

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

From: Rich Sewell [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, July 31, 2021 3:49 PM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: Comprehensive Fiscal Plan

Dear Legislators,

Stop oil industry tax credits. It's a welfare program! Just stop it.

Regards

Rich Sewell

[REDACTED]
Anchorage AK 99510

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

From: Nick Mazzolini [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, July 31, 2021 4:02 PM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: PFD and Alaska's Fiscal Situation

I am writing to voice the opinion of Colby Mazzolini, Lucca Mazzolini, and Noelle Mazzolini, on the PFD and Alaska's fiscal situation. Our main concern is that the state is on a fiscally sustainable path, and we believe we are currently not on such a path.

We would like to voice our support for SJR1. It is not perfect and I share in the concern that a 5% POMV May be too large to enshrine, but it does accomplish the main goal of taking the PFD off the table as a funding source moving forward.

Our elected representation has played hot potato with our PFD for far too long. It has become an easy money grab thanks to the courts ruling and Gov. Walker's overreach. The PFD SHALL receive first call and the legislature SHALL appropriate.

I want my children to have the option of living in a thriving private economy here in Alaska in the future. But if we continue to draw down our savings, grow government, and delay making hard decisions regarding our state's fiscal situation, I fear they will not have this option.

By removing the PFD from the equation we will be helping to force the hand of our elected officials to be leaders and make the tough decisions now (that could have been made 5-10 years ago) that will direct Alaska on a more sustainable path moving forward.

The people deserve to have the final say in this decision and SJR1 assures this will take place.

Thank you for taking my testimony,

Nick Mazzolini
[REDACTED]

To: Anna McKinnon, Acting Director, Permanent Fund Division, Alaska Dept. of Revenue,
PO Box 110460 Juneau, AK 99811-0460

Re: Dividend underpayment for years _____ 2016 _____

My name is _____ Susan Burrell _____

My mailing address is _____

My email is _____

My Phone is _____

I am writing to notify you that I have not yet received the full amount of the permanent fund dividend I was eligible to receive for dividend years (circle those that apply)

2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, and 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 43.23.005 for years (circle) 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019.

(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 dividend year 2016, \$2,458 for dividend year 2017, \$2,924 for dividend year 2018, \$2,884 for dividend year 2019, \$2895 for dividend year 2020, and \$3687 for dividend year 2021

But I have only received the following payments:

\$1,022 in October of 2016, \$1,100 in October of 2017, \$1,600 in October of 2018, and \$1,606 in October of 2019 and 992 in 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 back owed balances, I am owed the unpaid balance, plus the earnings on that sum (circle one below).

^

Since 2016	Since 2017	Since 2018	Since 2019	Since 2020	Since 2021
\$13,564.60	\$11,746.18	\$9,650.96	\$7,806.31	\$6,131.59	\$3,687

If you wish, you may mail the payment to me at the address I listed on the PFD application form I submitted for the 2021 dividend year.

Signature _____

Email to fiscal.policy@akleg.gov cc rep.mike.prax@akleg.gov

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

From: Kathleen Sisson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, July 31, 2021 6:08 PM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Cc: LIO Fairbanks <Lio.Fairbanks@akleg.gov>
Subject: Fiscal Policy Working Group

I firmly believe the Permanent Fund Dividend should be the last amount considered when making financial commitments for the State.

Funding for public services, education at all levels, public safety, infrastructure and more should be the priority in financial planning.

The PFD is a bonus when the State's primary needs are taken care of. It should not be made a part of constitution because the finances of the State vary from year to year.

There should be no more cuts to education, public safety, medical needs, etc.

I am in favor of a low income tax and a low PFD. We had a tax at one time and it was cancelled when the State was doing well. I've heard no lawmaker suggest the possibility that a new tax might be cancelled when certain goals are met.

I believe that those who favor a large dividend are thinking of themselves and the next election first rather than the best interests of the State of Alaska.

Thank you for your efforts and best wishes for the outcome.

Kathleen W. Sisson
Ester, Alaska

From: Peggy Mullen [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, July 31, 2021 6:52 PM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: CFPWG Written Testimony

Dear Legislators - As a lifelong Alaskan, I support public services and would not mind paying an income tax. The governor's constitutional PFD push is extremely short sighted, but a good way to get himself reelected. There is nothing like promising free money to boost the vote. Peggy Mullen, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Soldotna AK 99669

From: Peter Van Flein <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Saturday, July 31, 2021 7:09 PM

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

Subject: A big picture budget look.

Most important point- eliminating the \$8/barrel credit!

Other points- transparency, give Alaskans the right to actually know something about the economics of our legacy fields.

And ring fencing so that costs are applied on a well-by-well or field-by-field basis(this prevents deducting costs from NPR-A and charging them to Prudhoe Bay.(a study indicates this will cost Alaska \$300 million per year for about the next decade).

Peter Van Flein
[REDACTED]

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

From: Lawrence Carl <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Saturday, July 31, 2021 8:31 PM

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

Subject: PFD

The PFD belongs to the great residents of Alaska. If there are to be policy changes to the distribution formula, then let the shareholders vote for it. For too long the legislature have broken the law and used the PFD to fund their pet projects.

There is a way to pay the PCE subsidy by repealing oil tax credits that is used by Alaska to pay the oil companies to extract our resources from the ground. We already pay the oil companies to extract our natural resources from the ground. We don't need to pay them again for selling us the refined oil products!

