

House Finance Committee  
Public Testimony

HB 2001

Emails received to

[HouseFinance@akleg.gov](mailto:HouseFinance@akleg.gov)

July 17, 2019

Part 1

From: Len Kamerling <lenkamerling@gmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:01 AM  
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
Subject: Support for HB2001

Dear House Finance Committee Members,

I strongly support HB2001, Appropriations for the Permanent Fund, and I urge you to vote for its passage. Please protect Alaskans from these drastic budget cuts that will destroy much of what we hold dear in our state..

Thank you,

Leonard Kamerling  
1380 Coyote Trail  
Fairbanks, AK 99709

**From:** Sarah Preskitt <sarahpreskitt@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:05 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Cc:** Rep. Harriet Drummond <Rep.Harriet.Drummond@akleg.gov>; Sen. Elvi Gray-Jackson <Sen.Elvi.Gray-Jackson@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Please vote yes on HB 2001 to restore funding

Dear members of the House Finance Committee,

I want to thank you again for giving the public an opportunity to voice their opinions on HB 2001. I appreciate your efforts to restore funding to critical institutions and services in Alaska and it is my sincere hope that you and your colleagues are successful.

These cuts come at a critical time for my family. My husband and I have been caring for my mother-in-law as she struggles with mental illness and continues to recover from a broken shoulder after a slip on the ice this winter. She relies on Medicaid for her health care coverage and works two jobs that are fairly labor intensive, especially for a woman of 64 years old. We have been getting by financially because while receiving care outside the traditional insurance model can be time consuming, there is peace of mind that it will not bankrupt her, put us in a financially precarious position, or make her choose between healthcare and food or rent. As Medicaid is chipped away, will she continue to receive quality care?

We've been able to help her out because my husband and I are both employed in positions we love that require our training and skill set, but the likelihood that my husband retains his position at the University of Alaska Anchorage grows slimmer with each passing day that the University is not funded as it was in the budget the legislature voted on earlier this year. We will struggle to maintain our own household with our income cut in half, and I simply cannot make the math work to also continue to assist his mother with her expenses while paying our own bills. As the economy shrinks and unemployment swells, will there be other jobs available for which he is qualified? As a city employee, will I still have a job after the unexpected financial burden is pushed to municipalities? With the massive layoffs that the University is predicting followed by the layoffs that will come after the fact, Alaska will lose good paying jobs filled by educated professionals.

My husband's students are contacting him in a panic, informing him that they've lost their scholarships and they don't know what to do. He doesn't know what to tell them.

We returned home after completing graduate school because we love Alaska and we wanted to be closer to our families. We were excited to once again be part of a state where we could make a difference in our home community. We still are, but we have to be able to afford to put food on the table and take care of our elders.

I'm not arguing to eliminate the PFD – I understand it's a lifeline to my fellow residents and its distribution is written into law. But why haven't leaders in Alaska started a serious conversation about taxes? I would be happy to pay taxes if it meant that the University from which I obtained my degree was available to future Alaskans, our elders received the care they need, ferries made the state more accessible, and libraries could provide internet access to rural communities. Why are we cowering in the shadows of oil companies making billions in profits every year while simultaneously arguing with each other about what's more important - the PFD or public services and education? If residents and oil companies were taxed fairly, we wouldn't be having this conversation (or this fight) at all.

Please restore funding to higher education and public services via HB 2001.

Thank you for your time and service to Alaska.

Respectfully,

Sarah Preskitt  
Anchorage, AK 99517

**From:** John Athens <jathens01@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:08 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** budget crisis

Dear House Finance Committee Members:

The Alaska Constitution provides that the government shall provide for the health, education, and welfare of the citizens of this state. It further provided for a state university, which over the years has grown to be an outstanding institution. The Constitution is a statement of what was deemed to be important for Alaskans to receive from their government.

The statutory formula for PFD handouts is not found in the Constitution, and should not be used to destroy the university, the arts, and the well-being and safety of all of the citizens. Long after the PFD check is spent, a viable economy and education system is critical to everyone's survival.

Emphasizing one small aspect of the economy, and not considering anything else as important, will destroy Alaska. It seems that while arguing over the amount of the PFD, many legislators failed to notice all of the harm that was being done to their constituents, not the least of which was the Governor's choice to sweep funds already promised to young people planning to attend college and those hoping to attend medical school. And some legislators are just now noticing that the State's help previously given to offset heating costs is gone. Will the people who depended on that remember to save their PFDs for winter!? Will they be able to use it to buy their own public safety officers, fire protection, earthquake warnings, and a multitude of other government services?

You were elected to help the citizens of Alaska thrive—not by giving out one big (and ephemeral) check, and leaving the state in tatters! Follow the Constitution as your oath requires you to do! Please tell all of the citizens that we must be willing to help each other in the spirit of those who wrote our constitution. Simply demanding that we get a \$3000 check, and not caring about people who have other needs is a betrayal of what made this State great, and why many of us are here! Remind your constituents that their children may want an education, and their parents may need help as they get older!

Alaska citizens should learn to live within their means, and after essential services of health, education, and welfare are provided for, as mandated by our Constitution. Only then may a reasonable PFD check be given to them. I believe if each of you reminded your constituents of all they and their communities will lose if the only thing provided for by your votes is one big check, they will understand and support you. Now that you have heard of the devastation you will cause, and how many true Alaskans want something more for their state and themselves, do not let this opportunity to save our state pass you by!

John Athens

Fairbanks, AK 99709

[jathens01@gmail.com](mailto:jathens01@gmail.com)

**From:** thanatopsis@gmail.com <thanatopsis@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:09 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Cc:** Sen. Click Bishop <Sen.Click.Bishop@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** Do whatever you can to restore funding lost due to the budget vetoes

Dear House Finance committee members, Senator Bishop, and Representative Wool—

I hope "dear" isn't too personal, but when my home is attacked the way it has been by Dunleavy and the people who control him, I take that personally. Unfortunately I have to work during the public testimony times in Fairbanks, but I wanted to let you know how desperately we need your help.

As a lifelong Alaskan who remembers when the state had an income tax and no PFD, I wish that were still the case. The UA system, the Arts Council, and programs that assist the homeless and elderly should be funded before any dividend is given to individuals.

I always donate more than the amount of the PFD to charity and good causes. I have never used Pick.Click.Give because I prefer to do it myself. But this year, even though I might not have a job in a few weeks, I've given \$500 to UAF with Pick.Click.Give. I'm also giving to the UA Foundation to help restore the scholarships that were promised to hard-working students and then suddenly taken away. I will continue to give to the Food Bank and other organizations until I lose my job. I wish I only had to donate to GoFundMe European vacations instead of having to fund necessities like public education.

I believe in UAF and I will fight for it. If UAF gets cut down to a community college (as the faculty of UAA have so viciously suggested), Fairbanks will not be the same. Education will suffer. The arts will suffer. Some local business and restaurants will close. Fairbanks will no longer feel like home without the diversity and opportunities that UAF brings to our city.

My father, who was born in Fairbanks in 1930, is getting up there. I'll be around as long as he needs my assistance. I hope UAF is around much longer. This is the first time in my life I've ever seriously contemplated leaving Alaska. I thought about it before attending college in the 80s, but found out UAF had everything I needed. After graduation I got job offers out of state, but as good as the offers were, none was worth leaving the community I proudly call home. It makes no sense to cut funding to arts programs and research programs that bring in millions of dollars to the state's economy. Surely the legislature knows the likely outcome. People much smarter than me have already written at length about it.

Dunleavy lied and misled the public. He should be recalled. I don't know how so many elected officials could stand by him in Wasilla, unless they are all corrupt. I commend every one of you who stood together in Juneau, crossing party lines, to do what needs to be done to help all Alaskans. I even thanked Tammie Wilson for at least getting to Juneau. We need to tax the oil companies more. We need an income tax that brings in money from out-of-state workers and doesn't disproportionately tax low-income families in the way capping the PFD does. But nobody is losing that dividend

money. It is not theft. Using it for the good of the state's education and economy helps everybody, even if some people don't understand that. The full, uncapped PFD amounts in 2012 and 2013 were smaller than the capped dividends of 2016 and 2017, even adjusted for inflation. The 2018 amount was 50% more. What more can people ask for? I mean besides a functioning university system, arts funding, homeless shelters, medical assistance for the elderly, a working ferry system (that isn't private and for profit), funding for Head Start, etc. I'm going through the veto list again right now and it is so saddening I can't even look at it anymore.

Please do whatever you can to save our state.

Thank you,

James Hassel  
907-479-8919  
4953 Dartmouth Apt 11  
Fairbanks, AK  
99709

**From:** Eric Troyer <erictroyer1234@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:09 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Massive cuts not needed

The massive cuts proposed by Gov. Dunleavy are not needed! They will damage Alaska's economy for years to come. We can all still get a reasonable dividend and have a reasonable state budget.

**From:** Christopher Pearson <wickedwhaler1971@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:21 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Support House Bill 2001 or be voted out.

"It's an amazing story, but as I suggested, it fits a pattern. When low-tax ideology collides with fiscal reality, education — which accounts for about half of state and local government employment (in Alaska) — often bears much of the cost. The infamous Kansas "experiment" in tax-cutting (hey, that's what Governor Sam Brownback called it) finally came to an end when even Republican legislators were horrified by the damage spending cuts were doing to education." - Paul Krugman on how Alaska has failed the University and education in the state of Alaska. It is ultimately a failure to raise revenue.

Now for my testimony:

Hello,

I have listened to many hours of testimony and the one thing I hear in common for those that want the FULL PFD is this....

They are vulnerable and are the ones that are most in need of the other programs being cut.

They are in survival mode and do not see the lasting effect that this vetoed budget will cause.

None of these individuals arguing for the full PFD can afford another recession. None of us can.

The reputation of Alaska is being tarnished everyday that goes by without funding these necessary programs and education. The inability to forward fund the K-12 education gave great pause to many teachers that have now fled the state in search for some security. It was great to be able to forward fund last year, but the previous year in conjunction with this year was enough to push many over the edge. Many have lived in unnecessary fear for years. They were sick and tired of it and left. In the long run, you will end up paying more to bring talent into the state because you have not provided any stability.

The budget that was put forth to the governor before he vetoed it, was a budget that was built on hard work and compromise. It was a budget that was representative of the peoples needs. The governor had no right to take a hatchet to the budget. He had no right to do anything that drastic. His actions usurped the efforts of the hardworking Senators

and Representatives. He did this under the advisement of outsider, Donna Arduin, who is an ideologue that doesn't understand Alaska and its complexity. She has no vested interest in this state. She will go back to Florida with her \$200,000 and never return, unless the Koch Bros. ask her to do so. Go figure!

Not voting for House Bill 2001 will lead to a lengthened recession and hardship for ALL Alaskans.

Stand Strong, Support House Bill 2001!

Sincerely, an upset Alaskan,

Chris Pearson

Juneau

**From:** Mary Ann Borchert <maborche@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:24 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** The PFD and the Alaska budget

I will not be able to attend the Wednesday Finance Committee in person, but I would like to submit this testimony. The PFD is nice, but it's not a right. The amount of the PFD should be determined by the financial situation we are in this year. Setting up the Permanent Fund was a very smart thing to do, and we as residents have benefited over the years from those checks that show up each October, but we have done nothing to earn them. And we have done nothing to earn them this year, either.

Please work together, determine a reasonable amount for this year's PFD (not \$3,000), and pass the appropriations bill that would restore all funding of all vetoed items. Thank you. Mary Ann Borchert

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Mary Ann Borchert  
Educational Consulting  
2450 Locksley Ct.  
Fairbanks, AK 99709  
Cell 907-888-2972 Home 907-479-2087

**From:** Kathy Steadman <thesteady5@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:41 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** Budget/PFD

Hello,

Please save our pfd and start doing the real work of reducing our budget by making real spending cuts & supporting our governor who is trying to help us get back to a sustainable budget.

Thank you,

Kathy Steadman

**From:** Sean Holland <seanmholland@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:45 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** HB 2001 Testimony

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee,

I write to offer my testimony on HB 2001 on the topics of a PFD amount and a hopeful restoration of the Governor's drastic and harmful vetoes.

I received my first PFD in 1988, when I was four years old. It is something that as an Alaskan, I have come to expect. It's like a celestial event. It happens every year, it varies in intensity, I can't control it, and I try not to depend on it. I have benefitted greatly from this share of our state's resource wealth and I am grateful for it.

However, it is clear that the PFD has come to wield a negative influence on our state's political discourse and our ability to deliver essential state services. We're addicted to it and we can't see past it to the greater good or purpose of government. It perpetuates a distorted relationship between residents and government. In what other state would our current crisis be tolerated? The reddest of red states all have some kind of broad-based tax that allows them to fund essential state services.

In every other US state, residents pay for government. This causes residents to be invested in the stewardship and implementation of government services. They're constituents with "skin in the game" so to speak. In Alaska, this relationship is reversed. Instead of the state viewed as something that is supported by residents, it is seen as something that owes something to residents. Alaskans today under the age of 45 have no cultural memory of ever paying for state government. This is problematic.

I encourage you to use HB 2001 to reverse the drastic vetoes by the Governor and fund a modest and affordable PFD. Please think long-term regarding how those vetoes will detrimentally affect our state, compared to the short term gains a PFD provides.

And while it is out of the bounds of HB 2001, I want to ask you to tax me. A balanced budget with stable funding for education, head start, UA, as well as a full PFD could be accomplished with the implementation of a progressive income tax.

Thank you,

Sean Holland  
1946 Raven Drive, Apt B  
Fairbanks, AK 99709

**From:** fat man vapor <leightonradnerak@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:15 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Pfd

Hi my name's leighton radner I'm 19 and live in Seward Alaska I vote and the pfd matters we need are full pfd or a payout period taking money from the pfd is taking money from the Alaska people

**From:** Patricia Carlson <pecarlson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:24 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** My Life in Alaska has bottomed out

Dear House Finance Committee,

With the Governor's veto, my life has changed. My son-in-law and I work for the University of Alaska, and our futures are uncertain. If funding is not restored, we will have to leave the state. Period.

If funding is not restored to the Arts: visual, music, theater, public television/radio, and outreach education, my grandchildren will miss out on local opportunities which we will have to find for them out of state. The Arts generate multiple dollars in the economy, and as a result, the Arts improve the livability of the community. A community has to have both work and play, and if the arts are not funded, it makes for a very uncomfortable, stale, boring place to live. The Arts and the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, provide rich inspiration for citizens of all ages in the Interior. Indeed,

people from preschool to senior citizens enjoy the art, music, and theater, and public broadcasting programs offered in the community and at the University all year long.

Please reconsider the governor's veto for these reasons I outlined. Also reconsider other programs and services that the state should provide for its citizens to make our lives easier: the Marine Highway, Medicaid, Head Start, etc. And for heaven's sake, if you want young people to stay in the state, don't cut scholarships and grants or tuition loan programs for our children! That is very short-sighted and illogical.

Thank you for your work and perseverance in dealing with our budget. A PFD was never the reason I came to Alaska 38 years ago. But the good people, great education, community programs, and beautiful nature have kept me here. I hope these assets don't have to change.

Sincerely,  
Patricia Carlson  
665 Audrey Drive  
Fairbanks, AK 99709

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

From: Mark Withrow <juergenswithrow@gmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 3:49 AM  
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
Subject: Priority

It is not wise for Alaskans to cash their \$300 PFD and crash on the way home because the bridge fails. Do not steal the future.

I am a 40 year Alaskan resident and physician.

Mark Withrow, MD. Kodiak

Sent from my iPad

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

From: Rodney <rotney@mtaonline.net>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 4:17 AM  
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
Subject: PFD

I, as the majority of voters want our pfd's, and no changes without a vote of the people, not a rigged 5 no PFD legislators, to 3 Pro PFD legislators. 3000.00 PFD !!!!

Sent from my iPhone

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

From: Emily Casey <emilycasey2010@hotmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 5:04 AM  
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
Subject: Early Childhood Education Funding

> Good Morning-

> My name is Emily Casey, I was just notified that unless something  
> changes in the next couple of weeks, I don't have a job this fall. CCS



> Head Start has decided to close the Chugiak center, where I have worked for the last 3.5 years.  
>  
> I am devastated at this news. Mostly because of the 8-10 children and families I was anticipating returning to my class, now have no school to go to. They are no longer guaranteed two hot meals a day. They are no longer being set up for success.  
>  
> Chugiak/Eagle River is a HUGE service area that will now be under served.  
>  
> The families that I have worked with in the past, who were looking forward to siblings starting this fall. The children I promised I would see after the summer break. They deserve a chance. They deserve the benefits of early childhood education.  
>  
> Please work your hardest to get things changed.  
> The children and families of Chugiak/Eagle River deserve better.  
>  
> Thank,  
> Emily  
>  
> Sent from my iPhone

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

From: Sanjana.Greenhill <sanjana.greenhill@gmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 5:16 AM  
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
Subject: Please restore funding cuts

To whom it may concern,

I'm in favor of a lower PFD or no PFD at all. I would like to see this money go towards solving the states budget problem instead.

Thanks,  
Sanjana Greenhill

**From:** Dan Coleman <dan@colemans.me>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 5:27 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Please Help Alaskans

Dear Legislators,

Thank you for your service and hard work. I'm writing because I'm deeply troubled by what is happening to so many vulnerable Alaskans. Our local homeless shelter just announced they are closing during the day, eliminating breakfast and lunch services. How will people eat? How will they survive? We are Alaskans and resourceful, but this begs me to question our decency as a society if we cannot care for those most in need.

I read in the ADN this morning that when SB21 passed the oil lobby asked for \$5/barrel credit, instead the legislature gave them \$8/barrel, the equivalent of nearly the same amount as the cuts to our university, homeless, and so many other reductions. We do need to balance our budget, but please don't do it on the backs of the young, old and most impoverished. Find a way to beat back against the Governor's cuts and show that you do represent the people of our great state. Take a stand. Make Alaska Great Again.

Best Regards,

Dan Coleman  
10103 Silver Street  
Juneau, AK 99801  
907-419-0270  
[Dan@colemans.me](mailto:Dan@colemans.me)

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

From: gary@chena.org <garycnewman@gmail.com> On Behalf Of Gary Newman  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 5:40 AM  
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
Subject: HB 2001

House Finance,

Like many Alaskans, I am dismayed at the Governor's vetoes of the Operating Budget while attempting to push constitutional amendments that hamstring Alaskans and the Legislature. Pushing a full and retroactive dividend when you can't afford it isn't even what any sensible business would do. It will lead us into a deeper recession, raise costs for those remaining. I don't want us to be like Kansas.

It should be obvious that we can't just cut our way out of this and maintain a healthy environment and economy for our state, already 49th of 50 states in a recent rating of economic health.

Our constitution enumerates one specific responsibility – to provide for public education. The governor's vetoes of Pre-K to UA abdicate that responsibility.

If I had to offer a sustainable solution, here's what I would do.

1. Restore the vetoes to the operating budget
2. Re-instate the income tax we abolished decades ago (progressive)
3. Modify SB21 to allow the oil companies to share in restoring balance to our revenue
4. Continue the Permanent Fund Dividend sustainably, while informing recipients that it is NOT an entitlement
5. Increase the gas tax to an amount roughly equal to the average of all the other states. Ours is the lowest in the nation and our roads are collapsing everywhere. We also rate 46th of 50 states in the condition of our infrastructure.

I understood that one of the terms of the House Majority in organizing in February was not to take up revenue measures. If so, it is time to revisit this. Legislators don't want to be meeting beyond the 90-120 days and, in my view, that commitment has hamstrung you from functional and fiscally responsible solutions.

Thanks for continuing your efforts to sustain our state.

Gary Newman  
1083 Esro Road  
Fairbanks, AK

**From:** Jeff Merkel <mrkl8717@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 5:40 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Restore Funding. Override the Vetoes

Members of the Finance Committee,

Thank you for taking our testimony.

As a 22 year resident of Alaska, I am very aware of the challenges we face.  
Not until this year have I felt dread as I read about what is happening  
To our state. I was not here in the '80s during the last recession.  
But I see signs of that disaster recurring, everywhere on the horizon.

If Governor Dunleavy's cuts are sustained, our community in Fairbanks  
As well as our responsibility to many people in need in our state will be shattered.  
Our retired and elders will be faced with unprecedented cuts in assistance.  
Homeless shelters and runaway halfway houses will close.  
Businesses will anticipate the recession and let employees go,  
Families will not be able to make ends meet.  
Medicaid recipients will lose their dental care.  
Countless agencies will lose their Federal grants  
Which are dependent on State funding.

The chaos will affect all services.  
With less Medicare coverage, hospital emergency rooms will be swamped.  
Doctors, teachers, lawyers, researchers – and their families –  
Will flee the state for greener pastures.  
Who wants to live in a place facing severe climate change  
With a self-inflicted, fatal wound of PFD-induced greed infecting the body politic?

The worst will happen to our State University System.  
Many have been working to meet the demand for reasonable cuts,  
Only to be dealt a death blow in these past 2 weeks  
By Donna Arduin's takeover of our entire political process  
Which resulted in Dunleavy's mean-spirited budget vetoes.

The recall of Governor Dunleavy may not come soon enough to right these wrongs.  
However, he may relent if, through your efforts to restore the cuts,  
we can join the Pioneers of the past century in thoughtful and careful governance,  
which has given so much in character and compassion to build this great state.

Thank you for your time.

Jeff Merkel

**From:** pastorino@gci.net <pastorino@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 5:50 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** PFD

The debate regarding the PFD 1982 dividend formula, which has been appreciated by all Alaskans, has become divisive rather than supportive, which is jeopardizing the state's economy and its future. The PFD cannot continue to be a political strategy that inhibits our ability to move forward with critical services, issues, and projects important to our well-being. The PFD is not a campaign tool, it is a blessing. What other state gives away money to its people? Seriously, and we are fighting about it and spending money we can't afford to fund legislative sessions through the summer. We are blessed, but

where is our gratitude. Wisdom would advise us to work together to ensure the sustainability of our PFD, to protect it for the benefit of all Alaskans, and to re-evaluate the 1982 formula to ensure the fund is sustainable for the long-term. Although, I do believe that those of us who have more can do with less. Therefore, getting creative seems like a good and viable option. For example, create a fund that those who are in need can draw from for winter fuel costs, etc., and adjust the formula accordingly. If that means an amendment, than that is what that means. We all don't need the dividend, but we do have a responsibility to support those in need, both with the dividend and with services; and we are blessed to have the fund to work with. Get creative or implement an income tax and stop this craziness. We can't have everything, and we can't make everyone happy; and we cannot be dependent on oil revenues that are unpredictable. Make the tough decisions, show us your leaderships, that is why we elected you. We don't need best friends siding with us or with one side or the other. We are not in grade school. We need leaders with the wisdom and courage who will discern the critical needs and make decisions based upon what is best for all Alaskans and our State. Thank you for taking the time to read this; Thank you for taking the time to read this; and I do realize how very difficult your jobs have been, especially this year. Barbara (Alex) Pastorino, Juneau

**From:** Felicia Riedel <f\_riedel@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 6:09 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** override Dunleavy's vetoes, return to bipartisan budget

Up early before I go to work to try to sway what is happening with the budget. So quickly:

- override Dunleavy's vetoes
- find a way to pay for what we need, not waste, but a society that is above survival-of-the-fittest-and-luckiest. We want our kids and grandkids to end up living and working here! Revamp SB 21, cut the PFD if you have to, bring back taxes (yes, we Alaskans did pay taxes proudly and independently), income/education/sales tax/raise the gas tax. I don't really want any of those, but if your kids are starving, you don't cut food -you get a second job. Compromise and take care of our kids.
- don't insist on an unattainable \$3000PFD that will wipe out PFDs for our kids and grandkids.
- return to the bipartisan budget.

Thank you,  
Felicia Riedel  
Kenny Lake, AK

**From:** Allison Smith <allisontheresa907@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 6:21 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** HB 2001

Dear House Finance Committee,

I am writing in support of HB 2001. Limiting the PFD in order to support education benefits everyone in our state by promoting public education including that at the university level and preventing job loss. The University of Alaska is also incredibly important in developing a new skilled workforce of Alaskans.

Thank you for your consideration,

Allison Smith  
4500 Hillcrest Avenue

Juneau, AK 99801

**From:** Emmy Murdock <emmyjmurdock@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 6:26 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** My concern about budget cuts to education

To Whom it May Concern,

I'm concerned about the state of Alaska and the budget. More money needs to be allocated for education and fine arts services, not the pfd.

Sincerely,  
Emmy Murdock (born and raised on Kodiak Island)

**From:** Clare Hill <chillydog1990@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 6:34 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Please override!

Our state budget reflects our vision and our values. What does it say about us as humans when we choose a one-time, \$3000 individual cash payout over a system which tries to equitably provide services for all and a safety net for the vulnerable?

We Alaskans are better than that! Polling has indicated that a majority of us support continued state services over a large PFD. Please honor the wishes of the majority and take the moral high road. Please override all vetoes. We need a reasonable PFD based on the new calculation and WE NEED TO REINSTATE THE INCOME TAX!

Thank you,  
Clare Hill  
4320 Parks Ridge Rd  
Fairbanks 99709

**From:** Mary Burtness <mcburtness@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 6:45 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Comment new appropriations bill

To the members of the house finance committee.

I believe the governor's vetoes are totally inappropriate for our state.

1. I believe the legislators worked long and hard to compromise and he ignored your efforts and the spirit of compromise in a democracy. Stand by your budget.
2. I just talked with a 10 year veteran special education teacher yesterday who put in her resignation yesterday because her wife works for the university and they did not want to wait around to be laid off. They are moving to Washington. How many more will be going the same way?
3. People screamed about job loss when Fairbanks was going to lose jobs at Eielson, so I am screaming now for the job loss of all the vetoes
4. A larger dividend will not be spent on services that will be lost. There is not enough money for that.

I could go on but you have heard it all before.

I implore you to stick with the budget you worked on and the amount of dividend you set.

Mary C Burtness

**From:** Lori Grassgreen <lorigrassgreen@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 6:49 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** a budget for Alaska

House Finance Committee

I live in Juneau but work across the state for over a decade. I travel to rural Alaska, hub communities, the Kenai and Anchorage. My husband grew up on the Kenai peninsula and my family lives across the state. I have the chance to speak to hundreds of people when traveling with few exceptions regardless of their field, age, or race. I have heard that, like me, most Alaskans are greatly disappointed with the current situation including the budget proposed vetoes of the governor and the legislators who are voting with the governor rather than in line with the views of their constituents.

From bankers, builders, educators, health workers, city councils, chambers or business association, native corporations, retirees, everyone can see that we need a more responsible budget. We also need to ensure a democratic process where the governor in the executive branch is only using the veto check and balance in extreme situations or we erode the intent of our legislative process.

Please restore the budget originally approved by the legislature through whatever mechanisms you can. Please restore our democratic process within the legislative branch. The higher PFD will not offset all of the personal costs incurred and impacts to our families, business, students, and neighbors. I know many that do appreciate and use their PFD but also understand this will not offset their increased local government taxes, reductions to their utilities and it definitely does not offset the benefits to their children or the long term impacts to the economy of Alaska.

Other forms of revenue may need to be considered but regardless we can not impose this budget on our cherished Elders and our future generation (early childhood programs, student scholarships, Alaska based university opportunity). Do not place us in a recession and do not make our children ill prepared for the future. Please do not turn away federal matching funds that can help us leverage resources and give the best we can to the children of Alaska. Please choose Alaska.

Restore the budget the legislature voted in. It was a responsible budget with the lowest spending in years. Please treat Alaska responsibly and with care.

Respectfully,

Lori Grassgreen  
Private Citizen  
Juneau Alaska

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

**From:** Tim Pope <tcpope6280@icloud.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 6:52 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** Views on the budget vetoes and the Permanent Fund

Representatives of the State of Alaska.

My name is Timothy Pope of Wasilla. Thank you for the chance to add my thoughts regarding the Permanent Fund and the budget vetoes. I speak as a middle income family. I feel that a full Permanent Fund divided is deserved by all Alaskans. As a retail sales person I see directly the effect of monies spent at divided time. My family really needs a full Divided. I have postponed a needed surgery for 2 years. My plan is to use the divided to pay the out of pocket cost not covered by my insurance. When my family has financial difficulties, we cut back on expenditures. We turn the cable off, try to turn light off and turn down the thermostat. I realize these are small things. I feel that my State should do the same thing. When revenue goes down cuts need to be made. I attend the hearing at Wasilla last night intending to

testify. I am thankful to the Representatives that have come to Wasilla giving us a chance to testify directly Regards  
Timothy Pope

Sent from my iPad

**From:** Chris <chrisgarberslaght@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 6:54 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** I love the dividend, but I love my community more.

