

**From:** [Gretchen Clarke](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Cc:** [Sen. Bert Stedman](#)  
**Subject:** Funding for Public Radio  
**Date:** Monday, March 30, 2015 1:25:42 PM

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Dear Senators,

Thank you for your service in these difficult budget cutting times. I am writing to ask you to please re-consider the 100% cut to public radio. The small savings to the state budget would devastate Sitka's community radio station, KCAW, as well as others throughout the state. The ability to provide local news would plummet because of multiple staff cuts, here and statewide. All together this means no statewide news for those without internet access. KCAW would lose capacity to provide health and safety information, broadcast of municipal and tribal government meetings and election coverage.

The 100% cut would result in a loss of almost \$140,000 locally, which will cause serious and permanent financial harm to KCAW, which already earns almost \$150,000 in local memberships, as well as to our small town of Sitka. In addition, these cuts would eliminate all service, including Emergency Alert System alerts to Yakutat, Tenakee Springs, Angoon, Pelican, Port Alexander and Elfin Cove, all along active earthquake zones and at risk of Tsunamis, and all reliant upon KCAW for local news, weather and emergency alerts.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,  
Gretchen Clarke  
Sitka, Alaska

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