" with the first Brookings effort to determine what Alaskans wanted to do with oil revenues, Alaskans have been struggling to find balance between revenues and expenditures. Years went into mapping and forecasting oil production and anticipated revenues, to determine

when production declines would shift balances. In fact, production outstripped those initial studies, as has revenue. From day one, we have heard calls for a "fiscal plan". Those with foresight and commitment to the long term fiscal health of Alaskans did yeoman work to stem to outflow of money to special interests, political contributors and industry. We must give thanks to everyone who, often at personal, political, or other cost took on this task with integrity and the best available information. But it has always been a struggle, given the

political weight of the oil industry and its supporters intent on enriching that industry at the expense of Alaskans who actually own the resource.

Here we are at another of the dozens of hearings and public sessions I have participated in about the same question. And the answer is the same. If you have a commitment to Alaskans and to Alaska's future, the responsible course of action is, while not happy news to some, is the same as it was at the start: high oil taxes, modest progressive income tax, modest PFD.

Margo Waring

[REDACTED]

Juneau, Alaska 99801

From: Bobbie Stanley [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 10:31 AM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: Your Job

Have lived in Alaska since 1976. Am ashamed of what is becoming normal. If you are being paid to do yours, PLEASE DO IT FOR THE GOOD OF THE PEOPLE, NOT YOUR NEW FOUND POWER TO BRING US DOWN FURTHER. Thank you.

Barbara Stanley

From: lenny [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 10:26 AM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: pfd

I was born in Alaska and I,m 74 yrs old,,,for the past 20 years the assholes in Juneau have never paid any attention to there constituents, and continue to pretend they are in California,,,you won,t put the pfd up for a vote by the residents because you no what will happen,,,every time the state has a few extra bucks you manage to blow it all,,hiring un-needed employees and giving the state employees raises,,encluding yourselves,,when you jerks and walker decided to grab our dividends and cut back the senior benifets,,what happened??? The state workers got a big fat raise,,,the pfd made a bunch of \$\$\$ this year and I no you bozos are drooling thinking of crap to blow it on,,,get off your ass and listen to the people for once,,,or get the hell out of Alaska and go back to California and new York,,one pissed off Alaska resident,,,,lenny Peterson,,,wrangell alaska

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

News Flash – 2021 Permanent Fund Profit at \$18.6 Billion

Jim Crawford

July 27, 2021

The Alaska Permanent Fund posted today the June 30, 2021 year-end earnings and expenses. Our PF Trust generated total revenues in the last twelve months of \$18.8 billion. Expenses were \$174 million leaving a profit of \$18.6 billion. Transfers in: (royalty payments) amounted to \$319.5 million and out: (payment to the General Fund to pay government expenses and dividends) was \$3.141 billion.

Our Fund balance grew from \$65.9 billion last year to \$81.1 this year – an increase of \$14.6 billion in one year. As of year-end, we have \$60.1 billion in principle and \$21.0 billion in the Earnings Reserve account. The Earnings Reserve requires a simple majority approval for the Legislature to spend it.

So, after Legislative shenanigans, our Permanent Fund Dividend for 2022 is zero.

The Legislature goes into another special session on August 2, 2021. Their task, assigned by Governor Dunleavy in his call, is to balance the budget and solve the fiscal gap. **Let me be perfectly clear. The State of Alaska, according to its financial statements has and has had, a surplus over the last several years.** When Legislators decry the budget gap, they are referring to the General Fund only and ignoring the billions in earnings of the Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation.

There are three choices available to Legislators in the August special session.