From: Cindy Reed <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, August 1, 2021 7:35 AM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: Full PFD

I support a full PFD and protecting a fair share PFD in the Alaska Constitution.

Stop stealing from our fund.

Pay full dividends.

Cindy Reed

Big Lake, Alaska

From: fullcircle <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, August 1, 2021 10:18 AM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: INCOME TAX!!

When I moved to Juneau nearly 50 years ago we had a state income tax - long before oil was flowing in the pipeline and the Permanent Fund was established. The "glory" days came and went as the price of oil diminished. I had the privilege of working at the Permanent Fund Corporation in the early days under the leadership of Dave Rose and Byron Mallott and amazing board members such as Hugh Malone, Oral Freeman, Grace Schaible and others...visionaries, patriots and leaders who did not practice partisan politics. I've seen a lot and know that we can't have it all. Seasonal employees and businesses come and go with outsiders enjoying all that Juneau and our wonderful state has to offer - taking the money with them when they leave. This isn't rocket science. The most important thing is keeping afloat what sustains our lifestyle and supports our needs (such as infrastructure, education and the ferries) and TAX US PLEASE! This is getting old. Keep the permanent fund distribution in some form but please reinstate the income tax and tax the oil companies who are taking more than their share.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary DeSmet, resident, business owner and registered voter

[REDACTED]

Juneau, AK 99801

[REDACTED]

Testimony to the Fiscal Plan Working Group

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

I have lived in Alaska for 51 years and never regretted moving to Southeast Alaska from suburban Philadelphia in 1970. I and other older Alaskans should be able to continue to live in Alaska, in our homes, with our social support networks as we continue to age.

Taxes

I am writing to this working group as an AARP member and volunteer in support of revenue solutions to the state budget. Without revenue solutions, Alaska will continue cuts to older Alaskans and continue to lose our seniors to health concerns or moving away from Alaska.

AARP surveyed older Alaskans recently. We find that, regardless of party or residence, 70% of AARP members in Alaska oppose continued budget cuts and support revenue solutions with the priority being:

1. A graduated personal income tax (supported by three out of five) or state sales tax on non-essential things (with allowance for local sales taxes);
2. Increased oil and gas taxes

Alaska is the only state that doesn't have either of these revenue sources.

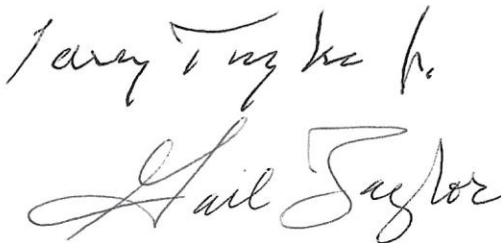
Home Energy Costs

Electricity, space heating, and transportation price increases effect older Alaskans disproportionately. Those with lower incomes must choose between energy, food, and medicines. Power cost equalization works to keep the cost down for rural communities. In Ketchikan, the home heating fuel supplier currently has a de facto monopoly. The cost of home heating fuel is built into the Power Cost Equalization formula and could make our lives healthier and more comfortable. I also wonder if it includes the cost of Southeastern's monopoly barge transportation system?

The Legislature must find a way to fund Power Cost Equalization payments this year in the upcoming special session

Very truly yours,

Larry and Gail Taylor
1320 Water Street
Ketchikan, AK 99901

Handwritten signatures of Larry and Gail Taylor. The signature for Larry is written above the signature for Gail.

From: rutecki@gci.net <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, August 1, 2021 1:09 PM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: Keep PFD small and new revenue no more cuts

The governor's calls for spending \$3 billion more than what the Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation considers sustainable, and there is no plan for how we will make ends meet beyond next year.

filling the future \$1.2 billion deficit with taxes alone would be "a heavy lift. Other revenue sources and additional cuts to services would be necessary. Having gone through this for years, the biggest spending are K-12, Medicaid and dividends. "You'd be pretty hard-pressed to cover a \$450 million reduction in three years that doesn't affect the big items. Substantially.

The state has already exhausted its other savings accounts, the Constitutional Budget Reserve and the Savings Budget Reserve. The state needs to find new revenue or cut programs and each year the deficit continues, the worse the problem will become. Now, we don't have anywhere to turn to other than again overdrawing the ERA, Painter said. Every year we draw more from the ERA than the statute calls for, means that we'll have higher taxes or reduced services in the future.

keep the \$500 PFD or take it to zero. We cannot cut our way to prosperity and solvency no more cuts come up with some revenue.

Tom Rutecki
1513 Ling Ci
Juneau, Ak

From: EM&MR <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, August 1, 2021 3:24 PM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: SOA Budget and PFD...

My family and I wish to thank you for allowing us to testify.

First of all, we are very concerned about our State's budget crisis, and our current habit of deficit spending. It is our understanding the primary purpose of the Permanent Fund was to save a percentage of our resource income to **help** fund government and its services, and to establish a perpetual savings account.

The Permanent Fund Dividend was an extra allowance, but not necessary a mandatory distribution of monies. We believe that the receipt of the Permanent Fund Dividend check is not a right; it is a benefit from of our State and its rich resources. When our financial situation got tight a few years ago, we supported Governor Walker's plan to continue to distribute the PFD checks at a 50-percent reduced rate. We know that the PFD checks are very important to those that live off the highway system, and therefore support their continuation under Governor's Walker plan.

