

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Jeff Brown <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 11:56 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Governor's budget cuts

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members,

I have voted in Alaska for more than 40 years and I believe this Governor's budget will result in a recession for the state. The Administration's lack of analysis, not only of the immediate consequences but the long term ripple effects, is appalling. His roadshow of explaining the budget to Alaskans while being funded by the Koch brothers is alarming.

There are other options besides his proposed draconian cuts.

One budget cut which makes sense is to ELIMINATE THE OIL INDUSTRY TAX CREDITS. They need to pay us for our oil. Why are we subsidizing them?? The reasons I have heard are BS.

After the oil industry begins to pay its' fair share of taxes, then I would be in favor of an INCOME TAX ON RESIDENTS AND NON-RESIDENTS.

I don't want a \$3,000 PFD that will result in a statewide recession. I want an income tax like Alaska used to have. And there are other options for raising revenue - think of Norway.

We need our schools, our university system, our pioneer homes, our ferries and clean air and water. These services belong to us, the people who live here!

Please step up to the plate and reject the Governor's short sighted budget cuts which will cause irrevocable harm to Alaskans.

Sincerely,  
Maureen Conerton  
Juneau, AK

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Brian Fell <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 12:03 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Oppose Governor's Budget

Dear Senate Finance,

Oppose Governor's Budget.

Support fully funding:

- Education
- University
- Ferry
- Medicaid

I am willing to receive a reduced PFD, pay an income or sales tax. But I would also ask that you review the oil tax credits to aid in fully funding our government.

Sincerely,

Brian S. Fell  
Juneau, AK

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Sandra Demmert <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 12:17 PM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Governor budget

Dear Senate Finance,

Oppose Governor's Budget.

Support fully funding:

- Education
- University
- Ferry
- Medicaid

I am willing to receive a reduced PFD, pay an income or sales tax. But I would also ask that you review the oil tax credits to aid in fully funding our government.

Sincerely,

Your name  
Juneau, AK  
Sandra Demmert

Sent from my iPhone

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Mary Corcoran <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 10:18 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Public Testimony--Written-- SB20

Honorable Senators,

I oppose most of the cuts proposed in SB20. These cuts eliminate services that address the health and welfare of all Alaskans. If my neighbors are healthy, educated and growing Alaska-based businesses, I also benefit. The dollars and attitudes go around.

New revenue must be contributed by taxing earners in Alaska to pay for vital services up front. Clearly, eliminating services to the extent of the Governor's budget destroys economies all over the State and DOES tax all residents.

-Health care: all residents deserve access to reasonably priced care.  
Cutting care to the poor will increase costs to those who do have insurance.

-Libraries and Education: The statistics are indisputable that preK is vital to boosting students' capacity to be educated AND to not be law breakers in later life. Cuts to the UA system will send students looking for quality education Outside. Chances are strong they will not return. Why settle in an environment that offers little economic incentive or a higher quality of living. All residents deserve access to information. Many residents rely on information provided by these entities for education and connectivity not available in their homes.

-Transportation: Each area of the State is affected by the cuts.  
Rural and SE communities will lose vital transportation. Eliminating or scaling back ferry service is like intermittently closing hub roads to Fairbanks, Anchorage, etc. Additionally, some rural airports will close. Again, what services, goods etc would be not available to the Fairbanks or Anchorage populations if their major airport was closed.  
All the residents need to be respected for their places in the State.

-Public Broadcasting is critical to rural areas in addition to urban.  
Many remote areas have little to no alternative to receive local marine and aircraft weather, emergency bulletins, State and national news etc. This access has had effects on life and death. It is supported by the public in terms of contributions and our federal taxes.

-Agriculture: Alaska Grown gives the State a unique commercial product and encourages entrepreneurship. Cutting the Dairy inspection is guaranteed to take down several businesses.

This list of five could easily be expanded to other reductions/cuts like:

-usurping property and fish taxes from municipalities and boroughs, -killing the self sustaining and effective protection of the Ocean Ranger Program, -moving control of alcohol and marijuana from democratically structured boards to a single power structure -outsourcing prisons and API (no bid?), -the Alaska State Council on the Arts,

Look at the vitality of the State as a whole respecting the need for commerce, culture, communication, and education. None of these areas operate in a bubble. Off the table should be pitting one constituency against another. Each has its value and all have already been trimmed too close to the bone. Revenue must be added, not just moved around/eliminated. Is Alaska open for the people's business or not?  
Is this budget eliminating that to support international corporation business?