1. The House and the Senate majority cut your dividend to \$525. They may do it again. The Governor appropriately vetoed the bill as it was designed to punish Alaskans for our greed and entitlement in demanding a full dividend. Each Legislator who chose to cut your dividend, must be held to account by the people. Just record their vote and vote them out of office.
2. The House minority and Senate minority have backed the full dividend as an investment in Alaskans who can decide for themselves how to spend their money. Any Alaskan who has read any of my 16 columns over the last few years knows that we don't have a cash problem. We have a spending problem and the way to remove the spending problem is to remove the spenders. To say we don't have the money is preposterous.
3. Governor Dunleavy has proposed a realistic, practical compromise. Constitutional protection of the dividend at the 50/50 rate along with inflation protection and passage of a workable spending limit provides a foundation for a sustainable fiscal solution. If this Legislature can't provide it, let's vote for the Constitutional Convention on November 8, 2022, and do it ourselves.

A special note to the private sector. The reality is that if the Permanent Fund had not earned enough income this year, the Legislature would have raised taxes to keep spending. 70% percent of government expenses were paid by permanent fund earnings during the last fiscal year. Solving the fiscal gap must include fiscal protection for private enterprise, small business and all for profit companies.

This is a battle between the public sector who will never have enough and the private sector which has to earn enough to pay taxes, working Alaskans and their costs of business. Perhaps the outsized earnings of the Fund this year will demonstrate to business the benefits from a protected Permanent Fund. Small business got that message and succeeds when local stores and restaurants serve the dividend recipients. We need more of that to bring our economy back to life.

Here are three steps each of us can take to solve the fiscal gap:

1. Plug into <https://akleg.gov/docs/pdf/Legislators-by-District.pdf> and write down the name of your District Representative and Senator.
2. Write or call your Representative and Senator to ask the question, “Will you vote for a full dividend at 50/50?” Get a yes or no and write it down.
3. Track your Representative and Senator’s vote. Did he or she vote for or against your family’s dividend? Vote for the Representative and Senator who committed to you to vote for the full dividend and did so.

This is not a partisan battle as they are Republicans and Democrats and Independents on both sides.

This is not a rural/urban battle. As incredible as it seems, even with poll results with 80% approval for full dividends, Legislators can come up with more imaginative reasons why to vote against their constituents’ interests.

We’re beyond the need to justify the Alaska Permanent Fund or its earnings. We need to point out to Legislators who disagree with our dividend commitment, their early retirement. When I worked for U. S. Senator Ted Stevens, he taught me many things. One dictate was “learn to count” because without that ability, the other side wins in Legislative battles.

Our collective responsibility is to count a majority of specific commitments from Legislators to enact our right sized dividend. We have the earnings to do that now. We have the organization, will power and resolve to deliver on those commitments. Let’s shock those who steal the dividends from our grandchildren. Legislators beware. My bud, Joe Sixpack, understands this issue perfectly and will vote accordingly.

Jim Crawford is a third-generation Alaskan entrepreneur who resides in Anchorage with his bride of 38 years, Terri. The Alaska Institute for Growth is a local think tank which studies and reports on and may sponsor projects of sustained economic growth for the Alaskan economy. Mr. Crawford known as the Permanent Fund Defender was a member of the Investment Advisory Committee, appointed by Governor Hammond to plan and execute the Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation.

From: Carla [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 11:02 AM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: I support full PFD

I SUPPORT A FULL PFD NOW. PASS A FAIR PFD FORMULA IN THE AK CONSTITUTION!



NATIVE VILLAGE OF NUNAM IQUA

Nunam Iqua Traditional Council

P.O. Box 27

Nunam Iqua, AK 99666

Phone: (907) 498-4184 Fax: (907) 498-4185

Email: nunamtribe@gmail.com

July 28, 2021

Alaska Joint Fiscal Plan Working Group

Senator Shelley Hughes

Senator Lyman Hoffman

Senator Scott Kawasaki

Senator Jesse Kiehl

Representative Kevin McCabe

Representative Ben Carpenter

Representative Calvin Schrage

Representative Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins

Re: Protecting Power Cost Equalization Program

Dear Legislators,

The Native Village of Nunam Iqua writes to thank you for taking on the critical task of developing a sustainable fiscal plan for Alaska, and to strongly encourage you to include the Power Cost Equalization (PCE) program as part of that plan.