But in order to help reduce our fiscal deficit, we fervently support the implementation of a graduated income tax. We believe that ISER once said that almost 30 percent of this tax would be funded by Out-of-Staters! We'll take it!

And could the reinstitution of the old annual school tax that was also cancelled in the early 1980s help fund our educational responsibilities?

Next, we thought that the Power Cost Equalization was an endowment that was not subject to the General Fund for support.

Additionally, while not supporting a sales tax, if one were to be enacted, we would recommend that it be only for the summer season (for the tourist traffic), and not include food and fuel, especially in our off-roadway communities that already have a high cost-of-living.

Finally, we would like to know what the direct financial benefit to the State of Alaska is from all our various resources? By this I mean -- and this may not be the right way to phrase it -- but what are the returns that are paid directly to

the State? Everyone talks about the vastness and richness of our natural resources, but other than the jobs that these developments provide and their investment in infrastructure improvements, what is the direct remuneration that is funneled into the General Fund (and Permanent Fund) from the sale of our resources? Discussions seem to focus on oil, but what of the other reserves that are, or planned on, being developed?

We know that a royalty (about 12.5 percent?) is paid for each barrel of oil extracted (minus developmental costs we believe), but can you tell us generally what the incremental payment directly to the State is for each: barrel of oil, cubic foot of natural gas, ounce of gold, pound of copper, ton of coal, pound of lead, ton of zinc, pound of tin, ton of nickel, ounce of silver, ounce of platinum, pound of molybdenum, ounce of mercury, ton of gravel, board-foot of timber, pound of commercial fish and crab and herring, etc, that is extracted from the ground, cut down, or removed from the water? And do you know about what the averaged annual income directly to the State treasury is from each of these various resources?

Again, we thank you for your time,

M.R.Tooley family

From: Kathleen Hodges <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Sunday, August 1, 2021 3:52 PM

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

Subject: 2021 ALASKA PFD and future

Good afternoon, the 50/50 proposed by Governor Dunleavy; is the only way to assure Alaskans that even during a pandemic the legislation is actually looking out for us. The legislation called us Alaskans Freddy and selfish because we want a full PFD. But the ones that are greedy is them. The PFD was created for the Alaskan residents and with the Covid-19 pandemic. We need a full PFD now more than ever. People are losing their homes, gas shortages, food shortages, and lack of decent paying jobs; is making it harder for us. The rural villages count in full PFDs so they can by their heating oil for the winters. The legislation is t hurting for money like we are. They aren't struggling to pay their rent/mortgage, utilities, car payments, or child care bills.

Please take care of the Alaskan residents for once. The legislation wouldn't have their jobs if we didn't vote them in. Prove to us we did the right thing by voting them in and help us get through this pandemic and get our lives back on track. (No the stimulus checks or child tax credit doesn't help cover everything for everyone). The full PFD can help Alaskans get ready for winter as well and survive another winter during a pandemic.

Kathleen Y. Hodges

From: Gretchen Keiser <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, August 1, 2021 9:07 PM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Cc: Gretchen Keiser <[REDACTED]>
Subject: A Fiscal Plan for Alaska

Members of the Fiscal Policy Working Group -

Thank you for taking testimony from your fellow Alaskans. I am not able to attend your 8/2/21 hearing in Juneau.

My recommendations for bringing State revenues and spending in balance can be summed up in the expression "all of the above":

1. Revenue: Reestablish a State income tax that was repealed in 1978. The tax should have some progressivity and include all forms of income - wages, capital gains, pensions/IRAs, rental income, etc. Keep it simple for people by following the basic approach on our federal income tax. We had a nice ride for 40+ years w/o an income tax but the party's over. Plus, we would capture taxes from non-resident workers who contribute little to pay for the services they receive.
2. The (Spending) Elephant in the Room: Alaskans have received \$1,000 PFDs in recent years. Establish that as the PFD going forward, with perhaps a COLA matched to Anchorage CPI. Stop jerking Alaskans around with pie-in-the-sky figures for PFDs which we simply cannot afford. It makes no sense to provide a big PFD, which would then leak out of the state as federal income taxes and back to the state in either an income or sales tax.
3. Revenue: Leave the sales tax mechanism for Alaska's municipalities. Establish a mileage per year tax to replace the gasoline tax and to capture EVs using our roads.
4. Revenue: Revisit oil/gas taxes to repeal tax credits and bring the tax burden in line with other US states. Alaska has been under-charging for decades.

5. Spending. I haven't examined the State's budget in detail for several years, but suggest that the Dept of Health/Social Services might be a target from more trimming and greater user fees. For starters, the State should not be in the nursing home business in the 2020s.

6. Spending. Rely on the Permanent Fund Earnings at a sustainable level of ~5% draw. Wishful thinking about greater investment gains is not a rational fiscal plan with longevity.

Maintain the fiscal plans, entitlements, and actionable tactics in the hands of the Alaska Legislature and Governor, whom we Alaskans elect to do our work. Leave the Alaska Constitution alone!

Thank you for your public service,

Gretchen Keiser



Juneau, AK 99801

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

From: Thom Ely <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Sunday, August 1, 2021 11:08 PM

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

Cc: Sen. Jesse Kiehl <Sen.Jesse.Kiehl@akleg.gov>; Rep. Sara Hannan <Rep.Sara.Hannan@akleg.gov>

Subject: Action Needed!

