

Doniece Gott

From: Erin Shine
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 9:56 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: FW: SB 53

From: Tom Boutin <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 9:22 AM
To: Erin Shine <Erin.Shine@akleg.gov>
Subject: FW: SB 53

Good morning Ms. Shine,

Here is my SB 53 comment. Thank you.

Tom Boutin
[REDACTED]

Juneau

From: Tom Boutin [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Friday, September 10, 2021 10:09 AM
To: Sen.Natasha.vonImhof@akleg.gov; senator.click.bishop@akleg.gov; Senator.Bert.Stedman@akleg.gov; Senator.Donny.Olson@akleg.gov; senator.lyman.hoffman@akleg.gov; senator.bill.wielechowski@akleg.gov; Senator.David.Wilson@akleg.gov
Cc: Senator.Peter.Micciche@akleg.gov
Subject: SB 53

Good morning,

I'm afraid I have to agree with Senator Stedman in his Bravo Sierra comment this morning. Also, as Senator Hoffman said, the bridge funding – the over-draw – is a great concern. I do not agree with making an unsustainable draw from the Permanent Fund.

Even if there was a future incident such that a one-time draw would be somewhat defensible that would not be this time when we have a comfortable recovery under way (as evidenced by labor shortages, price and wage inflation, etc.) and unprecedented federal spending here. All I see that recommends an extraordinary PF draw now is that next year is a big election year, and that is a terrible reason to over-draw.

Government spending at the federal, state and municipal level is apparently decided without regard to bringing erosion of self-respect and personal responsibility, and I see that erosion manifested in contemporary social problems like opioid abuse, mass murders, and the erosion of military defense system performance. As so many Americans point out, the United States could not win WWII today, and I see the social ills that come from government spending as part of the reason.

As a life-long student of economics I am not a fan of the PFD, chiefly because the IRS take is so large and immediate. However handing out money has many fervent adherents, and I believe that the state annual spend is so large that it inhibits and retards our private sector economy. Therefore there is a trade-off tension to consider

between spending on state government responsibilities and wants, and the PFD. The erstwhile Governor badly damaged trust that long existed in determining the annual PFD amount, and now a fifty-fifty split may need to be evaluated.

Thank you for all your hard work. Thank you for your time. I am very sorry that you are spending so much of this year in session.

Have a great day and week-end.

Tom Boutin
Juneau

Doniece Gott

From: Don Fritz donfritz58@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 10:05 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support of SB 53

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

I am writing in support of SB 53. My belief is that the Permanent Fund was established to share the wealth from a non-renewable resource with future generations of Alaskans. The Permanent Fund is there to help pay for the cost of government functions that Alaskans collectively demand, not to simply pay an inflated PFD.

Our governor and our legislators need to do a better job of explaining to people the facts regarding how the Permanent Fund grew to its present size, mainly due to both additional deposits by the legislature and that for the first 35 plus years the legislature did not withdraw their portion of the earnings but instead reinvested it. It makes no sense to me now that those excess monies should be paid out in the form of PFD checks while the State falls short of money to pay for the government that Alaskans collectively demand. My preference would be that we never have any form of a sales tax or an income tax so long as a PFD is still being distributed.

Protecting the Permanent Fund should be of utmost importance, and I am pleased that a few years ago the legislature passed a POMV statute to protect the Permanent Fund, although I believe the 5% draw limit should be reduced until the Permanent Fund reaches \$100 billion. If a constitutional amendment is necessary to protect the Permanent Fund, then I would support that. I am against any overdraw of the Permanent Fund and I am firmly against the proposed "bridge funding".

The PFD should not be constitutionally protected. Paying a PFD is not nearly as important as the many services that the State provides. The PFD does not have "First Call", it is one of numerous budget items and should compete against other government programs for prioritization and funding. Our Supreme Court has already determined that the PFD is subject to appropriation, thus any PFD amount paid is a full PFD. I do not feel that I am owed any back pay for historical reduced PFD's.

Governor Dunleavy decided to reduce the PFD to \$0.00 this year, I am satisfied with this PFD amount and believe that he should be credited with the \$0.00 2021 DUNLEAVY PFD.

The current PFD statute should be eliminated, and replaced with a statute that commits to attempting to pay a PFD as money allows. Perhaps a \$1,00 PFD cap should be included until the Permanent Fund reaches at least \$100 billion. While I believe that we should seek to receive the maximum compensation for our oil, I am not in favor of any income tax or sales tax to pay a larger PFD.