PCE is not a subsidy for rural Alaska. Rather, it was established in 1984 by the Alaska State Legislature to equalize the inequitable subsidization of energy development that occurred decades ago in urban parts of the state. Energy has remained relatively affordable for urban consumers because of the major hydro projects and interties for which the entire state paid. PCE, in turn, has helped keep costs down for rural communities. Without it, as we have seen since July 1, the price of power in rural Alaska rises dramatically.

As reported by Alaska Public Media without this equalization, residents of rural regions will soon see their power bills rise by as much as at \$100 a month. Others could see their bills double or triple. This increase would be considered unacceptable in any urban region of the state, and rural Alaska should not be treated differently.

Neglecting to protect the PCE endowment will cause disproportionate harm to rural Alaskans. Affordable energy is essential to the survival of Alaska's rural, Native communities through continual economic swings, particularly now as Alaska climbs out of the coronavirus pandemic.

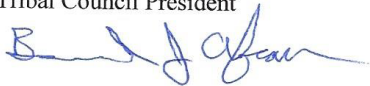
It is your Constitutional responsibility as legislators to ensure that all Alaskans are treated equally by the state government. Preserving the PCE program and its endowment must be a part

of Alaska's long-term budget solution, in addition to reimbursing the credits that were not paid during this impasse. Whatever the sustainable, long-term plan looks like, PCE must be a part of the picture to ensure equitable treatment for our residents no matter where they live.

We greatly appreciate the work you are undertaking on behalf of our great state. The Native Village of Nunam Iqua respectfully asks that you keep rural families, communities, and businesses in mind as you plan for Alaska's future.

Sincerely,

Bernard Afcan
Tribal Council President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bernard Afcan", written in a cursive style.

From: Greg Krier [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 2:29 PM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: Fundamentals of Resource Ownership in Alaska and the Permanent Fund - No Dedicated Dividend Payments

Members of the Fiscal Policy Working Group of the 32nd Alaska State Legislature-

As you consider what the future of the Permanent Fund and related dividend program might look like, it may be a good time to reconsider the foundation on which it is all based. As many Alaskans know, the Alaska constitution treats ownership of the natural resources differently than any other state. The specific section is Article 8, and § 2 reads as follows: "The legislature shall provide for the utilization, development, and conservation of all natural resources belonging to the State, including land and waters, for the maximum benefit of its people." There are two interpretations as to what the written words actually mean. First, some believe that the natural resource ownership rests with the people in a quasi-direct form that would be superior to any State claim. The second interpretation is that the people of Alaska own the natural resources through their state government. There are limited sources – if any - to support the first interpretation, but there are important and reliable sources to support the second.

In his book "*Crisis in the Commons: the Alaska Solution*," Walter Hickel says "The Alaska people, through our state government, won ownership of much of our land and our natural resources." Hickel was a leading proponent of statehood and was involved in the negotiations, so his interpretation means more than the interpretations of people who were not involved or who offered interpretations years – if not decades – later. That said, some want to dismiss his writings on the subject and suggest that he was just a politician trying to gain some political end. However, Hickel's words are supported in the attached document titled "Federal Laws Affecting Alaska Lands and Resources," which is Chapter 5 of a book titled "*Analysis of Laws Governing Access Across Federal Lands: Options for Access in Alaska*." For your convenience I have provided links to the source documents. This 1979 source references other documents, including the Alaska Statehood Act and related reports from the 1950's, and includes mention of the congressional intent behind the natural resources ownership provision. Some relevant quotes from the chapter include:

"The Alaska Statehood Act provides that all lands granted or confirmed under the Act include the full mineral rights. The Act further stipulates that these land grants are made on the condition that, in all subsequent conveyances of selected lands, the State must reserve all mineral rights and the right to enter and to remove the minerals. The State may never sell nor convey the mineral rights. The Act authorizes the Federal Government to initiate forfeiture proceedings against State lands conveyed without such reservation." P.106

