

From: Tim Slade <tslade@thearcofanchorage.org>
Sent: Thursday, May 05, 2022 12:35 PM
To: House Finance
Cc: tom@alaskabha.org
Subject: BHT funding

Please add funding in the capital budget for behavioral health treatment capacity. The funding will help us deliver 1115 waiver services. Treatment cost less than the current rate of recidivism with better outcomes for the community. Thank you.

Tim Slade RN
 Community Service Provider

Tim Slade
NS Team Leader II

[The Arc of Anchorage](#) | 2211 Arca Drive, Anchorage, Alaska 99508
 T 907.777.0110 F 907.272.2161 | tslade@thearcofanchorage.org



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From: Barbara Rath <brath@thearcofanchorage.org>
Sent: Thursday, May 05, 2022 12:16 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: Support for funding in the capital budget for behavioral health treatment capacity

Importance: High

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a community provider who provides essential services to Alaskan's who experience behavioral, emotional and mental health challenges, I would like to take this opportunity to say on behalf of our agency and supported individuals, please add funding in the capital budget for behavioral health treatment capacity.

The funding will help us deliver 1115 waiver services and assist individuals in improving his/her health, independence, and quality of life.

We appreciate all that you do and thank you in advance of your support,

Barbara Rodriguez-Rath, MSW

ED/Chief Executive Officer

[The Arc of Anchorage](#) | 2211 Arca Drive, Anchorage, Alaska 99508

T 907.777.0127 F 907.272.2161 | brath@thearcofanchorage.org



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From: Terri Walker <twalker@nwarctic.org>
Sent: Thursday, May 05, 2022 10:30 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: Testimony on HB 283
Attachments: HFin 5-5-22.pdf

See attached testimony on HB 283

Terri Walker, Aviññaq
Superintendent
NWABSD
(907) 442-1802



From: Sam Abernathy <Sam_Abernathy@ghscorp.org>
Sent: Thursday, May 05, 2022 8:52 AM
To: House Finance
Cc: Tom Chard
Subject: capital funding request

Please add funding in the capital budget for a behavioral health treatment capacity. The funding will help us deliver 1115 waiver services.

Gastineau Human Services provides the specialty of addiction treatment, which we desperately want to expand with a new facility. This will aid Southeast, an isolated area with finite resources.

Thank you.

Samantha Abernathy, LCSW, MAC
Executive Director
Gastineau Human Services
Tel: 907-780-3025
Fax: 907-780-4098



From: Robin Murdock <rmurdock@y-chc.org>
Sent: Thursday, May 05, 2022 8:30 AM
To: House Finance
Cc: tom@alaskabha.org
Subject: Funding

Please add funding in the capital budget for behavioral health treatment capacity. The funding will help us deliver 1115 waiver services. Thank you.

RMurdock

From: Joy Baker <JBaker@nomealaska.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 9:43 PM
To: House Finance
Cc: Rep. Neal Foster; Sen. Donny Olson; wendyc1954@gmail.com; Paul Labolle; John Handeland; Jay Sterne (js@windstrat.com)
Subject: HOUSE FINANCE TESTIMONY - NOME PORT (CAPITAL HB183)
Attachments: 22-05-04 AK HOUSE FINANCE TESTIMONY (NOME PORT).pdf

Please see attached.

Your efforts are sincerely appreciated.

Joy L. Baker
Port Director
City of Nome
(907) 304-1905

From: Mike Harvey [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 7:45 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: Public Testimony Input to HB283

This note is for input to public testimony on HB283.

