

Doniece Gott

From: Info99507@gmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2022 10:04 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Meals Program

As the owner of Pizza Man Restaurant I want to highlight the incredible success of the Restaurant and Hunger Relief Partnership and advocate for its inclusion in the FY 2023 budget. The program was created in the darkest early days of the pandemic when my business was suffering and I was forced to lay off employees. It has helped save my business and has been a win-win-win for, restaurants like mine, residents and nonprofits.

The numbers speak for themselves: program-wide, 322,496 meals were served at 34 nonprofit and shelter sites by 65 restaurants. Approximately 748 restaurant employees were hired, rehired, or kept jobs and 410 employees received extra hours.

This program has been a lifeline for us to retain our staff.

Despite this critical help and improving pandemic conditions, restaurants and their employees need more help. According to the National Restaurant Association, recovery is more than a year off as food supply shortages or delays and labor remain serious challenges. I am eager to continue helping my community through this program. Funding the Restaurant and Hunger Relief Partnership Program will help my business recover from these incredibly difficult two years and make sure that I can continue to keep on the employees that make this such a great business.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Ackerman

Pizza Man, Eagle River

Doniece Gott

From: Patti Buist <patti@anchorageremade.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2022 4:20 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Cc: AKHR
Subject: Support for the Restaurant and Hunger Relief Partnership

Anchorage re:MADE is a nonprofit and as the kitchen manager I witnessed this program first hand and would like to see it continue. We provide opportunities for chefs that want to own a business to serve their food one day a week in our commercial kitchen. This has been a wonderful experience and success to participate with the Restaurant and Hunger Relief Partnership and we advocate for its inclusion in the FY 2023 budget.

This program was created in the early days of the pandemic and benefited our chefs' businesses when their sales had plummeted and our cafe was closed to dine-in eating. It has helped each of our 6 chefs and their staff be able to stay in business.

The numbers speak for themselves: program-wide, 322,496 meals were served at 34 nonprofit and shelter sites by 65 restaurants. Approximately 748 restaurant employees were hired, rehired, or kept jobs and 410 employees received extra hours.

Our nonprofit sales have been negatively affected by the pandemic and this program has helped tremendously, giving each of the chefs increased revenue and the opportunity to work with this meaningful program. Providing this opportunity strengthens businesses in a strategic way, by offering ways for businesses to work to help nonprofits and those in need. We love being a part of this win-win program.

According to the National Restaurant Association, recovery is more than a year off as food supply shortages or delays and labor remain serious challenges. We are eager to continue helping our community through this program. Funding the Restaurant and Hunger Relief Partnership Program will help our nonprofit and 6 businesses that are recovering from the incredibly difficult time this pandemic has caused.

Thank you for the past funding and we look forward to future opportunities.

Sincerely,

Patti Buist

Patti Buist
Kitchen Manager
Anchorage re:MADE

Doing Life. Better Together.



AnchorageREMADE.com

[Facebook/anchorageREMADE](https://www.facebook.com/anchorageREMADE)

Doniece Gott

From: Jason Ellis <jason@mosdeliak.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2022 12:13 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee

Written Testimony

As the owner of Mo's Deli and catering, I want to highlight the incredible success of the Restaurant and Hunger Relief Partnership and advocate for its inclusion in the FY 2023 budget. The program was created in the darkest early days of the pandemic when my business was suffering and I was forced to lay off employees. It has helped save my business and has been a win-win-win for restaurants like mine, residents and nonprofits.

The numbers speak for themselves: program-wide, 322,496 meals were served at 34 nonprofit and shelter sites by 65 restaurants. Approximately 748 restaurant employees were hired, rehired, or kept jobs and 410 employees received extra hours.

Here at Mo's Deli we were able to keep employees working and also give some extra hours during the contract periods. It also gave us a sense of pride and community involvement to participate.

Despite this critical help and improving pandemic conditions, restaurants and their employees need more help. According to the National Restaurant Association, recovery is more than a year off as food supply shortages or delays and labor remain serious challenges. I am eager to continue helping my community through this program. Funding the Restaurant and Hunger Relief Partnership Program will help my business recover from these incredibly difficult two years and make sure that I can continue to keep on the employees that make this such a great business.

