

Doniece Gott

From: Bruce Jamieson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2020 8:51 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee; Sen. Scott Kawasaki; Sen. Bert Stedman; Sen. Natasha Von Imhof; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Mike Shower; Sen. David Wilson; Sen. Bill Wielechowski; Sen. John Coghill; Sen. Donny Olson
Subject: 2020 Legislative Priorities
Attachments: Legislative Priorities 12082019.docx

Dear Alaska Senators:

I was listening to Governor Dunleavy on the radio today, as he tried to sound convincing on wanting to have a conversation with the Alaskan people regarding the budget for this coming fiscal year. What struck me was how lacking in substance his side of the conversation was. We are facing a \$1.5B budget deficit by his reckoning, because he wants to provide a fully funded PFD in addition to funding basic government services. He is the governor and in this position, it is his job to provide leadership in arriving at a balanced budget that delivers essential services demanded by the citizens of Alaska. He is failing in his responsibility with respect to that leadership.

So I have attached my priority list of essential elements in a balanced budget. Please review this list carefully and let me know if you have any questions or comments. Thanks for the essential work that you are doing.

Bruce Jamieson
phone: 907-479-4673

Bruce Jamieson
2020 Alaska Legislative Priorities
December 12, 2019

- I. Approve a Balanced Budget w/o reducing levels beyond what you approved last year (not what we ended up with after the governor's vetoes). This includes fully funding the University system at the same level as last year (not the level that the Governor forced them to sign).

- II. Resolve the long term PFD formula in a sustainable manner while funding the balanced budget. This means an annual PFD that will be equal to or less than \$1600.

- III. Institute legislation to raise revenue. Suggest Education, fuel, sales and income taxes.

- IV. Pass legislation to address the Fair Share oil tax initiative.

- V. Pass legislation that would institute ranked voting similar to the recent initiative introduced.

- VI. Pass constitutional amendment to reduce legislative veto over ride requirement to 60%.

- VII. Restore the State Marine Highway System to a fully functioning year-round transportation system.

- VIII. Retain forward funding of education.

- IX. Restore Medicaid funding so that we are not left with an emergency year end funding crisis with this program.

X. Restore funding subsidies for the Pioneer Homes.

To the Alaska State Legislature and Governor

February 19, 2020

In regards to the budget that is being discussed and proposed for the State of Alaska, I would like to offer my views, as follows.

I strongly support funding the Alaska Marine Highway System to the maximum. Failure to do so will leave many coastal communities stranded, economically and literally. It is patently unfair to provide roads to citizens in the interior of Alaska but not for coastal communities. We have businesses, medical care requirements, employment and personal travel needs just like the folks in the interior, but are now being forced to either forgo those travel endeavors or attempt to find other ways to move from one place to another, often at great expense. The AMHS was designed to be our highway, and I consider it essential to all aspects of life in Southeast Alaska where I live. In addition, the island roads in the Ketchikan area are in very bad condition, causing damage to tires and vehicles which are forced to dodge large, deep pot holes daily. These local island roads need immediate maintenance and repairs.

I also strongly support full funding for education. Education is the engine that will drive the train, our economy, for the future, the minds and careers that will develop for Alaska in the next decade. Without a solid, well financed educational system, we will be greatly disadvantaged in the marketplace of ideas and skills needed to emerge in the highly technical and competitive world of tomorrow. Do not cut corners in this critical area just to save money overall, because we cannot afford to fall behind educationally.

Likewise, we must honor and take care of our elders, particularly those in Alaska Pioneer Homes. As a state we have shown great respect for elders, and it is shameful if we abandon these principals of taking care of our elders for the sake of money.

You may ask how I would pay for these services. Simple; I would like the legislature and the governor to agree to a reform of the oil tax/credits system now in place in Alaska. I absolutely support the oil companies paying their fair share of the taxes needed to run our state. They do not do so now, and have not contributed their fair share for years, but they do pump and sell our oil, for tremendous profits. After studying this issue at length, I urge the legislature and the governor to end the tax/credits system now in place and stand up for the citizens of Alaska, by requiring the oil companies doing business in Alaska to pay their fair share. I am likewise willing to pay an income tax to the state as my fair share, but not if the oil companies do not do the same. It is time that the oil companies contribute to the revenues of the state instead of draining the revenues of the state.

Mary Lynne Dahl, Box 1317 Ward Cove, Alaska 99928

253.880.5934 dahlfacemld@gmail.com

Doniece Gott

From: john sonin <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2020 2:35 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee; Cheryl-KTOO-psa Snyder; eizzi731@gmail.com; Hillary thinkMedia; Holly Mosher; Jacob B-bldg; Judith Long; Lawrence Lessig; message@thenation.com; Miami Herald; Michelle Fawcett; Linda-stationmistress; Mother Jones; newsletter; NPR; Rep. Andy Josephson; rep.benjamin.nageak@akleg.gov; rep.bob.herron@akleg.gov; Rep. Bryce Edgmon; Rep. Chris Tuck; rep.david.guttenberg@akleg.gov; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux; Rep. Geran Tarr; Rep. Harriet Drummond; Rep. Lance Pruitt; Rep. Mark Neuman; Sen. Mia Costello; Rep. Steve Thompson; Rep. Tammie Wilson; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard; Sen. Lora Reinbold; Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins; Sen. Shelley Hughes; Rio Tazwell w/Jonah; Sen. Bert Stedman; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Donny Olson; Sen. Gary Stevens; Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Amend OUR Constitution - Eulogize Chris Birch

My State, Alaska, must join in the national "Move to Amend" by passing a Constitutional clarification on what it means to be human with "inalienable Rights" like Free Speech!

Humanity cannot be manufactured! The objectifying of it (perceiving it as inanimate and inorganic), or objectifying any free-willed, complex multi-celled organisms of any genus, has gone far-enough in desecrating my Mother (Earth) climatically, and decimating what I've matured to believe as OUR "inalienable" Constitution!

Humanity under capitalism has only ego-promoted itself from zoo-penning wild animals to tanking ocean-going whales, because it didn't 'bend the curve' of just and fair equality, without over-stressing that "bend," to the snapping-point. Trying to concur with this Ayn Rand dementia, it has simply aggravated the ego-maniacal 'blister' symbolized by making a spectacle of its own impoverished belligerents as reality show participants, and giving promotion to their "master-of-ceremonies" forcing us, ALL of U.S. (and through its hegemony, the World), to abide with this 'objectifying' schizophrenia. Then, to enfranchise abstract human tools (corporations and trade associations are abstractly imagined specifically to maximize profit—whereas labor union endorsements represent a collection of private voters - true coalitions!) as if they were created organic and can mature these inalienable rights, is absurd! The mission of capital is to maximize SELF-profit, eternally! The mission of a nation is to insure Justice for All! So without the strong arm of governance on the scale regulating the mindlessness, seeking self before the Common good has put the focus on zombie-like misery as though this models the way to succeed humanly!

Civil constructions, from marriages to coalitions to communities to states then nations, born of our innate need to unify and thereby add value through synergy (the creation of energy, to Newton's dismay!), can only be secured by the volition of self-willed humans choosing to gain... a Greater Good. Manufactured entities, profit-centered, are without a will to freely choose anything, let alone unity. Unifying corporate mergers maybe human made but replicate a single mission, "SELF-profit-maximization!"

John S. Sonin
2201-A6 Crow hill Dr.
Douglas, AK 99824.
907-586-8212

Doniece Gott

From: Jinnel Choinière <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2020 6:02 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Cc: Sen. Scott Kawasaki; Joe Hayes
Subject: Letter of Support for Expedited Military Spouse Licensing
Attachments: 2020 Support Expedited Military Spouse Licensing - SB11.pdf

Dear Co-Chair von Imhof, Co-Chair Stedman and Members of the Finance Committee,

The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce strives to connect qualified potential members of the workforce to employers who want and need their skills. We also try to improve opportunities for military dependents to find employment and education opportunities in our community. The frequent relocation inherent to military life means that spouses have limited time to work in each location. However, they bring training and skills which may greatly contribute to our economy. We support efforts to help our member organizations tap into this skilled talent pool by maximizing their productive time in the Alaska workforce.

We support the work of the Department of Commerce, in conjunction with the Alaska Coalition for Veteran's and Military Families, to make improvements in the process for military personnel and military spouses to apply for professional licenses in an expedited manner. Alaska has been a leader in this area, with legislation dating back to 2011.

However, to date, this legislation has resulted in very low participation from military spouses. In 2017, fewer than 30 expedited temporary licensing applications were received from military spouses. By strengthening the temporary license process and reporting requirements, we believe that SB11, as currently written, will benefit both military dependents and businesses in Alaska.

The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce represents over 700 business members throughout Interior Alaska. We work to advocate for the best business environment, promote economic strength and growth for Interior Alaska, and to develop the resources and networks enterprising people use to share knowledge.

Please let us know if we can provide any information to support your efforts on this topic.

Sincerely,

Marisa Sharrah
President/CEO

Sabrina Binkley
Board Chair



JINNEL CHOINIÈRE
ADVOCACY & COMMITTEE COORDINATOR
GREATER FAIRBANKS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

100 Cushman Street, Suite 102 | Fairbanks, AK 99701

direct: 907.374.6702 | main: 907.452.1105

www.fairbankschamber.org | jinnel@fairbankschamber.org



February 21, 2020

Submitted via email

Subject: Support Expedited Military Spouse Licensing

Dear Co-Chair von Imhof, Co-Chair Stedman and Members of the Finance Committee,

The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce strives to connect qualified potential members of the workforce to employers who want and need their skills. We also try to improve opportunities for military dependents to find employment and education opportunities in our community. The frequent relocation inherent to military life means that spouses have limited time to work in each location. However, they bring training and skills which may greatly contribute to our economy. We support efforts to help our member organizations tap into this skilled talent pool by maximizing their productive time in the Alaska workforce.

