

**From:** [Mandy Evans](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** state funding for public broadcasting and public education  
**Date:** Monday, March 30, 2015 8:20:52 PM

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Dear Senate Finance Committee Members,

First, I want to thank you for your service. I know you have a difficult job in front of you.

However, I believe that your proposed cuts to public education and public broadcasting represent short-term fixes (bandaids) that would have a disproportionate, long-term negative effect on our community.

Public education, both K-12 and Early Childhood, is the single most important service in any community. In Sitka, we have made the cuts that are possible to this year's budget and to next year's budget without significant, negative impact to children. Please keep the promised one time funding for this year, and make funding for public education an absolute priority in your budget.

Public broadcasting is the lifeblood of Alaskan communities. Raven Radio in Sitka is supported by volunteers and members to a phenomenal degree. Our annual membership contributions total \$150,000, which matches our state funding more than dollar for dollar (a cut of state funds for KCAW would mean a loss of almost \$140,000). Funding of local public broadcasting is a solid investment that is essential to local news and emergency service. Please restore funding to public broadcasting.

Thank you,

Mandy Evans  
Sitka, Alaska