Dear Legislators,

- 1) Cap the Permanent Fund payout at \$1000
- 2) Institute an Income Tax
- 3) Cancel the oil tax credits
- 4) Impose a Severance Tax on raw exports, minerals, timber, gravel that goes to the general fund.
- 5) Adequately fund our State public services, education, transportation, parks, health care, senior services, environmental compliance, etc. that benefit all Alaskans!

Thom Ely

[REDACTED]

Haines, AK 99827

From: Andie Rice <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 7:11 AM

To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>; Rep. Mike Prax <Rep.Mike.Prax@akleg.gov>

Subject: past due PDF refund

Thank you for helping make this happen for **all Alaskans**. Between 2006 and 2021, the total PFD due is: **\$16,933**. This is not including the interest earned over these years. The accumulated PFD paid between 2006 and 2020 was **\$6,320**, after much arguing and extra legislative sessions. **This does not include the PFD for 2021, even with two special sessions.** The back payment yet to be remitted to my account, **NOT** including the yet to be determined 2021 PFD, is **\$10,613**. (see the attachment below)

Try to imagine the interest that could have been earned over those years and used to buffer unexpected costs during that crazy 2020.

Please use the original formula to determine our PFD funds, and pay in full each year. Set the PFD under a constitutional lock and key that the legislators can not open or use except the 5% designated. We are all living on tight budgets. As legislators, you should be doing the same for our state. **TAX CAPS, not hikes. TRUE PFD pay outs for WE the people!**

You can deposit the amount due into the bank account listed on my PFD application form. Thank you!

Most sincerely, Ms. Andie Rice - dedicated home owner in North Pole, ALASKA!!

From: Alisha Asplund <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 8:12 AM

To: Rep. Kevin McCabe <Rep.Kevin.McCabe@akleg.gov>; Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>

Subject: Fiscal plan public testimony August 2nd. Due to unreliable cell service in my current location, I will not be able to call in to share my public testimony. I hope that it will still be heard and shared on the record.

Hello my name is Alisha Asplund, I am a lifelong Alaskan who lives in Wasilla. I support the ideas in the bills Dunleavy introduced SJR5, SJR6, SJR7, and I also think SB31 is critical to the integrity of the legislature. I wish to thank the legislators that worked on moving these bills forward through the committee process, without trying to add loopholes so the legislature would not have to follow them.

I wish to share my concerns and wishes as the legislators continue to work towards passing a fiscal plan that is sustainable, economically beneficial to all Alaskans and for the good of the people as a whole. I have given my concerns and wishes the following titles: equal representation, public involvement and access to information, statutory v. constitutional, PFD, and taxes.

- **Equal Representation** I want every Alaskan to have equal representation in the legislature as this fiscal plan works its way into becoming law. I need some kind of guarantee that Committee Chairs, the Majority, Legislative Leadership, and Binding Caucus Leaders will not use their power to try to control the votes or voices of other legislators.
I do not want any Alaskan to have to worry that some legislator or special interest group will suppress the ability of their legislator to effectively represent them -I do not want there to be fear of consequences being tied to their views or vote on the fiscal plan.
 - *Example: The following are some consequences that I have heard of or have seen being used in the past to influence votes and suppress a legislators ability to effectively represent their district: restricting access to staff, resources, and services needed to be an effective legislator, blocking the ability to get their bills heard in committees and moved to the floor for a vote, defunding programs and capital projects in their district, restricting floor debate and introduction of amendments, and other political/emotional/litigative coercion ...*
- **Public involvement and access to information** I think it is critical that Alaskans have access to information that will help them understand how legislators are justifying where they stand on the fiscal plan.
 - I want every legislator who wishes to express concerns about the recommendations of the working group, to do so publicly and supply how and why they would change the recommendations to address their concerns and why their changes would make the fiscal plan better for the people of Alaska as a whole.
 - I want to see the studies, documents, and reasoning that each legislator is using to prove that taking PFD money away from Individuals, to spent on funding the government is more beneficial to the economy and people of Alaska as a whole, than paying out the statutory PFD to all Alaskans.
(If the only reason a legislator lists is "because the Supreme Court of Alaska said I could legally do so", they should not be a legislator. Just because you have been told you can legally do something does not mean it is the morally right thing to do, the just

thing to do, the best thing to do, the most fiscally sound thing to do, or the most economically beneficial thing to do, and it does not say that doing so would be for the good of the people as a whole.)