Sincerely,  
Mary Corcoran  
Delta Junction

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 10:43 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** voter comment on Budget

Dear Finance Committee:

I implore you to have the courage to use the Permanent Fund to fully fund the university, K-12, Health & Human Services, etc. at current levels. I agree with the Governor that Alaska needs a balanced budget but I do NOT support his proposed FY20 budget!

I was here in Alaska and received the first dividend check (and every check since). I remember it was made very clear when that first dividend check was issued that the purpose of the fund was to support essential state services when oil revenues were no longer sufficient - and that day has come. I support a capped dividend to pay for strong a Alaska. I ask you to join me. Thank you.

Lynne Johnson

[REDACTED]  
Juneau, AK 99801

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Anne Biberman <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 11:09 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** operating budget proposal (Senate Bill 20)

I am writing today in support of the Alaska State Council on the Arts. I urge you to not support any budget that would result in the elimination or reduction of the Alaska State Council on the Arts (ASCA).

The modest state allocation toward arts funding makes a tremendous impact in supporting communities all around the state and in our community. The Fairbanks Concert Association, and many other local arts organizations who receive funding from ASCA offer arts education, events for community engagement and connection, and prioritize building a healthier, more vibrant community through the arts. Our community is one that proudly supports our arts and culture resources.

ASCA's grant programs distribute modest sums which provide crucial support to arts organizations in communities of all sizes across AK. For every \$1 that ASCA awards, grantees secure an additional \$27 in local match, private contributions and earned income. In order to continue this positive leveraging of funds, it is important that ASCA retain state funding at the current level so that it can also maintain its federal match from the NEA.

The arts mean business and ASCA's impact on communities like ours helps fuel the economy and increase the quality of life for residents of all ages. In Alaska, the arts, museums and creative industries provide 11,853 jobs - more than forestry, agriculture, education, and utilities. Those jobs provided over \$890 million in compensation to Alaska families.

Thank you for taking these wishes into account. I am hopeful that you will voice your support for retaining funding for the Alaska State Council on the Arts for the health of Fairbanks North Star Borough communities as well as those throughout the state of Alaska.

Sincerely,

Anne Biberman

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Anne Biberman  
Executive Director  
Fairbanks Concert Association  
907-474-8081  
[fairbanksconcert.org](http://fairbanksconcert.org)





## Doniece Gott

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**From:** LIO Mat-Su  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 10:43 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** FW: Governor's budget

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Susan Krueger <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 10:23 AM  
**To:** LIO Mat-Su <LIO.Mat-Su@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Governor's budget

Hello and thank you,

For all you do as elected leaders in Alaska..... I would like to say that I am very disappointed in Gov. Dunleavy's proposed budget on a number of levels. First, it is feeding a divisive mentality that Alaska is NOT known for. Alaskans have always been about helping our neighbors. When Gov Dunleavy approaches this whole debate with an 'us against them' mentality, it demeans all Alaskans. You all are elected officials who I know are not becoming millionaires by serving Alaska. Using the PFD as a 'carrot' for Alaskans is also very degrading. It's not money in my pocket that Alaska needs to provide for its' people, but essential constitutional services such as educating our children, providing advertising free broadcasting such as PBS, assuring the health & safety of our people in times of need such as the Nov 30th earthquake and the many fires we have - as we approach fire season.

Does Gov Dunleavy not realize that the services that need to be provided will be paid by the people in some way or another such as property taxes being raised, jobs being lost? We will pay no matter what and having a 'full' dividend in return is NO compensation for what Alaskans truly need from their government and its' agencies.

Inclusion, not exclusion, is the key to survival - a quote from my favorite movie, The Power of One. Alaskans for Prosperity appears to be a pseudonym for exclusion. Excluded are the vulnerable - our seniors, our children, our disabled, our troubled, our hurting. Getting a PFD is not enough for the most vulnerable in Alaska. The services provided by this great state and also matched by funds from federal government when the state does its job are what the vulnerable in our communities rely on.

The chain is only as strong as the weakest link, so our focus should be on those 'weakest links'.