We support the work of the Department of Commerce, in conjunction with the Alaska Coalition for Veteran's and Military Families, to make improvements in the process for military personnel and military spouses to apply for professional licenses in an expedited manner. Alaska has been a leader in this area, with legislation dating back to 2011.

However, to date, this legislation has resulted in very low participation from military spouses. In 2017, fewer than 30 expedited temporary licensing applications were received from military spouses. By strengthening the temporary license process and reporting requirements, we believe that SB11, as currently written, will benefit both military dependents and businesses in Alaska.

The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce represents over 700 business members throughout Interior Alaska. We work to advocate for the best business environment, promote economic strength and growth for

EXECUTIVE PARTNERS

DIAMOND

Alaska Airlines
Denali State Bank
Foundation Health Partners Fairbanks
Memorial Hospital, TVC Orthopedics & Sportsmedicine
Lockheed Martin
Mt. McKinley Bank
Vivamore Companies

PLATINUM

Alyeska Pipeline Service Co. ConocoPhillips
Doyon, Limited
Fred Meyer Stores
GCI
Golden Heart Utilities
Kinross Fort Knox Mine
MAC Federal Credit Union

GOLD

Alaska Executive Search
BP Exploration
Carlson Center
Design Alaska
Doyon Utilities LLC
ExxonMobil
First National Bank Alaska
Matson Alaska
Northern Star Pogo LLC
Ravn Alaska
TOTE Maritime Alaska
Usibelli Coal Mine
WAL-MART Stores, Inc.
Wells Fargo Bank Alaska
Westmark Fairbanks Hotel & Fairbanks Princess Riverside Lodge

SILVER

Ahna Incorporated
Alaska USA
Alaska Railroad
AT&T
Everts Air Cargo, Everts Air AK
Exclusive Paving/University Redi-Mix
Fairbanks Daily News-Miner
Fairbanks Natural Gas
Flowline Alaska
Gene's Chrysler, Jeep & Dodge
Go Alaska Media, LLC
Golden Valley Electric Association
Hale & Associates, Inc.
Hilcorp Alaska, LLC
HUB International
JL Properties, Inc.
Key Bank
LifeMed Alaska
Lynden
McDonald's of Fairbanks
Northrim Bank
Personnel Plus
Seekins Ford Lincoln
Sourdough Fuel
Spirit of Alaska Federal Credit Union
TDL Staffing
Tower Hill Mines-Livengood Gold Project
University of Alaska Fairbanks
Verizon Wireless
Yukon Title Company



Interior Alaska, and to develop the resources and networks enterprising people use to share knowledge.

Please let us know if we can provide any information to support your efforts on this topic.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marisa Sharrah". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Marisa" being more prominent than the last name "Sharrah".

Marisa Sharrah
President/CEO

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sabrina Binkley". The signature is highly stylized and cursive, with the first name "Sabrina" and last name "Binkley" being clearly identifiable despite the flourish.

Sabrina Binkley
Board Chair

Doniece Gott

From: Ron [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2020 8:39 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska Public Media

I am Ronald T. Stanek at 3623 Lynn Dr. Anchorage, Ak 99508. I've lived in Alaska since 1978 when KAKM was very new. Since then I've relied heavily on all public media stations for up-to-date, accurate, unbiased information including emergency broadcasts of weather conditions, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis, amberlerts, road conditions and a host of other valuable updates.

My former job with the State of Alaska took me to many communities throughout the state, and I relied on public media for information.

It is unconscionable that the governor cut large amounts of public media budget when the SOA itself relies on stations statewide to deliver information it deems essential to public safety and understanding.

I strongly urge you to fully restore funding to the Alaska Public Media budget. It is of critical importance to the safety and wellbeing of all Alaska Residents.

Thank You

Doniece Gott

From: Jinnel Choiniere <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 12:23 PM
To: Sen. Natasha Von Imhof; Sen. Bert Stedman; Senate Finance Committee
Cc: Sen. Click Bishop
Subject: 2020 Support Simplifying and Clarifying State Mining Policy
Attachments: 2020 Support Simplifying and Clarifying State Mining Policy.pdf

Dear Co-Chair von Imhof, Co-Chair Stedman and Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce supports efforts to simplify and improve mining policy in the state of Alaska. The Interior of Alaska has had a long and rich history with the mining industry. It was mining that was the impetus that created Fairbanks and mining continues to be a large contributor to the economy of the Interior. The mining industry has for many years provided good paying jobs to the residents of the Interior.

Please see the attached letter for our full statement on this bill.

Thank you,
Jinnel Choiniere



JINNEL CHOINIÈRE
ADVOCACY & COMMITTEE COORDINATOR
GREATER FAIRBANKS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

100 Cushman Street, Suite 102 | Fairbanks, AK 99701

direct: 907.374.6702 | main: 907.452.1105

www.fairbankschamber.org | jinnel@fairbankschamber.org

connect with us!  



March 2, 2020

Submitted electronically

Re: Support for Senate Bill 155, an act relating to mining rights

Dear Co-Chair von Imhof, Co-Chair Stedman and Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce supports efforts to simplify and improve mining policy in the state of Alaska. The Interior of Alaska has had a long and rich history with the mining industry. It was mining that was the impetus that created Fairbanks and mining continues to be a large contributor to the economy of the Interior. The mining industry has for many years provided good paying jobs to the residents of the Interior.

The process of identifying and maintaining mining claims has become a process of ambiguity that has been costly to both the State and mine operators. With some interpretations of current laws and regulations by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), it has led to confusion by operators, and in some cases put them at risk of losing legitimate claims. Under the current process by State DNR there is little to no opportunity, prior to a notice of abandonment, to correct a clerical error that may have no substance. Yet, the clerical error puts the claim at risk, and may be very difficult or costly to correct.

As currently drafted, Senate Bill 155 will provide a means to better identify ownership of mining claims including trusts that have not previously been recognized as a legitimate owner of a mining claim. Within the Bill there is also language that puts into statute a means that better clarifies (MTRSC) meridian, township, range, section and claim system of identifying claims which will help alleviate confusion and better identify claim ownership. SB155 also provides an owner of a federal claim a means to convert federal claims to state claims without risk of losing their rights. This in itself is a significant step in relieving the bottle neck that currently exists with conveyance of mining claims currently held in federal claims to state. Further, the legislation puts labor affidavit requirements clearly in statute,

EXECUTIVE PARTNERS

DIAMOND

Alaska Airlines
Denali State Bank
Foundation Health Partners
Fairbanks Memorial Hospital, TVC Orthopedics & Sportsmedicine
Lockheed Martin
Mt. McKinley Bank
Vivamore Companies

PLATINUM

Alyeska Pipeline Service Co.
ConocoPhillips
Doyon, Limited
Fairbanks Daily News-Miner
Golden Heart Utilities
Kinross Fort Knox Mine
MAC Federal Credit Union

GOLD

Alaska Executive Search
BP Exploration
Carlson Center
Design Alaska
Doyon Utilities LLC
First National Bank Alaska
Maison Alaska
Northern Star Pogo LLC
Ravn Alaska
TOTE Maritime Alaska
Usibelli Cool Mine
WAL-MART Stores, Inc.
Westmark Fairbanks Hotel & Fairbanks Princess Riverside Lodge

SILVER

Ahtna Incorporated
Alaska USA
Alaska Railroad
AT&T
Costco Whole
Crowley Fuels Alaska
Everts Air Cargo, Everts Air AK
Exclusive Paving/University Redi-Mix
ExxonMobil
Fairbanks Natural Gas
Flowline Alaska
GCI
Gene's Chrysler, Jeep & Dodge
Golden Valley Electric Association
Hale & Associates, Inc.
Hilcorp Alaska, LLC
HUB International
JL Properties, Inc.
Key Bank
LifeMed Alaska
Lynden
McDonald's of Fairbanks
Northrim Bank
Personnel Plus
Seekins Ford Lincoln
Sourdough Fuel
Spirit of Alaska Federal Credit Union
TDL Staffing
Tower Hill Mines-Livengood Gold Project
Trilogy Metals
University of Alaska Fairbanks
Verizon Wireless
Wells Fargo Bank Alaska
Yukon Title Company



updates lists of qualifying work to further claims, and clarifies that cash payments can be made for no more than five consecutive years, ensuring an attempt is made to develop the claim.

The legislation has been a collaborative effort between the mining industry and the State Department of Natural Resources to update and provide clarity to some of the mining laws. This has been a priority of the mining industry for many years and will provide a reasonable means to correct errors in maintenance of mining claims, and to provide clarity and direction to DNR and to industry.

Senate Bill 155 provides the tools and establishes the law necessary for DNR to properly manage the claims processes. The Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce recognizes the importance of laws that protect the individuals and corporations to their rightful ownership to mining claims. As SB155 is currently written, it provides much clarity and direction to DNR and also claim holders and also assures prospective mining claim holders that may have interest in Alaska that their interest would be protected through laws that are clear and there are policies and directions written in law that protect both the State and the claim holder.

The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce represents over 700 business members throughout Interior Alaska. We work to advocate for the best business environment, promote economic strength and growth for interior Alaska, and to develop the resources and networks enterprising people use to share knowledge.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these important changes.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marisa Sharrah".

Marisa Sharrah
President/CEO

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sabrina Binkley".