- I would like all of this information on the record and available to the public as well as cited in any constitutional amendment put before the people to be voted on. **I want to know exactly what I am voting on, how it will benefit Alaska as a whole, and who to blame for what goes wrong or who to thank for what goes right.**
- **The Statutory v. The Constitutional question-** The Supreme Court of Alaska has made it clear that any statute that restricts the appropriation power of the legislature by requiring the legislature to appropriate funds for a specific purpose violates Article IX (9) Section 7 of the constitution and therefore sees it as being unconstitutional and having no binding effect on the legislature. Therefore, I feel a statute would have little to no value and any time spent on passing a statute that the Supreme Court of Alaska considers unconstitutional or to have no binding effect on the legislature is a waste of time.
 - *Example: Statutes are meaningless to many legislators as Rep. Spohnholz clearly showed in the April 29th ways and means committee meeting when she said - the constitution allows us to ignore statutes, and since the legislature makes the laws, we can disregard them. I do not believe these statements are actually true but this is what many legislators believe and act on. (I tried to find legislators that would tell me this was not true, the closest I got was "I don't like it but that is just the way it is." "That is a bold way of stating it." "There is nothing I can do about it" "I am trying to do something about it")*
- **PFD-** the full statutory PFD should be paid until the statute is changed. From the beginning of the PFD, it was understood that the PFD was protected by the Constitution and paying out the PFD could not be changed without the consent of the people. The founders of the Permanent Fund knew that the only way Alaskans would defend it and protect it from misuse by future legislators was to give each Alaskan a personal stake in it, and require future legislators to get the consent of the people of Alaska to change the way the Permanent Fund earnings were used. Without this protection the Permanent Fund would have gone the way of the SBR and the CBR with little to no push back from the people. The people have not yet given this consent and should not give it without some guarantee that government waste, fraud, and mismanagement is reduced; and it has been proven that any PFD money spent on government agencies and programs would be :
 - More beneficial to all Alaskans, not just a small group of Alaskans
 - And more beneficial to the Alaskan economy as a whole not just Alaska's government employees, elected officials or special interests.
- **Taxes** -I am not for any taxes unless there is a meaningful spending limit and waste, fraud, misuse, and poor management of money is removed from government programs. I do not want the Alaskan people to be just another funding source to be drained dry by legislators -who are unable to do the following things:
 - **Reduce government programs that are not being fiscally responsible while they provide constitutionally required services.** Examples: *Any program that makes sure all moneys are spent every year just so their budgets will not be reduced the next year. Spending the people's PFD moneys to pay to dock a unusable ferry for multiple years? Allowing school administrators to use school funds for weekend getaways -expensive plane tickets and hotel rooms -all in the name of away game support.*
 - **Stop passing special interest legislation with fiscal notes that benefit a few Alaskans but are not solely for the good of the people as a whole.** *(For example this year while*

Alaska is in a "financial crisis" the legislature chose to pass bills that will cost around \$16,000 to change the name of two bridges, and a bill to make a state holiday that could increase future state budgets with overtime and holiday pay to state workers -please explain to me how during this time of fiscal uncertainty, when legislators are saying there is no way to reduce the budget, when there is not enough money to pay PFDs, how these items are constitutionally required and in the best interest of Alaskans as a whole)

- **Stop putting government employees above private sector employees and Alaskans with no direct tie to a government agency or program.** Examples: *As I watched committee meetings this year any time anyone even suggested reducing one government position some legislator would use emotional blackmail to save the position (It was always, anyone wanting to reduce government by even one position was heartless because they were sending the government employee in that position and their poor innocent children into poverty where they would no longer have food or a roof over their heads. It was never mentioned as to how many PFDs would need to be stolen (taking food, shelter, and financial security) from other Alaskan families, In order to pay for that government employees salary, office space, retirement, healthcare, paid vacations, travel expenses, per-diem or any other costs tied to that position.)There just seems to be a double standard- the legislator will use any means possible to save a government position, but do not seem to even notice when someone in the private sector loses their job or business. I sure do not hear about it in committee meetings. I do not hear legislators saying if we steal the people's PFDs, they will not be able to spend them at local businesses and the businesses will have to layoff employees. What about those employees' poor innocent children are they not as important as a government employee's poor innocent children.*

That being said, I would be willing to consider a tax if I was confident that the legislature would spend it in a fiscally sound manner which was beneficial to Alaskans as a whole. At this time, I have zero confidence that the legislature can do this, so I need some guarantees put in to the constitution -such as a meaningful spending limit and a way for the people to stop any chance of over taxation.

Thank you for hearing my concerns and wishes.
Alisha Asplund

From: Jennifer Weed <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 8:25 AM

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

Subject: PFD

For the benefit of all citizens of Alaska PLEASE restore our Permanent Fund Dividend to its original function. The fund is owned by all Alaskans.

We did not vote for the way it's currently being used.

Uphold the Alaska Constitution by giving us our FULL PFDs and back owed funds.

Sincerely, Jennifer L Weed

[REDACTED]

Wasilla, AK

99654

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Fawn Sourdough Girls <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 8:30 AM

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

Subject: Save the PFD

Dear Legislators,

Our family lives in Fairbanks and this past year and a half has been extremely hard on our family. We do not live extravagant, and we have 1 car when our second car died and we haven't been able to afford to fix it. We have sold any toys we had to pay our bills and keep our home.

Our family lost a lot of income due to Covid and going into another winter with high utilities is going to be hard.

We need a FULL PFD so we can pay our utilities, keep fuel in our car and home and not be stressed about feeding and providing for our family.

Most people we know are not using PFDs for frivolous purchases but for Utilities, mortgages, and food! Please give us Alaskans a Full PFD and save the PFD!!!

Thank you!

Fawn and Jimmy Dixon

--

May God Bless you,

Fawn Dixon

Sourdough Girls
[REDACTED]

Fairbanks, Ak 99712
[REDACTED]

Wholy Living of Fairbanks

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

From: Sandra Blewett <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 8:34 AM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: PFD

Dear Legislators,

Thank you so much for your hard work and for giving we, the people, your ear to hear our concerns on the PFD.

As you know we are unfortunately under the grip of the Biden Administration. It reminds me of the inflation under the Carter Administration. Printing more money - devaluing greatly the money already circulating - that is but one of the many terrible crimes they are responsible for. I've lived in Alaska 30 years. One of the reasons we came here is because of the strong conservative values. And a place where we can be heard.

