



amy_consulting

My name is Autumn Smith Amy and I am testifying on behalf of amy_consulting; a statewide barrier busting street outreach advocacy firm serving the City of Anchorage proper in the neighborhoods of Fairview, Mountain View, Government Hill, Muldoon, and Spenard with a totality of 300 clients and families and statewide advocating on behalf of 22 of 229 Native Villages. All of my clients are below federal poverty level, all of my clients struggle with disabilities and are victims or survivors of trauma; all of my clients need real time legal assistance just to access the basic level of services to improve their family and communities' welfare and safety.

I did not come here today to explain to the State; that Alaska has one of the highest rates of domestic violence and sexual assault per capita in the Nation. I came to explain that when victims and survivors need protective orders, need to secure custody of their children, need to rebuild their lives emotionally and financially; they are referred to Alaska Legal Services for assistance.

I did not come here today to explain that the City of Anchorage has 1800 unique houseless individuals who are struggling to equitably access the very services designed to assist them and face crippling systemic barriers in doing so such as housing discrimination, exploitation, and rampant benefit delays and denials. I came to explain that when my houseless clients have a legal issue preventing them from stepping forward out of their situation, they are referred to Alaska Legal Services.

I did not come here today to explain that the rural Alaskan Villages are struggling to preserve their families and culture due to systemic racism. I came to explain that when they face the loss of their children, their subsistence, their access to food and energy, or they are unsafe; they are referred to Alaska Legal Services.

I did not come here today to explain that the marginalized and poor in Alaska need protection and equitable access to the same justice those of power enjoy with little fanfare. I didn't come to argue semantics over people's God given right to be able to live in their communities safely, with access to opportunities that invest in their welfare and families livelihood, that keep food on their table, roofs over their head, or a warm home in the winter. I came to remind you that for my clients and communities facing abject poverty; the first and sometimes only service agency willing to help them move forward is Alaska Legal Services.

I did not come here today to explain that fundamental human rights are inalienable. Or that everyone has the right to receive justice and equitable access free from political retaliation for holding the line of accountability. The State of Alaska is accountable to its People. All of its People. Cutting any funds to Alaska Legal Services will result in a decimating surge of victims of violence unable to protect themselves or their children, mass illegal evictions and lock outs, mass elder fraud, and further decimate families and individuals facing barriers to accessing services. It places more fiscal burden on a nonprofit service array that can ill afford to support the load and greater unnecessary expenditure and burden on front line State systems. Specifically; the court system both criminal and civil, emergency services such as police, fire, ambulance, and the child welfare system. For every \$1 spent on Alaska Legal Services for these mutual clients, approximately \$6 is saved from burdening other systems by providing equitable access to felt justice that sets their families and ultimately their community; in the direction of not just surviving, but, thriving.

I DID come today to leave you with a quote that I think sums up my clients' thoughts and feelings on any efforts to oppress their fundamental human rights by gutting the budget of agencies that are the last line in defense of systemic injustice; it is summarized for this specific issue, and was written by Ms. Sarah Grimke when fighting to abolish another oppression of fundamental human rights; **"But I ask no favors... I surrender not our claim to equality. All I ask of our brethren is, that they will take their feet from off our necks, and permit us to stand upright ..."**

I thank the committee today for hearing my testimony and I hope that you invest in the People of the State of Alaska's access to justice by wholeheartedly investing in Alaska Legal Services critical work for impoverished community members to preserve their families' welfare and safety.

A. Smith

From: Brenda Campen [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 11:42 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB 3003

I strongly support the WWAMI and performance scholarship programs.

I **DO NOT** support a PFD of \$2350 as it would result in withdrawing too much from the Permanent Fund. There are no corresponding revenue generating measures offered in this bill. If a PFD this large is offered, there must be accompanying revenue measures to support it. Absent that, this is not feasible. Please reject this.

Linking the funding for the scholarship and WWAMI programs and a \$2350 PFD in one bill feels like bribery. Shame on the governor.

Brenda Campen
Sitka, Alaska
Alaska resident since 1977.

From: mary griswold [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 8:33 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB 3003 PFD

I support a reasonable PFD in the \$1100 range that honors the 5% POMV limit on the draw from the Permanent Fund.

I do not support a larger draw that erodes the value of the Permanent Fund for future PFD recipients.

