

From: [Sue Bergstrom](#)
To: [Senate Finance Committee](#)
Subject: HB72
Date: Monday, March 30, 2015 9:39:39 AM

I'm writing in support of public broadcasting in the state of Alaska, specifically public radio. If the proposal to zero out the state budget passes, smaller stations in the state will also lose their federal funding and many will not survive. In a state like Alaska, where many people are off the grid and have no other source of information, public radio is not a luxury, it's a lifeline. These are the people who stand to lose their service. KCHU in Valdez is the only public radio station for Prince William Sound and the Copper River Valley, broadcasting to fishermen in the sound in AM, which no one else does, and providing messages and community announcements for people up country with no other way to get them. When there was a flood evacuation at ten mile in Valdez several years ago, KCHU's news director was on the air live until late into the night keeping people informed. These are not things that commercial radio stations do, even where they are reaching all the same people. This service is not replaceable.

Susan M. S. Bergstrom