I say this as a registered Republican who voted for Mike Dunleavy and perhaps living to regret it.

Thanks,  
Susan Krueger  
[REDACTED]

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Alan Marasigan  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 10:38 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** FW: Please support Public Broadcasting

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**From:** L Peissig [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 10:28 AM  
**To:** LIO Anchorage <Lio.Anchorage@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Please support Public Broadcasting

Public Broadcasting is the corner-stone to our democracy, safety of our region and life-line to all communities in Alaska as well as helps us connect to the rest of the USA. We have been strong supporters of Public Broadcasting for many years and feel the defunding of this valuable resource as a grave mistake to every Alaskan.

These cuts will result in lost local services:

- Essential local **emergency**, health, and safety information.
- Without State funds, the majority of local stations will fail to meet minimum eligibility for federal grants.

Defunding the satellite and interconnection system:

- Ends ARCS as an emergency communications platform statewide for all broadcasters.
- Ends use and management of the satellite system to provide statewide distribution of public television and radio content to rural Alaska

Please reconsider and fund this invaluable resource.

Linda Blair Peissig  
Alaskan since 1984

Bruce Jamieson

[REDACTED]  
Ester, AK 997254

Email: [REDACTED]

Cell Phone: [REDACTED], Home Phone: [REDACTED]

## Recommendations for Legislative Budget Preparations

April 11, 2019

Alaskans have been struggling with the criteria to be used in the preparation of this coming year's budget. As a 50-year resident of Fairbanks and Alaska who has successfully owned and operated my own businesses over this time period, I feel it is time to weigh in with an opinion.

The State must live within its means, but it also must have the means to thrive if we are to improve the quality of life in our state going forward. You are approaching the solution to our fiscal problems incorrectly. The current model being used by Governor Dunleavy is fatally flawed.

It is time to end our efforts to fund government services only off the backs of the oil industry. On the flip side, we should not be providing them with fiscally irresponsible and unproductive incentives that do not increase our oil production or improve our overall financial position. Eliminate oil tax credits, convert them to no/low interest loans or eliminate them and institute a flat production tax. Learn from the Norway model for natural resource management going forward. Use the best parts of it that are applicable to our situation here in Alaska. It is far superior to our current approach. I just returned from two weeks in that country and I can tell you first hand that their approach is working better than ours.

We need balanced multi-faceted sources of revenue to fund government. This income should be derived from a combination of oil and other natural resource royalty and production taxes, as well as income, education, fuel and tourism taxes (no State sales tax). Every person and participating entity should be paying their fair share.

We need to use part of the Permanent Fund earnings (dividend) to fund State expenditures. Life in the "last frontier" was never envisioned as a free lunch. We are supposed to pay our way with respect to our quality of life, the services we receive and the opportunities available to us. For over forty years, we have not had to do that, but at what cost to our infrastructure, education and community development. When faced with a choice of dismantling our way of life, or paying our fair share, it is an easy decision for me to say that I will gladly pay for these services... I do not expect a PFD hand out. A "needs based" progressive PFD payout and personal income tax would be a way to ensure that those truly in financial need receive some essential income. But means testing for big businesses in this state that continue to show record or near record profits without significantly increasing production must also be instituted. The days of free hand outs for everyone should be over.

All my revenue suggestions have the benefit of not requiring a large investment in a new government bureaucracy, while generating significant additional income. If Alaska is to continue as an attractive, vibrant place to live, we must strive to improve and strengthen the quality of our communities, institutions and infrastructure, all of which takes funding and resource investments over the long term. To be arguing about whether we should get a full PFD while our ports, rails, roads, institutions, services

## Budget Preparation Memo, page 2

and communities are deprived of the basic revenue to keep up with maintenance and necessary new development is ridiculous and incredibly short sighted. Almost as bad as spending our \$14B in reserves without having corrected the underlying structural and financial problems years ago. Now we also need a plan to fund the building of new reserves.

We need to use the opportunity presented to us by Governor Dunleavy's self-inflicted dooms-day budget proposal, to wake up and face the hard reality of getting involved in the governing process at a functional level. It is obvious that unless we do, some very bad decisions will be made for us that will destroy our way of life. This is a problem so threatening, that we cannot ignore or run away from it. Let your legislators know how you feel (I am) and get involved in our community and state organizations. It is not too late. A fully funded and balanced budget is easily within our grasp, but hard decisions need to be made quickly. And the legislature must pass this budget with a bipartisan 75% veto proof consensus.

