

**From:** [Glenna Gannon](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony for State operating budget  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 01, 2015 10:29:00 AM

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Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I would like to encourage you to reconsidered your cutting of the budget for programs such as the Farm to School program and other State Agriculture programs like the Mt. McKinley Meat, and Potato programs. Our State's agriculture is in a nascent and fragile state as it is, cutting these programs now would have a hugely detrimental effect on currently blossoming local interest, and entrepreneurship in agriculture. This should be considered quite dangerous in a State such as Alaska where we are not only at the end of the transportation line- where the delivery of foodstuffs can easily be disrupted, but where too, we need all the new, and growing economies we can foster. These budget cuts due to a drop in the price of oil should be proof enough that without other forms of employment, income, and ways to ensure the quality of life for all Alaskans-like the right to healthy and local foods- the State will be in a dire situation and lack the opportunities for growth that are currently on the rise. I encourage you to take this testimony into consideration as you move forward with the operating budget.

Sincerely,

**Glenna Gannon**

Alaska Growers School Instructor and Coordinator  
122 First Avenue, Suite 600; Fairbanks, AK 99701  
Phone: (907) 452-8251 ext. 3281 Fax: (907) 459-3954

[glenna.gannon@tananachiefs.org](mailto:glenna.gannon@tananachiefs.org)

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