My name is Michael Harvey, I am a long time resident of Anchorage, and a project management professional (PMP 204401) who has been involved with Alaskan private sector capital projects for most of my 40-plus year career in Alaska. As a general comment to the committee, I would like to encourage that a proper amount of due diligence be performed against any capital project funding request in order to ensure the funds being apportioned are well documented using the basic project management principles of things like proper scope identification, proper scheduling of the project details, proper timing of funding to keep the projects on track, and maybe most importantly that a proper change management process be put into place that will allow the project team to properly manage the pace and quality of the capital projects being funded. As a constituent, the amount of transparency available to the public in the project management oversight of any government projects is inadequate and is ripe for improvement. I encourage this committee, as the administrator of the funding for these capital projects, to spend the time and effort to build an adequate project management process into future legislation so that future spend can be properly apportioned, managed, and expended towards the best results for all Alaskans.

As for specifics in this year's budget, the area that I live in seems to have at least two line items that are under consideration: the renewal of the Sand Lake Road traffic study and the addition of lights along Sand Lake Road between Dimond and Raspberry Boulevards. Both of these seem like good ideas, but a deeper understanding of the driver (ie the 'need') for these projects would help us all understand how important it is for the money to be spent on these versus other requests that have been made to the committee. I trust that adequate diligence has been performed against the funding request for these and all other budget line items, so I would encourage the funding be approved for these two line items in order to increase the safety of those who use those roads, especially in the winter, to help avoid moose strikes.

Thank You

Michael Harvey

[REDACTED]
Anchorage AK 99502

From: Polly-Beth Odom <pollybeth@daybreakmhsc.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 6:40 PM
To: House Finance
Cc: tom@alaskabha.org; jerry@alaskabha.org
Subject: Behavioral Health Treatment Capacity Funding

Good Evening,

My name is Polly-Beth Odom. I am the executive Director of Daybreak, Inc. a mental health case management agency serving mental health trust beneficiaries in the Mat-Su Borough and the city of Anchorage. I also serve on the executive committee of the Alaska Behavioral Health Association.

I am writing to ask for your support in providing eleven million dollars in capital funding for behavioral health treatment capacity funding. Behavioral health providers have been tasked with developing new and innovative ways to deliver behavioral health services utilizing the 1115 Medicaid waiver. The new lines of service often require additional staffing, infrastructure, and technology to be successful.

With cuts to grant funding and flat funding of Medicaid state plan services it is difficult to roll out the new service lines. I am concerned Alaska's behavioral health providers will struggle to meet the increased referrals that come from the Cares Line and the Crisis Now programs.

I appreciate the time and work that each of you give to better the state of Alaska,

Respectfully,



Polly-Beth Odom, MS BSW
Executive Director



550 South Alaska Street, Suite 202
Palmer, AK 99645
907-746-6019
www.daybreakmhsc.com

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From: Carol Denton [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 6:37 PM
To: House Finance; Rep. Daniel Ortiz
Subject: Comments: Dredging of Hyder Harbor

(had to drop out of the queue for live comments this evening, cordless phone battery died)

Comments by: Carol Denton, Corporate Secretary of Hyder Community Association.

RE: State Funding request #TPS 65660

DREDGING OF HYDER SMALL BOAT HARBOR

Silt is continuing to accumulate in our harbor, so once again we are requesting financial help for dredging. We have to rely on our harbor because it is our only direct link to the rest of Alaska. It's where we receive mail, and where we get our only means of transportation to Ketchikan for emergency medical care and all other purposes. The harbor is also an essential part of our evacuation and rescue plan in case of disaster. The harbor needs to be accessible at all tidal stages, and right now it's in critical condition because it's useless to planes and even small boats at any tides less than +1'.

This dredging project is our #2 priority for funding. The #1 priority is match funding for a proposed Corps of Engineers Section 107 project, which will address the siltation rate along our waterfront and also relocate our dock out to deeper water. DOT has identified the necessary match funding for this long-term solution, but assuming the project goes forward it will be at least 4 or 5 years before it's complete.

We seriously need to dredge the existing harbor now, because just continuing to hope that we can work around low tides without any serious consequences is not very realistic.

