



April 15, 2019

Senate Finance Committee
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

We are writing to express our deep concerns with Governor Mike Dunleavy's budget proposal. We appreciate all your time and consideration that you have spent in research and talking with the Departments to understand the effects of what these cuts will mean to Alaskans.

Despite the many hearings, questions are still looming on just how these cuts can honestly lead to anything but a downward economic spiral for Alaska that will be very tough for our state to recover from. Alaskans in communities from across the state have made their voices clear – these cuts are not supported and will not serve in Alaska's best interest.

Native Peoples Action strives to provide Alaska Native communities and our traditional values with a voice at all levels of policy making. For thousands of years Alaska Natives have been stewards of our lands and waters. It is important that we continue to see Alaska flourish, to do this we must fund essential services for Alaskans to keep us all safe, healthy, and to continue living our traditional ways of life.

While we hear time and time again that public safety is important, there is a proposal to cut \$3 million from the Village Public Safety Officers program. No matter where people live in Alaska, we all deserve the right to feel safe in our home. I hope that you will consider restoring this funding and will work toward providing public safety in all our villages across Alaska.

We are also deeply concerned with the cuts directly affecting our children and Elders. This budget is telling Alaskans that we do not care about providing for our future or honoring those who have built Alaska. Our Elders have taken care of us and now we must take care of them. We implore you to ensure that the Senior Benefits program continues and not to decrease funding or raise fees for our Pioneer Homes.

As we face cuts to public education we will see classroom sizes grow as teacher cuts will be made, pre-k programs will be eliminated, and the cuts to the University will force closures of campuses across Alaska. Again, this budget is telling our kids they are less important and that they must be in urban centers to receive the education they deserve. Our children are the future of Alaska - we need to treat them as such, and investing in our future is the only way Alaska will succeed.

Lastly, we must ensure that Alaskans are treated fairly across the state; cutting off services to our communities is not the Alaskan way. We urge you to continue funding the PCE program so rural Alaskans can continue to live in their homes and rural communities. We urge you to fund the ferry system so our coastal communities will continue to have access to essential transportation, access to healthcare facilities, and connect our communities across the state.

We understand the budget difficulties the state is facing, but we cannot cut our way to prosperity. We urge you to maintain services for Alaskans, fund our education, take care of our Elders, allow every Alaskan the ability to feel safe in their home, and protect programs that are essential to Alaskans.

Gunałchéesh/Háw'aa/Quyana/Mahsi'/Baassee'/Maasee'/Dogedinh/Thank you,

Kendra Kloster
Executive Director
Native Peoples Action



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April 15, 2019

Senate Finance Subcommittee - Commerce, Community & Economic Development

Sen. Wilson, Chair
Sen. Birch
Sen. Gray-Jackson

Dear Senators,

As you consider close-out funding for FY20, AARP Alaska, representing our 85,000 members statewide, urges continued funding for Alaska Legal Services Corporation. The very modest funding request in the amount of \$750K (\$450K state appropriation; \$300K Civil Legal Services Fund), represents a very significant amount of service to low income Alaskans, including seniors.

Without ALSC, there would be almost no legal help for low-income (<125% FPL) Alaskans contending with civil issues like housing eviction, debt collection, and domestic violence. Already, ALSC has seen its funding reduced over time to the point that nearly 50% of low income Alaskans needing legal help are turned away. Last year, the 30th Legislature created the Civil Legal Services Fund, allowing appropriation of up to 10% of court filing fees to fund legal services for low-income Alaskans. ALSC is the only organization in the state of Alaska that provides such services.

Persons living in poverty are much more likely to experience the legal consequences of poverty that destabilize families, and put vulnerable people like children and seniors at increased risk of abuse and violence. Legal problems further complicate all the other negative consequences of poverty like poor physical and mental health, loss of housing, food and economic insecurity. Each of these cost money in our communities, as well as lives. Most fundamentally, lack of access to legal representation significantly risks low income individuals the justice promised for all, not just those who can afford it.

AARP Alaska urges continued funding of the Alaska Legal Services Corporation, as has been the practice for more than 50 years. Now is not the time to compromise vulnerable Alaskans with a loss of legal defense. Thank you for your support of this very important program.

Respectfully,

Ken Helander
Advocacy Director

762-3314
khelander@aarp.org

cc: Senate Finance Committee

Doniece Gott

From: Heath Whitacre [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, April 13, 2019 8:45 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Budget testimony

Members of the Committee,

My wife and I live in Petersburg with our two kids, who were born in Ketchikan and raised in Petersburg. We have lived here for the past 14 years and would like to stay. However, the budget as proposed by Governor Dunleavy is unacceptable to us. The proposed cuts to the core aspects that make our community great would reduce the quality of life that is the primary reason we stay. Cuts to education, health and social services, public radio, and especially the ferry system would gut this community. Apparently the majority of people up north in the large cities don't really care. They have everything they need a short drive away. But even they will be impacted by this budget proposal, PFD check or not. Southeast communities would be dramatically effected in negative ways. My wife and I have advanced degrees and years of experience in our respective fields. We can find jobs down south, but choose to live here. If the quality of life diminishes significantly for us and our kids we will leave and so will others like us. The fact that Alaska is in this situation in the first place reflects poor planning and poor leadership, but this complete lack of strategic planning is just plain lazy. We will pull support from any of our legislators who show a lack of courage to stand against this budget. We are paying attention and will vote accordingly.

Sincerely,

Heath and Marina Whitacre

Doniece Gott

From: Janice Caulfield [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, April 13, 2019 8:43 AM
To: Finance
Subject: Public comment on Alaska State Budget

Honorable Members of the Alaska Senate Finance Committee,

I'm a small business owner and parent of two young adult children. I've lived in Alaska since 1979 and I urge you to:

INCREASE REVENUE: Take responsibility. Adopt adequate revenue streams to ensure responsible stewardship of all Alaskans and our environment. To balance the state's budget, stop paying the oil companies to take our oil; cap or stop PFD payments; and institute a personal income tax.

PROTECT SCHOOL & UNIVERSITY FUNDING: Budget cuts mean greater class sizes, reducing time teachers can spend with each student. This is less effective for everyone involved. The learning of students at all levels, from preschool to university age, suffers when those who teach them are over-extended due to high student: teacher ratios. Please don't cut them further.

PROTECT HEALTH CARE, including Medicaid, whose services keep thousands of Alaskans' healthy

PROTECT ELDER CARE & PIONEER HOMES: Our elders who worked to make this state a better place deserve attentive care, including health and residential services such as the Pioneer Homes. Keep the Pioneer Home rates affordable to ALL, not just the wealthy.

PROTECT OUR FERRIES: Like actual roads, they connect coastal communities with the mainland & support our economy & culture.

Thank you for your hard work considering alternative revenue streams, to protect Alaskans from the sharp and reckless knife of Governor Dunleavy's administration. As legislators, you are our only hope for a prosperous future.

Sincerely,

Jan Caulfield

Juneau, Alaska 99801

Doniece Gott

From: Sandra Fontaine <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, April 13, 2019 6:59 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Budget cuts

Dear Finance Committee Members:

I believe in fiscal conservatism, but the proposed budget cuts will destroy much of the carefully-built infrastructure of our state.

We need:

our state university...it is a measure of our educational standards to maintain a viable university

our k-12 education system....some cutting okay, but again, we need to maintain programs

the Pioneer Home...the proposals to hugely increase monthly payments mean that people who have lived here long (in my case, over 55 years) will not be able to end our lives in Alaska

The Sheldon Jackson museum...this is an irreplaceable site containing priceless cultural artifacts...the idea of dismantling it is BARBARIC !!

WE DON'T NEED: PFDs.....please consider balancing the budget by getting RID of PFDs

Thank you for your time and service.

Sandra Fontaine (Sitka resident since 1962)

Doniece Gott

From: Charles Bingham [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, April 13, 2019 12:29 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Comments on Alaska budget

All,

I had every intention of attending Friday's budget hearing teleconference in Sitka, but woke up feeling really sick and ended up going back to bed.

Anyway, my comments are my own, but I wanted to let you know I am president of the Sitka Local Foods Network and I am a governing board member of the Alaska Food Policy Council. Many of my comments relate to Alaska's food security, or lack thereof, and how this budget makes the country's most food insecure state worse.

I find the governor's budget reckless and irresponsible. I also worry the costs to Alaska will be much greater than any initial dollar savings from his cuts. For example, when you cut Medicaid and other safety net services you will incur long-term costs in higher health care expenses and reduced ability of smaller rural hospitals to provide charity care.

The state receives hundreds of millions of dollars from the federal government, but we need state support for the programs that money funds and state buy-in to keep those programs in place.

I also don't like the way Gov. Dunleavy's budget keeps the oil tax giveaway in place, even though getting rid of the oil giveaway is about equal to Dunleavy's stated budget deficit. We need to stop giving money to corporations for work they already should be paying for.

It's long past time for a state personal income tax; we never should have gotten rid of this tax in the early 1980s. By having a personal income tax, people now have a personal stake in Alaska's government. It also means that some of the non-Alaskans working in our state (more than 20 percent in some industries) now have to help support our infrastructure. As much as I understood Gov. Walker's reductions to the PFDs, I thought that move should have been a last resort, coming after we reintroduced a state personal income tax and reconfigured many of our industry taxes (such as mining) that haven't been changed in decades. Cutting the PFD only impacts Alaska residents, and the impact is higher in rural communities where there isn't much of a cash economy, while adding a personal income tax gets money from everybody including the non-Alaskans working in our state.

Anyway, here are some talking points on the budget from the Alaska Food Policy Council that I wanted on the record.

Some programs/funding streams we want to protect include:

Programs that support Alaskan agriculture:

- Agriculture is one of the only renewable resources in the State and our industry is growing!
- Programs slated for reduction or elimination from the State Division of Agriculture (Division) include: the Alaska Grown program, the Agriculture Revolving Loan Fund, the Farm to Institution program, and nearly all of the services of the Plant Materials Center. In addition to providing marketing and promotion, access to lending, development of new markets, and research on varieties and diseases, these programs also bring in millions of dollars in Federal funds. While the entire Division budget is ~\$1.3 million State dollars, programs are supported and matched with between \$2 and 3 million fee for service and federal dollars annually. Without the Division

team to provide support however, these dollars will be turned away and growers will not have access to essential programs.

- The proposed cut of the Department of Environmental Conservation, Dairy Sanitation position would eliminate Alaskans access to grade A milk and put at least one multi-generational farm out of business.
- Services provided by the Division should be considered “core” services. Not only are the dedicated staff incredibly knowledgeable about Alaska agriculture issues, they are highly efficient, budget conscious and committed to supporting the industry as a whole. Alaskans’ have benefited from a Department or Division of Agriculture since Territorial Days; industry members are dependent on the knowledge, expertise and unbiased support that Division staff provide.
- The Division of Agriculture, Plant Materials Center (PMC) provides vital services for continued resource development within Alaska. The PMC is tasked with protecting the State from invasive species of plants, insects, animals and disease. Their efforts support natural resource development statewide, for example, *Canada Thistle* was recently discovered along the roadway north of the Alaska Range, 100 miles south of Prudhoe Bay. This invasive species is a threat to native plant vegetation and wildlife as well as a potential problem for future natural resource development. It is noteworthy that hundreds of millions of dollars are spent annually treating *Canada Thistle* in the lower 48; this is only to keep it at bay, as eradication is now considered impossible. The PMC staff treated the Alaskan outbreak of *Canada Thistle* with the intent to eradicate it from the North Slope, maintaining Alaska’s pristine environment.
- Alaskans’ import 95% of the food they purchase, but have demonstrated their support of Alaska Grown products through their commitment to shopping at Farmers Markets, participating in the \$5 a week Alaska Grown Challenge at retail grocery stores, and encouraging growers of all products to increase production. To cut off the valuable services provided by the Division now, during this time of incredible momentum, would be devastating to our immature but thriving industry.
- We urge you to support full funding for the Division of Agriculture. *Everybody eats* and therefore we are all “involved” in Agriculture. Support the industry that can both help strengthen our food security and grow our economy.

Programs that reduce food insecurity and support access to food:

- The **Senior Benefit Program** funding of \$24.4 million will be eliminated, and the Governor is seeking a full repeal of the program altogether. This program provides cash assistance to more than 11,000 low-income Alaskan elders so they can afford necessities like food, heat, and medication. The loss of this funding combined with other proposed cuts, like those to the PFD hold harmless fund or to Adult Public Assistance, means that some low-income seniors could be seeing multiple layers of resource cuts.
- **Human Services Community Matching Grant (HSCMG)** funding of \$1.38 million will be eliminated. This is one of the only funding streams to support operations for basic needs services like food and shelter. Many emergency food providers, including Food Bank of Alaska, Catholic social Services, Covenant House Alaska, and many others, receive this funding. The loss of these funds to the anti-hunger network would be compounded by the decrease in other benefits for low-income Alaskans, which creates additional need and puts additional pressure on their network.
- There is an overall \$35.4 million cut to public assistance, including cuts to **Adult Public Assistance** (for low-income seniors and disabled individuals), **tribal assistance program**, and the **PFD Hold Harmless Fund**, which will likely reduce eligibility and benefits for many public assistance programs.
- While child nutrition programs weren’t cut directly, the massive 25% in reductions to public education will almost certainly result in the reduction of the **school meal program** in many districts. Some rural districts have already cut this critical program because of insufficient budgets, and this is of huge concern to us, given the critical role that school meals play in addressing childhood food insecurity. The State of Alaska Child Nutrition

Programs are reporting that they already have several districts not committing to operating a school meal program for fear of budget cuts.