My advice to the Alaska Legislature is to ignore Governor Dunleavy's budget proposal and start from scratch or from former Governor Walker's proposed budget and put together a balanced budget based on revenue from many sources that does not diminish services or funding from current levels, but also includes additional funding for necessary maintenance and infrastructure upgrades, as well as to rebuild our reserves. Additional government efficiencies can be achieved, but only by being smart about additional structural changes, not by the diminishment of essential services. Time is of the essence, as our economy is on hold or in decline while this budget remains unresolved. Businesses and institutions are greatly impacted because of the potential uncertainty.

This current scenario here in Alaska reminds me of when I was in high school in Montana reading the history of the Roman Empire in the time of Nero. In order to placate and distract the peasants from their miserable poverty stricken lives, the emperor would throw extravagant events where people were pitted against each other until one side had clearly "won". Then on to the next event. Most of the expenses associated with this entertainment were paid by the government. That is what I see happening here in Alaska with the Dunleavy Administration and his AFP financiers and road shows. He is planning the dismantlement of Alaska society as we know it in favor of ... some panacea that will rise from the ashes of slimmed down government, institutions, and social support systems. And when that happens, it will be great. Just like it was in Kansas, Oklahoma and Wisconsin. The catch is, that first we must die. Do you really want that?

The latest rumor is that Governor Dunleavy now says he is willing to negotiate with the legislature on the budget versus the proposed constitutional amendments. Since his budget makes no sense and is dead on arrival and these proposed constitutional amendments are poison pills for the proper, long term running State and local governments, why would we want our legislature considering any negotiations on either proposal. We need to start working with the reality that none of these ideas as proposed by this governor are worth considering and get on with proposals that have some basis in reality and that can override his veto. Thank you for your time and the hard work that you do.

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Lee Henrikson <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 10:34 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Cc:** Lee Henrikson  
**Subject:** SB 20

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

A budget reflects our values. Please create a budget that values Alaskans of all ages and means. In particular, please make sure our PreK-12 education system is funded fully and our university system is funded fully. The draft budget submitted by the governor would destroy our education system, which would severely limit our future prospects. That's only one appalling aspect of that budget.

I am also in favor of funding HHS, the ferry system, public safety and public media. I hope you have the courage and forethought to create a budget that helps us grow as a State and takes care of the poor, the disabled, and the elderly. I also implore you to look at increasing revenue: raise taxes on the oil companies and institute a graduated income tax. I am also in favor of a limited PFD like we have had in recent years.

Thank you,  
Lee Henrikson  
[REDACTED]  
Palmer AK 99645

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** L@ ~ Lauren Allen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 10:52 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Education funding

Education should be a top priority for our state. Dave and I strongly urge every member to fully support our Alaskan students.

Thank you for your time.

David and Lauren Allen  
Allen Marine Inc, Allen Marine Tours, Alaskan Dream Cruises  
Sitka, AK  
[REDACTED]

Thursday, April 11 at 1 p.m. – PUBLIC TESTIMONY –Senate Finance Committee  
1 to 2:15 p.m., Juneau room 532 in the Capitol building

- My name is Mrs. Nikki Love and I am a grandparent of a young child, an early childhood educator, small business owner, taxpayer, voter, Alaska Native and a resident of Juneau.
- Thank you for the difficult work you are doing to in regard to the state budget. I've taken time off of work today to ask that you fund the vital services that Alaskans depend on.

Strong education programs like Head Start, Parents As Teachers, Public Schools and the University system build a healthy community of self-reliant people. –In my family alone there are 4 degree holders from the University of Alaska, graduates from the public school system, and recipients of early literacy support through Best Beginnings.

A strong ferry system, like the interior highways, assure that Alaskans stay connected. Without the ferries, many small businesses like mine, would not be viable and outlying communities would suffer.

Strong medical and elder care programs assure that Alaskans can receive the help they need, age with much deserved dignity, and continue to be contributing members of the state. I was born and raised in Alaska, I intend to stay. Someday I may need these services myself.