Dear House Finance Committee,

In the past, the dividend was something that brought most Alaskans together. Today, it's driving us apart, and it's taking the state down with it. I support a balanced budget that uses PF earnings to help sustain government services, even if that means a reduced PFD.

I support paying taxes, whether it's an income tax or a sales tax or something more creative. I want to be able to ask my government what they're doing with my hard-earned money: no representation without taxation.

What I do not support is reducing support for the most vulnerable, such as homeless teens, the sick, and the elderly. What I do not support is eviscerating the university system so that intelligent and hard-working scientists and researchers who have moved to Fairbanks to make a life are now starting to look for positions elsewhere. What I do not support is reducing UA's ability to attract the best and brightest students, who build networks here, settle down, and make a life based on their love of this place. I don't support telling the more intelligent Alaskan high-school graduates that they have a scholarship to UA, then revoke it six weeks before school begins.

I love getting a dividend. But I love my community more. I hope this committee can figure out a way to make our Alaskan community a bigger priority than a bit of dirty money.

Chris Garber-Slaght  
860 Rocky Top  
Fairbanks, AK 99712  
907 455 9198

**From:** Susheila Khera <skhera@alaska.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 6:56 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Override the Vetoes

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee:

Thank you for wrestling with the difficult financial decisions facing Alaska.

As someone who has lived here for almost 40 years and who experienced the devastating economic times of the early 80s, I sincerely hope that you override all of the Governor's vetoes.

It is foolhardy and selfish and greedy to destroy what has taken generations to build, and what will benefit countless future generations, in favor of a slightly bigger PFD.

These vetoes are enormously costly for our state. They will decimate the economy and lead to a brain drain, meaning anyone with any skills will leave.

How will anyone live in a state that cannot even offer a basic education? This is the foundation of all else.

I would have left Alaska long ago had it not been for the university.

My family has been educated here from elementary school through college.

We have benefitted from trades education as well.

And all of us, in so many ways, benefit from the investments that the State of Alaska makes in Alaska.

I sincerely hope you override these foolhardy vetoes and continue to work to keep our state intact.

Sincerely,  
Susheila Khera

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

From: Gabby Gonzalez <gabby\_rox20@yahoo.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 6:58 AM  
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
Subject: Testimony for the Record on HB 2001

My name is Gabriella Gonzalez and I am a resident of Cordova, Alaska. I would like to testify on the record in support of HB 2001 to reinstate the budget items vetoed by Governor Dunleavy and provide for a "surplus PFD". I believe a \$3000 PFD is not sustainable and would cause irreversible damage to our state by way of the devastating cuts proposed.

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

From: Jennifer Adams <jenniferadams808@outlook.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 7:02 AM  
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
Subject: Override the Vetoes

Dear House Finance Committee:

I am writing to ask that you override the governor's vetoes to the state budget. It is unfathomable to continue giving breaks to billionaire oil companies while making Alaska's most vulnerable citizens suffer.

These drastic cuts will have far reaching consequences and will plunge Alaska back into a recession. Stop the madness and pass a budget that makes sense and implement cuts thoughtfully over a few years, after you study the consequences of those cuts!

I don't care about getting a \$3000 dividend but I do CARE ABOUT OUR STATE! Please do not sell our state to the Koch brothers! Thank you.

**From:** Kate LaSota <katelasota@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 7:08 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Save Alaska

We are part of a community that has fostered education in Alaska for time immemorial. Keep the destructive cuts at bay. Help compassion win out.

**From:** Maïté Agopian <maite.agopian@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 7:12 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Testimony

Dear House Finance Committee,

I live in Fairbanks with my family. My husband and I came to Alaska 15 years ago and never left. My 2 children were born in Fairbanks and are going to a public school, my husband is a cultural anthropology professor at UAF. Over 10 years, I worked as a volunteer for the UAMuseum of the North, then a temp (no benefits), and later as a full employee at the Geophysical Institute, receiving my salary through a federal grant. I was the Education and Outreach Coordinator of the EarthScope National Office sharing high end geophysical research nationally and internationally.



Over the years I was always impressed to see how UAF research was well recognized and respected in the rest of the country and how much of a positive representation the whole state had on students. But this is one thing.

I left UAF in June to fully work as an artist. A puppeteer. I have been taking classes and workshop abroad and my plan is to continue to work with children. Since last year I am able to work in local school doing shadow puppet residencies. I worked with 700 hundred children, and could easily talk for hours about the positive impact such residencies have on children, specially the ones who don't have a lot of access to art or just different ways to express themselves. Over these years, I do believe I gave much more to my community than what I received myself in term of money. What I do is not making me rich but every choice I made was because I believe that a society is not just made out of the sum of our salary. Often with a little bit of help we can go much further than what was put at first and the positive impact will continue to grow. Yet without that help that a State can give, the social and economical dismantlement will be so much faster and brutal, that it is hurting our very deep soul. We believed in our community and our State. I hope you are, too. Please override, if it is still possible Dunleavy's veto. We don't want a large PFD in detriment of social injustice and economical recession.

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

From: Connie Moore <rcwjmoore@aim.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 7:19 AM  
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
Cc: rcwjmoore@aim.com  
Subject: 2019 Budget

House Finance Committee,

Our family supports the compromise budget as submitted by the Alaska legislature.

Our family is firmly opposed to the vetos as submitted by Gov Dunleavy and generally supported by Anchorage/Wasilla interests.

Our family advocates for a smaller dividend payout.

Our family advocates for reduction of credit payments to oil companies.

Our family advocates for state income taxes to help bring normality to our present budget chaos.

Concluding:

Young people deserve their scholarships that they worked for. We Alaskans do not deserve a 3,000.00 dividend handout at their expense.

Thank You,

Connie and Ron Moore  
P.O. Box 83993  
Fairbanks, AK 99708

**From:** Dave <dwnorton84@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 7:20 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** HB2001

To dodge the Governor's artificial fiscal crisis, I support HB 2001 as the least damaging of many possible compromises.

= Dave

**From:** Asha Falcon <ashazoefalcon@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 7:20 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:**

I support a smaller PFD and overriding the Governors vetoes.  
Please support HB 2001.

Asha Falcon

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

**From:** Wendy Parsons <wgparsons@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 7:26 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** PFD

Honored legislators,

I for one would like to see a lower PFD and more money available for education and services vetoed by our governor. We can't sustain a big PFD and for the last several years have not come to expect one. A \$3000 payout, while enticing, is ridiculous in light of our current fiscal situation. Please consider a lower amount for this year.

Wendy Parsons  
99504

**From:** Kristen Rozell <krozell@abrinc.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 7:27 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Cc:** Ned Rozell <nedrozell@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** pfd testimony

Hello,

My name is Kristen Rozell. When I first moved to Alaska in my 20s I thought it was great to live in a state that gave you money every year. The \$1000+ was a lot of money for me and I was happy to have it. Now that I've been here for nearly 30 years, I see how the PFD has hindered the judgments of Alaska's residents and influenced the leadership of this state- both to the detriment of the state.

Now I wish there was no PFD. I would rather live in a state that values education (K-12), social programs that benefit the elderly and disadvantaged populations, and provides opportunities for future generations with a strong university system. Money going to these will benefit everyone, and money lost to the foundations of our state will hurt every one of us.

I choose to live in a state that puts money into jobs, programs, and opportunities for its people, not one that puts a lump sum into our pockets.

Thank you.  
Kristen

--

\*\*\*\*\*

**Kristen Bartecchi Rozell**

Research Biologist  
ABR, Inc.--Environmental Research & Services  
[P.O.Box](#) 80410  
Fairbanks, AK 99708  
phone 907.455.6777 ext 157  
fax 907.455.6781

\*\*\*\*\*

**From:** Mim McConnell <sitkamim@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 7:33 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** HB 2001

The legislature must reverse the Governor's vetoes. The vetoes are terrible for people, place and profit.  
Mim

Mim McConnell  
907-747-2860 or 907-738-2888 (call or text)  
606A Sawmill Creek Road, Sitka, AK 99835

Realtor, RE/MAX Baranof Realty LLC  
<http://www.baranofrealty.com/>  
Boat Broker, Welcome Aboard LLC

**From:** Bruce Jamieson <brucejamieson52@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 7:34 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: I support a new appropriations bill

Honorable members of the Finance Committee:

If we want to avoid an economic disaster for all Alaskans, it is important to restore funding of the vetoed items in the budget. You, the legislature, approved a balanced budget that allows for a \$1600 handout to each Alaskan. Governor Dunleavy and his 22 followers in Wasilla have a political agenda that is based on the Americans for Prosperity's desire to destroy government and diminish the social fabric of our state. They are propagating the myth that we are in an economic crisis. Our crisis is not economic. It is a political crisis. Do not let their misguided agenda prevail. Stand up for Alaska. Restore the funding.

Bruce Jamieson, A Non Partisan Voter

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

From: Libby Silberling <libbysilberling@gmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 7:38 AM  
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
Subject: Support new appropriations bill

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a more than 30 year resident of Fairbanks.

I am very much in favor of a new appropriations bill to restore ALL funding for ALL items vetoed by Governor Dunleavy. I understand this bill may be presented by Representative Neal Foster.

I believe the Governor's vetoes are irresponsible and will devastate Alaska.  
Please support this new bill and get the state back on track.

Elizabeth Silberling  
2064 Goldstream Road  
Fairbanks, AK 99709  
907 687-7125

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

From: Gmail <ejwhitney10@gmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 7:43 AM  
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
Subject: Support for HB 2001

Dear House Finance Committee Members:

I strongly support a smaller PFD amount for Alaskan residents, working to override the vetoes, and completing a "reverse sweep". Please support HB 2001.

Already I see the negative impacts of these budget cuts in the loss of state and community services. I see them in the closure of the Arts Council and shelters in Juneau closing their doors to those in need. I feel it daily in the anguish of uncertainty working in a University position that will likely be cut as will the jobs of those around me. Giving out a large PFD will not solve these problems!

Thank you for your consideration and work to reach compromises to serve all the residents of Alaska.

Sincerely,

Emily Whitney

9486A Eagle St  
Juneau, AK 99801

**From:** Rich Carr <rscarr@alaska.edu>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 7:43 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Support for House Bill 2001

My name is Rich Carr. I am a 24-year resident of the state, having moved to Fairbanks in 1995. I write in support of House Bill 2001, which restores funding to the vetoed items and addresses the PFD issue in a manner true to its origin. The Governor's vetoes, if allowed, to stand, will turn Alaska into a colony of sorts, a place ripe for external exploitation -- for anyone interested -- and a land devoid of opportunity for its residents.

Among the greatest evils of the Governor's plan is the gutting of the University of Alaska. As a site of opportunity, an area for growth, a likely place for innovation that will benefit the state, a cultural center--the University is one of the state's gems. An internationally renowned center for Arctic research, an institution bringing education to even the remote corners of the state, a place that channels the energy of our youth and symbolizes the power of various American dreams--the University of Alaska merits state investment, certainly at the level indicated by the budget crafted by the Alaska State Legislature this spring. The payoff for this investment will guide Alaska into the future.

I single out the University because I am a faculty member, and it is what I know best. I would also add that the other cuts are equally devastating. A state needs to provide essential services to its citizens. Shutting down homeless shelters, pushing away Medicaid, refusing to fund Head Start Programs--this sort of cruelty is not part of the Alaska I know. We work together, take care of each other, recognize that our great land also carries great challenges.

Amid all of this is the PFD and the promised \$3000 payout. I would ask that the Committee pay attention to the origins of the fund and recognize as well the grotesque reality of pulling funding from everything on one side--crying poor--and then promising a big check for everyone on the other.

These past weeks Alaskans all over the state in many and varied ways have made their wishes known. We do not want to live in the Governor's Alaska. Save our state by supporting House Bill 2001.

Sincerely,

Rich Carr  
Fairbanks

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

From: Cindy Christian <cindychristian@outlook.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 7:44 AM  
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
Subject: Budget and PFD

Dear Finance Committee,

My name is Cindy Christian and my family lives at 2636 Carrie Lynn Drive in North Pole. My husband, son and I moved to Alaska when we were transferred here by the Air Force in 1985. Our son was 4 years old at the time. We fell in love with Alaska and decided to get out of the Air Force and make our permanent home here. We bought our house in North Pole because we believed that the schools were the best for our son. Our son graduated from North Pole High School in 1999 and went on to graduate from UAF. He now teaches Geography at the University. He met his wife, who is from Maine at UAF. They married in 2008, served in the Peace Corps and returned to Fairbanks because they felt that it was the best place in the world to build their life together. Our daughter-in-law completed her Master's degree at UAF and has worked there for the past 10 years. They had a son in 2017. Together, we all believed that Fairbanks was the best place to raise a child because of the wonderful schools and because of the world class education he could get at UAF. Enter Governor Dunleavy and his out-of-state budget director and now all bets are off. Both my son and daughter-in-law are in danger of losing their positions at UAF because of the completely horrible cuts being proposed to the University system. UAF contributes so much to this community and I am left speechless and completely bewildered by a Governor who would so purposely wound the state he was elected to protect! It makes no sense and is completely heartless on so many levels. How can young people stay in this state if these cuts are left to stand? The short answer is they cannot. For the first time since 1985, my husband and I are seriously considering retiring out of Alaska. I really cannot believe that we are even having these conversations. We fell in love with this place in 1985 and have loved every minute of our life here. But we will not be able to sit by and watch our state being destroyed by Governor Dunleavy and his misguided supporters.

This budget is disastrous on so many levels. It's time for us to deal with the PFD and taxes. We should not be paid for just living in the state. The PFD should and must be used to provide for state services. A society cannot survive without government services. The reason we have government is to provide services that we cannot do individually. We need to institute a state income tax and a seasonal sales tax. And most importantly, we need to make the giant oil companies operating in the state pay their fair share! We implore you to continue to work together to fund state government and most importantly to fund the University! A great state needs a great University!

Thank you for your hard work over the past months to develop a sensible budget for the state. We are fully supportive of your current efforts to restore funding to the University, K - 12 education, and all other state services. Please stay strong for the majority of the people who support a sensible budget, for paying taxes and limiting the PFD so that we can continue to have a fully functioning society!

Sincerely,

Cindy and Don Christian

**From:** Richard Carr <norski2018@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 7:46 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Support for House Bill 2001

My name is Rich Carr. I am a 24-resident of the state, having moved to Fairbanks in 1995. I write in support of House Bill 2001, which restores funding to the vetoed items and addresses the PFD issue in a manner true to its origin. The Governor's vetoes, if allowed, to stand, will turn Alaska into a colony of sorts, a place ripe for external exploitation -- for anyone interested --and a land devoid of opportunity for its residents.

Among the greatest evils of the Governor's plan is the gutting of the University of Alaska. As a site of opportunity, an area for growth, a likely place for innovation that will benefit the state, a cultural center--the University is one of the state's gems. An internationally renowned center for Arctic research, an institution bringing education to even the remote corners of the state, a place that channels the energy of our youth and symbolizes the power of various American dreams--the University of Alaska merits state investment, certainly at the level indicated by the budget crafted by the Alaska State Legislature this spring. The payoff for this investment will guide Alaska into the future.

I single out the University because I am a faculty member, and it is what I know best. I would also add that the other cuts are equally devastating. A state needs to provide essential services to its citizens. Shutting down homeless shelters, pushing away Medicaid, refusing to fund Head Start Programs--this sort of cruelty is not part of the Alaska I know. We work together, take care of each other, recognize that our great land also carries great challenges.

Amid all of this are the PFD and the promised \$3000 payout. I would ask that the Committee pay attention to the origins of the fund and recognize as well the grotesque reality of pulling funding from everything on one side--crying poor--and then promising a big check for everyone on the other.

These past weeks Alaskans all over the state in many and varied ways have made their wishes known. We do not want to live in the Governor's Alaska. Save our state by supporting House Bill 2001.

Sincerely,

Rich Carr  
Fairbanks

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

From: Jackie Stormer <jackiestormer@gmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 7:54 AM

To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

Subject: Restore the funding!

To the Alaska House Finance Committee members:

I urge you to vote to restore the funding cuts reflected in the governor's vetoes. As an Alaskan for the past 53 years, I am deeply concerned about the current direction of our state and its elected leaders and appointees.

I support a state income tax. I also support assessing budget needs and reducing budgets in light of current financial circumstances, but we need an orderly process that will not throw our state into utter and needless chaos — and create the necessity for many of our state's best and brightest to look elsewhere for their futures.

Please vote to restore the funding. Thank you for your consideration, and thank you for your service to this state. I believe in Alaska, and I know you do too, so we are counting on you to do the right thing.

Sincerely,  
Jackie Stormer  
Ester, Alaska

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

From: Grant E M Matheke <gmatheke@mosquitonet.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 7:58 AM

To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

Subject: New Budget

I am asking all member of the House Finance Committee to draft a new budget that overrides all of the governors line item vetoes. Since the governors vetoes were announced his approval rating has been underwater even in his home district of Mat-Su. If the governor can't see that these draconian cuts are folly, at least the people can and all sides of the political spectrum have risen to oppose these cuts. The business community has risen in opposition and bank are so alarmed they are canceling and refusing to write loans to University of Alaska employees.

We we should learn a lesson from the experience of Kansas where former Gov. Brownback tried to institute even less severe budget cuts. Kansas suffered a severe recession, moderate Republicans defeated conservatives in the primaries while other moderates switched parties and the governors budget was overturned and his veto of the new budget overridden. I believe Kansas now has a female Democratic governor.

---

Grant Matheke  
2064 Goldstream Rd  
Fairbanks, AK 99709  
Mobile 907-687-5369  
Home 907-455-6470

"A bit of fragrance always clings to the hand

**From:** Emily <emilyvockeroth@hotmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:00 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** Override vetos

The governor's vetos are scary for the future of Alaska. Please restore funding to our critical populations and quality of life so that people don't flee Alaska. I am here because of the great childhood opportunities I had and

am raising my children here for the same reason. Take away the university and the arts and all we have left is a resource extraction military town, no thanks! The PFD can be used to soften the blow as we gradually trim the budget and create new revenue streams.

Thank you for your time,  
Emily Vockeroth  
735 Moosewood Circle  
Fairbanks 99712

**From:** Joyanne Bloom <joyanneb@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:01 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** HB 201

Honorable Committee Members:

This Alaskan is in favor of HB 201 because my children have returned to Alaska and now their children need excellent schools and opportunities. I hope you are able to give it your full support.

Thank you,

Joyanne Bloom

--

Joyanne Bloom  
883 Basin Road  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
(907) 723-3604

**From:** Susan Tuccio <susan.tuccio@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:01 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Permanent fund and funding

To our representatives in government,

I moved to Alaska 38 years ago, and am almost done raising my family here. I work at a school, and my teenager still attends high school in Fairbanks. I own my home and a cabin. I pay property taxes and vote.

I am horrified at the current proposal to cut so much from the budget, just to give us a \$3000 permanent fund check and quickly balance the budget. For starters, who's to say that money is spent in Alaska, supporting local businesses? With online shopping, chances are that money leaves Alaska. The Permanent Fund would be put to better use going directly into our budget and economy through government services.

Next, if you chop the University of Alaska this severely, you take down our Fairbanks economy. Let's just say those 1300 severed employees average \$50,000 per year. That's \$65,000,000 removed from our local economy, resulting in crippled businesses and services, and a devastating impact on property values as people leave. As property values crash, property taxes decline, resulting in even less services. As people move out of state, our school enrollment declines, more people lose their jobs, and the cycle just spirals. Taking so much money out of the budget so fast will be devastating and create a landslide that will send us into a big recession, as well as drive residents out of Alaska.



I would prefer to receive a smaller dividend and pay a state income tax. An income tax would keep money local, paying for services in Alaska, which keeps people employed, while providing the infrastructure we need to keep Alaska attractive to both residents and tourists.

I would prefer to see a sales tax, especially in ways that take advantage of tourism, which brings money into our state from outside. Maybe just a summer sales tax? I've heard the argument that we have to be careful about affecting tourism, but honestly, Alaska is on tourists' bucket lists, and no one is going to say, "Let's skip Alaska, they have taxes."

Being a resident of any area costs money. If we need more money to maintain viable, thriving, vibrant communities, we need to pay into those communities. There truly is no such thing as a free lunch. A bigger permanent fund check alongside crippling defunding is not going to help our economy stay afloat. Balancing the budget as quickly as possible by enormous budget cuts will only send us into a big recession and drive people out of Alaska. I know I am not looking forward to my property value nose diving, and then having to sell my house anyway to move to the lower 48 because I've lost my job and Alaska has lost its ability to sustain its communities.

Please, please don't let this massive budget cut happen. Balance our budget slowly, and use alternatives such as income and sales taxes to pay into the services we use. Use the Permanent Fund to support Alaska, not to give a handout to individual residents.

Sincerely,

Susan Heinrichs  
1745 Moose Trail  
Fairbanks, AK 99709  
907.888.8996

**From:** Megan McPhee <meganvmcphée@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:01 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** dividend and budget vetoes

Dear members of the House Finance Committee,

First, thank you to those who voted to override Governor Dunleavy's vetoes of the budget that the legislature worked hard to craft. The cuts that Dunleavy proposed are grossly reckless and misguided. They will push Alaska into a recession spiral, will hurt the most vulnerable, will severely curtail opportunities for our children, and will damage Alaska's future for years to come.

I am strongly in support of returning to the pre-veto budget. I believe paying out a dividend of ~ \$3,000 is irresponsible during Alaska's current financial situation. However, in the long run I would prefer to see that Alaska increases revenues by implementing a progressive personal income tax and by reducing tax credits to oil companies, rather than cutting the dividend beyond what is necessary to keep the fund solvent.

Cutting the dividend is a regressive move, hurting low-income people the most, or those in rural villages with limited opportunities to earn cash. Those of us who make a decent living can afford to tighten our belts a little to accommodate an income tax. Those who come up to Alaska in the summer to earn a lot of money but spend little of it locally can afford to leave just a little more of it in Alaska.

Thank you all for considering my comments, and thank you for the hard work you are doing on behalf of Alaskans. Please listen to us; Dunleavy clearly has not, and has not shown any inclination towards reversing his reckless choices.

sincerely,  
Megan McPhee

3261 Nowell Avenue  
Juneau, AK 99801

**From:** t ronn <hikebeowolf@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:02 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Funding testimony

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee,

Politics and government in Alaska has been as frustrating, and incompetent, as at the National level. There are very few adults in the room willing to see reality. The UA system is full of inefficient redundancies. Tuition is dirt cheap, relative to other states. There are no real standards for admission. These factors, and more, demonstrate inept leadership by the state and the university admin.

The legislature could have produced a budget that didn't continue Alaska's descent into insolvency, but our elected representatives didn't have the maturity to do so. If the legislature wanted to make different cuts, it could have done so. Instead, it chose to pick a fight.

As an educator, I value the UA and K-12 systems, but it is irrational to continue to spend as we have. This is an expensive place to live. Wasteful actions are inadvisable at any level. Education is inefficient, by nature, but poor leadership makes it grossly so.

If everything is a spending priority, then nothing is. Priorities mean making hard choices. The legislature made none.

Thank you.

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

**From:** Dixon&Marion Jones <dixonmarionj@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:03 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: In opposition to Dunleavy

Since I'm from Fairbanks, and I sent this message on Monday, I'm sending it again today for the Fairbanks portion of the public testimony. Sorry about the duplication.

To the House Finance Committee:

I support the University of Alaska system, public radio and arts funding, the Pioneer Homes, the Alaska Marine Highway, services to rural communities, and aid to the disadvantaged, disabled and elderly through Medicare and Medicaid.

In my view, the governor's defunding of these vital, civilizing institutions and services prove that his agenda has nothing to do with fiscal concerns. Rather, he intends to impose a narrow, rigid, and callous ideology on what is still, I believe, a largely independent-minded and open-hearted population. In that regard, I want to remind you that in 2018, the most generous state (in terms of donations per capita) on the GoFundMe website was Alaska.\*

I urge you to consider that the governor lied about his intentions and deflected serious questions during his campaign, and that nearly two-thirds of elected legislators oppose his vetoes. The damage to our state is already significant, merely from the negative publicity the governor's statements and actions have garnered.

Wouldn't the so-called Alaska fiscal crisis be averted if the state just stopped giving away money — as tax breaks to oil companies, and dividend checks to its citizens?

Sincerely,

Dixon Jones  
Fairbanks

**From:** Erik Chadwell <chadwell.erik@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:06 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Smaller PFD, save jobs

Greetings:

I support a smaller PFD amount for Alaskan residents, and I support overriding the Governor's budget vetoes. Please support HB 2001.

A massive PFD, whose money much of which will likely leave the state, will not help my friends and family who are losing jobs and due to the budget vetoes.

A larger PFD is a short-sighted, brief and easy-to-spend windfall that does not encourage fiscal responsibility.

Please do the right thing,  
Erik Chadwell

**From:** Rachel Barth <rabarth8@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:13 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** smaller PFD, OVERRIDE VETOES

I would rather receive a smaller PFD, or none at all, if it meant we can save our education and keep our schools working, if we could keep our arts council alive, if we could protect our seniors, if we could provide our homeless with a breakfast,...if we can keep our state from being taken over by privatization!!! No dividend is worth losing our amazing state to what this Governor is trying to do to us!!!

PLEASE DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN!

Rachel Barth

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

**From:** David DeLong <davedelong@mosquitonet.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:13 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Recall Dunleavy

The budget vetoes of Dunleavy are punitive and foolish. UAF is an economic engine bringing outside research dollars and opportunities. Dunleavy is taking a wrecking ball to Alaska. His vetoes will hurt all Alaskans. The most vulnerable will suffer, but so will the people and institutions that make Alaska great. I think Dunleavy should be recalled.

**From:** Paul Hackenmueller <paulhack@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:13 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Support House Bill 2001

Good morning,

I write today to urge the entire Alaska Legislature to support and pass House Bill 2001. The human and economic toll Governor Dunleavy's vetoes will exact on the State of Alaska will be felt immediately and reverberate for decades into the future. I commend the legislature for passing a budget that, while difficult, included measured considerations and reductions to spending. There is no balance in this path forward.

The future of our state and our people hang in the balance. Invest in our future - support HB2001, restore the funding.

Sincerely,

Paul Hackenmueller  
Juneau, AK

**From:** Mary Johnsen <mary.g.johnsen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:14 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Eliminate the PFD and Initiate an Income Tax

Dear House Finance Committee,

I believe the idea that oil tax money belongs to individual Alaskans is crazy. Tax money, by definition, is for the public good, to pay for things that benefit the state as a whole, such as education, health, social services and the arts. I believe we, as the people of this state, need to grow up and start paying our own way. We have been so accustomed to a free ride on the back of the oil companies that we have forgotten how to be good citizens. Listen to us: we talk about the handout of a fat PFD check as if we *earned* it, and as if we have a *right* to it! Please vote to eliminate the PFD program, and enact a state income tax so that everyone who benefits from living in Alaska also gives back to this state and its communities.

Thank you,  
Mary Johnsen  
Fairbanks

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

From: Janet Schichnes <jschichnes@hotmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:15 AM  
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
Subject: HB 2001

To the Committee:

Like most other Alaskans, I am beyond shell shocked at the Governor's vetos.

I support reversing the vetos. These cuts will hurt the most vulnerable of our population, devastate our University, increase crime, take away health care for poor children, increase the homeless population, and destroy the economy of Fairbanks and the rest of the state. Why throw this state into a recession?

I also support reversing the sweeps. As an academic advisor at UAF for 10 years, I learned how many of our students struggled financially. Many left school with too much debt. Some dropped out because they couldn't cover their bills. The Performance Scholarship is an excellent way to reward academic merit while providing monetary [https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A\\_\\_assistance.To&d=DwlGaQ&c=Q8iJasR7RZ-J0Fd9RXD9ZA&r=a5pDORdnYs7kR4VjhUDiyLmbIkYX7D-bQzoi8NQbiqI&m=RPTJRFrOv8IOtIF5EBfRBk7e-JqQN\\_bxMQnzPRU\\_8ys&s=i4YQAVc6cshDdkFr4Y563AYTIY7YFLVKvE90rbS-TE8&e=](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__assistance.To&d=DwlGaQ&c=Q8iJasR7RZ-J0Fd9RXD9ZA&r=a5pDORdnYs7kR4VjhUDiyLmbIkYX7D-bQzoi8NQbiqI&m=RPTJRFrOv8IOtIF5EBfRBk7e-JqQN_bxMQnzPRU_8ys&s=i4YQAVc6cshDdkFr4Y563AYTIY7YFLVKvE90rbS-TE8&e=) deny these scholarships after they were earned and promised, is cruel and unjust and may jeopardize their education. It is another way to destabilize the university system.