Thanks,
Charles Bingham

March 11, 2019

To whom it may concern,

Regarding the debt: It seems it happened overnight...I've never understood how the state found itself to have such a huge debt. Please, put politics aside and come up with a plan to help the state crawl out of debt without punishing the people of Alaska and causing us to lose precious progress that has been made since statehood.

Now that we are here, we can't remedy this overnight.

Alaska Marine Highway: The Alaska Marine Highway has been responsible for the growth & development of SE Alaska. Much has been invested in ferries, including docks, terminals, & ships. Ferries keep many Alaskans employed....on the ships, docks, in the terminals, maintenance crews, engineers, bookkeepers, computer workers, etc.....all needed to maintain and improve the system. How many Alaskans will lose their jobs with deep cuts to the Alaska Marine Highway Both those who work for the Marine Highway, but those who depend on the ferries? Taxi drivers, B&B operators, car rentals, How many people won't be able to afford to travel for health care? How many small businesses will be hurt because they can't send supplies and goods on the ferry? How many tourist will decide with reduced service, not to visit Alaska? Won't be stopping in the smaller communities? Alaska has made great strides forward with ferry service! Let's not go backward and waste the investment we have made in this essential service. Rather than cut— look at positive ways to increase ridership and increase the number of visitors traveling by ferry with more advertising, website ads, more help with scheduling etc.

Airports in rural areas also MUST be maintained. Again these are steps forward that save lives and connect the villages to the rest of the state, the world. They are essential for the health & well being of people who live in the villages.

Education: The US is not number 1 when it comes to literacy, I can't believe anyone could possibly think cutting money to education is going to improve education or save money. Not sure if Head Start is still on the cutting block, but that is where education starts, that is where, literally many children get a start....a head start, a positive start to learning! Cutting education may help "balance" the budget today, but will have long term negative results in children not doing well in school, not learning a

March 11, 2019

skill, not being employed, not being productive Alaskans. We have to think long-term not just a balanced budget tomorrow, but what effect cuts today will have tomorrow.

Regarding the PFD: What happened to the formula based on 5 yr earnings? The first PFD I received (1983) was \$386.15. Seems cutting the budget and vital services will cost Alaskans more financially than what is proposed in giving us in the form of the PFD. I would rather have vital services than a few dollars in October.

Income Tax: Jay Hammond eliminated the state income tax in 1980. If we had continued the income tax we would have had a base income to help us through the ups & downs of oil prices. I feel it was a big mistake and should be reinstated to provide a stable, consistent income for the state.

If we have to cut, perhaps we could cut government at the administrative level, lower salaries for the governor, legislators, legislative aides, support staff, fewer computers, fewer million dollar special sessions, etc..... I noticed there is state of the art equipment in the capitol. Perhaps the governor and legislators should do with fewer aides and older equipment?

Please, think out of the box, be creative, there are positive ways to grow the Alaskan economy without cutting hard gained progress....meaning at some point we will have to "rebuild"..... lets keep the positive things we have and use them to benefit the state and people of Alaska. Rather than cutting, help "grow" the economy, so that money is put toward paying off the debt. No doubt government can be made more efficient. However, I don't see how going backward in the areas we have made progress is more than a short-sighted fix. The proposed cuts are going to mean people lose their jobs, are unable to continue their small businesses, seek medical care, fewer teachers (larger class size), possibly even school closures..... these cuts may cost the state more in terms of unemployment, people leaving the state, people not coming to the state.

We also should not depend on developing oil, gas, etc to bail us out. Isn't that why we are in this fix?

Thank you for listening.

Helen Unruh ([REDACTED])

Doniece Gott

From: kristen homer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2019 9:37 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Operating budget

Dear Senate Finance Committee:

I am writing today to tell you that I am opposed to the drastic budget cuts proposed by Governor Dunleavy. I do not believe in balancing the budget on spending cuts alone. I do not believe that additional PFD payouts could possibly make up for the devastation that will result from Dunleavy's proposed cuts to education, the ferry, Medicaid and other social services programs.

I am the mother of 2 daughters who are currently enrolled in the Sitka School District. I work as a nurse practitioner in a school based health clinic at Mt. Edgecumbe High School. Every day I see the benefits to Alaska's youth that come from investing in quality education, access to health care, cultural enrichment, transportation and community.

The students of both Sitka High School and Mt. Edgecumbe High School have had the benefit of small class sizes, quality teaching, access to the arts and athletics, and support from school staff throughout their education. These benefits will go away if Dunleavy's 23% cut in K-12 funding is instituted.

Gutting and/or eliminating essential services for the sake of providing each Alaskan with a few extra thousand dollars is short-sighted, destructive and will ultimately cripple communities around the state. This budget will leave Alaska's most vulnerable populations even more vulnerable. It will strip away opportunities for our State's youth and will drive many Alaskans to leave the State.

I agree with lawmakers and concerned citizens who have pointed out that the current crisis is not so much of a fiscal crisis as it is a priority crisis. I do not believe that we as a state should be prioritizing a low tax burden and full permanent fund dividend over providing quality essential services to the citizens of our State.

I value quality education, ferry transportation, access to health care and public broadcasting. I strongly believe that Alaska needs to continue to invest in its individuals, communities, infrastructure, and future. I am willing to pay for these services and I believe that Alaska should revive the state income tax, say no to the additional PFD payments proposed in senate bills 23 and 24, pay out a modest PFD, and repeal the oil tax credits.

Thank you,

Kristen Homer

Doniece Gott

From: Daniel Tate [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2019 6:56 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee; Sen. Bert Stedman
Subject: Testimony Operating Budget-Petersburg, Daniel Tate

Your honors,

Thank you for taking my testimony on the operating budget.

I am against:

- any appropriation to backpay PFDs
- taking away the raw fish tax from municipalities
- shifting state financial responsibilities to municipalities
- eliminating the Ranger program

I am for:

- forward funding education for FY20 and FY21
- maintaining the one-time \$30 million education funding
- keeping the school debt bond program in place
- funding the ferry system and improving service and reliability
- funding our essential social service programs and pre-school initiatives
- personal income tax
- increase in corporate taxation
- allowing the PFD to fund government as a stop gap measure
- balancing the budget

I believe the PFD should be paid out on a sliding scale. The low and middle income should get a standard payment much as we have today. Middle and high income brackets can get buy on a token payment.

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel Tate
Petersburg, AK

Doniece Gott

From: Steve Paustian [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2019 4:25 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: 2019 State Budget

Dear Senator Stedman, Senator von Imhof and Finance Committee members,

I have been a resident of Alaska for over 40 years. The Governor's proposed budget if implemented, will result in the biggest crisis the community of Sitka and the State of Alaska has faced in the past 4 decades. Governor Dunleavy's budget cuts to schools, the university system, healthcare and social services, Public Broadcasting, and the Ferry system will have devastating economic and social consequences for Sitka. I urge the Legislature to reject Dunleavy's budget plan and develop a balanced, strategic approach to get the States financial house in order.

Sincerely, Steve Paustian, Sitka

Sent from my iPad

Doniece Gott

From: Hannah Gustafson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2019 4:14 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Thoughts on the Governor's Proposed Budget

Finance Committee,

I was unable to testify at the LIO in person today, but I wanted to take a quick moment to send my thoughts via email.

I am a lifelong Alaskan - this is the only home I have ever known. I attended K-12 in Kenai and then went on to receive my bachelor's degree at UAA. I am now a small business owner - living, working, and raising two children in Homer, Alaska. This is the place I have, very intentionally, chosen to make my family's home.

The governor's proposed cuts to education and the university system are of great concern to me. If these cuts go through, they would decimate these systems that are so crucial to the people of Alaska. My children's school is one of many on the chopping block as the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District anticipates \$20 million dollars worth of cuts.

I realize that we have reached a crossroads as a state, the glory days of high oil prices are behind us and we have done a poor job of preparing for this inevitable moment.

We CANNOT cut our way to a balanced budget. Well I guess we could, but the results would be a state in which my family and I would be unable to call home.

It is time to consider new revenue streams. It is time to be the leaders we elected you to be, acting in the best interest of your constituents. I would be happy to give up my permanent fund dividend, pay an income tax, and/or pay a state sales tax. Any combination of these would be more acceptable than the governor's proposal to cut our way out of this mess.

Please take into serious consideration these feasible alternatives - the future of our great state is counting on it.

Sincerely,

Hannah Gustafson
Homer, Alaska

Valdez Legislative Information Office

Email: Valdez_LIO@legis.state.ak.us
Phone: 907-835-2111 Fax: 907-835-2097

WRITTEN TESTIMONY

NAME: Kathleen Todd MD
REPRESENTING: self
BILL#/ SUBJECT: budget
COMMITTEE &
HEARING DATE: Senate Finance 4/12/19

One minute is not a long time, so I would also like to submit written testimony for Medicaid, one of the many things that we need and that we can do cheaper together. Medicaid and Medicaid expansion have been good for Alaska, bringing in Federal dollars and spreading the burden of care for poor and ~~middle~~ working poor more equitably. When medical services are used by those who can not pay, prices for the rest of the sick are raised, burdening those paying out of pocket and raising insurance prices so that fewer people will get decent insurance through their work or their own payments. Without Medicaid we tax the sick to support the sick who can't pay, instead of spreading that burden through the whole population. Of course we also deny care to some people, often enough to disable them so that they can't pay their own housing, food, etc. either.

The rest of us non-Medicaid patients will also be affected by hospital closures and cut backs if Medicaid rates or beneficiaries are cut drastically. This is nowhere so obvious as in long term care facilities. It might seem prudent (if cruel) to cut how much money we spend on elders and the disabled, but essentially all small hospitals in Alaska need their long term care patients to survive. Long term care that pays for itself supports the laundry, dietary, maintenance, administration, etc. services that are needed by acute care on a more intermittent basis.

Please do not cut Medicaid funding for either acute or long term care services - it is part of a system that supports jobs and health for Alaska.
Kathleen A. Todd MD

4-10-19

To our Alaska State Legislators,
Representatives of all our citizens,

Please fund Parents as Teachers, Head Start,
and Pre K programs. These programs are
vital to our Hoonah children (many of whom
are from low income families.)

Readiness for school entry ensures more
success in K-12 and in post-graduation
life pursuits.

as a retired educator, ^{GBBS Program Director,} mother, and
grandmother of a 3 year old, I can think
of no more important way to invest
state funds.

Respectfully submitted,
Sally Byrdahl
Hoonah

[Redacted Signature]

To whom it may concern,

My name is Julia Gregory and I am a parent of two young children. We are residents of Hoonah, Alaska and are active in the early childhood programs available here, which are Hoonah Head Start, PAT, and Best Beginnings Imagination Library. I am whole heartedly asking that you fully fund early childhood programs at the amounts approved by the legislature last year for Head Start, Pre-K, Parents as Teachers, and Best Beginnings Imagination Library by supporting SB 20. These programs need to be funded to continue in the future because they are absolutely critical for the development of young children, especially in rural communities. Its proven that a huge part of a child's brain develops before the age five. My two-year-old daughter who started in PAT last year has grown leaps and bounds, in all aspects of her life due to her participation in this program. My three-year-old daughter is now in Head Start, again, this program has increased her abilities, strengthen her foundation for all future learning and building character. As a parent I strive to do these things for my children, but in reality, participating in these early childhood education programs gives me the tools to better help support and prepare my children in the strongest and most effective way. Our children are worth the investment. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,



Julia Gregory

Hoonah, AK
99829

Dear Sen. Bert Stedman,

4/10/19

my name is Rebekah Sawers, and I live in Hoonah, Alaska year round. Parents as teachers makes a big difference in my life and in our small community. It is a very good way to socialize with other children, and it helps me keep my mind at ease because our Hoonah grown Pat Lady keeps us current on what should be happening with our child. My baby girl loves PAT ♡. Please continue to fund!

Thankyou for your time,

-Rebekah Sawers

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Hoonah AK, 99829

*As a first time Mother
PAT helps me get educated
on what my child needs!

Dear Sen. Bert Stedman,

My ^{Tlingit} name is Geistcen, my English name is Miguel Contreras, I am from Hoonah, Alaska. I was raised around Parents As Teachers when I was young and had a very positive experience.

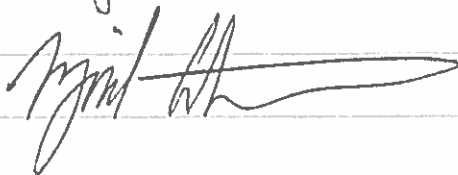
I now currently bring my daughter to Parents As Teachers and have nothing different, in fact I ~~think the past~~ believe the program is only going to improve and become stronger. With the positivity I see within this program, I ask you to please fully fund Parents As Teachers and Imagination Library in senate Bill 20.

The growth not only I see in my own child but in other kids at each group visit, or play group is significant EVERYTIME! I believe it is tough for parents to coordinate play time, and ~~with~~ the awesome information also given at these groups, ^{is a surplus.} I believe investing in our youth is important, and with program I believe we are ~~reconstructing~~ creating leaders.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Miguel Contreras



HOONAH, AK 99829

4/11/19

Senator Bert Stedman,

My name is Jamie Erickson and I grew up and reside in Hoonah, Alaska. I have a 9 year old son who was a participant in the Parents As Teachers program as a toddler.