Sabrina Binkley
Board Chair

Doniece Gott

From: Gary Miller <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 8:03 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Budget

We can't keep cutting and destroying our university system, our schools and the marine highway. With oil prices falling, and sure to get worse with Russia and Saudia Arabia in an oil war, the prices are going to go down even further. All of you know that we must have an income tax to restore funding to our schools, the university system and the marine highway. You are running out of time to do something this session. **PLEASE**, bring back the income tax. We are heading into another recession with all the cuts. This is in your hands.

Gary Miller
20135 Cohen Dr
Juneau, AK 99801-8211
(907) 789-3757

Doniece Gott

From: Carl Tape <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2020 6:13 AM
To: Senate Finance Committee; Rep. Grier Hopkins; Sen. John Coghill
Subject: state budget first, PFD second

Dear Alaska Legislature Finance Committee (cc Senator Coghill and Rep. Hopkins):

I am writing to ask you to fund the essential---and constitutionally mandated---needs of Alaskans, in particular Alaska Constitution Article VII: Health, Education, and Welfare. Please fund health, education (notably University of Alaska and public education across the state), and welfare as fully as possible. If there are funds left over, then dole them out as a PFD. If there are not enough funds, then tax Alaskans so that there are funds to take care of all Alaskans.

Thank you for your service.

Best regards,
Carl Tape
1470 Goshawk Lane
Fairbanks, AK 99709
907-456-5611

Doniece Gott

From: Sue Steinacher <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 1:09 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Budget testimony from Nome

Dear Legislators,

I've been around long enough to remember that the original intent of the PFD was to yearly provide residents with \$50 for each year they had been residents. This would have provided far more income to our villages, where it remains desperately needed. This is why it is unfair and un-Alaskan to reduce the PFD until this action is balanced with a progressive income tax. Until this state finally grows up, and brings back an income tax, it is inhumane and shameful to try to balance the budget on the backs of Alaska's poorest. That, and the rest of the country finds our cries of a fiscal crisis laughable when we refuse to restore an income tax.

Sincerely,

Sue Steinacher
PO Box 1609
Nome, AK 99762
907-443-7673

Doniece Gott

From: Chuck Degnan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 3:39 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Personal Income Tax
Attachments: Letter to Senate Finance Committee 2020.03.17.pdf

PO Box 180
Unalakleet, AK 99684
17 March 2020

Senate Finance Committee
Alaska State Legislature
finance.committee@akleg.gov

Re: Personal Income Tax

Dear Senators;

I urgently support an income tax for the benefit of all Alaskans.

There is a wide difference in services to small communities than to large communities in the State of Alaska.

In Unalakleet, our tribe brought electricity and water and sewer services beginning in the 1960s. The water and sewer infrastructure is continuing to deteriorate and needs to be replaced. In addition, many communities do not have water and sewer infrastructure.

Instituting an income tax would provide the State additional funds to address these deficiencies in rural communities that are not being addressed now.

Thank you,

Chuck Degnan, Representative
7th and 8th Legislatures
cdegnan@gci.net

PO Box 180
Unalakleet, AK 99684
17 March 2020

Senate Finance Committee
Alaska State Legislature
finance.committee@akleg.gov

Re: Personal Income Tax

Dear Senators;

I urgently support an income tax for the benefit of all Alaskans.

There is a wide difference in services to small communities than to large communities in the State of Alaska.

In Unalakleet, our tribe brought electricity and water and sewer services beginning in the 1960s. The water and sewer infrastructure is continuing to deteriorate and needs to be replaced. In addition, many communities do not have water and sewer infrastructure.

Instituting an income tax would provide the State additional funds to address these deficiencies in rural communities that are not being addressed now.

Thank you,



Chuck Degnan, Representative
7th and 8th Legislatures
cdegnan@gci.net

Doniece Gott

From: Laura <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 3:43 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Budget

Our family hopes you fully fund our ferry system and hopes you all stay away from our PFD's. That money belongs to the people of Alaska...not to be distributed however the state sees fit. By taking that money away from our son you are taking his future from him. This is what we use to invest in his future schooling and for a down payment on his first home when he is ready to move from home someday. Perhaps Alaska needs to find other ways to earn it's money...like RENEWABLE RESOURCES. The wind isn't going anywhere, and neither are the waves...both ways to create power.

The Boyd family



March 16, 2020

Senate Finance Committee
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Re: HB 205 Operating Budget and SB 154 Capital Budget

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members,

As the state's behavioral health planning councils, the Alaska Mental Health Board and Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse assist in coordination of prevention, treatment, and recovery services, and assist in evaluation of Alaska's publicly-funded behavioral health system. The Boards are also responsible for educating the public and policymakers about mental health and substance use issues and advocating for Alaskans experiencing behavioral health disorders, their families, the providers who serve them, and their communities.

The Boards support programs and services that promote healthy, independent, and productive lives for all Alaskans—including access to treatment and recovery supports, detox, Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT), outpatient, and residential services, supportive housing and employment assistance, emergency psychiatric care, crisis stabilization, intensive case management, peer support, prevention, and more.

Following are budget items in HB 205 and SB 154 the Boards support:

Reentry Services in Corrections (DOC) (HB 205): \$746,100 to establish a statewide reentry section within the Department of Corrections (DOC) that will expand transitional planning for men and women leaving custody. This funding will increase DOCs ability to assist with reentry planning, which can include access to safe and sober housing, treatment and recovery services, employment, training, and other community supports, after release from incarceration. State funds, combined with federal grants, support DOC's ongoing efforts with community providers, reentry coalitions, and state agencies to provide reentry planning and support services. With 95% of incarcerated Alaskans serving their sentences and leaving custody, adequate transitional support increases the likelihood of their success.

Therapeutic Courts (ACS) (HB 205). \$130,000 GF for statewide deputy coordinator to expand the capacity of the courts to provide assistance to justice-involved Alaskans with mental illness and addiction disorders. These specialized courts provide intensive case management and alternatives to incarceration for Alaskans with behavioral health disorders so they are more appropriately served with community services that promote stability and compliance with court-ordered conditions.

Recruitment and Retention in Corrections (DOC). \$850,000 GF to improve recruitment and retention of correctional officers, medical, and other staff within the Department of Corrections. Funds will support efforts to increase staffing to serve the growing number of justice-involved inmates needing supervision and access to behavioral health and other medical services.

Pubic Guardians, Guardians ad Litem (DOA) (HB 205): \$1.235 million for 10 additional public guardians to provide conservatorship and guardianship services to a growing number of vulnerable Alaskans who are found by the court to be in need of a protective order; and \$250,000 GF/MH for Guardians ad Litem who advocate for abused and/or neglected children. Funds support positions in OPA to meet compliance with federal standards and adequately address an increased caseload of Alaskans needing guardian services, including people with behavioral health disorders, dementia, and intellectual-developmental disabilities. When compared to other states and national standards, the current caseloads of Alaska's public guardians significantly exceeds the recommended client-guardian ratio.

Adult Public Assistance (DHSS) (HB 205). \$7.47 million (GF/Match) to restore funding for financial assistance to elderly, blind, and disabled Alaskans, and covers living expenses, food, rent, transportation, and basic needs. This assistance helps vulnerable Alaskans maintain stability in their communities.

Alaska Psychiatric Institute (API) (DHSS) (SB 154). \$1.62 million GF additional funding in the Capital Budget for compliance projects associated with APIs corrective action plan under the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Funds support structural safety measures, including a nursing call center, for improved operations.

Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment Capital Projects (DCCED) (SB 154). Additional funding in the Capital Budget for projects identified as "shovel ready" that will build capacity to serve the growing number of Alaskans needing treatment for addiction disorders across the state. Shovel ready projects in Mat-Su, Anchorage, Nome, Juneau, and the Kenai Peninsula will support infrastructure for residential and outpatient treatment recovery housing, crisis stabilization, transitional housing for youth, and hospitalization space for people with co-occurring disorders.

Thank you for your consideration of these vital community programs.

Sincerely,



Beverly Schoonover
Executive Director

Doniece Gott

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 5:19 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: State Operating and Capital Budgets

Please maintain funding for schools and Pre Kindergarten, reinstate bond debt and REAA funding and provide funding for school maintenance.

Thank you,
Patricia Stark
Fairbanks

Doniece Gott

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 6:35 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Cc: Rep. Andi Story; Rep. Sara Hannan
Subject: support HB 236

Please support HB 236, which provides very needed funding for education, especially forward funding, allowing school districts to be able to plan their year ahead without having to give pink slips. Thank you, Linda S. Miller

15977 Glacier Hwy
Juneau, AK. 99801

Doniece Gott

From: David Elliott [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 6:49 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support for Public Media

This is needed to carry the important communications thru out the State. Live local radio is critical.

Doniece Gott

From: mark selland [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 6:49 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: public radio

Kska provides a safety net for our Ak communities plz support! kathy Farynariz ANCHORAGE

Doniece Gott

From: jeffrey snedgen [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 6:50 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee

I support the current proposal for 1 million dollars for public radio. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.
Jeffrey Wayne Snedgen

Doniece Gott

From: J D Gibeault <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 6:51 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska Public Media

Greetings,

Soon you will determine the budget for Public media. I urge all members of this body to keep the financing at or possibly increase the budget for such a vital community project. Public radio/Media serve to be the voice of the people of Alaska. Unbiased journalism that affects us Alaskans directly. This crucial service must continue to be a beacon news, information and connecting all Alaskans throughout the state. Public radio/media is crucial for our democracy too. Municipal elections where Public Media Hosts "HomeTown Alaska" is how we hear about the candidates and their views, why they are running and what they hope to do when they are voted in. Printed publications are dwindling, more of us are needing to turn towards public media for our factual and pertinent information.

Thanks for your time,

Justin Gibeault
7754 Delridge Circle
Anchorage, AK 99507

Doniece Gott

From: John <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 6:52 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: March 17, 2020

Greetings:

Given the number, severity and urgency of emergency events over the past months, it should be abundantly evident to all Alaskans of the value of public radio in our state.