Finally, on the Permanent Fund, I think it is ridiculous to give everyone \$3,000 which will be consumed by all the expenses which result from budget cuts. (Ex. Increases in property taxes, tuition, rents, and for some food). Do not give a dividend until basic services are funded.

Although not part of this bill, I urge you as a body to reconfigure the oil taxes which are way too generous. I am also willing to pay a graduated income tax to support this state that I love. I want a good future for my children and grandchildren.

Janet Schichnes  
4112 Willy's Lane  
Fairbanks

**From:** Joan Walser <joan.walser@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:19 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** smaller PFD

Please support HB 2001. I support a reduction of a PFD payout to Alaskans and an override of the Governor's budget vetoes.

Joan Walser

Joan Walser  
PO Box 22388  
Juneau, Alaska 99802  
Cell: 907-957-0097

**From:** melinda messmer <melindamessmer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:23 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** save the state

Good morning, I want to let you know I would like a small dividend and let the rest of the money to help support the Alaska community. I would like to see education, senior care and the Alaska Marine highway be supported. All these things help my family thrive in Alaska with out them my children will not be getting a good education. As a family we use then Alaska Marine Highway for sports, and to visit family. I went to UAS and so did my husband I would like to see my children also attend or at lest have the chose to.

Please reconsider,  
Melinda Messmer

**From:** Harper Simmons <harper.simmons@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:23 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** HB2001

Dear House Finance Committee Members,

Like all Alaskans I enjoy the dividend but it cannot be disbursed at the proposed high levels while maintaining the services and educational system that we deserve. When considering the appropriation for the Permanent fund today, I

urge you to also address the unreliable revenue model that our state presently employs. With unpredictable oil revenue our state cannot make a dependable budget. A state income tax would provide the financial stability we need to provide basic social services and a high quality educational system and guarantee the health of the dividend.

Regards,

Harper Simmons  
820 Schloesser Drive, Fairbanks AI

**From:** Paul Reichardt <paulreichardt@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:26 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** HB 2001

I strongly support HB 2001, and I urge you to continue to stand up for the operating budget passed by the legislature during its regular session. The Dunleavy vetoes are irresponsible, dismissive of the needs of many Alaskans, and potentially devastating to our State. I am in favor of a strong university, a healthy K-12 education system, adequate health care for all Alaskans, and State support of the arts. Governor Dunleavy apparently cares less about these things than he does about \$3000 PFD checks. That certainly doesn't represent my priorities, nor do I think it represents the priorities of most Alaskans. Our only hope is with you, the legislators. Please continue to work for a budget that adequately funds the obligations of state government.

Paul Reichardt  
Fairbanks, AK

**From:** Jerry Smetzer <jsmetzer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:31 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Testimony on HB 2001

Thank you for this opportunity to submit my written testimony - titled: "211 words on why arts and education are important" - on HB 2001. My testimony is copied here:

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### **211 words on why arts and education are important.**

In a well-formed democracy an effective education system produces intelligent, life-long learners with curiosity about everything in life; In a well-formed democracy the government and the work of its political leaders is open to public scrutiny and public criticism; In a well-formed democracy a strong system of support for the arts and for the individuals who practice those arts is vigorous in fostering expression and persistence in the hard work of making art and talking to political leaders.

Without these things there is no democracy; ...there is only the fog of lies called propaganda.

Governor Dunleavy has now slashed the budgets for all the institutions of democracy in Alaska and has stated his intention to cut the same amount next year. Without money to support democratic institutions Alaska will no longer have democracy as a basis for government. Apparently we will have propaganda instead.

Propaganda is like a movie screenplay; ... somebody has to write scripts for all the actors. The question for all of us now is: who is writing Dunleavy's scripts? Trump invited Dunleavy to board Air Force One a few months ago. Did Trump then give Dunleavy a script? Yes, I believe he did.

My only question now is who wrote the script that Trump gave to Dunleavy?

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Thank you again for this opportunity.

Jerry Smetzer

Resident in Fairbanks and Juneau Alaska since 1958; currently a long time resident of Juneau. (907) 723-1943

**From:** Cheryl and Dave Vastola <dcvastola@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:32 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** PFD

Members of the House Finance Committee,

I am writing to express my support for a smaller PFD. I support using the funds to restore those which were vetoed by the governor. Though I think the \$3K PFD is merely a distraction for the governor and his backers to basically privatize and exploit our state's resources, I think reducing it is a good start. I think he is selling our state and its rich resources to the highest bidder. From education to the environment, he is destroying the state we love. This governor does not have Alaska's best interests at heart. As Alaskans we are counting on you to. Thank you for your time and your hard work.

Respectfully,

Cheryl Vastola

Sitka, Alaska

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

From: Sean Genson <genson@me.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:33 AM

To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

Subject: Restore all funding now

Honorable members of the House Finance Committee,

Please restore all funding vetoed by the Governor.

The Legislature came to a reasonable compromise with funding levels earlier this year. The Governor's vetoes are beyond unreasonable--they are cruel, they are uncivilized (they're a non-example of how to operate a successful society and economy), and they are absurdly inefficient.

You have already come to an acceptable compromise--keep fighting for it. I want to emphasize that I appreciate the meaning of compromise. From my view, Alaskans would have much healthier, more rewarding lives if we increased funding for the arts, education at all levels, care for those with illness and those in poverty.

As a teacher at West Valley High School in Fairbanks, I see countless examples daily of the achievement gap, the literally life-or-death need for social programs, as well as the incredible positive effects of supporting the arts. So many students stay in school because we value the arts. Our achievement gap is a crisis under current/previous budget levels for early childhood education. Who will take responsibility for drastically worsening conditions if these vetoes are allowed to take long term effect? I expect the Governor will not take responsibility for it.

Next year we need to begin an income tax so all Alaskans, non-residents, and outside corporations contribute fairly to the needs of our state, and we can continue to enjoy a substantial Dividend.

Listen to the economic experts as well as a majority of Alaskans: do what it takes to reverse the effects of the vetoes now.

Thank you for all of your extra work, and extremely difficult work, in service to our state.

Sean Genson

1281 Overhill Dr  
Fairbanks, AK. 99709

**From:** Katrina Letner <katrinaletner@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:35 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Written Testimony for House Bill 2001

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony regarding House Bill 2001.

Sincerely,  
Katrina Ahlfield

**From:** Craig Koch <kochclan@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:37 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Dunleavy budget

I was in the library at UAS Ketchikan yesterday and boy were the staff there depressed! One is looking for another job in town, one is deciding not to continue with plans to renovate and add a rental on to the family home because she doesn't know if her job is secure and who the heck is going to move to town with such a gloomy future?

Please keep working to balance the budget without such drastic cuts. I support a graduated income tax and using permanent fund earnings so that money will stay within my state. I didn't come to, or stay in Alaska for a permanent fund check. And by the way, if I get a larger pfd check than planned on it will bump me up into a higher tax bracket and I'll end up paying more taxes anyway. Federal taxes at that!

Yours respectfully,



Hilary Koch  
PO Box 5413  
Ketchikan, AK 99901

**From:** Phyllis Morrow <phyllismorrow1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:43 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Support for HB 2001

Dear Rep. Foster and Committee Members:

Please, please restore funding to our state. We are all shouting. We know you hear us. Please listen. We are desperate to save the medical and social and public safety and early education services that keep us from death, injury, illness, despair and ignorance; the university that keeps our children from leaving the state, drives much of the Fairbanks economy and conducts research vital to the world; the arts that teach us, entertain us, and create a viable community in the dark and cold; and the BASIC faith that our government provides a foundation for survival.

S.O.S.

In hope,  
Phyllis Morrow

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

**From:** Allan & Judy Morotti <morotti@acsalaska.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:46 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Alaska HB 2001

Dear Legislature,

I support House Bill 2001 to restore funding of all vetoed items. Alaskan lives and careers are affected by the cuts. They are too severe and do not reflect what the Governor promised earlier. The dividend is supposed to be distributed when there is extra money, not break the state. Think of all the services that have already been cut. Is this the future we want? No, we didn't spend our careers, raise our children and grandchildren here just to see irresponsible actions destroy everyone's contributions to our communities. The University system is a good example of the bad ideas of destroying the very job creating institutions we need. Our sons attended UAF and have professional careers in Fairbanks. I did graduate work at UAF to enhance my career abilities. UAF brings in scientists, researchers, professors in all fields which create a strong, resilient center for Alaska.

It is time to stop letting people come in to our state to destroy what it has taken generations of Alaskans to build. Look at other states where these draconian cuts have been implemented and you will see this has no good outcome. I would rather pay taxes to support our communities for all that we share than get a one time pay-off so Alaska can be ruined.

Sincerely,  
Judith Morotti, M.Ed.

**From:** David James <ddjajames1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:53 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** 2020 Alaska State Budget

Dear Committee Members:

My name is David D. James. I am a 48-year resident of Alaska with no plans to live elsewhere. I received two degrees from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, and have lived and worked in Fairbanks, Anchorage, Kotzebue, Ambler, and Petersburg. I currently live in the districts of Rep. Wool and Sen. Bishop. I vote in every election; local, state, federal. I take time to familiarize myself with the platforms of candidates for the purpose of making an informed decision, then vote accordingly. I am an independent voter, having long ago eschewed the rigid ideology of the Democratic and Republican parties. Neither party has a corner on the market when it comes to good ideas.

I believe that state government should not overspend its revenues. That is the only intersection of agreement between my beliefs and the Governor's proposed budget and controversial vetoes.

I support the compromise budget proposal from the Legislature. I hope the Legislature will garner enough votes to override the Governor. His proposed budget, with the threat of additional cuts in coming years, will, I believe, devastate the economy of Alaska, thrusting us into territorial-like days as wards of the federal government. I support a state income tax. The PFD -- which I do not believe is an entitlement -- should be adjusted up or down according to the state financial situation in any given year. Alaska used to have a state income tax; an obligation that citizens used to take for granted but many of whom now apparently believe is unnecessary.

Lastly, the current welfare program for the oil industry should be ended. The state should establish a reasonable tax structure, then stick with it. I think there is a lingering strategy that the State can repeatedly negotiate its way to an oil tax structure that will indefinitely perpetuate the State's near-total reliance on the oil industry for its revenues. But whatever the underlying strategy is, we are going broke which indicates a much different course of action should be undertaken.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony to your Committee.

**From:** Rick Johnson <rjohnson@abrinc.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:54 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** Alaska's budget and the PFD

The state needs a steady income source and dependable investment in state programs to maintain its economy and future.

The state's education system is in crisis because of budget cuts. Not only are jobs leaving the state, but our children and adults will not receive the education and training needed to keep our state a vibrant economy. I received my education at UAF and stayed to work in the state. My son is getting his education at UAF, but will transfer because of the governor's cuts to the University. I am afraid he won't return to the state, as the trend for most young people getting their education out of state is remain out of state. This "brain drain" will bleed our state of its future workers and leaders. While I am proud of my UAF education, I can no longer advise others to attend under the current funding threats. In fact, my family may leave the state, as sad as that would be. I don't want to live where there is no University, where K-12 struggles to provide a good education, where the state will not invest in its residents.

The state must fully fund the University, K-12 education, Medicaid, senior benefits for the people who live in our state now. Without those programs people will leave and nobody will replace them.

We cannot cut our way to economic growth, we have to invest in it. We can't fund the economy by giving away \$3,000 in PFDs, UNLESS we tax people's incomes to fund the government. I can support a PFD if we fully fund the government with taxes. Income taxes would capture money earned by out of state workers making their livings off our state's resources. I work on the North Slope and see a large percentage of workers who commute to the Slope from the lower 48, even other countries. The same influx of out of state workers flock to our fishing and mining industries. These people are taking our resources and not contributing to our state. We need an income tax to recover these lost resources and fund our state government.

First, override ALL the governor's vetoes. Fully fund state government and state programs. Reduce or eliminate the PFD if necessary, nobody lives in Alaska because they get a PFD. Implement an income tax, make it progressive. Increase taxes on our resource extraction industries. The tax burden should be shared by all.

Rick Johnson  
Fairbanks, AK

**From:** Jill Taylor <jillataylor@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:54 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** You do have a choice!

Please do the right thing and choose Alaska. While I personally believe the best option is to repeal SB21 and tax the oil companies for extracting our oil (instead of paying them to take it), I'd rather have no PFD than no economy in Alaska, no jobs, no education, no humanity.

Do you want this to be your legacy? Destroying Alaska?

I urge you. . .do what's hard. Do the right thing. You do not work for the Governor. You work for US and the majority DO NOT want smaller government. We want stability and the Governor's budget does not lead us there.

Choose Alaska!

Jill Taylor  
115 Gastineau Ave, Juneau, AK 99801

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

**From:** Susan McHenry <susanimchenry@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:54 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Support for HB 2001

I support the reduced PFD and the funding of those line items that were vetoed by Gov. Dunleavy. Please boldly step forward to enact the carefully planned budget you all worked out in Juneau in the spring. I do not want to lose all the features of life here that make it a safe, stimulating, caring society.

I support a graduated income tax that will protect folks with low income and will allow contributions from people who reap solid income within our state, including those who only work here and then depart with their paycheck, cycling nothing thru our state's economy.

And the system of taxation for the oil companies needs to be revised....as does our hiway gas tax.

Sue McHenry  
3200 Edby Road  
Fairbanks, AK. 99709

**From:** jan.k.newman <jan.k.newman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:56 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Hb2001

In the wise words of Senator von Imhof....'We don't have a budget crisis, we have a priority crisis.'

My dividend is NOT worth 188 line items of social services including: the University, the Alaska Grown program, the council on the arts, Head Start, the Ferry System, legal aide for those with no voice and so on!

Pass HB 2001!

Jan Newman  
Palmer, Alaska

**From:** Kerri Mullis <kam63@rocketmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 8:56 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Fisher Report/South Dakota

I am attaching for your pleasure, the Fisher Report on the University's ability to function. It's quite impressive, and gives a great idea about what we are attempting to get across to your group. You aren't listening. Of course you are getting all the university employees calling you. Of course you are getting the people who are in groups that are non profit calling you. Why not-if I was on your tit I would be begging too. I called, waited over 3 hours the first day, and my phone finally went dead as I was working around my farm, and finally all my extra power got used up. Yesterday I finally got through after 2.5 hours. Today, you will get to see my face. I am also including for your pleasure, the information about South Dakota. They are also "oil related" and they ended up with a excess of money. Why? Because they don't spend like you spend. Below are little pieces of the Fisher report. I do not support HB2001. I look forward to another red pen round.

Kerri Mullis

Third, when the day finally arrives when the State of Alaska must consider substituting other tax revenues sources (such as sales or income taxes) for oil revenues, *"There will be a huge, bloody political battle that will go on for decades,"* predicted an elected official. (41) Alaskans now are among the most lightly taxed citizens in the country and changing this circumstance will neither occur quickly, nor without substantial political carnage. While such discussions occur, however, state financial support for the University of Alaska could dwindle. The University should anticipate such circumstances and begin to model less generous budgets. Unfortunately, we observe the strategic plans of UAF, UAA and UAS largely do not appear to reflect such possibilities and appear to assume, or at least hope for, worlds worthy of Dr. Pangloss.

The \$5.5 million "call back" and internal reallocation recently carried out by UAF provides at least a template for more realistic considerations. At some point in the future, however, (42) repetitive financial cuts at the margin on all programs spread mediocrity. In the long-term, we believe it would be far better that the University completely eliminate whole programs and departments in order to sustain its support for its most vital and highest quality programs.

### Debt

Both the University of Alaska as a whole and its individual units have acted very conservatively in terms of assuming debt. In FY 10, total debt UA debt was \$128 million and the accompanying annual debt service was \$13.775 million---only 1.8 percent of UA's total operating revenues for FY 10. This places the UA system well below the 7.0 percent standard that many public institution boards apply to their units. It underlines that the UA System possesses a great capacity to assume additional debt. (43) We point this out because UA is not

The assertion that UA faculty in general are not well paid by national standards is only partially correct. It is true that UAF lags national averages for doctoral research institutions, which pay far higher salaries than does UAF. On the other hand, when UAA and UAS are compared to predominantly master's degree institutions nationally, faculty salaries on both campuses exceed national averages in most ranks.

Of course, whether an institution's compensation package ultimately is competitive, however, depends upon a host of factors, salary being only one. Cost of living, teaching loads, facilities, grant funding, location, etc., all make a difference. UA institutions are distinctive in many ways and therefore one must be careful in drawing conclusions about faculty salaries.

What difference does the cost of living make in these deliberations? Not as much as some believe. Consider the following Consumer Price Index (CPI) data for the first half of 2010, with the 1967 CPI = 100:

Anchorage	194.83
Honolulu	233.82
Portland-Salem	217.51
San Diego	244.24
U.S. City Average	218.01
West Region Average	221.33

Data for Fairbanks and Juneau were not supplied by BLS for the same time period, but other BLS data sources suggest that costs in Fairbanks are about the same as Anchorage, while Juneau is a bit more expensive than Anchorage.

All things considered, it is difficult to make the case that cost of living differentials require higher than national average salaries at the University of Alaska unless one is located in a rural situation. UAA faculty appear to be especially well compensated when cost of living differentials are taken into account. It also appears (from the comments of faculty and

administrators) that UAS ends up paying some faculty more than it would have to pay to attract them because of the CBA's reliance upon the Oklahoma State University salary study.

We recognize that the U.S. Government frequently grants special cost of living allowances to its employees in Alaska; however, it is not clear that this is merited in locations such as Fairbanks and Anchorage. And, if merited in Juneau, such adjustments would be no more than five percent.

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

From: Annette Marley <marley.annette@gmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:00 AM  
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
Subject: HB 2001

Dear House Finance Committee members:

As a life long Alaskan and parent of a family, I wholeheartedly endorse a reduced dividend, or no dividend, if it means the funding lost through Governor Duneavey's vetoes can be restored. Of course, the dividend is an economic boost to our family but it is not worth the unemployment, pain, and suffering of so many Alaskans. Also, the legislature needs to help our state by taxing oil companies appropriately and instituting an income tax as necessary additional revenue.

Sincerely,

Annette Marley  
2020 Banbury Circle  
Anchorage, Ak

**From:** Dorte Dissing <ddissing@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:01 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Please don't let the governor kill our economy!

Good morning.

Thank you for all the hard work you do and all the time you give to our state.

I am strongly in favor of the budget originally crafted by the legislator which includes funding to the University and many of the services that are important to keep our State economy strong and Alaska a nice place to live..

I think a fully funded pfd is economically irresponsible.

Thank you

Dorte Dissing  
1801 No Way Lane  
Fairbanks, AK 99709

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

From: Mary Hausler <mvhausler@gmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:02 AM

To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

Subject: HB 2001

Dear legislators,

Thank you for your continued hard work on trying to craft a reasonable budget. I especially appreciate those of you who are refraining from partisan posturing and working with all your colleagues no matter what their political affiliation is for the benefit of all Alaskans. I support the effort to override the Governor's vetoes and I also support a smaller PFD. For those reasons I support HB 2001.

Sincerely,

Hausler

Mary

Juneau,

AK 99801

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

From: Brendon <bcbwheeler@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:04 AM

To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

Subject: HB2001

Hello,

My name is Brendon Wheeler. I represent my family and my self. We are against HB2001 we do not support this bill in any way. We agree with the governors vetos. We support and want a fully funded PFD of \$3000.

Brendon

**From:** Arne Erickson <erickson.arne42@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:06 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>; Grier.Hopkins@akleg.gov; Sen. John Coghill <Sen.John.Coghill@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** Veto Override

Dear legislative members. I live on Birch Hill. I do not support the override attempts by my representative Hopkins and Senator Coghill. The precedent of confiscating the PFD set by a conspiracy between the legislature and the Walker administration is a back door form of taxation without representation. The government should follow the established statutory dividend program and if they cannot balance the budget under that regime should have the integrity to go before the people with a proposal to increase revenue through a fairer tax scheme such as a statewide income tax, changing the oil royalty taxation scheme or a sales tax.

The PFD raid is a regressive form of taxation because it hits low income Alaskans the hardest of any sector of the population. Losing the PFD might not be much of an issue to a University professor making \$100,000 per year, but it is a tremendous loss to a single mom with 3 kids with an income of \$20000 in rural Alaska.

Senator Coghill told me one of his concerns was the cuts would cause municipalities to have to raise the property tax rate. In my opinion that would at least be a form of taxation that would be fairer in that more wealthy people would pay more than low income citizens.

- 1) Cut everything possible to balance the budget
- 2) Institute a fairer tax scheme to increase revenue



thank you,

Arne Erickson

*"Our greatest fear should not be of failure, but of succeeding at something that doesn't really matter."*


~D.L. Moody

**From:** Todd N Patty Bryant <akgonzo1964@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:06 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** Testimony on HB2001

This is our Alaska  We are raising 4th generation Alaskans who are fearing that their home is being destroyed by outside interests and a Governor whose only goal is to appease a group who are nothing but greedy. Listening to testimony from those "demanding" their full PFD make me sick to my stomach. Someone needs to tell them that the PFD should never be used as part of your living budget, these folks are making bad budgeting decision in their personal life, yet condemning our state for doing the same.

We are descendants of people who dug this land out with their bare hands. Who reveled when the Arts came to Alaska and wholly supported it. Who were proud when the education system finally contained a college and health care for everyone. Who were excited to work and create new roads and ferry's connecting all of us.

These real Alaskans don't care about the size of the PFD, they actually know the intent of those who created it. They are more concerned that we move forward for our future generations and that we are that we are taking care of one another and that we are all considered important in our amazing state.

Our grandparents and great grandparents are rolling in their graves and furious at what our current Government is doing to all their hard work that they put in.

Please don't let us down.

Todd and Patty Bryant

**From:** Megan Kemp <esperanza.mk@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:06 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** I support HB 2001

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee,

I am writing in support of HB 2001. As a nurse, as a UAA graduate, and as an Alaskan citizen I am deeply concerned about the massive cuts to the state budget. I have worked as a registered nurse in Anchorage for the last ten years and the news of the vetoes really hit close to home for me. I am concerned about cuts to medicaid, early education, the UA system, and vulnerable populations such as the homeless, the elderly, and victims of domestic violence.

I support HB 2001.

Sincerely,

Megan Kemp

Anchorage, Alaska

**From:** Mark Lackey <mlackey@ccsalaska.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:08 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** 7.16.19 House Finance Testimony

I wanted to get my written comments on the record... please see attached.

**Mark Lackey**  
**CCS Early Learning**  
**Executive Director**

**View the CCS Early Learning Statement on Vetoes [Here](#)**

"When I correspond with the staff they treat my family with the future potential, not the current circumstance. I was homeless with no job when my daughter started. I am now gainfully employed with a place to call our own. They treated my family each encounter as if we had already succeeded in all our goals."

~One Response From 2019 CCS Family Survey~

2060 E Industrial Dr. ~ Wasilla, AK 99654  
Phone. [907-373-7000](tel:907-373-7000) Fax. [907-373-7020](tel:907-373-7020)

Mark Lackey, Executive Director  
[mlackey@ccsalaska.org](mailto:mlackey@ccsalaska.org)

*Making a difference in the lives and families of young children within our communities*

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

**From:** Rod Combellick <rcombellick@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:08 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Pass a compromise budget for FY2020

Dear House Finance Committee,

I am writing to voice my support not for a "full" PFD, nor for complete override of Gov. Dunleavy's vetoes, but for a compromise

FY2020 budget that a majority of both houses can support and the governor will not veto. This is a tall order, but realistic.

Many Alaskans view a full PFD as their entitlement, and believe they deserve to receive it at the expense of essential state services. But our entitlements guaranteed by the state constitution, such as public education, police protection, and transportation infrastructure, trump the PFD as established in state law. The formula must be changed to ensure that support for essential state services is not jeopardized.

Include in the budget a new formula for the PFD that would result in a dividend this year not exceeding \$1,600, and restore funding for the University of Alaska that will keep this constitutionally mandated institution strong.

Thank you,  
Rod Combellick  
Fairbanks

**From:** Carrie Baker <crosbybaker@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:09 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Testimony: HB 2001 Appropriations for the Permanent Fund

Dear House Finance Committee,  
I write in support of HB 2001.

Gov. Dunleavy's massive cuts to the UA system are short-sighted. UA is an economic engine in the state. I value higher education in this state and am shocked by Dunleavy's actions. I live in Fairbanks and have devoted 15 years of my career to UAF. I worry about my current students, my program, my college, my colleagues, my university. I worry for our Fairbanks community. If these irresponsible cuts stand, the economic impact on Fairbanks will be devastating. UAF students will immediately lose degree programs. Thousands of UAF faculty and staff will lose their jobs. Fairbanks businesses will suffer. UAF will collapse. The state will not have job-ready graduates.

But what panics me most in the middle of the night is this: my kids. I have two young children in Fairbanks public schools, I own a home in Fairbanks, and I envision my children attending UAF. My family's future now hangs in the balance. As a mother, I feel panicked that I will not be able to provide for my children. I worry I will lose my house. I worry I will not be able to pay our bills. I worry about getting food on the table.

A \$3000 PFD will not pay my mortgage, fuel bill, or grocery bill for more than a month. My job at UAF provides me the opportunity to pay these bills every month. Your actions right now will impact thousands of Alaskans who are waking up in the middle of the night, just like me, panicking about their family's economic future. I'm sure some of you have children and can imagine how terrifying this is for families all across the state.

Please, do what is right! Let's be measured in our approach to the state's fiscal problems. Dunleavy's approach is too extreme and will dismantle our state's economy.

Thank you for your work; I deeply value your contributions to our state.  
Best,  
Carrie Baker  
1772 Fiddle Way  
Fairbanks, AK 99709  
907-687-7286

**From:** Heidi Morel <morelpottery@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:10 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Pass HB 2001

As a concerned Fairbanks business owner and Alaskan - I urge you to please pass HB 2001. These budget cuts go too far and will ripple through the community in a negative way. This will effect my business and cause more people to have to move out of state. Find a new revenue source (tax big corporations!!). Please keep building Alaska, not tearing it down!

**From:** D L <runnerlars@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:12 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** HB2001

Please support HB2001. This bill restores much needed funding for Pre-K, homeless and domestic violence shelters, the University of Alaska, the State Art Council, and the ocean rangers program. I support a reduced dividend to fund these services.

Sincerely

Don Larson

**From:** Amity Condie <akcondie@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:12 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Support for income tax

I agree with [Frank Murkowski](#). We do need a balanced budget. We can perhaps streamline more. But it needs a solid plan and notice to those who will be affected. As a state, we should live within our means.

I also agree with [Kenni Linden](#), and would be willing to give up my PFD, pay an income tax, and cut oil tax credits to ensure that everyone can receive the services they need. Alaska government has a responsibility to care for its citizens, not just by giving everyone a big check every year.

*Amity Condie*  
[akcondie@gmail.com](mailto:akcondie@gmail.com)  
[\(907\) 982-5584](tel:(907)982-5584)  
*Palmer, Alaska*

**From:** Allan Morotti <aamorotti@alaska.edu>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:15 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Public Testimony: Budget vetoes

Dear House Finance Committee Members,

I am writing to you to state my opposition to Governor Dunleavy's budget vetoes. There are many reasons for my position, including the immeasurable harm it will do Alaska's educational system kindergarten through higher education, social services throughout the state, health care, and the arts. In short, Alaska's most vulnerable populations will bear the brunt of the Governor's budget reductions. These reductions are a conscious choice on his part in order to keep his campaign promise of increasing permanent fund dividend payouts. Regardless of the Governor's rationalizations concerning the need to bring the state's expenditures in line with its revenue generation, it is an immoral decision because it benefits a few at the expense of many. The purpose of government is to protect the welfare of all of its citizens, not turn the people's resources into private revenue.

My wife and I have spent the greater part of our professional lives in the state as educators and mental health professionals. We know firsthand the daily challenges families face who live on the edge of poverty. The state already has a shortage of trained professionals and this draconian approach to annual budget shortfalls begs the question of what services state government should provide to its citizens. Regardless of how you answer this question, the UA system trains the professionals of tomorrow for our state (e.g., accountants, engineers, mental health professionals, nurses, K-12 teachers). Without a strong university system there will be a shortage of new professionals to lead our state into a brighter future.

There are other solutions available to help remedy the state's fiscal difficulties; for example, elimination of the PFD or a reduction of it to help offset the costs of state services which we all benefit from; the creation of a statewide earned income tax to capture a portion of the monetary funds leaving the state annually through out-of-state workers, a statewide sales tax, or a combination of all these options. As long-term residents of Alaska, my wife and I have built a life here, have seen our children receive quality K-12 educations, and successfully pursue college degrees at the University of Alaska Fairbanks and go on to professional careers in the state.

