

House Finance Committee
Public Testimony

HB 2001

Emails received to

HouseFinance@akleg.gov

July 17, 2019

Part 2

House Finance Bill # HB2001

Appropriations from Earnings Reserve Account to provide pymt of PFD & funding of state government, reducing the PFD to \$929.00

My name is Lilahlee Borland of Palmer AK & I am representing myself. I wish to testify before the House Finance Committee about HB2001. As a resident of this great state that was born and raised here, I feel it is my civic duty to provide prospective on this bill proposal and the lack of oversight from and on elected and appointed officials concerning the future of this State and its residents. I applaud our governor for calling a special session in Wasilla, while I am disgusted by those elected officials who can only seem to come to an agreement on fighting him on wanting to allow more residents to be able to have access to law making process in Wasilla, because most households don't have the disposable income to fly to Juneau to address the legislative body which seems to listen to special interest groups over their constituents. Rather than fixing these issues you have decided that your time and our money is better spent on suing to get your way, how dare you to have to face more of your constituency whom are your employers. I am deeply appalled by the lack of foresight and disregard for the Alaska Constitution and the effects of decisions made in Juneau on the resident of Alaska, example SB91. When politician believe they are better suited in their ability to spend money more effectively than their constituents it is offensive. Yes, there are people who will spend the PFD on things they want and not need, However I like many others used my PFD to pay bills up ahead or to stock up household necessity to be able to make our monthly household income go further. Try a statewide sales tax with a special cap in rural areas that are not on the road system. I am deeply opposed to the PFD being used to fund state government and entitlement programs for an extensive list of reasons.

First there are numerous projects around the state that lack oversight and accountability for failure to complete projects and ensure that the awarded contracts are not being abused in a way to draw out the length of the project, example the Port of Anchorage. Secondly Alaska ranks 3rd in the nation in funding per student and yet we are ranked 47th in the nation for performance. When it comes to funding schools why not award 1 district statewide with extra money based on their performance on mandatory statewide testing of the children's proficiency as an incentive to get people in that district (home & school) to get involved. Thirdly I know due to firsthand experiences in my life the abuse of the Health and Welfare system. For example, when I was 18, I met a woman who moved her family to Alaska because of learning of how much we pay in benefits to people on public assistance and to also get the PFD for herself and her 6 children. Another example is the fact that another state paid for a one-way ticket to send someone who was draining their public assistance coffers up here to gain assistance because we offer more in funding and services. Continually expanding entitlement programs will just ensure that in just a few years if your way of dealing with the budget shortfalls is allowed then we will right back at square minus one. Fourthly people can receive a dividend even though they haven't been in the state a full two years in the fact that if they land in the state before midnight on 12/31 of that given year, they will qualify for the PFD the year after. Unlike when you arrive in the middle of year you must wait the full 730 days. I wouldn't mind my PFD going to putting people to work in instances where it strengthens our state in ways of infrastructure such as ports, airports, the road system, a backup way for commuters to be able to get from the Mat-Su Valley into ANC, & a backup electric tether that connects the state's power supply from down on the Kenai Peninsula to the North Slope. During the November earthquake our infrastructure fared well, however why are we not using the PFD money taken from the Alaskan people to plan for the needs of the

current residents who want to work and are leaving due to lack of work and preparing for possible future disasters. Part of being an Alaskan is making tough decisions and doing more with less, that at least has always been part of my pride in being born and raised here because you must have a spirit of strength and endurance; along with a will to meet all challenges that await you in Alaska.

Thank You,

Lilahlee Borland

1210 W Granville St.

Palmer AK, 99645



CENTRAL COUNCIL
Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
Office of the President • Edward K. Thomas Building
9097 Glacier Highway • Juneau, Alaska 99801

July 17, 2019

The Honorable Representative Foster
The Honorable Representative Wilson
House Finance Committee
120 4th Street
Juneau, AK 99801

Members of the House Finance Committee:

The Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Tlingit & Haida) is writing to urge you to make decisions regarding the Permanent Fund Dividend with our children, families, and Elders in mind. We have approximately 26,000 enrolled tribal citizens living in the State of Alaska – not just in Southeast, but across the entire state.

We witnessed the hard work that legislators did across party lines this session to put forward a balanced and responsible budget to the Governor. We ask that you keep that budget and continued cooperation as the goal. The future of our state depends on it.

We are at a critical point in our state. While we understand the importance of the PFD and how our families rely on them, we also see the importance of balancing the budget in a way that supports our senior citizens, our education system, public safety programs, and the homeless population. We ask you to help restore funding to the Power Cost Equalization (PCE) program.

We urge you to make decisions that are best for Alaska, not just today, but for generations to come. Gunalchéesh/ Háw'aa, thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions or need more information, please feel free to contact me at: rpeterson@ccthita-nsn.gov or 800.344.1432

Sincerely,

Richard J. Peterson,
President

From: Anne Kettle <anne.s.kettle@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:29 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Testimony

To the house finance committee,

Thank you for taking the time to hear from Alaskans.

Alaska requires that communities look out for and care for one another. Upon moving to Fairbanks, I remember being instructed that if I ever saw a car pulled over in the winter I had to stop. The climate demands we all look out for our neighbors. Recent budgeting/political decisions in our state do NOT reflect this sense of community and care for our neighbor. I fear deeply these vetoed budget items will negatively impact the most vulnerable citizens in our state, as well as impede the future for my young children who are not yet school age.

I supported the initial budget set forth by the legislature, and support overriding Governor Dunleavy's vetos.

I support reducing the PFD amount to restore critical services in our state, and services that build Alaska's future.

I support eliminating the PFD this year if needed to ensure seniors living on fixed incomes can eat, to allow rural communities access to the internet, to provide space for the homeless to land when life there is no other option, and I certainly believe health care should be available to Alaskans.

I support looking at reducing oil-tax credits for the large oil companies operating in our state. If our most vulnerable citizens are taking large hits due to lack of funding, these oil companies should also shoulder some of the pain.

I support reinstating the Alaska State Council for the Arts.

I support fair taxes, such as sales tax, income tax or flat tax. A fair system of taxation will ensure that rural and less-affluent Alaskans do not bear the brunt of cuts, and may allow us to gain some revenue from the many tourists that visit our state each year.

Do not balance the budget on the backs of our elders, poor and children- my neighbors.

Please, tax me.

Have courage and stand strong for Alaska.

Anne Kettle
UAF alumni 2018 (M.Ed.)

Alaskan Educator since 2007 (Anchorage and Fairbanks)

From: Alan Batten <alanbatten@acsalaska.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:29 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Cc: Sen. John Coghill <Sen.John.Coghill@akleg.gov>; Sen. Click Bishop <Sen.Click.Bishop@akleg.gov>; Sen. Scott Kawasaki <Sen.Scott.Kawasaki@akleg.gov>; Rep. Grier Hopkins <Rep.Grier.Hopkins@akleg.gov>; Rep. Steve Thompson <Rep.Steve.Thompson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Tammie Wilson <Rep.Tammie.Wilson@akleg.gov>; Rep. David Talerico

<Rep.David.Talerico@akleg.gov>

Subject: HB 2001

Dear House Finance Committee,

I am in favor of a bill re-creating the budget bill that the Legislature spent 3 months painstakingly working up. Possibly the Governor will have second thoughts and not veto it. The size of the pfd is not important to me. What good is a \$3,000 pfd if you lose your job, or if we lose all the community safety nets for various unforeseen circumstances that can befall people.

I am very disappointed in the Governor's blanket vetoes that ignore the serious and careful work that the Legislature has done. The Legislature went through the budget, item by item and agency by agency, making painful compromises to try to make cuts that minimize harm and allow for important state functions to continue. The Governor's vetoes are ill-considered, counterproductive, economically disastrous, and in many cases just plain mean. The list of important state functions sabotaged by the vetoes is too long to list here. Certainly the disastrous cuts to the University of Alaska (after years of previous cuts) looms large, particularly to the Interior. Reneging on the State's commitment to debt servicing I also find particularly galling. The administration is trying to take credit for saving money while in fact merely shifting responsibility to local communities. Also the failure to fund the ferry system, the Ocean Rangers, the Council on Arts, and on and on.

I can't help but once again emphasize the need for eliminating, or at least re-evaluating, tax credits to the oil companies, and the need for a modest income tax to give us a healthy financial foundation. With those in place we wouldn't have to pit the pfd and essential state services off against each other. How can people with the lowest taxes of any state in the nation complain about a progressive income tax, a significant portion of which will be paid by seasonal non-residents.

Thank you very much,
Alan Batten
946 Smallwood Trail
Fairbanks, 99712

From: Brianna Reagan <hello@briannareaganart.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:30 PM

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

Cc: Sen. Scott Kawasaki <Sen.Scott.Kawasaki@akleg.gov>; Rep. Steve Thompson <Rep.Steve.Thompson@akleg.gov>;

Rep. Grier Hopkins <Rep.Grier.Hopkins@akleg.gov>; Rep. Bart LeBon <Rep.Bart.Lebon@akleg.gov>

Subject: Public Testimony

I would like to testify to restore funding to the Alaska State Counsel on the Arts. I am a local Alaskan artist, owning a small business since 2011, and am Vice President of the Fairbanks Arts Association. Without the ASCA, all of Alaska will suffer. A few examples:

We'll see a negative impact on activities that stimulate business for the hospitality, transportation and retail sectors. Arts attendees in Fairbanks alone spend \$9.3 million on other services.

Also lost is the leveraging power of the state arts agency. Without a state commitment to ASCA, the agency will not be eligible to secure a share of National Endowment for the Arts funds. Those dollars will be allocated elsewhere, leaving Alaskan taxpayers to foot the bill for the arts in other states.

For every \$1 that ASCA awarded in 2018, grantees secured an additional \$27 in local match, private contributions and earned income.

Keeping the ASCA is good business sense.

Thank you for your time.

Brianna Reagan

From: Stephanie Rhoades <rhodo58@yahoo.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:31 PM

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

Subject: HB 2001

I am writing to support passage of HB 2001. The Governor's vetoes have already begun to erode the quality of life (the State Arts Council has closed, we are now the only state not to have one) and economy of the state. These cuts fall especially harshly on students, children, the poor, the elderly, the medically needy and other vulnerable populations. I am also in favor of taxation and little or no dividend this year. I would prefer to see PFD distributions instead placed into the corpus of the Permanent Fund. In addition, the legislature ultimately should reduce tax credits to oil companies. We have subsidized them for years to the detriment of all Alaskans.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Rhoades

1338 F Street

Anchorage, AK 99501

From: Jesse Cress <jscress@yahoo.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:33 PM

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

Subject: HB 2001 Testimony

Hello, my name is Jesse Cress from Anchor Point. I want to strongly voice my opposition to HB 2001. Do not push this forward! Finish your jobs! Uphold the governors vetos! Pay the full statutory PFD!

Thank you,

Jesse Cress

34855 North Fork Road

Anchor Point

From: Kari Gardey <kari@ak.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:35 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB 2001

Dear Finance Committee,

I am writing to ask you to please prioritize funding education. The governor's vetoes have left me heartbroken over the state I love. My own children received a fabulous education in the Anchorage School District and it is devastating that future kids won't have the same quality of teachers, resources, and over crowded classrooms. I'm also against cutting the University of Alaska so drastically.

I would like my kids to stay in Alaska and raise their families here. With the horrendous and devastating cuts from the Governor on a budget that was already reduced by the legislature, I don't know why they would or how they can. They will need jobs and good schools to educate their children. The way we are going we won't have either of those.

Thank you for your time,
Kari Gardey
7240 Stamps Cir
Anchorage, AK 99507

From: william murdock <murdockwilliamdds@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:37 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: UA and other cuts

Restore UA budget. And most of the rest of his budget. Cut our PFD. Some things are complete obvious no brainers. This is one of them. Is the governor a moron, or is he smoking some new hallucinogen? What else could explain such a wrongminded awful decision? Bill Murdock

From: Candace O'Connor <oconnorcs.ak@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:38 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Alaska finances

Please do not balance the budget on the backs of those who can least afford it.

Please do not cut support for our university. UAF generates much more in funds incoming to Alaska than it absorbs in state funding; cutting UA is stupid.

Cutting the PFD is indeed regressive. Please consider an income tax, under which those who can best afford it (and out-of-staters) will help to bear the burden. I know that will not close the gap. What about a seasonal sales tax? An increase in the gas tax seems a no-brainer.

Thank you for your service.

From: Kate Yenik <kateyenik@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:39 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB2001

Greetings,

Unfortunately, the budget as presented by the Governor puts many essential services (notably early childhood), investments, economic development projects, and the entire University of Alaska system at risk.

I am a mother whose 13 month old daughter will soon attend day care and hopefully enroll in an early learning program. We are involved with Best Beginnings through the Imagination Library and enjoy the services provided by Best Beginnings, especially as a new mother. I work for a non-profit who serves children and adults with disabilities as well as seniors. The very organizations, programs and services that are the most at risk are those that have shaped and sustained my life in Alaska.

I experience a mental illness and have been lucky to have a solid support system from friends and family, and a stable income and insurance to be able to afford mental health care. I am a board member of NAMI Anchorage, National Alliance on Mental Illness, and I have seen first hand those that do not have the fortune to have a good support system. Behavioral health care in our state is in dire need of funding, and unfortunately, the Governor decided to cut behavioral health treatment and recovery grants which allow for mental health treatment for seriously mentally ill adults, severely emotionally disturbed children and substance abuse treatment for adults and adolescents. Given the adverse statistic the state currently holds for behavioral health and substance abuse, this should be a high priority budget item. For the health of our state, our cities, and our people, this line item should be fully restored.

The harmful vetoes will affect Medicaid and put the health and welfare of countless people, reduce access to quality, affordable, accessible early childhood programs and care, and jeopardize the safety of those experiencing housing and homelessness. As a parent, seeing the University of Alaska system gutted represents a direct threat to my daughter's future college education, should she choose it, and to Alaska's economy. I would gladly give up our PFD's to restore our budget. Donations will do nothing to help. Given that I have worked with various non-profits in this state, I am well aware of donation rates among Alaskan's, and its not high. We are notable for our giving of time, and not money. With the cuts, many Alaskans will leave the state, leaving the economic outlook uncertain. As a homeowner in Anchorage, I already have the burden of paying higher taxes. To put homelessness and social services as a municipality is not how to fix the problem. These cuts will only belabor and increase the issue of safety and homelessness in our neighborhoods across the state.

I implore you to reconsider this veto and come up with a better, more realistic solution. The PFD is affects us presently, but these vetos will affect Alaskan's well into the future. Thank you for taking the time to read my thoughts on this matter.

Sincerely,
Kate Yenik

From: jeff.walters2@gmail.com <jeff.walters2@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:39 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: state budget

To Members of the House Finance Committee:

I support the 'compromise' budget that was passed by the state legislature BEFORE the governor's vetoes. I fear the long-term impact on our state of the vetoes. I urge you to try to restore much of the vetoed funding. I am willing to give up part or much of my Permanent Fund dividend for this.

Thank you for considering my input.
Jeff Walters
Fairbanks
(Alaska resident since 1982)

From: Ed Murphy <ecmurphy@alaska.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:41 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: APFD amount and vetoes

To the House Finance Committee:

If the governor has his way and the APFD is set at \$3,000, he will be sending at least \$720 (24%) of that \$3,000 to the federal government when he pays his personal federal taxes next spring (based on his governor's salary alone). Each of you in the legislature will be doing likewise. Is sending state monies directly to the federal government without leveraging federal funds to build and sustain our state a wise use of state funds? Surely not, so please find avenues to cancel the governor's many vetoes and specify \$1,600 for the APFD to help sustain and grow our state.

Ed Murphy
3504 Krebs Drive Fairbanks AK 99709

From: Victoria Smith <victoria.rose.smith@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:43 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Public Testimony on HB 2001

Dear House Finance team,

I want to thank you for your efforts over the past few weeks and months. It gives me great hope to see bipartisan support in overriding the Governor's vetoes. It is on that topic that I testify to you today.

Higher Ed Has a Long History of Bipartisan Support

I grew up below the poverty line in rural southwest Washington, K-12 in the same building--just within the limits of the one red county in a sea of blue. I was the first person in my family to graduate with *any degree*, let alone a Master's. **Higher education was my ticket out of generational poverty... and the University of Alaska the train on which I road.** The inclusive and supportive nature of the Fairbanks campus fostered my growth as a student, and as future tax payer.

I now work at UAF as the director of Student Support Services, **a program that effectively supports at-risk students in their pursuit of a college education.** I am passionate about the work that I do to advocate for first-gen, low income, and disabled college students. We provide comprehensive advising, financial literacy, free printing, access to lap tops, tutoring and so much more. The ripple effect of these direct services are felt throughout the state, as **we help to move under-resourced individuals and their families towards socio-economic stability.** Had I not come to the University of Alaska Fairbanks, I would still be living in debt to the state and federal programs that assisted me through my childhood. I strongly support taxes at the state and federal level, because it scares me to think about where I'd be without that investment.

I write to you today, because **SSS is the beneficiary of direct state legislative funding**, and without this financial support we will have to turn away 120 underrepresented and under-resourced students starting August 26th. **Our program already serves a mere 10% of the eligible population at UAF.** Additionally, if enrollment within UAF tanks (as predicted under the current cuts) **the proportion of at-risk students will drastically increase.** Students in poverty don't have the luxury of transferring out of state. Staff and faculty with top notch qualifications are unlikely to stick around to see if the ship will right itself... or sink.

This will leave far fewer outstanding faculty and staff to educate and support the larger proportion of at-risk students left behind. We've already seen this scenario begin to play out.

The Governor's budget will have a direct impact on the students we work with, who already encounter so many more barriers than the average individual. **Higher education is a bureaucracy, of that I am sure.** My job is to break down the barriers that these students encounter, but how can I do that if a cut of this magnitude is allowed to pass? **A 41% cut sets our student population up for failure.** The divisive political fiasco we just endured, where legislators were strewn about the state, leaves me confused. **Access to higher education has been a widely supported, bipartisan staple of the United States socio-economic fabric for over 50 years.** We have [seen this play out time and time again](#) on the national level, even as recently as June 12th where *Senator Susan Collins (R-ME), along with co-sponsors Jon Tester (D-MT), Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV), and Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), introduced the Educational Opportunity and Success Act.*

How--and more importantly why--has the Governor led us to this politically divisive place? The education of our children cannot fall victim to party politics, because when it does we all lose.

Let me be clear: I'm not pleading for my job. I know I will be fine, I am resilient and I will find other opportunities outside of Alaska. **I'm pleading for you to consider the affect this budget cut will have on the underrepresented students of Alaska.**

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Victoria R Smith
3638 Rosie Creek Road
Fairbanks, AK 99709

From: Hayden Nevill <hayden.nevill@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:45 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB 2001 testimony

Dear House Finance committee members,

My name is Hayden Nevill and I live in House District 5. Thank you for taking my testimony, and thank you for the hard work you did to come up with a fiscally-responsible coalition budget. I am here today to ask you to restore the funding cut with the Governor's vetoes.

These vetoes are already having very severe and wide-reaching effects. I know you all saw today that Moody's is severely downgrading the University of Alaska's rating, which will make borrowing money for projects more expensive. The vetoes, combined with caps on receipt authority implemented by the Office of Management and Budget, limit the ability of state agencies and non-profits to accept millions of dollars of federal and other grants. Cuts to Medicaid means more people will be forced to use the emergency room, which is more expensive for us to pay for. The shuttering of Headstart programs and the Nome Youth Facility, not to mention the defunding of K-12 education and the university, leaves young people with fewer opportunities to grow into their best potential.

Economists are clear that these vetoes will destroy our economy.

There are other options. We need a graduated income tax that spares the folks at lower income levels and applies to out-of-state folks who fly in to work. We need to reel back giveaways to oil companies.

I also support a moderate PFD. The PFD is a universal basic income, which is a socialist program. I am in favor of this socialist program because it especially helps the folks who need it most. But we don't need a windfall PFD to have it accomplish its best work.

The Governor's "slash and burn" vetoes are reckless, not responsible. Please listen to the economists who understand that and are sounding the alarms. Please restore funding the Governor vetoed. Please also accomplish the reverse sweep.

Hayden Nevill (*he/him*)

From: Don Pendergrast <ranger.don46@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:51 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Opposed to budget cuts

Finance Committee 7/17/19

I have a friend who had a cabin that was repeatedly broken into by people who began to dismantle the cabin and burn the logs in the wood stove. They were lazy, lacked vision of the future, and had no concern for the owner or others who would come along later. The Alaska I

want to live in is one that lays a fire in the stove and stocks wood when they leave a remote cabin, to help those who may need help in the future.

These Dunleavy cuts are burning the cabin logs in the wood stove. Not too bad in the short run but disastrous for the future.

Whether or not you agree that the state budget must be trimmed, services cut, or taxes raised, we should agree that we must not harm our institutions or our citizenry by cutting too much too fast. The Dunleavy cuts do just that. We should not throw young people, senior citizens, rural residents, the ill and infirm, and marginalized populations out in the cold.

The surest way to grow our economy is to educate and train our population. A well-trained workforce, an educated citizenry support and stimulate a strong economy. These cuts are harmful to both basic and higher education.

These cuts are job killers, directly in the most obvious cases, but more importantly down the road in lost economic opportunities.

These cuts hurt some of our most vulnerable citizens, the very young, the very old, and the sick and infirm. Our family, friends, and neighbors who need help the most.

I propose limiting the PFD for the next several years, increasing revenues through a mixture of taxes, and working with our communities across Alaska to find the sweet spot between revenues and expenditures.

Don Pendergrast
1358 Spring Glade Rd
Fairbanks, AK 99709
907-371-4868 m
907-479-2964 h

From: lauralye miko <lye533@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:51 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: SOS! Save Our State!

Testimony

Thank you for taking the time to read this testimony, and taking my voice into consideration.

At this point in our history, Dunleavy's purposed PFD check feels more like a severance check, than our reward for living in Alaska. It's like he's saying, "Here is your check. Now hit the road. Stay out of our way."

Communities are made up of all different demographics, we will always have our rich, and our poor. Our young, and our elderly—those in health and those at risk. The care we give each other, is what makes a community a good one. It's what makes our community home. I am writing today to request a smaller PFD so

we can care for all of our community, and selfishly, I know that it will be a place I rather live, than a larger PFD check. This isn't just about the quality of life for those who use the services provided. It's about the community as a whole. These vetos say one thing. "We don't want you here. Please leave. Alaska is up to the highest bidder and we don't need communities to get in the way."

I moved from Chicago to Juneau, Alaska in 2003 to attend the University of Alaska Southeast. I went from being a student that barely graduated Highschool, to making Dean's list every semester in part to do with the small class sizes, one on one help from professors, and UAS's student services crew. What UAS did for me was life changing. I developed a confidence in myself and my skills, while learning the value of contributing to my community.

After my first year at UAS I became a student leader and qualified for scholarships, between these state funded scholarships and working (a lot), I was able to graduate without any loans. I did not have any family support or outside resources available to me. But those small scholarships not only helped bridge the gap, but also motivated me to keep my grades up, and continue to be an active leader on the campus.

Now I work in the Arts, both as an artist and as an administrator and I see the difference it makes in people's lives. The depth it brings to our community. Again, losing the Alaska State Council on the Arts is devastating. There will be ripples in our community.

We lose education, care of our most vulnerable, we lose our environment, the arts—all the things that make our community great. We always joke about how Alaska is the smallest biggest state, because although the land is massive our communities are closely knit and there are ties bringing us all together.

So, what happens. People get their big check. Some people will use it to move out of state. Others will spend it on Amazon, or trips out of state---and what are we left with, but a crumbling community sacrificing our most vulnerable as only the first course of a feast for whoever is willing to bid the highest. Help us stop this.

Do what is right for your community.