Thanks for your attention.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 6:21 PM
To: House Finance Legislation
Cc: 'Steve Ribuffo'; Rep. Zack Fields
Subject: Testimony HB283 Funding for the Port of Alaska
Attachments: Testimony HB283 HSE FIN 20220504.docx

Importance: High

I thought I was in the que to offer my oral testimony but seemed to have been lost in the shuffle. I am disappointed. Attached is my written testimony. Pls support the funding proposed in HB 283. Thank you.

Aves Thompson
Port Commissioner
Port of Alaska
907 240-0114

From: Kenia Leon <kenial@jys.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 5:43 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB 283 - Support for capital funds for mental health
Attachments: Kenia Leon.vcf

Madam Chair and distinguished committee members,

My name is Kenia Leon and I am the Community Based Director for Juneau Youth Services. I am writing in support of HB 283 to provide much need finances to keep non profits able to stay open and functioning to assist the mental health needs of our community. This funding will help with hiring, retention of staff and updating our clinical space to provide more of the services that are currently several needed as evidenced by waiting lists at every mental health agency. To summarize, I am asking to add funding in the capital budget for behavioral health treatment capacity. Adding these capital funds are important for us to deliver the new 1115 behavioral health and substance abuse treatment waiver services. No large-scale capital funding has been provided for us to provide these services and the lack of start up funds has hampered our progress.

Thank you for taking testimony today

Kenia Leon, LMFT, LAADC-S

Community Based Services Director

(She/Her/ella)

Juneau Youth Services

2075 Jordan Ave.

Juneau, AK 99801

[\(907\) 523-6531 ext. 157](tel:(907)523-6531)

[\(907\) 523-6657](tel:(907)523-6657) Direct Line

 Cell Phone



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[Interested in a career with Juneau Youth Services? Visit our Careers page!](#)



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From: Laurakate64 [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 5:31 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: AWAIC's Shelter and Transitional Housing Renovations Project

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee,

I support AWAIC's capital request of \$347,000 for renovations to their 67-bed emergency shelter and 10-bed transitional housing program. AWAIC provides the only emergency shelter and transitional housing for victims of domestic violence in Anchorage. These unique services save the lives of hundreds of women, men, and children every year.

These renovations will improve the living environment of the shelter and transitional living facilities. The shelter was built in 1984 and the transitional living facility was built in 2004. The shelter and transitional living facilities will both see improvements in some areas for the first time since they were built.

Your support for this project will make an impact on the lives of the victims and survivors of domestic violence that AWAIC serves.

Thank you for your consideration.

Laura Lann

From: Charles Simons [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 5:29 PM
To: House Finance
Cc: Tom Chard
Subject: capital funding for behavioral health treatment

Please add funding in the capital budget for behavioral health treatment capacity. The funding will help us deliver 1115 waiver services. Thank you.



Charles Simons CDCS
Executive Director
Cook Inlet Counseling

[REDACTED]
Kenai AK. 99611
[REDACTED]

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information is not sufficient for this purpose. The Federal rules restrict any use of the information to investigate or prosecute any patient with a substance use disorder, with regard to a crime, except as provided at §§2.12(c)(5) and 2.65.

From: Dan Bigley <dbigley@denalifs.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 5:09 PM
To: House Finance
Cc: Jerry Jenkins; tom@alaskabha.org
Subject: Funding for behavioral health services in the capital budget

Thank you to the committee for allowing this public testimony regarding the FY 23 capital budget. I'm writing to advocate for including funding for behavioral health services in the capital budget. Its vitally important to invest in the behavioral health system which is currently undergoing many changes relating to the 1115-demonstration waiver while providers continue to experience the impacts of COVID-19, a labor shortage, and runaway inflation.

We see that our capital request to support the purchase of a vehicle was not included in the capital budget. Denali Family Services provides behavioral health services to youth and families who are at-risk of many adverse outcomes and the youth we serve are at risk of being hospitalized and/or treated in more restrictive settings such as residential treatment centers if they do not have access to the supports they need. Ensuring we have the means to provide transportation to our services will help us in addressing the barriers our families experience to access the supports they need.

