

From: [georgia sandgren](#)
To: [Senate Finance Committee](#)
Subject: Funding for Best Beginnings and the Imagination Library :)
Date: Monday, March 30, 2015 8:31:44 PM

To the Alaska Finance Committee,

My name is Georgia Sandgren and I am the Military Student Transition Consultant with the Military Child Education Coalition embedded in the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District.

I attend the Army's Newcomers and Air Force's Right Start events for our new to the area military members and their families. I would like to share with y'all what a first impression it makes to our new military families who have children from birth to 5 years old that we have the Imagination Library program in our area. It never fails, at first they look like, "Wait, what? Free books that come in the mail?" then I hear, "that is so cool!"

Outside of the Imagination Library being an awesome welcome gift, the most important thing about this program is what we have seen and heard time and time again, that children so happy to collect their books from the mailbox and open them up. They are excited about their books and we all know that excitement is needed to help promote the love of reading. When they get to school age, we have the school libraries waiting for them.

The Imagination Library is such a valuable investment for our children. Please continue funding this program.

Thank you for your time,
Georgia Sandgren