Laura Burnet

From: Marilyn Lee <mleepaint@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:53 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Please override the Governor's budget vetos!

Please find a way to override this draconian operating budget that targets the health and welfare of EVERY Alaskan. We support fair income taxation and the elimination of the costly and ineffective oil company incentives to balance the budget.

Jack and Marilyn Lee
Ward Cove, Alaska

From: Dave Hunsaker <dave.c.hunsaker@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:54 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: testimony on PFD amounts and the Governor's vetoes

Thank you for allowing me some input. My name is Dave Hunsaker, I am a writer living in Juneau. I've been an Alaskan since 1973. In 1985 I received a Governor's Award for the Arts, and in 2014 I was awarded an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Alaska, Southeast.

There has been a great deal of eloquent and articulate outrage voiced over Dunleavy's disastrous and irresponsible vetoes, which attack the very fabric of Alaska. There is no doubt that if drastic measures aren't taken by the good guys in our legislature these draconian cuts will plunge us into a recession. We will see increases in crime, especially in rural areas of the state, much of which will now be without any kind of law enforcement. We will see needless cruelty visited on our elderly and our children. Many of these cuts have been shown to actually cost more to implement than they would have to keep them in place.

So we ask ourselves *why*? Ignorance, maybe, a lack of knowledge about what a state's government is supposed to be? Sheer malice? A desire to emulate tough guy, would-be autocrat Donald Trump? I don't know. But it's an unimaginable catastrophe that will have long term consequences for Alaskans as a people.

As one who has made my living in Alaska for the past 46 years as an artist (writer) I am especially concerned by the destruction of the Alaska State Council on the Arts and the devastating slashes to the University of Alaska. We will now be the only state in the Union without an arts council. Art has been a huge means of defining who we are as Alaskans, beginning with our indigenous people who created works that were instantly admired by all who saw them. We will continue to create art in spite of Dunleavy, but it is sad to think of our young, rising artists having to establish themselves without the support and patronage of our state.

As former Governor Steve Cowper pointed out, a state with a war chest of 65 billion dollars which cuts off its arts council and strangles its university will make us the laughing stock of the nation. The PFD was meant to see us through hard times (and Lord knows we are in them now), not become the reason to destroy some of our most sacred institutions and very essential services so we can all go on individual spending sprees.

It is, I suppose, no surprise that this governor and his 22 faithful would hunker down in Wasilla to be surrounded by their base, a place evidently where they didn't want to hear the cries of outrage from the rest of the state, from the people who value who we are as Alaskans, as citizens who care about each other and look after each other.

Art fires the imagination, art challenges us. And hand in hand with that is higher education, the place where we learn and grow. So why would Dunleavy and his 22 seek to destroy or damage these essential cultural institutions? Is it to deny and restrict the availability for our youth to means of expression and to higher learning?

The answer is pretty obvious, I'm afraid. They want to dumb us down, presumably so we'll re-elect them. They offer us extravagant PFDs to secure their votes. Maybe it's working, but I hope we're better people than that. I don't believe Dunleavy, Meyer, and their 22 can buy our votes or remain in power long. Please take courage and get creative and get Alaska back.

From: T and J S-M <ProfessorMeyer@outlook.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:55 PM
To: Sen. Mia Costello <Sen.Mia.Costello@akleg.gov>; Rep. Joshua Revak <Rep.Joshua.Revak@akleg.gov>; Rep. David Talerico <Rep.David.Talerico@akleg.gov>; Rep. Kelly Merrick <Rep.Kelly.Merrick@akleg.gov>; Rep. Sara Rasmussen <Rep.Sara.Rasmussen@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chuck Kopp <Rep.Chuck.Kopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Laddie Shaw <Rep.Laddie.Shaw@akleg.gov>; Rep. Jennifer Johnston <Rep.Jennifer.Johnston@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>; Sen. Peter Micciche <Sen.Peter.Micciche@akleg.gov>; House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Cc: 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. Lora Reinbold <Sen.Lora.Reinbold@akleg.gov>; Sen. Mike Shower <sen.mike.shower@akleg.gov>; Sen. Bert Stedman <Sen.Bert.Stedman@akleg.gov>; Sen. Gary Stevens <Sen.Gary.Stevens@akleg.gov>; Sen. Bill Wielechowski <Sen.Bill.Wielechowski@akleg.gov>; Sen. David Wilson <Sen.David.Wilson@akleg.gov>; Sen. Natasha Von Imhof <Sen.Natasha.VonImhof@akleg.gov>; Rep. Ben Carpenter <Rep.Ben.Carpenter@akleg.gov>; Rep. Matt Claman <Rep.Matt.Claman@akleg.gov>; Rep. Harriet Drummond <Rep.Harriet.Drummond@akleg.gov>; Rep. David Eastman <Rep.David.Eastman@akleg.gov>; Rep. Bryce Edgmon <Rep.Bryce.Edgmon@akleg.gov>; Rep. Zack Fields <Rep.Zack.Fields@akleg.gov>; Rep. Neal Foster <Rep.Neal.Foster@akleg.gov>; Rep. Sara Hannan <Rep.Sara.Hannan@akleg.gov>; Rep. Grier Hopkins <Rep.Grier.Hopkins@akleg.gov>; Rep. Sharon Jackson <Rep.Sharon.Jackson@akleg.gov>; Rep. DeLena Johnson <Rep.DeLena.Johnson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Jennifer Johnston <Rep.Jennifer.Johnston@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chuck Kopp <Rep.Chuck.Kopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins <Rep.Jonathan.Kreiss-Tomkins@akleg.gov>; Rep. Bart LeBon <Rep.Bart.Lebon@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>; Rep. John Lincoln <Rep.John.Lincoln@akleg.gov>; Rep. Kelly Merrick <Rep.Kelly.Merrick@akleg.gov>; Rep. Mark Neuman <Rep.Mark.Neuman@akleg.gov>; Rep. Daniel Ortiz <Rep.Daniel.Ortiz@akleg.gov>; Rep. Lance Pruitt <Rep.Lance.Pruitt@akleg.gov>; Rep. Sara Rasmussen <Rep.Sara.Rasmussen@akleg.gov>; Rep. George Rauscher <Rep.George.Rauscher@akleg.gov>; Rep. Joshua Revak <Rep.Joshua.Revak@akleg.gov>; Rep. Laddie Shaw <Rep.Laddie.Shaw@akleg.gov>; Rep. Ivy Spohnholz <Rep.Ivy.Spohnholz@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andi Story <Rep.Andi.Story@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>; Rep. David Talerico <Rep.David.Talerico@akleg.gov>; Rep. Geran Tarr <Rep.Geran.Tarr@akleg.gov>; Rep. Steve Thompson <Rep.Steve.Thompson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Cathy Tilton <Rep.Cathy.Tilton@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Tuck <Rep.Chris.Tuck@akleg.gov>; Rep. Sarah Vance <Rep.Sarah.Vance@akleg.gov>; Rep. Tammie Wilson <Rep.Tammie.Wilson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Tiffany Zulkosky <Rep.Tiffany.Zulkosky@akleg.gov>

Subject: RESTORE THE FUNDING AND DO YOUR DAMN JOBS!

Every legislator in Wasilla who is ignoring the call of the presiding officers of their own branch of government, and the advice of their own legal team in favor of kow-towing to this governor and his extreme ideology has tied themselves to this anchor.

"The precipitous fall in his job ratings post vetoes should be of serious concern for Governor Dunleavy," he said. "His coalition is dissolving. Only 18% of self-identified independents provide him with positive reviews at this point, while 72% are in the negative camp. Even Republicans are starting to jump ship, with a 10-point drop in the Governor's net margin amongst this critical base group by Monday evening."

The only thing I can conclude is Dunleavy/GOP are holding the entire state budget hostage until they get a full pfd. This is a form of budget terrorism. Meanwhile, patients have lost medicaid, students are dropping out, teachers are leaving the state, and homeless families are being kicked out of shelters. Just to name a few things.

Today Moody's downgraded UA three notches from A1 to BAA1 with a negative outlook.

- A rating of BAA1 is just two notches from being non-investment grade, or in other words junk bond status

- UA is now the second lowest rated flagship university in the nation. Puerto Rico is lowest.

OMB Director Donna Arduin is like an Imperial Viceroy dispatched by the Kochs to oversee the work of Gov.Dunleavy who was installed by them. On the face of it, she is incompetent. She should be censured by the Legislature, and forced to resign or be fired. If Dunleavy fails to get rid of her, he is tolerating her incompetence, and is therefore incompetent himself, and failing to perform his duties as governor which are grounds for recall. This lamentable business is not "just" a budget issue, it is a matter of state sovereignty which Dunleavy has surrendered to his masters in Wichita.

https://www.adn.com/opinions/2019/07/16/a-3000-pfd-forget-about-it/?fbclid=IwAR38HzK9dnI4DD-p-ykyiKH6hwZ7_37PEAUjGY8FyfO8QONyqB6eAG1S8QM

""Let's bust one myth right now: Gov. Mike Dunleavy's \$444 million in vetoes would not fund a \$3,000 Permanent Fund dividend. To be precise, the \$444 million he vetoed comes out to approximately \$600 per Alaskan who receives a PFD. As we have heard from literally thousands of Alaskans, it would be incredibly short-sighted to destroy the university, crash our economy and defund public education for a one-time \$3,000 PFD payout. But that calculus is even more obvious when we consider the costs and benefits accurately: In exchange for the sweeping devastation Dunleavy's vetoes would cause, each Alaskan's PFD check would only be \$600 larger. Good luck replacing your paycheck, health insurance or university scholarship with \$600."

STOP LYING TO ALASKANS. REPLACE THE FUNDING. APPROVE THE BUDGET THE LEGISLATURE PASSED ORIGINALLY.

J.A.Meyer

From: Yvonne Adams <rubyirrtech@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:56 PM

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

Subject: HB-2001 PCE Funding

Please restore the PCE funding. We cannot afford it if you don't.

Thank you,

Yvonne Adams
15 Airport Road
Ruby, AK 99768

Office: (907) 468-4479 ext. 102, Cell: (907) 717-7486

Email: rubyirrtech@gmail.com

From: John Hechtel <john.hechtel@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:56 PM

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

Subject: House Bill 2001

I am writing to support some version of a Bill such as 2001, that would go with a reduced PFD and restoration of money vetoed by Gov Dunleavy. Tough decisions will need to be made in calm reasoned budgeting negotiations that also consider raising funds as well. Line item vetoes that target programs that actually even result in more money coming into the state, or creating more hardship for children and elderly and some Alaskans most in need, while not revisiting other ways to raise money is not the Alaskan way. Alaska still has significant financial resources, and this "crisis" while serious, is to a degree fabricated by people with an agenda that is not in the best long-term interests of the state. PLEASE pass something and get beyond these deep, short-sighted cuts. I've lived in Alaska since 1979, and the Dunleavy approach to the state budget is not type of approach for the Alaska I'm proud of.

Sincerely,

John Hechtel

John Hechtel
PO Box 84535
Fairbanks, AK 99708

907-978-4527 mobile
907-457-2032

From: Michael Willis <mwillis.d@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:56 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: No PFD Without Restored Funding

Dear House Finance Committee Members,

Restoring funding to the university, to K-12 education, to Medicaid, for homeless shelters, and most of the items that the governor vetoed after the reasonable budget that was passed must be prioritized before any PFD amount is agreed upon or distributed to Alaskans.

How can we even consider a payout and overspending on a PFD while removing thousands upon thousands of jobs from the state? How can we consider the PFD when thousands will be forced to leave the state? There will be huge rates of unemployment and limited job availability once the excessive cuts to the state's budget have run their course. Damage is already being done and at an ever-increasing rate the longer it takes the legislature and governor to resolve these issues. We've all read the reports from various economists, researchers, and leaders inside and outside the state...

But it's common sense: I'm sure many Alaskans would agree that family, jobs, healthcare, and security all supersede a \$3000 or \$1500 or \$900 or \$0 PFD. I do not support a PFD without consideration of a broad-based tax for those living in the state of Alaska. I do not support a PFD while we are facing this manufactured fiscal crisis.

My wife and I wish to raise our family in the state of Alaska, and if funding is not restored, we will be forced to leave in order to provide for our family. There are many others in the same position and we need the House Finance Committee members and other legislators now more than ever to show that you have our best interests as Alaskan citizens in mind. That is why we have elected you.

Please do the right thing and restore funding to the university, K-12 education, Medicaid, and the many other services that will inevitably result in the state falling back into a recession it may never fully recover from.

Thank you for your time and for standing up for Alaskans and families like ours,

Michael Willis

From: Kyndall H. Powers <kyndallh@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 12:57 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Fairbanks public testimony, unable to attend

Fairbanks public testimony, I'm unable to attend. Thank you!

I'm a UAF alumni, a UA Museum staff, mother of a son with a UA college savings account, local business owner where UAF students, staff and faculty shop, Fairbanks community member that has enjoyed many of UAF programs, and a current student as I make a mid-life career switch. As an elementary school child, I participated in field trips to the UA Museum. In middle school, I interviewed a professor on genetics for a school paper. In high school, I worked in a genetics lab with a UA museum graduate student. It isn't as simple as we spend X\$ per student. Consider the future students that UA is cultivating by being so engaged in our community through Alaska Summer Research Academy (ASRA), Science Potpourri, Alaska High School Science Symposium (AHSSS), museum family days, summer camps, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI), 4-H, and more. The UA system serves more than just college-age students. UA is an engaged partnership with our communities at all stages of our lives. The loss of UA in any of our communities would be devastating. Fund UA, fund our future. Thank you for your time. Kyndall Powers

From: Robin Nadine Andrews <robinandrews@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:05 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Very Concerned about Alaska's Future

Dear Legislators,

As a student, employee, and alumni of our state's University, I am convinced that the level of cuts the governor implemented will imperil Alaska's future. Alaska needs an educated and skilled workforce to move forward and in new directions. The University of Alaska provides quality education to Alaskans and the world at a very reasonable price. General fund dollars spent on research can result in 7 fold returns. As a Master's student, my agricultural research was funded but no funds were available to pay my tuition or a salary. I took out large student loans to cover many of my expenses. Loans, I am still many years later repaying. Although these were my choices, in many ways my situation was the result of state funding cuts in agriculture. Please work together with all concerned parties to restore funding and help future young naive students be less burdened by student loan debt by funding research and keeping tuition affordable.

Cuts to library wifi and the Arts council are ill-advised. Wifi can be expensive and sometimes in limited availability in rural Alaska but it's vital to applying for jobs, learning, banking, making purchases, and connecting to the world. Many citizens of Alaska, as well as visitors to our state, need library wifi and it undoubtedly has positive educational and commercial effects on our communities. The Arts council like research brings outside funds to Alaska, supports artists, and grows the cultural life of our people.

We do likely need to make some cuts and definitely need to find new sources of revenue but the cuts proposed by the governor will have long-lasting negative impacts on our state. Remember it takes money to make money. Alaska's credit rating just dropped. Please invest in Alaska and Alaskans. A large dividend is less important than keeping states services running building our economy, educating our people, and supporting those in need. Please work to restore a budget in line with the reasonable plan proposed by the legislature, Alaska's future depends on it.

Worried about my future and all Alaskans,
Robin N. Andrews

From: Eveline d'Angremond <dangremondeveline@yahoo.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:06 PM

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

Subject: SLOW DOWN:

1) Public insight in every state-local-school bureaucracy. 2) Discover and fight corruption. 3) Then make, practice and enforce your budget-cutting proposals!!!

OBSERVE YOUR OWN EXPENSES AND LACK OF DEEDS!!! PUBLISH HOW YOU HAVE SPENT OUR TAX\$\$\$

Sincerely, Eve.

From: Tim <tim.viavant@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:09 PM

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

Subject: HB2001

I am fully in support of a reduced or even zero dividend, and am also fully in support of overriding the Governor's budget vetoes. I am also in support of a state income tax and of increased taxes on the oil industry, which seems to be being left completely pain free in this entire budget debate.

Thanks, Tim Viavant

From: Elizabeth Dahl <elizabethdahl.alaska@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:10 PM

To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>; senatefinance@akleg.gove

Subject: FORGET DUNLEAVY'S FANTASY MATH/ COMPROMISE SOON / GET CRACKING

Dear House and Senate Finance Committees -

The clock is ticking, as you know too well, hurry it up to finish in time to receive federal matching dollars.

Summary of my Opinions:

MEET wherever the Minority Republicans want to meet, no more of this BS that we can't give an inch to Dunleavy or his Supporters

YES Override all Gov Budget VETOES

YES Balance budget with Permanent Fund Earnings Reserve

NO Full Formula PFD

ACT for the Common Good of ALASKA = COMPROMISE = NO partisanship, NO gridlock, NO delays

My fellow Alaskans,

It has been said many times before, but now more than ever, we all need to pull together as a team of problem solvers to forge a reasonable path forward and work for the common good of our beloved Alaska. Get over the partisanship and do not tolerate gridlock. Resolve to make not only your constituents proud, ALSO the population that calls Alaska "home". Conduct yourselves for the Common Good during this 2nd special session and ***finish in time to receive matching Federal funds.***

I supported a special session in Juneau to save money, but now I say go where ever you need to (Wasilla or Anchorage) to demonstrate you are ready to work with the Minority Republicans.

A \$3,000.00 PFD doesn't ease or help to close the state's fiscal gap, it just makes it worse. Even if there are not enough votes to override the Governor's Line Item Vetoes, the math still does not support a \$3K PFD. The Governor bought his votes to get elected with some fantasy math, but those of us that pay attention knew he can't balance the budget with \$3K PFD's. I totally get where the PFD crowd is viewing the funds as the peoples. But that \$3K amount contradicts SB26 passed into law which many lawmakers are conveniently choosing to ignore. I am one of those Alaskans that will sacrifice part of my PFD to support Alaska's operating budget.

As a lifelong, 58 year old Alaskan I have grown-up with the knowledge that the Permanent Fund was created for a future time to help pay for Government expenses when the revenue the state receives from the non-renewable resource of oil declines. Use money from the Permanent Fund Earnings Reserve to balance the budget. Allow SB26 to determine the size of the PFD to be distributed this fall.

The BUDGET to use for FY20 is the one the Alaska House and Senate crafted after much consideration and input from citizens across Alaska. Governor Dunleavy's budget reductions did not fly the first time they were presented and his current line item Vetoes are too deep for a state emerging from a recession. The Governor's choice for budget Vetoes are mean spirited towards low income people and will cripple educational programming at all age levels, plus short change local governments. The people are speaking to **OVERRIDE ALL OF GOVERNOR DUNLEAVY'S BUDGET VETOES. If a compromise must be made,** I most favor (1) **funding the University at an adequate level**, (2) **continuing school bond debt reduction** and (3) **maintaining funding for courts and law enforcement.**

Please be productive and stop the theatrics.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Dah
PO Box 22001
Juneau, Alaska 99802
907.321.4049

From: Philip Phillips <ctc.philipphillips@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:11 PM
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,

Philip Phillips

From: Ronald Johnson <rajohnson@alaska.edu>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:11 PM

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

Subject: Testimony re HB 2001 et al

Testimony re HB 2001 et al

A 3000 PFD is not sustainable. I would only support a \$ 3 K PFD for 2020 if there were an accompanying statute rewriting the PFD amount calculation that reflects today's realities.

\$ 1600 is okay but still requires us spending more than the 5.25 % or 5 % POMV draw. The \$ 929 figure is better. We had PFDs ~ \$ 1000 for more than 20 years and folks were not complaining.

I support passing a supplemental that has the net effect of reducing the cuts proposed by the governor [maybe total of, say, \$ 100 M instead of \$ 400 M.] We may need to do this to get the $\frac{3}{4}$ vote.

I like one of the 3 choices the UA BOR is considering which is:

move to a single accredited university with statewide positions.

Among other things, it would allow UA to reduce its number of athletic teams by a factor of 2. This would greatly lessen the hockey game \$ losses [we may lose \$ 30 K per hockey game home or away].

We must continue to support UA research which attracts more than \$ 5 of external funding per \$ 1 of AK UGF cost. The total brought in is close to \$ 200 M annually.

I vote to move more than \$ 5 B into the PF corpus via a supplemental. This, in effect, will put a cap on spending.

It s essential to do a reverse sweep to allow the PCE program and student performance scholarships to continue.

I would be willing to pay an income tax as long as (1) the calculation for it is simple such as a % of the federal tax owed and (2) the net effect is not just to pay for part of a PFD. It makes no sense for me to send ,say, \$ 2000 to Juneau, have the IRS take \$ 400 from that as federal taxes, and get a \$ 1600 PFD in return.

If we want to help the economically disadvantaged, then give each of us a \$ 500 PFD and use the money saved to increase the DHSS budget to help those truly in need.

--

Ron Johnson

2113 Jack St
Fairbanks, AK 99709

From: Pamela Wagaman <pwagaman@sbcglobal.net>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:11 PM

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

Cc: Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andi Story <Rep.Andi.Story@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Bart LeBon <Rep.Bart.Lebon@akleg.gov>; Rep. Ben Carpenter <Rep.Ben.Carpenter@akleg.gov>; Rep. Bryce Edgmon <Rep.Bryce.Edgmon@akleg.gov>; Rep. Cathy Tilton <Rep.Cathy.Tilton@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Tuck <Rep.Chris.Tuck@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chuck Kopp <Rep.Chuck.Kopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>; Rep. Daniel Ortiz <Rep.Daniel.Ortiz@akleg.gov>; Rep. David Eastman <Rep.David.Eastman@akleg.gov>; Rep. David Talerico <Rep.David.Talerico@akleg.gov>; Rep. DeLena Johnson <Rep.DeLena.Johnson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. George Rauscher <Rep.George.Rauscher@akleg.gov>; Rep. Geran Tarr <Rep.Geran.Tarr@akleg.gov>; Rep. Grier Hopkins <Rep.Grier.Hopkins@akleg.gov>; Rep. Harriet Drummond <Rep.Harriet.Drummond@akleg.gov>; Rep. Ivy Spohnholz <Rep.Ivy.Spohnholz@akleg.gov>; Rep. Jennifer Johnston <Rep.Jennifer.Johnston@akleg.gov>; Rep. John Lincoln <Rep.John.Lincoln@akleg.gov>; Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins <Rep.Jonathan.Kreiss-Tomkins@akleg.gov>; Rep. Joshua Revak <Rep.Joshua.Revak@akleg.gov>; Rep. Kelly Merrick <Rep.Kelly.Merrick@akleg.gov>; Rep. Laddie Shaw <Rep.Laddie.Shaw@akleg.gov>; Rep. Lance Pruitt <Rep.Lance.Pruitt@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Mark Neuman <Rep.Mark.Neuman@akleg.gov>; Rep. Matt Claman <Rep.Matt.Claman@akleg.gov>; Rep. Neal Foster <Rep.Neal.Foster@akleg.gov>; Rep. Sara Hannan <Rep.Sara.Hannan@akleg.gov>; Rep. Sara Rasmussen <Rep.Sara.Rasmussen@akleg.gov>; Rep. Sarah Vance <Rep.Sarah.Vance@akleg.gov>; Rep. Sharon Jackson <Rep.Sharon.Jackson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Steve Thompson <Rep.Steve.Thompson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Tammie Wilson <Rep.Tammie.Wilson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Tiffany Zulkosky <Rep.Tiffany.Zulkosky@akleg.gov>; Rep. Zack Fields <Rep.Zack.Fields@akleg.gov>; Sen. Bert Stedman <Sen.Bert.Stedman@akleg.gov>; Sen. Bill Wielechowski <Sen.Bill.Wielechowski@akleg.gov>; Sen. Cathy Giessel <Sen.Cathy.Giessel@akleg.gov>; Sen. Chris Birch <Sen.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Sen. Click Bishop <Sen.Click.Bishop@akleg.gov>; Sen. David Wilson <Sen.David.Wilson@akleg.gov>; Sen. Donny Olson <Sen.Donny.Olson@akleg.gov>; Sen. Elvi Gray-Jackson <Sen.Elvi.Gray-Jackson@akleg.gov>; Sen. Gary Stevens <Sen.Gary.Stevens@akleg.gov>; Sen. Jesse Kiehl <Sen.Jesse.Kiehl@akleg.gov>; Sen. John Coghill <Sen.John.Coghill@akleg.gov>; Sen. Lora Reinbold <Sen.Lora.Reinbold@akleg.gov>; Sen. Lyman Hoffman <Sen.Lyman.Hoffman@akleg.gov>; Sen. Mia Costello <Sen.Mia.Costello@akleg.gov>; Sen. Mike Shower <sen.mike.shower@akleg.gov>; Sen. Natasha Von Imhof <Sen.Natasha.VonImhof@akleg.gov>; Sen. Peter Micciche <Sen.Peter.Micciche@akleg.gov>; Sen. Scott Kawasaki <Sen.Scott.Kawasaki@akleg.gov>; Sen. Shelley Hughes <sen.shelley.hughes@akleg.gov>; Sen. Tom Begich <Sen.Tom.Begich@akleg.gov>

Subject: Control of budget cuts

A Message to the State Finance Committee

I am a retired scientist, mid-70s, and a resident of Fairbanks for over 8 years. I have been coming to Fairbanks for over 25 years to visit my daughter, who came as a UAF student in 1992, and her family. It was UAF and the community that brought me here, but I have stayed because of the university, the strong art community, and the continued opportunity to learn and to teach. Like so many older Fairbanksians, I am also involved in numerous ways to support this community,

contributing both time and resources. And some of the areas where I lend support will be devastated if state funding is eliminated.