Mary Griswold
Homer

From: Autumn Amy [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 9:33 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: Re: HB 3003
Attachments: amy_consulting_Memo.docx.pdf

Hello~

Attached is amy_consulting's public testimony regarding HB 3003 and the vetoed \$400,000 in State funds to Alaska Legal Services.

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Best,

Autumn Smith
Owner
amy_consulting
1120 Huffman Rd Ste 24 Box 405, Anchorage, AK 99515
(907) 744-7003

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From: Autumn Amy [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 9:33 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: Re: HB 3003
Attachments: amy_consulting_Memo.docx.pdf

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Attached is amy_consulting's public testimony regarding HB 3003 and the vetoed \$400,000 in State funds to Alaska Legal Services.

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From: Saul Friedman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 6:19 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB 3003

In 1971 I graduated from Georgetown University Law Center and was hired by Alaska Legal Services Corporation as a staff attorney in its Juneau office. Fifty years later I am still here, and transitioning into retirement from the private practice of law. I know, first-hand, that the availability of legal services for those unable to afford private counsel is an absolute necessity. A person or family with limited financial means must have the ability to legally pursue their rights and remedies when faced with an eviction contrary to the requirements of Alaska's Landlord Tenant Act, to contest an unlawful denial of social security disability benefits, to protect against unfair lending or predatory collection practices, and the list goes on. Equal justice under the law becomes a meaningless phrase when Alaskans are essentially locked out of our state's civil legal system.

The state of Alaska has done its fair share of funding over the years. Combined with private donations, the dedicated and diligent work of ALSC's staff, and thousands of hours of pro bono services by volunteer attorneys, much of the work needed to achieve the lofty goal of justice has been accomplished. But the \$400,000 cut by the Governor brings ALSC's state funding to the lowest level in a decade, and may well sound the death knell for an exceptional program that provides quality service to the most vulnerable of Alaskans.

Please adequately fund ALSC. Please make us proud of our Legislature. Thank you.

Saul R. Friedman



Saul R. Friedman
Of Counsel
Jermain, Dunnagan & Owens, PC
3000 A Street, Suite 300
Anchorage, AK 99503
Tel: 907.563.8844
Fax: 907.563.7322

From: Karen Lambert <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 8:25 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: Public Testimony - HB 3003 (Tuesday, Aug. 24, 2021) PUBLIC TESTIMONY AGAINST GOVERNOR'S \$400,000 Alaska Legal Services Corporation (ALSC) state funding veto

PUBLIC TESTIMONY AGAINST GOVERNOR'S \$400,000 Alaska Legal Services Corporation (ALSC) state funding veto

The realistic, negative impact of the Governor's \$400,000 veto of ALSC's State funding is not understandable. On the one hand, the Governor purports to care and be concerned for domestic violence victims, applauding recent federal action providing funds to victim service providers assisting Alaskans in their time of need with criminal actions - yet the Governor ignores the same Alaskans within the State's budget....

No one, including but not limited to domestic violence victims, wants to need a lawyer, but if circumstances warrant, you certainly do not want to be penalized if you can't afford an attorney. The governor zeroing the state financial support for ALSC ignores the recognized- importance of a "level playing field" within the civil justice system for all Alaskans. The State continuing ALSC's funding enables the Governor to provide services to the very folks that the he rightly recognizes need help in an intense time of need.

Karen Lambert
[REDACTED]
Kodiak, AK 99615
[REDACTED]

From: Kerri Mullis <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 9:04 PM
To: Rep. George Rauscher; Sen. Mike Shower; House Finance
Subject: Hb3003-no

To whom it may concern-

I do not agree with HB3003. Full statutory pfd with reimbursement of all prior years eligible. Let the citizens of Alaska decide whether you get to help us
With administering to our very lucrative, well managed investment accounts. I personally don't feel your input is necessary -you need
To leave our account alone, and protect it from future Political sabotage. While you are at it pay back the over \$13,000 you owe each and every eligible Alaskan.

Every penny in our private account is because private citizens guaranteed royalty money and the successful investment tactics used by the companies the citizens hire to protect and grow our investments.

We do not solicit nor do we want your help. We want you to use the statutory formula-and pay all monies
Owed from all the previous years to current.