We ask that this funding is included in the capital budget.

Thanks for your attention to this.

Regards,

Dan Bigley

Dan Bigley, LCSW
President/CEO
Denali Family Services
1251 Muldoon Rd suite 116
Anchorage, AK 99504
Main: 907-274-8281


Email: dbigley@denalifs.org

Website: www.denalifs.org

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From: NAMI Alaska <alaskanami@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 4:50 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: Support for FY23 capital budget items - HB283
Attachments: FY23 Capital Budget Funding Crisis Now 5.4.22.pdf

Please add this letter of support for Crisis Now/988 budget items in the FY23 Capital Budget HB283.

Thank you for your support.

Respectfully,

Ann Ringstad
Executive Director
NAMI Alaska, Inc.
PO Box 201753, Anchorage, AK 99520-1753
alaskanami@gmail.com

From: John Handeland <JHandeland@nomealaska.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 4:49 PM
To: House Finance
Cc: Rep. Neal Foster; Sen. Donny Olson; wendyc1954@gmail.com; Joy Baker; Paul Labolle; Jay Sterne
Subject: WRITTEN TESTIMONY - CAPITAL BUDGET (NOME PORT)
Attachments: TESTIMONY-HOUSE FINANCE re Port 05-04-22.pdf

Honorable Representatives,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify online. Attached please find written testimony, being my time ran out. 😊

We appreciate your tireless work!

John Handeland
Mayor, Nome

From: Suzi P <suzi_p@awaic.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 4:48 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: AWAIC Shelter and Transitional Housing Renovations project

Dear House Finance Committee Members,

I am writing to request your support of the AWAIC Shelter and Transitional Housing Renovations project. This request, for \$347,000, will make a significant impact on the victims and survivors of domestic violence that AWAIC serves.

AWAIC provides the only emergency shelter and transitional living facilities to victims of domestic violence in Anchorage. The 67-bed emergency shelter was built in 1984 and renovations requested include lighting, cabinetry replacements, complete overhaul of the shelter desk where participants are greeted and served, and replacement of all interior doors, which have not been replaced since 1984.

AWAIC's 10-bed transitional living facility was built in 2004 and has not been renovated since then. The request will update the kitchen, bathrooms, and flooring. This project has additional funding from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant program and Violence Against Women's Act. These funds together will allow AWAIC to do a renovation of the full facility and temporarily house participants off-site.

The need for such updates is to increase the safety in shelter and enhance the living environment of both facilities. These funds will make a difference in how the participants feel about their safety and environment.

I sincerely appreciate your consideration of this important project.

Thank you for all you do for our state!

Warm regards,

Suzi Pearson
Executive Director
Abused Women's Aid In Crisis, Inc.
907-743-5726 (office)
907-272-0100 (crisis)
100 W 13th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501



Dena'inaq ełnen'aq' gheshtnu ch'q'u yeshdu. (Dena'ina)
I live and work on Dena'ina land. (English)

From: Gary Hennigh <ghennigh@kingcoveak.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 4:14 PM
To: House Finance
Cc: Rep. Bryce Edgmon; Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: King Cove Testimony on Capital Budget HB 283
Attachments: Testimony on HB 283.docx

Please add the attached letter to today's hearing record.

Thank you.

Gary Hennigh

Gary Hennigh
City Administrator
City of King Cove
3380 C Street, Suite 205
Anchorage, AK 99503
907-274-7563 P
907-982-7505 C



From: Parker Haymans [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 3:52 PM
To: Crystal Koeneman; Rep. Sara Rasmussen; House Finance
Subject: 2022 Capital Budget Testimony

Hello,

I'm writing to voice my support for funding the following projects:

- adding lights to Sand Lake Road; similar to Jewel Lake Road
- Port of Alaska funding
- Updated traffic study for Sand Lake Road between Dimond Blvd and Raspberry Road

Thank you for your consideration of my email.