As a member of the board of the University Women's Association for several years, I am keenly aware that so many students require help with scholarships in order to obtain an education. Many want to stay in Alaska to practice their new careers. Programs at UAF train professionals needed at the state level as well as nationally and internationally.

I am currently serving as chair of the steering committee for Aging at Home Fairbanks, under the umbrella of the North Star Council on Aging. The programs of the council support elders in our community through the Senior Center, Meals on Wheels, and many other programs. For many of our older Fairbanksians, the food, social activities and support provided by the council are critical to meeting everyday needs. The center is already looking at ways to continue meeting the most critical needs in the face of severe budget cuts.

I am passionate about the work I do as a volunteer with the Street Outreach and Advocacy Program (SOAP). This program, now housed in the Fairbanks Native Association's facility, provides a safe place for homeless and at-risk young people. The youth served by SOAP have access to hot meals and take-away snacks, counselling, clothing, a place to wash their clothes, support with new babies and young children, and a place where they can get off the street and meet peers in a warm, supportive place. Some of these young people need community resources that will lose funding with the proposed budget cuts—access to the Center for Non-Violent Living, Love INC, the community Food Bank, and The Door (the only safe place currently available for overnight housing specifically for youth).

As a citizen commissioner for the Health and Social Services Commission, I have learned that many organizations in our community, just like the many research grants at the university, require matching grants in order to keep their federal or other funding sources. Cutting resources at the state level will be devastating to all these groups. As I am sure most legislators are aware, Alaska ranks #1 in the nation for violence targeting women. Cuts to funding will only increase the burden on those most vulnerable Alaskans, the elderly, women and children.

I urge, or rather beg each of you to consider the big picture, the downstream ramifications of the severe budget cuts proposed by our governor. It is your responsibility to find resource funding for those who need help in Alaska. I hope you will adopt a limited PFD, restore some funding to the numerous agencies and departments affected, and then get to work establishing income sources such as taxing income or some sales, and reducing tax credits to companies that exploit our natural resources.

Respectfully,

Dr. Pamela Wagaman

From: Rita Osborne <ritaosborne@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:12 PM

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

Subject: HB 2001 comments

House finance committee, I am a 39 year Alaskan and have enjoyed the opportunities and challenges living in the state. I am concerned/upset/frustrated about short-sighted drastic cuts and misguided support of those who insist on their full PFD. I would rather go without a PFD for several years and have the necessary services I have relied upon-- good highways, excellent education system (preschool through doctoral programs), good jobs for community members, taking care of the disabled, older Alaskans and those with mental illness, and the list goes on and on. Please restore some sanity to our state!

Rita Osborne

Fairbanks Alaska

From: Jim Erickson <jimer1972@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:12 PM

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

Subject: Please restore vetoes

My name is James Erickson. I am a life long Alaskan from Hoonah for 65 years.

I am asking the [Alaska elected] to restore the vetoed budget.

I can't believe anyone would want to do damage to our already suffering education system. I graduated in 1972; my public school in Hoonah must have had a mere fraction of today's required funding and we had so much. Now, our local school is having to double up already on classes with several grades intermixing. Our school now has less teachers, less activities for development, less course offerings and even our top administrator is now called principle (slash) superintendent! How can Alaska stand by and watch this sort of thing letting it happen? Schools need money that the state is required to put forward not as a luxury but as a basic necessity.

Alaska Marine highway.

The ferry system is critical for rural Alaska. How dare the elected not dependant on ferries not understand the importance of transportation our way. I believe fully funding the ferry system and reorganizing the schedule maze can do so much more than taking from our ferry system. (*New management would do wonders in my opinion. Calling yourself Captain does not lend to common sense credibility).

PCE? Come on, every major utility was paid for with public money. Why is Alaska holding the rural areas at a more expensive lower standard?

Please restore funding and stop these vetoes at all costs.

Respectively,

James Erickson
Hoonah, Alaska
99829

I have a lot more to say but these are my two items of importance.

From: CHARLES WARD <charlesward4@me.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:14 PM

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

Subject: Open for business?

To the honorable members of the committee:

The ostensible reason behind Governor Dunleavy's draconian budget vetos is to make Alaska "Open for Business."

Well, the business community has just said its price for doing business with Alaska is going up drastically.

<https://www.adn.com/alaska-news/education/2019/07/17/moodys-downgrades-university-of-alaska-credit-rating-citing-financial-challenges/>

These credit downgrades are one of the first of many signs to come saying "we do not want to do business with a state that cannot honor its obligations, provide infrastructure, educate its citizens or make them safe."

I urge you to restore the funding destroyed by Governor Dunleavy, so that Alaska can truly be "Open for Business."

Sincerely,

Charles Ward
charlesward4@me.com
907.957.3582

From: Paul Kalmen <pkalmen@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:14 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support for the Governor

Honorable Committee Members,

I fully support the Governor in his call for a special session and all his vetoes. He called for a special session in Wasilla to appropriate a permanent fund dividend. So as you can see from the statute pasted at the bottom of this email, your meeting in Juneau is in violation of the law. As you can also see from the law pasted just below, there is a legal formula for determining the amount of the dividend. I implore each of you individually to abandon your lawlessness, go to Wasilla, and straighten out the State's finances.

AS 43.23.025. Amount of dividend.

(a) By October 1 of each year, the commissioner shall determine the value of each permanent fund dividend for that year by

(1) determining the total amount available for dividend payments, which equals

(A) the amount of income of the Alaska permanent fund transferred to the dividend fund under AS 37.13.145(b) during the current year;

(B) plus the unexpended and unobligated balances of prior fiscal year appropriations that lapse into the dividend fund under AS 43.23.045(d);

(C)	less the amount necessary to pay prior year dividends from the dividend fund in the current year under
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AS 43.23.005(h), AS 43.23.021, and AS 43.23.055(3) and

(7);

(D) less the amount necessary to pay dividends from the dividend fund due to eligible applicants who, as determined by the department, filed for a previous year's dividend by the filing deadline but who were not included in a previous year's dividend computation;

(E)	less appropriations from the dividend fund during the current year, including amounts to pay costs of
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administering the dividend program and the hold harmless provisions of AS 43.23.075;

(2) determining the number of individuals eligible to receive a dividend payment for the current year and the number of estates and successors eligible to receive a dividend payment

for the current year under AS 43.23.005(h); and
(3) dividing the amount determined under (1) of this subsection
by the amount determined under (2) of this subsection

Alaska Statutes Sec. 24.05.100 - Special Sessions

(a) The legislature may hold a special session not exceeding 30 calendar days in length. The special session shall be called in either of the following ways:

(1) The governor may call the legislature into special session by issuing a proclamation. At a special session called by the governor, legislation is limited to the subjects designated by the governor in the proclamation or to the subjects presented by the governor, and to reconsideration of legislation, if any, vetoed following a regular session of that legislature. To enable the legislators to make travel and other arrangements, a proclamation for a special session shall be issued at least 30 days in advance of the convening date stated in the proclamation unless

(A) the proclamation is issued under AS 26.23.020 (k);

(B) the special session is called to address a disaster; in this subparagraph, "disaster" has the meaning given in AS 26.23.900 ;

(C) the proclamation is issued while both houses are in regular or special session; or

(D) the proclamation is issued within one hour after the second house has adjourned from a regular or special session.

(2) The legislature may call itself into special session if two-thirds of the membership responds in the affirmative to a poll conducted by the presiding officer of each house. Each presiding officer may initiate a poll by their joint agreement, and each shall initiate a poll upon the request of 25 percent of the membership of each house, expressed in writing and signed by those members. When two-thirds of the membership to which the legislature is entitled responds in the affirmative, the president of the senate and speaker of the house shall jointly announce the result of the poll and a date for the convening of the special session. If one of the presiding officers is deceased, has resigned, or is incapacitated, the presiding officer of the other house may conduct the poll of the members of both houses.

(b) A special session may be held at any location in the state. If a special session called under (a)(1) of this section is to be convened at a location other than at the capital, the governor shall designate the location in the proclamation. If a special session called under (a)(2) of this section is to be convened at a location other than at the capital, the presiding officers shall agree to and designate the location in the poll conducted of the members of both houses.

Sincerely,

Paul Kalmen, Valdez AK

From: Martha Baldrige <mkbaldrige@mosquitonet.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:15 PM

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

Subject: Budget PFD amount

Thank you all for your efforts in representing the people of the state of Alaska. You worked hard together to research and put together a reasonable budget to keep our state going. With his line-item vetoes, the governor took out funding for valuable services government is supposed to provide. It was a compromise budget and one we need to keep, you should do it by funding a \$1600, or even lower, Permanent Fund Dividend.

Thank you,
Martha Baldrige

From: Amber Lincoln <amber.lincoln@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:15 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support House Bill 2001

Dear Legislatures,

As a UAF alumnus of 1999, I urge you to support House Bill 2001. Jeopardizing the University of Alaska system as proposed by the governor is shortsighted. Numerous diverse economies emerge from the UA system. I make money by renting my house to faculty of UAF, who now don't feel financially secure enough to sign a year lease. Studying anthropology at UAF made me aware of Alaska's unique cultural heritage. This knowledge and the ensuing relationships serve me well in my job as a curator in the America's department at the British Museum in London. From this platform, I have been able to not only bring international attention to the amazing history and cultures of Alaska but I have also directed funding and commercial ventures to individuals and organizations in Alaska. It pays to have UAF alumni working both in and out of the state.

Please do what you can to prevent this absurd Governor veto.

Most Sincerely,
Amber

Best regards,
Amber

From: terry schwarz <terry.schwarz@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:15 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Concern about the Governors Vetoes

Honorable Representatives of the House Finance Committee

I wish to add my voice to wave of concern from across the state about the Governor Dunleavy's line item vetoes from the State's operating budget. I fully understand the need to balance the budget, but these vetoes will have economic repercussion that will hurt our state for years to come and will in the long run cost the State money. I also understand that these budget vetoes are to allow for a fully funded Permanent Fund Dividend under the traditional formula. As nice as it would be to have \$3000 instead of \$1500, the burden of providing services that I have come to expect will be

shifted to Local governments and Non-profits. These services include functional transportation infrastructure, public education and medical services available to all, safe and orderly communities and vibrant arts and cultural scene. The current budget diminishes all of the services to a degree that is unreasonable and the cost of maintaining these services will be shifted to cities, boroughs, native organizations and non-profits. This economic shift will add financial friction to maintain the services. Local taxes will have to be raised and donations will be needed to support these essential services. So the extra \$1500 that the fully funded PFD will get me will likely go to increased property tax that will be levied in my community to pay for schools or the extra cost to go to hospital or the extra money I will have to spend on ferry tickets or the increase in insurance premiums that I will have to pay because my neighborhood is not as safe as it once was. I can go on and on, but the point is that these impacted services will cost more to accomplish because there will now be "middle men" between the transfer of funds from me to the entities that support these services. It is more efficient for State government to be the ones to pay for these services because there is no middle man to take a cut of the cake, so to speak. I fully support a constitutional change to the Permanent Fund to be able to provide for and grow these essential services while continuing to give some of that money back to citizens of Alaska in the form of PFD. Please override Governor Dunleavy's vetoes and begin the process of constitutional change to the PFD formula.

Thank you for your time and service,

Terry Schwarz

From: Nikki Love <nikkisylvan@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:17 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Please Support HB 2001 - Please Save Alaska

Dear Policy Maker,
Please reject the Governor's vetoes and support HB 2001. I am a graduate of UAS, I rely on the ferry system. I have elders in my life who depend on Medicaid, I have young children in my life who depend on Best Beginnings and Head Start, I am an owner of a small farm and depend on support from the Cooperative Extension Service, I often travel to rural areas and rely on Public Radio for news and information, and as an artist I value the cultural enrichment engine that is the Alaska State Council on the Arts.
I realize many people depend on their PFD each year, but I feel that a full payout would leave so many more people who depend on basic state services adrift or in peril. I suggest that Alaska reinstate the income tax and tax the oil companies. Please act with compassion, rationality, and responsibility and reject the Governor's vetoes.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Nikki Love
Grandmother, Alaska Native, Homeowner, Taxpayer, Voter

From: Jessie Chilstrom <jessie@chadstoolbox.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:18 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Full PFD

No to HB2001! No to PFD cuts. Yes to the vetoes. Follow the true PFD formula that puts the PFD at \$3,000+. Alaskans take ownership of our resources!

Please cut spending and payout full PFD. We depend on the PFD as part of our income, to pay for the home education of our children. The public education system is corrupt, and wasteful in so many ways. The amount the admins make (\$300k +) is an area they could cut, but won't. UAA admins gave themselves a \$26k raise last year, while complaining about lack of funding and threatening to cut programs! Hold them accountable! Trust me when I say that poor families in Alaska do NOT want to be taxed \$10-\$30,000 so big government can line their pockets. Stop the scare tactics, and obey the law. Stop the illegal Juneau session.

Thank you,
Jessie Chilstrom
Palmer, AK

From: Nicki Shelton <shelton99829@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:19 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB2001

Good Morning Members of the Finance Committee,

Please vote to pass HB2001 to limit the PFD. The Governor's vetoes are disastrous for the future of our state and our economy. Limiting the Dividend payout can preserve some of those ill effects.

Please reinstate the budget as passed by the Legislature. It is not perfect, but it doesn't threaten the health of our economy and future.

I strongly support income taxes as a fair way to increase the revenue of the budget. We can't balance the budget by cutting alone! We are the only state with no income or sales taxes. Please act to increase revenue and not just reduce services to the Alaskan population.

Thank you for hearing testimony this week. I look forward to some optimistic actions in the coming weeks.

Sincerely,
Nicki Shelton
PO Box 101
Hoonah, AK. 99829

From: Barbara Santora <bjsantora@alaskan.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:21 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Counteract the Veto

Governor Dunleavy is in the process of destroying almost every aspect of life in Alaska by vetoing the suggested legislative budget, and all so that a \$3,000 dollar PFD can be paid out to every resident for a total disbursement of \$1.9 billion dollars. The \$444 million to state organizations that he has vetoed to enable this PFD payout is an abomination. His

refusal to consider continued funding to so many organizations that enrich and maintain healthy communities is incredibly short sighted.

One small example of how this short shortsightedness will play out is seen in the shut down of the Alaska State Council on the Arts. Without the \$700,000 dollar funding from the state, the organization is no longer eligible for the matching federal funds through the National Endowment for the Arts and \$1.5 million in private foundation funds. We now have the distinction of being the only state without an arts council despite being ranked best in the nation for financial security (https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.statedatalab.org_state-5Fdata-5Fand-5Fcomparisons_detail_alaska&d=DwlCaQ&c=Q8iJasR7RZ-J0Fd9RXD9ZA&r=a5pDORdnYs7kR4VjhUDiyLmbIkyX7D-bQzoi8NQbiql&m=AudlhAwUT0UBB0ega-h9Bac_BRETMVEv-m2Y1fvh1L0&s=DffLXgXX1Yz4tUyXQsDt07dyFpNy5tnfwRsrtxQ1MM&e=).

Now apply that scenario to the University of Alaska, the organization with the most to lose. Not only does Dunleavy want to cut \$135 million, a 41% reduction in state funding, but once again consider the many matching grant funds the University will no longer be eligible for. As a research university, so much of the teaching and learning that goes on is dependent on outside contracts that are only made viable through eligibility based on state funding.

The defunding of so many education and health services is unconscionable. And defunding the Ocean Ranger cruise ship pollution inspection program funded with fees from the cruise ship industry mystifies me. So much of what is being eliminated takes from the young, elderly, poor and disabled. Essentially, how can a \$3,000 dollar dividend cover all of the services that we all receive, either directly or indirectly?

The lack of vision or caring shown by Governor Dunleavy, as a steward of our state and its many diverse residents, sickens me. Please continue to fight for compassion, education, culture and the health of our environment. Without those things, what kind of society are we?

Thanks for your efforts,

Barbara Santora

--

Barbara J Santora
Artist and Art Teacher

From: Heather Rauenhorst <heather.rauenhorst@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:22 PM

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

Subject: Testimony from North Pole resident

I am unable to testify in person today because I am in DC for work this week, but thank you for the opportunity to give this testimony via email.

I strongly support the original budget passed by the legislature this spring and oppose the vetoes of the governor. I would gladly see the end of the PFD to use the funds in support of education, public safety, preschool, and the arts. My preference, however, would be for the PFD to remain in place as restructured by the previous legislature and I would support an income tax. It makes me frustrated how many people work seasonally in our great state and benefit from our services and natural resources without ever paying a dime to support out state.

The governor's budget actions are utterly destructive not only to the economy but to the very character of our great state, where I have made my home for 35 years and raised 6 kids.

Thank you for your efforts to reverse the governor's destructive actions.

Heather Rauenhorst
2159 Flight St
North Pole, AK
99705

From: Robbin Garber <robbin.garberslaght@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:23 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Fix our state, please

Dear Finance Committee,

I don't even know where to begin. There are so many parts of this great state that we are in peril of losing forever if you don't act quickly.

I am understanding that some families rely on the pfd to augment their annual income, but the pfd varies all the time, why should it be any different this year? Please use the pfd to protect what is good about Alaska, all of it.

Robbin Garber-Slaght
Fairbanks, Alaska

By the way isn't illegal for a politician to run saying, "if you vote for me I'll give you cash"?

From: Melanie Lindholm <melanielovescm@msn.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:25 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Public testimony regarding HB 2001

Dear House Finance Committee,

Thank you for this opportunity to share my testimony. My comments are twofold.

First, while I believe the solution to our state budget is appropriately taxing the big oil companies, the current proposal suggests lowering the PFD to save state services that had been vetoed. So instead of Big Oil paying their fair share, taxpayers are forced to squabble over PFD amounts. But now it's too late and we must act quickly to save our fellow citizens from losing programs for the elderly, disabled, poor, sick, homeless, victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, students, and children. Do we really have to do public testimony every year in order to save these state services in Alaska?

Second, I'm going to get personal about an Alaskan I love. After 25 years as a full-time worker and taxpayer, my fiancée was fired for coming out as transgender, then forcing her onto Medicaid. Shortly after that, she was diagnosed with Stage 4 Cancer and Medicaid has literally been keeping her alive by paying for chemotherapy. However, we have had to fight to get PCA services and anti-nausea drugs covered. Further cuts to Medicaid dental care have impacted her because chemo literally rots your teeth. At this point, we couldn't even afford to have them pulled. She is already fighting cancer and fighting for her life, so I am here fighting to save her Medicaid. There are plenty of other Alaskans in the same boat and they're not going away.

While I'll gladly give up my PFD so that my fellow Alaskans can keep their jobs, educations, and healthcare, unfortunately, the Alaskans who can least afford a smaller PFD are disproportionately affected by this solution. Yes, we have no choice but to vote for a reverse sweep now, but in the very near future we must have real sustainable solutions like a graduated state income tax and an end to Big Oil tax credits.

Thank you,

Melanie Lindholm

923 Bennett Road

Fairbanks, AK 99701

907-888-0044

From: Carrie Topp <carrietopp@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:26 PM

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

Subject: Fairbanks Public Testimony to the House Finance Committee

17 July 2019

House Finance Committee

State Legislators

Thank you for listening to Alaskan's concerns on current budget cuts.

My name is Carrie Topp. I was born and raised in Fairbanks. My parents came in the early 70s because of the University. They loved the community and stayed to raise a family. I had many opportunities as a child. I was in the Fairbanks Children's Choir. I learned life skills through 4-H (leadership, record keeping, money management, public speaking, community service, etc.). I was involved in the Fairbanks Shakespeare Theatre. My parents saved our PFDs for education. I went to UAF and met my husband there. We both credit our jobs in Alaska on skills and contacts from UAF. Because we both love Alaska and the opportunities in Fairbanks we decided to raise our family here, with the idea that they might also attend UA and be a part of Alaska's future.

Alaska will no longer be a good place to live with current line item vetoes and the following drastic cuts to important state programs (The University of Alaska, Early Childhood education, K-12 education, Performance Scholarships, the State Arts Council, Homeless services for adults and children, Assistance for the Elderly, etc.) Cuts to UA will cause campus closures, thousands of jobs and many programs will be lost, students and faculty will leave and many that might choose to come to Alaska will go elsewhere. The Cooperative Extension Service will close and no longer develop future leaders through 4-H. Educational opportunities in arts and sciences will be gone. Cuts to UA and the State Arts Council will lose hundreds of millions of grant dollars that might be brought into Alaska through federal match dollars. Jobs will be lost and people will leave for better opportunities elsewhere. Homelessness will increase. People will literally die without shelter, food, and heat.

We need to make the oil companies pay more to take our resources. Alaskans should not lose everything that makes this state a good place to live in order to get a PFD. The PFD should be modest and not controlled by the governor. We need a long term plan for the future, not a single large payout.

If the current budget cuts stand my family may need to look elsewhere for our kids future. My children and the children of my friends and neighbors need educational opportunities. The elders in our communities need help to buy medicine, food, and heating. We all need the arts to lift us and bring us together as a community, we all know how long and dark the winter is. We can't afford to be the only state without an Arts Council. All of these things together make Alaska a great place to live.

Please save the future of Alaska so that my family, and my friends and neighbors can keep living in the State we love.

Thank you, Sincerely,

Carrie Topp

From: Diana Wolf <ffdew2@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:26 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Please fund UA!

Dear House Finance Committee,

Please fund UA!

Please restore funding to K-12

Please restore funding to medicaid

Our state needs a strong university. You can make cuts to UA, but they need to be gradual so that changes cost reductions can be made in a way that is not unnecessarily harmful.

UA is an important economic engine to Fairbanks and the state.

If we can't educate our own children, we will suffer a great brain drain.

We need to educate teachers, doctors, and professionals within our state.

Do whatever you can to make your new budget allocations veto-proof!

