

From: [Madeleine Lefebvre](#)
To: [Senate Finance Committee](#)
Cc: [Bill Legere](#)
Subject: Proposed Cuts to Public Radio and TV
Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 10:31:32 AM

Dear Committee Members:

Thank you for your work on behalf of our great State during these particularly difficult times.

I join my voice to those in my community here in Juneau and Southeast Alaska, and on behalf of those who may not be able to, in requesting that you restore at least some of the state funding withdrawn from public media last week. Our state cannot afford to lose the services that public broadcasting provides in our larger urban centers and our small communities spread across the vast expanse of our entire state.

I deeply believe in the educational mission of our public media. From well-produced, informative children's programming which I can be confident is safe and healthy for my 4-year-old grandson to watch during the day, to the rich variety of historical and science documentaries for young learners and teens along with their parents, public broadcasting in Alaska, to my mind, succeeds continuously in achieving what KUAC-TV Fairbanks has adopted as its motto: "Educating every generation."

In addition, along with so many others I was simply baffled that eliminating such a service as Gavel to Gavel could be contemplated by the very body which stands to benefit from an informed citizenry in the immediate and long-term future, our elected officials. Please include consideration of the legislative coverage that is provided by Gavel to Gavel in your deliberations, as you work to return funding to public broadcasting.

In closing, I support efforts to seek long-term solutions to the current urgent fiscal crisis. Cutting education and cutting public broadcasting to the point of extinction, do not appear wise in the continuum of our history. I respectfully request that you consider this point of view as you ponder the wisest choices for our state. I first came to Alaska in 1968 and have called it home for over 34 years. Now retired, I am quite prepared to "tighten my belt" and support the restoration of a statewide income tax and the development of a wise plan to use the earnings of the Permanent Fund, as was originally intended.

Thank you for your consideration and Godspeed in your deliberations.

Sincerely,

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