Respectfully,

Parker Haymans
Sand Lake

From: Cpt Bob Pawlowski [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 3:20 PM
To: House Finance Legislation
Cc: 'Farley, James L (HSS)'; 'Davidson, Matt W (HSS)'; 'Hamilton, Heidi L (HSS)'; 'Bauman, Megan L (HSS)'
Subject: Alaska Pioneer Homes Deferred Maintenance Public Testimony

Co-Chairs Foster and Merrick and Committee Members:

I am Captain Bob Pawlowski, NOAA (Ret) and the Chair, Alaska Pioneer Homes Advisory Board. For this public testimony, I am writing on behalf of myself. I am pleased to see the HB 283 Work Draft that provides a new Section (Sec. 12) to fund capital projects for the new Department of Family and Community Services. Sec. 12 has an extensive list of deferred maintenance projects (14) for the six (6) Alaska State Pioneer Homes, i.e. Ketchikan, Sitka, Juneau, Anchorage, Palmer Alaska State Veterans Pioneer Home, and Fairbanks. Each home has a significant deferred maintenance list. This appropriation will address many of the items and improve the safety and quality of life for the residents and staff while extending the life and value of each of these State owned Pioneer Homes. This will also create significant benefit to the local communities in allowing for local businesses to complete the work and strengthen the local economy.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Captain Bob Pawlowski, NOAA (Ret)
Anchorage

From: John DeCaro [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 3:20 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: UAA arena improvements

To whom it may concern,

I am a former UAA hockey player from the early 2000's who wants to voice strong support for the money being asked for in the arena improvements. As a former player, it saddens me that my program has struggled to find footing over the last decade and the first priority is to have a building that can support and entice our youth who are eager to get behind and be fans the ability to come and cheer on this team.

I am the current competition director at Mustang hockey association in Eagle River and can first hand tell you how important it is to have a strong hockey community here in Anchorage. The stronger we are as a community, the better the program can achieve success.

I hope you will consider this as strongly as our hockey community does and should be proven that we as a community want and will get behind this program.

Thank you for your time,

John DeCaro

From: Wade Bradison [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 3:15 PM
To: House Finance Legislation
Subject: FW: Port of Alaska Funding - HB 283

To whom it may concern,
Please make it be known that I support funding for HB 283 which includes a \$200M appropriation for the PAMP and an additional \$200M in matching funds from the federal government.

This infrastructure is so critical to Alaska and needs to be addressed immediately.

Thank you

Wade Bradison
BOMA Anchorage Board President
www.officeAK.com
O 907-276-1007
[REDACTED]

From: Christina Brasel [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 3:13 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: Houston, AK

Please consider the Houston, AK budget requests in the upcoming meeting!

Christina Brasel
[REDACTED]

Sent via Smartphone

From: Crisi Matthews [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 3:04 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: Budget Testimony

Homer Harbor is a critical Port and much of the Infrastructure of the lower peninsula is supported by Marine Trades. It is critical that the state match local funding for the Expansion Project to move this project forward. Already it has project priority funding in Alaska with the Army Corps of Engineers and commitment from the state to support Maritime Commerce is more critical than ever. As Homer's #1 Capital Improvement Project it is of utmost importance that the state approve these funds and partner with its local communities.

Respectfully delivered on the go with dictation!