I am 67 now and facing scary times. Fixed income, no way to generate additional income since I retired several years ago for health reasons. The PFD is not extra spending money to me it is a way I can survive the year. And that is so very true for many Alaskans but that really is beside the point. Because Alaska, in its wisdom, laid aside funds for me for my grandchildren - in the Alaska Constitution. Just because a liberal Judge told the legislature you can ignore the law doesn't mean you should - setting an example of law breaking and legislation from the bench. We elected you to do "the will of the people". Please honor the REAL law - as you were elected to do and grant the full, Constitutional PFD promised to us. Stats show it will have the greatest positive impact on the Alaskan economy.

Thank you for hearing me out. I appreciate your service and the sacrifices you have made to serve.

Sincerely,
Sandy Blewett
One of the people...trusting in you

From: jeff weed <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 8:53 AM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: PFD for Alaska

Legislators,

The Alaska Constitution allows for PFD payments to citizens. I support a full PFD to each qualifying Alaskan. Funds from previous years should be paid as well.

We did not vote for the way the fund is being managed currently. Restore the PFD!

Sincerely,

Jeff Weed

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Wasilla, AK
99654

From: Delores O'Mara <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 8:59 AM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: state income tax

Bring back a state income tax. Not only is it fair for Alaskans to pay for the services we need and want, but then others who come to work in our state will pay their fair share as well. If we go and work in another state, we pay taxes there. They should pay here. And eventually our tourist economy will be back and we will have a lot of seasonal workers from Outside who could be paying.

Delores O'Mara

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

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 9:15 AM

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

Subject: PFD

We the public need the full PFD Why can't you all agree with the Governor we elected. Remember we elected you also! So PLEASE reconsider giving us the \$ and not the pathetic \$500

Sincerely

Roger A. Monson

From: Jere and Sandy Murray <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 9:42 AM

To: Sen. Gary Stevens <Sen.Gary.Stevens@akleg.gov>; Sen. Scott Kawasaki <Sen.Scott.Kawasaki@akleg.gov>; Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>

Subject: Fiscal Policy step one!

The short of it:

Split the Permanent Fund, half for the people, half for funding State government via earnings. Put it to the people as an amendment to our Constitution.

The long version, written before reading the Governor's proposal:

I would suggest a total splitting of the fund to create two new and separate funds, "The Alaska Government Funding Permanent Fund and "The Alaska Peoples' Permanent Dividend Fund." Here's how to do it – first blush draft:

Split the existing nearly \$80 billion Permanent Fund 50/50:

One half becomes the initial protected corpus of a new "Alaska Government Funding Permanent Fund," with earnings available for required inflation proofing of the protected corpus and government operations and/or addition to the protected corpus subject to Legislative appropriation;

The other half becomes the initial protected corpus of a new "Alaska People's Permanent Dividend Fund," with earnings available for required inflation proofing of the protected corpus and annual distribution as Permanent Fund Dividends (PFD) to qualifying applicants w/o need for Legislative appropriation. The resultant annual PFD may only be reduced by proposal initiated by the people or the legislature and ratified by vote of the people in a general election. Any such PFD reduction proposal shall include compensating deposit of the balance of the funds available for distribution into the protected part of the Alaska People's Dividend Fund.

The initial ~\$40 billion seed amount in each fund along with any future additions (the respective "Corpus of the Fund") is to be "permanent" just as the Constitutionally protected part of the current PF is today. No portion of either "Corpus" may be extracted for any use by Legislative or Executive action. Amounts now Constitutionally designated for annual deposits to the current PF (Resource revenues) shall be split 50/50 between the two new funds and will be deposited in the respective protected parts.

As it is certain annual fluctuations in earnings will occur, a smoothing scheme, such as the original permanent fund five year moving average of earnings or current percent of market value (POMV) scheme could be applied to ameliorate those effects.

Cast the two Funds separately into the Alaska Constitution to ensure perpetuity and to unburden the legislature and people of the trauma of the annual squabbling they have been enduring since Governor Walker grabbed the first chunk of Dividends.

Jere & Sandy Murray

Seldovia, Alaska
Alaskans since 1968

From: lisa morley <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 9:59 AM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Public Testimony

Lisa Morley

[REDACTED]

Juneau, AK 99801

Hello,

I encourage the Alaska Legislature to update the PFD formula to reflect our current fiscal situation so that the state can continue to provide critical services to the people of the state. The Fiscal Plan Working Group either needs to develop a graduated tax based on income to support state government or revise the PFD formula so that some of the funds can be used to fund the PFD and also fund state government.

The state needs a fiscal plan so that it can continue to provide state services such as Medicaid, senior services like the Pioneer Homes, the Alaska Marine Highway system, schools, and other critical state services. It is unreasonable to continue to give out dividends using the current formula while the government struggles to maintain essential state services.

I would also support reducing oil tax credits to oil companies.

Thank you,

Lisa Morley

[REDACTED]

From: Laura Morisky <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 10:16 AM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: PFD

To the Fiscal policy group,

I am writing this with little hope in being heard. I have spoke out on this issue before. We are a republic and YOU work for me, not special interest groups or lobbyists.