As a first time mother and single parent I am always concerned if I as a parent am doing all that I can and should to educate my child and make sure he's up to date on his milestones/education. PAT provided that for my son and I. PAT brought me material and activities to enhance my son's education before he began his K-12 journey and his intelligence shined from the day he entered Head Start and continues today as a 3rd grader.

This program is so critical to our community and others as well. I currently run the PAT program in Hoonah AK. And I cannot begin to tell you how much the program helps children here build even the smallest of skills that are required for school readiness. Head Start, Pre-K, PAT and imagination library provide opportunities to build, motor, language, cognitive and social-emotional skills necessary for school readiness, without these programs we deprive our children full opportunity to this critical age of development that is 0-5years of age. At this age of development we cannot just hope that children have developed the connections in the brain and the knowledge needed when they walk into kindergarten. Even I, as a PAT Educator, learn something new daily about child development; even after being in the program with my son and being a mother for 9 years, I still learn more to take to the families I serve.

Please fully fund Parents As Teachers, imagination library and ALL early childhood education programs in senate Bill 20. What is the future without full opportunity to educate those who are the future.

Thank you for your time,

Jamie Erickson
Hoonah -Parent/PAT Educator
[REDACTED]
Hoonah, AK. 99829.



Head Start

Governor Dunleavy's proposed State Budget on February 13th, 2019 eliminates *all* Alaska state funds to *all* Head Start programs in our state—\$6.8 million. This cut would hurt Head Start programs across the Alaska. Tlingit & Haida Head Start would be forced to cut staff and a large number of student spots.

In order to preserve our Head Start program, we need each family to complete this form.

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Gunalchóesh/Háw'aa

List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:

Gave my family Confidence & Cultural Knowledge. Brought awareness of Community resources & helped prepare my children with Kindergarten readiness.

What concerns do you have about NOT having a Head Start program in your community?

Early interventions will be missed for low income families. Quality Early Childhood classrooms. The missing Family partnership Advocacy that Head Start provides. Head Start Supports the whole Family.

Please give your personal story of Head Start for child and/or family:

I started working for Head Start in 1999. I had no education and was just starting to have kids. I have since received my CDA, CDE w/ school bus endorsement, & my Associates in Early childhood. These credentials allowed lots of Head Start work experience. I've also been a Head Start parent for all 3 of my kids (one who just graduated from College). Head Start gave me parenting tools that I would have not had. Thanks to

Parent/Guardian Name Tanya Cavanagh

Parent Address 3057 Wood Duck Ave

Tlingit & Haida Head Start Center Taashuka & Faith Lutheran St. Brendans

OUR VOICES NEED TO BE HEARD!



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Gunałchéesh/Háw'aa

List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:

Very good

What concerns do you have about NOT having a Head Start program in your community?

None

Please give your personal story of Head Start for child and/or family:

He as been doing good.

Parent/Guardian Name *John Shorty JR*

Parent Address _____

Tlingit & Haida Head Start Center *TAASHUKA 1*

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Gunałchéesh/Háiw'aa

List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:

- The relationships she has made with friends and teachers has helped her she's able to problem solve. She can trade and take turns and knows the skills to calm down when she's upset.
- The academics are still being taught through play, but the social emotional curriculum Head Start does has been more powerful and meaningful.

What concerns do you have about NOT having a Head Start program in your community?

- Families that don't have the means to pay for preschool or daycare won't start school until Kindergarten.
- Children who need early interventions could be missed by the time they enter Elementary School. It is a huge adjustment to make in Kindergarten, and Head Start has been there to support students and families through the process.

Please give your personal story of Head Start for child and/or family:

It has been an adjustment for me from being her mom and also being her teacher. As much as I want to help her, I also have to step back and let her be independent. She's going to kindergarten next year in a class of potentially 25+ kids, with 1 teacher, and I want to make sure she can fend for herself. Everyday she's trying new ways to play and problem solve and negotiate without me being there to step in. I'm encouraging her more to figure out how to fix it with her friend first, so she won't need my help at all. These are the skills I knew she'd need for kindergarten, so the academics can build on that foundation.

Parent/Guardian Name Kayla Tripp

Parent Address 3315 Park Place, Juneau AK

Tlingit & Haida Head Start Center Tachuka I

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Gunalchéesh/Háw'aa

List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:

Headstart has brought a schedule for my daughter daily morning routine and learning to play well with her peers.

What concerns do you have about NOT having a Head Start program in your community?

Children would not have an opportunity to get ready for kindergarten

Please give your personal story of Head Start for child and/or family:

We have been in Head Start for 2 years my daughter has gotten to know her teachers and peers its really family based we are going to miss our wonderful teachers when we move onto kindergarten.

Parent/Guardian Name Emily Shreakley
Parent Address 8740 Lori Ave (Unalakleet AK)
Tlingit & Haida Head Start Center Taaishuka 1

OUR VOICES NEED TO BE HEARD!

Tlingit & Haida Head Start Stories

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Gunalchéesh/Háw'aa

1. List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:

I have a 3 year old boy who has been attending head start for about 6 months he has progressed so much in communicating in a group of children his age. His teachers have helped him become more creative taught him basic Tlingit words, songs, have a huge interest in books and made his experience in attending school very positive. Children in the program have resources to dental care, vision, hearing and parents receive feedback from teachers in their child's development.

2. What concerns do you have about NOT having a Head Start program in your community?

One of my many concerns in not having a head start program in Juneau would be the limited resources we do have in early education to this day being cut off and children missing out in early education setting them back in comparison to children from the lower 48. It would be a tragedy to see Head Start have to suffer in funds and not be able to give its full potential in educating our children to prepare our next generation of Alaskans.

9/10

3. Please give your personal story of Head Start for child and/or family:

My child has never attended daycare and went straight into the Head Start program where the children and teachers made it an easy transition for him. He wakes up every morning excited to go to school and looks forward to each days curriculum different themes the classroom has in a. monthly basis. Head start gives me peace of mind knowing my child will be feed, have lots of playtime outdoors and even field trips, also his mind will be challenged into learning how to write, memorize songs, and give him an interest in learning the Tlingit culture.

Parent/Guardian Name: *

Stephanie Villagomez

Parent/Guardian Address: *

3104 Glacierwood Ave

Tlingit & Haida Head Start Center: *

Mendenhall River School

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Tlingit & Haida Head Start Stories

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Gunalchéesh/Háw'aa

1. List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:

Head start program is a blessing to my kids especially. They learn a lot and they sing songs which are incredible. Amazing teachers as well.

2. What concerns do you have about NOT having a Head Start program in your community?

Finance struggle which I Thank this program that help me a lot.

3. Please give your personal story of Head Start for child and/or family:

Head Start is amazing 😊 The struggle in finance and every like month I think it is that we have meeting and just for us parents to strengthen more the program and community. Head start helps me a lot and my kids learn and love it.

Parent/Guardian Name: *

Carolina Kivalu

8/10

Parent/Guardian Address: *

8508 Evergreen Park Rd

Tlingit & Haida Head Start Center: *

Yeah

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Tlingit & Haida Head Start Stories

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Gunalchéesh/Háw'aa

1. List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:

Head Start has challenged my daughter intellectually with a diverse range of topics, in a way we can't quite accomplish as her parents working full-time with a new baby in the home. They've also helped her grow emotionally and helped her recognize when she is making red (bad) or green (good) choices for herself. They've been able to guide her into healthy habits that she has been too stubborn to learn from us. She gets to spend time with kids her age and learn how to get along with others. As someone involved in language revitalization, I'm also very happy that they include culture in their teachings.

2. What concerns do you have about NOT having a Head Start program in your community?

I'm concerned with the shortage of affordable childcare and the proven gap in education between kids whose parents can afford private education and those who can't. If my daughter couldn't attend head start, I more than likely wouldn't be able to afford to have my two kids in a child care facility while I worked. I know others are in a more tenuous position and may not be able to find adequate childcare or stay home with their kids. I'm concerned that more kids would be entering kindergarten unprepared, whether it be mentally or emotionally.

3. Please give your personal story of Head Start for child and/or family:

My 3 year old daughter was very upset when she learned that she may not be able to go to Head Start next year. She told me that it helps keep kids healthy, and helps them learn and play in good ways. She came home one day and proceeded to tell us how everyone has a hippocampus and a prefrontal cortex, put her hands in fists next to each other and told us that's what our brains look like, then pointed out on her hands where the different parts of our brains are. She is constantly surprising us with new things she has learned.

Parent/Guardian Name: *

Alex Roehl

Parent/Guardian Address: *

9235 Emily Way, Juneau, AK 99801

Tlingit & Haida Head Start Center: *

Mendenhall River Tlingit & Haida Head Start

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Tlingit & Haida Head Start Stories

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Gunalchéesh/Háw'aa

1. List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:

Head Start has given my children the opportunity to flourish as growing individuals and influence their independence. Head Start gives positive social interaction between peers and adults (other than parents). Having teachers reinforce actions, behaviors, rules, culture, etc, is beneficial and very helpful to parents. Head Start is the foundation of all academics. Instill this into your child at a young age so it is common. So it is common to listen to other adults, common to go to school, its common to practice and achieve your academics. Its common to have a positive social interaction with others.

2. What concerns do you have about NOT having a Head Start program in your community?

With no Head Start it removes that foundation that is so critically to young children. Head Start is 3 and 4 year olds and I believe it is very important for a child to be given the opportunity to step out of their comfort zone (leave momma's side) and attend school. To learn, create and achieve goals no just created by parents but teachers. Without Head Start and teacher interactions many deficiencies that children have might not be caught early and fixable but instead might be damaging to ones pride as they age and have to deal with their learning disabilities, etc at an older age when they are insecure, and vulnerable to what other children might think of them.

6/10

3. Please give your personal story of Head Start for child and/or family:

I appreciate our community giving students the opportunity to attend Head Start. I as a Tlingit and Haida Head Start graduate now have one child that also graduated T&H Head Start in 2016 and my second child will be graduating from T&H Head Start 05/2019. I firmly believe that Head Start impacts a child's learning because they are exposed to teaching and learning environment before they learn to manipulate or learn negative habits or routines.

Parent/Guardian Name: *

Krissy Bean

Parent/Guardian Address: *

3715 Portage Blvd Juneau, AK 99801

Tlingit & Haida Head Start Center: *

Mendenhall River Tlingit & Haida Head Start

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Tlingit & Haida Head Start Stories

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Gunalchéesh/Háw'aa

1. List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:

I am a NA'AN who has had two sons and one grandson who have completed Head Start and and one grandson who is currently enrolled in Head Start. I think they all of the came out of there shells, learned to socialize, the ability to sit and listen and to get along with others. These are the basic skills everyone needs to get thru life.

2. What concerns do you have about NOT having a Head Start program in your community?

I feel it would be tragic if there was no Head Start for children to attend. In Southeast Alaska the kids have a very isolated life. Head Start opens up endless possibilities to the outside world especially in the villages.

3. Please give your personal story of Head Start for child and/or family:

I feel that they all learned solid fundamentals for there ability to be successful with there continued education. Both my sons now have successfull careers and my grandson is doing very well in school. I think Head Start is a big part of them being so successful.

Parent/Guardian Name: *

Jessica and Paul Lingley III

4/10

Parent/Guardian Address: *

4342 Manor Avenue, Juneau, Alaska

Tlingit & Haida Head Start Center: *

Mendenhall River

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Gunalchéesh/Háw'aa

1. List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:

Two full healthy meals daily—four days a week

Pier/social interaction and play advantages

Set schedule and routines

Academic growth and readiness for elementary education

Reduces the need for daycare and reduces family expenses nine months out of the year

2. What concerns do you have about NOT having a Head Start program in your community?

Decline in nutritional needs being met and sustaining healthy lifestyles

Harder for families to establish good social/peer interaction & play

Juneau is already in a child care crisis for this age group; budgets cuts to the HS program will surely increase that percentage.

Family expenses increase, minimally: food, medical, & childcare costs!

3/10

3. Please give your personal story of Head Start for child and/or family:

My first child couldn't attend Headstart because we weren't eligible but after family expansion we have had our second and third child attend the Headstart program. I see huge benefits socially & academically in the two younger children. I attribute that to their teachers at Headstart. they can accomplish so much more at Headstart then I can do with them at home due to life's responsibilities. they enjoy going and playing with friends nearly every day too!

As a child I was not eligible to attend Headstart either but I see now how beneficial it could have been for my family Had we been. My kids seem so much smarter than I ever was at their ages! Headstart has a big help in that, no doubt!

Parent/Guardian Name: *

Jessica Lingley

Parent/Guardian Address: *

4347 Manor Ave Juneau AK 99801

Tlingit & Haida Head Start Center: *

Mendenhall river community school

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3/10



Funding is a
must for Head Start
and our children!

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Gunałchéesh/Háw'aa

List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:

my daughter has grown leaps & bounds with her speech, letters, numbers, word recognition, social skills and emotional behavior. She loves going to school and loves her 3 teachers.

What concerns do you have about NOT having a Head Start program in your community?

To not have Head Start would mean the children of Wrangell would not have any sort of early childhood education or development. In a small island town that would be devastating.

Please give your personal story of Head Start for child and/or family:

My daughter now has a personal respect and love for the elders in this community with all the field trips and time spent at Wrangell's long term care. She is also receiving love and confidence by being around incredible role models like her 3 teachers.

Parent/Guardian Name Keeleigh Solversen
Parent Address PO Box 1134, Wrangell AK 99929
Tlingit & Haida Head Start Center Wrangell Head Start

OUR VOICES NEED TO BE HEARD!

