

From: [Collin Dando](#)
To: [Senate Finance Committee](#)
Subject: Public Radio Funding
Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 8:50:38 AM

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you as both a concerned citizen and a board treasurer for KSTK public radio in Wrangell, Alaska. KSTK is the only radio station that serves our area with local news, entertainment, and sports announcing for our local high school. Also, without KSTK we would not have an emergency alert system in place. On top of this, a severe cut in our funding would lead to layoffs, which will hurt our local economy that is still struggling to cope with the shutting down of the timber industry. Please reconsider your stance on this issue as it affects every small town in Alaska.

This is what a 100% cut in State funding would mean:

Ø Elimination of all news and informational services. If KSTK cut 100% of its current programming, that would only account for 1/3 of the amount the Senate is proposing to cut.

KSTK currently spends \$42,000 annually on all programming. If KSTK cut out absolutely *every* program including all NPR, all APRN and all other programs from Prairie Home Companion to National Native News, it would not come close to the \$137,000 loss.

Ø Layoffs.

Ø And layoffs will lead to loss of federal funding. The CPB funds KSTK as a level "C" station. Reduction of even half a position would change our status. *Best* case scenario if KSTK reduces employees results in a minimum of \$19,000 cut in funding from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

Ø Loss of Wrangell's Emergency Alert System. KSTK is Wrangell's LP1, or Local Primary that provides Wrangell with the Emergency Alert System that lets citizens what to do in the event of an emergency.

Ø Inability to recoup lost revenue from our service area.

Ø KSTK shuts down after decades of service.

Collin Dando