Here are some reasons that you should consider about the PFD:

1. Follow the statutory amount until you change it. I must follow the law as a citizen or face consequences. No one should be above the law.
2. I am not greedy. Maybe YOU think I don't need it, but many people benefit greatly from it.
3. My daughter (as a single mother) has been using the College Savings plan option to put away funds for her children's future education. Many others take advantage of this opportunity. It is a GOOD thing.
4. The Pick, Click, and Give campaign. Many of the fortunate use this option to help out non-profits and our local communities. It is a win win GOOD thing. With this option of revenue gone for the non-profits, will the state have provide more services at additional cost?
5. Many people use the money to purchase goods. This is a great boost to our local economy. It is not a bad thing to purchase needed items.

Please do the right thing and follow the law.

My voice is small, but I know that it is strong.

Thanks for taking the time to listen.

Please make the right and just decisions that we the people sent you to do for us.

Thanks,

Laura Morisky
[REDACTED]

From: Sen. Jesse Kiehl <Sen.Jesse.Kiehl@akleg.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 10:36 AM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: FW: Welcome to the Real Deal With Kiehl!

Mr. Marshall asked me to forward this message to the group. You can see by the subject line he was replying to [my 7/29 email newsletter](#), which I clipped to save space.

- Jesse

From: Bob Marshall <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 12:20 PM
To: Sen. Jesse Kiehl <Sen.Jesse.Kiehl@akleg.gov>
Subject: Re: Welcome to the Real Deal With Kiehl!

Jesse,

You get it. We need and WANT all the big things state funding make possible, like education, health care, fire and police services, water and roads, the arts and so on.

To pay for this, tax us, institute oil reform, and revisit taxes on OUR resources. Anything less is a failure of our social system.

Keep up the good work and thank you for all your hard work.

Bob Marshall

Juneau

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

From: Sen. Jesse Kiehl <Sen.Jesse.Kiehl@akleg.gov>

Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 10:38 AM

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

Subject: FW: Permanent Fund

Mr. Cavagnaro asked me to forward his message to the group.

- Jesse

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

From: Edwin Cavagnaro <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2021 8:23 AM

To: Sen. Jesse Kiehl <Sen.Jesse.Kiehl@akleg.gov>

Subject: Permanent Fund

I do not want the legislature to draft a constitutional amendment that lets them take any of the Permanent funds Principle or earnings without the public's approval. Those 2 accounts make up THE PUBLICS SHARE of the oil wealth to date. I also want all approved draws on the Permanent Funds Principal limited to NO more than 3% of the principal.

I also want the special session to look at how the State is taxing the oil because I believe the State is not doing the best job for public in that regard.

Over the last several years the legislatures has Robbed the public's savings account to fund several services created during higher oil earnings as it was unwilling to cut pork out of the States budget.

There's no way the OIL COMPANIES are going to stop using the pipe line as they would have remove the line and reclaim the Right of Way to it's natural state, per their permit from the Federal Government to build the line, let alone the amount of oil that's on the North Slope.

Sincerely Ed Cavagnaro, Juneau

SEND EMAIL ONLY TO: [REDACTED]

Sent from Ed's iPad

From: Brittany <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 10:49 AM

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

Subject: PFD Testimony

I have attached words below from a friend who wrote exactly what I support. Please defend the a FULL PFD for Alaskans. Defend it and protect it. Remember that you work for the people, not the other way around.

"Over the last six years the legislators have made it clear that we must protect the PFD in the constitution if we want it to be there for future generations.

Right now, government is taking more money than the people which is not the design Jay Hammond had put in place. The 50-50 plan is fair and equitable if we have to compromise but understand Alaskans see this as a compromise and aren't happy about it.

I'm just not sure how you can justify a \$525 PFD or now possibly ZERO when you asked Alaskans to cut their budgets with Covid but the government continues to grow. Saying that you can't possibly cut the budget when we are #1 in the USA for government employment vs the private sector is insane. We sit at 25% and that is not counting contracts or special interests that are funded by government. The 25% is purely government positions, the real number is probably 40-50%. Alaskans know you can cut and should cut. The private sector is desperately looking for employees. Reduce the redundancy and waste and help the private sector by balancing the workforce.

Taking money from the poor to feed government and special interests is frustrating. You are hurting the very people you say you care the most about. Taking money from small business also hurts our economy and disproportionately puts a huge burden on a vital portion of our economy. PFDs go right into the private sector so you aren't just hurting individuals but you're hurting the private sector again.

The fund is sitting at 81 Billion and oil is up. We should be thankful for this and celebrating a large return on our investment. Hearing a legislator say, "we are greedy" and "they do not want us to get used to large checks" will surely get this person voted out. The public easily sees through the excuse "the fund will be at zero if we pay it out" so please don't try that. Joining with this thought process could get you voted out too. After the last year and a half, people are desperate for their PFD. Don't be her.

Government should be bare minimum and the extras should be left to private business, charities, and individuals. UAA needs to learn to stand on its own two feet and fund itself.

With the 50-50 compromise we expect that you will let the people vote. The last 6 years has shown us It's clear politicians can't solve this. Put the constitutional amendment before the people of Alaska. Pay us our rightful PFD and stop using the PFD to balance your bloated budget."

Brittany Tompkins

Sent with [ProtonMail](#) Secure Email.

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

From: Sen. Jesse Kiehl <Sen.Jesse.Kiehl@akleg.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 11:13 AM
To: Thom Ely <[REDACTED]> Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Cc: Rep. Sara Hannan <Rep.Sara.Hannan@akleg.gov>
Subject: RE: Action Needed!