Alaska's pioneers came here with a dream—to build a community from Alaska's wildness that would prosper and live on through generations to come. This is the purpose of building a community, so its people can benefit and pass those benefits on to future generations. It is the government's responsibility to ensure the livelihood of that community. Sadly, the dream of those first pioneers is now in danger of being extinguished.

Respectfully yours,

Dr. Allan A. Morotti  
Emeritus Faculty & Dean  
School of Education  
University of Alaska Fairbanks

**From:** Sharon Brower <gowoman1@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:16 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** Reject the Governors Vetos

I would like to thank the House finance Committee for continuing to work with this legislative body to find and install a thoughtful and functional budget for the current and coming year of 2021.

I too would like a "balanced" budget. I too would like a healthy PFD. However. With what is coming in from the oil companies and the vast rejection of our current governor and the Senate, that is not going to happen.

This state has a history of self indulgence, substance abuse and familial abuse, yet we don't seem inclined to change our attitude or our input to effect a change. Statistically we have a higher than average of inherited and chemically induced mental health issues. While we have considerable mental health lands to financially back the care of the mentally ill, we only have one facility that is over crowded and limited to legally mandated incarceration. We are unwilling to put money into preschool education let alone match the input of our off road schools to that of our urbane schools and have been court ordered to upgrade or equate the options in the off road schools. We operate on out of sight, out of mind. It doesn't effect me. Well it does! The dollars expended in the preschool and early elementary education and health care is much less expensive and more effective than the prisons where we warehouse and return to society without any education or preparation for non institute life

Our current Governor and most of our legislative body have not paid income tax into this state. No one likes to pay any tax. However the price we all pay to our non functioning state is much higher than a graduated income tax based on what it will take to cover the statehood mandated education; legal coverage, police and court services; and road, bridge, and marine highway maintenance. To bleed one natural resource and not encourage general participation of the populace continues to support self indulgence and the ability to buy our votes on a \$3000.00 pfd.

**From:** imel@gci.net <imel@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:21 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** School Funding: Pass HB 2001

We can start to repair the damage being done to our state now, or kick the can down the road and do it later. But we can be sure that repairing and rebuilding will happen. Look at Wisconsin and California as models. The team that attacked their public institutions has moved on, leaving residents to clean up the mess. The 'shrink government' doctrine is one thing our children won't be thanking us for, dismantling the systems of education that were crafted over the past 50 years. My Highschooler can not look forward to a scholarship for higher education based on his academic excellence, he is stressed that the University of Alaska SE Diesel Mechanics class, Diesel 100 will not be offered this fall, he is worried that the Diesel Power Program at UAA, rated as one of the best in the country, will be severely diminished by next year. His future in Alaska is a land of diminishing opportunity. It is ironic that people who benefitted from these programs are poised to yank them out from under our children in a 'fake budget crisis'. It will be harder to fix this later, but we will, and your place in history will with us or with the failed ideas of a political movement calculated to wreck Alaska. I'm sorry to have to say that, but it is true.

**From:** heather muench <heymommaktn@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:22 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** HB2001

Dear House Finance Committee,

Please right the huge wrong the Governor did with his budget vetoes by supporting and passing HB2001.

This bill includes a reasonable and sustainable Permanent Fund distribution.  
I 100% support this bill restoring important vital State services and programs.

Heather Muench  
228 Martin Street  
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901  
907-821-5372

**From:** Tom Langdon <tjlangdon@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:23 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** University of Alaska Funding

Hello,

As my legislators you are my representation in State Government. I strongly urge you to override the veto of The Governor to the University of Alaska's State support. I was dismayed to learn of the veto and specifically it's magnitude on Friday and it will result in knock on effects far beyond individual employees and students at the University. Having stayed at the University despite job offers from Outside since the Governors proposed budget I will, in the absent of an over turned veto, have to resume my job search outside the state. While my personal impact is likely substantial it is the impact on the great State of Alaska that is more pressing. The University is a major driver of the creation of intellectual capital of both short and long term horizons. Business that are unable to hire educated students locally will have to import talent that will undoubtedly only spend in the State for a short term before returning to homes out of the state.

As an example of even just immediate knock on effects, having saved to purchase a home in the Valley, over the weekend I had to withdraw from that purchase contract given the new found uncertainty. I support a PFD, but prioritizing surge spending in a single month at the expense of thousands of individuals patronizing business throughout the year is a sure way to erase the fragile economic recovery we have made.

The University should be expected to economize it's support from the State in these times. However, eliminating funding at this scale is ill-advised and as a PFD eligible Alaskan, voter, and citizen I advocate you overturn the Governor's veto of funding to the University of Alaska.

Your constituent,  
-Tom Langdon

**From:** Miller, Chris <ChrisM@designalaska.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:26 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** State Budget Impasse

I support the \$929 dividend proposed by in HB2001, and restoration of the state budget passed the legislature. This provides a sustainable budget for this year and allows for continued future work to grow the state economy.

I believe the cuts in the Governors vetoes will have long term impact to the state economy and short term impact to the welfare of some of our citizens.

My business has already had a direct impact due to a contract being put on hold pending a resolution of this budget impasse.

Also please pass an appropriation for the capital budget that allows for federal match programs to move forward. The federal spending in the Alaska (military, highways, airports, etc) has been the major factor on keeping the Alaska Construction industry healthy.

The state government needs to serve more than big industry. Please restore funding to education, public safety, health care, public assistance, arts, agriculture, rural power, and municipal assistance parts of our economy.

Chris Miller

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

From: Jamie Marschner <jamie.marschner@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:27 AM

To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

Cc: Rep. Ben Carpenter <Rep.Ben.Carpenter@akleg.gov>; Rep. David Eastman <Rep.David.Eastman@akleg.gov>; Rep. Matt Claman <Rep.Matt.Claman@akleg.gov>; Rep. Harriet Drummond <Rep.Harriet.Drummond@akleg.gov>; Rep. Bryce Edgmon <Rep.Bryce.Edgmon@akleg.gov>; Rep. Neal Foster <Rep.Neal.Foster@akleg.gov>; Rep. Zack Fields <Rep.Zack.Fields@akleg.gov>; Rep. Sara Hannan <Rep.Sara.Hannan@akleg.gov>; Rep. Sharon Jackson <Rep.Sharon.Jackson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Grier Hopkins <Rep.Grier.Hopkins@akleg.gov>; Rep. DeLena Johnson <Rep.DeLena.Johnson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Jennifer Johnston <Rep.Jennifer.Johnston@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. John Lincoln <Rep.John.Lincoln@akleg.gov>; Sen. Tom Begich <Sen.Tom.Begich@akleg.gov>; Sen. Chris Birch <Sen.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Sen. Click Bishop <Sen.Click.Bishop@akleg.gov>; Sen. John Coghill <Sen.John.Coghill@akleg.gov>; Sen. Mia Costello <Sen.Mia.Costello@akleg.gov>; Sen. Cathy Giessel <Sen.Cathy.Giessel@akleg.gov>; Sen. Elvi Gray-Jackson <Sen.Elvi.Gray-Jackson@akleg.gov>; Sen. Lyman Hoffman <Sen.Lyman.Hoffman@akleg.gov>; Sen. Shelley Hughes <sen.shelley.hughes@akleg.gov>; Sen. Scott Kawasaki <Sen.Scott.Kawasaki@akleg.gov>; Sen. Jesse Kiehl <Sen.Jesse.Kiehl@akleg.gov>; Sen. Peter Micciche

<Sen.Peter.Micciche@akleg.gov>; Sen. Donny Olson <Sen.Donny.Olson@akleg.gov>; Sen. Bert Stedman <Sen.Bert.Stedman@akleg.gov>; Sen. Lora Reinbold <Sen.Lora.Reinbold@akleg.gov>; Sen. Mike Shower <sen.mike.shower@akleg.gov>; Sen. Gary Stevens <Sen.Gary.Stevens@akleg.gov>; Sen. Natasha Von Imhof <Sen.Natasha.VonImhof@akleg.gov>; Sen. Bill Wielechowski <Sen.Bill.Wielechowski@akleg.gov>; Sen. David Wilson <Sen.David.Wilson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins <Rep.Jonathan.Kreiss-Tomkins@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>; Rep. Mark Neuman <Rep.Mark.Neuman@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chuck Kopp <Rep.Chuck.Kopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Bart LeBon <Rep.Bart.Lebon@akleg.gov>; Rep. Kelly Merrick <Rep.Kelly.Merrick@akleg.gov>; Rep. Daniel Ortiz <Rep.Daniel.Ortiz@akleg.gov>; Rep. Sara Rasmussen <Rep.Sara.Rasmussen@akleg.gov>; Rep. Lance Pruitt <Rep.Lance.Pruitt@akleg.gov>; Rep. Laddie Shaw <Rep.Laddie.Shaw@akleg.gov>; Rep. George Rauscher <Rep.George.Rauscher@akleg.gov>; Rep. Joshua Revak <Rep.Joshua.Revak@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Ivy Spohnholz <Rep.Ivy.Spohnholz@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andi Story <Rep.Andi.Story@akleg.gov>; Rep. Geran Tarr <Rep.Geran.Tarr@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>; Rep. David Talerico <Rep.David.Talerico@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Tuck <Rep.Chris.Tuck@akleg.gov>; Rep. Steve Thompson <Rep.Steve.Thompson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Cathy Tilton <Rep.Cathy.Tilton@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Sarah Vance <Rep.Sarah.Vance@akleg.gov>; Rep. Tammie Wilson <Rep.Tammie.Wilson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Tiffany Zulkosky <Rep.Tiffany.Zulkosky@akleg.gov>

Subject: Testimony regarding vetoes and dividends - Please restore vetoes

House Finance Committee:

I worked for the University of Alaska Fairbanks for 20 years and was forced to retire a couple of years ago due to the earlier budget cuts. Many of the people I worked with live with daily fear of losing their jobs. My neighbor was a full Professor in the Geophysical Institute and brought in millions in grant money but left last year after a very nice offer from another university which included grant monies. With the current budget cuts, researchers cannot even obtain grant money (see the News Miner Letters to the Editor from Dr. Nettie Labelle-Hamer and Dr. Craig Dorman). UAF has been a leader in the world of arctic research but will deteriorate into a low level community college. I am very sad and disappointed in our governor.

I have been attending recent meetings to protest the vetoes and am depressed that nothing was restored. I am still hopeful Alaska will continue as a state where people are proud and want to remain.

I wish someone would look at the repercussions of these budget cuts in our state and realize that people will have to leave to find new jobs. Their \$3000 PFD won't help them for long. Just look at what's happening so far with scholarships removed. These young people will have no choice but to apply for other colleges and their money and talent will leave Alaska forever.

I attended the Eielson Air Show last Saturday and listened to the governor speak about the education and facilities to be provided for the new F-35 aviators. Where will this education and facilities come from if UAF is gouged and state facilities are removed?

Thanks for listening,  
Jamie Marschner  
Fairbanks, AK

**From:** Linda Kruger <lindalaska2003@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:28 AM



**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** Override the veto

I love Alaska. I moved here after I finished college in Michigan in 1976. I plan to spend the rest of my life in Juneau. The Governor's veto upsets me in many ways. Mostly because of what it does to medical care, education and arts and culture. We will forgo many matching funds from the federal government, NGOs and private foundations. We will relinquish our reputation as an expert on Arctic Issues. Why are we turning away such a large amount of incoming funds? It doesn't make sense to me.

I disagree with the Governor when he refers to healthcare as "unnecessary fat" that needs to be trimmed. It is well proven that an investment in health care pays dividends for everyone one the long term. These aren't frills but necessities of life in Alaska that are more critical than paying a \$3,000 PFD.

Please limit the PFD to \$1600.00 and restore spending to the levels passed by the Legislature.

Finally please work to restore a reasonable income tax. Each of us needs to pay for the benefits we receive. Our money, paid in taxes, will buy much more value for residents of our state than each of us going it alone with a large PFD in our pocket.

Thank you for the hard work you do.

Linda Kruger  
[lindalaska2003@gmail.com](mailto:lindalaska2003@gmail.com)  
3042 Nowell Avenue  
Juneau, AK

**From:** David <davidmichael5@gci.net>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:25 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** HB2001

House Finance Committee

Thank you for taking the time to hear testimony from your constituents. I am submitting my essay which is too long to give in a 2 minute presentation. I will express my key points at the LIO in Fairbanks today.

Respectively,  
David McDowell  
House Finance Committee HB 2001  
July 17, 2019

First off I want to let you know I do not approve of the budget that was submitted to the governor this past session. It cuts too much! A healthy state requires a healthy economy.

For over 22 years I worked on cleaning up contaminated sites left by mining, oil and gas extractive industries, and second-tier businesses that improperly handled and disposed hazardous wastes into our soils and waters. Problem is, there are still way too many contaminated sites in Alaska leaching metals and persistent chemical products. The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation list 2,317 open contaminated sites. "The majority of active sites are from releases of petroleum products." ADEC FY18 SPAR Annual Report. The Bureau of Land Management inventoried 219 known abandoned mine lands (AML) on public lands. Alaska Department of Natural Resources inventoried 432 coal and non-coal abandoned historic mines in 1991. The non-coal inventory remains incomplete for state, private, and native lands. For way too long extractive industries have taken our resources and left a mess for future generations. The fox has stolen the golden egg and left a dead goose.

I bring these data up to emphasize the governor's push for expanding natural resource extraction, while admirable, but if not properly managed it will result in further costs to Alaska to monitor and cleanup these sites for the protection of human health and the environment.

In 1977 when I first came to Alaska and the oil began to flow in the pipeline, we had a population of 370,000 with a FY78 budget of about \$6.4 billion. Today there are twice as many of us; 737,000 and a smaller budget of about \$5.5 billion. Ask any first grader and they can tell you the more you have the more it costs. Alaska doesn't have a spending problem, it has a revenue short-fall of over \$5 billion. You need to double the revenues, not cut it in half.

Two obvious starting sources: oil and mining. Do you really think if you don't give oil credits the companies will leave the state? Do you realize BP's quarterly profits exceed \$5 billion? How about Fort Knox, they love to brag that they provide the highest salary to their employees. While the size and production rate of mineral extraction has exponentially grown, the rate of payment to the state relative to oil and gas has not kept pace and provides an insignificant proportion to the state's economy relative to its production value.

What do you think about all the new pickup trucks pulling camping trailers, boats, and ATVs all over town? This doesn't suggest a revenue problem. Unlike these discretionary expenses, government services dollars go to pay state employees, not to buy a bunch of widgets. Cutting services doesn't only eliminate valuable programs that government is responsible for, it eliminates jobs which eliminate capital to our communities. Government's primary role is to provide the services its citizens are not able to provide on their own.

I loved giving bonuses to my employees when business was good. No company gives away money during a down economy, but this is precisely what the governor wants to do. Your predecessors have come up with some creative and quirky financial plans. I don't envy your task in working out a solution, and it should not be about giving out handouts during difficult times. A cost-benefit analysis will clearly demonstrate the governor's foolish PFD payout will do more harm than good. Do the right thing. Approve HB 2001 and provide the revenue our education, arts, social services, and public safety need to service the best interests of the state and its residents.

**From:** DEBRA BALDWIN <yongfbnd@mtaonline.net>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:38 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** CS for HB 2001

House Finance Committee Members,

We support your efforts to restore the FY 2020 Operating budget which was passed by the Legislature with a bi-partisan vote. We also support your efforts to pass legislation for a reduced Permanent Fund Dividend to ensure vital state services are available to Alaskans. Alaska is still a young state. We need to continue developing infrastructure both in our capital projects and in our services supporting Alaskans. The Governor's vetoes will harm Alaska's most vulnerable citizen's and will certainly create a negative implosion in our state economy. These cuts were taken without due diligence from the Governor's Office and OMB to understand the collective impacts (economic, social, educational, health, future investment) of the decrements in state services. My family was active in following the Legislative Session, providing testimony and dialoguing with other stakeholders about the need for a strong fiscal plan that includes not only a realistic budget but the creation of new revenue streams. It was clear that the majority of Alaskans do not support the Governor's fiscal austerity. HB 2001 as amended would not be our first choice as the vehicle to "right" what has been a grossly "undone", but it is the most expeditious vehicle at this time to get our state back in business!

Respectfully,

Fred Young and Debi Baldwin  
18710 Katelyn Circle

Eagle River, Alaska 99577

**From:** Michael Conti <mikecontiphotos@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:39 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** my testimony on HB2001

Hi all,  
please fully fund the University of Alaska system, medicaid, the public school system and the Alaska State Council on the Arts. I am for overriding all of the Governor's vetos.  
thank you,  
mike

**From:** Rebecca McGuire <rlmcguire@alaska.edu>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:40 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** SUPPORT House Bill 2001

I want to voice my support for House Bill 2001. Please Save Alaska! Rebecca McGuire (Bentzen)

99709 **SUPPORT House Bill 2001**

**From:** Teresa Simeon-Hunter <ctc.teresahunter@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:41 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:**

Dear Senator or Representative,

I write to convey my support House Bill 2001. My position is rooted in the Legislature's constitutional responsibilities to Alaskans.

Article VII of Alaska's constitution obligates the Legislature to provide for the public education (including a state university system), public health, and public welfare of Alaskans. **Upholding these responsibilities should be the Legislature's sole concern.** Prolonged focus on the location of the second special session or the amount of the Permanent Fund dividend, as various members continue to do, absolves individual lawmakers of their Article VII constitutional responsibilities to Alaskans.

For this reason, I urge the Legislature to reinstate the operating budget it passed on June 10 through HB 2001.

Sincerely,  
Teresa Simeon-Hunter  
Chuathbaluk Alaska

**From:** Kate Quick <kquick49@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:46 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Support HB 2001

Dear House Finance Committee members,  
Thank you for drafting and passing HB 2001. I fully support this bill, including the \$920 dividend. I do not support Governor Dunleavy's budget vetoes because they will devastate our state and many Alaskans will fall into poverty, be forced to leave the state, or even die as a result of the budget cuts. Furthermore, his budget still wouldn't give us a \$3,000 dividend.

Thank you for doing the hard work of fighting this attack on Alaska. I support you 100 percent in this effort, as do many other Alaskans.

In solidarity,  
Kate Quick  
1555 North Rader Drive  
Fairbanks, AK 99709

**From:** Gerri Brightwell <gerrialaska@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:46 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** PFD and governor's vetoes

Dear Legislators

It is clear that the state cannot afford to pay its residents a large PFD, and that the majority of residents would prefer a much smaller payout to the massive cuts looming because of the governor's vetoes.

The vetoes are already having an effect on my life: a few days ago I found my youngest son (13 years old) on [Realtor.com](https://www.realtor.com), looking for a house for us outside of Alaska. Why? Because I teach at UAF and, with such uncertainty about funding, my husband and I have been packing up our belongings and preparing to put our home on the market, in case I lose my job.

I am my family's main earner, supporting myself, my husband, and our three children. My oldest son has just finished his first year at UAF: the quality of his education will decline if the cuts go through. Already his Alaska Performance Scholarship has vanished and, if my job vanishes too, so does his free tuition. Without my income, we will have no means to pay for him to attend UAF. In fact, without my income, and with no other universities in Alaska where I could find work, we would have to leave. We are facing leaving Fairbanks and moving away without jobs to go to. Can you imagine? It's hard to sleep, worrying about how this will affect us and our children's lives.

I have worked at UAF for fifteen years. Our students and prospective students are getting the message that the governor is sending: Alaska is NOT open for business, do NOT come here. Already one graduate student in the programme I teach in has told us she has decided not to come. I imagine that there will be more who make the same decision.

Why have so many lives been thrown into turmoil? Not to balance the budget, that's for sure. The cuts would not pay for the massive PFD the governor wants. They would not help Alaska's economy rebuild after the collapse of oil prices. The governor is not running this state but trying to run it into the ground, on purely ideological grounds.

Gerri Brightwell  
860 Chena Hills Drive  
Fairbanks AK 99709

**From:** Kalin Seaton <kalin.kellie@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:46 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Please work together- 2 parties, 1 team: Team Alaska

Members of the House Finance Committee,  
I'm a 44-year-old mom of 2, with a B.S. and M.S. degree in wildlife biology from UAF. I live in Goldstream Valley and have been a Fairbanks resident since 1994. I came to Alaska to get a B.S. at UAF because of their affordable tuition rates and good reputation for an education in the natural sciences. I never left. I usually vote for Democrats, but am definitely a moderate and have also voted Independent or Republican if I agreed with their campaign platform for a particular race.

You all are facing some very tough choices, largely because the bottom fell out of our state income about 5 years ago when oil prices declined sharply. Although we all hoped this was going to be a blip, it's clearly not and SOMETHING needs to happen so that we can stop spending more than we earn. Shrinking spending, or increasing revenue, to address such a huge shortfall is a gigantic challenge, but it has to be done. Rather than banding together, this has turned into a giant fight about how to accomplish this task. You guys can't even agree to be in the same room at this point. I am so disappointed in the inability of our legislature to find common ground and solutions. I'm even more disappointed in the lack of respect I see among members of the legislature and between them and the governor- respect is the most important step toward working together. Our state NEEDS you guys to stop being petty, stop hiding behind party politics, release your pride and suck it up.

I'm in favor of balancing the budget. I don't care if you start a tax, change the PFD laws, remove state-funded programs, whatever. We need to get this train stopped. Personally, I think that we need to continue shrinking our state-funded government so that it is not such a giant hurdle to jump each year. I think this would be best done by cancelling entire programs rather than slicing off small pieces of all programs year after year. I would have preferred that Governor Dunleavy had worked more closely with the public and the legislature, and not focus cuts so heavily on education and support for those in need, but (as much as I hate to admit it) I do support his hard line on a balanced budget.

Let's face it- you guys handed him a budget that was not balanced and let him decide whether or not to take the fall all by himself. I would like to see both the legislature and the governor pledge to balance the budget and work TOGETHER to make sure that our state maintains a healthy economy. It's going to have to start with a change in attitude and lot less finger-pointing and arm-waving.

Kalin Seaton  
2730 Goldstream Rd  
Fairbanks, AK 99709  
(907)378-5697

From: Austin Jones <ajsnuhose@yahoo.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:46 AM  
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
Subject: Full PFD!

Please issue a PFD consistent with the Alaska Constitution and the original formula for determining the amount. Cut big government spending! It must stop!

Austin Jones  
406 w 3rd  
Nome, AK 99762

**From:** Angie <angelaschmidt.ak@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:48 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Restore funding, moderate PFD

Dear members of the House Finance Committee,  
Thank you for your all your hard work and sacrifices during this very dynamic and stressful time. I do NOT support the governor's vetoes, and ask that you restore funding to areas that have been cut. The legislature advanced a very well thought out and workable budget plan to the governor prior to his vetoes - please restore that budget. I believe a moderate PFD of \$1,000 to \$1,500 is wholly acceptable. When the time comes for such a discussion, I support an income tax so that all people working in Alaska and benefitting from Alaska help to cover the costs of the services and infrastructure that make Alaska the great place that it is.

It is imperative to restore funding to the University of Alaska as soon as possible. The university is an enormous economic engine that brings millions of federal dollars into our communities. It attracts the best and brightest here with their families to live in and contribute to Alaska. It provides an avenue for the youth of Alaska to develop their aptitudes and to live their fullest lives. It serves as a factory of ideas for diversifying our economy. Cutting funding to this institution is cynical and short-sighted and will have detrimental effects that will last for generations.

This current crisis is a political crisis - not a budget crisis. We do not need to slash and burn all that makes life meaningful within the next two weeks. We as Alaskans must tighten our belts and work together to build a future that continues to be bright, despite declining oil revenues. I believe the legislature's proposed budget (prior to the governor's vetoes) would allow us to do that. Please restore funding to those levels. It is imperative if this state is to continue.

With respect,  
Angela Schmidt  
413 Cowles  
Fairbanks, AK

(24-year resident of Alaska, current University of Alaska Fairbanks employee and part owner of private businesses in Fairbanks and Palmer)

**From:** Ann Gifford <agifford83@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:51 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** please support HB 2001

Dear House Finance Committee members,

Thank you for your service as you work to solve the budget crisis that confronts us. Please support HB 2001. I have lived in Alaska since 1983. My children have grown up here, and the pfd's we saved over the years funded a large portion of their college educations. What was even more important to their success in college, however, was the fact that they received a good education through the Juneau public schools and, in my younger son's case, that he had great professors at UAS and UAA.

I support a smaller pfd. I am willing to pay taxes to provide important governmental services. Oil revenues will not sustain us forever. Our future depends on investing in our citizens and our intellectual capital. We need good schools and a strong university. We need adequate health care. We also need to support the arts – they are a means of strengthening Native culture, they provide a living to many people in the state, and they help draw visitors to Alaska. Finally, one of the most important functions of government is to provide basic services, including transportation and public safety. We need our ferries and VPSOs far more than we need a large pfd. Please don't sacrifice the long-term well-being of our state for a short term pfd payoff.

Sincerely, Ann Gifford

--

Ann Gifford  
Juneau, Alaska  
(907) 723-7128

From: Kayla Clark <kaylajeanclark@gmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:51 AM  
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
Subject: Override the Governor's vetoes!

> As a 22 year resident of Fairbanks, and a local educator who came to explore this great state back in 1997, I urge you to override the Governor's proposed cuts to the University system. Our community relies on the University and it's programs, and it's students who become my future teaching colleagues. As it is, it is very hard to even find enough quality educators to fill our teaching positions in Alaska, and without the UA system, this becomes impossible.

>

> I was impressed with the quality of the schools when I moved to Alaska, which is a big reason I decided to make it my permanent home. With the trend that is starting now, why would anyone want to relocate to Alaska, or why stay? This is a great state, please don't jeopardize it's future and the future generation who are relying on this very important decision. These cuts are very short sighted and will ruin our state education and economy.

>

> Kayla Clark

**From:** Glenda Christina <glendachristina@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:51 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** PFD

Greetings,

I would like to use my voice as a lifelong Alaskan to keep the PFD where it belongs, in the peoples hands, as voted by the people of Alaska. Please stop wasting our state funds on travel and per diem.

Thank you for your time.

Glenda Wetch

**From:** Tasha Belka <tasha@arrc.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:52 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Statement HB2001

July 17, 2019

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee,

On behalf of Alaska Rural Rehabilitation Corporation (ARRC), I would like to comment on the budget cuts to programs which are critically important to Alaska's agriculture industry, including the Division of Agriculture Revolving Loan Fund.

ARRC is a private non-profit agricultural lender and one of only three agricultural lenders in the entire state. **This is significant as commercial banks and credit unions typically will not lend for agricultural purposes. Alaska's farmers and ranchers have to seek needed funding from only three lenders that are available to them; ARRC, Division of Agriculture's Revolving Loan Fund or USDA Farm Service Agency. Each of these lending agencies are unique in their own right and they work together to provide the necessary operating capital for Alaska's farmers and ranchers. Taking the ARLF out of that equation would be detrimental to the agriculture industry as they lose one of the state's largest sources of funding.**

Alaska's agriculture industry is growing, with huge potential for continued growth. Programs in the Division of Agriculture are essential to support this growing industry – a strong agriculture system will contribute to diversifying Alaska's economy and increasing our food security.

Please reinstate funding for these critical programs which keep Alaska's agriculture industry strong.

Regards,  
Tasha Belka  
Manager, ARRC



**Tasha Belka, Manager**  
***Alaska Rural Rehabilitation Corporation***  
248 E Dahlia Ave  
Palmer, AK 99645  
Phone (907) 745-3390 Fax (907) 746-3555  
[www.arrc.us](http://www.arrc.us)



**From:** Walter Majoros <walter.majoros2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:54 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** HB 2001

Dear House Finance Committee Members: I am writing in support of HB 2001. It is critical that the Governor's line item vetoes to the operating budget be fully restored. Like the majority of Alaskans, I am willing to accept a smaller PFD in favor of the critical programs and services that have been vetoed by the Governor. It is also important to include the reverse sweep of funds that were not included in the original operating budget. Finally it is important that the Legislature look at reducing oil tax credits and imposing an income tax as means to help balance the budget in future years. Thank you for your consideration and action.

Walter Majoros  
8250 North Douglas Highway  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

**From:** Doug Goering <doug\_goering@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:57 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Testimony regarding HB 2001

I am writing in support of HB 2001 setting this year's PFD amount to \$1600. I support this bill and, in addition, hope that it leaves room in the budget to restore funding to many of the public agencies that were harmed by Gov. Dunleavy's recent vetoes. In addition, I am supportive of revising the PFD calculation going forward to allow for a more sustainable PFD amount that takes account of current fiscal realities.