Tlingit & Haida Head Start Stories

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Gunalchéesh/Háw'aa

1. List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:

Head start has been an amazing opportunity for our family. My son, who is now 6 and is in kindergarten had a wonderful early childhood education at the Wrangell center, and I am so pleased that my daughter, 4, is now in the program. They have learned so many valuable social and academic skills in the program. The kids in our center learn how to count and all their letters and how to write their names. They learn how to be independent. At meal times they all sit down together and they serve themselves. They learn to wash their hands before and after a meal, and to clear their plates and to brush their teeth. They learn empathy and how to interact with other children and adults. It has been a huge support to have these skills that we try to teach at home reinforced at school.

2. What concerns do you have about NOT having a Head Start program in your community?

Head start is the ONLY preschool in our community. Without it our children would not have any opportunity for an early childhood education. It should be expanded, not cut. We need more spaces to accommodate all the children of our community.

3. Please give your personal story of Head Start for child and/or family:

My son started Head Start when he was three, and now my daughter is attending. I have been involved with head start for 3 years now. I've been a member of the parent committee all three years. I have volunteered every week at the center by playing my guitar and singing for the kiddos. We have worked on sitting quietly between songs and raising their hands if they have a song request. They're getting quite good at it. Both my children have gained so much confidence in themselves as a result of attending Wrangell Head Start. Not only have they learned early academic skills, but their abilities to interact with other children and adults have benefited from their experience.

Parent/Guardian Name: *

Sarah Scambler

Parent/Guardian Address: *

PO Box 697, Wrangell, AK 99929

Tlingit & Haida Head Start Center: *

Wrangell

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Gunalchéesh/Háw'aa

1. List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:

my daughter learned English, this is the biggest impact and we are happy and grateful to the Angie teacher for her patience, at home we only speak Spanish, and my daughter can now communicate and understand English better, this is great, she is now I have become more independent and secure, all I can say is positive, thank you

2. What concerns do you have about NOT having a Head Start program in your community?

would be lost, the help to families that really need support, the cost of a daycare is expensive, and head start, is a wonderful program, and committed to the development of children, not just a place of entertainment

3. Please give your personal story of Head Start for child and/or family:

my daughter was in 2 other institutions of head star, in lodi CA, los angeles CA and now sitka AK, for a family with spanish like first language like ours, has been an amazing help, my daughter has learned enough, has taken confidence , has developed knowledge that the teachers with great love and patience offer, we love head star!

Parent/Guardian Name: *

Yadira alejandra estrada lomeli

Parent/Guardian Address: *

405 Marine St apt 5 Sitka ak 99835

Tlingit & Haida Head Start Center: *

Sitka Alaska

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Governor Dunleavy has recently proposed a revised State Budget which would cut all Alaska funding for Head Start in our state. This change would impact our Head Start program significantly as we will lose staff and a large number of student spots.

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List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:

Education, kindergarten preparation, teacher interaction, culture and language, Community interaction and involvement in crafts, events, dances, performances, and holiday parties. Plus we love the songs being sung around the house by my whole family. So much more!

What concerns do you have about NOT having a Head Start Program in our Community?

There are so many families that benefit from this wonderful program. Families like my own, that in these days, do not have the financial ability to send their child to preschool. Without this program children would be denied social interaction, education and preparation. Also if a child is home it keeps a parent from the workplace.

Please give your personal story of Head Start for your child and/or family:

We have been very fortunate to have 3 children go through the head start program. This program has aided us all in many ways. We have met and interacted with other families, made friends and celebrated the local culture and history together. Our children gained self confidence and lost social anxiety, helping them roll into the next level of education smoothly. We have five daughters, three have been to head start. We really hope to be able to have the next girl in line have the same amazing experience. We are so thankful for all the school and its amazing staff has done and brought to our family

Parent Name Ted + Rebecca Kubacki

Parent Address 1202 Halibut Point Rd. Sitka, AK 99835

Woocheen Pre-School Sitka, Alaska

PS. Each time we have gotten the call at the end of the summer and were told our girl had a spot in the class that year, we have shed tears of joy in excitement, thanking god, for this gift.

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List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:

-Children Love attending each day -Positive feedback for students -Development of social skills
-Multicultural lessons -Introduction to Sign Language -Healthy eating habits reinforced
-Some kindergarten readiness skills taught -Structured lessons and free choice options available
-Gross motor curriculum daily -Proper bus behavior stressed -Classroom rules and expectations
-Opportunities to meet with other parents

What concerns do you have about NOT having a Head Start Program in our Community?

We are very concerned that the needs of the population here in Sitka will NOT be met if Head Start is not available. The health and nutritional aspects of the program are important for many families. Parent meetings and informational sessions also enhance learning for parents and then, in turn, help our students. Daily breakfast, dental health as well as a nutritional lunch certainly aid in the development of our population. Without these services, many children will suffer. It is a proven fact that if students are hungry, they don't perform well at school and this is addressed at Head Start, so they can succeed each day. Our bus program allows those without transportation to attend preschool, other programs do not. The costs of other programs here in Sitka are prohibitive, therefore most of our children will start kindergarten without the skills necessary to be successful.

Please give your personal story of Head Start for your child and/or family:

We had two children attend the Head Start program in Sitka. Our oldest is now in kindergarten and attended for the 2017-2018 school year. She developed socially by being a part of a group, learning appropriate classroom behaviors and had an easy transition into the local kindergarten here in Sitka. Our younger daughter attended for the 2017-2018 school year as well and has benefitted from the program socially and emotionally. This 2018-2019 year, she also attends class and is continuing to learn proper school routines, expectations and kindergarten readiness skills. We are actively involved with Wooncheen and believe that our parent support is necessary for ourselves and our family.

In closing, we would like to add that the staff at Head Start has provided our daughters with a nurturing environment that could not be duplicated here in Sitka. The teachers, support staff in the classroom as well as the school bus driver and cook should all be commended for the work they do with the children in their care, although we will only be here for three years, each year is an important one in the development of our children.

Just yesterday, our daughter came home so excited about karaoke. Music is a part of their everyday experience but this was special. They had the whole karaoke experience, mics included and now she is asking for a party like that at home! Our two-year old will be signing and signing lots more now that this twist has been added in his sister's class! Great school/home experience, THANKS to Mr. Brian, Ms. Starr, Ms. Catherine, Ms. Wendy and Ms. Clarie!

A love for learning in an atmosphere of unconditional love and support was what we were looking for in a preschool and we found it at Wooncheen.

Parent Name: Douglas and Sandra Eberly

Parent Address: 304 Wachussetts Street, Sitka, AK 99835

Wooncheen Pre-School Sitka, Alaska

Governor Dunleavy has recently proposed a revised State Budget which would cut all Alaska funding for Head Start in our state. This change would impact our Head Start program significantly as we will lose staff and a large number of student spots.

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List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:

This program has provided social growth to my son and provides speech therapy. Without this program my son would probably not have developed his social and speech skills as quickly as he has. This program also provides group activities and play with other children his age. In the rural community we live in we are not exposed to the stimulation of large group play. Our family commercial fishes 3 months during the summer. During this time my son is not exposed to same age children. This program as been nothing but positive in his ability to speak and play with others.

What concerns do you have about **NOT** having a Head Start Program in our Community?

This would greatly impact families. Children would not be prepared for the growing demand of skill sets required to start Kindergarten. There are other programs available but most hard-working families do not have the funds for \$300 a month preschool. Children need this now more than ever because the requirements for Kindergarten are set at a 1st grade level. Many children also rely on this program for nutritional needs. During this program this is the only time many of these children get a hot meal that is surrounded by loving people.

Please give your personal story of Head Start for your child and/or family:

We are a commercial fishing family and are away for town 3 months a year. Our son was not developing his speech as quickly as he should probably due to this. We decided to enroll him in Wooch.een. At the time the only preschool that had an opening and was affordable for our needs. When he first started you could not understand what he was trying to communicate and was only saying 1-2 words at a time. With the support of the staff at Wooch.een and involving a speech therapist, that he needed, he has improved his speech beyond our thoughts possible. He is now speaking clear and saying 3-5-word sentences. We have this program to thank for his success and he would not be at the level he is without this program.

Parent Name: Jay and Morgan Miller

Parent Address: po box 6565 Sitka, AK 99835 _____ Wooch.een Pre School Sita, AK

Governor Dunleavy has recently proposed a revised State Budget which would cut all Alaska funding for Head Start in our state. This change would impact our Head Start program significantly as we will lose staff and a large number of student spots.

In order to preserve our preschool program, we need each family to complete this form.

OUR VOICES NEED TO BE HEARD!

Please return this form to our Center no later than Thursday, March 14th so that the Central Office can bring our concerns to the Capital to be addressed. We appreciate all of your help and support.

<p>List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:</p> <p>Head Start makes breakfast and lunch available to children that may not receive proper nutrients in their meals. Head Start has helped develop goals for our child, developmentally & socially. Sharing and boundaries were found to be key working areas. When these values are taught not only at home but by other respected adults, it strengthens and validates the message. Bringing the traditional language and values into the class has had a noticeable impact on my son's use of his native language. Between the 2 classes 36 children benefit from the Head Start program, that's a lot of children and families for our community.</p>
<p>What concerns do you have about NOT having a Head Start Program in our Community?</p> <p>Head Start fills a gap in child care in Sitka. It also does more than most other child care facilities in our community. It provides food, teaches traditional native values and language. Head Start has a very high teacher to student ratio, allowing the kids more freedom to express themselves and nurture the growing spirit. I hope the funding can be preserved for our children!</p>
<p>Please give your personal story of Head Start for your child and/or family:</p> <p>My son recently became enrolled in the Head Start program here in Sitka. Before he began attending class we struggled to find a reliable, loving, safe, learning, environment for him to be at while we worked. Both myself and Dad are self-employed. Head Start has given us the space to continue to operate our small family business so we can continue to meet the needs of our family.</p>

Parent Name Hope Merritt

Parent Address 1302 sawmill creek road lot 40

Woonchee Pre-School Sitka, Alaska

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List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:

We are really thankful to have Head Start as an opportunity this year for our son. It is really important that he learn our cultural language and values. My spouse and I both did not the opportunity to learn the language as children. My husband also went back to school this year, using his GI bill, having a safe, educational place our son could attend really saved us a lot of stress and helped us financially.

What concerns do you have about **NOT** having a Head Start Program in our Community?

Sitka is a small community, with very little options for preschools and even daycare. Without this program my husband and I feel like we will really be struggling financially, as one of us will have to stay home and not work to take care of our son. That is just one aspect. We are really impressed with our son's preschool teachers, their level of care and involvement in his daily growth in social, educational and physically development. We are extremely grateful for this opportunity, should it be taken away our son's development in these areas are at risk.

Please give your personal story of Head Start for your child and/or family:

As a family, our decision to only have one child had us concerned for his social development. We think it is very important for our son, Ryker to around other children his age to help in his development. In our Tlingit culture, children were reared with the help of their aunts and uncles. We strongly believe that children need to learn from other adults. The saying, it takes a village to raise a child, holds true to our family. We need Woch.een, their support, the education they offer and the very caring teachers they have. Without them, as a family, we risk not being able to provide Ryker with his social development needs, his cultural education and his readiness for kindergarten.

Parent Name_____Mary Goddard_____

Parent Address_____1802 Edgumbe Dr. Sitka, AK 99835_____

Woch.een Pre-School Sitka, Alaska

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List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:

My child, who isn't quite school-age, but ready for more structured learning ~~is~~ has grown tremendously both socially and intellectually.

What concerns do you have about NOT having a Head Start Program in our Community?

It concerns me that there will be a gap of kids who aren't prepared for regular school. The head-start program is essential in preparing kids for school.

Please give your personal story of Head Start for your child and/or family:

My child has flourished in head start for two years. She is able to write her name, interact with others, use numbers, letters, numbers. I have no doubt head start has prepared her for kindergarten.

Parent Name Kassi Mackie

Parent Address PO Box 310 Craig, AK 99721

Woon. een Pre-School Craig, Alaska

Tlingit & Haida Head Start Stories

Governor Dunleavy's proposed State Budget on February 13th, 2019 eliminates all Alaska state funds to all Head Start programs in our state—\$6.8 million. This cut would hurt Head Start programs across the Alaska. Tlingit & Haida Head Start would be forced to cut staff and a large number of student spots.

In order to preserve our Head Start program, we need each family to complete this form.

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Gunalchéesh/Háw'aa

1. List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:

Not only has Head Start helped my child continually learn how to manage his emotions and his body; they are helping prepare him for Grade School. Head Start has taught him how to read, write and spell his name when he was only three. He is able to identify letters and numbers and can count just past twenty. They are also instilling in him how to remain positive, how to stay kind and how to build relationships with friends. These are all incredibly important morals that they be taught at this age when they are eager and ready to learn. I have such great memories of Head Start when I was growing up, I know my son will too. Head Start also works closely with the families to make sure that everyone is on the same learning page for their children. They are truly a huge part of each child's foundation for not only Grade School, but life itself.

2. What concerns do you have about NOT having a Head Start program in your community?

My BIGGEST concern would be sending children straight into Grade School without Head Start and with the cut back, that is going to happen. That is setting children up for failure, that is point blank failing our future. Children retain so much more than education in Head Start. Without a Head Start program, I would be desperately concerned about our future generations not having an opportunity to learn the basics of Grade School, patience and life lessons.