While I am against constitutionalizing the PFD, if this is pursued I believe that it should not be a 50/50 split. For the first 30 plus years the state has not used their portion of the 50/50 split, rather this money was left in the fund and continued to grow. My belief is that this non utilized money, as well as income from this money, should be subtracted from the Permanent Fund balance to determine an amount of money available for splitting.

I am of the belief that there are still minor savings to be found in the State budget, and that as these savings are found they should be implemented. I am not naive enough to believe that we can find enough savings to allow for paying what some Alaskans feel they are entitled to. There are some reductions that I would support that many others that I would not. The legislature was structured to balance the desires of the public, to provide the services that the citizens collectively desire, and to fund those services. I am satisfied with that balanced approach.

I believe that SB 53 is part of a balanced approach and I am in full support of this bill.

Again, thank you for this opportunity to testify!

Don Fritz

Doniece Gott

From: yoram palkovitch <yoram.palkovitch@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 10:06 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: FULL PFD

WE DEMAND FULL PFD!!! THERE ARE THOUNDS OF US THAT ARE STRUGLING.

Doniece Gott

From: jed carter <jed.carter@alaska.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 10:12 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Permanent fund

The permanent fund dividend needs to be set in law. For me living in Alaska most of my life, the PFD has been more of a Cost of Living assist. EVERYTHING costs more in Alaska with game meat and berries being the only goods one can acquire from the land, and even hunting has phenomenal costs in this state. How often does alaska government employees receive a raise??? How often do those outside the government receive one? Your paycheck ought to be based upon performance. PFD ought to be set in law. And Alaska government ought to keep there fingers out of the permanent fund pie. If you cant balance a working budget with available funds, what makes you think that you can do so with every other penny within reach?

Doniece Gott

From: Robert Farmer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 10:30 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Full PFD

Hello.

I am writing in support of a FULL PFD..
The people of Alaska have been struggling to pay Bill's and keep the house warm.

The money from the PFD is the earning from buying and selling of stocks&Bonds. It's not money the state had to tax the people to get this money the State gets its money from the same place to pay its Bill's.

So quite playing the people as Stupid people they know that you folks are trying to pay off your buddy's that came up here started a contractor business and you are going to line there pockets..

That only benefits 3% of the economy.
Where a check to everyone helps Family throughout the Whole state not the buddy state and there friends that fly up to work and take the money back home not here in Alaska..

So quite fing off do the job your paid to do and if you can't find common ground well the next vote will be YOUR FIRED..

I hope the people get there money as Jay Hammond's said it's the people money as it for the state ..

Thank you God Bless

Robert Farmer. Fairbanks

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Doniece Gott

From: Aileen Cotter [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 10:45 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: PFD

Give the people their money and stop thinking of yourself only! The world does not revolve around you!
This income helps those of us who can no longer be a part of the workforce be able to live, stay warm and eat thur the winter.
Listen to that still small voice telling you the right thing to do! God is watching!

Ella Cotter
District 3

Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Karen Fedelem <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 10:56 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Full PFD

Please follow the law and vote for full PFDs.
Karen

Doniece Gott

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 11:02 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Pfd

To whom it may concern,

Alaskans do not want your made up 1,100 amount... no one supports this bill... yet, you all refuse to listen to alaskans. It is clear that many on this senate committee are bought by outside entities. You haven't even heard the governors bill...

This bill is a disgrace and reminds all alaskans how bought our "representatives" are.

We don't want this bill!

Sincerely,
An alaskan

Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: kathleen shoop <kathleen.shoop@alaska.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 11:32 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Full PFD for the people!

Dear Senate Finance Committee;

AGAIN I must tell you to pay the PFD, the FULL PFD to the people and follow the law.

You don't want to listen and you are causing great harm to the State of Alaska.
We should not have to continue to tell you to do the right thing.

Pay the PFD to the people, get the Alaskan economy moving forward.

Kathleen Shoop
Alaska Resident since 1992

Doniece Gott

From: Jennifer Smith <jennifer.smith@alaska.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 11:53 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Permanent fund

Hello, as a life long resident of Alaska I am shocked with how little the Alaska Senate has done to help the people of Alaska. The PFD would help significantly for the long winter months. I was born in Alaska and I am stuck in Alaska. My family can't afford to move to a more sustainable environment but we have discussed it. I love Alaska but it is becoming not only unsafe with the covid deniers but also increasingly expensive. I think the legislature should not be paid during these special sessions. Alaskans are entitled to the full permanent fund dividend as specified in previous laws. Oil companies are drowning Alaska. We should not pay them to ruin the state. Make them pay and a state income tax could improve the deficit.