Kerri Mullis
[REDACTED]

From: Olof K Hellén <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 6:25 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB 3003, Another chance for the rest of the U.S. to laugh at the absurdity of Alaska Government

This \$400,000 budget cut is an absurd blow to any who can't afford present day legal fees. Given that Legal Services cannot accept fee generating claims or class actions, as far as I know, anyone abusing the poor can get away with anything. Of course **you'll also see more homelessness** because evicted tenants for whatever reason cannot fight back. From the point of view of those who like cutting Legal Services budgets and **forcing the firing of Legal Services lawyers who already don't want cases without some merit**, this is great news.

From: Jordan Marshall [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, August 21, 2021 2:59 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB3003 consideration of amendments / partially unfunded DPS Recidivism Reduction Fund

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee:

Thank you for your hard work and diligence during this year's extended legislative proceedings, and especially for the extraordinary lengths you went in providing ARPA funds to help fill an unexpected gap in federal VOCA funding. Your work was instrumental in ensuring stability in provision of services for victims and survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. Thousands of Alaskans are better served because of your successful efforts.

As you consider amendments to HB3003 tomorrow, the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault (ANDVSA) respectfully requests that you to take note of the impact of the failed "reverse sweep" on the Recidivism Reduction Fund (code 1246). As you know, the FY22 Mental Health Budget HB71 included \$2M to the Dept. of Public Safety / Council on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault from the Recidivism Reduction Fund to help provide sexual assault prevention services. Those funds are now swept into the CBR.

ANDVSA recognizes that new funds replenish the Recidivism Reduction Fund through the course of FY22. Indeed, the Office of Management & Budget estimates that projected revenue to the fund will likely provide all but \$474,100 of the approved and enacted \$2M appropriation. (Please see OMB's "Budgetary Issues Due to the CBR Vote Failure" page 1 "Partially Unfunded Operating Appropriations" [HERE](#).) Per these estimates, without a "reverse sweep" or a new appropriation of general funds in the amount of \$474,100, the CDVSA can expect a 26 percent reduction in Recidivism Reduction Funds in FY22.

We appreciate that the scope of the fiscal challenge you grapple with is great. Nevertheless, we ask you to bear in mind that HB3003 could potentially resolve this anticipated underfunding of prevention services.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Jordan Marshall

###

Jordan Marshall
Government Affairs
[REDACTED]

From: William Brown [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 11:19 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB 3003 - PFD

I fully support the Governor's proposal. Please support it!

From: barbara miller [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 10:12 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB 3003 - PFD

Give a full pfd, to keep Alaskans safe this winter.

From: barbara miller [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 9:58 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB 3003 - PFD

Give a full PFD to every Alaskan, cut the state budget by 20%, the state employees have received a full paycheck, while the rest of Alaskans have suffered due to covid. The state can well afford to help the state employees realize what the rest of Alaskans are doing to survive. Also cut all grants to non profits by 50% this year, notifying the non profits that there will be NO grants next year!

From: Marilyn Lane <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 9:19 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB 3003 - PFD

As residents of Alaska for 40 years we want to encourage you to support the funding of the PDF for eligible citizens. However, If the state must continue to draw off of it, cut it in two, distribute half to residents, half to general budget, and be done with it. No more fighting over it and give it a good burial.

Adrian Lane

Marilyn Lane

Sent from my iPad

From: Susan Gillespie [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 7:26 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB 3003 - PFD

To whom it may concern...

The PFD is very important to Alaskans. For too long, we have not had a voice in this and our legislators are either ham-strung or do not care if we receive the full amount we are entitled to! It is not fair to the Alaskan people and goes against the originally intended purpose for We the People of Alaska.

Please follow the statutory calculations of the amount we should have been getting and stop the steal!

Susan Gillespie

From: mike kooy [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 6:28 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB 3003 - PFD

Just follow the law. It's worked for all those years till walker screwed everything up. Pretty pure and simple follow the law

Sent from my iPhone

From: Jacob Klapak [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 5:53 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB 3003 - PFD

>
> Hi,
>
> We would like to comment about the PFD and request that you pay out the statutory calculation for 2021. We ask you to follow all of the stipulations set forth when the PFD was established. Many Alaskans depend on this money but even more they stimulate the local economy with it. During hard times with COVID using PFD to purchase from local vendors can help them stay in business. We ask that you vote to pay out the full statutory PFD for 2021.
>
> Respectfully,
>
> Jacob & Heather Klapak

From: Joy Gillespie [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 1:48 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB 3003 - PFD

> To whom it may concern...