I ask that you please reject the Governor's proposed budget, use PFD dollars to continue funding vital services, instate a state income tax, and discontinue oil industry tax credits to address future budget shortfalls. I want to see an Alaska built for all its people not for the few who profit.

- Thank you for your continued efforts.

Mrs. Nikki Love  
[REDACTED]t.  
Juneau, AK 99801  
[REDACTED]

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** LIO Juneau  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 9:26 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** FW: Please continue funding Alaska Public Media

**From:** Jeanne Bussey <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 9:23 AM  
**To:** LIO Juneau <LIO.Juneau@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Please continue funding Alaska Public Media

Dear Legislators,

Alaska Public Media is extremely important to our Anchorage household. We watch PBS almost exclusively: PBS News Hour, Masterpiece, NOVA, Amanpour and many other programs. And although we do not have little ones in the household, we remember how wonderful the children's show are for increasing their knowledge and instilling good values. Public Radio is also extremely important to us. We trust that we will hear balanced and informative news that helps us be critical thinkers. We also know that Alaska Public Media is crucial to the rural areas of Alaska, providing good programming and also emergency, health and safety information. Rural areas need to continue to have this satellite connection.

We appreciate that you are making very difficult budget decisions about the services we need here in Alaska. We urge you to fund Alaska Public Media and we will continue to do our part by making donations each year.

Thank you,  
*Jeanne Bussey*



**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** LIO Juneau  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 9:45 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** FW: Support for Alaska Public Radio

**From:** Artemis BonaDea <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 8:07 PM  
**To:** LIO Juneau <LIO.Juneau@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Support for Alaska Public Radio

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing you in support of the very important service Alaska Public Radio provides across our state, with a special emphasis on the service it provides to smaller Alaska communities. I am travelling on April 11 and will be unable to give my testimony on the phone.

I live in Gustavus, Alaska and I am able to pick up KTOO in Juneau thanks to a transmitter. It is my only source for news, information about Alaskan culture and early warnings for tsunami.

Funding for these services is essential to small town Alaska and can often be the only source for news about Alaska as more and more radio stations are owned by out-of-state businesses and do not support a news program.

I hope you will do everything you can to support Alaska Public Radio.

Artemis BonaDea  
[REDACTED]  
Gustavus, AK 99826

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Alan Marasigan  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 10:37 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** FW: Continued funding for Statewide Public Media Services is CRITICAL

**From:** Stephen Blankenship <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 8:54 AM  
**To:** LIO Anchorage <Lio.Anchorage@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Continued funding for Statewide Public Media Services is CRITICAL

To whom it may concern:

Removal of State funds for Public Media could cause the loss of essential local emergency, health and safety information.

It could also cause a cascade effect, rendering many local affiliates ineligible for Federal grants.

Defunding the satellite system ends ARCS' usefulness as an emergency communications tool, as well ends our ability to provide statewide distribution of public television and radio content to rural Alaska!

Funding for these services MUST continue.

Respectfully,  
Stephen J. Blankenship

 Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Alan Marasigan  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 10:37 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** FW: Alaska Public Media

**From:** Camilla Seifert <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 9:14 AM  
**To:** LIO Anchorage <Lio.Anchorage@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Alaska Public Media

Good Morning. I am writing in support of Alaska Public Media. The proposed cuts will result in the loss of local emergency services. Rural Alaska will lose public radio and television, often the only broadcast available. Without State funds, public media stations may not be able to meet the eligibility for federal grants. I have lived in Girdwood since 1975: public broadcast has been a reliable presence here all this time. Please listen to your constituents. Please do not cut all things relating to quality of life. Please tax us.

Camilla Seifert

Girdwood, Alaska

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Alan Marasigan  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 10:37 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** FW: Funding for Public Media

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**From:** Karen Hilyard <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 9:21 AM  
**To:** LIO Anchorage <Lio.Anchorage@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Funding for Public Media

Dear Legislators,

I am writing to urge you in the strongest way possible to fight for state funding to continue for Alaska Public Medias. This funding is not a frivolous expense for our state. It provides for essential critical services, threatens to end federal funding/ grants due to failing to meet minimum eligibility requirements, ends ARCS as emergency platform for communication in cases of emergencies, and ends use/management of the satellite system set up for public tv and radio. This would be a HUGE step backwards for our state. Please fight this cut and be willing to fight Gov Dunleavy's veto as well!