Doniece Gott

From: Harmony Tomaszewski <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 12:04 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Full PFD

I want the full PFD as stated in statutes in law.

That includes my husband and 3 children.

I run a food pantry for people in my community. We get on average 60 people each week. They are consistently asking when is their PFD. They want their full PFD.

They do not want more government programs. They want what is due them, not a hand out.

You hurt our local economy by taking the PFD from the people.

We want the full PFD. It should be over \$3,700. Each.

We have a local fb page with over 20,000 people on it. Alaskans against the theft of the PFD. We shouldn't have to keep telling you for every meeting, for each session. We want our full PFD period. This does not and will not change.

#FullPFD
#FullBackPayPFD

Make it happen!
Harmony Tomaszewski
Fairbanks, AK

Doniece Gott

From: Kaylee Evans <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 12:24 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Full Statutory PFD

Hello,

I am writing to testify in favor of a full statutory PFD. Now more than ever Alaskans need representatives who are here to help them rather than "rule" them. The past sessions have been filled with an outstanding amount of public testimony in favor of a full statutory PFD and backpay, we are trying to tell you as loud as we can what we need and are begging you to listen. During these unprecedented times many are struggling to keep a roof over their head, groceries on the table and bills paid. For some it's even too expensive to go to work; the cost of childcare, gas, etc. has risen greatly over the last few months and made it harder for working Alaskans to remain in the workforce.

Paying the full PFD and back pay would relieve the stress on the Alaskan economy. It is the right thing to do, not just for economics but for the people you represent.

I cannot stress enough. Please listen to us. We want Alaska to thrive and are watching local businesses, families and friends suffer through this pandemic.

Kaylee Evans

Doniece Gott

From: Amy Erin <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 12:32 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Pro PFD STATUTORY PAYOUT

I am a 51 year resident of Alaska, I have worked all my life and I am low income now and The PFD has been lifeblood to me in the years past to help get through the winters, always splitting the dividend amount in half between my heating fuel vendor and GVEA ! SINCE 2016 THAT HAS BEEN GROSSLY REDUCED AND WITHOUT A VOTE OF THE PEOPLE , OUR MONEY HAS BEEN UNLAWFULLY TAKEN!!! Pay all Alaskan's the back pay from 2016 up to today, and enshrine the original formula into the constitution and there will be no more thievery or debate!!! How can any of you vote against the full PFD this year , when so many are struggling in this pandemic??? Denial of the full payout is absolutely shameful, and Alaskans are very angry with the reps from their districts!!! Do what's right!!! Follow the original formula!!!! Thank you for your time!!!

Doniece Gott

From: RaeAnn Galasso <raegalasso@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 9:58 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Save the people's pfd

I am writing the Senate Finance committee to urge your commitment to the people of Alaska by ensuring a pfd payment as formulated and promised in years past for not only this year, but for our future as well. Alaskans have been hit hard with the reduction in pfd payments the last few years. For many the reduced pfd payment has been brutal and financially crippling. Alaskans have been hit especially hard the last year with the Pandemic. The pfd helps Alaskans by easing the financial strain of rising costs that we often incur simply to live in this great state, especially through what can be harsh and difficult winters.

It is disheartening as an Alaskan to see our political leaders gut our pfd and instead support the oil industry. Please consider your constituents and remember what each of you were elected to do and represent Alaskans. I urge you to put the well being of Alaskans first.

Thank you for your time and attention to this crucial and vital matter.

RaeAnn Miner

Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: hillclanak ~~Hill Linda Gott~~
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 10:02 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: PFD

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to request that a full PFD be reinstated. There are many in Alaska who count on the PFD to help them with paying bills, getting winter gear for their family, buying food, paying for school, and buying textbooks. With the economy in the shape it is in at the moment, for many families, this is of utmost importance to help them to get through the tough and lean times. Especially winter, when the cost of keeping their home warm, putting food on the table, being able to fill their car to get to work can become a hard choice to make as to which thing has top priority at the moment. These are choices that my family has had to make in the past, and having a full PFD helped us through those times.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Linda Hill

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S9, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

Doniece Gott

From: Alecia Watkins <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, September 12, 2021 7:44 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: PFD

Dear Finance Committee,

This year has been especially hard on Alaskans. If EVER we needed our full PFD it is right now! I implore you to make this happen. My husband and I both work full time jobs. This year with inflation and other costs, our reserves are depleted. We have two young children. One has recently been diagnosed with a condition that will require multiple therapies. I do not want the fact this year, living in Alaska during a pandemic, is the reason he doesn't get those therapies. Many Alaskans depend on the PFD to get them through winter and we are no exception. We need the Full PFD!