>

> The PFD is very important to Alaskans. It is an economy booster in this troubled time. Many Alaskans use it for various needs that sometimes take that extra amount and many Alaskans choose to pick click give. It's calculated amount to each Alaskan is written In to our constitution. For too long, we have not had a voice in this and our legislators are either ham-strung or do not care if we receive the full amount we are entitled to! It is misappropriation to withhold these funds from their rightful owners -- to the Alaskan people and goes against the originally intended purpose for We the People of Alaska.

> Please follow the statutory calculations of the amount we should have been getting and stop the steal!

> Joy Gillespie

>

> Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 11:27 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB 3003 - PFD

I WANT MY PFD

Martha F. Thompson

[REDACTED]
Chickaloon, AK

P. S. How come I received the email telling about this issue at 10:00 P.M.

From: Thomas Brown [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 10:17 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB 3003 - PFD

To whom it may concern...

The PFD is very important to Alaskans. For too long, we have not had a voice in this and our legislators are either ham-strung or do not care if we receive the full amount we are entitled to! It is not fair to the Alaskan people and goes against the originally intended purpose for We the People of Alaska.

Please follow the statutory calculations of the amount we should have been getting and stop the steal!

Sincerely,
Thomas Brown
Palmer, AK

From: Ron Hamman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 9:19 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB 3003 - PFD

Dear Committee Members,

I want to say briefly that I support the Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend and its statutory calculation. I believe it was intended to be the people's vested interest in the program to insure the fund's perpetuity against political interests.

As a member of the executive branch, I am well familiar with the temptation to grow a department, division, or even a program to feather one's resume rather than to treat it as a public trust.

I am well familiar with fiscal liberality where it concerns public money rather than being willing to be liberal only with personal money.

I am also aware of the per diem issue for the legislature. It seems quite odd that legislative members would not forgo special session per diem of their own accord for the good of the state, which amounts to more than any PFD has ever been, but somehow they cannot see how their people could be helped by a full PFD, not to mention the general economy of the state.

It does not matter how any Alaskan would choose to spend their dividend. In the end, that dividend will stimulate someone's economy and that of the state at large.

I support the PFD,

Ron Hamman
[REDACTED]
Wasilla, AK. 99654
[REDACTED]

From: Daphni Ryan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 9:15 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB 3003 - PFD

The people of Alaska need their PFDs! Please, allow us to have this year.

[Sent from Yahoo for iPhone](#)

From: Kathleen Budd [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 9:18 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB 3003 - PFD

Dear Alaska Representative, We Alaskans Need our PFD. It isn't right to take it. Give us our full amount.
Thank you. Sincerely, Kathleen Budd

Sent from my iPhone

From: Brian Plummer [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 9:14 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB 3003 - PFD

I support a full PFD as calculated by the traditional method, along with paying back the citizens of Alaska past funds stolen from them by the Legislature, Governor, and Courts.

Sincerely

Brian Plummer

From: Susan Gillespie [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 9:07 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB 3003 - PFD

To whom it may concern...

The PFD is very important to Alaskans. For too long, we have not had a voice in this and our legislators are either ham-strung or do not care if we receive the full amount we are entitled to! It is not fair to the Alaskan people and goes against the originally intended purpose for We the People of Alaska.

Please follow the statutory calculations of the amount we should have been getting and stop the steal!

Susan Gillespie

From: Sandra Chatterton <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 8:43 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB 3003 - PFD

YES, I WANT MY PFD. IT WAS PROMISED TO THE PEOPLE OF ALASKA FROM THE VERY BEGINNING AND SHOULD BE GIVEN AS PROMISED. USE AND DISBURSE IT THE WAY IT WAS ORIGINALLY INTENDED, NOT THE WAY YOU THINK IT SHOULD BE DONE. GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER AND DO SOME WORK WITHOUT ALL THESE SPECIAL SESSIONS YOU ARE RACKING UP AT THE PEOPLE'S EXPENSE. YOU ARE ALL SUPPOSED TO BE WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE GOOD OF THE ALASKA PEOPLE, NOT JUST FOR YOURSELVES.

Sandra Chatterton
[REDACTED]