Sincerely, Karen Hilyard

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Alan Marasigan  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 10:37 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** FW: Please keep funding for public media

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Cat Coward <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 9:30 AM  
**To:** LIO Anchorage <Lio.Anchorage@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Please keep funding for public media

Dear Senators,

During these challenging times for our state with the ongoing budget crisis, I hope you will consider maintaining the budget for Alaska Public Media. I rely on Alaska Pubic Media daily for weather updates, school closures, unbiased Alaska and National news, emergency health and safety information, and a host of other important informative issues. Without state funding, many local stations will risk losing important federal grants that keep them afloat. APM is a crucial service for our entire state and consequences of losing funding for public media stations, and for the satellite and interconnection system are terrible for many rural communities, for Anchorage, and for my family.

Please reconsider these budget cuts. We do have funding for these and other community services.... we have revenue in the PFD and/or in a potential income tax. Draconian budget cuts such as are proposed by Mr. Dunleavy will not enhance our state, nor will they make our state more desirable for new residents, nor will they help the economy long term.

Please use this email as my public testimony.

Thank you,  
Catherine Coward  
[REDACTED]  
Anchorage, AK 99507

## **Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Alan Marasigan  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 10:37 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** FW: Support Alaska Public Media

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**From:** matrops@ak.net [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 10:09 AM  
**To:** LIO Anchorage <Lio.Anchorage@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Support Alaska Public Media

We have been longtime supporters of PBS and KAKM in Anchorage, AK. Our children were raised with Sesame street. We have followed PBS 1968-1984 in CA and continued to support PBS 1984 to the present in AK. We are both now retired here after long careers in Alaska.

We strongly believe in a balance between private and public media, wanting to preserve Alaska Public Media's place in this, for our sakes and as an option available to many other families, religions, cultures, and regions within Alaska. We are separated from the Lower 48 in many ways and need to maintain an open, vigilant, and informed citizenship for all ages in Alaska.

We are concerned with the loss of local infrastructure, federal support, and satellite access throughout a broad geography with widely dispersed citizens in hard-to-reach terrains. Essential news, safety, health, and emergency services should be preserved. Because of Alaska's small population scattered over a large state, its lack of road connections, and its expensive media connections, it should have public support. Informed communications foster relationships and valuable connections.

We value the PBS NewsHours' balanced reporting local, state, national, and international news. They seek out spokespersons and experts representing two sides of the issues. We follow local and state coverage of elections, with local PBS taking time to interview all candidates and issues. The process is fact-based, considering competing viewpoints regardless of party. Many cable channels do not offer the same quality of coverage.

On KAKM we follow Line One, Talk of Alaska, Fresh Air, and Science Friday.

Removing all support from Alaska Public Media is destructive; limits access to facts and balanced arguments; and limits educational, creative openness to fresh ideas in many venues for all citizens. We need an informed citizenry to vote wisely, to make progress in their work, and to raise their families. Martin Atrops, Ph.D., M.Div., Psychologist; Lori Atrops, UAA Adjunct Professor, MA (English); RN; former owner, manager of Habitat Housewares, Anchorage, AK.

## LIO Bethel

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**From:** Cynthia McFeeters  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 6:26 AM  
**To:** LIO Bethel  
**Subject:** Save Public Media Funding

Dear members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I would like to take a few minutes to share with you my thoughts on why it is essential for our leaders to keep state funding for public media.

I moved to Alaska in my early 20's and have lived here for 28 years. I first lived in Juneau, then Gustavus, Klukwan and now I am back in Juneau. I have experienced both the urban and rural lifestyles in Alaska and I love them both. In all places public media, both radio and television, have been an important part of keeping my family and our communities safe and connected around the state and also helping us all to feel connected to the outside world.

I have been an educator for almost 20 years. In that time, our districts and our state have taken pride in the work we have done to keep Alaskans connected and, despite our long distances and challenges, a part of the modern world. We can be independent, rugged, savvy and informed.

I realize that our leaders have some tough decisions to make in all areas of our state funding. This is just one area that I am super concerned about when it comes to the loss of funding. If we start cutting these essential services we are taking a step backwards for the future of our residents and especially the residents in our rural communities for whom public media is the only source of information.