"The House report accompanying the Alaska Statehood Act indicates that these grants of lands and revenues were intended to overcome two major objections to statehood: that Alaska did not have a viable economy apart from the Federal expenditures for construction projects and military bases, and that

Alaska could not support the costs of self-government from the resources from which revenue could be generated.” P.109

Taken together, it is clear that Alaskans own the resources of Alaska through their state government. In reference to State ownership of these natural resources, Hickel goes on to say “A successful Owner State must then grapple with the issue of the wealth it creates. Some oil provinces, including Alberta, Canada and Alaska, have sometimes dispersed their surpluses by giving away some of their land and resources or the money those resources earned. In Alaska's case, this policy reflected a basic misunderstanding of our carefully crafted Statehood Compact. The U.S. Congress deeded to us our mineral-rich lands so that our state government could afford to provide basic services. The intent was not to generate cash payments to the people. Government-generated payments or dividends create an insatiable appetite, and the intoxicated electorate will ignore the basic needs of their communities, including the vital ongoing maintenance of the economic and social infrastructure.”

There are likely additional references in the congressional record that would clarify the issue and offer additional support to Hickel's statements and the quotes offered above. Beyond these references, there is the historical context of how resource ownership in Alaska has been treated since statehood. Between 1959 and 1976 there was resource development in Alaska, and yet not once did anyone suggest that somehow Alaskans were being cheated out of their rightful due by not receiving some form of direct benefit. Even with the creation of the Permanent Fund in 1976 there was no language in the ballot measure or in the statements either in support or in opposition to passage that suggested anything other than State ownership of the natural resources and of the Permanent Fund itself.

The idea of placing the Permanent Fund Dividend into the state constitution is based on a flawed interpretation of the state constitution and would violate the congressional intent behind the very section of the Alaska Statehood Act and the Alaska Constitution that proponents cite as reason for prioritizing the dividend program in the first place. No Alaskan has a priority interest in the Permanent Fund or in any other state-owned resource. Alaskans own these resources collectively, and only through the State.

Protecting the Permanent Fund could be best accomplished by placing the POMV limit into the Alaska constitution. As for the dividend program, paying dividends is a policy decision and should be continued as a balanced-budget payment within the overall budget. Some would say that it is too difficult to have to spend so much of every legislative session arguing about the size of the PFD, but that is mostly due to the broad range of possibilities at the beginning. If the starting point were a locked-in POMV draw on the Permanent Fund and the acceptance of the PFD as being a part of the overall budget, the range of possible dividend amounts would narrow significantly. Rather than some arguing for \$3500 payments while others argue for \$500 payments, the starting range would likely be a difference of a few hundred dollars rather than a few thousand dollars. It is the legislature's job to develop the annual budgets, and the PFD is a part of those budgets. With the Permanent Fund protected with the POMV amendment, it can continue that way.

Thank you,

-Greg Krier

Alaska Resident 1959-present

Senate District B, House District 4

REFERENCES

"Crisis in the Commons: the Alaska Solution"

Walter J. Hickel

HD 1289 .U62 .A44

<https://www.princeton.edu/~ota/disk3/1979/7901/790107.PDF>

<https://www.princeton.edu/~ota/disk3/1979/7901/7901.PDF>

From: Amity Condie [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 3:42 PM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: Progressive Sales Tax & Reduced PFD: AK Fiscal Plan Constituent Comment

To the Comprehensive Fiscal Plan Working Group,

I am a resident of Palmer, Alaska and I support fully funding education and increasing access to substance use treatment and mental health resources.

As you consider the short- and long-term spending and revenue plans, I would support a progressive income tax that taxes individuals with higher incomes at a higher rate while not taxing those who make less than \$30,000/yr. I would be willing to receive a decreased PFD in addition to an income tax.

I oppose constitutional amendments to cap spending or guarantee a PFD.