Thanks,

Doug Goering  
879 Senate Drive  
Fairbanks, AK 99712

**From:** Nina gmail <nina.harun.ak@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:03 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Cc:** Sen. John Coghill <Sen.John.Coghill@akleg.gov>; Rep. Grier Hopkins <Rep.Grier.Hopkins@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Restore Funding!!! No huge PFD

Dear Representatives,

I urge you to vote to put funding back into our educational system. These widespread CUTS ARE FISCALLY IRRESPONSIBLE. In business when you are bringing in money from a part of your business, you don't destroy it. The PFD can boost our economy but a huge PFD will only hurt us in the long run. UAF brings in a great deal from outside funding sources and this benefits our state so much. These cuts will destroy are economy and cost us much more in the long run.

Please vote for HB2001. Let common sense win out.

Sincerely,  
Nina Harun

**From:** Jack Amon <jamon@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:04 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Budget Override

I want to add my voice to the many Alaskans who are angry and distressed over the results of the Governor's vetoes.

I have been an Alaska resident for 45 years and have operated a business and made a payroll for the past 40 years. In all my time here I have seen my share of governors from good to bad, but never have I seen one as terrible as our current one. He is creating a fiscal crisis with his misguided policies.

My daughter was born and raised here and she and her husband want to raise a family here. The governor's budget cuts threaten their future, those of my employees and my business. I have been through many boom and bust cycles in my 45 years here, but never have I seen a governor create one deliberately.

I see no logical reason for this. I support restoring the budget cuts and capping the permanent fund dividend.

It is high time the legislature show some courage, do the right thing and stand up for Alaska. Our future is at stake don't be the ones who sink the ship

*Jack Amon*  
Chef / Partner  
The Marx Bros Café  
Cell:229-3272  
Email:jamon@marxcafe.com

**From:** Elyse Guttenberg <eguttenberg@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:06 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Restore funding to the budget cuts

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee,  
I am writing to ask you to restore the governor's cuts to Alaska's future.  
I will keep this short and simple because you already know that a \$3000 pfd check to an individual does not educate our children.  
You already know that destroying the University does not provide jobs,  
That eliminating the arts does not make us safer,  
That cuts to Medicaid does not make us healthier,  
That ending Power Cost Equalization does not make us stronger,  
That denying seniors a small check does not make us better,  
That shrinking Legal Services does not make us fairer,

That vetoing public broadcasting does not make us better informed,  
That closing shelters does not clean our streets, or help us show up to work, or teach us to be independent and self  
reliant and pick ourselves up by the bootstraps and provide for our families and give back to the community that has  
given so much to us. It does not help our children.  
None of these cuts make Alaska the great state we have worked so hard to build.  
Please restore this governor's cuts.  
I wish the PFD checks had been capped years ago.  
Sincerely,  
Elyse Guttenberg  
Fairbanks, Alaska

From: Cathy McCorquodale <cathymcc@gci.net>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:09 AM  
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
Subject: Perm. fund dividend

Please limit the dividend to the smallest amount possible and fund medicaid, the University of Alaska, Pre-K-12  
education and the many social service programs that Dunleavy has cut. Thank you. Sincerely, Cathy McCorquodale

**From:** jackie tomrdle <jtomrdle@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:10 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Testimony for the Record on HB 2001

My name is Jacquelyn Tomrdle and I am a resident of Kenai, Alaska. I would like to testify on the record in support of HB  
2001 to reinstate the budget items vetoed by Governor Dunleavy and provide for a "surplus PFD". I believe a \$3000 PFD  
is not sustainable and would cause irreversible damage to our state by way of the devastating cuts proposed.  
Thank You,  
I am Alaskan and Voter

From: Sharon Brand <SBrand@grtnw.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:11 AM  
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
Subject: House Bill 2001 Appropriations for the Permanent Fund

I am one who cares about Alaska's future! I've lived her over 30 years.  
I would like to show my support for the appropriations bill Representative Foster and the Finance committee are  
proposing.

I'm all in favor of taking part or all of my PFD to help the state. The PFD is and has been a blessing for all who have lived  
here, but people should not depend on that as a source of their income.

We need to restore some of the funding for the University of Alaska.

We need to have a state income tax. We have a lot of people who come and work here 2 weeks on and two weeks off who don't contribute anything to our state. A state income tax would provide another source of income.

Let's keep Alaska going in the right direction and preserve its future.

Thank you,  
Sharon Brand  
P.O. Box 80828  
Fairbanks, AK 99708

**From:** Shirley Campbell <annbel21544@earthlink.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:48 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** HB 2001

To: Members of the House Finance Committee  
From: Shirley Campbell, Juneau, Alaska

I'm a 49 year resident of Alaska and a retired AK teacher. Alaska prospered quite well before the oil boom days. We had an income and school tax. We CAN live with a partial PFD but we can't live with deep budget cuts at the expense of essential state services. What's at stake....

- UA: campus closures, thousand of jobs and program losses, tuition cost increases
- Scholarships for 12,000 students
- Food and medicine for vulnerable elders
- Homeless services including day programs and beds
- Hundreds of millions in federal match dollars for capital budget matching funds
- Alaska Legal Services
- State Arts council

Thousands of Alaskans, including me, have spoken out that a \$3K PFD isn't worth the risk. I'd rather be taxed than drive our economy, our education system and our ferries to an unsustainable level. A sustainable budget could be achieved with careful combination of revenue increases. An income tax would generate revenue from Alaska's large seasonal workforce, who currently use state services for free. The Permanent Fund needs to be capped.

I support HB 2001. Do the right thing and stand up for our future.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony.

Respectfully,

Shirley Campbell

**From:** Matthew Reckard <mkreckard@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:15 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** PFD

State services for the public - including our university - should be funded before any dividend. Even if that means no dividend.

Matthew Reckard  
Post Office Box 12  
Ester, Alaska 99725 USA  
(907) 479-7879

**From:** Greg Zimmerman <[riverglimpseak@gmail.com](mailto:riverglimpseak@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:16 AM  
**To:** House Finance <[House.Finance@akleg.gov](mailto:House.Finance@akleg.gov)>  
**Subject:** PFD and Vetos

I don't know what I can add to persuade the folks who support the vetos and will accept nothing less than a \$3,000 dividend payout that this is madness. As I understand it, you're hearing overwhelmingly from Alaskans who will be hurt by the loss of funding and are willing to accept either a smaller dividend or no dividend at all, and yet positions don't seem to change. I appreciate all the thoughtful and insightful responses I have received to my previous emails, and I note that not one legislator who will not vote to override the vetos has seen fit to explain his or her position to me.

Once again, I reiterate that I am in the "smaller dividend" camp and feel very strongly that the vetos are punitive and counterproductive. For example, lining out the funding for the Arts Council as I understand it saves the State \$700,000 in general funds but *causes the loss of \$700,000 in federal funds and \$1.5 million in private foundation funds!* Isn't that a net loss to the State? What am I missing here? And that's just one victim, and that's focusing only on the financial impact. You don't have time to read a further itemization.

Please stop repeating the mantra that "everybody agrees we need to cut spending." Everybody does not. Who among you has not seen the cost of everything in your world rising over time? Alaska's population has grown from roughly 633,500 in 2001 to roughly 735,700 in 2019 according to some easily accessible statistics (hence of course may or may not be completely accurate, but I believe the trend is true), and the cost of providing State services has naturally increased too. And yet you have been cutting and cutting funding to State agencies, requiring them to do more with ever less and less.

Every organization needs to be constantly striving to improve, to become more efficient, to keep up with the changing world and to study and adopt "best practices" rather than trying to reinvent the wheel. It was perhaps not the wisest move to create an unbudgeted \$139,000 position for an Assistant Commissioner of Education as part of a hiring package for his wife, but does cutting that department's budget in any way correct that inefficient and wasteful action? Funding is not the root cause of all evil: a culture of short-sighted political motivation is.

Bottom line, I'm for:

- \$1600 PFD
- Override Vetoes
- Next time around consider taxes

Thank you,  
Susie Zimmerman

**From:** Steven Moses <[qaayaqqaayaq@yahoo.com](mailto:qaayaqqaayaq@yahoo.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:55 AM  
**To:** LIO Anchorage <[Lio.Anchorage@akleg.gov](mailto:Lio.Anchorage@akleg.gov)>; LIO Bethel <[Lio.Bethel@akleg.gov](mailto:Lio.Bethel@akleg.gov)>; LIO Cordova

<[Lio.Cordova@akleg.gov](mailto:Lio.Cordova@akleg.gov)>; LIO Delta Junction <[Lio.DeltaJunction@akleg.gov](mailto:Lio.DeltaJunction@akleg.gov)>; LIO Dillingham  
<[Lio.Dillingham@akleg.gov](mailto:Lio.Dillingham@akleg.gov)>; LIO Fairbanks <[Lio.Fairbanks@akleg.gov](mailto:Lio.Fairbanks@akleg.gov)>; [LIO.Glenallen@akleg.gov](mailto:LIO.Glenallen@akleg.gov); LIO Homer  
<[Lio.Homer@akleg.gov](mailto:Lio.Homer@akleg.gov)>; LIO Juneau <[LIO.Juneau@akleg.gov](mailto:LIO.Juneau@akleg.gov)>; LIO Kenai <[LIO.Kenai@akleg.gov](mailto:LIO.Kenai@akleg.gov)>; LIO Ketchikan  
<[LIO.Ketchikan@akleg.gov](mailto:LIO.Ketchikan@akleg.gov)>; LIO Kodiak <[Lio.Kodiak@akleg.gov](mailto:Lio.Kodiak@akleg.gov)>; LIO Kotzebue <[LIO.Kotzebue@akleg.gov](mailto:LIO.Kotzebue@akleg.gov)>; LIO Mat-Su  
<[LIO.Mat-Su@akleg.gov](mailto:LIO.Mat-Su@akleg.gov)>; LIO Nome <[Lio.Nome@akleg.gov](mailto:Lio.Nome@akleg.gov)>; LIO Petersburg <[LIO.Petersburg@akleg.gov](mailto:LIO.Petersburg@akleg.gov)>; LIO Tok  
<[Lio.Tok@akleg.gov](mailto:Lio.Tok@akleg.gov)>; [LIO.Utqiavik@akleg.gov](mailto:LIO.Utqiavik@akleg.gov); LIO Valdez <[Lio.Valdez@akleg.gov](mailto:Lio.Valdez@akleg.gov)>; [LIO.Wrengell@akleg.gov](mailto:LIO.Wrengell@akleg.gov)

**Subject:** EXERCISE YOUR RIGHTS

TO THE LEFT AND NOTHING IS RIGHT, TO THE RIGHT AND NOTHING IS LEFT

In May 1983, with rising deaths in the homeless population and unsafe conditions, Archbishop Francis Hurley worked with two of The Servant Brothers, named Brother Bob and Brother Dave, to find a safe place for unhoused communities: the Rose Garden on the park strip. Anchorage's new Mayor Tony Knowles as well as the head of the Police and Fire departments worked to help find a more permanent solution. And so Brother Francis Shelter was founded.

The Brother Francis Shelter protest is the starting point for the snowball effect of a "Budget Cut" for the State of Alaska if this legislature does not act.

Camp Here: Occupy to Overcome is just a glimpse of what the future of these cuts will mean to Alaska as a whole.

Throughout this camp display gracious volunteers have served: two-parent families, single working parent and single student-parent families, the working handicapped, mentally handicapped, working disabled, mentally disabled, scholars of all ages, pre-school through Master's studies, as well as couples and singles all across the board.

Legislators: to sit back and do nothing without exercising your right to represent your people and families that had voted you into office will lead to the snowball effect of a total "Economic Genocide". You as legislators will have a member or several members of your immediate and extended families affected by your choice not to exercise your right to represent those you elected to serve.

I/we from Camp Here: Occupy to Overcome ask you, our chosen representatives, to look at your photo albums, Facebook pages, friends & family pictures and take a moment to reflect on the effects of "Economic Genocide".

Now take a moment to ask yourselves, "Will I represent not only myself, but my friends and family as a whole?"

The Courts and Correctional Systems already have a heavy burden to bear on a day-to-day basis, as well as those who have chosen to wear Fire and Police badges.

Now take a moment to realize that if these budget cuts fall through the "entire Park Strip" will be filled with tents occupied by YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS that you elected to serve.

Not only Park Strip & other parks within Anchorage be filled with those who will be struggling, but parks and parking lots within your communities and regions which you serve as a legislator.

*Written by Qaay'aq Qaay'aq Steven Moses of Bethel, currently unhoused resident of Anchorage.*

**From:** Jim Chaliak <[jchaliak@alaska.edu](mailto:jchaliak@alaska.edu)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:18 AM

**To:** House Finance <[House.Finance@akleg.gov](mailto:House.Finance@akleg.gov)>

**Subject:** Restore All 182 Vetoes

Honorables and Respectables,

Please consider restoring all the vetoes this week, for ALL ALASKANS. NOT JUST ALASKAN NATIVES, NOT JUST NON-NATIVES, FOR EVERYONE.

We must close man-made divisions among the poor and the rich, between the Alaskan Natives and Non-Natives... these ideas are man-made, thus you, as my elected representation in the Alaska Legislature have the power to help break these barriers down. One powerful way is to restore the budget to "forward thinking" capacity across the board.

Quyanaqvaa Cakneq! Thank you very much!

Jim Chaliak

From: George Wood <gswood49@gmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:19 AM  
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
Subject: HB 2001

Dear House Finance members,

I am a 39 year resident of this state in total support of this more reasonable piece of legislation with an affordable PFD amount of \$929 that our state can afford at this time. We need to fund the items that were vetoed by our governor! Education should be among our highest values and, thus supported! It is appalling to talk about slashing funds to our university system which helps young Alaskans to stay in our state and be productive and contributing citizens. I do not want to hear any more conversations by my family members and neighbors and friends of having to leave our state because of the Governor's proposed cuts! Please support Alaska's healthy economic future by passing HB 2001.

Susan Wood  
232 Mitkof Highway  
Petersburg, Alaska

**From:** Sue Signor <signorsue2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:22 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** I support HB 2001 introduced by Rep Foster

My name is Susan Signor and I reside in Fairbanks. I support Representative Foster's HB 2001.

**I want to be clear that I support a partial dividend. I would also support NO dividend.** I support an income tax to pay for the services that make our State a place we all want to live, work and play. I believe that those who work here but live in another state should be taxed to support the State of Alaska.

I moved to Fairbanks in 1977 from Pennsylvania and have remained in the Alaska ever since. I received a degree in business management in 1986 from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks. In my 42 years here I worked in the pipeline industry for several contractors and I currently work for a consulting firm. My husband works for Alyeska Pipeline Service Company. We raised our children here, one of whom was just hired by a software development company based in Anchorage. We are committed to living in this state. With the Governor's budget vetoes, the prospect of staying after retirement becomes less sure. I am worried about the future of our State for my children and for all of my fellow Alaskans.

Support this bill to fund our University, senior benefits, good health care, police protection, the arts and a myriad of other services that the Governor has chosen to reduce or eliminate.

Thank you,  
Susan Signor

Fairbanks, Alaska

**From:** math <math.trafton@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:27 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** YES on HB 2001!

My Dear Alaskan Legislators,

My name is Math Trafton. I live with my family in Sitka, and I plan to live the rest of my life in Alaska.

Please **SUPPORT HB 2001** and reduce this year's PFD to \$929. The governor's intended cuts are far too drastic for our state. Many people will be left without necessary resources while education opportunities will plummet, unemployment will skyrocket, and our economy will likely undergo a recession. According to polls, **a strong majority of Alaskans opposed the governor's vetoes**. It's imperative we listen to these voices and act accordingly in defiance of the governor's immoral cuts.

I understand that many Alaskans, especially those without resources, rely on a large PFD payout, and they could be hurt by a smaller PFD. However, with proper government services in place, hopefully we can help get those people back on their feet (which is the situation in every other state in this country).

If we were to turn the tables, though, and pay everybody a full \$3,000 payout (which is not a make-or-break point for most families), to all those who lose their jobs (thousands in the university system alone), to all those who lose their scholarships, their education benefits, their welfare or medical care -- to all those people, a few extra thousand dollars will mean very little in the long run as their livelihoods are unnecessarily destroyed.

**In the future, I would strongly support a progressive income tax and a restructure of the oil tax credits in order to maintain a reasonable PFD and strong funding to our state's many crucial services. For now, though, we cannot let our state crumble by defunding our foundations. Please pass HB2001 so that we can restore crucial funding to the university, K12, health care, and so on.**

Thank you very much -- I have faith that our legislator will do the right thing.  
-Math Trafton

**From:** Rob Borland <robborland@ursamajordistilling.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:29 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** PFD/Budget Testimony

Good day,

Myself, like most Alaskans, am very disgusted by Governor Dunleavy's vetoes, and I believe that you folks are on the right track with trying to make sure that funding happens for those critical services and the University.

I honestly don't care what happens to the PFD at this point, and I certainly don't feel entitled to it. I would much rather see funding go to the programs that Dunleavy is trying to eliminate. \$3000.00 is not worth collapsing our whole economy over. Better yet, get rid of the incentives and breaks for the oil companies. They profit more on Alaskan oil per



barrel than any other oil producing state, it's time that we stand up for Alaskan interests, and not allow our state to be raped and pillaged by these giant companies.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Rob Borland  
1932 Kittiwake  
Fairbanks, AK 99709

From: Mary Rosenfield <mrosenfield@gci.net>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:32 AM  
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
Subject: Budget

Hello -

I support education funding at all levels including UAA performance scholarships and the WWAMI program (spelling) that supports students who want to become doctors and practice in the state of Alaska. My husband is an anesthesiologist at Providence Hospital and they have great difficulty recruiting doctors because of the cold weather, darkness and distance from the lower 48; there are many Alaskan students who would benefit from some tuition support so that they could get their medical degrees and return to Alaska to work.

Also I support Headstart, early learning programs and senior benefits.

I support a reasonable PFD or no PFD.

Thank you,

Mary Rosenfield  
9430 Sugar Circle  
Anchorage AK

**From:** Raineika <raineika@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:33 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** House Bill 2001

I am writing as a local resident who grew up in this great state of Alaska (Juneau, specifically) to APPROVE House Bill 2001. I do not need a PFD in order to provide for myself. Please reinstate the money back into the state's budget.

-Raineika

**From:** Shirley Campbell <annbel21544@earthlink.net>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:08 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Cc:** Sen. Jesse Kiehl <Sen.Jesse.Kiehl@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andi Story <Rep.Andi.Story@akleg.gov>; Rep. Sara Hannan <Rep.Sara.Hannan@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** HB 2001

To: Members of the House Finance Committee:

From: Shirley Campbell, Juneau, Alaska

I'm a 49 year resident of Alaska and a retired AK teacher. Alaska prospered quite well before the oil boom days. We had an income and school tax. We CAN live with a partial PFD but we can't live with deep budget cuts at the expense of essential state services. What's at stake....

- UA: campus closures, thousand of jobs and program losses, tuition cost increases
- Scholarships for 12,000 student
- Food and medicine for vulnerable elders
- Homeless services including day programs and beds
- Hundreds of millions in federal match dollars for capital budget matching funds
- Alaska Legal Services
- State Arts council

Thousands of Alaskans, including me, have spoken out that a \$3K PFD isn't worth the risk. I'd rather be taxed than drive our economy, our education system and our ferries to an unsustainable level. A sustainable budget could be achieved with careful combination of revenue increases. An income tax would generate revenue from Alaska's large seasonal workforce, who currently use state services for free. The Permanent Fund needs to capped.

I support HB 2001. Do the right thing and stand up for our future.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony.

Respectfully,

Shirley Campbell

**From:** Jerry Wood <jwood99603@hotmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:34 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** Vetoed Items

Gentlemen/women;

I wish to lodge a strong protest against eliminating the Senior Benefit. Many of us receive \$76 per month, and if it is eliminated it will amount to over \$900 per year. It is NOT picked up by an increase in the PFD to \$3000 for Alaska's seniors for two reasons.

1) The Senior Benefit is not taxable, while the PFD is taxable income.

2) Seniors will essentially lose this \$900 plus dollars annually, while those below the age and economic level which qualifies them for the Senior Benefit, would receive (net) more monies via an increased PFD.

Please do NOT allow the veto of the Senior Benefit to remain; please override this veto among certain others that are important, if not essential, to the economic health and well-being of our state.

Thank you for taking time to understand this important issue for all Alaska's senior citizenry, and those who receive the Senior Benefit.

Blessings,

Jerry Wood  
Anchor Point, AK

<marylee@fairbanksyouthadvocates.org>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:38 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** Support HB 2001

Dear Finance Committee Members,

If HB 2001 helps us get back on track as a state so that we have funds to pay for the services and programs that many of the governor's veto list abolished, then I support this bill as a 30 year resident of Alaska, and as an Executive Director who just had \$189,000 cut from her 450,000 budget.

Thank you

--

**Marylee Bates** | Executive Director

*Facilitating life transitions for at-risk youth*  
[www.fairbanksyouthadvocates.org](http://www.fairbanksyouthadvocates.org)

Fairbanks Youth Advocates  
122 Tenth Ave.  
Fairbanks, AK, 99701  
**907.374.5678**

**From:** Cindy Stadt <cindy.stadt@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:40 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** SAVE OUR SENIORS

Please fight for the funding for our senior citizens. It is sad to see the people that helped build are great State get so much taken away.

My family cares for my mother w/dementia and are trying to keep her home as long as possible. She attends The Bridge Adult daycare during the day so we can all still work and financially afford to care for her and our families. The senior cuts would most likely either make The Bridge have to close or make it so expensive we could not afford to take her which means I would need to quit my job to care for her, and we really can't afford that.

My mother Rita Hamilton has been in Alaska since 1972. She worked for the State of Alaska and then in the late 70's along with my father became small business owners. She owned Sunlighting, and then later had Hamilton Diversified Services. My parents literally helped build Juneau's homes. She was a founding and long time member of The Home Builders association until her dementia didn't allow it. She worked hard her entire life and now when she needs help it's being taken away.

**PLEASE FIGHT FOR OUR SENIORS**

My family is willing giving up all or a big part of PFD to support our state.

Thank you,  
Cindy Stadt

**From:** Danielle Slingsby <daniellemslingsby@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:41 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** HB2001

I am writing on behalf of myself, Danielle Slingsby, Nome AK 99762. Dunleavy's vetos were reckless and it is now the responsibility of the legislature to try to save the State. Services cut were not ones that can be fixed with more PFD money in everyones pockets. We are stronger together, and the money our government spends should reflect this. Identifying what strengthens, supports and enriches our communities and people is how we should be thinking about budget. When we are giving money to oil companies instead of the supports our people need to survive, what does that say about our State? Please work toward a more honorable solution. Take away my PFD if it means our State can survive.

**From:** Mary Matthews <52forart@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:41 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** Priorities

If I had to choose about what is important not to cut from state budget it would all regard the most vulnerable people who are not able to participate fully in life due to their circumstances. I feel that the young people of today need to get jobs and work for money for college and that the university needs to become more independent of state dollars. The university research has not garnered world attention and there are many scientists studying northern topics that seem to get more attention and do a better [job](#). So cut the campus, cut the scholarships, provide food and medical care to the elderly, provide homeless protections, provide legal services and opportunities for people to participate in the arts for some positive experiences.

Mary Matthews  
Artist

**From:** patty kastelic <pkastelic@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:43 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Pay for basic government services and a moderate PFD

There have been many eloquent letters, opinion pieces and calls so I surely don't need to reiterate the reasons that the Dunleavy vetoes must not prevail. The people that believe "belt tightening and greater efficiencies" will save the high PFD and avoid taxes are wrong. Please save senior and health benefits for the needy, the University and the arts. I give generously and will continue to do so but it isn't enough. We need a healthy Alaska State government.

**From:** Vic <alaskaisfarout2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:45 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Smoke and mirrors

To the legislators who are manipulating/scamming the people of Alaska with the excuse of we can only give you 1/3 or whatever of the dividend because otherwise it will be gone is hogwash because you the legislators will be dipping into the other part of it so the dividend balance will disappear just as fast if not more so because then you will be taking more and more like you always do. This practice of spending more than you have is going to stop, otherwise you will burn through all the dividend money and then impose an income tax and State sales tax on us Alaskans which I think is your goal. To make us just like the lower 48. Since you like the way things are in the lower 48 why don't you just all move down there. Those of you who are fighting Mike Dunleavy on this budget are also fighting the majority of us Alaskans. You are an embarrassment to this State. What you are attempting to do and have already done ripping off our dividend for the last couple years is socialism. You are taking someone else's money and using it for what YOU think is best. By the way, socialism is just a fancy word for communism, it's like calling the dump the sanitary landfill.

Vic Lynne North Pole AK

**From:** jaranda <jaranda\_pols@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:45 AM  
**To:** Sen. John Coghill <Sen.John.Coghill@akleg.gov>; House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>; Rep. Tammie Wilson <Rep.Tammie.Wilson@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Support for full budget cuts and full PFD

Hello, I am a constituent from North Pole and I am contacting you to say that I do not support HB 2001. I fully support our governor and his vetoes to help bring us to a balanced budget. I do not think losing a couple thousand state and university positions justifies raising the cost of living of 700,000 Alaskans through PFD cuts or big taxes down the road. We have seen over 12,000 jobs lost during the recession in the private sector. Just like how private businesses have had to tighten their belts in hard times so do we. The PFD cuts have extended the recession and has led to closing of many small businesses with the billions of dollars that were stripped out of the economy. I will not support any new taxes until the legislature shows that they have the will to make significant cuts to government spending to where our spending is meeting our revenues. That would be the level of spending we were at about 15 years ago. We have a small population with only

300,000+ tax payers. We can not solve this problem with taxes and PFD cuts alone, we must cut spending! According to USA today Alaska is ranked number one for per capita spending! Our spending is out of control! At the end of the walker administration spending was actually increased by half a billion dollars! Even faced with the deficit and recession the legislature was still increasing the size of government! Closing the deficit with PFD cuts is the worst option for the economy as outlined in the 2016 ISER report and it hurts the poorest alaskans more than anyone else. We have already seen our population decreasing the last three years due to the recession and PFD cuts. The PFD is the peoples money and it was never meant to be used to fund government! Support our governor and uphold the vetoes and pay out a full PFD. I am also looking forward to Dunleavys constitutional amendments to be brought to the people for a vote.

**From:** Katie Rooks <krookspow@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:45 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** HB 2001 public testimony

Dear Legislature,

I am writing my testimony regarding HB2001, Earnings Reserve Account for the Permanent Fund Dividend.

I fully support HB2001, and the Governor's attempt to balance Alaska's deficit budget and return to the people of Alaska a portion of what was rightfully theirs from the Permanent Fund Dividend, using this special appropriations bill.

Respectfully submitted,  
Katie Rooks

--

Katie Rooks  
Prince of Wales Island, Alaska  
p: 907-401-0909

**From:** Karen Parr <karenparr31@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:49 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** restoring cuts

Your efforts to find veto-proof compromises on specific line items give us all a bit of hope. Please concentrate on the areas where the most permanent damage will be done, such as childhood health and education, and the basic functions of our University.

Education helps reduce the drugs, crime, and violence that cost us all so much. And educated Alaskans are finding solutions to our other economic problems. like high utility costs and climate change.

Karen Parr  
949 McGown St. Apt. 3E  
Fairbanks, AK 99701  
378-3530

From: Sue Dean <sue.dean@me.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:50 AM  
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
Subject: Restoring funding to the vetoed items

Dear Honorable Senators and Representatives of the State of Alaska,

I feel the State Council of the Arts is of primary importance to Alaskan Artists and the whole Alaskan community interested in the arts, and to contemplate its absence in our State is heartbreaking, a prospect that would take away one of the reasons that Alaska is such a good place to live.

I feel that the University of Alaska contributes in every good way to the well-being of our state, and certainly of Fairbanks area where I have lived since 1954. My husband, Frederick C. Dean, taught at UAF for his entire career and, if he were still alive would be devastated to see how his beloved University is threatened.

I have always felt that government is a way for all of us to be represented in working together to take care of one another. I believe that all of the Vetoes are short-sighted and I ask you to vote to overcome vetoes that would otherwise leave our state set back more than 100 years.

I would be willing to pay an income tax as well.

Sincerely,

Sue M. Dean

**From:** Amanda Triplett <iamatriplett@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:51 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB 2001

My name is Amanda Triplett. I live in Juneau. I can't be there in person to testify, but I'd like you all to see my face and the face of my family. This is what I am fighting for. This is what you are fighting for. Alaskans.



I am writing to support HB 2001.

The past 15 years of my life have been in Juneau. I moved here from Ohio to attend the University of Alaska Southeast, and never left. My husband did the same, except he moved from Minnesota. The University of Alaska brought us to Juneau and we decided to stay.

