

April 3, 2014

Roger L. Somers  
514 Powers Road  
Manchester, TN 37355-5924

Retirement #R000168319  
Re: Governor Parnell FY15 budget

To whom it may concern:

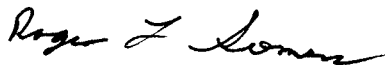
I was an Alaska State employee working in the Department of Transportation for twenty-five years, 1978 -2003. I was proud to be an Alaskan. Being employed by D.O.T. designated as a heavy equipment operator was an opportunity to work with a team committed to keep road maintenance in all seasons.

Throughout my working years culminating in my retirement year – I appreciated the opportunity to be an employee of the State of Alaska.

I was made aware the retiree trust funds are under funded by \$12 billion. Governor Parnell included a \$3 billion transfer from the Constitutional Budget Reserve to the retiree trusts in his FY15 budget, thus helping pay down the unfunded liability and saving \$2 billion in the long run. The annual contribution from the state to the trust funds would remain around \$500 million. Without the cash infusion, the annual contribution will soon exceed \$1 billion. Being an astronomical number this would negatively affect retirees and other agencies.

It is my understanding that after the governor put the money in the budget the House took it out. This action gives me grave concern for the financial future of both myself and my wife.

I respectfully ask the House to reconsider.



Roger L. Somers  
lgs

cc  
Governor Sean Parnell  
Legislative House and Senate Members

HB 385