



Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Dear Senator Wielechowski's office,

On behalf of Americans for Prosperity activists across Alaska, I am writing today to support the important and bipartisan reforms in S.B. 25, the Alaska Online Checkbook Act.

“Senate Bill 25 which we are calling the Alaska Online Checkbook Act would create a free, searchable website that provides Alaskans with easy access to detailed and comprehensive information on state spending. This will encourage better understanding of state operations and ultimately reduce waste and ensure that funding is directed to the state’s most important needs. All 50 states operate websites that make information on state expenditures and revenues open to the public. However, compared to other states, Alaska’s site is ranked as one of the worst in the nation at making the data accessible. Additionally, our online checkbook website removed all FY 20 expenses and has not been updated in nearly a year.”

“Although the state had an online checkbook, it did not provide any “big picture” context about state expenditures vs. revenues nor is it codified in law. The ability to see how Alaska’s government uses public funding is fundamental to transparency and bolsters public confidence in government and promotes fiscal responsibility. We also believe that if the state maintained a better website then we can save costs and time that state employees currently spend responding to Freedom of Information requests for public information that could (and should) already be accessible online.”

It is our hope that both state and the federal government champion economic opportunity-focused reforms that allow Alaskans to keep more of their hard-earned paychecks and recover stronger from COVID-19.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important issue. Please don’t hesitate to reach out if you have questions, need more information, or if you would like to discuss this issue further.

Sincerely,

Ryan McKee  
State Director  
Americans for Prosperity - Alaska

Through broad-based grassroots outreach, *Americans for Prosperity (AFP)* is driving long-term solutions to the country’s biggest problems. AFP activists engage friends and neighbors on key issues and encourage them to take an active role in building a culture of mutual benefit, where people succeed by helping one another. AFP recruits and unites activists in 35 states behind a common goal of advancing policies that will help people improve their lives.