10/10

3. Please give your personal story of Head Start for child and/or family:

My son, Gerald, went into Head Start at three years old, he had a lot of separation anxiety and we had a lot of personal changes in our home life that made him frustrated and impatient. Head Start gave him a job, gave him something to really look forward to and he is proud of himself for being in school. I am thankful that not only are they teaching him educationally, but they are instilling in him how important school is and how important it is to learn. He is proud of himself for all of the things he is learning. I am proud of him. I am grateful for each of the teachers and subs that put in their time and energy into molding our future. He has learned so much about numbers, letters, colors, animals, places, life. They are helping him learn how to sit still, how to listen, how to focus; these are things every child needs to be taught before going into Grade School. I am beyond impressed with how closely they have worked with me and my child to make sure he is getting the best education out of Head Start. They have taught me equally as much as they have taught Gerald about learning; different ways to learn, different techniques to really find what works for him. I am hopeful that he can attend Head Start again next year and to watch him grow even more. I am thankful for our Head Start program, it really is the foundation for our future generation of Grade School children.

Parent/Guardian Name: *

Carrie & Kevin Zellhuber

Parent/Guardian Address: *

PO Box 774 Craig, AK 99921

Tlingit & Haida Head Start Center: *

Craig, AK 99921

10/16

Tlingit & Haida Head Start Stories

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Gunalchéesh/Háw'aa

1. List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:

Gets to do his own thing; Independent from his brothers. Gets to hang out and make friends his age.

2. What concerns do you have about NOT having a Head Start program in your community?

Many kids will have tougher transitions leaving home and entering elementary school without HS

3. Please give your personal story of Head Start for child and/or family:

I went to Headstart in Craig, AK when I was a kid. It was fun!

Parent/Guardian Name: *

Paul Lingley III

Parent/Guardian Address: *

4347 Manor Ave Juneau am 99801

Tlingit & Haida Head Start Center: *

Craig, AK & MRCS in Juneau AK

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Head Start

Governor Dunleavy's proposed State Budget on February 13th, 2019 eliminates *all* Alaska state funds to *all* Head Start programs in our state—\$6.8 million. This cut would hurt Head Start programs across the Alaska. Tlingit & Haida Head Start would be forced to cut staff and a large number of student spots.

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Gunałchéesh/Háw'aa

List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family: This is my child's first year in the program. Head Start has provided her with the environment to grow and prepare for school. The teachers of our site work with the children to foster growth not only academically, but as a whole person. My daughter, both academically and socially, has grown leaps and bounds in the few months she has been in the program.

What concerns do you have about NOT having a Head Start program in your community? If Head Start were to go away on Prince of Wales, our Island would have no pre-K options to offer the residents. It is the only program on the Island! Our kiddos would face a classroom setting for the first time when they enter Kindergarten. This would no doubt not only have an impact on the kiddos, but the teachers as well. Teachers would have to begin their school year addressing curriculum that would have been covered by Head Start, causing those kids to potentially leave Kindergarten ill prepared to face their academic years ahead.

Please give your personal story of Head Start for child and/or family: My daughter has flourished in the Head Start program. Thanks to Head Start, my daughter's needs have been assessed and those needs are met through services provided by the local elementary school. Her IEP requires a visit from the certified special education teacher 3 times a week. Through these services and the amazing teachers on staff with Head Start, my daughter has grown leaps and bounds in all facets of her life!

Parent/Guardian Name Kristi Kuhner
Parent Address PO Box 963 Craig AK 99921
Tlingit & Haida Head Start Center Craig

OUR VOICES NEED TO BE HEARD!

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List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:

Headstart has given my son an amazing introduction to school. It has taught him the fundamentals of following directions, sharing, playing & interacting w/ other children, and discipline.

What concerns do you have about NOT having a Head Start Program in our Community?

W/out a Headstart program children enter into kindergarten steps behind. They enter w/out a foundation of common classroom etiquette.

Please give your personal story of Head Start for your child and/or family:

Headstart has guided my son in a direction that parenting alone can not. It gives an opportunity to begin taking direction & learning consequences while in a age appropriate environment, from educators.

Parent Name Raina Bjerke
Parent Address 403 Hilltop Dr. Craig, AK 99921

Woocheen Pre-School Craig, Alaska

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List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:

Structure, routine, sharing, nutritional values
Safety practice, ~~ABC~~

What concerns do you have about NOT having a Head Start Program in our Community?

how young children will interact w/ one another + how prepared they will be to enter Kingergarden w/o basic skills.

Please give your personal story of Head Start for your child and/or family:

Htenley loves school with a passion. It has improved her numbers + learning to play with others. She is always excited to tell us what she learned at school.

Parent Name Chanel McKinley

Parent Address po box 1163

Woonchee Pre-School Craig, Alaska

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List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:

Head start has been a great opportunity for my child to interact with kids her own age. It teaches her how to listen, sit, and be part of a classroom. It pushes her out of her comfort zone being at home. It teaches her to find her voice, problem solve, share + play with others.

What concerns do you have about NOT having a Head Start Program in our Community?

My biggest concern is there is no other preschool for children in our community. If there is no headstart next year she will be at home not doing all those positives I listed above. Will she continue to learn with me? Yes. Will she be as prepared to participate in a class - likely not.

Please give your personal story of Head Start for your child and/or family:

I can't create a whole classroom like preschool offers her. My daughter is rather bashful ~~outside~~ ^{outside} of the house. Headstart has helped her come out of her shell a lot more. It provides her a safe environment to try new things and experience time away from me during the day. She has learned and grown by leaps and bounds. The teachers really care about the kids and prepare great lesson plans. I feel so fortunate she could be part of this program and I know it will only make her stronger and more confident in school for the future.

Parent Name Amy Hjort

Parent Address Po Box 535 Craig AK 99921

Woocheen Pre-School Craig, Alaska

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List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:

My Child started the headstart the 2018-2019 year. He has only attended school ~~there~~ since starting he has grown socially, emotionally, and more independent. I believe if this program it stops others like my son from growing into a functioning member of society.

What concerns do you have about NOT having a Head Start Program in our Community?

I fear that if this program is shut down, it could hinder children from their full potential when they enter grade school. It is imperative that they get social and pre-educational skills before entering grade school.

Please give your personal story of Head Start for your child and/or family:

My son Ayl has some special needs when it comes to talking. He has, since headstart, become more confident in his own voice. The teachers are very patient & helpful when moments are so and he struggles. Ayl gets to engage with his peers 4 times a week which helps communication.

Parent Name Chassidy Kanas He's happy & thriving
Parent Address P.O. Box 1088 Craig, AK 99921

Woocheen Pre-School Craig, Alaska

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List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:

- Social gains for 1st child. - following routine
- help with oral motor development & social gains in 2nd child.
- Strong positive connections with other members of community.
- less stress on my family to make sure my child is ready
- ready for Kindergarten. - more confidence. I friendly made

What concerns do you have about NOT having a Head Start Program in our Community?

- No other option
- fall behind.
- miss out on social/emotional/academic readiness for kindergarten
- many special needs with go unnoticed until kindergarten. Making 1st year K more difficult for all students. Many families
- out of isolation
- connection for me as a stay at home mom to other members of community.

Please give your personal story of Head Start for your child and/or family:

Such a great experience with 1st child. need this to bring normally to families
we were originally planning to home school
until we noticed the high energy level &
need for social attention of our 1st. we either
head start & then realized just how much we should have needed
socially had she not gone. so many gains. Love the program
2nd has had social anxiety & has been in speech therapy for
oral motor delay. she has blossomed beyond my expectations
socially & has made a few friends. I couldn't have
done this at home. we have a third who is showing
signs of oral/speech delay. I am hoping this program will
still be here for him. we need this in our
small community.

Parent Name Leanne Stoenstra

Parent Address PO Box 1367 Craig AK 99921

Woocheen Pre-School Craig, Alaska

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List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:

Our son has been positively impacted by the amazing headstart and teachers. From positive social interaction, to family style eating and the early learning it's so important for these young minds in our big, fast growing world.

What concerns do you have about NOT having a Head Start Program in our Community?

There are so many kids who benefit from having the headstart to go to. From caring, nurturing teachers who educate young minds to the social interaction and healthy food options. Not every child has this paramount opportunity.

Please give your personal story of Head Start for your child and/or family:

As a nurse and fisherman, I was a bit hesitant to put my child in headstart at 3 years old. I was worried about how my child would be influenced. My concerns were quickly dissipated when my son started going. He began to blossom with curiosity, his manners and social interactions improved, as well as respect for his elders. He always comes home with so many good stories to tell of what wonderful things he's learned and experiences he has had. →

Parent Name Braden and Emily Harshe

Parent Address 702 W Hamilton Dr., Craig, AK 99920

Woocheen Pre-School Craig, Alaska

Please do not cut budgets for the headstart. This program is so good for the young minds of our community. It is a safe, enriching environment for children who don't all have the greatest of home situations. This early learning is very necessary for our little children. Thank you for your consideration! - Emily, Braden, Michael, and Arya

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List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:

- ① Socialization
- ② money management
- ③ reading skills
- ④ parent skills

What concerns do you have about NOT having a Head Start Program in our Community?

This is a extremely concerning thought as our community needs Headstart for many families to teach basic skills before kindergarten as well as connect the family to important resources needed in order to succeed.

Please give your personal story of Head Start for your child and/or family:

My daughter came to Headstart having very little socialization skills and a great fear of school in general. Due to the caring staff, structure & consistency of teachers, she has been able to make friends while feeling safe in a learning environment other than home. The teachers are sincerely committed to the welfare of the children and of inspiring the families that participate in the program. I don't know what we would do without.

Parent Name

Cerney Gheen

Parent Address

Po Box 1365 Craig AK 99921

Wooch.een Pre-School Craig, Alaska

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List the positive impacts Head Start has had on your child/family:

Positives of having my son in headstart begins with his immense progress in learning to write his name, identify the alphabet, create social skills, learning to follow direction and rules. His anger problem has slowly dissapeared and he's found a way to deal with his emotions. The teachers and staff ~~are~~ have developed an amazing program to enhance my son's knowledge.

What concerns do you have about NOT having a Head Start Program in our Community?

Im concerned about the program being dropped for many reasons like my son's social skills will not be moving forward if I have to have a sitter that will let him watch TV and not go outside or play with others daily. He will forget some things he's learned and will struggle with Kindergarten. The friendships he's made will disapete and he'll have to struggle with loss. Im afraid my daughter will not have the same opportunity my son had.

Please give your personal story of Head Start for your child and/or family:

My story to get him into headstart was a struggle. I fought hard to get him accepted, did all the paperwork, called their office for 3 straight months, drafted & sent a letter of frustration and concern about not getting in due to "over-income" when the class was still not "full". I flew to their office in Juneau to explain my frustration in person because I believed my son needed this jumpstart into learning that I could not provide myself. I work 3 jobs to make ends meet and I have sitters on hand always but they were doing him justice by allowing his TV watching & being alone. Headstart provided an education and social skill/interaction that he wasn't getting.

Parent Name Shannon Isaacs

Parent Address PO Box 1305 Craig, AK 99921

Wooch.een Pre-School Craig, Alaska

02Good Afternoon Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate Finance Committee,

My name is Michelle Hawkins and I am the Lead Parent Educator for Kids Corps Parents As Teachers here in Anchorage. Our program is a Home Visiting Program that works with Families who are experiencing different risk factors. These risk factors include but are not limited to poverty, mental health issues, Domestic Violence, Substance Abuse, Child Maltreatment and lack of Social Support.

The research is clear, according to the article Early Childhood Visiting published in 2017, Home Visiting Programs, such as Parents As Teachers, are shown to improve children's school readiness, promote child health (including higher vaccination rates), enhance parents' abilities to promote their children's overall development; Reduce the risk of both child abuse, maltreatment and accidental injury; Increase Maternal Health by more frequent prenatal care, better birth outcomes and earlier detection and treatment of depression (James H. Duffee, et al, 2017).

According to the NCSL (National Conference of State Legislatures) cost benefit analysis showed that high quality Home Visiting Programs, like Parents As Teachers, offer returns on investment ranging from 1.75\$ to 5.50\$ for every dollar spent due to reduced costs in Child Protection, K-12 Special Education and Grade Retention costs as well as Criminal Justice Expenses.

I have several children I work with who would be in OCS custody now if it had not been for early education home visiting; one of my Co-Workers was able to detect failure to thrive as well as severe Influenza A symptoms, the child was able to stay with the parents through weekly home visits and parental education. I urge you to consider the evidence and vote to keep Home Visiting Programs, like Parents As Teachers, funded in the State. Thank you for your Time and Attention.

I am a parent and Elder Mentor
here at Chevak head^{start}, I am
concerning about the budget school
cuts. Please keep our headstart going.
its important for our children's education.

Sophie Little

To: Senator Donald Olson & Rep. Neal Foster

Hi, I'm a grandmother for my grandchild attending Chevak Headstart. I urge you to support Education for 3-5 yr olds here in this whole area. Education at a young age is important now & for general to come.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts
Deborah Friday-Anglichak
Dyukay-Anglichak

Feb. 28, 2019

Dear Neal Foster

As you well know, budget cuts are ^{every}where, more so in some programs, than others. Headstart (early childhood) program is being cut in most rural villages. The program is vital in early learning skills, especially in the area of social skills, speech and academics. As the enter kindergarten, they have a little headstart on the skills that our Headstart teachers are teaching. The Chevak School has finally been ~~able~~ able to teach academics and our children are excelling, because they already are aware of the social skills and some type of communication skills. Headstart program is a partner - education based with Kashumani School District - a bridge to crossover to better education. Children are our future, we need to take care, teach/educate, and make sure they have a better, smarter mind to help our Native people.

