

From: [Carol G. Harding](#)
To: [Senate Finance Committee](#)
Subject: Funding for KBBI
Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 5:38:38 PM

To whom it may concern:

I appreciate the difficult financial circumstances and decisions facing the legislature. However, a 100% cut is uncalled for! The loss of \$130,000 will cause serious and permanent financial harm to KBBI and the communities served by the station. Reductions will cripple local operations. Weakened urban providers will be unable to assist rural and bush stations. APM in Anchorage will be greatly diminished, with probable closure of APRN and loss of interconnection system to distribute public television to the rest of the state. The dominos will fall and public broadcasting in Alaska will be on life support outside of Anchorage.

Public media in Alaska is highly valued as evidenced by some of the highest per capita community support in the country. Alaskans, especially rural and bush residents, will lose community based programming and services, in particular local news and public affairs.

Job losses: layoffs will occur at all stations, greatest impact at rural/bush stations where staff size is very small, from 2 to 5 people. More than 45 Alaskans will lose their jobs on July 1, with more layoffs to occur in the near future.

Loss of federal funds: \$2.8 million. The Corporation for Public Broadcasting will use FY16 financial data to determine station eligibility for operating grants and matching funds. Eight radio stations and two television stations will fall below the minimum required to be eligible for operating grants.

Please consider the devastating impacts caused by a 100% reduction of funding!

Thank you for your time.

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