I have a job I absolutely love at UAS. I'm an academic advisor for new, incoming first time freshman. It's more than just picking classes, it's creating a connection, making a safe place for them, it's being a dot connector and helping them with housing, financial aid, navigating the bus system, overcoming homesickness and relationship issues. My job provides insurance and retirement for my family.

These cuts are devastating not only to the UA system, but the entire state. Why? For an unrealistic PFD amount? My family is privileged and we do not rely on the PFD to pay bills. It's a luxury to us. I realize that isn't the case for a lot of Alaskans, and those people need to have a voice as well.

But ask yourself, will a \$3,000 PFD cover healthcare, make up for my lost job, put money into my retirement, cover my mortgage, cover daycare cost, go towards little league fees, swim passes, groceries?

I want to have a strong community that supports youth, arts, elders, the university, the ferry. TAX ME.

For my family, and the rest of Alaska, please come together and support HB 2001.

Thank you,



Amanda Triplett

**From:** Jillian Richie <richiejillian@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:52 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Restore the funding: from a mother in labor

Legislators,

I'm writing this instead of attending the Fairbanks public testimony because I'm in labor at FMH. My baby is healthy and in a good position to enter the world.

At my most vulnerable stage it's hard to not consider the importance of quality health care, access to higher education, and a strong community. Please commit to providing all Alaskan's these basic and invaluable needs by restoring funding to our essential services.

I was born and raised in Alaska. I'm starting a family here. I'm open to an income tax, restoring the pre-SB21 oil tax credit to only \$5/barrel (or lower), and a lower PFD. I don't want a free ride and am willing to pay my share.

Jillian Richie  
1559 Jamboree Dr  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

**From:** Maureen Sullivan <gogoshire@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:53 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Support House Bill 2001

Please save UA!

Thank you,  
Maureen Sullivan  
67120 Bluff Road  
Homer, AK. 99603

**From:** Leah Youngblood <lyoungblood1995@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:54 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Override Governor's Vetoes

Good morning,

My Name is Leah Youngblood and I want to express my support an override of the Governor's proposed cuts. The cuts proposed are going to impact Alaskan's state wide in a devastating way. Our economy is not going to be able to handle such a HUGE loss of services. Please override the vetoes.

Sincerely,  
Leah Youngblood  
Concerned Alaskan

**From:** Laura Kolasa <laurajkolasa@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:54 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Decrease the PFD

Dear House Finance Committee,

I write as a lifelong Alaskan a 15 year Fairbanks resident, and having spent 14 years in state service. I have received a PFD each year of my life. Yes, this money has been helpful over my lifetime. However, I see how times have changed in Alaska since the PFD's inception and feel strongly that it is time for change. I am aghast at the thought of receiving a large lump sum of cash this fall for doing nothing other than living in the state while at the same time I watch valuable state services and non-profit organizations take huge cuts or close down. I strongly believe that it is time to change how the PFD earnings are used in our state. I would much rather receive a small PFD on a personal level while keeping services and jobs in place that make this community and state the kind of place I want to live and raise my family. I believe that making changes now will create a more sustainable future and positive outlook for our state.

Sincerely,  
Laura Kolasa  
1319 Gilmore Trail  
Fairbanks, Alaska

**From:** Kristin Timm <kmf.timm@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:53 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Please restore UA Funding

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a young professional making my life and career in Alaska, I am afraid of the negative economic effect that the governor's cuts will cause to the community of Fairbanks and the state. Please do what you can to restore UA funding to the levels originally proposed by the legislature.

Kristin Timm

From: Megan <mhammeke@hotmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:55 AM  
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
Subject: HB 2001

I am writing to implore you to support HB 2001. I understand and appreciate the desire to balance the budget, but the governor's vetoes of the budget guts funding to our most vulnerable population, the youth, and the elderly.

I work in healthcare and the elimination of the WWAMI program is a huge detriment to the state. The ability to recruit and attract outside medical personnel does not meet the needs of the state and without the program will be even more difficult. Also without the funding of outside support programs, hospitals will have an undo burden of patients who can't leave the hospital safely shifting the cost of healthcare even higher.

As a working resident of Fairbanks, I would be happy to pay an income or sales tax to help balance the budget. The university is one of the reasons why Alaska is such a wonderful place to live. It is one of the main reasons I chose to move to Fairbanks. It is a great attraction for health professionals and ancillary personnel when consideration for moving to a new location.

Thank you for your time and service in our government.

Sincerely,  
Megan Wiegand

**From:** Lora Vess <lora.vess@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:57 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Support for HB 2001

Dear Representatives:

Yesterday I testified to the House Finance Committee regarding my support for HB 2001. Today I am reiterating that support and asking for my support to be part of the official record. If you would like to read my testimony, it is posted below. Relatedly, I just learned that UA is now the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest rated flagship university in the nation (following Puerto Rico) and will likely be downgraded again later today to just above junk bond status. I cannot imagine that this was the intention of the legislature. I thank those of you who are working diligently to restore the funds and urge those of you who are undecided to please recognize the severity of these cuts. Please restore the funds.

My name is Lora Vess and I am a resident of Juneau and representing myself. I am calling to support HB 2001 and a smaller PFD or even no PFD. The governor's budget vetoes devalue the hard work of the legislature this session. As a University of Alaska faculty member, I am one of many who has had their world flipped upside down in the last few weeks, on top of six months of uncertainty and multiple years of cuts to the university system. I don't want to lose my job and I don't want to leave Alaska. I want to teach my students and I want them to have to a future in Alaska. Students who attend college in Alaska tend to stay in Alaska. They become nurses, educators, law enforcement officers, entrepreneurs, and even legislators.

My concerns are not limited to the austere university cuts. I urge the legislature to find a way to work together to provide a more responsible PFD, to keep the state from slipping back into an otherwise inevitable recession, and to restore the funds to the state services so inhumanely cut by the vetoes. I am shocked by those who have no empathy for others in more vulnerable positions than themselves and only see their fellow Alaskans as "special interests."

I hope that our elected representatives understand that the role of government is more than just distributing a PFD. All this talk about living on a budget fails to recognize that residents and out-of-state workers pay no income tax, that we continue to over-subsidize the oil industry, and that a large PFD this year will deplete reserves for future PFDs. We need long-term planning for everything from agriculture to education to transportation and health care. I understand that people are for the PFDs for their individual families, but these cuts are devastating to communities economically and socially. We live in a society where we should be accountable to one another. Alaska deserves better than these cuts. Please restore the funding and pass a responsible PFD. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Lora Vess  
Juneau, AK

From: Natalie Webb <froggie021@icloud.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:57 AM  
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
Subject: Testimony for the Record on HB 2001

My name is Natalie Webb and I am a resident of Cordova, Alaska. I would like to testify on the record in support of HB 2001 to reinstate the budget items vetoed by Governor Dunleavy and provide for a "surplus PFD". I believe a \$3000 PFD is not sustainable and would cause irreversible damage to our state by way of the devastating cuts proposed.

From: nancy burnham <theannexgallery@gmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:02 AM  
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
Subject: Funding the budget

I'm a resident of Fairbanks and see first hand all the areas that will be impacted negatively by the vetoes the governor has put forward. One such area is the university. I'm hearing people all around me in fear for their jobs. There is a lot of talk about leaving the state. What a place we would have with a cultural vacuum in our state. Who would want to live here? What would happen to the coffers with a population exit?

I know you'll do the right thing and restore funding for these crucial programs Nancy Burnham Artist

**From:** Rosemarie Alexander <puppies@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:03 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** HB 2001

House Finance Committee Members:

Thank you for your work to restore the vetoed funds to the budget, reverse the sweep, and settle on a PFD that makes sense in Alaska's current fiscal climate.

I support HB 2001 as it has been described – with funding for all items that were vetoed by the Governor, the “reverse sweep” language, and a \$929.00 PFD.

I believe state programs and services that benefit all Alaskans are far more important than a one-time payment. The Permanent Fund Dividend is not an entitlement and I am grateful for whatever amount we get.

Thank you for your continued work for all Alaskans.

Rosemarie Alexander-Isett

Juneau

From: Bessie Green <bessie.bug@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:08 AM

To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

Subject: Take my pfd, save my community

I will gladly give up my pfd to keep essential state services afloat. UAF, homeless services, Medicaid, senior benefits, adult public assistance, Head Start, preschool, and other early childhood services are so important to our community. Please don't let us lose these services. Also, I strongly support reducing oil tax credits and instating an income tax.

Thank you,

Elizabeth Green

1107Sheep Creek Rd

Fairbanks, AK 99709

**From:** Shannon Carroll <scarroll@TridentSeafoods.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:09 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** Trident Seafood's Comment Sweep Impacts on Fish and Game Management and Seafood Industry

Co-Chairs Foster and Johnson:

Trident Seafoods operates shore-based processing facilities in 10 Alaskan coastal communities, including Akutan, Cordova, False Pass, Ketchikan, Kodiak, Naknek, Petersburg, St. Paul, Sand Point, and Wrangell. In addition, Trident has two floating processors used to support seasonal peak salmon and groundfish processing needs throughout the year. Trident is a family owned company that serves approximately 1,500 independent catcher vessels in nearly all major commercial fisheries off Alaska, including Alaska salmon, pollock, and crab. Trident reinvests millions in Alaska each year, with the intent to provide markets for Alaska fishing fleets for generations to come.

Last week, the Office of Management and Budget confirmed that it included several commercial fisheries funds in a sweep of money into the Constitutional Budget Reserve Fund, effective June 30, 2019. **It is imperative that the Legislature reverse this unprecedented sweep of funds.** The elimination of Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) receipts (fund code 1201), test fish receipts (fund 1109), and General Program Fund Receipts (fund code 1005) is a major direct hit to the ADFG budget. Combined, they represent about 15% of the Commercial Fisheries Division annual budget and pay for project management and monitoring that directly affects access to the resource in nearly every region and nearly every fishery ADFG manages.

Examples of projects and management programs at risk include, among others, the Southeast project and permit reviews; the Prince William Sound coded wire tag program; the Alagnak River tower and Susitna Valley weirs; the

juvenile Chinook marine survey and Kuskokwim and Yukon monitoring programs; Tanner crab data collection; and the Kodiak aerial survey.

**Without this funding, ADFG will manage more cautiously and reduce or eliminate access in fisheries and regions.**

This not only impacts revenues for fishermen, processors, and communities in the State, it also undermines the ability of the ADFG to fully leverage its funding. Recall that ADFG has an annual budget of \$200 million, of which less than \$60 million are general funds. By providing for sound management and access to the resource, ADFG translates this general fund investment of \$60 million into a return of more than \$10 billion annually.

The sweep of test fish receipts also has a direct impact on fishermen and small businesses in Alaska. The Test Fish Fund allows ADFG to contract with a vessel to harvest and sell a portion of fish—**that would otherwise be harvested by commercial fishermen**—to fund specific Test Fish Projects throughout the State. The sweep of these funds essentially creates an additional tax on the industry by taking revenue from a common property resource that would otherwise have gone to fishermen. This is an unprecedented and inconsistent policy that undermines important management projects and the income of fishermen throughout the State.

For Alaska to remain open for business, the legislature should support and fund resource agencies that allow Alaskans to harvest the resource. Accordingly, the Legislature must act quickly and reverse the sweep in order to restore funding to core ADFG research and management programs.

Thank you for your attention on this,

Shannon Carroll  
Assoc. Director of Public Policy  
Trident Seafoods  
907.382.1590

**From:** carol suchland <csuchland58@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:26 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** public testimony

Hi,  
My name is Carol Suchland. I live in North Pole. When we arrived in Alaska 37 years ago we were struck by the kind caring people that we met. Complete strangers went out of their way to help two young kids find their way. They gave their time, shared their hard earned knowledge, and one family even let us live in their house, while they were out of town, after having talked to us only a handful of times. Now fast forward to 2019. The governor vetoes hurt many groups of people, young, old and everyone in between. The governor obviously doesn't care about the people of Alaska. There is a large group of Alaskans, at least that's what they call themselves, don't care what happens to the people that are hurt by the Governor's vetoes all they care about is getting a \$3000 PFD. What happened to the Alaska that welcomed us all those years ago? The Alaska that cared about the common good. The Alaska that was there to help people in need. The Alaska that put people first.

I strongly urge you to solve this crisis by working together to reinstate all items that the governor vetoed. Give a small PFD, if any at all, and use the money to fund the government. Put in place some sort of tax to increase revenue. Living in a state that has a good education system and services will attract people to our state, just as it attracted us all those years ago. If the cuts stand and more cuts happen next year you may as well close the state up and hit the road to the Lower 48.

I like the government services that are available to me and I am happy to pay for them through taxes.

Thanks for taking time to read this,

Carol Suchland

**From:** ICEMAN <die\_man98@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:08 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Budget

Dear Finance Committee,

I support a smaller PFD amount, and overriding the Governor's budget vetoes. Please support HB 2001.

Thanks,  
Dayne Ellanna

**From:** Doug Osborne <doug\_las@live.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:11 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Reverse the vetoes

I am writing to strongly support overriding the governors vetoes. Our state needs higher ed. Infrastructure And long term thinking. A \$900 PFD is enough.

HS bill 2001 is our best option.

Thank you

Doug.

**From:** Jennifer Moss <jmoss.web@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:11 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** HB2001

Dear House Finance Committee Members,

A large PFD is a luxury that our state cannot afford to give out until we have a diversified our income revenue to stabilize our economy, as evidenced by the recent severe cuts to education and essential services across our state.

My family members are lifelong Alaskans and are directly affected by the recent budget cuts. Our daughter's position, working with homeless teens in Fairbanks, will be eliminated. Our son, a senior in engineering at UAF, will not receive his Alaska Performance Scholarship that he earned and will need to take out a loan to finish his degree. My husband and I are in the middle of building a house out of pocket but we have had to stop buying building supplies and our construction process is on hold. We have gone on lockdown spending completely. We have a small mortgage on our property but with uncertain employment futures we are all facing, we are not sure what we will do if we lose our jobs at the university.

*A large PFD does not offset the budget cuts affecting my family.* Please, take some or all of the PFD to cover the veto items and let's diversify state revenue from here out by instituting a state income tax and reducing oil tax credits in addition to *\*gradually\** reducing state spending.

Thank you,

Jennifer Moss  
820 Schloesser Drive, Fairbanks Alaska

**From:** Marti Pausback <martipausback@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:13 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** HB 2001: I DO NOT want a permanent fund

Hello House leaders,

I do not want a permanent fund. I want to live in a state that cares about quality of life: education, caring for its people and it's infrastructure. I want to live in a state with strong university systems that embrace diversity and innovation. I want to live in a state with big long term vision and hope for the potential of it's people and land

I would like the AK council of the Arts to be funded. We live in a vast state with over 28 different indigenous cultures and languages... We have huge vistas and multiple biomes ...Sometimes the only way to communicate and connect such diversity is through art. It drives the economy and brings people to our state

Please do not sacrifice our future and our peoples for a PALTRY permanent fund. I do not want it

Thanks for all you are doing to work across the isle and to have a big hope filled vision for beautiful Alaska.

Please consider reversing the Govenor's veto and restore funding. I would like to pay an income tax or a sales tax or ask the Oil companies to help fill the budget gap

Marti Pausback

**From:** Tim Jester <tim.jester6@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:15 AM



**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** Support HB 2001

Dear House Finance Committee:

I wholeheartedly support a reduction in the PFD payment so funds from the PFD can be used to support essential services, such as the University, K-12 schooling, pre-school education, Medicaid, etc.

The Governor's vetoes to the budget will severely harm the economy, gut the University, and otherwise create unnecessary hardships for thousands of individual Alaskans. In response to this immediate issue, passing HS 2001 is a right step.

For the long-term stability and health of Alaska, I urge you to do the following:

- 1) Publicly expose and counter the underlying ideology and supporters of Governor's Dunleavy's approach to government (i.e., Koch Brothers and an ideology that aims to cut all connections between government and social policy/services--education, health care, etc. while promoting unfettered "free-markets.") It is very important that Alaskans' recognize that Dunleavy's actions do not occur in a vacuum, but rather they are strategic enactments of a specific view of government, economics, individualism, and the "common good."
- 2) Articulate a vision of the kind of Alaska the majority of us want, and the role government must play in providing the right conditions for realizing this type of State, which includes basic services (such as, high quality education system (K-12 and University), health care access, etc.).
- 3) Pass policies that support the growth of a diversified economy.
- 4) Tax the oil companies appropriately.
- 5) Pass a fair, equitable income tax to generate revenue.

Thank you for your service.

Tim Jester  
2020 Bandury Circle  
Anchorage, AK 99504  
907-244-2802

**From:** Kathleen Miller <kmillerrn.juneau@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:16 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** Budget/veto 'gramma 'comment

Dear House Finance folks: We have lived in Alaska since 1974 and have worked all our lives full time for both public and private sector. In my last position as a Public Health Nurse, I was privileged to work in Southeast Alaska with families, children, adults of all ages and in areas ranging from disease outbreak control, women's health care to child assessment/parenting home visits and elder care. I recently retired as a 10 year volunteer firefighter/first responder. Both my husband and I have been lifelong community volunteers and budget annually to give back financially to local programs helping the homeless, foodbank, public broadcasting and land use/trail maintenance groups.

Like many grandparents throughout Alaska, we are raising our grandson after our daughter's death.

We are appalled at the Dunleavy vetoes and his use of outside influencers and bankrollers. Alaska is more than a resource warehouse he and his elite outsiders can open for business...and those destructive veto monies can not be made up by Alaska's citizens-generous though many are and will be.

The bipartisan legislation crafted a reasonable budget that impacted important services but allowed for continued support of our elders and our education system. Our children and adults who are looking to train for relevant jobs are Alaska's future. We also don't want to see a world class Arctic research facility gutted. Please restore those cuts.

We value looking towards the future-beyond whatever level of PFD is decided on. We paid income tax when first living here and believe that an income tax (which also captures non-resident highly paid resource extraction workers) and a revised oil industry tax is the way to redirect our finances.

Thank you, Kathy Miller

**From:** Mary Christensen <gm@coopmarket.org>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:16 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** Testimony for Restoring the Budget

Hello,

I'm writing because I may not get to give my remarks in person later today, although I will attend.

I'm writing to you in my role as General Manager of Co-op Market Grocery & Deli because I feel that this community business will surely feel the adverse affects of job loss in our city.

First I want to go back in time to about 20 years ago when I, a young entrepreneur, had an opportunity to take a course about starting a business at UAF. As part of the course, business owners from around the community offered inspirational stories about their business ventures. One speaker, Gary Wilkin, spoke with great optimism about Fairbanks' economy. He said that we have a five leg stool - oil, gold, military, service to surrounding communities, and the University.

Now, we are talking about having one of those legs cut off - our University and I strongly encourage the legislature to write another spending bill and reinstate the budget.

I want to make it clear that my understanding is that the legislature drew 5.25% from the POMV for revenue and combined with oil revenue had \$5.1 billion dollars to budget. Then the budget that was passed was \$4.6 billion leaving money for a \$900-1000 PFD.

I also understand that this budget is lower than any budget since before 1997. Clearly if the budget is balanced with a surplus for PFD's there is absolutely no need for the budget vetoes.

If I have an inaccurate understanding of the facts please be sure to tell me.

Now, it seems that the intent of the Governor's vetoes are to increase the PFD and that the vetoes are enough to add \$600 to the PFD pay out.

In my circle of friends and acquaintances my UAF professor neighbor is looking for jobs elsewhere, an employee where I work lost her college scholarship, a former employee is at risk of losing the funding for his monthly insulin, and my ex husband will no longer have his job of 12 years teaching Cuban Modern Dance in the schools.

These are just a few of the people I know suffering the immediate affects of these ill conceived budget cuts.

The business I run is one with very close margins and anything that affects our sales revenue can adversely affect us. This community business generates \$4 million in income and employs about 30 people. We are already suffering negative sales growth that is likely due to a combination of strong sales growth last year and the opening of Costco with its competitive offerings. So our goal this year has been to figure out how to readjust what we offer and compete in a market that offers consumers many choices. But, we didn't count on suddenly having many fewer consumers. Massive job loss in Fairbanks will have an adverse affect on our business as it will on all of the businesses in Fairbanks.

My primary objection to what Dunleavy is doing is that. Jobs. Economics. And community diversity. Our University is important to all who live here. I understand that in three years 1200 families will be coming to work at Eielson Airforce Base. They will be a great addition to our economy. And they are going to expect and need things like good schools, things to do and a University. Our economy needs both the military and the University.

One thing I find especially egregious and embarrassing is the closing of the Arts Council. Every state has an Arts Council. In what kind of world would we not have an Arts Council??

Please vote to reinstate that funding. We cannot lose our Arts Council.

Finally, I also object to cuts to the expansion of Medicaid, cuts that hurt the elderly, students who worked for scholarships suddenly losing them and especially massive cuts to the University that force such drastic and immediate changes to OUR economy. Our community's economy. Our State's economy.

IF there is some reason to have to cut spending to use less than the available revenue than I can understand BUT it is NOT OK to cut spending and then hand Alaskans a check.

For that reason I vehemently object to ANY PFD if the vetoes remain in effect.

Thanks for all of your hard work on this matter.

Sincerely,

--

Mary Christensen

General Manager

Co-op Market Grocery & Deli

526 Gaffney Road Fairbanks, AK 99701

Cell: 907-347-4463 Office: 907-457-1023 Ext. 103

[www.coopmarket.org](http://www.coopmarket.org)

**From:** akcats@gci.net <akcats@gci.net>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:15 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** Budget Vetoes

July 14, 2019

Alaska Legislative Finance Committee

Subject: State Budget vs Permanent Fund Dividend

To All Representatives & Senators

First, let me start by thanking you for your time in reading these comments. Please feel free to share these materials across all party lines.

I am Christian independent voter, combat veteran who has worked and lived in Alaska for 22 years, with the last 4 years as a retiree. I live off a very modest fixed income and have non-VA health insurance that pays when you are ill but does not pay for prevention. I believe

in individual fiscal responsibility and government fiscal responsibility. I don't believe in living beyond your means no matter what you WANT!

Alaska's budget crisis has been brewing for approximately 30 years according to most economic / financial experts. Over my time here, I have watched state government administrations skirt the issue of "FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY". Once again, I hear the cry for a state income tax with no comments on the tax breaks given to the oil companies, more crying about the PFD and not a word regarding fiscal responsibility or solutions.

I see more and more Alaskans crying for more spending. I question the legislature's willingness to spend at an unsustainable rate.

**Constitution or no constitution what will happen when you have exhausted the Permanent Fund?** You have went against the people of Alaska regarding Per Diem payments what is next?

Too best serve the people of the state of Alaska **EQUALLY** government should be fiscally neutral, do not run deficits and when surpluses do occur save them to extend services when emergencies occur, as in snow removal, road maintenance, **NATURAL DISASTERS** etc. Financial catering to any special interest / business group is counter-productive to the people of Alaska and are **SELF SERVING TO A SELECT FEW**.

By the way I have sent suggestions to help solve Alaska's fiscal situation and never heard a word back, why is that?

DO NOT restore the funding to UAA, force UAA to GET lean and mean.

DO NOT saddle the old people of this state with the burden of subsidizing the fiscally irresponsible.

DO NOT make Alaska a tax and spend state **CONTROL THE SPENDING PERIOD!** You can keep my PFD!

Sincerely

Maurice RInerr

2018 Highest State Income Tax Rates and the Income Threshold the highest rate applies to.

State	Highest	Income	State 2018	Income	
	Income	Threshold	Median	Per year	
	Tax Rate %		Income		
Alabama	5	>\$ 3,000	\$ 46472		
Georgia	6	>\$ 7,000	\$ 52977		
Oklahoma	5	>\$ 7,200	\$ 49767		
Missouri	6	>\$ 9,072	\$ 51542		
Mississippi	5	>\$ 10,000	\$ 42009		
Idaho	7.4	>\$ 10,905	\$ 50985		
South Carolina	7	>\$ 14,650	\$ 48781		
New Mexico	4.9	>\$ 16,000	\$ 46718		
Virginia	5.75	>\$ 17,000	\$ 68766		
Montana	6.9	>\$ 17,600	\$ 50801		
				Bottom 20% \$20,000	
Nebraska	6.84	>\$ 29,830	\$ 56675		
Kansas	5.2	>\$ 30,000	\$ 55477		
Arkansas	6.9	>\$ 35,000	\$ 43813		
				Bottom 90 % \$35,628	
				Bottom 20 – 40% \$40,000	
Hawaii	8.25	>\$48,000	\$ 74923		
Louisiana	6	>\$50,000	\$ 46710		
Maine	7.15	>\$50,000	\$ 53024		
US Median			\$ 57,652		
Delaware	6.6	>\$60,000	\$ 63036		
West Virginia	6.5	>\$60,000	\$ 44061		
Iowa	8.98	>\$70,785	\$ 56570		
				Bottom 40 – 60% \$71,000	
Kentucky	6	>\$75,000	\$ 46535		
				Bottom 60 – 70% \$108,000	
Oregon	9.9	>\$125,000	\$ 56119		
Rhode Island	5.99	>\$139,400	\$ 61043		
Arizona	4.54	>\$152,668	\$ 53510		
Minnesota	9.85	>\$156,911	\$ 65699		
Ohio	5	>\$210,600	\$ 52407		
				Top 20% \$242,000	
Wisconsin	7.65	>\$247,350	\$ 56759		
Maryland	5.75	>\$250,000	\$ 78916		
				Top 10% \$322,475	
North Dakota	2.9	>\$416,700	\$ 61285		
Vermont	8.95	>\$416,700	\$ 57808		
				Top 5% \$490,614	
New Jersey	8.97	>\$500,000	\$ 76475		
Connecticut	6.99	>\$500,000	\$ 73781		
California	13.3	>\$1,000,000	\$ 67169		
Dist of Columbia	8.95	>\$1,000,000	\$ 82372		
New York	8.82	>\$1,077,550	\$ 62765		
				Top 1% \$1,380,724	
				Top 1% \$1,855,000	
		Same %			

Colorado	Flat tax	\$5,000 as \$5,000,000	\$ 65458		
Illinois	Flat tax	\$5,000 as \$5,000,000	\$ 61229		
Indiana	Flat tax	\$5,000 as \$5,000,000	\$ 52182		
Massachusetts	Flat tax	\$5,000 as \$5,000,000	\$ 74167		
Michigan	Flat tax	\$5,000 as \$5,000,000	\$ 52668		
North Carolina	Flat tax	\$5,000 as \$5,000,000	\$ 50320		
Pennsylvania	Flat tax	\$5,000 as \$5,000,000	\$ 56951		
Utah	Flat tax	\$5,000 as \$5,000,000	\$ 65325		
				Top 0.1% \$6,709,075	

### Alaska Legislature Veto Recommendations

The following funding priorities listed below are the basis for the veto recommendations .The State of Alaska should fund the following obligations in the order listed.

Sector	Segment of population affected	Recommendation
Public Employees Retirement System & Associated Health Care System	All working ages	Not part of Governor's veto
State Public Health (Medicare & Medicaid)	Middle & old age	<b>VETO CUTS</b>
Public Assistance & Senior Programs	Middle & old age	<b>VETO CUTS</b>
State Troopers & Village Safety Officers	All ages	<b>VETO CUTS</b>
Public Transportation & Highways	All ages	<b>VETO CUTS</b>
Municipal Budgets as required by law	All ages	<b>VETO CUTS</b>
State Education UAA & K12	Young & Middle ages	<b>DO NOT VETO CUTS</b>
Environment (The Ocean Ranger Program)	Tourist	Not a state funded program
Arts & Culture		<b>DO NOT VETO CUTS</b>

**From:** Lacie Stiewing <lstiewing@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:23 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** I Support HB2001

Please pass this bill. I have been terrified for our future since the governor's dangerous and short-sighted vetoes.

As a first time homeowner I wonder if I will end up being forced to walk away from my home after 4 years of ownership because of jobs in state drying up. I've lived in this state since 2007 and thought it would be forever my home. But now, how will I make a steady income? What will happen to our small businesses? What will happen to crime rates and the safety of our residents? How we we protect the people who cannot protect themselves? Where will our young adults get an education? How will anyone be able to afford to live here?

Please play the long game, for years we have built Alaska up, and now one person seems to have the power to quickly tear it down. We are steadily moving backwards, and for what? A one-time \$3,000 PFD? No thanks. Please protect our future. Please protect Alaska.

Sincerely,

Lacie Stiewing  
Proud UAF graduate, MFA  
Homeowner  
Nonprofit supporter  
Believer in social services, helping others, and the right to education

**From:** John Blake <jeblakeak@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:30 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** SAVE ALASKA AND SUPPORT HB2001 - STOP DUNLEAVY AND HIS MADNESS!