Thank-you for your time

Dottie C. Chayalkun

Dear Sir,

I am pushing legislature to approve, strongly approve funding for Rural Headstart program.

By watching these headstart students I think it really helps them in trusting to take a step for their ~~the~~ bright future, sharing school activities in headstart is a big step for our childrens future if we want them to succeed in life.

I appreciate your time and hoping you ~~will~~ help our future leaders to become very successful in their lives.

John

Chayallem

Tisha Chayallem ^{Proved} - Headstart parent
2 kids were in
Headstart.



Rural Alaska Community Action Program
731 East 8th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501

We support the rural cap preschool program because they are able to provide educational services to my child. We were not able to afford tuition at other preschools. My child is receiving the best quality of education regardless of our ability to pay and for the free education we are very grateful! :

Healthy People | Sustainable Communities | Vibrant Cultures



Rural Alaska Community Action Program
731 East 8th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501

Without Head Start, my child would not have had as many learning opportunities to help get ready for kindergarten.

Kodiak Head Start parent

Healthy People | Sustainable Communities | Vibrant Cultures



Rural Alaska Community Action Program
731 East 8th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501

I had my older son in headstart, and I have a daughter that's in headstart now, headstart helped us in many ways, with our kids' educations, how to socialize with other kids, play, counting, recognizing numbers and letters. It would be a tragic if we didn't have headstart for our future kids. Headstart is a big impact on our kids and families.

Lizbeth Crowder

Healthy People | Sustainable Communities | Vibrant Cultures



Rural Alaska Community Action Program
731 East 8th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501

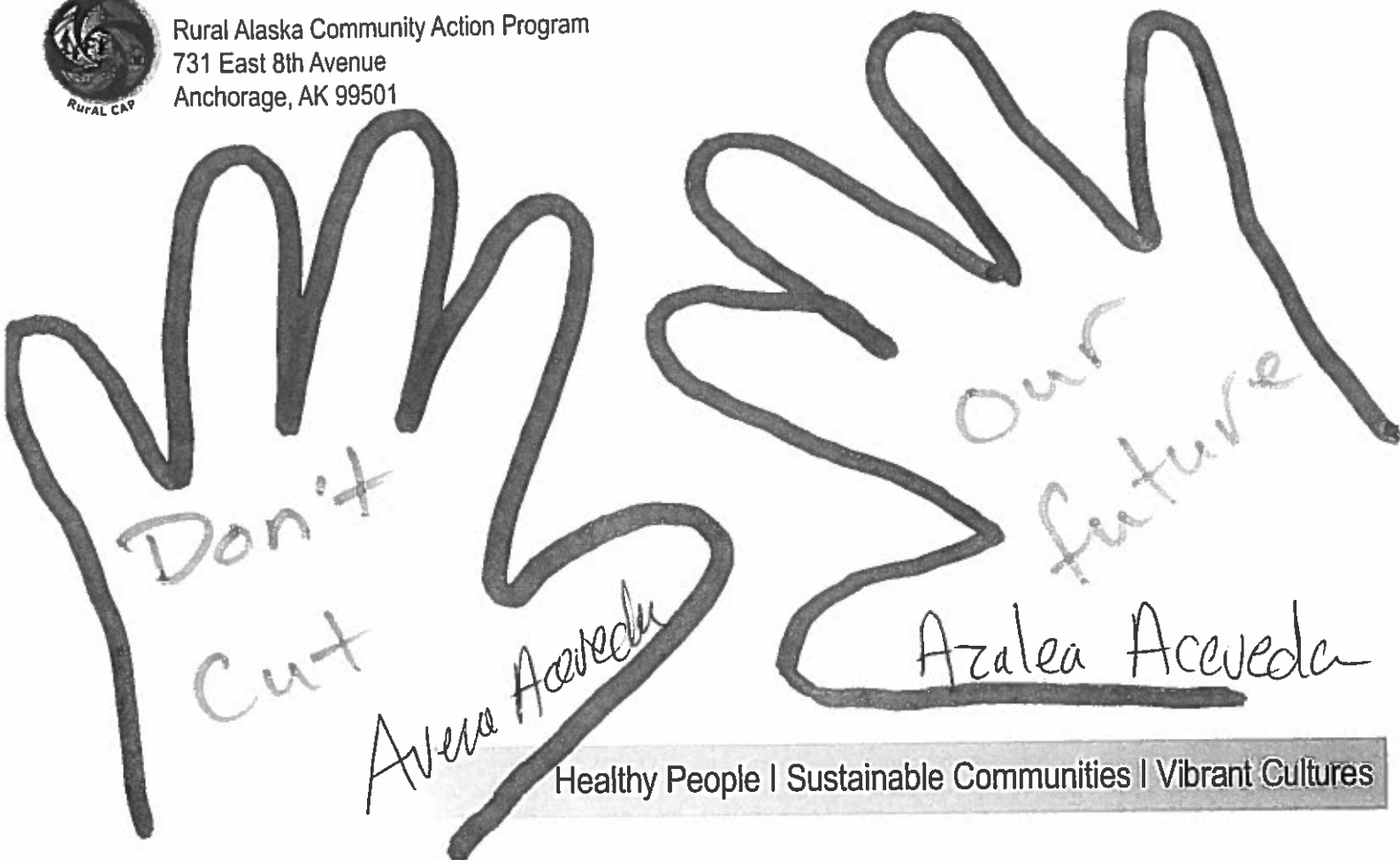
The parent as teachers been very helpful by helping me build a new friendship/trust and help me w new skills that I needed to be able to keep my baby girl in the home and I don't know what I will do when I have to graduate from the program, my baby and I will be so sad. But will keep referring your program to others that need help especially Joyce who deserves to get a renewal or a raise.

Thanks, Chelisse Kellar anchorage AK

Healthy People | Sustainable Communities | Vibrant Cultures



Rural Alaska Community Action Program
731 East 8th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501



Healthy People | Sustainable Communities | Vibrant Cultures



Rural Alaska Community Action Program
731 East 8th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501

Rep Fields,

As a single mom utilizing loving and contributing to the Head Start family it will be a huge impact to the productivity of the community if the funds are removed I would not be able to work or regain working skills! My daughter would not be as developmentally strong as she is!

TARA CARMAN
1300 W. 13th Ave
Apt C Anch, AK
99501

907-887-6806

Healthy People | Sustainable Communities | Vibrant Cultures



Rural Alaska Community Action Program
731 East 8th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501

The educational activities are always age appropriate and helpful

The early experiences are always best to teach the children

my children always look forward to new activities and challenges each week.

they have helped in many ways even with getting information to help families in need.

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Anchorage Nicole Finch



Rural Alaska Community Action Program
731 East 8th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501

Jenefer Bugish,

Wow what a great way to be communicating w/ you to I have met you on several occasions and you are a very strong and logical person. You raised your children here in Alaska long side w/ other students some who are able to remain caught up in class because of their start in life with HeadStart! As an EXTREMELY GRATEFUL HEAD START parent, these teachers are so caring devoted & loving they have become my family my daughters family. Taking Head Start away will result in decreased productivity with in the communities where is a safe, wholesome educational program going to come from.

TARA CARMAN
907 887 6806

Box W. 13th Ave
Apt C Anch, AK 99501

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Rural Alaska Community Action Program
731 East 8th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501

I support Kodiak headstart because it is really helpful for parents who has low / limited income. And the program helps parents to prepare kids for bigger / higher school. As a parent who has a fulltime job and a part time student, I don't have 100 % time for my son and this program is really helping my son in his education, everyday he learns new things and he advances everyday because of the teachers & aides that helps him everyday. They really go out of their way to provide the best education for our children. Thank you!

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A decorative rectangular border with a light gray background and white snowflake patterns is positioned on the left side of the page. Inside the border, the text "Kodiak HS" is written in a handwritten style.

Kodiak HS

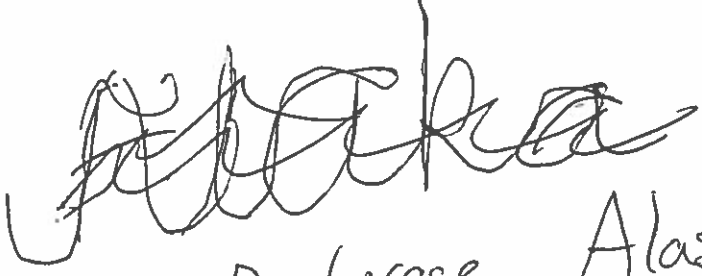
headstart because
kids in preparing
& supporting them
notional development.

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Rural Alaska Community Action Program
731 East 8th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501

The Parents as teachers learn People to
teach us and helped there kids to Graduate
and near Future.

Justin Barber 
Anchorage Alaska

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Rural Alaska Community Action Program
731 East 8th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501

Please fund Parents as teachers; Starting
early prevents a life time of trouble.
Our kids were able to start school with
confidence and success!

Happy Heart,

John & Eric
Steininger

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Rural Alaska Community Action Program
731 East 8th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501

Hello Rural CAP,

I'm a parent of a current student, thank you for the slot you've given to us, I can see she is ready for KG this Fall 2019 (just few months in program).
Keep up the good work & more power!

Healthy People | Sustainable Communities | Vibrant Cultures



Rural Alaska Community Action Program
731 East 8th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501

I'm supporting Head Start Program because it helps me provide education and get my children ready to enter Kindergarten.
This free program has been tremendous help for low income - single parent like myself.

Thank you.
Ayes

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Rural Alaska Community Action Program
731 East 8th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501

Please fully fund early education. Prevention
is cheaper than treatment.

Dean Foxworthy

DEANS Foxworthy

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Rural Alaska Community Action Program
731 East 8th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501

My children were involved w/ P.A.T.
This was very helpful as my middle
daughter did not meet milestones which
~~me~~ educated me in what else to look out for.
When this daughter started school, I was
already aware of her deficits which helped
the teacher. This daughter currently has an IEP
and was admitted to the National Honors Society. Early
intervention w/ P.A.T. played a critical role w/ her success.

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Christina Beaver



Rural Alaska Community Action Program
731 East 8th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501

I support head start because I think it is a great program. head start has helped my child improve tremendously in all different areas. and it would be great for head start to still be available for future children.

-kim (parent of current student
and attending headstart)

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Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc.



Representative Talerico,

Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc. (RurAL CAP) has been operating Head Start programs in Alaska since 1966. Currently we provide Head Start services in Copper Center and Tok.

In the last ten years, RurAL CAP programs have:

- Contributed \$4.78 million to the economy of these communities in House District 6 through salaries and the cost of operating space
- Provided comprehensive family, health and educational services to 237 families and 308 children
- Assisted seven employees in obtaining a professional credential or degree in Early Childhood Education
- Current employees have a combined 98.5 years of experience providing high quality services to children and families

These services are vital to the continued success of the children, families and communities of House District 6.

USDA and this institution are equal opportunity providers and employers. Parent/Guardians have the right to receive translation or interpretation services in their primary language as well as reasonable accommodations to participate in the program.



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Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc.

Senator Stevens,

Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc. (RurAL CAP) has been operating Head Start programs in Alaska since 1966. Currently we provide Head Start and Parents as Teachers services in Kodiak and Head Start services in Homer.

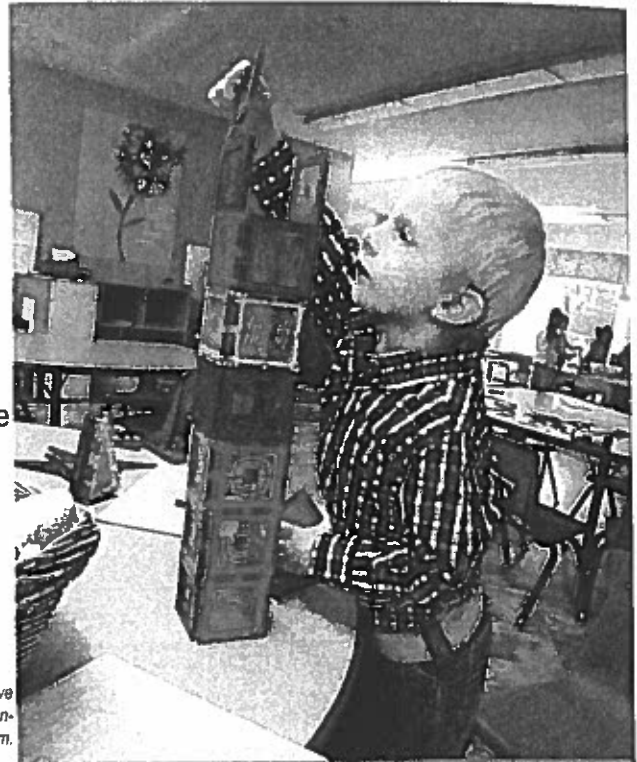
In the last ten years, RurAL CAP programs have:

- Contributed \$6.03 million to the economy of these communities in Senate District P through salaries and the cost of operating space
- Provided comprehensive family, health and educational services to 480 families and 621 children
- Assisted five employees in obtaining a professional credential or degree in Early Childhood Education
- Current employees have a combined 110.5 years of experience providing high quality services to children and families

These services are vital to the continued success of the children, families and communities of Senate District P.



USDA and this institution are equal opportunity providers and employers. Parent/Guardians have the right to receive translation or interpretation services in their primary language as well as reasonable accommodations to participate in the program.



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Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc.

Senator Begich,

Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc. (RurAL CAP) has been operating Head Start programs in Alaska since 1966. Currently we provide Head Start, Parents as Teachers and childcare services in Anchorage.

