

From: [Jack DiMarchi](#)
To: [Senate Finance Committee](#)
Subject: Funding for CACFA
Date: Monday, March 30, 2015 1:08:58 PM

Dear Esteemed Committee Members,

I am sending this email letter to encourage you to provide funding CACFA for at least FY16. For reasons that go beyond this letter, but include mission creep and over-reaching by the Federal government in recent years, the State requires the very important function provided by CACFA now, more than ever. CACFA plays an instrumental role in providing citizens with a perspective and continuous update on regulatory and policy changes on the federal lands that make up almost 2/3 of our State. Importantly they provide a voice of reason through the public process on those new policy and regulatory changes and the compatibility ANILCA and other federal laws.

No other organization in Alaska is specifically responsible for identifying and reducing potential negative impacts on Alaska and its citizens from federal actions on any of the 239 million acres of federal land in the state. By regulation (AS 41.37.220(a)) CACFA shall consider, research and hold hearings on the consistency with federal law and congressional intent on management, operation, planning, development, and additions to federal management areas in the state.

CACFA is under the skilled leadership of Executive Director Sara Taylor and I am confident that she will take CACFA far, in terms of being effective, by focusing on key legal points and making those points concisely and supported in material fact.

CACFA was created in 1980 and funded continuously until 1999, for almost 20 years following the passage of ANILCA. Unfortunately it was defunded between 2000 and 2007, before it became apparent that it had provided a very important function. I urge you not to make that mistake again by defunding CACFA now.

Respectfully Submitted

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