Sincerely,
Diana Wolf
1976 Yankovich Rd
Fairbanks, AK 99709

From: Native Village of Napakiak <nativevillageof_napakiak@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:28 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,

Native Village of Napakiak
P.O. Box 34069
Napakiak, Alaska 99634
Ph. (907) 589-2135 Fax. (907) 589-2136
nativevillageof_napakiak@yahoo.com

From: Sol Neely <sol.neely@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:28 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: A Religious Argument for Supporting HB 2001

Dear members of the House Finance Committee,

The evidence of the devastation from the governor's budget apocalypse is abundantly clear. In this path of devastation, there were predictable outcomes as well as unanticipated outcomes beyond the complexities of predictability. Dozens of stories are presently unfolding since legislators held out in Wasilla and neglected to deliver the vetoes we need to right our state and economy. I know almost half of you on the House Finance committee are among those who stayed in Wasilla.

Some of you identify as "religious" people, so I want to make a spiritual-religious appeal to you. Such an appeal is not exclusive, and it must be read, interpreted, and accounted for in proximity with appeals to economic data and analysis as well as appeals to sufficient historical understanding of our state.

Budgets are not simply statements or plans for coordinating resources and expenditures. **A budget is a moral document.** *When we continue to support \$1.2 billion in oil tax credits while we close down homeless shelters, cut financial security of elders, slash funding for Head Start, incapacitate our university system, repeal all state funding for the arts, and more—we are establishing moral priorities for our state.* In no way can any such moral vision be religiously justified. Indifference to the poor, the homeless, the disenfranchised is explicitly forbidden in Biblical scriptural tradition. To justify the suffering of the other by political appeal is a form of idolatry, which is also explicitly forbidden in Biblical scriptural tradition.

Lithuanian-born Jewish philosopher, Emmanuel Levinas, reminds us that justifying the suffering our neighbor is the origin of all evil. All Alaska legislators who stand by the governor's budget apocalypse are complicit with that evil, especially when support for the governor is justified by abstract and arbitrary appeal to "political process" and decorum. Political process and decorum can never justify indifference to the suffering of those impacted by the governor's budget. With this budget, people will die, lives will be irrevocably unbalanced, and communities will collapse. There is no religious or moral justification for any of this.

I understand that there are many impoverished people around this state who could use \$3,000 PFDs. They need this money for their own medical bills, loans, and subsistence needs. The point is not to pit poor people seduced by the campaign siren call of larger PFDs against other Alaska residents who support a progressive tax structure and limited PFDs in this moment of economic difficulty. To pit Alaskans against each other in this way is to further a culture war that is exploited by the outside, entrenched national interests who are funding the governor's budget apocalypse in the interest of a broader class war. Please refocus your attention so that this is clear: **Much of the budget debate exploits a**

culture war that only serves the interest of an unacknowledged class war gripping our national and global politics. The Koch Brothers, multinational oil companies, and the interests represented and protected by Donna Arduin and Dunleavy are mobilizing class war, and they get away with it by stoking our own population toward bitter partisan divide and culture war.

There is no shortage of resources or wealth in our state. It is just concentrated into the hands of a few special interests who do not align with our broader, shared public interests. Virtually all Alaskans are victims of this class war that made Alaska the new national frontline. We can end those oil tax credits and fund our state institutions while distributing robust PFDs. Then, by maintaining priorities in education, social well-being, research, and the arts, we can together developing a flourishing, diversified, and inclusive economy that lifts us all.

Levinas quotes rabbi Israel Salanter, who says, "The material needs of my neighbor are my spiritual needs." There is time for those legislators—especially those who identify as religious—to hear the call of the people and respond in responsibility for our general welfare and prosperity. Remember, the word "apocalypse" comes from the Greek for "revelation." With this budget, the governor's moral priorities are "revealed" to us. We can no longer allow political exigency to justify the suffering of those impacted by this budget apocalypse.

Please do the right thing and restore funding vetoed by the governor. Your original budget was morally defensible and sound. Let us reorient ourselves toward that moral direction.

Cordially,

Sol Neely, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of English and Philosophy
University of Alaska Southeast
CWY9 DBP

From: Greg Hill <hillobooks@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:29 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: King Mike's Horrible Budget Plus his Mean-hearted Vetoes

Hello Member of the House Finance Committee,

Your political courage and forthrightness in the face of king Mike (he rules rather than governs, so must be a king, but only with a small k) must be the first thing I mention and applaud.

The destruction of the University system through that veto is bad enough, but he's destroying the greater part of what makes life in Alaska unusually nice. Our environment, our schools, our arts, our jobs, seniors, health care on and on.

Please keep fighting the good, noble fight against the Koch brothers and their foolishly gullible and astoundingly cruel, acolytes in the minority (with a very small m).

Please protect the future interests of my children firmly in mind as we carry out a recall effort that's bound to succeed.

Thanks.

Greg Hill
4320 Parks Ridge Rd.
Fairbanks, AK 99709

From: Ken Woldstad <k_woldstad@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:29 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Testimony to the Alaska House Finance committee on House Bill 2001: APPROP: ERA FOR PERMANENT FUND DIVIDENDS

To: The Honorable members of the Alaska House finance Committee,
I am a 59 year Alaska resident and I have been a registered voter since 1973. Our governor and many of our legislators are being extremely partisan and I believe that is one of the main reasons we are in this situation we are currently in. We need our legislature to show some real statesmanship to navigate their way out of this political chaos and preserve the future of Alaska.

The clock is ticking, if you cannot find your way out of this political log jam by the end of this month, our state will be in a complete financial turmoil. Alaska will go into a recession, whole families including our youth and our elders could need to leave Alaska, Alaska's credit rating will go down, home and property values will plummet, University of Alaska may lose their accreditation along with closing whole campuses. This will create massive layoffs and property taxes will be going up. This list is only the beginning.

You need to cap the permanent fund at a sustainable level. In 1976, we the voters of Alaska voted by a margin of 75,588 to 38,518 to establish the permanent fund as a savings account for Alaska. We knew we would need those earnings one day. That day is today. **Please cap the dividend and follow the intent of the Alaska voters.**

You also need to put the money for this year's budget which you had worked so hard to pass back in a supplemental budget bill, along with the capital budget. I applaud all the hard work that went into drafting this coming year's budget. I am sure not everyone agreed with everything in the budget including myself, but I believe it was fair and sustainable. Many of you showed some statesmanship in getting that budget passed, you need to do it again, because there is too much at risk here. There is also over a billion dollars in federal grant money in the capital budget at stake, including matching funds in your original operating budget that was vetoed by the governor.

Sincerely,
Kenneth J. Woldstad
North Pole, Alaska

[K_woldstad@hotmail.com](mailto:k_woldstad@hotmail.com)

From: Jaye Destiny Palmer <jayedestinypalmer@alaska.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:29 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Budget Cuts

Dear House Finance Committee,

I am writing today as a 28 year resident of Alaska, also as an individual who depends on Adult Public Assistance to make ends meet. I am writing in opposition of Governor Dunleavy's massive

budget cuts to programs affecting individuals with mental illness and other disabilities as well as seniors and infants and children who's parents depend on headstart programs to help their children succeed in school and later in life. The cuts to the university system are devastating because not only will it eliminate jobs it could potentially eliminate degree programs and the universities campuses in remote locations but even in cities such as Anchorage. By eliminating degree programs and funding for students to afford college we are limiting Alaska's future. Another program that is extremely important is the adult dental program, because infections in our teeth can cause heart problems and affects our mental health and how we see ourselves in society. Dental health is just as important as physical and mental health.

Thank you
Sincerely
Jaye Destiny Palmer
Fairbanks Alaska District 1 ---

With Hope There Is Life

From: Emily Anderson <emilyandersonak@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:30 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Testimony for Budget Vetoes

Hello,

My name is Emily Anderson and I was born and raised in Fairbanks. I love this state and this city so much, and it hurts me to see it hurting and divided like this. I want to briefly explain the impact the Alaska State Council on the Arts has had on my life.

I worked as a grant writer for the Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival, a festival that brings arts to thousands of Alaskans throughout the interior, serving rural communities that wouldn't otherwise have access to nationally acclaimed touring artists. Arts has a profound impact on suicide prevention, and in a state with the second highest suicide rate, we should take this very seriously.

I have also personally been affected by the Alaska State Council on the Arts. Their career opportunity grant afforded me the opportunity to work with an esteemed producer, who I later recorded my album with after receiving an individual artist grant from Rasmuson. I am able to be a full-time artist largely because of this life-changing project.

I recently led a songwriting workshop for in-patient veterans at Chris Kyle hospital in Anchorage. The reason I was able to lead this workshop is because of funds from an NEA grant that ASCA received, and the coordinating efforts of Andrea Pelant. Without state funding, ASCA will not have access to any of the NEA funds. This workshop was amazing. I was blown away by the veterans' eagerness to create and their vulnerability. We brought instruments for them all to break off into small groups and learn, then we came together and joined in a jam session for our song about summer in Alaska. I received tearful thank yous at the end of the workshop. This is the kind of work that ASCA makes possible.

Thank you for your time and efforts.

Emily

--

Emily Anderson
emilyandersonak.com

From: Ben Muse <muse.ben@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:37 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Urge Finance Committee support for HB2001

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee,

I urge you to support HB 2001.

The governor's vetoes have the potential to cut short Alaska's recovery from its recession.

A recent study from the Institute for Social and Economic Research in Anchorage indicates that the budget cuts could lead to the loss of 4,200 jobs. This includes the state, university, and private sector jobs lost right away because of the cutbacks, but also the jobs lost indirectly as the state buys fewer goods and services, and as families cut back spending.

Some people think that redirecting the money to bigger permanent fund payments would fully offset the losses in direct government spending.

First, as Representative Zach Fields has pointed out in the Anchorage Daily News, the \$444 millions in vetoes only generate about \$600 additional dollars per dividend. That does not take us from \$900 or so to \$3,000.

And then, the value of the permanent dividends to Alaskans is reduced by income taxes. People save parts of their dividends, also reducing local job impacts. Money spent out of state as people buy things from Amazon, or do business with companies like Alaska Airlines doesn't have local job impacts.

Economists have also pointed to the temporary nature of many of the jobs that are created by the permanent fund.

Ed King, the principal in the King Economics consulting firm, did an analysis and found, "no statistically significant relationship between PFD payments and changes in jobs."

I urge you to vote to override the vetoes.

Sincerely,

Ben Muse
Juneau

From: Cody Rogers <codybelle@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:38 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Fairbanks meeting testimony/ HB2001

Hello all,

I am sorry I can not make it there in person today, but wanted to make sure my voice was heard by the house finance committee.

I have lived in Alaska since 1996, moving here when I was just in high school and attended West Valley. I stayed here for college, graduating from UAF. After "going outside" for graduate school, I returned to Alaska in 2009 to pursue my career in Higher Education Administration and help college students and their families. I married my college sweetheart, Ben, who I met at UAF. He has earned three degrees from UA and now works to serve Alaska's communities as an emergency flight nurse for a local company.

Both of us now have years of experience under our belts, and could probably go many places for jobs. But we choose to live here, buy a house in Fairbanks, and have worked hard to grow deep roots in Alaska. We both are in jobs that serve others because we believe strongly that everyone deserves to live in a healthy, safe, and welcoming community. Everything Ben and I do is in service to others. I am now asking you all to do the same, serve Alaskans with strong leaderships, compassion, and integrity. Serve Alaskans by providing funding to those in need, the elderly, the young, those in education, and those in crisis. Serve our state by listening to your constituents, not just your political party. Serve our state by reinstating funding to areas that were cut by the Governors office by passing HB2001.

Thank you,
Cody Belle Rogers
Fairbanks AK 99709

From: Shannon Earl <shanearl@alaska.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:40 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Testimony in support of HB 2001

Dear House Finance Committee:

I am writing in support of House Bill 2001. As a longtime Alaska resident, I care deeply about how this state operates. Yes, we need to get our finances in order. No, we cannot accomplish this goal through cuts alone.

Alaska is a wealthy state with options. We need to exercise those options for the good of all citizens. We need to be certain that budget decisions today benefit state interests tomorrow. The governor's vetos should be reversed. It is too

much, too soon, and the impacts of these cuts will make us poor in ways that cannot be fixed with a \$3,000 permanent fund dividend check.

I believe the current version of HB 2001 puts Alaska back on track to a more sustainable future.

Thank you for reading this testimony and for your work on behalf of Alaska.

Sincerely,

Shannon Earl
PO Box 388
Girdwood, AK 99587

From: Blanche Murphy <kiskamarie2004@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:40 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Budget

Good afternoon. I do appreciate a large PFD but not at the expense of crucial State programs. I do use my PFD to supplement my income from my job, to help with my bills, but it not going to be of much use if the Power Cost Equalization Program is zeroed out! What good is a larger PFD going to do, if individuals can't attend the University for higher education or vocational training because the University no longer has the programs or personnel needed to provide the programs? How are they going to get the training they need to be employed in a career?

Please work to override Governor Walker's veto of so many crucial State programs funding. I believe the future of Alaska will be greatly diminished if the budget is not repaired!

Thank you.

From: KELLEY <kelleyg@mtaonline.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:40 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB 2001

I attended several hours of testimony in Anchorage and Wasilla, and I would like to point out a few things in case you missed them.

1. These sessions were held during working hours for most people who have jobs, so the in-person testimony is skewed towards educators who are off work for the summer, and folks who have the autonomy to leave work, or those who's job it is to lobby for funding.

2. As for those willing to give up their PFD, and even accept an income tax "for our children's future" are they seriously advocating leaving a legacy of bloated, unaffordable, bankrupting spending and debt, plus no PFD plus the added burden of an income tax to their children and grandchildren? Who are they to decide this? Anybody who believes the state can make better use of their money can write a check, and let the future generations decide for themselves whether to write a check.

3 There were several people begging for their jobs. They want their job even if Alaska cannot afford them. How selfish is that? The private sector lost nearly 6000 jobs in the last few years, who cared about us? How come these jobs weren't important enough to sustain Alaska's economy and have to state step in a keep us in a paycheck? Jobs are lost and gained every minute of every day. Move on. Maybe plan your budget for a job loss. Jobs are not an inherent birthright. I work construction and am laid off every year. I am lucky to earn \$30K annually. I own all of my properties - no mortgages- and I am one month shy of no credit card debt. Plus my vehicle is paid for. I have no desire to maintain someone in a job for the sake of them having a job.

4. Alaskans do pay state taxes. Gasoline, vehicle, tires, alcohol, marijuana, tobacco, business licenses, hunting and fishing and trapping licenses. These are the ones I am aware of. I pay a fee to record property. And I pay over \$4000 in property tax to the Mat-Su borough, plus have the responsibility to plow my own road. I also pay federal income tax.

5. Although Governor Walker managed to change the nature of funding the PFD, it still doesn't make it right. The legislature has no business determining the amount of, or whether we receive, any PFD. How many PFDs have been spent wrangling over this issue? How divided can this state become? I have always been so proud of our Permanent Fund and it saddens me to tears what you folks are doing to our dividend and to us.

6. Many referred to a "one time check of \$3000". The PFD is not a one time deal. As the fund grows and earnings rise, PFDs should rise as well. Follow the 1982 statute until the law is changed.

Alaska must get our financial house in order. I own a substantial piece of property located in Knik-Goose Bay area. Because it is accessed via the "road of death" and our economy is an utter mess, I have been unable to sell it. This property is my retirement investment. Governor Walker held KGB hostage and the critical road improvements were shelved. Even so, I am glad our representation didn't cave.

Infrastructure is absolutely a responsibility of government, as is public safety, and an adequate education (which does not mean excessively funded education). Social services should not bankrupt us. Medicaid should not be chartering DeHavilland Beaver to a remote lake to bring a child to town for a wellness check up. FYI the entire plane is paid for in a case like that, not just a seat. How does the family qualify for Medicaid if they can afford building materials to build in a remote fly-in location?

Alaska's constitution is unique in that Alaskans share equally in our resources. That is the basis of our PFD. It is the most equitable vehicle for sharing the bounty of our land. When the PFD is taken to fund the government, "some people become more equal than others". That is wrong and unconstitutional.

There is nothing stopping anybody from spending their dividend - short of garnishment, which is determined by the court - in any manner they see fit. Speaking of garnishment, recipients of garnishments would be compensated much faster with a full PFD. BTW, many recipients rely on social services.

While I appreciate the passion that some people feel about UAA and social services, I do not share in their passion, and should not be forced to share in their passion. Much like they should not be forced to financially share in my passion of sled dogs and competing in the Iditarod and Yukon Quest.

For the good of this state you must set aside the power struggles and animosity towards our ELECTED Governor and convene a legal session - the one called by the Governor. You must statutorily fund the PFD and submit a capital budget.

Thank you for seriously considering my point of view,
Kelley Griffin

PS I am against everything about HB2001

From: Jane LeBlond <janeleblond@yahoo.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:42 PM

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

Subject: Action on HB2001

Dear Legislators,

I am writing regarding Gov. Dunleavy's State budget vetos and your opportunity to pass House Bill 2001. I can't emphasize enough what a disaster this would be for the State of Alaska, so I'll tell you what it will mean for my family personally.

My husband and I are life-

long Alaskans, born and raised. We are products of the Anchorage and Fairbanks public school systems, from which Ken retired as an elementary school teacher after 25 years with the Fairbanks Northstar Borough School District. I am an alumni of UAF, where I started on a career path as a pharmacist in the 1990s. We have good jobs. We own our home, pay property tax, subscribe to the newspaper, and vote. We donate money to area non-profits, are members of our public radio station, volunteer at skiing and running events, pick up garbage on clean-up day, and adopt pets from the animal shelter. We regularly attend symphony concerts, patronize arts association shows, take out-of-town guests to museums, and buy produce at the Farmers' Market. We recreate, use the library, buy local, and eat out. We love this state and our community.

But if Dunleavy's budget cuts

stand, we will leave. We will do so with heavy hearts, but knowing that a State that does not support education or community resources is not where we want to be. We will take our money, our energy, and our time that have until now been invested in Alaska and spend them elsewhere. And we are not alone. Our neighbors, coworkers, and family members are having the same conversations we have had, and are coming to the same conclusions. There will be no community here worth staying for. Alaskans have never lived here for the PFD, and we never will.

Please vote to pass HB2001.

Sincerely,

Jane LeBlond and Ken Leary, Fairbanks

From: Erica Moeller <erica.m.moeller@googlemail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:43 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Testimony on behalf of AK Budget

Good afternoon,

I'm writing to show my support for overturning Gov. Dunleavy's vetoes. While I fully support the idea of cutting our state budget, so implement such dramatic cuts in such a short period of time will do more harm than good. Those among us who will suffer the most are those that need us the most. I fully support a reduced PFD, income or sales taxes, as I believe that we all need to pay for our share of the services that make our state as great as it is. Please consider other options available.

Thank you for your time,
Erica Moeller
3921 Murphy Dome Rd.
Fairbanks, AK 99709

From: Louise Biderman <louise.marycharlotte@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:43 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Please restore the funding

Hi,
My name is Louise Biderman and I live on Chena Ridge.
I'm writing in with my support of SB 2001. The line-item vetoes our governor made are simply unacceptable and will hurt our state. Getting a \$3000 PFD is ridiculous when people are getting turned away from homeless shelters and students are losing scholarships. We also need to repeal the oil tax credits. Please, let's help out all Alaskans and restore the funding agreed to in the coalition budget. Thank you.

From: Laurie Craig <lauriecraig@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:43 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Compromise

Hello, Finance decision makers,

I support house bill 2001 to reverse the sweep that wiped out funding and to reduce our PFD to \$929. Please consider revising oil tax credits that reflect the State's need for survival and all the jobs connected. As a small business owner I understand how intertwined our economy is with other industries. Thank you for being in Juneau, the rightful place for such discussions. I know these hearings and conversations are challenging. I truly appreciate you doing your jobs!

Best regards,

Janet Laurie Ferguson Craig
Auke Bay precinct supervoter
Laurie Craig
907 789-2768

Sent from my iPhone

From: Carrie Topp <carrietopp@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:44 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Public Testimony House Finance Committee (CSHB2001)

17 July 2019
House Finance Committee
State Legislators

Thank you for listening to Alaskan's concerns on current budget cuts.

My name is Carrie Topp. I was born and raised in Fairbanks. My parents came in the early 70s because of the University. They loved the community and stayed to raise a family. I had many opportunities as a child. I was in the Fairbanks Children's Choir. I learned life skills through 4-H (leadership, record keeping, money management, public speaking, community service, etc.). I was involved in the Fairbanks Shakespeare Theatre. My parents saved our PFDs for education. I went to UAF and met my husband there. We both credit our jobs in Alaska on skills and contacts from UAF. Because we both love Alaska and the opportunities in Fairbanks we decided to raise our family here, with the idea that they might also attend UA and be a part of Alaska's future.

Alaska will no longer be a good place to live with current line item vetoes and the following drastic cuts to important state programs (The University of Alaska, Early Childhood education, K-12 education, Performance Scholarships, the State Arts Council, Homeless services for adults and children, Assistance for the Elderly, etc.) Cuts to UA will cause campus closures, thousands of jobs and many programs will be lost, students and faculty will leave and many that might choose to come to Alaska will go elsewhere. The Cooperative Extension Service will close and no longer develop future leaders through 4-H. Educational opportunities in arts and sciences will be gone. Cuts to UA and the State Arts Council will lose hundreds of millions of grant dollars that might be brought into Alaska through federal match dollars. Jobs will be lost and people will leave for better opportunities elsewhere. Homelessness will increase. People will literally die without shelter, food, and heat.

We need to make the oil companies pay more to take our resources. Alaskans should not lose everything that makes this state a good place to live in order to get a PFD. The PFD should be modest and not controlled by the governor. We need a long term plan for the future, not a single large payout.

If the current budget cuts stand my family may need to look elsewhere for our kids future. My children and the children of my friends and neighbors need educational opportunities. The elders in our communities need help to buy medicine, food, and heating. We all need the arts to lift us and bring us together as a community, we all know how long and dark the winter is. We can't afford to be the only state without an Arts Council. All of these things together make Alaska a great place to live.

Please save the future of Alaska so that my family, and my friends and neighbors can keep living in the State we love. Please pass CSHB2001.

Thank you, Sincerely,
Carrie Topp

From: Sue Signor <signorsue2@gmail.com>

Date: July 17, 2019 at 12:54:55 PM AKDT

To: "Signor, Rick B." <rick.signor@alyeska-pipeline.com>

Subject: [EXTERNAL]: Fwd: I support HB 2001 introduced by

Hi Honey,

I sent this email this morning to housefinanace@akleg.gov so my testimony would be part of today's hearing on HB 2001. If you are so inclined you might want to chime in with your own email.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Sue Signor<signorsue2@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, Jul 17, 2019 at 10:22 AM

Subject: I support HB 2001 introduced by Rep Foster

To: <HouseFinance@akleg.gov>

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: Mark Johnson <markalaskajohnson@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:48 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: restore reasonable budgets to Alaska

Dear Committee Members,

Governor Dunleavy's campaign record reveals little to suggest his switching to a plan to gut the University of Alaska's budget by 41%, student scholarships, and medicare.

Cuts of these magnitudes to the University and elsewhere will harm our State and its citizens for decades.

The Legislature's budget to the Governor is an example of teamwork, compromise, and statesmanship, as appropriate in a functioning democracy.

If Governor Dunleavy's veto of the Legislature's budget for the University stands, it will cripple the University of Alaska system.

Don't make destroying the University system part of your legacy.

No, I don't need or want a PFD at the expense of the State of Alaska.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Andrew Johnson
2544 Riverview Drive
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

From: Lena Krutikov <snowgecko@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:49 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: July 17 Fairbanks testimony: HB 2001

Dear House Finance Committee Members,

We are only one family of three, but I express a common fear that the governor's budget will drive us out of the state. Though my husband Mike has been out of work for nearly two years, and we are just getting by on my income, we still don't want the extra couple of thousand dollars from the PFD.