Thank you for your time.

Cynthia McFeeters  
Juneau, Alaska

**Doniece Gott**

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**From:** Alan Marasigan  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 11:23 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** FW: AK Public Media

-----Original Message-----

**From:** finley@ak.net <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 11:22 AM  
**To:** LIO Anchorage <Lio.Anchorage@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** AK Public Media

We need to continue to support Ak Public Media. It provides statewide news coverage which helps keep Alaskans aware of one another and their needs.

John C Finley



## Doniece Gott

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**From:** LIO Mat-Su  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 11:47 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** FW: Fund Public Broadcasting

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**From:** Jan Mulder <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 11:25 AM  
**To:** LIO Mat-Su <LIO.Mat-Su@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Fund Public Broadcasting

Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I urge you to fully fund public broadcasting in Alaska. I make use of the programming provided by Alaska Public Media on a daily basis. I believe it is vital for providing information at the local, state and national level. Our state constitution provides for the financial support of education and public health. I believe Alaska public broadcasting fulfills this through programs such as: *Talk of Alaska*, *Line One: Your Health Connection*, *Running*, *Alaska Economic Report*, and many others. The savings to our state budget by eliminating this funding would be minimal while the effects of cutting statewide services would be enormous, especially to rural residents. Public broadcasting informs the people of Alaska and connects our communities. I want to see the State of Alaska continue to be a participant in ensuring the success and growth of this important resource. Thank you.

Kind Regards,

Jan Mulder  
Sutton AK

**KENAI LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE**

Email: [Kenai\\_LIO@akleg.gov](mailto:Kenai_LIO@akleg.gov)

Phone: 907-283-2030 / Fax: 907-283-3075

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY**

**NAME:** Karen Otter  
**REPRESENTING:** Self  
**BILL # or SUBJECT:** SB 20  
**COMMITTEE:** SFIN **DATE:** 04-11-2019

We are now on our 70s. We have watched and given to public tv here and in Anchorage. Many people here agree it is one of the few watchable things on tv.

And the kids enjoy wholesome learning and fun all week.

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Phone: 907-283-2030 / Fax: 907-283-3075

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY**

**NAME:** John Kobylarz  
**REPRESENTING:** Self  
**BILL # or SUBJECT:** SB 20  
**COMMITTEE:** SFIN **DATE:** 04-11-2019

I am opposed to removing funding from public broadcasting. The one true medium that attempts to present a public balanced forum. Needless to say the entertainment presented is of quality and respects the intellect and mores of the audience.

John Kobylarz, DMD

## Doniece Gott

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**From:** Alan Marasigan  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 11:54 AM  
**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
**Subject:** FW: Public Media Funding

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Judy Lyke <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 11:45 AM  
**To:** LIO Anchorage <Lio.Anchorage@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Public Media Funding

To the current Administration of the State of Alaska and the State of Alaska Legislature;

I am very concerned regarding the possibility that the current State administration may cut and/or eliminate state funding for public media.

This is a critical institution necessary for not only essential local emergency, health and safety information to all the far flung communities of our state, it is also vital for the satellite and interconnection system, which include ARCS as an emergency communications platform, and the providing of statewide distribution of public radio and television. It is necessary for our State administration and legislature to not only prevent defunding of this institution but to continue to support it for all Alaskans. The impact of public media and its availability to the population centers of the state but also, perhaps even more so, to the Bush communities is unmeasurable.

I am a resident of Anchorage for 22 years and have 3 young granddaughters born and raised here. I feel public media provides us all with programming opportunities unavailable and/or not developed by other communication entities. These programs, such as emergency information, local, statewide, national, international and Native news, and educational programming, give my grandchildren, their parents, and their grandparents programming that is important to us all. I have been a supporter of public media for many years and I will continue to support public media. However, on my retirement income, I will not be able to support at the required level if state, and possibly federal, funding is reduced and/or eliminated.

Thank you for considering the implications how the proposed funding cuts can and will impact the safety and education of all our citizens and the future of our children. This decision is in your hands and, speaking as a citizen of Alaska, we are counting on you to make the right decision for all of us.

Sincerely,

Judith Lyke  
<[REDACTED]>  
Anchorage, AK. 99511

Sent from my iPad