

**From:** [Danielle Kucera](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Preschool for Alaska's Children  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 31, 2015 2:01:44 PM

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I would like to express my concern for the state funding of Best Beginnings, Parents as Teachers, and the Alaska PreK Program being cut next year. This will have a detrimental effect on our Alaska communities. Early childhood education/preschool is crucial for our children's success, now more than ever. The following are some of the reasons why.

-We want to identify the children who need early intervention to promote their health, growth, and development. The programs that are being cut have the expertise and resources to support these children, and early!

-We want our children to be ready for Kindergarten. Preschool offers experiences and opportunities to obtain the social, emotional, physical, cognitive, and academic skills that make a child more prepared for Kindergarten, which creates a successful year and foundation to future education.

-We want early childhood education to be seen as an investment, not a cost! The money invested in the early years is money that will be turned to profit from future Alaskan residents as employees and members of the community.

-We want you to understand that the healthy development of young children is worthy of every responsible family, community, and government's list of priorities!

Thank you for your time,

Danielle Harris

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Supporter of the Early Childhood Community