If I lose my job at UAF (which is the first job that I've truly loved in my 30 years of employment, a job where I feel that I make a difference in someone's life every day, and is already a reduced 10-month contract), Mike and I will be competing with hundreds of other laid off members of our community for the same jobs. And if we cannot find work, we will be forced to move.

I have lived in Fairbanks for 16 years, my husband has been here for 18 (plus 2 years in Anchorage), and our son Gideon turns 7 next week. We do not want to leave Alaska. We both came to Fairbanks because of UAF, but we stayed because of the access to the real outdoors from our front door, quality education, as well as the diverse, creative, and interesting people that make up our community. We have prospered in Fairbanks and established strong roots here.

Though I care about the outcome of this vote for personal reasons, I am also gravely concerned about the long-term future for all Alaskans. The proposed budget is extremely short-sighted, and hurts our community in critical ways:

- The crucial years of early childhood
- The already overcrowded and underfunded K-12 education
- The barely-squeaking-by UA system (after multiple years of budget cuts)
- Arts, public radio, library services, etc.
- Elderly people below the poverty level
- Mentally ill community members with no support

While the cuts may help balance the state budget, they will create new problems - homelessness, joblessness, economic downturn, and hopelessness. Eliminating access to higher education will prevent young people from being able to attend college in state, and those that do pursue higher education elsewhere are less likely to return to Alaska after graduating. Make no mistake, these cuts will devastate the state of Alaska and drive people out. People who care about the state, people who have invested many years and much work in Alaska, and people who do not want to leave.

Sincerely,
Lena Krutikov & Michael Hayes

1923 Kittiwake Drive
Fairbanks AK 99709
907-457-6669

From: Putt Clark <clark.putt@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:50 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB 2001

To the Honorable Representatives of the House Finance Committee,

I fully support this bill. I do not support the Governor's irrational vetoes of the smart, bi-partisan budget the Legislature passed. It is vitally important that we support services to ALL residents as required by the Alaska Constitution, and fully fund these services. The Governor's proposal of "balancing the budget" by extracting from these state services to pay out a massive PFD to residents is grossly short-sighted, irresponsible, greedy and blatantly pandering to his base.

It's about time we grew up here in Alaska and started paying our way. It's absurd to think we can balance a budget off of declining oil revenues - revenues on which we don't even enforce a proper corporate tax. It's time the oil companies are told to pay their way in our state.

Also, to create revenue, we must act on creating the infrastructure of diversified revenue. We cannot keep relying on the withering income of oil. Infrastructure will require initial funding, but in return, it will create revenue generating elements such as agriculture and manufacturing. How can we plan for this future when we're hemorrhaging money just to pay residents because they live here??

HB 2001 is a responsible, mature step in the right direction. Lets start planning for the future. Please pass this bill.

Thank you for your time,

Elizabeth "Putt" Clark
Fairbanks, Alaska

From: Dana Greci <dgreci@alaska.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:52 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Cc: Sen. Click Bishop <Sen.Click.Bishop@akleg.gov>; Rep. Grier Hopkins <Rep.Grier.Hopkins@akleg.gov>
Subject: Testimony on HB2001

July 17, 2019

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee:

I am writing to ask you to advocate and vote in favor of HB2001 and restore funding for the University of Alaska and the other services that Governor Dunleavy has vetoed. The university cannot withstand a \$135 million cut on top of the reductions made in previous years without the change causing great harm to Alaskans all over the state; children, elderly and homeless will be devastated without the services the governor wants to cut, not to mention the arts. I personally am in danger of losing the faculty position I have held for almost 20 years teaching Developmental Reading and Writing, and losing the pension I was promised for my retirement. A \$3,000 dividend will not make up for that kind of devastation.

You have heard the statewide outcry in response to the proposal of these cuts. Alaskans did not vote for these changes: the governor and the Republicans in the Legislature supporting his vetoes didn't even mention while running for office that they wanted this to happen, and they are not representing the will of the majority of Alaskans. There are other ways to balance the budget without causing all this harm.

The state of Alaska doesn't have a financial problem: we have \$65 billion in the permanent fund, and we have neither an income nor a sales tax. Gutting education, the arts, and benefits to seniors and the homeless is not in the best interests of Alaska. We can fund the university and the essential services the governor tried to cut while paying every Alaskan a smaller dividend and still not initiating an income or sales tax. This is what the public wants!

Thank you for hearing my testimony.

Dana Greci
1670 Herreid Rd
Fairbanks, AK 99709

From: Kim Millett <kimmar3167@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:54 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Take care of your constituents

Dear Finance Committee,

The amount of the vetoes from the governor are completely unacceptable when considering the future for Alaska and the people that live here. Please amend the disastrous course that is being laid before us, if these vetoes are left in place. The state does not need to go into recession. Consider the mass exodus of professionals if this budget isn't corrected. Every citizen of the state will be affected in a negative way.

I trust that every member of the finance committee will do the right thing, unlike the legislators who did not show up in Juneau to do their job!

Sincerely,
Kim

Kim Millett
1405 W. 42nd Street
Anchorage, AK 99503
(518) 495-8209

From: Signor, Rick B. <Rick.Signor@alyeska-pipeline.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:55 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: I support HB 2001 introduced by Rep Foster

My name is Richard 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 1987 from Pennsylvania and planned on staying for 2 or 3 years. I fell in love with Alaska, my wife, and eventually our 2 children and have remained in the Alaska ever since. I have worked for Alyeska Pipeline Service Company for 25 years. I have never been tempted to live outside Alaska and commute to work like so many pipeline workers do without contributing to our state economy.

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,
Richard Signor
Fairbanks, Alaska

From: Emily Youcha <eyoucha@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:55 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: override vetos with new budget

I came to Fairbanks as an undergraduate through a University exchange program for a semester in 1998 and liked UAF and Alaska so much that I returned to do my graduate work. I arrived again at UAF in 2000 to study hydrology under an interdisciplinary Master's degree program. My graduate research at UAF involved an assessment of the groundwater resources in upland bedrock aquifers in the Fairbanks area. My husband, an engineer, also came up with me and began working in Fairbanks while I was going through graduate school. After obtaining my degree (M.S. 2003 UAF), my husband and I stayed in Alaska, we are both employed in Fairbanks, and have a 5 year old daughter about to start kindergarten in the public school system.

I support a full override of all Gov. Dunleavy's vetoes. I am saddened that the Governor would cut pre-K education, benefits to the elderly/disabled, shelters for homeless and abused women, and medicaid. I am very concerned that without these programs there will be an increase in poverty, crime, sick people, homelessness, a less educated population, etc. There are so few choices in Alaska for students to attend a University, why shut down what a growing and great UA system? Students will go out of state and not return. If the University is cut, tuition will increase and the quality of education will decrease. Students won't want to pay increased tuition for a poor quality school. The University greatly boosts our economy and trains students for many well paid careers (science, engineering, natural resource management, Arctic research, mining, nursing, teachers, etc.) in this state.

Not only are education and social services important to me, but I enjoy listening to public radio and I think art is a very important part of our culture.

These cuts will hurt us the long run. **I am deeply concerned about my family's future in this state.**

I cannot understand why we can continue to pay out subsidies to the oil companies if we can no longer afford it. Social services, education, and things that affect people's lives on a daily basis should come as a priority, ahead of the oil companies. Please reexamine the oil taxes and consider decreasing oil tax credits.

My family can certainly afford to live without a PFD, however, I do understand that those living in poverty cannot. What is a fair solution? Explore new revenues? I can't understand why my income is not taxed, as I certainly can afford to pay taxes for these services.

I would like a progressive income tax established, a restructuring of the PFD to help pay for state services, and most importantly I would like to see decreased subsidies to oil companies, as ways to balance the budget and fund services.

Respectfully,

Emily Youcha
1302 Summit Dr
Fairbanks, AK 99712

From: Will Quintal <bobcataws@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:57 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Opinion on budget cuts and PFD

As a lifelong Alaskan (born and raised in Fairbanks) and graduate of the University of Alaska Fairbanks (BS Computer Science, 2009), I am deeply concerned by Governor Dunleavy's line item vetoes to the UA system, the Department of Education, and the Department of Health and Social Services. It is also appalling that these vetoes were not immediately overturned by the legislature.

I support any effort in the legislature that would do any or all of the following:

- Restore funding for the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development**
- Restore funding for the University of Alaska**
- Restore funding for the Department of Health and Social Services**
- REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF THE PFD payment to fund said appropriations**
- Convert the PFD into a progressive payout system where low income residents would get higher payouts and those making >70K/year would get nothing.**

(I am well aware that the last point above is politically a non-starter, but if we're really concerned with making sure all the families who really NEED the PFD get it, then this is a no brainer.)

Education is the foundation of a competitive position in the emerging global economy and it is critically important to the viability of Alaska that we provide our children and young adults with the best education environment we can. While the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) fields are important to industry and natural resource development, STEAM (add Arts) is what makes a society viable. If the Governor's vetoes are not overridden the first programs on the chopping block (if they're not gone already) will be the arts/music programs that enrich the lives (directly and indirectly) and educational careers of so many students. These cuts would be a crippling blow to the institutions that could not easily be undone by subsequent budget increases. When you tear down an institution it takes years and huge expenditures to build it back.

The DHSS cuts are squarely aimed at those most vulnerable in our society and make this budget a "road system centric" one. It is irresponsible to target rural and low income groups in this way.

Please take the power granted to you by the people of Alaska and outlined in the Alaska Constitution and fund these critical institutions. The future of our state depends on it.

Thank You,

Will Quintal

2950 Portillo Pl
Fairbanks, AK 99709
[907-687-5009](tel:907-687-5009)

From: Steve Meckel <smeckelak@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:58 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Cc: Rep. Grier Hopkins <Rep.Grier.Hopkins@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB 2001 APPROP: ERA FOR PERMANENT FUND DIVIDENDS

House Finance committee members,

My name is Steve Meckel and I am a 34 year resident of the state of Alaska. I have worked in construction, fishing, mining, the professional services industry and I am currently an employee of the University. I am writing today to provide testimony on HB2001. I strongly oppose any PFD payment, now or in the future. The PFD program has turned into an entitlement to many Alaskan's and has become more important to them than education, healthcare and a strong economy. I recognize that the PFD program does provide assistance to people that truly need help, senior citizens, the homeless and those living under the poverty level. I do not advocate turning our back on those citizens but I would rather see the state bolster programs that directly provide support to those who need it. And I think that it is time for Alaskans to start paying a tax for the services that we receive.

Thank you for your time and for the work that you do for our state.

Respectfully,
Steven C Meckel
3560 Moose Mountain Road
Fairbanks, AK 99709

From: MakVic Demmert <makkyfresh@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:59 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Restore University Funding

Hello, please restore university funding. Responsible management of the state requires educated citizens here doing their part. If they university suffers, the communities will suffer. Democracy depends on education and diversity, two things at risk with losing university funding.

Gov. Dunleavy does not represent Alaska, he represents outside interests. His actions do not reflect Alaskans nor democracy. I have written several impassioned letters already. I've attended town halls and have seen the crowds and

the numbers. Please do what you can to keep Dunleavy accountable to the people, not corporations and outside interests. This is our Alaska, let's fight for it!

Thanks,

Makenzie Demmert
Fairbanks, AK

From: Claudine Hauri <claudinehauri@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:02 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: I urge you to restore money vetoed from the FY 2020 budget

Dear House of Finance Committee,

I urge you to restore money vetoed from the FY 2020 budget. The governors' proposed cuts will destroy our state. It will force me and my family to leave, along with thousands of other people, and send Alaska into further recession.

Why would I be forced to leave? I'm a Chemical Oceanographer at the International Arctic Research Center. I'm a soft money funded scientist studying ocean acidification in Alaska's waters. As a soft money oceanographer I bring in millions of dollars of federal funding to support my own salary, ship time, technician time, laboratory equipment, and funding for the University of Alaska Fairbanks staff. Because my job is mostly federally funded it is not on the line in the short term. However, I will not want to work at UAF anymore if hundreds of my colleagues are leaving and if there is no staff support. I also doubt that federal agencies like the National Science Foundation will be willing to invest in my research in the future if I remain at a dysfunctional University like UAF will become if the vetoes stay in place. In fact, some of our program managers have already voiced their concerns about the ability of UAF to conduct research under the current situation.

Furthermore, while I absolutely love living in Alaska, I refuse to raise my three children in a state that cuts the education system while supporting the oil industry and that shows no interest in supporting the most vulnerable people of our society.

If I go, I will take my federal money and knowledge with me to another University in the lower 48. Needless to say that I will not be the only one. As recently stated by economist Paul Krugman in a New York Times article about Alaska's budget disaster: "... destroying a key part of your state's education system to keep taxes low is a good way to guarantee that your state will fall ever further behind."

Let's keep Alaska livable for everyone who loves it. Please restore Alaska's budget to a operable level.

I thank you for your service.

Sincerely,
Claudine Hauri

From: Katie Bausler <ktbausler@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:02 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Alaska's Elected Hurting Alaskans

Dear House Finance Committee,

The week the Alaska State Legislature failed to reverse the Governor's slash and burn cuts to just about every service that makes our state livable, functional and sustainable, I spent time with my dying 86-year-old mother in California. Hospice workers came to her home to bathe her and measure her blood pressure. When they saw she was running low on supplies like adult diapers, a box of them showed up at her door. This-all paid for by Medicaid, and administered by the State of California. My mother worked until she was in her late seventies. My parents saved for a decent retirement. But services like those provided by Hospice of the South Coast help make ends meet.

When I had a moment to take a look at my newsfeed, a letter to the *Anchorage Daily News* caught my eye. "Every day this week, I've called my dying patients and told them that help is not coming," wrote Hospice of Anchorage Clinical Director Bethany Burgess. "They no longer receive help bathing, cooking meals, and getting to medical appointments."

While the legislature struggles to deal with the Governor's vetoes of a budget passed by a bipartisan group of lawmakers at the will of the majority of the Alaskan people, grant funding for services like Hospice is in limbo, along with programs to help alleviate a crippling opioid epidemic, the state's growing homeless population, and a preschool program from low income families.

In his memoir, Jay Hammond, the Governor who birthed the Permanent Fund Dividend wrote, "By dispersing dividends it was my original intent to reduce state subsidies based neither on need nor constitutional obligation." Do our most vulnerable brethren-elders, young children, people struggling with mental illness and addiction, and those who can't afford a roof over their heads have no needs? Will bigger than ever personal checks to Alaskans from earnings invested in dwindling oil revenue somehow cushion multimillion dollars cuts to everything from arts to education to healthcare? Yes, the PFD helps Alaska's most vulnerable makes ends meet. But a bigger check is nothing less than a bandaid on a gaping wound. I believe Alaskans would rather see a reversal of big tax credits to bloated oil companies than a decimation of Alaska's most valuable resource-its people.

Sincerely,

Katie Bausler
1501 5th St.
Douglas, AK, 99824

From: Andy Aschwanden <andy.aschwanden@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:04 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Public testimony

Public Testimony, Andy Aschwanden, University of Alaska Fairbanks

Dear House Finance Committee:

I support HB2001 because I believe we Alaskans are wonderful people that look out for each other. Over the years, I found myself stranded on the road side with a flat tire at 40 below more than once, and it never took long before someone stopped and offered help. The Governor's cuts are cruel and hurt the most vulnerable Alaskans, including the homeless, the elders, and rural communities. And the cuts will destroy the economy for years to come. A strong university is vital to the economic future of the state; studies have shown that states that invest in education thrive while those who cut education wilt.

None of this is needed. We can cut the PFD, repeal SB21, and generate revenue by introducing an income tax. Please pass HB2001 and show everyone that we Alaskans care for each other.

Andy Aschwanden, 907 347 99 82

From: Waterlily <cassieellis333@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:04 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Please fund the university

Hello,

UAF is where I have started my career in Human Resources. I want to be able to continue to grow and develop with the University. Please restore funding to the University so that I can continue to live in Alaska.

Kind regards,

Cassandra

From: Paul Greci <paulgreci@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:04 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Cc: Sen. Click Bishop <Sen.Click.Bishop@akleg.gov>; Rep. Grier Hopkins <Rep.Grier.Hopkins@akleg.gov>
Subject: Pass HB 2001

Dear House Finance Committee Members,
Please support and advocate for the passage of House Bill 2001 presented on Monday July 15th at the House Finance Committee meeting. This Bill accurately reflects the original budget passed by the legislature and restores funding of essential services vetoed by our Governor.

The University alone has had a 50 million dollar cut from its budget in the past three years. The state budget has also been cut by over 3 billion dollars in the past several years. The state of Alaska doesn't have a financial problem with 65 billion dollars in the permanent fund. We have neither an income nor sales tax.

Gutting education, the arts, and benefits to seniors all on short notice is unacceptable, appalling, irresponsible, and not by a long-shot in the best interests of Alaska. I am still shocked, angry and saddened that the Legislature could not come together in the best interest of all Alaskans to override the vetoes that threaten to throw us into a recession. I have family members and many friends who will lose their jobs if HB 2001 fails to pass. Please tirelessly support and advocate for the passage of House Bill 2001 so kids can attend college on the scholarships they earned at a fully funded University, rural service areas can have reasonable utility bills, the Arts Council can continue to enrich our lives, people can keep their jobs and continue to contribute to a robust Alaska, and seniors can have the benefits they need while still paying every Alaskan a \$929 PFD.

The choice is clear. Support the passage of House Bill 2001.

Sincerely,

Paul Greci
1670 Herreid Road
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709
[The Wild Lands](#) (Macmillan 2019)
[Surviving Bear Island](#) (Move Books 2015)
Forthcoming--[Follow The River](#) (Move Book Nov. 2019)
Forthcoming--[Hostile Territory](#) (Macmillan Jan. 2020)
paulgreci.com

From: Jeannette O <jeannettea@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:07 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Restore Vetoed Line Items

Good afternoon,

I'm writing today to add my voice to those of thousands of other Alaskans who want Alaska to be a safe and stable place to call home.

I've had a hard time coming up with a reason for why you should listen to me, I'm not any more important than a senior citizen who relies on the PFD and would like to see whatever cut necessary to support a large one. But I also feel that Governor Dunleavy is not so important that he should ignore the work of the legislature, introduce chaos into the

logistics of their meetings, and turn a deaf ear to the majority of Alaskans who want the vetoed budget line items restored.

I work for the University, but let's set that aside for now. My husband is a teacher and our three kids go to public school in Fairbanks. We love it here, even our kids want to finish their schooling where they are. These cuts are already harming the University, and already harming any young people that planned to go to college in Alaska.

You know the issues - I don't need to preach. I'm just here to add my voice to those who feel that these vetoes harm Alaskans and our great state. Please, find a way to restore the vetoed line items, even at the cost of a PFD. I'll pay income tax, I'll pay sales tax. We really have something special here in Alaska, but it's already falling apart, three weeks in to the fiscal year.

Thank you,

Jeannette Okinczyc
218 Slater Dr
Fairbanks, AK 99701

From: Laura Walker <laurawalker227@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:08 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Please restore funding to the University of Alaska

Dear Committee Members,

Please restore funding to the University of Alaska system. My father got a degree from the university here, and my brother and I both got degrees from UAF as well. We both work for the university. My children attend the university. I do not want this opportunity to not exist for them and their peers. A state without a university will force people to move. I don't want to have to leave my home. Not funding the university is short sighted and not good for the economy of Fairbanks or the state. Please work together, and work out a budget that includes funding the university.

Thank you.

Laura Walker
863 Lancaster Dr
Fairbanks AK 99709

From: Richard Ranft <rdranft2@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:08 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: State budget and vetoes

After weeks of back and forth wasting the states money and acting like junior high schoolers on both sides I've had it with all of you!! Not once did I hear of any other solution to the states budget problems other than cutting things and give everyone a full PFD. Growing up when we had extra money and bills to pay, we paid the bills first before thinking of doing anything else with that money. More than 60% of those that receive a dividend use it on frivolous things that they don't really need. So, here's a suggestion, keep my PFD pay the states bills. Next session find another way other than cutting important programs to pay the states bills like, taxing oil differently, state income tax or sales tax. There are many other ways than just destroying Alaska by a thousand cuts.

Richard Ranft

From: Sara Tabbert <sara@saratabbert.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:11 PM

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

Grier_Hopkins@legis.state.ak.us

Subject: Restore funding

Dear Finance Committee, Senator Coghill, Representative Hopkins,

Thank you for your efforts on the veto override attempt. I can only imagine how tiring and difficult this must be for all of you, based on how tired I am. This has been a very trying time.

I am, not surprisingly, writing in support of restoring funding to the state budget. So many of these cuts affect all of us - but particularly those among us who need our help the most - the young, the old, the poor. Access to services and education provides the only way forward for so many in our state who are vulnerable.

My father, a retired UAF professor, was the first person in his family to attend college. He grew up on a small family farm and post-secondary education was not something that was encouraged or easily acquired. Service in the Navy and access to an affordable state school allowed him to have a career that was not anywhere within his family's imagination. His situation was not that different from many students from all across Alaska who pursue an education in the state. His access to higher education allowed my family a far better life than what would have been available without that opportunity. Slashing funding and yanking scholarships, closing campuses and reducing areas of study in support of a very temporary dividend payout is no good investment.

When I talked to you in the spring meeting in Fairbanks, I talked about how these decisions would impact my life. I have a successful career as a visual artist. My partner is a contractor. We have seen the impacts already - I will no longer be working in the public schools as a teaching artist, or have access to other programs through the State Arts Council, he is seeing scheduled building projects delayed for understandable reasons. We will not be breaking ground on a house for ourselves this fall, but rather continuing to live in what is more or less the same unfinished and unplumbed house/wood shop we've been in for the past 17 years. And we are the lucky ones - through maintaining a low standard of living and doing work ourselves and out of pocket, we don't have debt. I get pretty furious at the bizarre accusation leveled at those like us who want more from the state than a dividend check that we are "whiners looking for our handout." Looking at our postponed or canceled building project as well as several others that I know of, there's easily \$700,000 not going into the Fairbanks economy this year. That number has an interesting correspondence to what the state would have paid to fund their fraction of the Alaska State Council on the Arts' budget - leaving over two million dollars on the table that will now go to the economies of other states.

I want to talk a little more about the impact of that particular budget cut. As a teaching artist, I have conducted 25 residencies in the past ten years in communities from the Aleutians to the Seward peninsula, and in at least 2/3 of the public schools in Fairbanks. That work takes a special set of skills - both in art, and adaptability, and genuine interest in

other people. I am really, really good at it. The State Arts Council backed me up with help with logistics, provided a structured contract that allowed me to not be taken advantage of, and made me feel secure knowing that if something went wrong they would have my back. I have from time to time done independent contracts with individual school districts - however, as well all know, there are some tough places in the state and in at least two of those independent projects I found myself in situations where I felt genuinely afraid for my safety. ASCA's program got us in to the places to have impact on the schools and students who need art the most, but also helped us do it in a way that was fair to the artists and vetted what we were getting ourselves into. I always knew they would help if I ran into trouble. Without the safety net and backup of their support, I likely will not continue in this work.

An art career is a series of steps that build on each other. For younger artists, some of the grants and programs (modest, all of them) that ASCA offers are the kinds of opportunities that develop a portfolio to a point where they can apply for and be competitive in a larger field, bringing both money and the right kind of attention to the state. Here's an example from my own experience. In 2017, I was awarded a \$600 Career Opportunity Grant to help cover travel to a residency I was awarded in Montana. Remember, since only \$700,000 of the 2.8 million dollar ASCA budget comes from the state, the state funded part of that grant was actually at most \$150. I went to Montana, worked for two and a half weeks, and brought back nine finished pieces of art. Seven of those have sold, each for \$600. That's \$4,200 of activity IN the economy of Fairbanks and Anchorage that came from that \$150 investment. I bang my head on the wall in frustration - as an artist, I'm way way better at math than our Governor.