You must do everything you can to prevent the damage Dunleavy is trying to unleash.

**Promoting this PFD payout of \$3000 is destructive to the state economy plus --- giving over \$285 million of the Alaska permanent fund money to the IRS is a very foolish economic plan. This state desperately needs these fund so why do some of you think it is a good idea to throw it away???**

Simple math:

633005 dividends doled out in 2017 (<https://pfd.alaska.gov/Division-Info/Summary-of-Applications-and-Payments>)

X

\$3000 gift to everyone

X

0.15 (a very conservative federal tax rate)

=

\$284,853,250 turned over to the federal government in taxes (AND THIS IS A VERY CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATE)

The Permanent Fund was and still is a great idea. The socialist program requiring an annual payout to every person in the state is destructive and should be stopped. I know that will not happen so support HB 2001 and keep the dividend at a reasonable level so this state can continue to be a great place to live, work, and raise a family!

John Blake

**From:** Chase Hensel <chasehensel1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:26 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Please restore the appropriations

Dear Representative Foster and finance committee members,  
It feels like governor Dunleavy's cuts are aimed at making the state unlivable as well as uncharitable and unkind. Please restore the cuts to the university, to the arts, to early childhood education And elder care. I support HB 2001.

Thank you very much,

Chase Hensel

--

Chase Hensel, Ph.D.  
1674 Redfox Dr.  
Fairbanks, AK 99709  
907-699-2107 cell

--

Chase Hensel, Ph.D.  
1674 Redfox Dr.  
Fairbanks, AK 99709  
907-699-2107 cell

Subject: VETO BUDGET  
Date: Wed, 17 Jul 2019 10:30:13 -0800  
From: Sheila & Dale Miller <[passage@kpunet.net](mailto:passage@kpunet.net)>  
To: [LegFinance@akleg.gov](mailto:LegFinance@akleg.gov)

[housefinance@akleg.gov](mailto:housefinance@akleg.gov).

Hello,

Once again, I am submitting my support for smaller pfd checks, the reduction of oil tax credits, and other income generating taxes, especially those that target our seasonal workers who take their money and run south. How can we run an effective part time ferry service? We can not expect AKMH employees to sit around for months at a time collecting unemployment. Not to mention the cost of shutting down and starting up ships. ART lives here! It generates jobs, tourism (income), and it's how we get through our winters! (Mental health). University, yes it can be more efficient but don't undermine it to the point of collapse. Public Education. Come on, do we really need to say tell you this? Public Media, it's the ONLY local news and it's how I listen to your debates, etc. We often do not have cell service. No other media outlet produces the local and STATE news like they do. Not to mention our emergency broadcasting systems. Think, think, think about the fall out!

Now, I will borrow the words from a friend as I agree 100%: (And like many Alaskans, I have summer visitors I'd like to spend time with. I've snuck away to pound out my support for our great State. Don't take us down. I've never actively campaigned against candidates, but I will be doing so in the next election!

Governor Dunleavy's budget vetoes will devastate Alaska. We will lose infrastructure. We will lose much needed services. We will become a virtual wasteland, lacking in many of the qualities that make Alaska livable for many of our elders, our young people, and those who chose to live here because of the pristine wilderness, healthy oceans and waterways, vibrant arts communities, cultural treasures, access to a quality pre-K through graduate school education, access to good healthcare, and scientific and technological contributions which support and improve life around the globe.

We do NOT want Alaska, arguably one of the most beautiful, diverse, and fragile places on our planet, to become nothing more than a resource extraction center. There IS a way to get the revenues necessary to keep Alaska safe, productive, and healthy - fair, progressive taxation of income, along with a cessation of needless and costly incentives to oil companies!

Give me a smaller PFD, if necessary, but, most importantly, give me hope for our future!

Sincerely,

Sheila Miller



Ketchikan for 55 years

**From:** Bernard Marschner <marschnr@ptialaska.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:31 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Cc:** Rep. Grier Hopkins <Rep.Grier.Hopkins@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** State Budget

Hello;

I am a resident of the Fairbanks North Star Borough and submit my thoughts on the present budget battles ongoing at the present time.

Like most Alaskans, I am for Mom and Apple Pie. The struggles occur when you have to choose between things that you like. So, I choose Mom as I cannot be without a Mom, I'll forego the Apple Pie that I truly love. But if you think about it, I'm probably better off without the nutritional sugar that causes all sorts of health problems.

So like my analogy, I really like having the many services common to any western society and not paying for them. But, I also like the PFD that represents money that I get but never did anything to receive and would like it more if it were bigger. Unfortunately, we find ourselves in a place where it appears we need to choose. A truly strong Alaska needs to compete with all the other 50 states to retain the best and brightest among us by providing a top shelf education system from early kindergarten to post graduate degrees, to shelter and care for those among us that need help to avoid being on the street, to have a competent law enforcement to protect us from those parts of society that don't follow the rules.

Like the nutritional sugar that I really like but isn't good for me. The socialist economic sugar that is the PFD, is actually bad for the population as it ends up causing much of the state to sit back and rely upon the state for its funds rather than going forth and earning their way which would help strengthen both our economy and our society. Even more we eventually need to find the sources of funding that are not oil dependant and pay our way as happens in all the other states.

So I question if our state can survive when we send all of our brightest and best young people out of state to get an education that will allow them to secure the life style they desire; can our state survive when we allow the most desperate upon us to live on the street without health care or even a place to shelter from the weather that we have; can we survive without keeping an infrastructure in roads, power and communication that is expected in this modern world. I don't question if we can survive with a smaller number of snow machines, 4 wheelers and vacations to Hawaii.

To close I encourage my state government to spend its funds wisely to help secure the future of this state but ensure that we don't cut out all programs that allow the state to grow and prosper.

Thank You

Bernard Marschner  
1266 Viewpointe  
Fairbanks Alaska

**From:** Joan Soutar <akjbear@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:31 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** State of Alaska Budget

good afternoon,

I support a lower PFD. The initial PFD in 1982 was \$1000.00. I support this amount for each Alaskan or possibly up to \$1500.00. Alaskans should be reminded that the PFD is taxed by the federal government. I have not seen this reminder by the governor.

On the multitude of financial cuts proposed, I am most concerned by the cuts to the UA system. I could support a small cut, maybe one million dollars. Alaska needs a strong university system to educate Alaskans. I received a MA at UAF.

Do NOT please shut down the Alaska State Council on the Arts.

No agency or group should totally lose its funding. I suggest not cutting more than 20 percent of funding of the groups and services that the governor wants to eliminate.

Sincerely,

Joan Soutar  
3281 Edby Rd  
99709

My representative is Adam Wool.

**From:** Mark Schwan <aukebay@gci.net>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:31 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** House Bill 2001 and the proposed 2020 budget

Dear Alaska House Finance Committee:

I am writing this email to share my concerns over Governor Dunleavy's vetoes to the 2020 fiscal budget. I am dismayed over the callousness of his philosophy, and the economic, medical, cultural, educational, and environmental turmoil his proposed cuts will put on us all. I am extremely saddened the legislature could not come together and have the votes to override the governor's actions.

The proposed \$135 million dollars to the University of Alaska system could simply decimate a wonderful educational and northern research institution. The university is a world leader in Arctic research, and the study of climate change, marine ecosystems, and geophysics, to name a few disciplines. I received a bachelor's and master's degree in biological sciences from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks. I went on to have a successful career with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Many of the university of Alaska's biological graduates stayed in the state and have greatly enhanced the reputation of the state's fish and wildlife management and research programs. We are a world leader in northern resource management. I just shudder to think what the proposed cuts to our university will do. Moreover, the job losses from such a cut will be simply tragic on several levels.

The proposed budget cuts to the Alaska Marine Highway puts many residents at risk. The cuts will force seasonal cessation of service at times when there is no other practical or safe mode of transportation in and out of these roadless coastal communities.

The proposed cuts to education and low income seniors are heartless and puts young and elderly people in even more vulnerable situations.

I think it is ridiculous that Governor Dunleavy would veto the expenditure proposed for the ocean ranger cruise ship pollution inspection program, when the program is totally funded from cruise ship taxes and the veto does not save any state money.

I support the direction of HB 2001 to limit the current PFD to \$1600.

There is simply no way a full PFD for our residents can take the place of the health, social and educational support and safety nets that come from government services. It is a ruse that governor Dunleavy is casting over the people who think this might be the case.

I used to be proud to live in Alaska; I reckon I still am. And I still believe it is a magical place, full of wonder and possibilities. I have always believed the magic of Alaska could override the independent nature of the people drawn here such that the people of all ideologies living here will band together when needed in times of disaster, such as the 64 quake or the 67 flood. We have a disaster happening now. It truly is time for you to come together and stop it.

Thank you for letting me comment and I wish you the best in your efforts.

Sincerely,

Mark Schwan  
1090 Cross Street  
Juneau, AK 99801

**From:** Frank Williams <fairbanksfrank@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:31 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** FY2020 Spending/Revenue for State of Alaska

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee,

I am writing to give my very strongest possible support for two major themes in regard to the spending plan for Alaska in FY2020.

1) Find a way to **FULLY restore** State Funding for ALL vetoed budget line items. Capitulation in the form/name of compromise is not acceptable because doing so only feeds a bullying tactic of extreme action to force unwarranted decreases in Alaska's Budget.

2) Increase revenue for the State of Alaska by eliminating tax credits given to oil and any other extractive industries. Furthermore, Alaska should discontinue subsidizing operations of National/International businesses in Alaska. I believe those businesses should pay the full cost of their operations including environmental reclamation and infrastructure and societal burdens on residents.

In regard to the amount of the permanent fund dividend, I support a \$1600 per qualified person dividend for this year.

Regards,

Frank

Frank Williams  
PO Box 96  
Ester, AK 99725

907-388-0468

**From:** Barbara Derr <derr.barbara@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:34 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** I support hb 2001

This budget crises is manufactured by the governor's office. He could not give out the \$6K he promised during the election so he tried to save face by doling out \$3K. This false number breaks too many services that government does well. It looses too much matching federal funds , and dumps a necessary oversight of the cruise ship industry which was found guilty of polluting our waters. Our education system does a good job. There are places to improve but these cuts and the withholding of money to state education is a political game gone too far.

Please pass this bill to limit the pfd to \$1600 and fund education, and restore the funding the governor vetoed.

Let the governor find the money in the governor office's budget if he really wants to give a \$3K pfd. Maybe he can rent out the governor's office for birthday parties, drop a few contractors, and eliminate consultants.

Barbara Derr  
6509 chevigny st Anchorage

**From:** calaya williams <calayaw@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:33 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Cc:** Rep. Grier Hopkins <Rep.Grier.Hopkins@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** HB2001

Hello, my name is Calaya J Williams. I've lived in district 4 for many years, for 30 years in Fairbanks. I am 74 years old. My retirement plan, like many folk from my generation, was Social Security. So now I get around 800\$ from S,S.. Before HB2001 I also got a supplement from the state and Senior Benefits, all of which allowed me to pay half mortgage payments on a co-owned house, eat & make copayments on Medicare/Medicaid. Now I will not be able to live so well. I may lose my home, and now have no sense of security about my immediate future. Friends & family can't help because they are in similar circumstances. What to do? **BEG you to pass HB2001.**  
thank you for your time and for reading my testimony, since I can't show up due to current, serious health problems.

**From:** Anya <anya.kc@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:34 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Testimony for the Record on HB 2001

My name is Anya Honkola and I am a resident of Cordova, Alaska. I would like to testify on the record in support of HB 2001 to reinstate the budget items vetoed by Governor Dunleavy and provide for a "surplus PFD". I believe a \$3000 PFD is not sustainable and would cause irreversible damage to our state by way of the devastating cuts proposed.

**From:** Sveta Yamin-Pasternak <syamin@alaska.edu>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:34 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Please support House Bill 2001

Please support House Bill 2001.

Hundreds of thousands of lives and livelihoods depend on it. Over the last few weeks I have participated in local town halls in Fairbanks area, visited several rural communities, and read hundreds of stories on facebook and in letters to the editor in Alaskan newspapers. The evidence is overwhelming: what Governor Dunleavy is attempting is nothing short of a genocide. This is not a metaphor or exaggeration. All genocides involve cutting state population and access to education, art, access to information (in our case it is public broadcasting and internet broadband in libraries). So many people testified saying that without the essential services included within those that the governor is refusing to provide, they or their close family member will die. The impact of this will be felt for generations and will result in suicide, malnutrition, disease, early death, and economic hardships. The example is right next door, in Chukotka, Russia - what our governor is doing now is what their governor did in the 1990s under the pretenses of making the region "open for business." I have seen the impact firsthand, it really continues to be felt today, and I speak from the position of having done in-depth research on the lasting devastating results of such policies (please feel free to contact me if I can be of help providing further insight).

Please don't let it happen in Alaska.

Please support House Bill 2001.  
Thank you very much.

Sveta Yamin-Pasternak  
Fairbanks

**From:** Hannah Foss <ehocana@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:35 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Please support HB 2001- from Hannah Foss

My name is Hannah Foss, my address is on file with the clerk. As a concerned artist who is actively engaged in my community, I am here in support of HB 2001 and restoring funding to all vetoed items and swept accounts.

I returned to America with my family back in 2008 after being raised in South Australia, with the intent to study at UAF and pursue my career in animation.

Thanks to the support, care and quality of UAF professors' instruction, during my schooling and employment I have had the opportunity to illustrate and animate on multiple films, museum special exhibits, interactive programs, as well as rural education initiatives and grants. I have taught multiple years for the Visual Arts Academy and ASRA, the latter in conjunction with NASA, and hopefully helped inspire the next generation of UA graduates.

UAF has afforded me a richness and scope of life experience, of life learning- that I feel would have been impossible to find elsewhere. I truly and honestly feel I would be a lesser person today if I had not had the opportunity to study and work here.

My success story is one of many, whose education not only prepared them for their career, but inspired and enabled them to give back to their Alaskan community.

Thankyou legislators and community members for being present today, for keeping your hearts open and your wills strong. Please support HB 2001.  
Please Save Our State.

Please support House Bill 2001.

Please don't let it happen in Alaska.

Please support House Bill 2001.

Thank you very much.

Sveta Yamin-Pasternak  
Fairbanks

**From:** Alexandra Pierce <alexandra.pierce@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:35 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** written testimony on the budget

Dear Legislators,

Thank you for the responsible operating budget that you passed in the first place. Please restore the cuts to the operating budget and maintain a reasonable, sustainable PFD. As a lifelong Alaskan, thank you for protecting Alaska's future and for working to preserve our essential services and for caring about Alaskans. As a local government official, thank you for recognizing that these cuts simply download the responsibility to municipalities and that these costs will remain public costs, paid by the same taxpayers.

Kind regards,  
Alexandra Pierce

**From:** Katya Wassillie <katya\_maria@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:38 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Written Testimony HB2001

Members of the House Finance Committee,

I am writing today as an extremely concerned citizen of Alaska. The governor's vetoes are devastating to our state, and have spurred a public outcry in Alaska that is unprecedented. Alaskans are making themselves clear on this matter: override the vetoes. It makes absolutely no sense to prioritize the pay-out of PFDs at the cost of essential state services and our education system. I urge you to override the governor's vetoes and reduce, or even eliminate, the PFD. I urge the legislature as a whole to come together and stand up for Alaska, before the state that we love becomes unrecognizable.

Respectfully,

Katya Wassillie  
Nome, AK

**From:** Skeetter kurka <skeetter\_akruk@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:36 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** testimony

Dear Representatives,

I am sad and disappointed in having to repeat myself. The PFD is NOT government money, yes I benefit from services and I am going to possibly be hurt by the cuts. I am OKAY with that, that is on me. I can budget and stay within our limits. Why can't you? I am tired of either PFD or Services. Get over it. You want per diem while breaking the law in Juneau "cause it is not fair"? Really???? I fully support and would pay to see you cuffed and put in jail! There needs to be consequences for your illegal actions and lying promises (Cathy Geissel, Gary Knopp and several others). You do not represent me or my family and do not have Alaska's interests at heart. I support Governor Dunleavy and what he is trying to fix.

Heather Hepler

**From:** Robert Duke <jonrobertduke@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:38 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** Support HB 2001

Honorable Representatives,

**Please support a plan to restore funding.** My family and I recognize that a **compromise will be needed** to gather the votes needed to pass HB 2001: we can accept that.

I'm a *professor in the Justice Department at UAF*, which likely means that **our livelihood will be impacted**. We have no family here, so we'd **be forced to move to another state** where we would have help transitioning to a new job. As you may know, one doesn't find an academic job at this time of year. Professor jobs are usually advertised over the winter, so we're looking at unemployment at a time of year when it's not easy to move, nor is it cheap to stay (heating costs, etc.). My first choice, of course, is to not abandon my students in the middle of their degree, let alone the middle of the year, but that appears to be where we are headed.

We average about 180 majors in my department and about half that for minors. These students have traditionally gone on to staff our justice jobs in corrections, Troopers, police, court, prosecution, human services, etc. industries in Alaska. You'll find our graduates at all levels in every justice agency in the state. We're also one of the only justice programs that focuses on restorative processes—including providing a clinic for first-time offenders to avoid prosecution by working to restore the victim and the community.

I'm **saddened to see a successful program be considered for cuts, but I'm just as sad for our sister programs at UAF, UAS, UAA, and the numerous community campuses to be in jeopardy**. I don't know how we'll build these programs back up when the time comes. Based upon previous experiences based upon the Laffer Curve (Voodoo Economics, "The" Kansas Experiment, etc.) economic model, these tax/expenditure cuts are temporary and have thus far been rolled back when the hoped for results (more taxes from economic expansion) don't follow. Elsewhere jobs can move over a state line, but easily return—I don't see that happening with Alaska. I know for me and my family, if we're forced to leave, I don't see us ever being able to return. We're not wealthy and we wouldn't be able to take more than one of these economic shocks in our lifetime—without systemic changes suggested below, there's no guaranty that this wouldn't happen again.

**I'm concerned at the overall economic impact of cuts this deep** (\$440M, but already expanded by \$60M, when UA announced the "real" cuts would be about \$200M for our system). No budget items simply equal the stated figure. Money multiplies in the system before it inevitably "falls out" to savings accounts, or is transferred out to corporate headquarters. Plenty of **better experts than me have already heralded the catastrophe that this is set to unleash upon our economy**.

This also means that many of us will **need social services to survive, yet these have also been cut**. Medicare expansion cost little with Federal pass through dollars, but meant so much to the elderly and others who needed this aid.



For me, **I'd like to see a plan that includes revenue sources (gas tax, sales tax, payroll tax, property taxes, utility taxes & fees, etc.).** For instance, we have the tools to evaluate where many services are "consumed". When possible, we should tax or enact fees so that those consumers pay some of their fair share for those services. Typically, emergency services are tied to property taxes. The same with local government, utilities, and to some extent schools (hand waving here, because we expect some wealth transfers from urban to rural areas in Alaska due to the nature of our state's wealth and economy). Roads, services, police, fire, etc. that are used by tourists should be supported in part by sales taxes on tourist related goods and services. Food and essential services could, and should be exempt (e.g. grocery items exempt...restaurant food taxed; auto repair exempt...tours taxed). A gas tax should be expected to pay the state's share of road repairs and expansions. A utility tax can be a good way to pay for a community's public safety needs. A small payroll tax should always be maintained also. I realize that these add "overhead", but many of these taxes and fees can be collected in a strait-forward remittance system. Even the payroll tax, if modest, could be administered easily if there are very few (if any) exemptions allowed. The point is that by attaching taxes, as close as possible, to services, then the rates can be kept low for each category. Having this infrastructure in place makes adjustment to account for conditions much easier. **We should tax oil sufficiently to account for the impacts and to pay for the industry's fair share of the costs to maintain their roads, security, economic system, educated workforce, etc., but we should also have a backup plan when the price of oil crashes.**

**Finally, cut a deal to pay an increased PFD this time, but which comes with a restructuring of the PFD, so that it's clear that it is to be managed in a balanced manner that prioritizes: 1. sustainability; 2. supports basic governance services; and, 3. a supplemental dividend to assist with hardship conditions (fuel costs, food, transportation, etc.).**

I hope our voices are helpful. We're trusting in you to lead us through this crisis.

**Thankyou,**

Jon R. Duke & Machell C. Duke  
(Sarai, Tayler, Amie....our daughters)  
1544 Hilton Ave., Fairbanks Ak 99701

**From:** Debi Ballam <aukebay2@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:41 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** PLEASE OVERRIDE GOVERNOR'S VETOES

I am deeply saddened, angered and disappointed at the governor's budget vetoes and the legislators who are unwilling to work together to override them. I am passionately opposed to reductions to, or elimination of programs for some of our most vulnerable citizens; the elderly, the economically disadvantaged, and Alaska's most valuable resource; our children. The vetoes to education from early childhood programs, which help improve impoverished children's readiness for school, and programs which support young families learning to parent, all the way to higher education preparing our future leaders, nurses, scientists, educators, along with funds for the Arts, climate change research and environmental protections is appalling.

I have spent 40 years in Alaska, serving Alaskans as a nurse, providing healthcare and supporting families. I have seen first-hand what lack of access to medical services does. The financial burden to lower income individuals/families causes delay in seeking services, inadequate treatment of illness and disease, including dental, medical and mental, with resultant larger healthcare problems; pain, suffering, or death and increased costs for more complex problems. Problems that if treated earlier would have cost less on many levels. I have also seen what lack of parenting and educational support such as Head Start and the Parents as Teachers programs brings: increased costs of special education, increased risks of depression, drug use, high school drops out rates, perpetuating cycles of lack of

education/marketable skills and poverty, and increased likelihood of entering the court system. All of which increases public costs and human suffering in the long haul.

The budget cuts to Medicaid, senior services and environmental programs is unethical and appalling. We need to be better stewards of our beautiful lands and waters and air, not worse!! The ferry system which connects SE Alaska, getting our citizens to medical care, and other services, getting people, goods and services to more remote communities needs your support. The budget cuts to the Arts including cuts that do not even cost the tax payers any money seems simply vengeful. The veto to Ocean Ranger cruise ship pollution inspection program *paid for by* cruise ship taxes, not public funds, is either idiotic or vengeful or both.

These budget cuts are destined to throw the state backwards educationally, economically, environmentally, and in mental and physical health promotion.

I strongly support the capping of the Permanent Fund Dividend, such as the HB 2001 special appropriations proposes, using funds from the earnings reserve account, making funds available for State services that Gov. Dunleavy has vetoed. I care deeply about funding for Education, the Arts, Health Care, the Environment, Medical and Dental services, the Marine Highway, Public Safety, and legal services. Please, please reconsider how devastating these vetoes are for Alaska, and what is best for our children, the FUTURE of Alaska. A \$3,000 PFD has only short term gains, funded education, research, health care and the ARTS has gains for the long term and assures our children and grandchildren a future IN Alaska.

Thank you for listening to the people and taking public testimony.

Deborah Ballam

12090 Cross Street, Juneau, AK 99801

**From:** Barbara Derr <derr.barbara@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:41 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** Re: I support hb 2001

Please add this to the previous email...

I support whatever pfd amount restores funding for the budget the legislature passed this spring whether it is 1600, 1000, or 100.

On Wed, Jul 17, 2019, 2:33 PM Barbara Derr <[derr.barbara@gmail.com](mailto:derr.barbara@gmail.com)> wrote:

This budget crises is manufactured by the governor's office. He could not give out the \$6K he promised during the election so he tried to save face by doling out \$3K. This false number breaks too many services that government does well. It loses too much matching federal funds, and dumps a necessary oversight of the cruise ship industry which was found guilty of polluting our waters. Our education system does a good job. There are places to improve but these cuts and the withholding of money to state education is a political game gone too far.

Please pass this bill to limit the pfd to \$1600 and fund education, and restore the funding the governor vetoed.

Let the governor find the money in the governor office's budget if he really wants to give a \$3K pfd. Maybe he can rent out the governor's office for birthday parties, drop a few contractors, and eliminate consultants.

Barbara Derr

6509 chevigny st Anchorage

**From:** Katherine Lee <Katherine.Lee@tanachiefs.org>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:42 AM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** Concerned Alaskan

Hi my name is Kathy Lee and I live in Fairbanks Alaska. I want to let you know that I support an override of the Governor's Vetoes. The cuts are going to be devastating to our communities, our elders, school kids. This will be a huge loss of services and jobs. Please override the vetoes.

Thank you

A concerned citizen

Kathy Lee

Travel Coordinator

122 First Avenue Suite 600

Fairbanks, AK 99701

907-452-8251 ext 3138

Toll Free 1-800-478-6822 ext 3138

Fax: 907-459-3854

[Kathy.lee@tananachiefs.org](mailto:Kathy.lee@tananachiefs.org)

From: Eric Muench <ericmuench@kpunet.net>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:47 AM

To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

Subject: HB 2001

I support HB2001 as absolutely necessary to avoid the catastrophic results of the governor's veto's. Thank you.

Eric Muench

228 Martin St. Ketchikan, AK 99901

From: Genevieve Johnson Perreault <genevieve.johnson@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:47 AM

To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

Subject: Testimony on House Bill 2001 – Appropriations for the Permanent Fund

My name is Genevieve Perreault. I reside at 3773 Spinach Creek Road, Fairbanks, AK, 99709. I was born in Fairbanks and chose to return here to raise a family.

I am strongly in favor of restoring funds to the necessary programs that the governor cut with his line item vetoes. If that means a smaller PFD, so be it. I am ashamed of my fellow Alaskans who are willing and eager to sell out our state's future economic prosperity, our communities' basic needs, and their neighbors' jobs - all because they want the PFD Dunleavy recklessly promised voters.

The governor's cuts are political and intended to harm targeted populations of the state. If our governor were truly motivated by fiscal responsibility, the first cuts we'd see would be in the bloated executive budget, by cutting the

superfluous and overpaid positions he's created for his cronies, including the budget director from Outside who leaves a devastating legacy of economic disaster in her wake (just ask Kansas).

We should also look at alternative revenue sources. If Alaskans paid a modest income tax, then we'd all have more "skin in the game" and be less susceptible to the PFD being used as a political bargaining/blackmail chip. We also need to revisit the oil tax credit system to ensure profit to the people of Alaska be prioritized. If there are budget cuts that harm the people of Alaska, the oil companies who profit by doing business in this state should bear a larger burden of that financial hit. Do not balance the budget solely on the backs of the people of the state.

On a personal level, if funding is not restored to the university, these cuts will cause irrevocable harm to my family and my community. My husband is an employee of the university and may well lose his job. Many of our friends are making contingency plans to leave the state - these are bright, successful, wonderful people who actively improve the quality of life in Fairbanks. Our property taxes may increase because of the increased financial burden placed on the Borough. Our property values may plummet with the local economy in such disarray. Our three children attend Pearl Creek Elementary. I can't imagine what the mass exodus of university families would do to local enrollment and funding for education. Or to the small businesses who rely on our patronage.

I cannot overstate how integral UAF is to the Fairbanks community. It is an economic engine for the state and contributes millions of dollars to our local and state economies. It generates valuable research, educates and trains the next generation of Alaskans, and is a nexus for the scientific and artistic communities. We need to ensure that its future is safeguarded and not put into peril by short-sighted and politically vindictive cuts each budget cycle.

Thank you,  
Genevieve

From: Joe Alaska <menotchu@hotmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:49 AM  
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
Subject: Testimony for the Record on HB 2001

My name is Joe Maurer and I am a business owner, boat owner, commercial fisherman and resident of Cordova, Alaska. I voted for Gov Dunleavy, not for the PFD hand out but to get our budget in check. However, there are certain services and programs that should Not be on the chopping block. The ferry system needs restructuring but not cut out. ADF&G programs such as the Otolith sampling programs must stay in tact for our salmon runs and fisheries. I would like to testify on the record in support of HB 2001 to reinstate the budget items vetoed by Governor Dunleavy and provide for a "surplus PFD". I believe a \$3000 PFD is not sustainable and would cause irreversible damage to our state by way of the devastating cuts proposed.

Joe Maurer  
Cordova, Alaska  
907 398-5188

**From:** Mary Lynne Dahl <dahlfacemld@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:49 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** House Bill2001

Dear Finance Committee Members,

I wish to voice my support for HB #2001.

If our state legislators/senators cannot muster the courage and will to veto or circumvent these budget cuts to Alaska, resulting in the Governor's draconian cuts to our state plus me receiving a full \$3,000 dividend, I will use that dividend money to support all efforts to insure that Gov Dunleavy and his supporters will be removed from office at the next election.

Mary Lynne Dahl, Ketchikan

From: anissa berry <backlagoon@aol.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:50 AM  
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
Subject: support of HB 2001

Hello House Finance members,

I am in support of H B 2001. The bill is pro-Alaska and does not give away our principal. The state cannot afford to bleed itself dry by paying out a large dividend while making critical infrastructural cuts.