Crisi Matthews

Proudly Serving on the Homer Port & Harbor Commission, Past Chamber of Commerce Board Member and Business Owner

[REDACTED]

From: Cpt Bob Pawlowski [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 3:01 PM
To: House Finance Legislation
Cc: 'Ribuffo, Stephen'; Rep. Zack Fields
Subject: HB 283 - support for the Port of Alaska

Co-Chairs Foster & Merrick and House Finance Committee Members:

Please accept this as my public testimony versus via phone. I am Captain Bob Pawlowski, NOAA (Ret) a resident of Anchorage and Past Port Commissioner, Port of Alaska. I am writing in support of the Capital Budget proposal being raised for the Port of Alaska modernization project in the current "Work Draft" for Sec. 25 (I) that appropriates, through DCCED Grant to the Municipality of Anchorage, \$200,000,000 in General Fund and provides the match for \$200,000,000 in Federal Funds. I am pleased to see that this plan does not encumber the funds associated with the recently decided Federal Claims Court decision that favored the Port of Alaska and Municipality of Anchorage. Please support this section as it will set a strong direction forward for maintaining this critical infrastructure to Alaska, our strategic defense stature, and the overall quality of life and cost of living that we have had since 1964 because of the Port.

Thank you.

Captain Bob Pawlowski, NOAA (Ret)
Anchorage

From: Andria Agli [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 2:39 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: AWAIC Capital Request

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee,

I support AWAIC's capital request of \$347,000 for renovations to their 67-bed emergency shelter and 10-bed transitional housing program. AWAIC provides the only emergency shelter and transitional housing for victims of domestic violence in Anchorage. These unique services save the lives of hundreds of women, men, and children every year.

These renovations will greatly improve the living environment of the shelter and transitional living facilities. The shelter was built in 1984 and the transitional living facility was built in 2004. The shelter and transitional living facilities will both see improvements in some areas for the first time since they were built decades ago.

Your support for this mission critical project will make an impact on the lives of hundreds of victims and survivors of domestic violence that AWAIC serves.

Thank you for your consideration.
Andria Agli

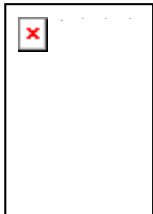
From: Brad Kroon <bkroon@centerlinelogistics.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 2:33 PM
To: House Finance Legislation
Subject: Funding for the Port of Alaska, Anchorage

Dear House Finance Committee Members,

I am writing in Support of funding for the Port of Alaska's Dock and Facility upgrades and replacement. As a resident of Anchorage and a person who has made my career on the Port's waterfront in the tug and barge business for over 37 years, I have firsthand experience and understandings of the impact the loss of that facility would have as an economic engine for South Central Alaska. The life span of the facility has exceeded a reasonable return on the original investment and regardless of the history around funding its replacement, we are currently on the precipice of building a replacement or putting our community at risk of its loss and far higher replacement costs as the Municipality and Port Staff have gone above and beyond in keeping the facility operating in its current condition. Due to high capital costs and the potential impact to the community, it is imperative that we support the Port of Alaska with any financial means necessary including federal, state and matching funds to invest in the future of Alaska and it's largest population base.

Thank you for your time and consideration for Funding the Port of Alaska and the economic future of South Central Alaska.

Respectfully,
Captain Brad Kroon



Brad Kroon

Alaska Operations Manager

☐ P: (907) 227-0611 F: 206-219-4158

☐ 910 SW Spokane Street Seattle, WA 98134

Centerline Logistics | **Leading our industry forward with integrity**

From: Chris Reitan <creitan@craigschools.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 2:32 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB 283
Attachments: FY23MaintenanceReconsiderationList.pdf

Re: HB 283 – An Act making appropriations, including capital appropriations, reappropriations, and other appropriations; making supplemental appropriations; and providing for an effective date

Dear House Finance Committee:

I am writing to you in response to HB 283 – An Act making appropriations, including capital appropriations, reappropriations, and other appropriations; making supplemental appropriations; and providing for an effective date.

Craig City School District (CCSD) would like to draw your attention to a concern we have with the current version of HB 283. Currently, there are no dollars targeted for the Department of Education and Early Development's (DEED's) Major Maintenance Grant Fund. DEED's Major Maintenance Grant Fund provides monies for Alaska's K-12 school districts to address critical instructional facility problems related to three categories:

- Protection of structures,
- Building code deficiencies, or
- Operational cost savings.