Sincerely,

Jason Ellis
Mo's Deli
9220 Lake Otis Parkway #1
907-868-deli (3354)



Virus-free. www.avq.com

Doniece Gott

From: Southeast Alaska Food Bank <southeastakfoodbank@acsalaska.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2022 12:06 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Cc: southeastfoodbank@acsalaska.net
Subject: Southeast Alaska Food Bank

Hello,

My name is Chris Schapp, I am the Executive Director of the Southeast Alaska Food Bank here in Juneau.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in relation to this years capital budget.

The Southeast Alaska Food Bank provides crucial food services to 40 member agencies in Juneau, Pelican, and Hoonah. Some of these include the Glory Hall, Catholic Community Services Meals on Wheels Program, Resurrection Lutheran Church, JAMHI Health and Wellness and the warming shelter.

We also host 2 public food pantry's every week to help fight food insecurity for folks here in Juneau. We consistently help 250 - 300 people weekly at our public pantries. Pre-Covid, we were helping 60 - 90 people weekly.

Fiscal year 2021 we distributed over 536,000 # of food to the public and our member agencies.

The state's food bank and food pantry system is strained.

Increased need, increased costs, and years of tight budgets result in aging facilities at the same time dollars don't go nearly as far.

We respectfully request the committee consider including supports for Alaska's food security network and efforts to support locally grown food sources as you consider the capital budget.

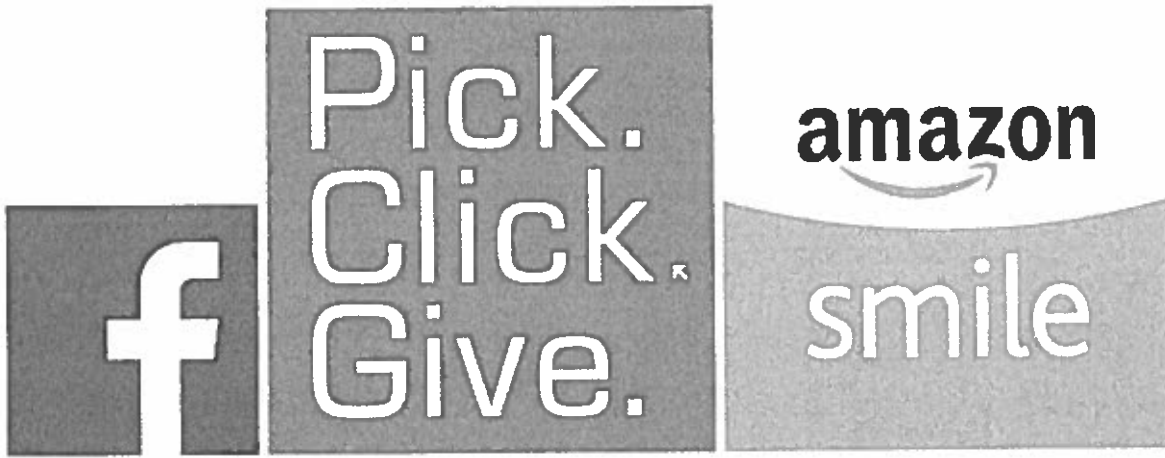
Thank you for your hard work on the budget.

Sincerely,

Chris Schapp

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Executive Director
Southeast Alaska Food Bank
(907) 789-6184
southeastakfoodbank@acsalaska.net
<http://www.seafb.org/>



**Testimony to
Senate Finance Committee,
Budget Public Testimony,**

4/6/22

There are issues concerning the state budget that can and should be revised concerning mental health care:

It costs about \$1,500 to keep a person in a locked psychiatric facility for a day, about the same cost as a top-of-the-line suite in the Hotel Captain Cook in Anchorage. The difference is the fruit basket, the room service and the soiled bedding is changed daily. Psychiatric patients have become what I consider too valuable. There is what I believe to be a strong motivation for many psychiatric facilities to continue treatment as opposed to concentrating on patient recovery.