In the last ten years, RurAL CAP programs have:

- Contributed over \$26.95 million to the economy of Anchorage through salaries and the cost of operating space
- Provided comprehensive family, health and educational services to 259 families and 301 children
- Current employees have a combined 237.5 years of experience providing high quality services to children and families

These services are vital to the continued success of the children, families and communities of Senate District J.



USDA and this institution are equal opportunity providers and employers. Parent/Guardians have the right to receive translation or interpretation services in their primary language as well as reasonable accommodations to participate in the program.



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Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc.



Senator Stedman,

Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc. (RurAL CAP) has been operating Head Start programs in Alaska since 1966. Currently we provide Head Start and Parents as Teachers services in Kake and Head Start services in Ketchikan.

In the last ten years, RurAL CAP programs have:

- Contributed \$5.65 million to the economy of these communities in Senate District R through salaries and the cost of operating space
- Provided comprehensive family, health and educational services to 411 families and 555 children
- Assisted eight employees in obtaining a professional credential or degree in Early Childhood Education
- Current employees have a combined 131 years of experience providing high quality services to children and families

These services are vital to the continued success of the children, families and communities of Senate District R.

USDA and this institution are equal opportunity providers and employers. Parent/Guardians have the right to receive translation or interpretation services in their primary language as well as reasonable accommodations to participate in the program.



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Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc.



Representative Fields,

Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc. (RurAL CAP) has been operating Head Start programs in Alaska since 1966. Currently we provide Head Start, Parents as Teachers and childcare services in Anchorage.

In the last ten years, RurAL CAP programs have:

- Contributed over \$26.95 million to the economy of Anchorage through salaries and the cost of operating space
- Provided comprehensive family, health and educational services to 259 families and 301 children
- Current employees have a combined 237.5 years of experience providing high quality services to children and families

These services are vital to the continued success of the children, families and communities of House District 20.

USDA and this institution are equal opportunity providers and employers. Parent/Guardians have the right to receive translation or interpretation services in their primary language as well as reasonable accommodations to participate in the program.



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Doniece Gott

From: Bridget Hitchcock [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2019 4:57 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Operating budget

Thank you for taking the time to hear and read testimony. My name is Bridget hitchcock and I'm a PT and mother of 2 in Sitka. Please do not support the proposed cuts to education and to Medicaid. There are many more things I do not want cut, but these are the most important to me.

Education of our children should be the most important priority. They are our future!

Medicaid and Medicare recipients are 2 of the most vulnerable populations. We have the ability to provide this basic need to these populations.

I would like to say more but I am traveling and phones can only do so much. Thank you!

Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Amy Sweeney <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2019 4:59 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Testimony on the state operating budget

My name is Amy Sweeney, I am testifying on my own behalf, and I live in Sitka

I am **opposed** to the Governor's extreme cuts: **opposed** to his plans for larger PFDs and PFD back-pay, **opposed** to his large cuts to K-12 and higher education funding, **opposed** to his plans to delete the marine highway, **opposed** to shifting expenses from the state to local communities by taking municipal shares of raw fish taxes, taking oil property taxes and ending state support of school bond debt, **opposed** to his plans to give oil companies tax credit payments beyond statutory minimums.

I am **in favor** of re-instituting a graduated state income tax, **in favor** of payment of modest PFDs, **in favor** of consideration of cuts to oil tax credits, consideration of modest cuts to state government and government services where it makes sense.

Alaska should take steps to fund state government the way almost all other states do: with a graduated state income tax. Continuing to pay modest PFDs, as well as re-instituting an income tax would allow those for whom the PFD is their main cash income to pay little or no income tax, while those with more income would contribute more to fund the statewide services we all need and cannot, even with higher PFDs, fund as individuals. A state income tax will also gather revenue from out of state workers who now pay only their home state's tax on their Alaska earnings

Governor Dunleavy does not have a broad mandate for his extreme plans. Only about 50% of the registered voters voted in 2017, and of that 50%, only about half voted for him. Not a single voter (or non-voter) knew the extreme, economy-destroying measures he would take in order to make the large cash payouts he promised.

I am fully willing to pay state income tax, and give up even my entire PFD in order to fund essential services we all need. Alaska should follow these watchwords: Modest Income Tax, Modest PFDs, Modest Cuts, Lower Oil Tax Credits.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify

Sincerely, Amy Sweeney

Dear Finance Committee,

Thank you for listening to the people.

"I am opposed to Dunleavy's budget. Please do not accept it for the many reasons it hurts Alaska's citizens. I am nervous about what that would mean for healthcare needs, wonderful non-profit organizations and education in our community and other Alaskan communities."

My name is Angela Hill, I've lived in Alaska for 15 years. I am a former North Slope Borough School District special education teacher and currently a special education teacher for the Sitka School District. I am a parent, and also a therapeutic foster parent in our community.

We need to do everything in our power to not take away funding from education. I work with Early Childhood. The importance of early intervention is extremely researched and saves many dollars than what happens if we do not have early intervention. Education is very important to me, my family, my community, my state and my future.

Please take this into consideration. Look at the children and think about how this affects them. Look into their eyes and know that they need us to be there for them!

Doniece Gott

From: mcdonell <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2019 7:32 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: FY20 General Operating Budget

I have always been a strong advocate for education, and feel it imperative now to speak out against any cuts in the state budget for education funding.

I strongly believe that the proposed cuts would be disastrous to Petersburg, where my family and I have been residents for over 25 years.

First, the proposed funding cuts to our school district here in Petersburg would be unacceptable and would dramatically shortchange the children who attend schools here in our town. If such budget cuts were to take place, students would be adversely affected by not receiving the quality education they deserve. They may find themselves lacking in certain skills or educational experiences that they need to move forward towards college or work. Our children are our future! We need to be certain to provide them with every educational opportunity they deserve during their years of development.

Second, by not providing the school district with adequate funding to provide quality education, the school district may not be able to sustain its reputation as a quality educational environment. When we first considered moving to Petersburg years ago with our young children, we first assessed the school system to find out if it provided the quality of education we were looking for, for our two children. If this quality were to decline over time due to budget shortfalls, Petersburg may not be able to attract young families who might consider moving here. Quality of education is high on the list for most families in a community. Over time, a small town like Petersburg would feel the adverse impacts of this, in possible future population decline.

Thank you for your consideration of this issue. Please advocate for quality education and against state budget cuts for education.

Cindy & John McDonell

This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.

https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.avast.com_antivirus&d=DwICAg&c=Q8iJasR7RZ-J0Fd9RXD9ZA&r=Og2bEwh8nUkz6WCNOVV8Xhdlxt9TVEKI281q8edr1G4&m=Eniq_UyexfSchngOpAOyLxwcfoLsqa7QOSu8dX5ZFo&s=C3VF1foYLCwpAzLOILnuqWI8letlwJal4iMJ6vhnCw&e=

Doniece Gott

From: Katie Riley <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2019 8:19 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Operating Budget Comments

Hello,

My name is Catherine Riley and I am a constituent from Sitka, Alaska. I would like to thank Co-Chair Stedman, Co-Chair von Imhof, and members of the committee for the opportunity to give testimony on the State's operating budget.

I was born and raised in Sitka during a time when the State was pretty flush with cash. While my hometown was experiencing a period of economic turmoil as the mill shut down, the State itself was provided for by oil taxes and revenue.

It is now apparent how unsustainable a mono-economic focus has become. However; I do not believe that we have a budget crisis so much as a priority crisis, as has already been stated.

We are not prioritizing the future of Alaska or Alaska's youth, as evident by the cuts to the K-12 education system, the cuts to the University of Alaska system, the cuts to pre-school and headstart programs.

We are not prioritizing the survival of our rural communities, as is evident by the cuts to the Alaska Marine Highway system and the re-direction of the raw fish tax.

We are not prioritizing care of our elderly or vulnerable populations, as evidenced by the proposed cuts to Medicaid and the Pioneer Home rates.

We are prioritizing the ability of companies to come in and make money off Alaska's land and Alaska's people without contributing their fair share. We are prioritizing giving Alaskans a quick buck over the future of the entire state. I urge members of the committee to give Governor Dunleavy's budget a reality check and show him that Alaskans want to prioritize the future. Alaskans want our state, our rural communities, our elderly and our children, to survive and thrive into the future.

I, and many other Alaskans, are willing to make the changes necessary to see that future become a reality, to give this priority crisis a gut check and show that we know hard decisions must be made - but the decisions Dunleavy is proposing are the wrong ones.

I would accept a reduced PFD or support the dissolution of the dividend altogether to pay for the proposed cuts I mentioned. I support the establishment of a state income tax simply because it's ridiculous we don't have one. We have gotten complacent, used to the system in place, used to the entitlement it engenders. This must stop - and a state income tax is a good place to start.

I also heavily support the repeal of oil tax credits. The per barrel oil production tax credits cost Alaskans over a billion dollars every year - and these companies are making money hand over fist.

Prioritize the people. Prioritize Alaska's future. Restore the cuts, implement an income tax, and know that when you are making hard decisions that may be politically unpopular, you are also doing *the right thing - for the right cause*: the future of our great State.

Thank you very much for your time.

Katie Riley

Doniece Gott

From: Carolyn Heuer [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2019 9:28 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Operating budget

Co Chairman Stedman
Co Chairman von Imhof

My name is Carolyn MacIntyre and I am writing to express my concerns about the budget. It is not acceptable to cut education as proposed. Our children will suffer. They are our future and this does not seem right. Here in Sitka we stand to lose 25% of our school budget which will mean a loss of 20 teachers: increased class size, loss of programs. No good!!!

It's absurd what Dunleavy has proposed for our ferries. I live in Sitka and it will certainly negatively affect us. It's the Alaska MARINE HIGHWAY! I can understand reduced service in winter, but no service is not acceptable.

I believe there are solutions.
Reduce the PFD.
Instate an income tax
Cut the oil tax giveaway!

Thank you,
Carolyn

Sent from my iPad

Doniece Gott

From: kirkandjenn_des [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2019 11:12 PM
To: Sen. Peter Micciche; Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Please support school funding

I am writing to implore you all once again to support full funding to the utmost of your ability for school funding. The Governor's proposed budget with a 25% cut to education is untenable and destructive to our communities and state, across the board.

I was at a very disturbing meeting last night in Seward to discuss school closure and consolidation in our area. When the cuts necessary to meet the budget constraints were discussed, people spoke of leaving our community in search of better opportunities for their children or employment prospects. We cannot afford to disrupt our community in this way. Please understand that we are very unhappy with the prospects of what these budget cuts look like in our community.

We all know we need more money to afford the lifestyle we desire in Alaska. Instead of discussing which draconian cuts to enact, let's start the discussion of which revenue streams we are willing to enact to meet our needs. Personally, I am willing to pay more into a system that will provide me and my family with the services we desire, such as an income tax, increased PFD contributions, employment tax, marijuana excise tax, and/ or revised oil and gas tax credits.

I hope you hear the will of the Alaskan people and vote with our thoughts in mind. We support the education of our youth in order to build strong communities for our future growth. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Jennifer DesErmia

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S7, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

Doniece Gott

From: Claire Bawtinhimer [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, April 13, 2019 8:15 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Save Moose Pass

Dear Finance Committee

My name is Claire Bawtinhimer.

My family and I moved to Seward when my first son was born in 2013. We lived there for 5 years, all the while renting a home, and although we love the community, we decided to invest our future (and our children's future) in Moose Pass. We purchased our home in Moose Pass July 2018 and were so excited to have our son attend the MPS.

Since attending, the school has exceeded our expectations of what it has provided for our son. He LOVES attending school as it is his "home away from home" and he is excelling at all subjects. It would be a huge detriment to him and his learning if he was forced to attend another school.

Please consider saving Moose Pass and NOT allowing school budget cuts!

Our community depends on the school and my 18month old son already loves going there when he gets the chance, I would hate for him to miss the opportunity to also be a student there.

Thank you for your time,
Sincerely, Claire Bawtinhimer
Mile 28 Moose Pass, AK

Doniece Gott

From: Jeff Estes [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, April 14, 2019 7:59 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Budget for education

My esteemed members of the Senate,

Any radical changes as were proposed by our governor in a critical to our Alaskan way of life Education Budget is unwise. If the perceived expansion of education facilities seems unwise, then a flat no increase budget would be the wise way to send the message to stop the expansion. Not the current sought after reduction, apparently to balance a budget growth so "long in the tooth".

I was born in the territory of Alaska 68 years ago. I can not believe that we the people of this State will abide with an action of the governor so obvious in political promise agenda, and so detrimental to the ideals of our great nation such as slashing education. I believe the fallout of such an act will haunt us for decades. I beseech you to hold the line when it comes to education.

Sincerely,
Jeff Estes

Member of the Estes family who will be celebrating 102 years of Alaskan residence on 6-21-2019.

Doniece Gott

From: paul wasko [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, April 15, 2019 4:22 PM
To: Sen. Bert Stedman; Sen. Natasha Von Imhof; Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Senate Finance Committee - Budget Bills

Senators, unfortunately I was unable to attend the recent public hiring. Had I been able to attend I would have strongly advocated for a strong funding package for our public K-20 system here in Alaska. I urge you to reject the Governor's proposed education cuts - this state needs a solid education system to invent our future. I understand budgets are and will be tight. I would prefer an income tax over any of the proposed cuts.

Thank you for your consideration,

Paul Wasko
Anchorage, AK

--
Paul Wasko
[REDACTED]

Doniece Gott

From: Sharon Hunter [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, April 15, 2019 3:41 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: 2019-2020 budget

My name is Sharon Hunter, I am a resident of Petersburg AK and I represent myself.