Thanks Thom!!

- Jesse

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

From: Thom Ely <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, August 1, 2021 11:08 PM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Cc: Sen. Jesse Kiehl <Sen.Jesse.Kiehl@akleg.gov>; Rep. Sara Hannan <Rep.Sara.Hannan@akleg.gov>
Subject: Action Needed!

Dear Legislators,

- 1) Cap the Permanent Fund payout at \$1000
- 2) Institute an Income Tax
- 3) Cancel the oil tax credits
- 4) Impose a Severance Tax on raw exports, minerals, timber, gravel that goes to the general fund.
- 5) Adequately fund our State public services, education, transportation, parks, health care, senior services, environmental compliance, etc. that benefit all Alaskans!

Thom Ely

[REDACTED]

Haines, AK 99827

From: tyler pfeiffer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 11:22 AM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: PFD

Over the last six years the legislators have made it clear that we must protect the PFD in the constitution if we want it to be there for future generations.

Right now, government is taking more money than the people which is not the design Jay Hammond had put in place. The 50-50 plan is fair and equitable if we have to compromise but understand Alaskans see this as a compromise and aren't happy about it.

I'm just not sure how you can justify a \$525 PFD or now possibly ZERO when you asked Alaskans to cut their budgets with Covid but the government continues to grow. Saying that you can't possibly cut the budget when we are #1 in the USA for government employment vs the private sector is insane. We sit at 25% and that is not counting contracts or special interests that are funded by government. The 25% is purely government positions, the real number is probably 40-50%. Alaskans know you can cut and should cut. The private sector is desperately looking for employees. Reduce the redundancy and waste and help the private sector by balancing the workforce.

Taking money from the poor to feed government and special interests is frustrating. You are hurting the very people you say you care the most about. Taking money from small business also hurts our economy and disproportionately puts a huge burden on a vital portion of our economy. PFDs go right into the private sector so you aren't just hurting individuals but you're hurting the private sector again.

The fund is sitting at 81 Billion and oil is up. We should be thankful for this and celebrating a large return on our investment. Hearing a legislator say, "we are greedy" and "they do not want us to get used to large checks" will surely get this person voted out. The public easily sees through the excuse "the fund will be at zero if we pay it out" so please don't try that. Joining with this thought process could get you voted out too. After the last year and a half, people are desperate for their PFD. Don't be her.

Government should be bare minimum and the extras should be left to private business, charities, and individuals. UAA needs to learn to stand on its own two feet and fund itself.

With the 50-50 compromise we expect that you will let the people vote. The last 6 years has shown us It's clear politicians can't solve this. Put the constitutional amendment before the people of Alaska. Pay us our rightful PFD and stop using the PFD to balance your bloated budget.

Thanks for your consideration,

Tyler Pfeiffer

From: roanetta H <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 11:31 AM
To: Fiscal Policy <fiscal.policy@akleg.gov>
Subject: Our financial future

To the Legislative listening group on our state budget:

I am Pauline Hessing and live at [REDACTED], in Anchorage, 99508.

Thanks for the chance to weigh in; I would have come in person last Thursday if I had known that you were in person. Here are my thoughts on our budget, which I have opined before. They haven't changed in the last 4 years because we are still in a precarious state. I am a retired biologist on a fixed income; I pay attention to my personal finances and to the State's.

1. PFD: This is NOT an entitlement and wastes everyone's time haggling about it and getting nowhere. We should see it as a savings account, and we should do everything we can to maintain its principle. I think the Dividend should either be paid one last time and that is it, or if paid, should be modest with explanations to the public and emphasis given to building our future. In view of what is on the table, I support fixing the POMV method in the Constitution and keeping payouts modest. The PFD should NOT be used just to run the state's mechanism.
2. BUDGET CUTS: Let's get real. We can't cut our way to being financially stable. Every separate state fee I pay is a tax, and I would much rather pay a state income tax than nickel and diming. I don't support sales taxes because they will I think result in inequities between communities. Also I've read that up to 1/3 of oil patch workers don't live here. That is money that is walking out of state and not even getting spent here. But I like the idea of a broad-based tax because it reinforces the idea that we are in this together. Also, we DO need to pay attention to our Bond ratings, and there is room for improvement there.
3. OIL TAXES should be reviewed & reconfigured. It's beyond me that Outside companies come here and exploit OUR resources (that part is okay) and we owe them money??? (That's not okay.) Let's recalculate and accept that oil is most likely never going to hit its former highs again. Sure the companies will squawk, but if they can make money, they will be here.
4. GOVERNMENT: We should always be looking at government and other expenses and figure out how to economize there. But I suggest that when a cut is made in the name of the budget, that it is balanced against a cut that isn't made so people get the idea that these are choices that are being made, often politically.
5. FINANCIAL LITERACY: I truly believe that a statewide class in personal and government finance should be a requirement for high school graduation. I understand that the PFD is especially important to low-income people, but perhaps improved financial knowledge would help too.

Finally, just a few months back, a newspaper headline suggested that the Alaska Legislature figured that residents didn't care about the budget, as the Legislature wasn't hearing from the populace. In the future, please consider that silence from The People on any given topic can mean people are too busy trying to get by, the issues aren't clear, people feel entirely disenfranchised by a Legislature that spends its days in-fighting AND getting paid for it, "They never listen to me anyway," or possibly that people DON'T care. If you expect crickets, you get crickets.