Anything the legislature is able to do to fortify the public broadcast network is critically important.

Thank you for your consideration and thank each of you for your dedicated public service.

John Walsh
POB 240952
Douglas, AK 99824

Doniece Gott

From: Aileen Dimmick [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 6:52 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: AK Public Media

My family truly values all of the information about our community and our world that is provided on public media.
Please support the budget requested or even increase it!

Thank you!!
Aileen Dimmick
John Dimmick
Skylar Dimmick
Jonas Dimmick

Doniece Gott

From: carl russell [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 6:53 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska Public Media

As a minimum, please fully fund the Alaskan Public Media budget. The public services they provide are absolutely necessary. How else would we get medical information out to all Alaskans?

Doniece Gott

From: michael henricks [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 6:53 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public Radio Budget

I support the state funding of public radio and associated outreach services. Now more than ever with the pandemic situation. Please maintain or increase their budget.

Respectfully,
Michael Henricks
Principal Architect, Architects Alaska
5540 Hiland Road
Eagle River, Alaska

Doniece Gott

From: Marc Jakubovic [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 6:54 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska Public Media

Simply put, Alaska Public Media is priceless. In my opinion, the quality it provides is not only worth the proposed budget, but much, much more.

Thank you,

Marc Jakubovic

Doniece Gott

From: jessicaak907 [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 6:54 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Please support funding for public media

It's the only news source that is consistently free and attempts to be as unbiased as possible. If you cut funding for these services, I will have no option but to rely on outside publishers for news about Alaska considering both ADN and FDNM require subscriptions to view it.

I know most people think I should have to pay to view the news, but I feel like this should be a public service considering I cannot afford to pay for these subscriptions.

Do you want the majority of Alaskans getting their news from Facebook memes and other social media? If you cut funding for public news, that's exactly what will happen.

I hope you guys will do the right thing here.

Sincerely,

Jessica J Huf

Doniece Gott

From: Kendra Zamzow [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 6:55 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support budget for public radio

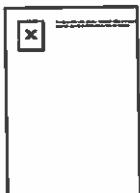
Dear members of the Senate Finance Committee:

I support the current budget providing \$1 million for public radio and an additional \$879,500 for satellite communications. We need a statewide news source that we can trust, that can reach the entire state. Additionally, as such a large state, we need public radio to keep us connected, to provide us with the stories from Ketchikan to St. Paul to Fort Yukon to remind us that we are all Alaskans, stories that are uniquely Alaskan. Here we listen to problems and we listen to solutions and we think about how they might apply where we live. Lastly, they are a vital service in times of emergency such as what we are experiencing now.

Please maintain funding for public radio.

Thank you,

*Kendra Zamzow
Chickaloon, AK 99674
907.354.3886*



Doniece Gott

From: Donna <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 6:55 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: AK Public Media support

Please keep the proposed budget for public radio & satellite communications.

These provide vital information for Alaska residents. Because we are currently fighting the pandemic issues and trying to remain home to avoid spread of contagion, Public Media is needed more than ever.

Thanks,
Donna deLancey

Doniece Gott

From: Matthew Fox <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 6:56 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska Public Media Funding

AK Finance Committee,

I am a long time resident of Anchorage Alaska (16 years) and I cannot count the ways that APM has been a crucial resource. It becomes clearer every day how important good unbiased reporting is to public health and safety. While disinformation has spread about the census and COVID19, Alaska Public Media has helped keep the people grounded and informed.

Please continue funding at previous levels or even better increase funding to reduce their self-financing burden. Good public information is too important to risk.

Thank you,

Matthew Fox

Doniece Gott

From: Nathan Visser <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 6:56 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: I support public radio!

Hi there -

Please provide funding for Alaska Public Media - it is a very important use of our state funds.

Thanks!

Nate from Anchorage

Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Ann Jamieson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 6:56 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Budget Amount for Public Radio

Senators of the Finance Committee:

This email is in support of a minimum of \$1,000,000 to be allocated to public broadcasting. In the interest of Alaskan's need to stay connected, I would prefer a greater amount. Public radio keeps Alaskans informed about our State. I personally listen to every program dedicated to local news and the information about our State. Please consider the importance of this programming in your budget.

Ann Jamieson
Fairbanks, Alaska

Doniece Gott

From: Cindy Richardson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 6:57 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Budget

Please fund public media. It is the life line for many Alaskan communities and by history is fair, unbiased and informative. The many unique shows that highlight the communities of Alaska and our unique natures are essential.
Thank you,
Cindy Richardson

--
CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This E-mail is covered by the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, 18 U.S.C. §§ 2510-2521 and is legally privileged. This e-mail message, including any attachments, is for the sole use of the intended recipient or recipients and may contain confidential and privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by reply e-mail and destroy all copies of the original.

Doniece Gott

From: Mari Jamieson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 6:57 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: funding for public broadcasting

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to request that you maintain or increase the budget for public media and education in our state.

Public media provides an important link to communities needing information during this time of need, as well as delivering content that helps people to feel connected to the greater world, which is more necessary now than ever.

Education serves the biggest and most important "resource" that we have - our children and families.

We need funding for education and public media in our state - they are needed basic services for our communities.

Sincerely,

Mari Jamieson
520 W 19th Ave
Anchorage Alaska 99503
907-230-8084

Doniece Gott

From: Evana Newberry <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 6:58 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Maintain or better yet, increase AK public media budget

We turn to public radio for every emergency: after the earthquake, wildfires, and Coast Guard responses. They report for our communities throughout Alaska where others don't. They keep us informed for local emergencies in a relevant way, and frankly there's often no where else to turn to for information. Nevermind all of the programming that they provide that brighten our dark winter season and the long road trips for fishing. Please keep or increase their budget. We need them to keep functioning so we can, too.

Doniece Gott

From: Michael Powell <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 6:59 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Please support Alaska Public Media

To whom it may concern,

I am submitting a formal letter in support of funding for Alaska Public Media.

- 1) Alaska Public Media remains one of the few and perhaps most important outlets for public information, both for education and entertainment, but more importantly during times of emergency and crisis. Alaska Public Media saves lives.
- 2) Alaska Public Media is unbiased and not influenced by outside sources or ulterior motives. Alaska Public Media is for the community serving us.
- 3) Alaska Public Media is available to everyone. There is no required fee to obtain access to this information.
- 4) Alaska Public Media is an outstanding value. The cost of supporting this resource is almost insignificant compared to the value.

In conclusion although the request for Alaska Public Media is minimal, and this amount should certainly be approved in the budget, this amount should be increased to maximize the functionality of this resource. Now more than ever, with the world Pandemic of COVID -19, Alaska Public Media can support our communities and our state.

From: Michael Powell
907-947-9635
3208 Woodland Park
Anchorage, AK 99517

Doniece Gott

From: Erin Danielson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 6:59 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska Public Media

Greetings,

As an Anchorage, Alaska resident for the last 8 years, I have become to rely on APM for daily news and important news coverage. I have chosen to support them with contributions through Click.Pick.Give as well as during fund drives.

Our current circumstances of the Covid-19 pandemic and importance of obtaining current and quality information for our local needs, involvement, and precautions is just one example on why this service is important to our communities.

Limits of funding should not be of concern during these times.

It is unfortunate but understandable that there isn't always enough money for everyone who wants it, and that cuts and changes in budget occur. However, I believe it to be misguided to limit sources and organizations that provide information and education to all. We rely to the radio and other news sources when crisis or important events occur, and to present that value we should continue to support APM.

Happy to answer any questions or offer further feedback as it is warranted. As with many other Alaskans, please continue to support this organization with budge extension and support.

Constituent,

Erin Danielson, Anchorage AK

Doniece Gott

From: George Peck <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:01 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska public media budget

This is a plea to increase APM's budget.

It provides an indispensable source of accurate information for those of us who don't use television for news. Its varied programs bring color and light to an Alaska that is often a dull gray.

I rely on APM on a daily and continuing basis for news, culture and food for thought.

There is simply too much good stuff on its programs to let die and disappear.

I know some pols will want to strangle public radio for its "liberal bias" but that is nothing more than a bias toward accuracy and fact.

George peck
Seward since 1976

Doniece Gott

From: Carolyn Mariah Brashar [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:01 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska Public Media

Please support Alaska Public Media by approving at least the \$1 million proposed in the budget for public radio and \$879,500 for satellite communications. People all over the state rely on Alaska Public Media for news, public service announcements, and entertainment. In these worrying times, we need these services more than ever.

Carolyn Brashar
Anchorage Resident

Doniece Gott

From: Doug Knock [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:02 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public radio

All,

I support Alaska Public Media for quality local and national news and important information. I support the proposed \$1 million dollar budget for public radio.

Thank You
Doug Knock

Doniece Gott

From: Emily Forstner <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:03 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: support of public radio

Hello,
I am in support of the \$1 million budget for public radio and the additional \$879,500 for satellite communications. These figures are minimum. I would heartily support more.
The COVID19 virus is proof enough that we need to support public radio and satellite communications. During the earthquake, these news outlets were what we relied on for credible and timely news. So, now is certainly the time to support our public media.
I am not able to attend the teleconference on this matter. Please accept this email as my testimony instead.
Emily Forstner
POB 3942
Palmer, AK 99645

Doniece Gott

From: Richard Sepersky <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:03 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Please fund Alaska Public Media

Hello,

I am a 26 year resident of Alaska and just want you to know how important funding for non profit TV and radio is.

Please fund this important endeavor.