Thank you for this opportunity to express my views. I support any efforts to work together and make our government work. I know that requires compromise and flexibility.

Sincerely,

Amity Condie
[REDACTED]

Palmer, AK 99645

907-982-5584

From: Tracy Reed [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 3:45 PM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: PFD

You need to do the right thing and give the people all of the PFD money they are owed for this year and the last 5 years, under the statutory formula.

Tracy Reed

From: Jon Cook [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 3:53 PM

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

Cc: Rep. Bart LeBon <Rep.Bart.Lebon@akleg.gov>; Rep. Steve Thompson <Rep.Steve.Thompson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Mike Prax <Rep.Mike.Prax@akleg.gov>; Rep. Grier Hopkins <Rep.Grier.Hopkins@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Mike Cronk <Rep.Mike.Cronk@akleg.gov>; Sen. Click Bishop <Sen.Click.Bishop@akleg.gov>; Sen. Scott Kawasaki <Sen.Scott.Kawasaki@akleg.gov>; Sen. Robert Myers <Senator.Robert.Myers@akleg.gov>; Sen. Bert Stedman <Sen.Bert.Stedman@akleg.gov>; Sen. Natasha Von Imhof <Sen.Natasha.VonImhof@akleg.gov>

Subject: Fiscal Working Group Testimony

Representatives and Senators:

Personally, and behalf of our company, its shareholder and his family, I want to thank the members of the Fiscal Working Group for your work to date and for taking time out of an already shortened summer to do so. We would like to submit the following testimony in lieu of testifying in person tomorrow in Fairbanks.

As you move forward, we'd ask that you continue to act deliberately and not in haste. The general fund and overall economy have benefitted from massive federal aid with significant additional funding likely. These funds will provide ample time for yourselves and the public to fully evaluate and weigh in on the various potential fiscal proposals, preferably during the 2022 legislative session. Several potential solutions, including possible revenue solutions, have not been presented to yourselves or the public yet. Some of these items, such as any potential income tax, would be of particular interest to pass through entities, like ourselves, and their owners as this income is not currently taxed by the State. We will be interested to see how DOR arrives at any estimate of potential revenues from an income tax as it does not have access to the much of the underlying data that would be used to derive such an estimate.

We are opposed to any constitutional enshrinement of the PFD. No prudent business or individual would obligate themselves (and future generations) to spend a guaranteed amount in perpetuity on any expense. PFD enshrinement would also make it exceedingly difficult for the state to respond to future crises or opportunities as nearly all state spending would be constitutionally mandated. Finally, we believe that enshrinement of the PFD in the constitution would ultimately lead to an income tax on pass through entities and individuals, a scenario we definitely oppose.

We are also opposed to any plan that included breaching current POMV limits under SB 26. We believe that breaching these limits would cause long term economic harm to Alaska

which would ultimately result in taxation and other policies that would eliminate jobs and investment.

On the spending side of any fiscal plan, we would ask that any plan address the \$5.9 billion unfunded PERS/TRS liability, the near \$800 million oil tax credit liability, the significant and growing deferred maintenance liability and the virtual lack of any capital budget (outside the federal match) for nearly a decade.

We also understand and appreciate that the current year PFD is a major outstanding item. The bulk of Alaskans have received significant direct federal aid this year and the labor market is as tight as I can recall in the last forty years. However, for those who are still economically vulnerable, in the event a PFD compromise for the current year can't be reached, we hope you will consider implementing an alternative assistance program for those most in need.

The fiscal problems we face were created by all of us over decades and any potential solutions will take several months, not weeks, in terms of fully educating and involving the public to insure those solutions are properly vetted and understood in terms of near and long term social and economic consequences.

We look forward to seeing end product of this group and are ready to provide feedback to the legislature at the appropriate time.

Thank you for your efforts on these critical matters and do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jon

Jon Cook

CFO

Airport Equipment Rentals, Inc.