Please count my opinion toward cutting the state dividend and implementing a statewide income tax for making a budget that can be made to work. The things in our southeast island community that make our home worthwhile are: Quality education K-12, the current system has produced graduates able to pursue further education and return to our community with essential skills or stay here and make contributions with skills for trades learned in our school system. Public radio which connects us not only with the wider world but inside our community, entertains us and educates us. Health care for our citizens, the state healthcare for those in need has supported our CAH hospital facility and made it able to stay financially stable and continue to provide essential services. And our ferry system which gets us in and out, supports local commerce and school participation region wide. Governor Dunleavy's allegiance to the oil industry is not in our best interest.

Thank you

Sharon Hunter

Doniece Gott

From: Alyssa Russell [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2019 5:03 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Operating Budget

Hello,

My name is Alyssa Russell. I am 27 years old and am a resident of Sitka, Alaska.

Co-Chair Stedman, Co-Chair von Imhof, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to weigh in about the proposed changes to Alaska's state budget.

I am deeply concerned about the proposed changes- particularly the proposed 23% cut to K-12 education, proposed 44% cut to University of Alaska system, proposed 70% cut to ferries, and proposed \$730 million cuts to Medicaid.

I would gladly accept a smaller PFD or relinquish it altogether in order to prevent budget cuts in important areas such as these from happening. I also support paying a state income tax if that is what is necessary to keep Alaska's crucial social and educational programs intact.

Thank you again for your time,

Best,

Alyssa Russell

Doniece Gott

From: Meghyn [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, April 19, 2019 7:23 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: SB 20 Alaska State Operating Budget

Dear Senators,

I support stable or increased funding for Alaska's K-12 education system, university system, and pre-k programs; elder programs including benefits and care facilities; public radio stations; and Medicaid. Funding for these programs helps make my community a vibrant, healthy, and livable place. I support increased funding for the Alaska Marine Highway System this is the highway system for Southeast Alaska and it is vital for health, supplies and school travel.

I oppose the Governor's proposal for Alaska to be the first state to use federal block grant funding for Medicaid - we need to retain flexible federal funding that will ensure providers receive payments and that all of our families and children get the healthcare they need. We must be clear that "block grant" is another term for kicking our most vulnerable Alaskans out of the healthcare system.

I strongly support SB 14 and cutting oil tax credits. If we stop subsidizing these extremely profitable outside corporations, the approximately \$1-2 billion in annual tax revenue will eliminate the bulk of our budget shortfalls. These are among the wealthiest and largest corporations on the planet. That the Governor has proposed offering them welfare while kicking children, elders, and the vulnerable out of life-saving programs is a moral outrage.

I strongly support a statewide, progressive income tax. The facts - while hard to find amid the Governor's rhetoric, leaving one wondering if the Governor can differentiate between propaganda and reality - are clear: states with progressive income taxes have higher employment and stronger economies. I oppose flat taxes because it is quite obvious that those with millions in the bank can pay a much larger share and still maintain the luxurious standard of living to which they are accustomed.

At the very least, it is past time to tax out of state workers. Alaska experiences a disproportionately high amount of taxable revenue leaving the state via the oil, mining, and fishing industries. This is revenue that will not be spent in our communities, contribute to local sales tax, or help pay local property taxes. You hold the power to tax that income this session if you choose to do so.

I oppose using the PFD to balance the budget over the long term, however if you must do so this year I support it. In the long run, I support instituting a progressive income tax and giving families the option of using a portion of their full PFD's as payment. Eliminating and reducing the PFD is in effect a flat tax on Alaskans and should be avoided if possible.

--

Meghyn P.
11th Grade Student
Petersburg High School

PETERSBURG LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE

Email: lio.petersburg@akleg.gov
907-772-3741/ phone/ 907-772-3779/fax

WRITTEN TESTIMONY

YOUR FULL NAME:

REPRESENTING (ORGANIZATION OR SELF):

BILL #: Subject:

COMMITTEE NAME: HEARING DATE:

Please keep our Public Radio and TV stations funded. Without them, all we get is trash and advertisements. We appreciate the service that we have now. Thank you.

Doniece Gott

From: emil tucker [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2019 6:28 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Please support public broadcasting

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing in support of funding public broadcasting in Alaska. Public broadcasting provides many services that are essential for a functional and transparent society. Public broadcasting in rural areas is the primary means of news and information in rural communities and provides for emergency broadcast services essential for the safety of our communities. Public broadcasting is an important voice for your legislature to ensure that the decisions you make are known and understood by your constituency.

Thank you,

Emil Tucker
Petersburg.

1. Thank you for opportunity to share our concerns.
2. I am testifying about my ethical concerns regarding the decision(s) to reduce funding for our schools, teachers and children's basic educational opportunities and access to libraries, and to reduce ferry services to SE AK, while simultaneously increasing PFD payouts.
3. I do not personally believe that giving each eligible state resident a bigger PFD will result in greater happiness for people in our state; rather, giving that money away in small amounts to each person entails that we will not have sufficient resources for adequately funding schools or ferry services. I would rather have a standard or no pfd in exchange for guaranteed basic necessities and services to our rural communities in AK.
4. I recall an economic scenario posited in a philosophy class regarding obligations to future generations. We were asked to consider a community that had a large amount of money to spend; some argued to give everyone a few bricks to use however they wished, while others argued to buy enough bricks to build a community service facility. This is just like our situation: we can all have a little money to buy a few "bricks" or we can all collaborate and fund community services that everyone can use and benefit from. Given the reduced marginal utility of money when funding is low, how much better off will we all be with an extra \$1,000 compared to how much better we will be with adequate funding for schools and ferry services? Won't we all be much better off if our children have school funding and everyone can travel by ferry for medical and other essential services and goods?
5. Ethical decision making is mandatory here – and I ask that our legislators hear our voices and hear our concerns, and represent our interests, as caring individuals and as caring communities. Please do not raise the PFD and instead, use that money to fund schools and ferries in SE AK. Thank you.

Doniece Gott

From: Alan Marasigan
Sent: Monday, April 15, 2019 7:58 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: FW: Funding for public broadcasting

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

From: akdonnaj@gmail.com <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, April 13, 2019 8:58 AM
To: LIO Anchorage <Lio.Anchorage@akleg.gov>
Subject: Funding for public broadcasting

Dear Concerned legislators,

For over 35 years, I have appreciated Alaska's public radio network, living in both rural and populated areas of our great state. The high quality journalism and respectful delivery of news from communities within Alaska, our nation, and the world, have broadened my perspectives since I was young. Whether it is legislative candidates debating, health topics, the BBC, or emergency updates like our recent earthquake, public broadcasting provides essential information to Alaskans. I will continue to support this asset and I encourage you to do so.

Thank you for serving all of us!

Sincerely,
Donna Jefferson
Indian, Alaska

Sent from my iPhone

To: Senate Finance Committee
FR: Emily Cross
RE: Support for KNBA and Public Radio
DT: April 11, 2019

I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony to the Senate Finance Committee on SB20 and the difficult decisions facing the legislature.

I serve as the Chair of the Board of KNBA public radio and am a major donor of the station, while working for my Native Corporation. Having grown up in Kotzebue and currently living in Anchorage, I have a unique understanding of the critical service of public broadcasting in Alaska. I am in support of public broadcasting funding in the FY20 state operating budget for many reasons, including the public safety service it offers to Alaskans. The emergency messaging and broadcasting during the earthquake in Anchorage is a good example of the critical service.

The loss of a State of Alaska grant to stations like KNBA will have a significant impact on the services we enjoy as listeners in the Anchorage area. Public broadcasting provides access to critical local information like weather, natural disasters, and an emphasis on local indigenous languages is affordable to those struggling with cellular or mobile devices. I am proud of the state's history of funding public broadcasting as a cost effective tool to reach all Alaskans where vast distances, cost prohibitive travel, and digital communication can be challenging.

The local programming in Alaska Native languages, cultural programming, and new initiatives to reach young listeners is growing and popular. KNBA and its parent company produces Native America Calling and National Native News have become the platform for Natives to be heard. Lets keep these programs on the air.

I would encourage the Senate Finance Committee include full funding for public broadcasting and the important service it provides the State of Alaska.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Emily Cross". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first name "Emily" is written in a larger, more prominent script, and "Cross" is written in a slightly smaller, more compact script to its right. The signature is positioned at the bottom of the letter, below the main body of text.

Doniece Gott

From: Mary and Jeff [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, April 14, 2019 10:24 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Cc: Friends of Sheldon Jackson Museum
Subject: Sheldon Jackson Museum- do NOT sell

To the Finance Committee,

Please do not stop funding the Sheldon Jackson Museum which is a state treasure and has a collection of Alaska Native Art and artifacts that rivals that of the Smithsonian.

I live in Sitka and love going there to marvel yet again at the adaptation the Natives made to their harsh environment through their clothing and tools of daily living.

I worked in Kotzebue for 3 years and I love to be reminded of those years I spent in the far North.

If the State of Alaska sells the Sheldon Jackson Museum and its contents, that would be like the Federal Government selling the Smithsonian.

Ridiculous, right?

It would be equally ridiculous for the State of Alaska to stop funding the Sheldon Jackson Museum as it would be for the Federal Government to stop funding the Smithsonian.

Please maintain the current funding, the Sheldon Jackson Museum is important to the soul of the great State of Alaska.

Thank you,

Mary Barrett, FNP

[REDACTED]
Sitka, AK 99835

Doniece Gott

From: Lois Munch [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2019 5:39 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Sheldon Jackson Museum

The following expresses my opinion, and was sent to the governor.

I'm appalled with the extent of your (as governor) potential slashing of all that is important in our state. For this notation, however, I reference the Sheldon Jackson Museum. Can you, especially married to a Native lady, not comprehend the importance of this museum? A tribute to and education for many....locals and tourists alike. I treasure the basket I bought in the gift shop in addition to the museum content. Closing it would prevent others from exposure to our Native people who are the true stewards of Alaska. Please respect the museum as it is.

Lois Munch
[REDACTED]
Ketchikan AK 99901

KENAI LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE

Email: Kenai_LIO@akleg.gov

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

WRITTEN TESTIMONY

NAME: JOE DEMAREE

REPRESENTING: SELF

BILL # or SUBJECT: SB 20

COMMITTEE: SEIN

DATE: 3-29-19

NOTE: This testimony is considered part of the official record and will be posted online with the hearing documents

!! LEAVE THE PERMINET FUND ALONE IF YOU
NEED MONEY CUT YOUR SALARY CUT YOUR BENEFITS
CUT YOUR RAISE EVERY YEAR WE DONT GET ALL THESE.
I VOTE AGAINST EVERYONE WHO TOUCHES IT. GORE IS
TO BE FIRED EVERYONE WHO IS NOT NEEDED. NO NEW
BUILDINGS. NO NEW PARKS. NO NEW EQUIPMENT LEAVE
DUNLEVY ALONE HE IS DOING GREAT NO MORE MONEY
FOR THE SCHOOLS. IT IS A DISGRACE THE EDUCATION
OUR KIDS GET. THE PROGRAM NO KID LEFT BEHIND
IS SO STUPID IT STINKS. THE MONEY YOU SPEND ON
PROGRAMS IS A DISGRACE. LIKE THE ONE TO BACK YOUR
BUDGET ON BLOOD OIL I LAH WHEN I HEARD THAT HOW COULD
ANYONE BE THAT STUPID. AN ALL OF YOU FELL FOR IT.
(WOW)!!!! THEN THERE IS OVER THOUSAND OF CHILDREN
ARE MOLESTED OR MISSTREATED OR STOLEN FROM PARENTS
OR GRANDPARENTS. ALMOST IN EVERY CASE. OUR GORE
IS A DISGRACE!!!! IT IS A WASTE OF TIME TO TALK
TO ANY OF YOU. I HAVE TRIED FOR 5 YEARS. IT DOES
MORE HARM THAN GOOD TO TALK TO YOU. YOU NEED TO
PASS A BILL TO PUT KIDS PED IN AN ACCOUNT TILL THERE 21
OF FOR THERE COLLAGE

KENAI LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE

Email: Kenai_LIO@akleg.gov

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

WRITTEN TESTIMONY

NAME:

Barbara Quatrell

REPRESENTING:

Self

BILL # or SUBJECT:

PFD'S SB 20

COMMITTEE:

SFIN

DATE: 4-1-2019

NOTE: This testimony is considered part of the official record and will be posted online with the hearing documents

I would to see that the PFD'S Be Left alone
because, it helps the kids get school cloths, school
supplies, Christmas presence, a place to live,
Things like that. Fly to see ~~see~~ Family you
have not seen in a long time.

So that People do not go homeless.

I would like some of the PFD'S go in to bank for
the kids so that when when they turn 25 they can
use it to get a Education, (College) or a home.
this will help them to plan, for there future.
So Please Leave The PFD'S alone.

Barbara Quatrell

Doniece Gott

From: H Fair [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2019 6:22 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: AMHS

Please fully fund the Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS) as an essential government service. Alaska's economy, security, and tourism industry depend on connectivity and multiple transportation modes. The very purpose of government is to provide essential services that the private sector cannot, will not, or should not provide. While we need to spend prudently government services such as AMHS are not intended to make a profit. That said, there are ways to upgrade, market, brand, and operate the ships to attract more consistent ridership but that also requires additional investment beyond current levels. A robust ferry service must be continued until such time that other infrastructure is constructed and maintained to connect our communities.

Heather O'Claray
Juneau, Alaska