Thank you  
Anissa Berry  
PO Box 1222  
Haines AK 99827

**From:** Crooked Creek Traditional Council <crookedcreektraditionalcouncil@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:51 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Supporting HB 2001

Dear Senator or Representative,

I write to convey my support House Bill 2001. My position is rooted in the Legislature's constitutional responsibilities to Alaskans.

Article VII of Alaska's constitution obligates the Legislature to provide for the public education (including a state university system), public health, and public welfare of Alaskans. Upholding these responsibilities should be the Legislature's sole concern. Prolonged focus on the location of the second special session or the amount of the Permanent Fund dividend, as various members continue to do, absolves individual lawmakers of their Article VII constitutional responsibilities to Alaskans.

For this reason, I urge the Legislature to reinstate the operating budget it passed on June 10 through HB 2001.

Sincerely,  
Elena Phillips  
Crooked Creek Traditional Council  
Crooked Creek Traditional Council Administrator

**From:** Kathleen Miller <kmillerrn.juneau@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:54 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Oops-forgotten comment 'gramma'

Dear house finance people: I forgot to ask that the Ocean Ranger funding be reinstated since that money has been generated from ship/traveler revenues. Given the massively increased ship traffic to Alaska, impacting Southeast in particular and given the less than stellar 'self monitoring' of cruise lines such as Carnival...we need the Ocean Ranger program to be reinstated ASAP. Our clean air and water for fisheries and recreation is not to be sacrificed by Dunleavy/Anduin as a gift to the cruise industry mega owners.

Thank you again, Kathy Miller RN, retired volunteer FF/EMT and grandma raising a grandson

**From:** Zacarey Nelson <zacareynelson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:55 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Concerns about budget

My name is Zac Nelson. I'm a life long Alaskan resident. I have lived in this great state for 42 years. My parents both moved here from out of State 50 years ago because of the values Alaskans live with. They raised me in the small village of Eagle, Alaska which I called home for 19 years. I now live in Fairbanks where I work construction and successfully own a small business. One of the first lessons you learn in a small town is that we look after each other. With very few "services" available, we had to because our town was only accessible by highway from mid April to mid October. I don't know what your background is, but in Eagle, there was most definitely an element of survival on the line. Long story short, we took care of our neighbors and they took care of us. A hindquarter of moose meat or a sled load of fire wood could have been the difference between life and death. I don't expect you to understand this if you haven't lived that life for yourself, but my point is this, Alaskan's take care of each other the best we can. To wipe away 41 percent of an institution's budget in one year and then target the disabled and elderly with other cuts is entirely "Not Alaskan" to do. If that's how we are going to treat some of our most vulnerable friends and family, then I'm ashamed to be an Alaskan. Rough math says we have 65 billion in in our treasury. To act like a 6 hundred million dollar short fall is the end of times doesn't add up. We haven't even done any economic impact studies. Hello! This looks like "knee jerk reaction." It's unhealthy, bad politics! So, as a voter I urge you to take another look. This is partisan politics at its worst. OUTSIDE MONEY in our wonderful state. Thanks for hearing me. Please take another look at overriding the vetoes, because if this is the best we can do, I'm ashamed to call myself an Alaskan.

Zacarey Nelson  
907-799-8702

**From:** Joe Maurer <tritonalaska@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:56 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Concerns for AMHS cuts and ADFG

My name is Joe Maurer and I am a business owner, boat owner, commercial fisherman and resident of Cordova, Alaska. I voted for Gov Dunleavy, not for the PFD hand out but to get our budget in check. However, there are certain services and programs that should Not be on the chopping block. The ferry system needs restructuring but not cut out. ADF&G programs such as the Otolith sampling programs must stay in tact for our salmon runs and fisheries. I would like to testify on the record in support of HB 2001 to reinstate the budget items vetoed by Governor Dunleavy and provide for a "surplus PFD". I believe a \$3000 PFD is not sustainable and would cause irreversible damage to our state by way of the devastating cuts proposed.

Joe Maurer  
Cordova, Alaska  
[907 398-5188](tel:9073985188)  
Joe Maurer  
(907) 398-5188  
Triton Alaska, Inc.  
F/V Triton - R.S.W. Salmon Tender  
F/V Alpha Centauri - Salmon Seiner

**From:** Thea Agnew Bemben <[thea@agnewbeck.com](mailto:thea@agnewbeck.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:56 AM  
**To:** House Finance <[House.Finance@akleg.gov](mailto:House.Finance@akleg.gov)>  
**Subject:** I support HB 2001!  
**Importance:** High

Dear Representatives,

I support HB 2001 that will reverse the cuts imposed by the Governor's vetoes and still provide a generous PFD for Alaskans. I've received every PFD since we started getting them and I know sometimes they have been \$300 and sometimes \$1300. That's how it has always been. Also, it's always been understood that at some point we would need to start using some of the Permanent Fund to pay for state services, when oil revenues declined. That day has arrived, so we must use some of our wealth for that purpose. To me, asking if I want \$3,000 per person in my household is like me asking my daughter if she wants ice cream or oatmeal for breakfast. Of course, she would say ice cream! But, is that best for her long-term health? Of course, not. The job of the legislature is to moderate our impulses and desires to make wise decisions for the long-term health of our state. As a life-long resident, as a business owner, as someone who is very invested in Alaska, the best long-term choice right now is a sustainable state budget that continues to support communities, schools, the university, health care, transportation, housing, and jobs and businesses in our economy. It is not a massive payout to all Alaskans. **No business owner, no shareholder, would every say it was a good decision to give out huge bonuses when you are experiencing years of declining revenue. That would never happen in the business world. Why would we do it to our state?**

Alaska is a wonderful place and I support this bill that will protect our current and future economy and way of life here. We have wealth, we just need to decide how to use it. I, for one, want to invest it in a great future for our state.

Thank you,

Thea

**Thea Agnew Bemben**  
Managing Principal  
907.222.5424 office  
[www.agnewbeck.com](http://www.agnewbeck.com)  
Engage, Plan, Implement. **Agnew::Beck**

**From:** Allen Bondurant <acbondurant@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:56 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Put Oil Tax Credit reductions on the table

The conversation so far is between those who believe that the ~~"\$6700"~~ ~~"\$3000"~~ "\$1600" (?) pfd is their unalienable right, and those that believe that we should use the PFD money to fund our current government, and to override the vetoes. I say, why must we choose? As so well stated in Representative Zack Fields' ADN Opinion piece, we have another option.

The PFD reduction is a regressive tax on our poor and rural residents, most hurting those living closest to the edge. I think many of you know how that can feel - in our state, even those of us who on paper make a decent living can feel that we are a paycheck or two from catastrophe. The PFD reduction certainly feels that way to many.

The same can be said for the reduction in services and funding for programs within our state. Cuts to medicaid, the ferry system, senior benefits, rural energy, or UA scholarships have this same effect. Those most vulnerable feel it the hardest.

I think the common sense approach, and hopefully somewhere we can all find common ground, is additional revenue sources. I was having a hard time picking which to write about: a sales tax, an income tax, a flat tax - these all may be viable options, but any would be unpopular. Representative Fields' piece put it in perspective for me. Restructuring the Oil tax credits to work in our favor could easily balance our budget, and would be on the back of the most profitable corporations in history, rather than individual Alaskans who are barely scraping by. The corporate welfare has gone too far, and the entanglement of oil company interests in our government structure is a stain on our democratic process. I was feeling very negative about the state that is my home before these realizations, but I think if we can come together and move forward by compromise rather than authoritarian executive decisions, the Alaska we all know and love will emerge brighter.

Thank you,  
Allen Bondurant  
Fairbanks, Alaska

**From:** Karen Stomberg <karstomberg@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:56 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Cc:** Rep. Grier Hopkins <Rep.Grier.Hopkins@akleg.gov>; Sen. John Coghill <Sen.John.Coghill@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** HB 2001

Thank you for your time and service to Alaska at this critical time in our history.

Governor Dunleavy's budget devastates my family's life. My 27 year-old daughter and her husband both work hard at their jobs, barely making ends meet to pay for the 1000 square foot 1962-built house they were able to purchase. They made a commitment to stay in Alaska. They were both born here. They rely on Medicaid to help them with the cost of healthcare. One works for a arts-related small business that cannot afford to insure employees, but adds much to the local economy, the other works for a big business who offers minimal health insurance. They will not be able to afford



higher property taxes if more burden falls there to keep the lights on in the city. They are ready to start a family. Will this be a good place to do that?

UAF has been central to all of our lives. We have all studied there and benefitted from programs there. I have taught and worked there, have two degrees earned while teaching for FNSBSD. The Alaska State Council on the Arts has supported me in my teaching and art careers and, through their grant funding, supports all of the arts in Fairbanks that are integral to our lives. Public TV and broadcasting has provided balanced reporting and rich programming to us.

There is already an exodus of people leaving Alaska. I don't want my family to have to leave because our state government no longer chooses to support Alaska's best interests.

Governor Dunleavy's vision for the future is bleak.

Please do not allow his budget to hold.

Karen Stomberg  
4076 Birch Lane  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709  
(907) 590-2605  
[karstomberg@gmail.com](mailto:karstomberg@gmail.com)

**From:** Holly Marban <holly.marban@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 11:57 AM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** In Favor of House Bill 2001

Hello,

I support House Bill 2001.

Please **reverse the vetoes** that were passed last week. Alaskans need funding for education, health and social services arts, and public radio. Please do the right thing and help us save our state.

Thank you for your time.

Best regards,  
Holly Marban

**From:** Tribal Administrator <nve89t@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:02 PM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** House Bill 2001

Dear Senator or Representative,

I write to convey my support House Bill 2001. My position is rooted in the Legislature's constitutional responsibilities to Alaskans.

Article VII of Alaska's constitution obligates the Legislature to provide for the public education (including a state university system), public health, and public welfare of Alaskans. Upholding these responsibilities should be the Legislature's sole concern. Prolonged focus on the location of the second special session or the amount of the Permanent Fund dividend, as various members continue to do, absolves individual lawmakers of their Article VII constitutional responsibilities to Alaskans.

For this reason, I urge the Legislature to reinstate the operating budget it passed on June 10 through HB 2001.

Sincerely,

Stella Alexie

Tribal Administrator  
Native Village of Eek  
PO Box 89  
Eek, Alaska 99578  
Ph. (907) 536-5128'  
FAx (907) 536-5711

From: JimC <jimc@mosquionet.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:03 PM  
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
Subject: Budget and PFD

Members of the house finance committee:

I would be testifying in front of you today in Fairbanks, except for the fact that I am traveling.

1. Alaska cannot afford a full PFD at the the expense of services to the state's most vulnerable and needy citizens: children, vulnerable adults, seniors, and those who are sick, those who are mentally ill, AND at the expense of ongoing PFD dividends.

2. Please do your best to restore the majority of the governor's draconian vetoes.

I encourage you to avoid approving any dividend, until agreement can be made on restoring most of the governors veto's, particularly funding for the University, pre-K – 12 education, Medicaid funding, limited income seniors, behavioral health funding, funding for the VPSO's, The Alaska Council for the arts, and public broadcasting.

Royalty oil money has been spent to fund state government from the beginning of royalty payments, and spending from the PFD earnings to support state government is consistent with that practice and the original intention for the permanent fund.

Thank you for tackling this difficult work, I encourage you to be BRAVE and BOLD and COURAGEOUS.

Thanks  
Jim Cheydleur  
POB 81177  
Fairbanks, AK 99708

**From:** Jodee Deutsch <jodeelynn\_02@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:04 PM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Houes Bill 2001

Dear House Finance Committee,

My name is Jodee Trivette, I live at 3193 Craft Rd in Fairbanks. I DO NOT support a PFD of \$3000. I DO support a reduction or elimination of the PFD in favor of overriding all of Governor Dunleavy's resent budget vetoes, especially the cuts to the UA system. I support the budget approved by the legislature earlier this year.

Thank you for your time,  
Jodee

**From:** jessica thomas <jessicathomas1987@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:07 PM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Testimony for the Record on HB 2001

My name is \_\_\_jessica thomas\_\_\_ and I am a resident of Anchorage, Alaska. I would like to testify on the record in support of HB 2001 to reinstate the budget items vetoed by Governor Dunleavy and provide for a "surplus PFD". I believe a \$3000 PFD is not sustainable and would cause irreversible damage to our state by way of the devastating cuts proposed

**From:** Andrea Leigh <andrea.alaska@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:08 PM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>; Sen. Jesse Kiehl <Sen.Jesse.Kiehl@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** I support HB 2001

In support of HB 2001

Dear House Finance Committee,

My name is Andrea Dewees. I am a lifelong Alaskan, I was born in 1977 and raised between Anchorage and Soldotna. I also spent lots of time in Homer with my uncle's family. I am a graduate of UAA's teacher accreditation program and, through that program, was fortunate to spend time on the Y-K Delta, with the Lower Yukon Kuskokwim School District. I have resided in Juneau since 2012 and am a professor at UAS. I have received nearly every PFD but I do not think I am entitled to one, and I do not support a PFD in place of social services. The Governor's offer of a \$3000 dividend is fiscally irresponsible. I support oil tax reform and an income tax to increase revenue for our State to provide these social services.

I support HB 2001. I support the legislature's difficult, collaborative teamwork in crafting their budget. I support efforts towards comprehensive fiscal reform that include a revision (repeal) of the oil tax credit and an income tax. I am heartbroken by our governor's callous disregard for those who live in rural Alaska, for elders, for pre-schoolers, for university scholarship recipients,

for those suffering from mental illness, for those who have no home...and the list goes on. The governor's budget is heartless, soulless, and violates his campaign promises. In the words of Reverend Schultz, **"If you don't want the label of being 'un-Christian' you have to start those cuts at the top with the people who are wealthy and powerful and comfortable."** Governor Dunleavy professes to be a Christian, so in addition to all of the above he is a religious hypocrite.

Dr. Gunnar Knapp and other experts have long issued sound economical advice and financial education for our state. I will not repeat their arguments in support of a responsible budget. I will add two things: Governor Dunleavy hired Ms. Arduin, a person from outside Alaska without advanced degrees and with an abysmal track record of destroying economies, to assist him. He is solely responsible for the content of his budget, and his choice in advisor was irresponsible and wasted state resources. He continues to waste state resources. If he had worked with others and listened to experts, he could have avoided this special session. **I am so proud of the House Majority and the senators who worked on the budget and then came to Juneau to vote for an override of the vetoes. Thank you.**

What most concerns me at this juncture is that Governor Dunleavy's budget vetoes did not include the other branch of government, the legislature. His lack of cooperation during the legislative session is reprehensible in itself, and unfitting behavior for a governor, but his subsequent actions and his veto of Supreme Court funding are unconstitutional and undemocratic. Governor Dunleavy is attempting to concentrate power in the Governor's office by withdrawing support from the Court system and promoting and abetting stalemates in the legislature. He is purposely wasting time and provoking an economic crisis in this state. He is jeopardizing federal funds and, just today, University of Alaska bonds were downgraded 3 points. I am concerned about consequences to our credit rating.

Governor Dunleavy's actions deserve the utmost censure by the legislature. His behavior is that of a political terrorist. I am committed to upholding our democracy and a budget that cares for Alaskans.

I support HB 2001. I support a recall of Governor Dunleavy. Please let me know what else I can do to help end this devastating political crisis. I personally have students whose scholarships were yanked, I know elders who lost their assistance, and I have so much compassion for those whose livelihoods, education and daily lives are threatened. I am also concerned for my own livelihood, and my son's education, but these are secondary to my concerns for our democracy and for those less fortunate than I.

Thank you for all you do to support HB 2001 and to oppose Governor Dunleavy's hostile actions towards Alaskans and his assault on our democracy. There is still time to do the right thing.

Andrea Dewees  
2822 Marsha Ave.

Juneau, Alaska  
99801

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**From:** Bob Ritchie <bobritchieak@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:09 PM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Cc:** Bobbie Ritchie <bobbie@abrinc.com>; Bob Ritchie <Britchie@abrinc.com>  
**Subject:** I support overriding the Governor's budget and/or ameliorating damage it could do.

17 July 2019

To: House Finance Committee  
Re: Support for Original Bi-Partisan Budget Proposal/Rescinding the Governor's Veto of that Budget  
From: Bob Ritchie, 47 year resident of Fairbanks, UAF Graduate (1976), Small Business Owner

Dear legislators:

Although I would like to see a more efficient state government, I do not approve of the Governor's actions to veto a bi-partisan budget proposal, representing a majority of the Alaskan population, while continuing to promise to offer the maximum PFD amount, and slashing resources needed by our elders, students, and those less fortunate. I hope you can restore the faith of most Alaskans by:

- 1) protecting the University from the Governor's severe budget cuts, which will undoubtedly upset educational, research and economic cornerstones of the Fairbanks community;
- 2) reducing this year's PFD amount to help balance budget, while considering new methods to determine a sustainable PFD target for coming years;
- 3) recovering funding for programs already severely impacted (e.g., cancellation of Performance Scholarships for Alaskan students); and
- 4) promoting the reinstatement of an income tax, especially if the PFD is maximized for short term gain.

I request these from the perspective of a 47 year resident of Alaska, small business owner, father and grandfather, graduate of the University of Alaska Fairbanks, volunteer for some of the non-profits damaged by these cuts, and one who would like to see Alaska continue to offer opportunity to its future generations. As the co-founder of a small business in Alaska (ABR, Inc., formerly Alaska Biological Research) I will focus on one of the budget cuts that could substantially alter the potential for small businesses like mine to sustain their businesses in the state: University cuts.

My company, ABR, Inc., has traditionally depended on personnel trained at the University of Alaska. Founded by two UAF graduates in 1976, the Institute of Social and Economic Research later (2004) described ABR as a commercial 'spinoff or an entrepreneurial group applying directly what we had learned at the University to the Alaskan business community'. Although the diverse skills we need in Wildlife and Fishery Sciences, Botany, Statistics, GIS and Database services, and Environmental Impact Analyses, can be provided by university programs outside of Alaska, the Arctic and subarctic themes in research at the University of Alaska are incredibly powerful assets. Of 38 employees in our Fairbanks and Anchorage offices, 25 (66%) received Bachelor or Post Graduate degrees from the University of Alaska. Opportunities for us to hire new Arctic-trained employees will be fewer if the University's budget is drastically reduced in 2019.

Our clients include the University of Alaska directly or more often as partners on proposals with federal, state and private institutions including NASA and the Department of Defense. Our role as a subcontractor will be

reduced if the University isn't a strong prime with these institutions. Fewer projects in an economy once based on oil dollars, will mean fewer employees, and fewer revenues to sustain a business.

Since most of our current employees live in the Fairbanks and Anchorage communities, most of their payroll dollars stay in those communities and the state. Our employees buy homes and land and vehicles and sporting equipment from businesses in Alaska; their salaries go into restaurants, summer camps, and kids' braces. They've done that for our 42 years of being in business. Outside hires will spend their salaries in their home states. In the past 10 years a substantial portion of payroll exceeding 35 million dollars has remained in Alaska! Our business payroll will undoubtedly be reduced by the drastic cuts in the University's budget; fewer local employees, fewer revenues, and less payroll, will probably accompany the governor's cuts to the University budget.

Finally, these cuts to the University and their probable impacts on our own business extend well beyond our small offices in Fairbanks and Anchorage. Our company has prided itself on a strong social commitment by donating time and money to numerous charities who are also preparing for these budget cuts. When the resources of these non-profit groups are restricted more and the philanthropic organizations like ABR are not available to help lift them up, what will become of these organizations and the people they serve? Small businesses are more than profit centers for a few, they are a part of a larger and even more diverse community.

I hope you find the strength to override or ameliorate the Governor's severe budget cuts and in the coming years find the appropriate mix of austerity, re-establishment of income taxes, recovering some of the tax breaks given to industry, and wise use of our Permanent Fund.

Bob Ritchie

Curriculum vitae: 47 year resident; Graduate of the University of Alaska MSc, 1976; co-founder of ABR, Inc.(42 years in business); Research Scientist and Consultant for over 44 years (retired in 2018); father of 3, including two with studies at the University of Alaska; grandfather of 2 Alaskan granddaughters, home and property owner, Big Brother and Big Sister sponsor, Volunteer/donor for local non-profits (including SOAP, Street Outreach and Advisory Program, Stone Soup Kitchen, Fairbanks Counseling and Adoption (until closure), Interior Alaska Land Trust, Calypso Farm and Ecology Center (Board Member for 2 years), Habitat for Humanity, Fairbanks Rescue Mission, ACCESS Alaska, Alaska Songbird Institute (formerly Alaska Bird Observatory, Board member for 15 years); The Nature Conservancy (Board Member for 10 years, Anchorage); Occasional speaker at UAF and local grammar and high schools; previous volunteer coach for little league baseball and basketball teams in Fairbanks; recipient of State, Non-profit, and University Awards including: Peter Isleib Award for 'lifetime achievement in bird conservation and research' (2016); UAF Alumni Achievement Award in Business Excellence (2012), 26th Alaska State Legislature Commendation for 'Sustainable Business Practices' (2009); Alaska Department of Natural Resources Northern Region Land Manager's Award for Conservation and Land Stewardship (2005); ADEC Commissioner's Pollution Prevention Award 'for supporting energy conservation (2002).

Bob Ritchie: 2671 Black Sheep Lane, Fairbanks, AK, 99709; 907-479-2694, 415-706-5840;

[bobritchieak@gmail.com](mailto:bobritchieak@gmail.com)

**From:** Allen Jessup Sr <hammer\_aj1963@yahoo.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:10 PM

**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>

**Subject:** Pfd, Governor vetoes

Please return the pfd to its original setup, that it is not part of the operating budget for the state. This was created for the people of the State of Alaska! Please return it to its original wording! Thank you!

Please override all of the Governor's vetoes, these vetoes are going overboard to cripple the State of Alaska, why isn't the issue of reworking the oil tax credits the oil companies receive??

If you all work together n work on compromising, we wouldnt be in this current situation we are in. This is a public embarrassment to see elected officials do business like this! 🙄. You are elected by the people, you have a fiduciary responsibility to your constituents! Do your job, work together!!!!

**From:** Kristin Carpenter <kristin@copperriver.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:11 PM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Testimony for the Record on HB 2001

Hello House Finance Committee members,

As a resident of Cordova, Alaska, I am writing to urge action in support of HB 2001.

I would like to testify on the record in support of HB 2001 to reinstate the budget items vetoed by Governor Dunleavy and provide for a "surplus PFD".

Every resident of this state will lose far more than \$3,000 if the Governor's vetoes are sustained.

My concerns stem from what I see as a resident of this State and its needs for resource management, healthcare, transportation, and basic support of ALL of our communities, rural and urban, and as a nonprofit manager with five employees. We depend on a stable economy to fulfill our mission of ensuring that the Copper River has a vibrant, healthy future to support all fishery user groups.

Please take action to support a rational state budget, and let your colleagues know that rural Alaska is fearful of a devastating future under the Governor's proposed vetoes.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kristin Carpenter

**Kristin S. Carpenter** | Executive Director  
**Copper River Watershed Project**  
**phone** (907)424-3334 | **fax** (907)424-4318  
**web** [www.copperriver.org](http://www.copperriver.org)  
**office** P.O. Box 1560, Cordova, AK 99574

**From:** Theresa Kay <theresa.ae@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:15 PM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Cc:** Rep. Grier Hopkins <Rep.Grier.Hopkins@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** reject the governor's vetoes and restore the coalition budget

Hello House Finance committee,

The governor's vetoes will kill Alaska. I want more for this state than to exist as a source of extraction for Outside, international corporations. I want to live here and thrive here and encourage my children to live and thrive here. That can't happen if these vetoes are allowed to destroy essential funding for the state programs that are needed to make Alaska a home.

Please reject the governor's vetoes and restore the coalition budget. I don't care about the PFD or the amount of the PFD. It means nothing to me if my children cannot live in Alaska and grow and prosper and thrive. They can't do that without fully funded government and without their friends and neighbors, who will be leaving in droves if these ridiculous cuts are allowed to move forward.

I love Alaska. Show that you do, too, by rejecting the governor's vetoes.

Theresa Kay  
398 Nordstrasse  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

From: Christine Myers <akhikr@gci.net>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:15 PM  
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
Subject: PFD

Dear Legislators,  
PLEASE do what is right for our great state. Do not destroy the good things we have built. Do not drop us back into an even deeper recession. It makes NO SENSE to hand out PFD checks of \$3000 while allowing the governor's massive cuts to take effect. Do the logical, practical, sensible and wise thing. Reduce the amount of the PFD, restore the funding and consider a state income tax.

Chris Myers  
13300 Badger Ln  
Anchorage has

**From:** Tracie Curry <traciecurry@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:16 PM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Testimony for PFD and Vetoes

I know there's a lot of like-minded people that are submitting testimony today regarding the budget and PFD amounts, so I'll keep my comments short. I came to Alaska to do my PhD at UAF. I love Alaska so much that I want to stay. I want to see Alaska prosper and I can't see how that's possible without a thriving University. I'm willing to pay income tax. I don't want a full PFD if it takes crippling our State to get it.

**From:** Lili Misel <lmisel@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:18 PM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Cc:** Sen. John Coghill <Sen.John.Coghill@akleg.gov>; Rep. Grier Hopkins <Rep.Grier.Hopkins@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** HB 2001 testimony for meeting this afternoon in Fairbanks



Dear House Finance Committee members,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on HB 2001. My name is Lili Misel and I live in Fairbanks. My representatives are John Coghill and Grier Hopkins. I am sorry I cannot be there in person to testify.

I want to encourage you to work on behalf of the economic health of the state of Alaska.

The cuts going forward to the University of Alaska will directly affect me and my family as i work for the University of Alaska Fairbanks and I expect there will be huge layoffs from our campus. With these severe budget cuts to UAF, I sincerely worry for the economic health of Fairbanks from the upcoming loss of jobs. I grew up in Fairbanks in the 1980s, during the last economic recession, and it still resonates with me. Houses freezing, banks going under, companies calling to demand payment so they could make their own payrolls, many abandoned buildings and broken futures. It's not a scenario that any of us want to return to.

I strongly encourage you to work with your colleagues to find a path forward and reduce the drastic budget cuts that have been implemented by the governor. I do not believe they are in the best interest of Alaskans or the future of Alaska. The ideological drive to cut the state budget so drastically is short sighted and I am truly confused as to why such drastic cuts to be beneficial to your constituents or the future of the state.

Please implement an income tax to capture funds from Outside residents coming here to work in the summer, working on the slope, or fishing industry and taking their money out of Alaska. It will also be progressive, requiring people who make more money to pay more, instead of taking the same amount (the PFD) from the poor as from the wealthy. And, reinstate the funds to the university and all the other cuts by Dunleavy. Do not support cutting the university system, senior benefits, or other social support programs in such a draconian way.

Thank you for your time and work on this important issue.

Lili Misel  
Fairbanks

**From:** ed <edg@mtaonline.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:20 PM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Finance committee testimony

I am against HB2001.

Alaska must stop spending money we don't have. State funding for social services is completely out of control. UAA is grossly mismanaged and a wake up call to them of a 17% (or more) cut in their funding is overdue.

Seniors would benefit from a full PFD rather than a small monthly stipend.

The Permanent Fund Dividend belongs to the people. There is no compromise in this regard.

Regards,  
Ed Grube

**From:** Jerry McBeath <gamcbeath@alaska.edu>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:21 PM  
**To:** House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** testimony on PFDs and other budget issues

Dear members of the house finance committee:

My wife and I believe that the permanent fund dividend is an appropriation of the legislature, and that it is the job of the legislature to ascertain whether it should be provided eligible residents at all, and if so, in what amount. It is not a "right" in the constitutional sense, nor should it be considered an entitlement.

PFDs are a small part of my retirement income and a small part of my wife's revenue stream (she is still employed at UAF). Our PFDs are taxed and the value we receive from them is quite small. We are of the opinion that the legislature should means-test the PFDs, and people at our level of financial security should not receive them. We also believe that there are essential responsibilities of the state: basic life/safety protection, providing for K-12 education (beyond what taxpayers at the local level are able to provide), welfare of all residents (meaning basic health and subsistence support for those unable to provide for themselves), and higher education for those who seek it, available within the state. These basic needs are constitutionally mentioned, protected and ought to take precedence over issuance of PFDs to all eligible residents.

Earlier I submitted to all members of the house and senate my views on how fiscal issues might be resolved. I did hear from several members of the legislature, and appreciate the responses I received.

Good luck to you in these times of significant changes proposed by the administration of Governor Dunleavy. Best wishes, Jerry McBeath (emeritus professor of political science, UAF).