Thank you,
Richard Sepersky

Doniece Gott

From: Irene Bortnick [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:03 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public Radio and Satellite Communications

At a time such as this, we need reliable news sources more than ever. My husband and I, along with thousands of other Alaskans, rely on public TV and radio for up-to-date news and information as well as for entertainment. Please consider including the proposed \$1 million for public radio and \$879,500 for satellite communications in the budget at the very minimum.

Thank you,
Irene Bortnick

Doniece Gott

From: Colleen Kirkpatrick <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:04 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support public media

I am requesting you support public media on my behalf and on behalf of my family. We rely on news and information from these radio stations in Alaska and nationwide. I strongly support public media in Alaska through private donation and I request my tax dollars are also allocated to support these radio stations as well.

Respectfully
Colleen McElhenny

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

Doniece Gott

From: Tom & Sue [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:06 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Funding to support public radio and television

I am writing you to show our support for the funding of public radio and television. The benefit all citizens receive from these services is extremely important and your assistance in increasing their allotments will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

Thomas & Sue Ellen May
Eagle River, AK 99577

Doniece Gott

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:06 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Increase of funds for communication

If the current state of the "world" hasn't proved our need for world wide communication and cooperation then I do not know what would. We live in a GLOBAL society and Alaska is still located on this planet as far as I know. Being remote and pristine is absolutely no reason to remaining UNINFORMED. We all need top notch communication otherwise the price we will pay will be IGNORANCE.

Sincerely, Joyce Malacina

Doniece Gott

From: Bob Butera <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:06 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support for Alaska Public Media

I strongly support public radio. It is where I turn for information. It is an essential need in Alaska. Thank you for including funding for it in the budget.

Bob Butera
Anchorage, Alaska

Doniece Gott

From: Stephanie Presley & Nate Crossley
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:06 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska public media

Please support full coverage of Alaska public media. Right now the coverage of the pandemic at the local, state and national level is critical service to Alaskans. Public media stations are busy sharing accurate information about the public health emergency, about resources that are available in your community and in the State of Alaska, as well as up to date info on what has been canceled or rescheduled. With so many people staying home local public radio is the ideal source of accurate news and information available over the air or online.

We rely on the service throughout the year, but especially during this critical year.

Stephanie Presley
& Nate Crossley
Seward

Doniece Gott

From: Tami Hamler [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:07 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: funding for public radio and satellite communications

As a long term resident of Alaska, I want to voice my strong support for funding of public radio and satellite communications. The value to the public is immeasurable. Please vote to fully fund these valuable organizations.

Tami Hamler
3000 Alder Circle
Anchorage 99508

Doniece Gott

From: Erin Hollingsworth [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:08 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public broadcast funding

Dear Members of the Alaskan Finance Committee,

Please know that funding for public broadcast in the state of Alaska is a crucial lifeline. Many residents in remote and rural areas rely upon the local public radio stations for news, emergency alerts, participation in local governance, weather reports, and so much more. Federal funding is contingent upon state funding. Removing state dollars dramatically decreases the budgets of our local broadcasters. During this time of uncertainty and global pandemic, we need to lean into every method that is available to us to help maintain public safety and security, and this means financially supporting public broadcasting to provide clear communication throughout Alaska.

Thank you,

Erin Hollingsworth
Resident of the North Slope and listener of KBRW

Doniece Gott

From: B Scheele [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:09 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public media support

Finance Committee of Alaska,

Thank you for diligently working for the interests of Alaskans. Citizens of Alaska. Who voted you into office.

Right now the coverage of the pandemic at the local, state and national level is critical service to Alaskans. Public media stations are busy sharing accurate information about the public health emergency, about resources that are available in your community and in the State of Alaska, as well as up to date info on what has been canceled or rescheduled. With so many people staying home local public radio is the ideal source of accurate news and information available over the air or online. When they're not bringing critical information during such a critical time, they bring critical facts for decisive knowledge.

I ask you as an active voter to support the bill to support public media.

Bonnie Scheele
Indigenous Alaska Native Womxn, mother, business owner, entrepreneur, and human being.

Doniece Gott

From: Delece Lennon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:10 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Only source

Wrangell and Glennallen as well as many other small or remote communities have ONE source of news, including current important information: PUBLIC MEDIA.

Doniece Gott

From: Hrant Harutyunyan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:11 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Yes to \$1 mln or more for budget allocation for public radio

Hi,

I am Juneau resident and I rely on public radio(KTOO) for my daily local, national and international news source. Currently in Gustavs for work and KTOO is my only(internet and mobile is not reliable here) source of connection to the outside world and the news about developments around covid 19. It is the only outlet in smaller communities in Southeast.

Please pass the proposed amount and if possible add more to the proposed public radio budget allowance.

Thanks You

Hrant Harutyunyan

Doniece Gott

From: juliette vries [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:13 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public Radio funding

Public Radio has been a valuable source of information for the last 25 years I've been living in the community of Unalaska. It brings the world to me through news, music, science and interviews. There have been many times I've sat in my car after reaching my destination so I could hear the rest of the news or other information being broadcast. I'm a sustaining member of public radio and TV stations locally and for the state. It would be a great loss to lose the quality of independent broadcasting. I'm urging to continue to keep funding, preferably increasing the amount of funding, for this public service.

Juliette Vries
PO box 920594
Dutch Harbor, AK 99692

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Doniece Gott

From: Larry & Dahna Graham <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:14 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska Public Media

Please consider generous support for Alaska Public Media. I have been a resident of Alaska for almost fifty-nine years, and the arrival of Public Media (KSKA) lifted a veil and brought me into contact with up to date and reliable reporting. This is a critical time for unbiased and accurate information distribution. Emergencies (Federal, State, and Local) clarify our needs and solutions. Surely you can see that Alaska Public Media supplies just that. I implore you to do the right thing and empower this stream of important information to increase and persist. Thank you.

Dahna Graham
1720 Otter Street
(907) 333-9613
dahna@alaska.net

Doniece Gott

From: Linda Janidlo <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:15 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska Public Media

Dear Finance Committee Members,

We are writing to support the proposed \$1 million funding for public radio and \$879,500 for satellite communications in Alaska. Connecting all Alaskans, and providing news and information is an important function in usual times and is especially critical now. We ask that our state government provide at least this level of funding in the current budget. Public radio and satellite communications are successful public-private partnerships in Alaska that provide necessary services throughout our state and share our news with the rest of the world. Our family has been a financial supporter of Alaska Public Media since 1978 when KSKA first went on the air. We hope we can count on your support now.

Thank you.

Linda and Thom Janidlo

Doniece Gott

From: Mindy Hunter <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:17 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support public media

Please vote tomorrow to fully fund public radio and TV. Many of us are in our homes practicing social distancing and public media is more important than ever to hold our communities together and provide news, education and entertainment for all ages. I am a daily user of public media. Please vote to fund it fully, especially during these trying days of Covid-19.

Sincerely,
Mindy Hunter
Homer, AK

Doniece Gott

From: Corinne McVee <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:17 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public Broadcasting

Please support the proposed budget for public broadcasting - an essential service in our vast state! The budgeted amount is minimal - I would actually like to see it increased.
Public broadcasting is one of the most critical elements in our state communication infrastructure.

Corinne McVee
6300 Habicht Court
Anchorage 99504

Doniece Gott

From: Craig M. <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:19 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: I support Alaska Public Media

Please include funding for Alaska Public Media in this year's budget. The million dollars and additional million dollars for satellite communications is money well spent.

I have lived and worked in urban and rural Alaska and public radio and APM provide important services to all Alaskans. Weather, education, government news, public safety, public health and economic information is distributed across the state via this important service

Thank you for continuing to include Alaska Public Media in the state budget.

Sincerely,
-Craig Mollerstuen-

Anchorage, AK

Doniece Gott

From: Abi Woodbridge <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:19 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Please!. YES > Fund Public Radio & Sat Comms in Alaska

Given the long distances between communities in Alaska, the CV-19 Pandemic AND the ongoing NEED TO KNOW what is happening in OUR State:

- IT IS IMPERATIVE that the State of Alaska fund Public Radio and the Satellite Communications that make the feeds work to the remote areas...

I live in Unalaska. I donate to Public Radio as much as I can. I am retired and on a limited income and Yes, I can get internet (as long as I can afford it) SO > I depend on Public Radio and the Satellite Communications system to expand my awareness' AND to KEEP ME APPRAISED of what is happening in ALASKA and the rest of the WORLD.

Please fund this invaluable resource AND the Satellite feeds.

I suggest \$1M each. AT LEAST...

thank you!

Abi

--
<<< Don't worry spiders, I keep house casually >>>

Issa (1763-1827)

Abi Woodbridge e-mail: abiwoodbridge@gmail.com

PO Box 107 Unalaska, AK 99685 907-581-2535

Doniece Gott

From: James Mackovjak <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:20 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: I support public radio!

I have lived in Gustavus, in Southeast Alaska, for nearly 50 years. Life here improved greatly when KTOO, Juneau's public radio station, began broadcasting here. I think the news coverage is unparalleled, and it's all I really need to keep informed about what is happening in Alaska, in our country, and in the world. And it's become even more important with the current pandemic.

It's my understanding that there is one million dollars in the proposed budget for public radio. I urge you to keep it there. The budget may be tight, but providing the Alaska public with news and information that affect all our lives is a fundamental service that must continue.

Thank you for your consideration.

--

James Mackovjak
P.O. Box 63
Gustavus, Alaska 99826
home: (907) 308-4038
cell: (541) 514-9145
lituya@gmail.com

Doniece Gott

From: Jo Michalski [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:20 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public Media Funding

Dear Committee,

Please continue funding public media in Alaska at the proposed level (close to 2 million) or higher. Public media provides a desperately needed service to our state and, most importantly, provides it during times of crisis. Last night KAKM provided an important 90 minute presentation of our community's readiness in the face of the Coronavirus that was better than anything we've seen on the state or national level.