Alecia Watkins

Doniece Gott

From: Dixie D. Banner <ddbanner@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 12, 2021 9:10 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee; Sen. Bert Stedman; Sen. Click Bishop
Subject: We want accountability

Cut the budget and down the Government and issue the PFD! Yes it is very simple by cutting the social welfare and creat an effective economy! Especially since we have been a recession since 2014, (Time for you all in Juneau to come to reality)! Note due to current circumstances (negative economy) the PFD will be well appreciated by all!

Furthermore, you all need to come to the plate and act as effective Fiscal Manager and adhere the wishes of People! We are not impressed having to pled and beg for you to do right by AK! You were elected to manage our resources not destroy AK! Remember 22 is a year for change and believe me we will offer change!!! No one is above the law and like in the corporate world if a CEO fails to manage the organization they are gone!!!

Have a great day!

DB

Doniece Gott

From: J. Cassellius <jcassellius@permanentfunddefenders.org>
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 8:31 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: NO SB53 from Permanent Fund Defenders

Senate Finance -

These last minute hearings are a betrayal of Alaskas, owners of the Permanent Fund. I was alerted to this hearing at 9pm last night

and have to work today. Stop trying to change the law without a constitutional fix. An advisory vote just slows the process of fixing problems that have been neglected far too long!!

A change of the PFD law without a constitutional remedy will trigger a referendum.

Give Alaskans a 50/50 split now, and constitutional PFD vote, and reform spending and revenues. The public will not accept SB53! Our group has a14,000 signatures statewide on a petition for a statutory PFD in the Constitution.

Thanks to those working to protect not dismantle the Fund system.

Juanita Cassellius
Permanent Fund Defenders

Doniece Gott

From: Jacob & Kendra Brown ~~jaykendra16@gmail.com~~
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 8:45 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Pfd

Please, have a heart and agree to a full pfd. I cant even get a job to support my kids. Im not from this village and won't get hired. Airfare is sky high, stove oil, groceries, and gas are sky high. I rely on wic for milk, foodstamp to get the basics. Unemployment to get pampers and wipes. But unemployment doesn't go a long way. 150 a week and have to buy gas.

Doniece Gott

From: Debbie Rathbun <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 9:20 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Cc: Bart LeBon; Rep. Mike Prax
Subject: Full PFD

Hello finance committee, Representative Bart LeBon and Representative Mike Prax, Please approve and send to all Alaskans the full statutory PFD this year. The funds are very helpful for our family to meet our financial obligations.
Thank you,
Debbie Rathbun

Sent from my iPad

Doniece Gott

From: C Moll <cmoll@senate.mn.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 9:40 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: PFD

The only true solution to changing PFD law is a constitutional PFD. If you refuse this u will force the public's hand in voting for a constitutional convention. Please work harder toward a lasting and reliable PFD for the people or we will go around u and do it ourselves through a constitutional convention.

Respectfully,

Catherine Felt

Doniece Gott

From: David Cameron Henry <Henry30587@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 9:43 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Please vote for the FULL PFD

Thank you for taking input on the PFD.

Please vote for the FULL PFD.

My wife and I are on a fixed income through Social Security.

Gas prices and other expenses are rising as we're in an inflationary stage.

But our income stays the same.

Our monthly expenses exceed our income!

My wife is in a nursing home in Fairbanks, so we spend more than our income every month.

Please vote for the FULL PFD.

Thank you for listening to us.

Two sourdoughs!

Mr. & Mrs. David Henry

915 Union Drive

Fairbanks, AK 99709

Doniece Gott

From: Lindsey Rhodes <lindseyrhodes@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 9:46 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: PFD

Good morning!

I implore you to give Alaskans what is rightfully theirs, a full statutory PFD! Follow the law and the original formula, that is what you're supposed to do! Stop lying to Alaskans and telling us there's not enough money to follow the original formula. The fund is the largest it has been! Do the right thing for once and pay us our rightful dividend! \$1100, or the \$619 it will actually be, is a slap in the face and theft from all Alaskans! Please listen to your constituents that you are there to represent.

Thank you!
Lindsey Rhodes

Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Somer Snider <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 9:54 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Pfd

Follow the law. People are rising up and will remember

Sent from my iPhone