I could offer endless other similar examples, and it sort of kills my soul to only discuss art in economic terms, as it is so much more than that. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss any of this in more detail.

Thank you for your time, and your efforts. Let's get our fine state back on track and try to mitigate this disaster. A modest state income tax and a reexamination of the tax structure for the oil companies would be a responsible and sane solution, even if a modest dividend was maintained. I hate reading about our dysfunction in the national news.

Sincerely,
Sara Tabbert
Goldstream Valley
907 687 3933

From: Steve Harris <theqwins@gci.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:12 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: UAF gutting

My son was all set to attend UAF this fall. Class schedule all set, dorm room paid for and roommate picked, ready to go. With the uncertainty that the legislature and Governor are providing, we are sending him to Montana instead. 80% of the kids that go to school Outside don't return to the State. What do you folks not understand???

From: Michele Foley <breconhike@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:06 PM

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

Subject: Budget and PFD

Hello-

I am writing in support of fully funding the budget that has been reinstated, implementing an income tax, and a reduced or no PFD. It is devastating to all of Alaska to have a University that will be gutted by cutting programs, staff, and departments. It will be devastating for families to not have health care. It's pathetic that Alaska lost its Art Council. It's pathetic that we don't have a climatologist on board when the evidence of climate change and global warming is even more pronounced in Alaska. Even though some people think that \$3,000 can make up deficits in services, they're totally wrong as living on another planet. And, really, what kind of government is so bull-headed that they refuse to listen to logic and sense? The conservative Wall Street Journal, The Guardian, The Washington Post, etc., etc., have all written about the the absurdity of these budget cuts.

Thank you all for being the voice of reason in a time when we're living in a parallel universe. Let's get Alaska back on track, fully fund the budget, implement an income tax, and reduce or eliminate the PFD.

Thank you-

Michele Foley

From: Lindy Larson <lindyklarson@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:21 PM

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

Subject: Support the appropriation

I support the appropriation era for permanent fund dividend.

From: Jami Warrick <jami.warrick@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:15 PM

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

Subject: PLEASE SAVE OUR STATE

Dear Legislators,

I, and many others, have gone to extraordinary lengths to summarize how the Governor's budget cuts will impact them and those they love. I'd like to add my voice again to ask that you please pass HB2001 and reverse the cuts. This governor is threatening to destroy Alaska as we know it, and you have the power to stop this. Please listen to your constituencies across the state: Alaskans are open to taxation and well-reasoned, strategic budget cuts; they want an appropriately sized PFD if and when our state can afford it; and they want to maintain access to education and vital state services. I want to stay here in Alaska. My son wants to stay here and finish college at UAF. Please don't let the Governor destroy what Alaskans have built. Make no mistake - destruction is exactly what is intended.

A budget document is more than a financial statement; it summarizes what we prioritize and value. We have a moral obligation to take care of each other. Why would anyone allow the Governor to take away services for

the arts, the homeless, the mentally ill, and children? Why would anyone support cutting K12? The UA system? Do the people of Alaska not deserve access to state services and education? I'm appalled that this travesty has been allowed to get this far. The Governor's cuts are too big, too fast, and will hurt Alaska. This is not leadership. Please work with your colleagues to stand up for ALL Alaskans. The legislature worked hard to pass a balanced budget - you have the power to uphold that work. We are counting on you to pass HB2001 and save our state.

Respectfully,
Jami Warrick

From: Lisa Wiley <akwiley@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:15 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: override the governor's vetoes

Hi,
I am writing to urge you to override all of the governor's harmful vetoes. The budget you passed as a group worked fine. There is no reason for his harmful budget.

Please do everything in your power to fight this devastation.
I am an educator, recently retired from 25 years of teaching in this state. It frightens me to see the cuts to early and advanced education in this state.
As a state, we are not broke.
I support Senate Bill 14 and other creative ways of generating revenue.
Again, fight the governor's harmful vetoes!
Sincerely,
Lisa Wiley

From: Lisa Kramer <lisajk627@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:16 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support HB2001

Good afternoon,

I have been a veterinarian in Juneau for over 39 years and it is not only my job but my passion to provide the best care possible for pets and other animals. The vetoes by the governor are going to decimate the state economy and hurt the people who need help the most. If Alaskans lose their jobs and the support the state has offered in the past, they will not even be able to take care of themselves. If they can't take care of themselves, what do you think is going to happen to their pets? Humane societies and shelters are going to be hurting as well.

I support a smaller PFD and passing HB 2001.

Sincerely,

Lisa Kramer

From: Claire Holland LeClair <northsister@hotmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:17 PM

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: HB 2001

Members of the House Finance Committee-

I support passage of HB 2001 and the sooner the better so that the question of this year's PFD amount can be put to the side. Please work towards approving operating and capital budgets that provide adequate funding for education, social services and all the other items that Governor Dunleavy vetoed.

I hope we can work towards a more holistic approach to funding government services that would include at a minimum: cutting subsidies to the oil companies, a state income tax and a modest (less than \$1500 or so) PFD.

Thank you for your service to our state.

Respectfully,

Claire Holland LeClair
2130 Belair Drive
Anchorage

From: Allyson McCarty <Allyson@dineegacorp.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:17 PM

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

Subject: Restore the PCE

To whom it may concern,

The PCE Program plays a high importance in the rural lifestyle. Shutting down the PCE will be detrimental to all residence. With the high cost of groceries, gas, diesel, freight, and jobs being scarce, it's already tough! Please don't further damage what little we have that helps! Please restore!

Thank you,

Allyson McCarty

Administrative Assistant
Dineega Corporation

P.O. Box 68028
Ruby, Alaska 99768
Ph: 907-468-4405
Fx: 907-468-4403

From: Judah <buckeye.boy@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:18 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Full pfd, cuts are needed

I live in nenana. I voted for dunleavy. He is doing exactly what i want him to do. I support budget cuts. Even extreme budget cuts. The cuts would not have to be so wide IF they had been made years ago. But now they are needed. And i support a full pfd. People need it, deserve it. And should be given a vote if any changes are made to it...

P.s. its not your money. The people will take care of what government can no longer do.

So to wrap up. Cut the budget, pay the full pfd, and restore previous pfd's

From: T. Marsik - personal <tom.marsik@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:19 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Written testimony in support of HB2001

Dear House Finance Committee members,

First of all, thank you all for your important work. My name is Tom Marsik and I am a resident of Fairbanks. I am writing to ask for your support of a reduced permanent fund dividend and full funding for the University of Alaska, Cold Climate Housing Research Center, as well as other important services.

The University of Alaska's programs have a tremendous benefit for the state of Alaska and are critical for the future of the state and its people.

The Cold Climate Housing Research Center (CCHRC) provides critical services regarding buildings and infrastructure in the state, but it is also important to mention that CCHRC doesn't effectively cost the state government any money - the state government utilizes CCHRC's research findings to save money on energy in public buildings and the savings far exceed the investment into CCHRC. Providing state funding for CCHRC is a win-win situation.

Thank you so much for the opportunity to deliver this testimony and for your important work.

Sincerely,

Tom Marsik

From: Sue McMurphy <suemcmurphy@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:21 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject:

I am against HB2001 as our state needs to rein in spending and work toward a more realistic budget that will sustain our state for future generations.

Thank you,
Sue McMurphy
Palmer AK

From: Gina McCarty <ginajmccarty@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:21 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Restore the budget!

Hi, good afternoon this email is in support of House Bill 2001 to restore the budget to the Level funded by the legislature.

My name is Gina McCarty and I live in Fairbanks. I want to let you know that I support an override of the governor's vetoes. The cuts are going to devastate the lives of so many Alaskans for years to come. Our economy isn't going to be able to handle the huge loss of services and jobs. I don't believe in pulling the rug out from our most vulnerable populations. Please support HB 2001 to restore the budget to the levels funded by the legislature.

Thank you for your time,
Gina

From: Rebecca Dunne <fiddler.rebecca@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:22 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Budget testimony

Members of the House Finance Committee:

Thank you for your hard work on achieving a sustainable state budget this year. Please restore the services that the governor has cut so drastically. These cuts to public services hurt Alaskans. Please restore the cuts to the budget. Alaska needs strong public education including a strong University. We need publicly funded health care, including Medicaid and adult dental benefits. We need public radio and a council on the arts. We need you to restore receipt authority so that research agencies can continue to accept grant monies. I don't need a PFD. I would rather lose the PFD entirely and continue to have state services.

Thank you,
Rebecca Dunne
Fairbanks

From: Connie Oba <fryberger81@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:27 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: restore the cuts

To members of the House Finance Committee,

I ask that you please restore the funding that was vetoed by Governor Dunleavy. My family has a vested interest in the University of Alaska. Three of us have degrees from UAF, and two have and are attending there now. These cuts will be devastating to Alaska with just the loss of millions of dollars in research grants let alone the reality of families having to send their children outside to go to college.

Also, I am a teacher, and I am deeply concerned about the loss of a pre-K program. Our children are our greatest resource and the state of Alaska cannot miss the opportunity to give these preschoolers a chance to succeed in life. Have any of you been to a Kindergarten classroom recently? With school funding declining, these classrooms are overcrowded with one teacher expected to see to all their needs. Preschool programs are necessary!

Please, find other sources of revenue. We do NOT need a \$3000 PFD! This full payout is insane. Alaskans will live without \$3000. Alaskans will NOT live with these drastic cuts by the Governor's vetoes.

Thank you for your work,

Connie Oba

From: Howard Earl <howardearl@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:24 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Testimony in support of HB 2001

Finance Committee,

I strongly support the current version of HB 2001 which I feel will put Alaska back on track for a successful and sustainable future.

Best regards,

Howard Earl
PO Box 388
Girdwood, AK 99587

From: Gale K. Vick <gkvsons@alaska.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:25 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Vick - Testimony to House Finance on PFD July 17, 2019

TESTIMONY TO
ALASKA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FINANCE COMMITTEE HEARING ON ALASKA
PERMANENT FUND DIVIDEND
SUPPORT FOR HB2001
July 17, 2019

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee:

My name is Gale Kristina Vick. I am 72, a business owner, a home owner, the matriarch of a large family and a resident of Alaska for over 51 years. I am writing to support HB2001, the reversal of sweeps and the override of vetoes enacted by the Governor.

In 1969, less than 300,000 people lived in Alaska. In 2019, the estimated permanent population is over 735,000. That's a 250% increase in 50 years. But that increase is predicated on the quality of life Alaska can offer, *aside* from a PFD.

I have benefitted from the PFD since the beginning but I believe that right now it is blinding our judgment.

In recent years, over 90% of residents have received a PFD. Payouts have fluctuated based on the market, but the highest was \$2,072 in 2015. The second highest year was \$2069 in 2008, when there was an additional one-time legislative pay-out of \$1200 that was *not* in the PFD formula. We have never had anything close to a \$3000 PFD and now, in a dire budget situation, it seems absurd to even suggest it.

With a resident population of 735,000, a 90% pay out of \$1500 means a total PFD of just under \$1 *billion*. A \$3000 payout means *twice* that at \$2 *billion*. Alaska's current budget deficit is \$1billion. The math is fairly simple. We should not be having a discussion about increasing a PFD payout that is as big as our deficit while at the same time cutting essential services to the state. We should, however, be supporting the proposed HB2001 to secure a pay-out of \$929 for 2020 that would allow us to overturn the Governor's vetoes and retain economic stability. Once the state deficit has been covered, we can talk about increasing the PFD. The PFD payouts mean different things to each of us, depending on need and size of our families. However, we all also depend on essential infrastructure and economic stability which is immensely threatened by a dramatic short-term gain that is likely to send this state into a financial tail spin. Not to mention threatening federal dollars. While some with deep pockets might benefit from a recession, most of us will not.

We need a cap on our PFD as much as we need a cap on spending levels so that both legislators and administrators and the general public can come to grips with balancing our budget.

Therefore, I respectfully recommend the following:

- (1) Support HB2001 for \$929 PFD in 2020
- (2) Permanently *cap* the PFD at \$1500 thereafter
- (3) Restore the vetos enacted by the Governor
- (4) Reverse the sweeps
- (5) Protect the integrity of our University system and K-12 system
- (6) Adopt the budgetary process for budget deficit reduction enacted by the Legislature in 2019

Thank you.

Submitted by:

Gale K. Vick

2075 Becker Ridge Road

Fairbanks, Alaska

907-227-7442

gkvsons@alaksa.net

From: moxpete <moxpete@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:29 PM

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

Subject: Fund services, save our state.

First thank you to all of the legislators who proposed and put forth a working budget, and who have tried to get it pushed through.

I am a lifelong Alaskan, and currently a resident of Fairbanks. I was a student at UAF, and have built a career at the University supporting research of many kinds. I work hard helping others do hard work that has value to the public. Please don't threaten this.

I have a home in Fairbanks. I have two young children who we would have attended school here and maybe even attend UAF. Please protect these things.

Our state needs to be defended from the corporate greed that is forcing the horrors we seem to be on the brink of committing.

Please be the kind of Alaskans that see the value in protecting the recently vetoed services that most Alaskans want. Listen to your fellow Alaskans, this is what most of us want.

Thanks.

Pete Reynoldson

Fairbanks

99709

From: Meghan Chambers <meghan.anne.chambers@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:30 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Save The Arts, Support HB2001

Dear Legislators and House Finance Committee,

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2001.

CORRECT THESE DEVASTATING VETOES TO OUR STATE BUDGET.

I work and participate in my arts & culture sector and community. With the elimination of the Alaska State Council on the Arts (ASCA), my community and other across the state have not only lost operating and program funds, but **lost the leveraging power of the state arts agency. Without a state commitment to ASCA, the agency will not be eligible to secure a share of National Endowment for the Arts funds. Those dollars will be allocated elsewhere, leaving Alaskan taxpayers to foot the bill for the arts in other state. These losses will ripple throughout our essential arts economy for years to come.**

I was born and raised in Alaska. I moved back to my home state to complete my education at University of Alaska Southeast. I am hoping to start a family in the near future. **Give me a reason to keep living in Alaska. I will keep fighting for the future of my state, and I ask, as your fellow Alaskan, that you do the same. SUPPORT HB2001.**

Sincerely,
Meghan Chambers
Juneau, AK

From: Link Olson <linkericolson@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:32 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: PLEASE RESTORE FUNDING TO THE UNIVERSITY

I moved here in August 2003 to start a faculty position at UAF thinking it would be a stepping stone to a position elsewhere (Outside) and that I'd be here for 3-5 years, tops. That I'm still here says it all. I've interviewed at other institutions, including the University of California, Berkeley for a position that up until I moved to Alaska had been my dream job, and knew within 15 minutes of being there that I would leave UAF for it. Indeed, for the past 16 years I've been happy here, despite some ups and downs. But a shockingly small number of people are turning this state inside out over a made-up crisis.

Tax me. Take part or even all of my PFD. And for god's sake, prioritize the interests of Alaskans over Big Oil! We're better than this!

Sincerely,

Link Olson
1791 Meyeres Road
Fairbanks, AK 99712

From: E Henry <lurvwntr@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 5:34 AM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB2001 Testemony

Rhonda Stark
Palmer, Alaska

Dear House Finance Committee Members -

I gave public testimony on Tuesday in Wasilla and request this replace my efforts as I was slightly terror stricken, dehydrated, hungry and, yes had waited a very long time 😊.

With that said, thank you to all of you for your service to our state and even if I disagree with what you are doing, unhappy with the division and lack of support for our governor, I still appreciate the time and sacrifice of your office.

My position -

1. We will not solve the budgetary problems through emotions. Reining in our spending will be hard for all of us.
2. We need to spend less. Our state budget needs to be smaller for the future. The standard order of government responsibility is protection of citizens, establishing infrastructure, and now education. Everything else really is extra and is getting us into trouble and setting us up for financial catastrophe. The government should not be the economy. In a healthy democratic republic it is the private sector that is the driving economic force. Government does not produce.
3. Entitlement has become a damaging culture of learned helplessness. Social assistance for the needy has become an expected government service, despite the private sector doing a much better job historically. Disabled seniors and other incapacitated adults that absolutely will not be able to provide for themselves need assistance of some sort. Everyone else should not be receiving assistance beyond the very temporary. Sadly in the last decade this has changed drastically and we now even have parents coaching their kids in 'using the system'. I have numerous friends working in healthcare and social services whom have shared this sad information with me. We have created a culture. We are approaching the tipping point of this culture in relation to the citizens that work gainfully. This is heartbreaking and angering at the same time as I see politicians now using it to their advantage. Encourage dependency but make sure they vote and of course the vote will be for socialism because it means more government support. So as the scale slowly tips in this direction, who will support all of these people and programs? Who will work?

The permanent fund was set up as a means of giving dividends to the citizens that gave up their sub surface rights to share in resource development to benefit our resource rich state. It was also set up for future days of less abundance to help fund state services. The state bears responsibility in maintaining a reasonable and conscientious budget. The state has dropped the ball. Hence we should not be using the pfd until the budget is within reality. Quit playing politics with entitlement and rein it in. People will survive. The university will survive. Then next year rein it in some more. Get rid of the culture of entitlement and be responsible to the committed working citizens of this state.

Please do not pass HB 2001

Work with our governor

Thank you.

Rhonda Stark

From: Gina McCarty <ginajmccarty@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:21 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Restore the budget!

Hi, good afternoon this email is in support of House Bill 2001 to restore the budget to the Level funded by the legislature.

My name is Gina McCarty and I live in Fairbanks. I want to let you know that I support an override of the governor's vetoes. The cuts are going to devastate the lives of so many Alaskans for years to come. Our economy isn't going to be able to handle the huge loss of services and jobs. I don't believe in pulling the rug out from our most vulnerable populations. Please support HB 2001 to restore the budget to the levels funded by the legislature.

Thank you for your time,
Gina
Sent from my iPhone

From: Rebecca Dunne <fiddler.rebecca@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:22 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Budget testimony

Members of the House Finance Committee:

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Thank you,
Rebecca Dunne
Fairbanks

From: Connie Oba <fryberger81@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:27 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: restore the cuts

To members of the House Finance Committee,

I ask that you please restore the funding that was vetoed by Governor Dunleavy. My family has a vested interest in the University of Alaska. Three of us have degrees from UAF, and two have and are attending there now. These cuts will be devastating to Alaska with just the loss of millions of dollars in research grants let alone the reality of families having to send their children outside to go to college.

Also, I am a teacher, and I am deeply concerned about the loss of a pre-K program. Our children are our greatest resource and the state of Alaska cannot miss the opportunity to give these preschoolers a chance to succeed in life. Have any of you been to a Kindergarten classroom recently? With school funding declining, these classrooms are overcrowded with one teacher expected to see to all their needs. Preschool programs are necessary!

Please, find other sources of revenue. We do NOT need a \$3000 PFD! This full payout is insane. Alaskans will live without \$3000. Alaskans will NOT live with these drastic cuts by the Governor's vetoes.

Thank you for your work,

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From: Howard Earl <howardearl@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:24 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Testimony in support of HB 2001

Finance Committee,

I strongly support the current version of HB 2001 which I feel will put Alaska back on track for a successful and sustainable future.

Best regards,

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PO Box 388
Girdwood, AK 99587

From: Gale K. Vick <gkvsons@alaska.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:25 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Vick - Testimony to House Finance on PFD July 17, 2019

TESTIMONY TO
ALASKA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FINANCE COMMITTEE HEARING ON ALASKA
PERMANENT FUND DIVIDEND
SUPPORT FOR HB2001

July 17, 2019

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee:

My name is Gale Kristina Vick. I am 72, a business owner, a home owner, the matriarch of a large family and a resident of Alaska for over 51 years. I am writing to support HB2001, the reversal of sweeps and the override of vetoes enacted by the Governor.

In 1969, less than 300,000 people lived in Alaska. In 2019, the estimated permanent population is over 735,000. That's a 250% increase in 50 years. But that increase is predicated on the quality of life Alaska can offer, *aside* from a PFD.

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We need a cap on our PFD as much as we need a cap on spending levels so that both legislators and administrators and the general public can come to grips with balancing our budget.

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- (4) Reverse the sweeps
- (5) Protect the integrity of our University system and K-12 system
- (6) Adopt the budgetary process for budget deficit reduction enacted by the Legislature in 2019

Thank you.

Submitted by:

Gale K. Vick

2075 Becker Ridge Road
Fairbanks, Alaska
907-227-7442
gkvsons@alaksa.net

From: moxpete <moxpete@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:29 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Fund services, save our state.

First thank you to all of the legislators who proposed and put forth a working budget, and who have tried to get it pushed through.

I am a lifelong Alaskan, and currently a resident of Fairbanks. I was a student at UAF, and have built a career at the University supporting research of many kinds. I work hard helping others do hard work that has value to the public. Please don't threaten this.

I have a home in Fairbanks. I have two young children who we would have attended school here and maybe even attend UAF. Please protect these things.

Our state needs to be defended from the corporate greed that is forcing the horrors we seem to be on the brink of committing.
Please be the kind of Alaskans that see the value in protecting the recently vetoed services that most Alaskans want. Listen to your fellow Alaskans, this is what most of us want.
Thanks.

Pete Reynoldson
Fairbanks
99709

From: Meghan Chambers <meghan.anne.chambers@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:30 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Save The Arts, Support HB2001

Dear Legislators and House Finance Committee,

PLEASE SUPPORT HB2001.

CORRECT THESE DEVASTATING VETOES TO OUR STATE BUDGET.

I work and participate in my arts & culture sector and community. With the elimination of the Alaska State Council on the Arts (ASCA), my community and other across the state have not only lost operating and program funds, but **lost the leveraging power of the state arts agency. Without a state commitment to ASCA, the agency will not be eligible to secure a share of National Endowment for the Arts funds. Those dollars will be allocated elsewhere, leaving Alaskan taxpayers to foot the bill for the arts in other state. These losses will ripple throughout our essential arts economy for years to come.**

I was born and raised in Alaska. I moved back to my home state to complete my education at University of Alaska Southeast. I am hoping to start a family in the near future. **Give me a reason to keep living in Alaska. I will keep fighting for the future of my state, and I ask, as your fellow Alaskan, that you do the same. SUPPORT HB2001.**

Sincerely,
Meghan Chambers
Juneau, AK

From: Link Olson <linkericolson@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:32 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: PLEASE RESTORE FUNDING TO THE UNIVERSITY

I moved here in August 2003 to start a faculty position at UAF thinking it would be a stepping stone to a position elsewhere (Outside) and that I'd be here for 3-5 years, tops. That I'm still here says it all. I've interviewed at other institutions, including the University of California, Berkeley for a position that up until I moved to Alaska had been my dream job, and knew within 15 minutes of being there that I would leave UAF for it. Indeed, for the past 16 years I've been happy here, despite some ups and downs. But a shockingly small number of people are turning this state inside out over a made-up crisis.

Tax me. Take part or even all of my PFD. And for god's sake, prioritize the interests of Alaskans over Big Oil! We're better than this!

Sincerely,

Link Olson
1791 Meyeres Road
Fairbanks, AK 99712

From: Katherine Hocker <kmhocker@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:34 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Please pass HB2001

I fully support HB2001.

Kathy Hocker
Gustavus, AK

From: Cassie Pinkel <cassiepinkel_ehs@hotmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:34 PM

To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>; LIO Fairbanks <Lio.Fairbanks@akleg.gov>

Cc: Neal.Foster@akleg.gov; Jennifer.Johnston@akleg.gov; Dan.Ortiz@akleg.gov; Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov; Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov; Bart.LeBon@akleg.gov; Adam.Wool@akleg.gov; Cathy.Tilton@akleg.gov; Kelly.Merrick@akleg.gov; Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov; Ben.Carpenter@akleg.gov

Subject: CSHB2001

Dear House Finance Committee,

My name is Cassandra Pinkel,

I am an concerned Alaskan resident, a UAF Alumni and a current UAF employee. I urge you to do what necessary to over turn / over ride the Governors vetos and restore funding not only to the University but to so many other areas suffering cuts (education, health care, arts etc.). I have already heard of students turning down scholarships to UAF b/c they are uncertain what it will mean for their degrees. I have friends interviewing out of state for jobs. I have co-workers being denied refinancing on their homes b/c of who their current employer is (UAF). Negative consequences have already begun to unfold and it will only get much worse from here.