We now know the readiness preparations of our school district, hospitals and municipality. We have been public media supporters since the late 70's and have increased our support as we were able to.

Private support is important but public support is irreplaceable and important to keeping Alaskans informed throughout our state!

We urge you to continue this valuable support!

Jo and Peter Michalski
Anchorage

Doniece Gott

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:20 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public radio

Dear Finance Committee,

Please support public radio in Alaska. I'm a sustaining member of KSKA because I find the comprehensive and unbiased reporting essential to being an informed citizen, but they need more support than I can give. Please fund public radio.

Andrew Hoyer
Anchorage, AK

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Doniece Gott

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:21 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Please support Alaska Public Media

Alaska has a high quality public radio system that is important to support & maintain.

It is an excellent source of unbiased quality news on both the national and local level. It provides information that we need for health safety and just being informed citizens.

Charlotte Sartor
5900 S.Our Rd
Palmer, AK 99645

Doniece Gott

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:22 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public Radio budget

Dear Legislators,

I am requesting that you strongly consider maintaining the public radio and comms budget as currently written (1 million and 879K respectively). Public radio is a major part of my Alaska life and news network. As an ER nurse, I need trusted media that plugs me into what's happening in my State. Public radio gives us, the citizens of Alaska, irreplaceable journalism and a connection to what makes us Alaskans. Furthermore, public radio is a significant means of disseminating what's happening in the State Legislature.

I urge you to support what is an integral part of our lives, and what for a lot of people is a life saving source of updates in times of earthquakes, pandemics and economic crises. I desperately need news that's by us and for us.

Regards,

Carrie Anne Lavallee
PO BOX 240506
Anchorage, AK 99524

Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:23 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support public radio budget proposal

Dear Senate Finance committee members,

Please support the proposed \$1 million budget for public radio and \$879,500 for satellite communications.

With the covid-19 pandemic there has never been a more important time to have a reliable Alaskan public news source for accurate information, news and updates on public health -- stretching forward into the future, no one knows how long.

The covid crisis has complicated the normal nominating and voting procedures leading up to national elections, which adds to urgency to maintaining a strong, vital public media as a source of information.

I regularly rely on public radio for information and news and locally produced content of particular interest to Alaskans, and heartily endorse the proposed budget and even higher budget allocations.

Kevin Cassity

Kevin Cassity
(907) 350-1715
kevincassity@yahoo.com

Doniece Gott

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:26 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska Public Media

Please support APM. We in rural Alaska depend on public media for our news, weather, public health announcements and all other local information. We appreciate your continued support

Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Gretchen Bishop [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:27 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: AK Public Media Funding

Dear Legislative Finance Committee:

I am writing in support of continued strong funding for the Alaska Public Media and Radio. We are a huge State with government services that are in many ways substandard, by necessity. Our communities are not all connected by roads, many communities rely upon subsistence resources for their livelihoods, we have among the highest native populations in the country and these populations are diverse in culture and language. Added onto this already challenging population to provide services to is the burgeoning issue of climate change, bringing with it wildfires, reductions in subsistence opportunities, and now the corona virus. These challenges have been greatly ameliorated by the existence of a strong public broadcasting network. This radio and television network unifies, informs, supports and celebrates our diverse population. It is not a luxury but an essential service. Please fund the Alaska Public Media/Radio at the proposed (respectively \$879,500 and \$1 million) or higher levels.

Sincerely,

Gretchen Bishop

Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: A [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:29 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public broadcasting

Please increase the funding for public braodcasting in Alaska. They are a lifeline for many communities and a bright spot in my day with great shows and unbiased reporting of the whole story. I do my part to support them. Please do yours b
Sent from my iPad

Doniece Gott

From: Jeanne Meinert <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:30 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Proposed Budget

I support the proposed budget of 1 million dollars for public radio and \$879,500 for satellite communications.
Thank you.
Jeanne Meinert

Doniece Gott

From: Rita Herrmann <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:33 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public radio

Please vote to financially support PBS Alaska. It is our main source of unbiased national news and great local Alaska news coverage. Also great entertainment and educational shows!

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

Doniece Gott

From: Bev Short [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:33 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public media funding

Dear Finance Committee members,

Public media is now, more than ever, a vital source of news and information for Alaskans all around the state. When I lived in Dillingham, KDLG was a lifeline for the community. Here in Anchorage, KSKA and KAKM provide much-needed informative programming, and especially locally produced shows that connect Alaskans in ways nothing else does.

Please support the proposed funding of (at least) \$1 million for public radio and \$879,500 for satellite communications.

Thank you,
Beverly Short
Anchorage

Doniece Gott

From: Mary Steiert [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:34 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support Alaska Public Media

Hello -
I'm writing in support of funding Alaska Public Radio for \$1 million and \$879.5K for satellite communications. We need non-profit journalism supported state-wide. Please continue to fund this important resource.

thank you,
Mary Steiert
Anchorage, AK

Doniece Gott

From: Deb McKinney & Paul Morley <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:36 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public radio

Please count me among the countless avid supporters of public radio. It's incredibly important in my life. I depend on it for so many things—from exceptional entertainment to balanced, in-depth reporting on issues important to me and to our state. I am alone all day and depend on it for company, as well, especially now that we need to be hunkered down at home. It's on from the time I get up until I go to bed. I learn new things everyday from this programming. I can't even imagine how important this service is to people out in the villages. It's a lifeline. Please fully fund this vital service.

Thank you,

Debra McKinney

907-223-9955

mcmorley@mtaonline.net

Doniece Gott

From: Chas Dense & Cristi Herren <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:38 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public Broadcasting

Please fully fund Public Radio to the fullest extent possible. In large segments of Alaska's population public radio is the only source of local, state, and world news. Radio puts the all important human voice to the happenings of the day; the current pandemic being a current and very important example of the need for public radio throughout Alaska. Even KTOO Juneau reaches isolated communities such as Hoonah, Gustavus, and Excursion Inlet, which do not have local newspapers or other means to keep in touch of their outside world. I understand that money is tight but public radio is no less a foundation for our democracy than newspapers.

Thank you for your consideration,

Chas Dense
cdense@icloud.com
427 West 11th St.
Juneau, AK 99801

Doniece Gott

From: Debbie Ramin <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:38 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: PBS funding

I believe all funding should come privately . PBS has become partisan and political and should not get funds from the govt in any way.

I watched and supported PBS for many years and would then have supported govt financial support, no more. They can raise their own funds now.

Thank you
Debbie Ramin
Wasilla,Alaska
Alaska resident 40 years

Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Seth Ayotte <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:39 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: I support Alaska Public Media

I am writing to express my support for funding for Alaska Public Media. It is a vital information resource for rural and urban communities like and in many areas is the only source of reliable information to the public. The benefits of Alaska Public Media far outweigh its costs to the state and as an Alaskan I strongly support its continued funding.

Thank you,
Seth Ayotte
Anchorage, AK

--

Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Judy Alderson [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:39 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Budget hearing re: Public Media funding

I would like to ask that you please fund Public Media in the budget proposal for at least the \$1.879 (1.8 million) in the budget proposal. However, this is the minimum needed to support the local messaging and information provided to the entire State of Alaska. Public media serves a unique and vital role in informing us of ongoing events, both national and local. I rely on it every single day.

Thank you,
Judy Alderson
Anchorage AK

Doniece Gott

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:39 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public Radio & TV

We urge you to support these media sources with generous public funds. We have always supported them with donations, but private donations won't cut it.

Public radio is the only radio listened to in this household, and this is generally true in our circle of retired folks. Regardless of what the "anti-science" folks might think, public TV is an invaluable source of science information. And with this current epidemic raging around the world, we can easily see where the rejection of science gets us.

Please support our public media,

Martha and Tom Nelson

Anchorage

Doniece Gott

From: turner <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:43 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Proposed budget for public radio and satellite communications.

I support the \$1 million dollar proposal in the budget for public radio and \$879,500 for satellite communications. I also encourage legislators to increase support for these vital communication links.

Steve Turner
907-274-3166
P. O. Box 92380, Anchorage, Alaska 99509

--

This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.avast.com_antivirus&d=DwIBAg&c=Q8iJasR7RZ-J0Fd9RXD9ZA&r=Og2bEwh8nUkz6WCNOVV8XhdIxt9TVEKI281q8edr1G4&m=myNjFtV5xzCy3IYC-KX6V74vGPFpLuvFdpQ7H2kj7T4&s=-BUqMdOxOFXv1A-TI9xLWli14QYA5Ar7YkW4E9U9xFw&e=

Doniece Gott

From: Sam Daniel [REDACTED] on behalf of Sam Daniel
[REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:44 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support Public Radio Financing

Dear Legislators,

Please support the funding of Alaska Public Radio and Television. I commercial fished in Bristol Bay for many years and public radio is the lifeline and pulse of the community. Whether its learning how the red run is going our passing along messages from one family to another its an integral part of the community.

Living in South Central Alaska public radio is the only source I trust to get news that is important about what is happening around our state. Without it we would not have as much accountability to the public as we enjoy today!

Sincerely,

Sam Daniel / ABR CRS GRI SRES Broker
Glacier City Realty, Inc
PO Box 550, Girdwood, Ak 99587
207 East Northern Lights
Blvd Suite 122
Anchorage, Ak. 99503
Office: 907-783-1910
Cell: 907-227-4626
[email: samdaniel@glaciercityrealty.com](mailto:samdaniel@glaciercityrealty.com)

Confidentiality Notice: This message is a confidential and privileged communication intended only for the use of the individual or entity to who it is addressed, and should not be read or used by anyone else. If you have received this message in error please immediately notify us by return email or fax, delete message from your system, and retain no copies.