Addressing each of these Major Maintenance categories ultimately improves the educational context of our instructional facilities and reduces maintenance and operating costs, providing districts additional monies that can be targeted for our primary purpose – improving student learning.

Since FY 18 there has only been one fiscal year where monies were allocated for Alaska's K-12 school district's major maintenance needs. In FY 19 the legislature approved and the Governor signed off on a \$24,203,372 allocation to the Department of Education and Early Development's Major Maintenance Grant Fund to address critical major maintenance infrastructure needs for our state's school systems. Since then (FY 20, FY 21, and FY 22) no monies for K-12 major maintenance needs were allocated to address critical major maintenance infrastructure needs for our K-12 school system.

Attached with this letter is DEED's ranking of the FY 23 Major Maintenance Grant submittals. The projects submitted address critical instructional building needs including ADA compliance, International Building Code (IBC) compliance, HVAC, fire alarm and suppression, building safety and security, and the protection of building systems. DEED's Major Maintenance Grant Fund ultimately improves the safety and security of Alaska's K-12 instructional facilities and improves the educational context and programs that we can provide the students and families we are privileged to serve.

CCSD respectfully requests the 32nd Legislature provide funding within DEED's Major Maintenance Grant Fund to address some of the top-ranked Major Maintenance projects. Ultimately, each dollar spent now addressing our K-12 major maintenance needs saves monies in the future due to the inflationary drivers associated with major maintenance.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted.

Chris Reitan, CCSD Superintendent
creitan@craigschools.com
907-826-3274 ext. 4003

From: Sarah-Kathryn Bryan [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 2:19 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: AWAIC's Shelter and Transitional Housing Renovations project

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee,

I support AWAIC's capital request of \$347,000 for renovations to their 67-bed emergency shelter and 10-bed transitional housing program. AWAIC provides the only emergency shelter and transitional housing for victims of domestic violence in Anchorage. These unique services save the lives of hundreds of women, men, and children every year.

These renovations will improve the living environment of the shelter and transitional living facilities. The shelter was built in 1984 and the transitional living facility was built in 2004. The shelter and transitional living facilities will both see improvements in some areas for the first time since they were built.

Your support for this project will make an impact on the lives of the victims and survivors of domestic violence that AWAIC serves.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sarah Kathryn Bryan
AWAIC Board Member

From: Martha Tansik [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 2:08 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: AWAIC's Shelter and Transitional Housing Renovation

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee,

I support AWAIC's capital request of \$347,000 for renovations to their 67-bed emergency shelter and 10-bed transitional housing program. As you know, AWAIC provides the only emergency shelter and transitional housing for victims of domestic violence in Anchorage. These unique services save the lives of hundreds of women, men, and children every year. Recent studies (see today's KTUU article) indicate that in Alaska, as many as 1 in 2 women have experienced domestic partner violence. Unfortunately, our resources to support so many victims are very limited.

These renovations will improve the living environment of the largest shelter in Anchorage as well as our transitional living facilities. The shelter was built in 1984 and the transitional living facility was built in 2004. While we recently underwent an expansion to increase beds, there are still some major components of repairs that need to be completed. The shelter and transitional living facilities will both see improvements in some areas for the first time since they were built.

Your support for this project will make an impact on the lives of the victims and survivors of domestic violence that AWAIC serves.

With gratitude for your service to the people of Alaska,

Martha Tansik

President, AWAIC Board of Directors

From: JERRY JENKINS [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 2:02 PM
To: House Finance
Cc: Tom Chard
Subject: Recommendation to add funding for increasing behavioral health capacity

I am writing today to ask you to add funding in the capital budget for increasing behavioral health treatment capacity.