Take my PFD but spare me my job! UA is a pillar to many communities across Alaska and with that pillar gone the disastrous effects are endless.

and unknown. Finding out what all these consequences will be is not a risk we should be willing to take.

Sincerely,

Cassandra "Cassie" Pinkel

3085 Chinook Dr

Fairbanks, AK 99709

907-978-2862

From: susan sloss <suesloss@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:35 PM

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

Subject: #SaveAlaskaArts and #SaveOurState by OVERRIDING VETOES

Dear Alaska Legislators,

It is imperative that you vote to SaveOurState AND to SaveAlaskaArts!

It is in the best interests of ALL Alaskan to OVERRIDE the Governor's vetoes! Importantly, the University of Alaska MUST BE fully funded to ensure the continued educational opportunities, essential scientific research, and intellectual growth of Alaskans who rely on UA for higher education, training and job advancement. It

would be STUPID to downgrade Alaskans educational and research opportunities, unless the Governor's intentions are to dumb down Alaskans!

Also, it is imperative that Alaska and Alaskans have continued art opportunities, as provided by and through UA and the Alaska State Council on the Arts (ASCA). REFUND ASCA, and #SaveAlaskaArts!

Thank you for your service to this great state!

Susan Sloss
15775 Glacier Hwy,
Juneau AK 99801

From: Carol Kleckner <carol@carolkleckner.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:35 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Veto cuts

From:
Carol Kleckner
PO Box 82856
Fairbanks, Alaska 99708 (3129 Bunchberry Lane)
907-479-0430

Dear Lawmakers:

Aren't you embarrassed? Ashamed?? Not only for yourselves but for our governor?

Originally you worked hard together to come up with a good budget plan. Many hours of toil, arguments and probably some tears.

I was proud to hear of the bipartisan work and across party lines agreements. THIS is what we pay you for!

Then along comes Dunleavy with his red pen. He had decided along with outside interests and a woman who has wrecked states in her rear view mirror to ignore all of your suggestions. He had decided long before you were even finished that he was not going to go along with the plan.

Doesn't that make you boiling mad?

It did 37 of you and I'm grateful and humbled for your stance.

To the other 23—shame shame for selling our state, our people, YOUR people short. You small group of sheep groveling after your master.

Actually sheep are a lot smarter. At least they know what a big bad wolf is.

From: Elizabeth Mikow <beth.mikow@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:36 PM

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

Subject: Support of restoring funding

I am a citizen of Fairbanks and have been gravely concerned about Governor Dunleavy's line item vetoes totaling \$444 million in state funding. I urge the legislature to reinstate funding, approve a smaller PFD and revisit the tax breaks given to oil companies.. It makes no sense to destroy our state in order to have a \$3,000 payout and oil companies do not need these subsidies. I am also more than willing to help carry my share of state government costs in the form of an income tax.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Mikow

From: Kevin Winker <kevinwinker@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:36 PM

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

Subject: Please support HB2001 and a strong university

Dear Legislators,

I write in support of funding the University of Alaska at the level determined by the legislature last month. The governor's draconian cuts are already causing short- and long-term damage to the state. From Moody's credit downgrade to students and faculty leaving the state to Federal grant funding losses, this is a train wreck.

And for what gain? A little bit more in everyone's PFD? It is ludicrous to cause so much damage for adding a bit more to an entitlement program. The state's economy will suffer in the short and long term, and we will lose many of Alaska's best and brightest by compromising their educational opportunities, sending Alaska's future Outside and weakening our future. Please support HB2001, restore the funds cut by the governor's vetoes. And thank you for your service and support.

Sincerely, Kevin Winker

From: Ellen Weiser <ellensweiser3@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:38 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Testimony to the committee

I am writing to you in support of House Bill 2001. However, I have spoken to my representative and testified before. Is any one listening? Poll after poll shows that there is overwhelming support for restoring the cuts but there is little evidence that any common sense representative has the power to convince his/her colleagues to come together, put aside petty differences and SAVE OUT STATE

Ellen Weiser
3293 Rosie Creek
Fairbanks. 99709

From: Pam's Email <pwoolcot@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:39 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB 2001

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

Pam Woolcott
Juneau

From: Susan Harding <sharding@ctcak.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:40 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Financial Bill under consideration

Please let me thank all of you who voted to override the veto by Gov. DUnleavy and let me urge all of you to give your support to the current financial bill under consideration.

I am being bombarded by questions from the citizens of Cordova asking what is going to happen to the schools, the college and the ferry and senior citizens in particular. There is a great deal of unrest and anxiety and as a resident of this community I am hard pressed to give a good answer. We are all dependent on your vote and your support of these institutions and programs and I cannot urge you strongly enough to consider what a No vote means to our great state of Alaska. Your vote doesn't just affect the present. There will be reverberations for years to come if you do not support a YES vote. Please make your vote help us.

Thank you again for your service to our great state of Alaska.

Susan Harding
Cordova Resident

From: susan rainey <sue.rainey.alaska@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:40 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: state budget

I am a 46 year resident of Alaska. All three of my children were born, raised and currently reside in Alaska. My two grandchildren are Alaskans.

I believe I have much more invested in this great state than do the oil companies you seem happy to continue paying. You continue to pay the oil companies, some of the wealthiest corporations on the Earth, while you deny my family the opportunity of a secure and successful future. How can you abandon your bipartisan approved and properly vetted, yet austere, budget to the reckless and destructive directives of Outsiders?

If you fail to restore the vetoed budget items you have failed your family, friends, communities and constituents and doomed the state to a dismal fate.

Susan Rainey

--

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Susan Rainey
Broker/Owner
Riverview Realty
(907) 479-4000

From: ursel schuette <urselschuette@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:41 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Testominy - House of finance

To whom it may concern,

Please think about what you are doing right now to the future of Alaska. Is it really necessary to cut so many jobs resulting in young Alaskans not getting the education they deserve so we can have a PFD of \$3,000? Yes, there are Alaskans who rely on their PFD and they should have it! A large number of people in Alaska though don't need their PFD. We use it to e.g. fly to Hawaii on vacation. But we do need our jobs to support our families and to help young Alaskans get the education they deserve, and to get to stay in the place we call our home.

If you take scholarships or TA-ships from students, you don't just take a little bit of their money, you take their income that they depend on so that they can go to school or do their graduate degree. How can you play with livelihoods like that? We are not talking about these students maybe finishing their degree a little later. Many of these students will have to drop out of school. Please don't refuse them a better future.

Best wishes,
Ursel

From: Stephen Blanchett <stephen@pamyua.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:43 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB2001

Rarely do I speak out so passionately in public about issues. I cannot stand by quietly. The state of our government and the decisions to cut so many vital programs and support to Alaskan institutions is a tragedy. I call on all legislators to make the right decision and stop these devastating cuts. Stand up for yourselves, your families, your dignity and all Alaskans. We are at a critical turning point in our state's history. My ancestors have lived on these lands since time immemorial. Indigenous people remember what it looks like when an entire population begins to let go of their identity, their way of life, their cultural and artistic heritage. This loss is catastrophic and takes generations to reverse.

There is no better indicator of the spiritual health of our city, its neighborhoods, and the larger region than the state of the arts. Jonathan Fanton, President, MacArthur Foundation.

The Arts and culture industry, unlike many industries, leverages a significant amount of event-related spending by its audiences. Attendance at arts events generates related commerce for local business such as restaurants, parking, hotels, and retail stores. A study in 2012 found SHI's biennial Celebration has a \$2 million economic impact on the city each year it is held; this is the first time research has quantified the institute's total economic impact on Juneau and beyond.

In 2014 Southeast Conference revealed a comprehensive study on arts economy of Southeast Alaska. Key Findings:

- 57.8 Million: Dollars spent by artists, art organizations and audiences in 2013
- 2,340: Number of artists with earnings from the arts in 2013 (full & part time)
- 29.9 Million: Revenue earned by regional artist in 2013
- 23%: Percent of an independent artist's total income derived from arts, on average in the Southeast region.
- 1,830: Arts events in 2013, including performances, festivals, camps, etc.

For Alaska Native arts in the region, it has played an extremely significant and meaningful role to their economy. Regionally, approximately one-quarter of all artists identify themselves as Alaska Native artists. Given the historical and cultural implications of Southeast Alaska Native art it is unsurprising that the economic significance of art to the Alaska Native artists is greater than for the larger regional art network.

Cuts to the arts will have deep and lasting impacts to the state, and will be especially devastating to the Southeast region. In Tlingit, Wóoch.éen Yei Jituné (we are working together) is the spirit of working together. We need our message to be one of partnership, Wóoch.éen Yei Jituné, determining to embrace inclusion and equity through maintaining our identity through cultural and artistic heritage.

Quyana & Gunalchéesh
Stephen Blanchett

From: Charlie & Jamie Rodriguez <cjrodriguez@ak.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:44 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: The Need to Pass HB2001

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee,
Please take a moment to read this fable. There is a point to it.

The welfare of each is bound up with the welfare of all

There was a farmer who grew excellent quality corn. Every year he won the award for the best grown corn. One year a newspaper reporter interviewed him and learned something interesting about how he grew it. The reporter discovered that the farmer shared his seed corn with his neighbors.

"How can you afford to share your best seed corn with your neighbors when they are entering corn in competition with yours each year?" the reporter asked.

"Why sir," said the farmer, "Didn't you know? The wind picks up pollen from the ripening corn and swirls it from field to field. If my neighbors grow inferior corn, cross-pollination will steadily degrade the quality of my corn. If I am to grow good corn, I must help my neighbors grow good corn."

So is with our lives... Those who want to live meaningfully and well must help enrich the lives of others, for the value of a life is measured by the lives it touches. And those who choose to be happy must help others find happiness, for the welfare of each is bound up with the welfare of all.

What is the point in sending this little fable? It applies to our current situation. You need to remember that we are a community that includes ALL Alaskans. When one succeeds, we all succeed. When one fails, we all fail. That is community.

The art of being a good legislator is working for the betterment of the entire community. It's not done with an ax or club or torch. It's done with careful planning, with a long view to the future, and judicious adjustments along the way, always for the betterment of the entire community.

Think hard. What do you want your legacy in this dark time to be? Will you be a destroyer or a fixer? If you're not in this for the greater good, then you shouldn't be there.

Vote yes to pass HB2001, a bill for the greater good!

Thank you,

Jamie Rodriguez, Alaska Resident because I love it here since 1974

From: Christine Pate <pate_christine@yahoo.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:45 PM

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

Subject: Public Testimony on Budget vetos

Dear Members of House Finance:

I am writing to express my distress over the Governor's vetos. I am a 25 year plus Alaska resident and have raised both of my children in Alaska. I am concerned about many of the vetos, but especially the cuts to the University system, medicaid, homelessness and Alaska Legal Services Corporation. I have no personal interest in the University cuts as neither of my children chose to attend the University of Alaska system (although both were UA scholars), however I am very concerned about the multitude of effects that dramatically cutting funding will have for our state. Many Sitka High students continue to go to University of Alaska and benefit from the lower tuition. These are kids that might not otherwise attend college OR who choose to stay in state and then work here. We are seriously harming ourselves in the future if we cut our higher education sources for our kids. We are forcing our kids to go out of state for education where they will very likely remain for their future work careers.

Additionally, as a 25 year plus advocate for domestic violence and sexual assault survivors, I know that many of our clients having housing, health and other needs that will be affected by the other agencies/cuts mentioned above. Studies have shown that the two MOST important needs for survivors to leave violent relationship is access to legal services (civil not criminal) and housing. These services have been now significantly reduced in our state. I find it unconscionable that given our rates of violence that we would do anything to continue to harm survivors.

Please do all you can to override these vetos including reducing or even taking my PFD! our state's future is more important.

Thank you,
Christine Pate

From: ann.myren@gmail.com <ann.myren@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:48 PM

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

Subject: Please support HB 2001

Hello Finance Committee Members,

I want to express my support for House Bill 2001. Please reinstitute the funding for the important services that were cut by the Governor. I am happy to forgo my permanent fund for the good of our state and the people who call it home.

Please continue to work to get us back on track with the needed services, ferries and educational opportunities that are critical to our quality of life.

Thank you,

Ann

Ann Myren
Resources and Results Consulting, LLC
Box 951
Haines AK 99827
907-766-2584

From: Chris Benshoof <cbenshoof@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:49 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support for HB 2001

Thank you for taking the time to read this email - I know you and your colleagues have many constituents to hear from these days!

My name is Chris Benshoof, and I am writing in strong support of House Bill 2001. I have watched these past weeks as the governor's line item vetoes have scared Alaskans, threatened our public support systems, and begun to dismantle the University, K-12 Education system, and support for vulnerable populations around the state.

I was born and raised here in Fairbanks, and now I am a high school teacher at Lathrop High School. Over the years I've seen many many students head to our local university for both the quality of programs they offer as well as to take advantage of the Alaska Performance Scholarship. I am worried that - among other things - the vetoes and decisions that threaten the university and the Alaska Performance Scholarship will eliminate one of the few viable options our local students have for a college education. Our Fairbanks community relies heavily on UAF, just as the state of Alaska relies on the UA system.

It is perhaps most frustrating to see the governor's actions undo all the great work that you and the legislature did this past session to create a balanced approach to funding our state services with a reduced PFD. I was impressed that both the House and Senate were able to reach the compromise they did - thank you for that! I am glad to see that HB 2001 can try to reinstate the programs the legislature had intended to fund, and that the long-term needs of Alaska.

I urge you to support House Bill 2001, and I want to thank you for continuing to fight for the future of Alaska - even in the face of short-term political challenges.

If there is anything I can do to help, please let me know.

- Christopher Benshoof, M.Ed., M.S.
National Board Certified Teacher
2013 Alaska State Teacher of the Year
1003 4th ave Fairbanks, AK 99701

From: Judy Rae Smith <fairbanks42girl@yahoo.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:49 PM

To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>; Rep. Grier Hopkins <Rep.Grier.Hopkins@akleg.gov>; Rep. Bart LeBon <Rep.Bart.Lebon@akleg.gov>

Subject: action on budget vetos

Dear House Finance Committee:

Since I'm unable to attend the local meeting regarding the budget vetoes, please consider this my testimony.

I've lived in Fairbanks for 48 years, was present when the Permanent Fund was created, and have received various amounts over the years for PFDs. I do not consider myself ENTITLED to the PFD. This is a bonus when the state's business has been paid for and the budget will not be in jeopardy with overpayment of PFDs. Governor Dunleavy's campaign promise for a \$3000 PFD ignores the societal good in favor of entitled individualism. Please do not compromise the future of young Alaskans for this selfish goal.

Every people program whose funding has been cut impacts directly or indirectly countless businesses and families whose livelihoods are connected to these programs. The effects on education could jeopardize the futures of countless young Alaskans who will NEVER recover from the loss of a quality education.

Please overturn the vetoes of this short-sighted governor and restore the quality of life in Alaska.

Sincerely,

Judy Rae Smith (Bart--I was Erin and Ali's 6th grade teacher at Weller. Loved seeing the family photo with you and Mary.)
(h); 907-455-6860

From: Reggie Schapp <reggie@jahc.org>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:50 PM

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

Subject: HB2001

PLEASE support this bill!!!! Our state is a humane state, but the cuts were brutal for many of our family, friends, neighbors and citizens. While I agree we need to cut the budget, we need to do so responsibly. The \$280,000 originally cut were fair and evenly distributed. The \$440,000 from the veto override were not. While our family can use a larger PFD check, it is not worth the harm it is causing throughout the state of Alaska.

Please remember you work for us the citizens of Alaska. We count on our legislators to respect our opinions and the needs in our communities. It is time to come together for the betterment of the State and not to break the hearts of Alaskans everywhere.

Sincerely,
Reggie Schapp
Juneau, AK

From: Caroline Storm <caroline.f.storm@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:52 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Public testimony CS HB2001

House Finance Committee,

I provided oral testimony on Monday at the LIO in Anchorage and listened to three hours of testimony. Thank you for your commitment to listening to what Alaskans think right now. Hearing 20 + hours of public testimony this week is grueling and often uncomfortable and I wanted to recognize the effort it is taking on your part.

Since Monday, new information has come out regarding the impacts the governors cuts are having. Just today we are learning that Moody's will downgrade UA's bond rating by three notches, putting UA as the second lowest rated flagship university in the nation. Maybe this no longer matters if the state no longer has a university system, however my point is that the effects of these cuts are sending some real shock waves through communities and it's really stressful.

Today you are in an impossible situation, and I have found myself very conflicted on the issue of the PFD payment for the last three years. The very people that rely most on the economic boost of the full PFD are the very people that are hit the hardest by these cuts/vetoes. Those people need both a full PFD and the funding restored. If many of the vetoes stand and the PFD is reduced, there are a lot of people who will be seriously harmed. I believe the most obvious solution is still a small income tax and oil tax credit revision. You've heard people testify rationally about the need for an income tax for a few years now, and so I implore you to start drafting the bill now, so that we are not caught up in this circus again next year.

In closing, I will say what I had intended to say to you in person on Monday: I believe that those who are vehemently opposed to an income tax are those who have prospered by taking everything they need from Alaska and are now happy to pull the ladder up behind themselves, instead of reaching their hand down to help the next person up.

As Alaskans, we can do better.

Thank you,
Caroline Storm
District 24 / L

From: Jacqueline Newell <jackie_newell_ak@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:53 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB 2001 comments

House finance committee,

I have lived in Alaska for the past 40 years. I have experience both opportunities and challenges living in Alaska. I am very upset and concerned about drastic cuts that Governor Dunleavy has made to the current budget via line item vetoes. It is horrible that services for the most vulnerable Alaskan citizens, including our children are being gutted in order to permit a full permanent fund dividend to everyone. I would rather go without a PFD for several years and/or have an income tax instituted as long as we have the necessary services we have relied upon--good highways, excellent education system (preschool through doctoral programs), good jobs for community members, taking care of the disabled, older Alaskans, abused children and those with mental illness. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Newell

From: Tara Smith

Sent: Monday, July 1, 2019 11:37 AM

To: Sen.Jesse.Kiehl@akleg.gov; rep.sara.hannan@akleg.gov; Rep.Dan.Ortiz@akleg.gov; Rep.Andi.Story@akleg.gov; Michelle Henriques <mhenriques@chhcare.com>

Subject: FW: Stop the 5% cut to Personal Care, Home and community based services for Seniors and disabled

Dear members of Alaska House Finance,

I am co-owner of a home care agency that represents and serves Juneau, Ketchikan, Haines, Petersburg, Prince of Wales Island, and Angoon's Senior and disabled populations who receive in home care through Medicaid.

Personal Care services are the **LEAST EXPENSIVE service** to all the elderly, frail, and disabled to remain independent and safe at home. Finding caregivers to provide this important service is difficult to say the least. People looking for employment can work at a grocery store for a higher wage and less training.

Alaska Personal Care services cannot take another 5% cut. That cut would take us back to reimbursement rates from 5 years ago, forcing us to cut a PCA employee's pay down to a past hourly rate that working ALASKANS CANNOT SURVIVE ON.

Please read the attached letter to see how business owners have already stretched our resources and funds with cuts to Alaska's Division of Senior and Disabilities since 2014 through 2018. Our Southeast Home Care business will be forced to look at closing service areas in our most rural of areas, such as Prince of Wales Island, Angoon, and Ketchikan, where persons with disabilities already have difficulty finding basic care in their homes, and where we provide jobs to rural Alaskans.

Do you have a parent or child who needs care at home? What if the agency could not staff it because of the reduction in rates? We cannot even cover administrative oversight requirements if rates are reduced more. We are already stretched to our limits. (2019 Reimbursement slide)

Most importantly, please read the value of Medicaid and how much of that funding is from federal funding. (as I am sure you already know)

The governor is not looking at the seniors, disabled and frail; and the effects it will have on them if left at home alone, nor the triple amount of cost it would be to send those populations to a nursing home. His veto was a slap in the face to the hard work you all did, and a slap in the face to all Alaskans.

I have personally spoken to all 4 of you on the hill advocating for personal care services as a board member of the Alaska Association for Personal Care Supports.

3 of you came to my door in Juneau before elections came , and made promises about keeping jobs, paying Alaskans a decent wage, supporting senior care, so I voted for you.

Please help override the governor's veto, seniors, disabled , Alaskan workers and businesses are counting on your support.

Thank you so much,

Tara Smith, President
ILS Program Director
Cornerstone Home Care
tsmith@chhcare.com
(907)586-6838 FAX (907)586-8114
www.chhcare.com

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From: Tara Smith

Sent: Wednesday, June 12, 2019 1:34 PM

To: 'adam.crum@alaska.gov' <adam.crum@alaska.gov>; 'donna.steward@alaska.gov' <donna.steward@alaska.gov>; 'donna.arduin@alaska.gov' <donna.arduin@alaska.gov>; 'anthony.newman@alaska.gov' <anthony.newman@alaska.gov>; 'kyle.scherrer@alaska.gov' <kyle.scherrer@alaska.gov>; 'sana.efird@alaska.gov' <sana.efird@alaska.gov>; 'heather.carpenter@alaska.gov' <heather.carpenter@alaska.gov>; 'brian.fetcher@Alaska.gov' <brian.fetcher@Alaska.gov>

Subject: Stop the 5% cut to Home and community based services for Seniors and disabled

Dear Commissioner Crum, Deputy Commissioner Steward, and OMB Director Donna Arduin,

Alaska Home care services cannot take another 5% cut. Please read the attached letter to see how business owners have already stretched our resources and funds with cuts to Alaska's Division of Senior and Disabilities since 2014 through 2018 . Our Southeast Home Care business will be forced to look at closing service areas in our most rural of areas, such as Prince of Wales Island, where persons with disabilities already have difficulty finding basic care in their homes.

This intent language expresses a desire to avoid balancing Alaska's fiscal crisis on the back of its most vulnerable citizens who, through no fault of their own, have been denied the same economic opportunities as Alaskans without disabilities. Please honor this intent language as you authorize the State Operating Budget.

For these reasons, we are asking for the demonstration of your care for vulnerable Alaskans. Please use your authority to eliminate (or limit to the 2.5% inflationary increase of FY19) the proposed 5% provider rate reductions for Medicaid Senior and Disability Services providers.

From: Paul Maki <paulwmaki@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:54 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: House Finance Committee Testimony

Dear House Finance Committee Members;

Please accept this as my testimony regarding the very important topics below:

The Governor's Budget Vetoes

The Governor's line item vetoes will be devastating to the University and to so many important government services that we have all come to rely on. I am afraid his budget cuts will push Alaska's economy back into a recession. Unemployment will increase, property values will decline, and Alaska will become much less attractive for those who would like to come here and invest here. **I ask you to work in a bi-partisan fashion to restore most of the budget cuts so that Alaska doesn't again plunge into a recession.**

The Permanent Fund

When the Permanent Fund was created, it was meant to fund the operations of state government when future oil production and revenues declined. Governor Hammond devised the plan to give it to the people of Alaska. To some, it has become an entitlement. **As for taxes versus the Permanent Fund, I say, take the Permanent Fund to pay for government operations, but use it wisely and sustainably.** Alternatively, grant some of the earnings of the Permanent Fund to the people of Alaska, but in a much-less generous amount than in the past so Alaskans don't come to rely on it as income.

The Special Session

I just read that the Governor has modified his Special Session call to convene all Legislators in Juneau. I wrote to him last week asking him to do just that, and now I see that he did. So, now I ask you (ALL Legislators) to work in a bi-partisan fashion to finish the work on the FY 2020 budget and the PFD.