Doniece Gott

From: stacy [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:44 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: public radio

There is never a good time to cut public radio, a vital community service. During this pandemic, it is a lifeline to real news. For all Alaskans, I ask you to retain funding for the radio voice of this great state.

Stacy Gordon
818-468-4854
Anchorage, AK

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

Doniece Gott

From: Michael Henrich [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:45 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: public broadcasting

I totally support public broadcasting funding this year. In a perfect world it would be much more. The Governor helped the recall effort when he vetoed funding last year.
Please support public broadcasting!!

Be Well,
Michael Henrich
Anchorage

Doniece Gott

From: Camilla Seifert <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:46 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support public media

I must urge you to support the budget items for Alaska public media. I don't need to remind any of you how important it is to your constituents to have this free and reliable access, especially in remote communities where there are no other options.

Thank you in advance.

Camilla Seifert
Girdwood

Doniece Gott

From: Jackie's Google [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:48 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: The AK Budget and Public Radio

I'm an RN working at Central Peninsula Hospital in Soldotna, I've lived in Alaska for the last 10 years. I'm blessed that my PFD is "extra" and so I return it to the community supporting Alaska Christian College and KDLL, public radio.

The mildest word I can use to describe the 2020 AK State budget is dismay. Threatened and realized cuts to education, Medicaid, Seniors programs, and the ferry system have caused much hardship and economic pain and have damaged the future of our state. I well know the percentage of reimbursement that our hospitals receive from Medicare and Medicaid. I'm aware of the age demographics here in Alaska – our elders, our isolated villages and off-road cities need the healthcare, schools and ferries. These are services that we should not and cannot do without.

My email today has to do with another line item that needs to be returned to the budget. It's easy to consider Public Broadcasting as a "nicety" rather than a needed service, but that is a short sighted view. KDLL here in Kenai and KBBI in Homer provide broadcasting that supports our local communities and economies. During election season they broadcast the League of Women Voters and other candidate forums, year round they provide interviews and stories that support local businesses, the local economy, ways to enjoy our state. Every other Tuesday they broadcast the Borough assembly meetings, keeping us informed when we can't get to the meetings. The budget for these stations is always very tight, equipment is reused and repurposed, but their mission continues and they're working hard to keep up. The funding that was cut from KDLL is peanuts compared to the rest of the budget. But the economic return for that investment is many multiples of the invested dollars.

Listening to the governor's presentation on Tuesday night the comments were heavily in favor of paying out the back \$\$ for the PFD. Please, please consider carefully the long-term effects of reducing the reserves in the PFD at (what we all hope is) the bottom of the market. My prayers are with you as you make tough decisions, but do consider that money removed from the budget means that the economic recycling of those dollars is lost. Those funds, paid to local and statewide entities, re-enter the economy throughout the state to be spent again. KDLL and KBBI and other public radio and television stations are not a line item – they're an investment in our communities and our state that returns dividend both financially and culturally, improving our quality of life..

Thank you,

Jacqueline (Jackie) Smith
279 Redwood Court
Soldotna, AK 99669



Virus-free. www.avq.com

Doniece Gott

From: Mary A. Vavrik [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:49 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska Public Media budget

I am writing to ask you to please pass the \$1 million in the budget for public radio and the \$89,500 for satellite communications. Public media is very important to my keeping informed of currents.

Thank you.

Mary A. Vavrik
Anchorage, Alaska

Doniece Gott

From: r seal <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:50 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Budget

Please vote yes on the 1 million dollars for public radio thank you for your time and efforts!! R Seal Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Phyllis Adams <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:51 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: \$1 million proposed in the budget for public radio and \$879,500 for satellite communications.

I support the \$1 million proposed in the budget for public radio and \$879,500 for satellite communications.

Phyllis Adams
720 Birch Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

Doniece Gott

From: Diane Carr [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:52 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: support of public radio

I am writing you to encourage you to support public radio by passing the budgeted amount for public radio and satellite communications. Thank you.

Diane Carr

Anchorage, AK



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Doniece Gott

From: Westover Family <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:49 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support Public Media

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support the fully funding public media. During times of emergency, public media is a quality source of information. After the November earthquake, it was public media that provided complete and accurate coverage. In our current situation with a worldwide pandemic, I turn to my local public media stations to obtain rational coverage of current events, government actions, and best practices.

In a world of You Tube, reality T.V. and people obtaining their news coverage from Face book, the importance of maintaining quality programming both on the television and radio is paramount. Public media provides educational programming, quality news coverage and responsible reporting that cannot be found elsewhere.

Please support public media by voting to fully fund its programs. At a minimum, the committee should approve the full \$1 million dollars for public radio and \$879,500 for satellite communications.

Thank you,

Kimberly Westover
Anchorage Resident

Doniece Gott

From: Marilyn Sigman <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:52 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Funding for public radio and telecommunications

Thank you for your attention to these important government functions in the FY21 budget. It is clear in these times of a worldwide pandemic how important these functions are. Alaskans are making all types of adjustments in how they congregate together, in using satellite-based telecommunications to work from home and also to care for friends and loved ones from whom they are socially-distancing. I can't think of another time when the value of public radio and telecommunications can be better demonstrated.

When the state budget for these items is cut back, it has the potential for a catastrophic impact on human health and safety. I urge you to consider increasing the budget amount to improve upon our emergency preparedness and capacity to respond at the individual and community level.

Sincerely,
Marilyn Sigman
4611 Kachemak Way
Homer, AK 99603

--
"Here is your country. Cherish these natural wonders, cherish the natural resources, cherish the history and romance as a sacred heritage, for your children and your children's children. Do not let selfish men or greedy interests skin your country of its beauty, its riches or its romance." - Teddy Roosevelt

Doniece Gott

From: Barbara Taylor <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:56 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska Public Media

Please support the state budget for Alaska Public Media. It is a vital source of trusted and accurate news for the State of Alaska.

Sincerely,
Bobbie Taylor

Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Peg webb <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:59 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Budget for public radio

Please support the quality public broadcasting. It is such a good source of information. I've chosen it for years and I support as much as my budget will allow. Thank you for such a gift.

Peggy Webb

Doniece Gott

From: Peggy Mullen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 8:00 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: best coronavirus info from public media

Dear Legislators - Last night KAKM carried 90 minutes of in depth information on our current crisis. We watched from Soldotna and checked to see if the other two channels we receive by antenna were covering it. Not happening. Our Anchorage family listened on their public radio station as they drove to the airport to reunite with their returning college students. We need more, not less, of this type of service. Count us as willing to pay income tax! Marge and Peggy Mullen, Soldotna

Doniece Gott

From: Anna B. [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 8:01 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support for Public Radio

Dear Alaska Leaders,

I live in rural Alaska in Kotzebue. We have limited affordable and reliable internet service. We still depend on our landline. We still listen to and depend on our one and only local public RADIO station. It is the main way we receive all of our community information, news, public safety announcements and warnings. It is critical to staying connected, informed and SAFE here in rural AK. We need our leaders to understand how much we need public radio.

Right now we are all glued to the radio for corona virus updates to stay informed, SAFE and HEALTHY. When people go missing, radio is the main way we know that, that a search is on, volunteers are needed, fundraisers need support, or sadly, gravediggers are needed. We just recognized Ashley Johnson Barr Day. It was the RADIO that alerted the community that she was missing. It was the RADIO that rallied the hundreds of volunteers who helped search for her. You might be aware that many people do not have access to or can afford internet, or have a Facebook account.

It is good old-fashioned RADIO that keeps us informed, whether it's a death, a funeral, a visiting dignitary such as one of you our elected leaders, warning us of bear sightings near town, a dangerous wild animal IN town (muskox made it to town and attacked local dogs), tsunami warning, storm warning, blizzard warning, school lock down or the CORONA virus.

We elect you and depend on you to REPRESENT US fairly and equally. We need your leadership to look out for our SAFETY and WELL-BEING at the STATE level. Help us help ourselves. We NEED public radio, KOTZ-AM/FM and Alaska Public Media to keep us informed of local, state and national news and EMERGENCIES so we can be as self-reliant as possible and take care of ourselves, potentially preventing loss of life and property.

When the power goes out there is NO INTERNET, NO CELL SERVICE. There IS RADIO. Without public radio we would be more vulnerable, more dependent on, and more of a burden on State resources to fix problems and address dangerous or costly situations that could have been avoided through timely and effective region-wide communication via RADIO.

We elect leaders for their vision, fairness, knowledge and how much we believe they care about us. Protecting and strengthening public radio will demonstrate your intelligent, compassionate, far reaching and wise leadership. Please reaffirm our faith in you. Protect public radio for Alaska and fellow citizens across the country.

Thank you. Be well.

Sincerely,

Annabelle Alvite
Kotzebue, Alaska

Doniece Gott

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 8:02 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support for funding

I am writing in support of the proposed funding for public radio and satellite communications (\$1 million and \$879,500). Please approve this amount, or more if possible. The current health crisis certainly highlights the need for these services in Alaska. Thank you, Mona

Mona Stutes
Anchorage and Anchor Point
907 317-9017

Doniece Gott

From: Richard and Jean Krause <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 8:04 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: funding for public media

I support an increase in funding of Alaska Public Media over the amount proposed in the current proposed budget. The programing is vital to all of Alaska and should be supported by the legislature.

Richard J. Krause
360A Melissa Rose Circle
Palmer, AK 99645

Doniece Gott

From: Charles Gilbert <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 8:06 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Funding for AK Public Media

AK Public Media is extremely important to Alaska. Its in depth coverage of local and statewide issues keeps Alaskans informed AND SAFE during these trying times. Please provide state funding for this vital source of information to Alaskans.

