



City of Kaktovik
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RE: testimony presented to Alaska legislature advocating for continued Revenue Sharing

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Tori Sims, and I am the City Administrator for the City of Kaktovik, Alaska.

Kaktovik is a community of 300 people. We are located on the Arctic Ocean coast, and our village is within the boundaries of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Yes, we are located amidst vast resources, both onshore and offshore. And in the face of this reality, Kaktovik residents look to their local government to facilitate the flow of information regarding issues that affect them not distantly, but directly.

The City of Kaktovik serves as a primary local clearinghouse for information and decision-making about industrial development, tourism, conservation, and arctic research.

Constant and growing focus on Alaska's arctic places ever-increasing demands on my office to serve Kaktovik residents with proper representation and awareness as we move into the future.

I cannot overemphasize the importance of Revenue Sharing to the City of Kaktovik. Revenue sharing comprises about one third of our budget, and covers our basic operations— power, water, supplies, and fuel. The remainder of our municipal budget is largely devoted to staffing. A cut to our budget would mean either cutting the power, or cutting our staff, neither of which is an option.

Kaktovik is ready to move into the future, considering all options available to our small but significantly-located community. However, to continue to provide anything beyond the most basic functions of local government, we respectfully request the continued funding under Alaska Revenue Sharing.

Thank you.