This is a very serious time for the people of Alaska. I hope you will consider my views and make your decisions based on what is good for Alaska in the long run.

Sincerely,
Paul W. Maki
Fairbanks, Alaska

From: Liz Marantz <emarantzf@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:55 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB 2001

Please do everything in your power to make sure that the committee substitute for house bill 2001 ensuring funding for all items that were vetoed by the governor and a \$929.00 pfd.

Thanks -

Liz Marantz
222 front street
Haines, ak. 99827

From: Heather Best <hbest25@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:56 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: testimony for Standing Committee--Fairbanks

Hello,

As a member of the Fairbanks community I want to provide testimony of my concerns about the Governor's vetoes and the current bill to restore some of the funding that he has attempted to remove. The cuts will devastate the economy and community in my home of Fairbanks. Many of my friends have spoken to me about their concern for their jobs and families due to the cuts. I live near UAF and know many of the highly educated workforce there, people who are highly employable in other states, but work here because they love Alaska and want to contribute to science, hazard mitigation, social justice, and education here. It seems that the Governor does not value a highly educated citizenry as he not only removes funding for these people but also hampers educational opportunities for the next generations--to be taught or mentored by the current group of educators, scientists, and professionals at UAF.

Most egregious in my opinion is how the cuts will affect people that depend on state services that no \$3000 PFD pay out will make up for. It seems many people are not considering that when money is sent to individuals in the form of PFD checks, much of that money (10-40%) is immediately taken directly out of the state by the federal government. Using those funds instead for needed state services keeps 100% of every dollar in Alaska and buys much more than could be purchased directly by a individual citizen. Cuts to the education budget will have to be made up by higher property taxes. Loss of thousands of UAF jobs will depress the housing market, lowering property values and necessitating even more tax contributions by those who remain after the exodus of job seekers. All while the resource extraction industries are not having any changes to the tax breaks given them by our state. We need to value Alaskan citizens over large multi-national corporations.

Heather Best
Fairbanks, AK

From: Anne Biberman <anne.biberman@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:56 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Strong support for HB 2001

I am very much in support of HB 2001. I feel it is important to have a dividend and not penalize those who truly depend on it. In the future I urge you to revisit the tax incentives and subsidies for the petroleum industry and consider cutting them back and consider bringing back an income tax where everyone pays according to their income. Full funding without these in place is entirely inappropriate. HB 2001 is a great compromise. Thank you.

It is my hope that passing this bill will restore the cuts made by the governor's vetoes, fully fund the capitol budget and restore funding to programs including scholarships and power cost equalization.

In addition to all else that is at stake, losing the Alaska State Council on the Arts entirely has dire implications.

A \$693,500 appropriation in state funds representing 0.014% (around 1/100th of one percent) of the state's \$4.9 billion general fund spending package. Without funding and an expert staff, ASCA's impact is undercut, eliminating:

- **Programs that support the economies of rural communities.** (64% of ASCA's grants are awarded to rural areas.)
- **Healing arts services for Alaskan service members and military families.** (Art-based treatments for PTSD and depression save more than \$1000 per veteran.)
- **Programs that boost the academic success of Alaskan youth and reduce school dropouts.** (Lowering Alaska's dropout rate could lead to more than \$31 million annually in economic growth opportunities and reduced dependency on the state's social safety net.)
- **Promotion of authentic work by Alaska Native artists.** (The Silver Hand program protects the livelihoods of Alaska Native artists and secures Alaska's position in a competitive global art marketplace.)
- **Activities that stimulate business for the hospitality, transportation and retail sectors.** (Arts attendees in Fairbanks alone spend \$9.3 million on other services.)
- Also lost is the **leveraging power** of the state arts agency. Without a state commitment to ASCA, the agency will not be eligible to secure a share of National Endowment for the Arts funds. Those dollars will be allocated elsewhere, leaving Alaskan taxpayers to foot the bill for the arts *in other states*.
- For every \$1 that ASCA awarded in 2018, grantees secured an additional **\$27 in local match**, private contributions and earned income.

As dire as the elimination of the state arts council is, cuts to the University will be worse. My organization will lose our patrons, our donors and support for local businesses that in turn support us as well as valued partners.

The biggest state with the fewest people needs the arts to bring people together. The arts support the collaboration of many organizations serving the many diverse communities of the state.

Respectfully,

Anne Biberman

From: Alanna de la Pena-Bradshaw <a.delapena.bradshaw@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:58 PM

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

Subject: Regarding Recent Budgetary Decisions in the State of Alaska

To the Alaska State House Finance Committee,

I am writing to you to provide my thoughts on the current situation facing our state and the decisions recently made around the budget.

I have lived in the state of Alaska since 2014. I moved here due to my spouse at the time being stationed at JBER and in August of 2014 I began attending the University of Alaska Anchorage. I received my Masters degree in clinical

psychology. Since being in Alaska I have worked for UAA, served veterans at the Chris Kyle Patriot's Hospital, worked with Anchorage Community Mental Health Services Inc and presently work for Providence Health and Services of Alaska at Providence Breakthrough as a mental health therapist where I work with people who experience addictions.

This is to say: our vulnerable, our struggling, our often marginalized communities, are important to me. Empowerment through education and genuine humanity are important to me. I am passionate about this. Further, I am disappointed in the decisions that have been made regarding the state's budget to say the least. I find that our government's decisions regarding where we put our money is a statement on our values: and these values suggest that the well-fare of our vulnerable communities and education of Alaskans are not things that our state values. I cannot believe this to be true. I value Alaska. I value education. I value the voices of our vulnerable communities. I value offering people assistance when they are in pain and suffering.

I understand that the decisions that are made in government affairs are not easy ones and that as legislators you all have a number of these difficult decisions that you make that have vast consequences on all of us. I do, however, believe that there is a better decision that can and should be made here.

Not funding valuable state programs does not make the problems that they are addressing simply go away. Ignoring our challenges does not ameliorate them. It compounds them. I do not think that Alaska can afford a decision of this magnitude to go unchecked.

I implore you- please reconsider the decisions that have been made around our budget.

Thank you for your time, and your continued service to our community.

Best regards,

--

Alanna de la Pena-Bradshaw, MS, CDC-I
Mental Health Therapist

From: Burns Cooper <gbcooper@alaska.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:58 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: citizen testimony 7/17/19

My name is Burns Cooper; I live in Fairbanks (as I have for 29 years).

I regret that I called in to testify by phone, but was unable to wait long enough to be heard, so I'm sending these written comments instead.

I want to thank the members and chair of this committee for their efforts, and urge them to do their utmost to restore the **reckless** cuts made to the infrastructure of the state, especially the University of Alaska system, by the vetoes made by the current governor.

IN 1990 I came to Alaska to teach at UAF, and I fell in love with the place. I have devoted virtually my whole adult life, my whole career, to trying to build up UAF--as an educational, cultural, intellectual, and economic center of Interior Alaska. As I come close to the end of that career, and that life, it breaks my heart to see how easily and casually a few

anti-intellectual ideologues can wreck everything I have worked for for so long, and trash everything that makes Alaska a good place to live, and makes it a place that people would want to come to, as I did so many years ago.

Please, please do everything you can to undo the damage Mr Dunleavy has already done to our reputation, to our economy, to the amazing pool of expertise and public service offered by the UA system, and to the future opportunities of our younger Alaska citizens.

On a personal note, I was raised to believe that in a community, people look out for each other, and we share public resources for the common good. This is a viewpoint that I wish more people shared these days.

Yours sincerely,
Burns Cooper

From: Nancy DeCherney <nancydecherney@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 2:59 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: support HB2001 Save our State Save the Arts

Hello,
The Governor's draconian, short-sighted, unwise, devastating, mean, nasty vetoes of the careful budget crafted by the Legislature must be reversed.

I urge you to support the University, education, arts, homeless people, senior citizens, the ferry system - the whole of Alaska as we know and love it and support HB2001 to reverse the vetos!

Lead us out of this darkness!

As a long time Alaskan who has worked hard to build our community and make a better life for all Alaskans, I cannot fathom how anyone can see his budget as productive or leading us toward a bright future.

Take charge! Bring sanity back to Alaska!

Thank you

Nancy DeCherney

From: Pat Chapman <patchapman@gmx.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 3:00 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB 2001

Dear legislators;
I have to say thank you for at least trying to keep the citizens of Alaska stable and our economy and lives doable. I support what you are doing and pray that you also find a way that we can go forward without this upheaval occurring again.

The PFD is a great thing for all citizens but the stable year around support is more necessary for the citizens who count on your protection and care, as they are not able to do for themselves.

i am appaled that we closed our art council down due to Gov. dunleavey's actions. Hopefully they take art from his offce and keep it. Alaska is the only state that has zero art council now and we are one of the best for art and artist. I hope HB2001 supports that enough to open it back up again.

Keep up the good work and sorry we are spending money on special sessions to do what you already had done. Thats funds that could have been spent on alaska's needs.

Sincerely

Pat Chapman

From: Favreau <coldsnapbooks@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 3:04 PM

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

Subject: Testimony in opposition to HB 2001

To the House Finance Committee:

I am writing today on behalf of myself, my husband and children to OPPOSE HB2001.

I urge you to pass a full statutory PFD and Governor Dunleavy's proposed back-pay of past stolen dividends.

The cost of living in Alaska is high enough as is. We live in the Fairbanks area and have been struggling with high electricity bills. The cost of groceries here is staggering. Everything costs more because of our unique location. The dividend helps our household immensely,

As a former UAF student, I can tell you that the university has a serious spending problem... I have not seen so many fancy buildings built one-after-another in all my life, and they are expensive to heat. I do NOT approve of any portion of my PFD going to the U of A. Why make The People and local businesses suffer from a reduced PFD because the university can't live within its means?

The PFD is The People's money, and I am asking you to follow the law. The PFD is not the government's money, not the University of Alaska's money, not Head Start's money... it is The People's money first.

If you want to change the statutory formula The People should vote on it first.

There is already a statutory formula in place, I don't understand why we are wasting so much money on a special session just to "determine the PFD amount." There is nothing to determine, it's all there in black and white.

To those to want the PFD to go to U of A, Head Start or other programs, encourage them to donate it when they apply every year. Let the people who need and rely on their PFD get a full PFD.

Thank you for reading.

Chrissy Favreau

From: Kelly Drew <becoolpharma@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 3:02 PM

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

Subject: PLEASE support SB 2001 and restore hope for AK

I have lived in AK since 1976. I graduated from UAF in 1981, left for further training and work experience, returned in 1990 and have been a professor at UAF since 2000. UA is critical to the AK economy. We develop intellectual infrastructure by training students of all ages. Our graduates and our faculty ADD VALUE to AK resources. UAF and UAA are using LIMITED state dollars to enhance innovation and commercialization. These dollars have helped me launch a company, Be Cool Pharmaceuticals, that will commercialize discoveries my lab has made from the study of hibernation. Recent market analysis shows potential profits for UAF of \$150,000,000 per year from just 5% of royalties within the next 10 years. Tuesday I received a notice of grant award from the National Institutes of Health for \$11,500,000. Due to threat of financial exigency I am actively seeking a new home for this award and for my company, my laboratory and my life. It is a sad time for AK. PLEASE support SB 2001 and restore hope for AK!

Kelly Drew

Kelly L. Drew, PhD

CEO

Be Cool Pharmaceuticals

3875 Geist Rd, Ste E# 486

Fairbanks, AK 99709

From: Peggy <padargan@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 3:02 PM

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

Subject: UAF

So many things need your support. But you must support University of Alaska. UA is the heart of Alaska. It is our past, our present AND our future.

Do not give a \$3000 PFD.

Peggy Dargan

Fairbanks, AK

From: Ginny Kinne <gin.kinne@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 3:05 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Public Testimony on HB 2001

Dear House Finance committee,

First let me thank you for all for your time and dedication to Alaska's future. I'm afraid I don't have much more to add that hasn't already been said by hundreds and maybe thousands of Alaskans and other concerned citizens. Alaska's future is so dependent on reestablishing funding for all of the important services that were reduced and cut as a result of Gov. Dunleavy's vetoes, ESPECIALLY access to higher education for our Alaskan students.

Students from the lower-48 have options for higher education, in the next city, the next town or next state, most within a 3 hour drive. Alaskan students don't have any other option. Our state is so geographically different than the rest of the U.S. - Alaskans only have 2 universities on the road system and they are 7 hour drive between the two. Alaskan students will be stuck. Literally land-locked. Any change of access to higher education outside of the state will result in "out-of-state" elevated tuitions, airfare, and burden on their families and loved ones. Many of our students are non-traditional students with jobs, families, mortgages, car payments and can not afford to go out of state for school.

As the Director of the Academic Advising Center at UAF, my academic advising staff and I serve over 500 UAF undeclared undergraduate students. **One thing that brings me optimism and hope in all of this budgetary mess, is that students are still calling, still registering and still coming.** They still believe in the value of an education and believe in the states' commitment to higher education and are basing their decisions for their future on that. A promise. A promise of access and commitment to a well educated population of future leaders.

A cut of 41% honestly would irraticate our university. Changes this big would need careful planning and consideration in order to harm the least amount of students. It is NOT cuts that need to be taken lightly and not to be made quickly. It will need careful thought and consideration which would inevitably COST more money than it would save. Cuts of this magnitude and needed in this accelerated time frame are going to amount to drastic measures that can not be undone and ultimately result in completely phasing out university access to the majority of Alaskans. The clock is ticking and decisions are being made now about UA's future.

Please, please come together in a bipartisan joint decision to refund the University of Alaska as well as the other critical services that were vetoed by the Governor. Changes this big and this fast to our ONLY universities in Alaska will cause cascading negative effects for years, and generations to come.

I have faith in your devotion and commitment to an Alaska that, regardless of your political affiliation, you won't let ONE MAN decide that the importance of higher education and a diverse and prosperous state for ALL Alaskans is just another line item veto.

Thank you for your time & your service to the state of Alaska,

Ginny Kinne
2844 Opal Avenue
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709
(907) 347-4225

From: Rachelle Bonnett <rachellebonnett@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 3:05 PM

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

Subject: Please Support HB2001

Hi,

I'm writing because I support HB2001 and hope that this will help reverse the damage already being caused by the Governor's budget vetoes. We don't need a \$3,000 PFD -- what we need is a state that takes care of it's citizens, not one that prioritizes oil & industry corporations above its people.

I work for a nonprofit arts organization in Juneau that has already felt the sting of ASCA shutting its doors. How can we be the ONLY state in the US without a dedicated arts agency? That is unacceptable. The arts matter to our state in so many ways -- spiritually, culturally, economically -- here are just some of the direct benefits of the arts in Alaska:

--> 1,705 arts-related businesses employ 5,896 people.

--> The arts & culture sector represents 2.2% of our state's GDP, contributing \$1.31 billion into our economy.

--> The arts have a positive impact on our health & well being; there is mounting research that backs up this notion. I recently read an article that Canadian doctors will soon be able to prescribe visits to museums and cultural institutions as a way for patients to deal with mental health issues and life-threatening diseases like cancer or other chronic illnesses.

I sincerely hope that this bill moves forward and I thank the legislators who have worked hard to try to find solutions to these issues.

PS: I think it's worth mentioning that most of the people I talk to (including myself) feel that they would rather pay a state income tax as an alternative to vital social, health, and other state funded services being cut.

Thank you for your time & efforts,

Rachelle

--

Rachelle Bonnett

MFA, Arts Administration

Southern Utah University

BFA, Studio Art

New Mexico Highlands University

(907) 723-5132

From: Kevin Krein <kevin.krein@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 3:07 PM

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

Subject: Written Testimony on HB 2001

I have been listening to public testimony over the past few days. Many of those who support a full PFD argue that they need it to pay for necessary expenses. I understand that this is the case. However, if we remember that the average PFD since 2000 has been \$1370, a reduction to a \$929 PFD is a difference of \$441. While \$441 is a significant amount of money, it will not cover even minimal medical expenses, the heating of a house, or feeding a family. This is true even if a family is pooling its PFDs.

On the other hand, destroying Alaska's infrastructure will cost Alaskans far more than \$441 per yer.

It is deeply important that Governor Dunleavy's vetoes be reversed and that we fund education and social programs in our state.

Sincerely,
Kevin Krein

From: Robin Walz <rrwalz@alaska.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 3:08 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support for HB 2001

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee,

I wish to register my full support for HB 2001. I am pleased to read in the *Anchorage Daily News*, issued just moments ago, that Governor Dunleavy has called for the Legislature to convene in Juneau to work through not only the capital budget, but revisit the operations budget as well. I hope you will be able to work with the Governor to find reasonable and responsible compromises.

My testimony: I am a Professor of History at the University of Alaska Southeast, Juneau campus, where I have held an academic appointment since 1997. Previously, I was a secondary school teacher for six years, an undergraduate university instructor or teaching assistant for six years in my doctoral program, and a Visiting Assistant Professor of History for three years after completing my Ph.D. and securing an academic appointment at UAS. This represents a 37-year teaching career.

The University of Alaska is an open-enrollment, public university system. While I hear disparaging comments like, "The University of Alaska can't be all things to all people," by law and mission UA is charged with providing postsecondary education for all Alaskans. While particular qualifications may be required for endorsements, certificates, and degree programs, any Alaskan is eligible, and welcome, to walk through the door. This commitment to a public university system inspired me to apply for a position at UAS in the first place.

I appreciate that the State of Alaska has been consistent in funding its university system. It is understandable that the Legislature and Governor may want the University of Alaska to pursue outside revenues. However, slashing the state's contribution to the university's general funds by \$135 million dollars, in one fell swoop, is wholly irresponsible.

I deeply appreciate that the House Finance Committee has introduced HB 2001. In the work ahead, I encourage you to persuade Governor Dunleavy into making reasonable compromising.

Most sincerely,
Robin Walz

--
Robin Walz
Professor of History

University of Alaska Southeast
11120 Glacier Hwy
Juneau, AK 99801

(907) 796-6433 (office)

(907) 796-6406 (fax)
E-mail: rrwalz@alaska.edu

From: Allison Carr <allison.carr.lac@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 3:14 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support for HB 2001

I am writing today voice my support for HB 2001. Governor Dunleavy's massive budget veto is irresponsible and will financially devastate Fairbanks. I am a healthcare worker, mother of a 6 year old, and wife to a Professor at UAF. Our family moved to Fairbanks in 2016 to start our new life here when my spouse was hired by the university. We purchased a home here, and I started my own small business providing a valuable service to the community. The budget cuts the University is facing will likely mean a layoff for my spouse, and will devastate our family financially. With no job, my spouse will be forced to look outside the state for work. She will also be leaving several students and grad students that she is currently mentoring, those are young Alaskans who's promising careers will be cut short. We invested our entire life savings into our home here, we will do everything we can to save it, but with thousands out of work and a declining economy, it is a possibility that we will eventually have to walk away from our home, our lender is a local credit union, and we will likely not be the only ones in this position, this will further devastate the economy of Fairbanks. I will have to leave behind my business, and all my patients, leaving in a further hole in the already sparse options for healthcare in this city. These cuts will devastate us, but we will still be the lucky ones, we have skills that we can take to other states, we will rebuild. I fear the thousands who are dependent on senior benefits, Medicare, homeless services, or any of the many other vital services that were cut, will not be so lucky.

I urge you today to pass HB 2001. Restore a workable, bipartisan, sane budget to Alaska.

Thank you,
Allison Carr
1926 Kittiwake Dr.
Fairbanks, AK 99709

From: DeAnne & Gary <schmunk@mosquitonet.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 3:09 PM
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB 2001

To Our Esteemed Legislators,

I urge you to pass HB 2001 for the good of all Alaskans. For example, for those who need services because Life has been unkind and for those whose jobs provide the services that are needed to keep our state a "wonderful" place to live; For support for the University of Alaska, which has educated many of our family members and for the staff who work at the University, in addition to those who provide important Arctic international research.

The list of the topics Alaskans need funding for is long. However, I believe HB 2001 will be passed for the good of our state.

Thank you for your time.

DeAnne Schmunk

990 Ellesmere Dr., Fairbanks, AK 99709

From: Christina Apathy <christina.apathy@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 3:11 PM

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

Subject: Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 2001

Dear members of the AK House Finance Committee,

I am in favor of a lower PFD to restore funds vetoed by the Governor.

In your political process, I ask you to morally, humanely and neighborly re-align yourselves with the broader public needs, a bedrock of sustainable infrastructure and the high priorities of education, research, the arts, social well-being and the environment - towards the benefit of all the peoples of our State.

Please support HB 2001.

Thank you!

Truly,

~Christina Apathy
Juneau, AK

From: Chandler O'Connell <cmoconn@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 3:11 PM

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

Subject: Support HB2001

Dear House Finance Committee,

Please support House Bill 2001, to reverse the Governor's cuts and give a smaller PFD this year. I am deeply concerned about the human, environmental and economic toll that these cuts will have (and are already having) on our state. We must take care of each other and believe in a better future than the one Governor Dunleavy has planned for us.

A non-comprehensive list of programs I would like to see funding returned to - both by reversing the vetoes and reallocating the money that was "swept" without warning - is below.

- **The Power Cost Equalization Fund** - Over 84,000 rural Alaskans will see a significant increase (30-45%) in their electric bill as soon as next month. This shock to the economy will be devastating. Households will have no way to adjust, people will go without heat and lights, businesses will shut down. That this is being done with no warning, is an all out assault on rural communities.
- **The UA Scholars Program** - We promised our youth that if they worked hard and fulfilled the set requirements we would be there for them. It is unconscionable that we would pull the rug out from under our youth with no warning. This also incredibly self-sabotaging - these students have excelled and want to stay in their home state

to build a life here. Why rob them of that opportunity? Why rob ourselves of the minds that will help our communities survive and thrive?

- **The University System** - I am saddened, but unsurprised, to learn today that Moody's has downgraded the UA system to BAA1 with a negative outlook. If Alaska refuses to invest in our own education system, how can we leverage outside resources? How can we build an economy that will carry us through these changing times? We're the only arctic state in the nation and the need for innovative research and new industries is staggering. Defunding the Universities is incredibly shortsighted.
- **Alaska Head Start** - A program with a great return on investment that clearly falls under the mandate of government with a plan to facilitate the health and wellbeing of it's people.
- **The Village Public Safety Officer Program** - The Justice Department just declared a public safety emergency in Alaska, with Attorney General Barr rightly saying that "lives depend on it." Cutting the VPSO program is irresponsible in the face of this clear and present need.
- **Public Broadcasting** - This is critical infrastructure in Alaska.
- **Housing Insecurity & Domestic Violence Funding** - It is both moral and practical for the state to continue investing in these services. Everyone should have access to shelter, food, heat, etc. if they want it. This is a basic functioning of government to provide a social safety net and opportunities for people to change their circumstances.
 - **The Homeless Assistance Program**
 - **The Special Needs Housing Grant**
 - **The Human Services Community Matching Grant**
 - **Community Initiative Matching Grant Program**
- **Medicaid** - Healthcare is too expensive in Alaska. But we can not solve that by sacrificing Alaskans least able to pay. With these cuts (as well as the Federal money that we are sacrificing with this reckless move), mortality and morbidity will rise and costs will go up, as people seek help as a last resort, when care is the most costly and most risky. Healthcare is a human right. Given our unique geography and needs, the government must provide assistance to insure that citizens have access to services.
- **The Ocean Ranger Program**
- **Alaska State Council on the Arts**

Sincerely,

Chandler O'Connell
608 Etolin Street
Sitka, Alaska 99835

From: Jessi Chapman <bittersweetjessi@hotmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 3:12 PM

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

Subject: HB2001

I support HB 2001 and what you are trying to do to help Alaskans.

Jessi Chapman