Charles Gilbert
1347 F St.
Anchorage, AK 99501

Sent from my iPad

Doniece Gott

From: Patricia Perry [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 8:08 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support for Public Radio

I would like to voice my support for the budget items:

\$1 million proposed in the budget for public radio and \$879,500 for satellite communications.

I live outside of Anchorage and count on Public Radio for much of my daily news and specialty programs. The role Public Radio plays in our daily lives is very important to the quality of life for me in Alaska. The critical situation currently facing Alaskans show how important the Public Radio can be to get the information out to all areas in Alaska. Example, my friend is substitute teaching in a bush community of Alaska with very limited internet access. I called her yesterday and told her a link to use to be able to live stream the special local broadcast about the Coronavirus. She was able to do so in Ambler Alaska and hear the news happening in the state.

Please continue to fund Public Radio to the levels suggested above.

Patricia Perry
Seward, Alaska

--

"Like" us on Facebook at Bear Lake Lodgings B&B help us promote and see the latest at the lodge!!! Great places to rest your head - www.BearLakeLodgings.com in Seward, Alaska - proudly top rated on TripAdvisor. Online booking & availability service at our website.

Looking for your next Gourmet Ice Cream Bar??? "Like" us on Facebook to find out our next scheduled event! The Original Gourmet Ice Cream Bars, Inc

Doniece Gott

From: Tara <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 8:09 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska public broadcasting budget

My wife Tara and I are asking that the proposed public broadcasting budget be passed without cuts. No place in the country faces the distance, geographic, weather, or cultural challenges that Alaska does. Public broadcasting is essential for communication, education, and emergency broadcasting. Its mission is a critical service. We use it, listen to it, watch it, and support it. Its budget can withstand no more cuts and still fulfill essential services.

Thank you,
Paul and Tara Wreyford
P.O. Box 2285, Palmer, AK 9964
907-745-2321
wreyford@mtaonline.net

Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Lisa Pullen [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 8:12 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public Media Supporter

Public Testimony for Public Media,

Local news and health and safety messaging are great reasons to value public media. Right now the coverage of the pandemic at the local, state and national level is critical service to Alaskans. Public media stations are busy sharing accurate information about the public health emergency, about resources that are available in your community and in the State of Alaska, as well as up to date info on what has been canceled or rescheduled. With so many people staying home local public radio is the ideal source of accurate news and information available over the air or online. Support the proposed amount to keep the media coverage we NEED her in a state as far flung as we all are, from each other as well the rest of the the U.S.

Thank you,

Lisa Pullen

Alaskan Native, ASD Teacher, Anchorage taxpayer, homeowner

Doniece Gott

From: Heather MacAlpine [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 8:12 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska Public Media

Please support Alaska public media and maintain or increase the current budget amounts. Especially in trying times like these we need a reliable source for news and information.

Heather MacAlpine
East Anchorage

Doniece Gott

From: Beth Adams [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 8:14 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: I support funding for public media

Dear Finance Committee Members,

I am writing in support of funding for public radio and public television.

This is a critical time for clear and concise communication. The health and welfare of our citizens depends on the ability to communicate important information about health and safety at this frightening time.

Because of this, we support at least flat funding for public media. It is a critical service at this time.

Thank you for your consideration.

Layne & Beth Adams

--

Beth

Doniece Gott

From: Alice Sullivan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 8:16 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support Public Radio!

One of the most valuable entities in our state is Public Radio. KNBA and KSKA. They are the ONLY stations we listen to for accurate reporting. Please fund!!!!

Alice Sullivan
Chugiak, AK

Alice Bassler Sullivan, Director
Alice Bassler Sullivan DanceArts Alaska
alicebsullivan@gmail.com
Mobile: 907.240.9652

Doniece Gott

From: F LaChapelle <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 8:19 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Alaska Public Media Funding

Dear Senate Finance Committee,
Please fund public media at the proposed million dollar level at a minimum. We value public media for intelligent and balanced reporting. The current pandemic coverage has been outstanding and critical to our Alaskan communities for accurate information. As more and more of our communities are quarantined, public media will be essential for news and quality children's programming. We are leadership level supporters and are doing our part to support Alaska Public Media. Thank you.

Ravnit and Francis LaChapelle

Sent from my semi smart phone. Please excuse brevity and auto correct.

Doniece Gott

From: Linda Peissig <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 8:24 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Funding for AK Public Media

Please support full funding for AK Public Media it is not a luxury but a crucial survival resource for Alaska, especially right now during this global crisis. We rely on AK Public Media for local news, education and safety and especially right now the coverage of the pandemic at the local, state and national level is critical service to Alaskans. Alaska Oublic Media has been our life-line and especially right now by sharing sharing accurate information about the public health emergency, about resources that are available in our community and in the State of Alaska, as well as up to date info on what has been canceled or rescheduled. We are staying home and local public radio is the ideal source of accurate news and information available over the air or online.

Please fund this recourse Alaskans are depending on it.

Thank you for your consideration

Linda Peissig
Anchorage

Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Mark Bondurant <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 8:26 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Public Radio

Dear Senate,

Public radio? You're going to wreck Public Radio? It's the only local radio news. It's the only solid, impartial radio news. Who will broadcast your speeches? Who will remind us to vote? You've wrecked our ships, our colleges, and our parkland. Will you leave nothing but a plundered husk of a state? Next you'll be charging us for rainwater.

Don't be crazy. We all have to live in this country. Then again, maybe you're thinking of moving.

*Mark Bondurant
3308 Greenland Dr.
Anchorage, 99517*

Doniece Gott

From: Linda Sloan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 8:29 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Retain Public Media in budget

Alaska Senators and Congress men and women,

Please give your support to keeping Public Radio in your state budget, with at least the 1 million already proposed. I listen to public radio daily as a trusted source of national and local news. Also Public Radio serves a crucial role during our state emergencies—most recently the 2018 earthquake and now the response to the coronavirus. The communications from Public Radio help us “pull together” during these times.

Thank you

Linda J Sloan
4700 N McKean Drive
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Sent from my iPhone

Doniece Gott

From: Joan Stassel [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 8:30 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Cc: Ed Ulman
Subject: Please Support Public Radio and Public Media!

Dear Honorable Senate Finance Committee Members:

I am writing to urge you to PLEASE support the proposed budget for public radio and satellite communications!

It is especially quite clear during this time of pandemic just how valuable our state-wide public media is for communicating accurate health and safety information to Alaskans all across our state. And this is true when we are not in a state of emergency as well.

Public media provides valuable health, safety, educational, and connecting information to Alaskans across our state. It helps unite us together for the common good. Alaska needs public media! Please support them with the financial assistance they deserve.

Thank You!

Sincerely,

Joan Stassel (AK resident since 1959)
12101 Jerome Street
Anchorage, AK
99516

P.S. I also IMPLORE you to support our University of Alaska as well! The drastic cuts that have been made and are planning to be made are essentially a death sentence for the university. It is tragic to see hard working professors, eager students, and valuable programs eliminated. A healthy university is essential for growing our state in the long run. Please do not be short-sighted! Keep our Alaskan intellect in-state! Please adequately fund UA so it can continue to flourish; to provide quality education and be a source of economic growth for the state of ALaska!

Thank you!

Sent from my iPad

Doniece Gott

From: Margaret Roberts <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 8:31 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Support for public radio and television

I wish to express my support for full funding for public radio and television in Alaska.

As a parent, grandparent, and retired teacher, I can't overestimate the value of the early learning programming offered by the many stations across the state.

For me, the news programming is of utmost importance. The impartiality and thoroughness of public news broadcasting is not found anywhere else. And the opportunities for listening to a variety of people, including the governor, those in the health profession, and those involved in infrastructure, talk about the issues our state faces and answer questions - those opportunities are only available on public radio.

As I've traveled around the state, I've heard and appreciated broadcasting in Native Alaskan languages. This is just one way that public radio keeps ALL of our people connected and engaged.

Here in Kodiak, when there is a local emergency, such as an earthquake, tsunami warning, fire, etc., it is the public radio station that keeps us informed in a calm and responsible manner. Currently, conflicting information about the coronavirus is coming from many sources. I, and many of my friends and neighbors, count on public radio and television for calm reporting of accurate information.

Please support public TV and radio with full funding, so that we can continue to enjoy these and other benefits and provide the necessary new equipment to upgrade the system.

Thank you,
Margaret Roberts
Kodiak

Doniece Gott

From: Andrea Lang <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 8:32 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Please Fund Public Radio

Members of the Finance Committee:

I am a proud supporter of public radio. In recent years, I have dedicated a portion of my PFD to Alaska Public Media. I trust the International, National, State and Local news that is being delivered from this outlet.

I understand there is \$1 million proposed in the budget for public radio and \$879,500 for satellite communications. I ask that you approve this amount...if not increase it so that public radio can continue to broadcast the news to the citizens of Alaska.

Thank you,

Andrea Lang
1351 Early View Drive
Anchorage AK 99504

Doniece Gott

From: Erin and Kevin Knotek <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 8:32 PM
To: Senate Finance Committee
Subject: Rural Alaskans value public media

Dear Legislature:

For 29 years I have lived at mile 36 on the Seward Highway in Moose Pass. My husband has been here for 41 years. We have never had television in our home, eschewing it for public radio instead. Prior to the advent of the internet, cell phones, social media, etc, public radio was the ONLY SOURCE of news at mile 36.

Even now, we depend upon it daily for updates in the news, road closures, and more!
Please, fund our public media as much as you can.

Some people's lives depend up on it.

Sincerely,
Erin J. Knotek

Erin J. Knotek
P.O. Box 83
Moose Pass, Alaska 99631
phone: (907) 288-3674
text: (907) 362-3674