Approximately 10,000 people each year rotate in and out of locked psychiatric facilities or units for a forced psychiatric evaluation or treatment. The state considers these individuals to have a disability. Over 90% of the psychiatric patients receive their treatment outside of the Alaska Psychiatric Institute. As of now, the state/ the legislature does not know the number and type of psychiatric patient complaints, injuries or traumatic events.

There should be a concern within the legislature of not having good facts to guide policy and laws. The state must be required to keep statistics.

Mental Health Advocates, Faith J. Myers, 3240 Penland Pkwy, Sp. 35, Anchorage,
AK. 99508 907-929-0532

Faith J. Myers is the author of the book, "Going Crazy in Alaska: A History of Alaska's Treatment of Psychiatric Patients."

A traumatic event is defined by being strapped to a gurney, placed in isolation, being placed in restraints, including handcuffs during transportation and being physically restrained.

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Laile Fairbairn <laile@snowcitycafe.com>
Thursday, April 07, 2022 2:24 PM
Senate Finance Committee
AKHR/UWA Meals Program

ct:

Dear members of the Senate Finance Committee --

As the managing member of Snow City Cafe, Spenard Roadhouse, South Restaurant + Coffeehouse, and Crush Bistro in Anchorage, I can say that we were helped significantly by the Restaurant and Hunger Relief Partnership and we strongly urge you to include it in the FY 2023 budget.

On March 17, 2020, we laid off more than 270 of 320 total employees. It was the hardest day of my 24 years in this business. The uncertainty and fear about whether or not our restaurants would be able to weather this storm was certainly a factor, but top of mind then was how was our staff going to make it through without paychecks.

This program has been a job-saving success for 65 restaurants and has helped more than 34 nonprofits and shelters. Collectively more than 320,000 meals were served. almost 750 employees were hired, rehired, or kept their jobs, and more than 400 employees received work hours they might not have otherwise.

While sales have returned to almost pre-pandemic numbers, there are significant losses to recover from and we are facing unprecedented wage and food cost pressure. The economics of a restaurant don't work like they used to, so having this program return, will allow us and other restaurants the opportunity to recover and provide hours to as many people who want to work.

Full recovery is estimated to be more than a year off due to the challenges brought on by Covid. Funding this program was a job and business saver. We created relationships with the nonprofits we served and strengthened our community. I sincerely hope that you will fund this win-win program again.

Many thanks for your consideration.

From: [Wong, Garret](#)
To: [Senate Finance Committee; Sen. Click Bishop](#)
Cc: [Ron Ward; Dylan Faber at ANC x5079; Ribuffo, Stephen](#)
Subject: SB 162 /SB164 Capital budget -testimony supporting Port of Alaska (PAMP)
Date: Friday, April 08, 2022 11:47:31 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)

Chair person Bishop and members of the Senate Finance Committee,

As “Vice Chair” of the Port of Alaska Commissioners, I wish to express my support for maximum funding needed to accelerate the Port of Alaska Construction demands to “complete modernization”. Due to calendar conflict , I cannot participate in today’s Teleconference for public input.

Following are important issues outlined for your convenience:

- 600 million from the state is needed TODAY to construct the first dock in the overall \$1.1 billion cargo docks replacement effort.
- We need this to ensure food security. The MOA is stepping up with significant dollars, but this is a statewide port.... we are asking the state to share in the costs.
- The full \$1.1 billion in funding must be secured by 2025 to award the construction contracts

Earthquake

- We all know Alaska’s earthquake risks are extremely high. Our state has the highest earthquake risk of any state in the US.
- The Port of Alaska is Alaska’s only functioning tsunami-proof port
- The 2018 Earthquake caused 20% of pilings to fail at the Port’s newest dock
- The 1,400 pilings that support the Port’s structures are seismically unstable and previous repairs have reached the end of their useful lives
- Had the earthquake of November 2018 lasted a few seconds longer the Port could have collapsed
 - What happens if the cargo docks fail, what is the contingency plan?

I thank you for your expedited consideration.
Regards,



Garret S. Wong, ChFC®
Financial Advisor

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Support staff contact information is available on [my website](#)



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