Thank you.

j2

Jerry A. Jenkins, M.Ed., LADAC, MAC
Principal
Innovative Services of Alaska
P.O Box 231129
Anchorage, AK 99523

Training; Staff Development; Board Development; Organizational Development; Strategic Planning with a particular emphasis on Behavioral Health Care

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Promoting and Practicing Connectivity – Collaboration – Integration – Resource Sharing

From: Nate Anderson [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 1:03 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: University of Alaska Anchorage student arena requests

Dear House Finance Committee members:

In regards to the appropriation request for bleacher upgrades and electronic improvements to the Student Center ice hockey facilities at UAA, I lend my strong support.

These improvements and repairs will allow for an on-campus hockey venue that will greatly add to the UAA student offering. It will also support our efforts in the Alaska State Hockey Association to keep Alaskan talent in Alaska. These are athletes and students that will add to our state for the long-term.

We are building youth hockey infrastructure to develop players of a caliber to fill UAA and UAF roster spots. We believe that UAA hockey attendance can become a top student activity and students can support their local players. For that to happen these upgrades are desperately needed.

In my opinion, this appropriation is a valuable use of resources. Thank you for your service and consideration.

Best Regards,

Nate Anderson
Vice President, Competition Council
Alaska State Hockey Association
[REDACTED]

From: Capt. Ronald Ward II <captron@ak.net>
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 1:02 PM
To: House Finance Legislation
Subject: House Finance Committee Hearing Written Testimony
Attachments: Ltr to Leg re POA.pages

Please find attached my testimony in support of State funding for the Port of Alaska.

Capt. Ronald Ward II
Anchorage Port Commission - Chair
captron@ak.net
(907) 399-1162

From: Patrice Parker [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 12:39 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: Funding for School Maintenance

Thank you so much for adding to the budget \$100 Million for our schools' major maintenance projects. Your previous inclusion in the operating budget of debt reimbursement for school bonds benefitted Alaska's kids immeasurably.

Sincerely,
Patrice & Bill Parker
Anchorage

Sent from my iPhone

From: Alaska VP Player Development [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 12:05 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: UAA Seawolves Support

Good afternoon,

My name is Matt Thompson and I am the Vice President of Player Development for the Alaska State Hockey Association. I would like to send thanks to the House Finance Committee for including the UAA Seawolves request for the safety upgrades at the Seawolf Sports Complex. If this request was to be approved, it would not only benefit the UAA hockey program, but it would also benefit thousands of youth hockey players and their families who would be using their facility as young athletes or even passionate spectators on a weekly basis for many years to come.


Alaska's hockey community came out in big numbers to show support and financial help to bring UAA hockey back, and I believe the state can bring that support full circle by considering the Seawolves request to not only show appreciation for the UAA hockey program, but also to the Alaska Youth hockey community as a whole. I know the House Finance Committee will make a well educated decision, and I appreciate you guys taking the time to look over their request.

Sincerely,

Matt Thompson
Alaska-VP Player Development
[REDACTED]

From: Darryl Thompson <DarrylThompson@akdltlaw.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 11:54 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: Seawolves Suport

As current President of the Alaska State Hockey Association, I write to ask for your support for the capital improvements requested on behalf of the UAA Seawolves. The future and support of this program is vital to the future of all of the Alaska Hockey Community and your support is respectfully requested. Thanks.

Darryl L Thompson, Esq.
880 N Street, Suite 101
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907) 272-9322 Office Phone
(907) 277-1373 Fax


From: Matthew Shasby <mrshasby@alaska.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 11:36 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: UAA Hockey Bleacher and Scoreboard Upgrades- THANK YOU!

Hello House Finance Team-

From our team to yours, THANK YOU for including the UAA Seawolves request for the upgraded bleachers and scoreboard.

Both items are incredibly important to the future of our program that has been brought back from the brink of elimination by the thousands of people who donated.

These two items are long overdue to be upgraded for both safety and quality of production.

Thanks again for including us! You are making thousands of young hockey families and fans very happy! Along with a Division I hockey program that will be representing Alaska for years to come!

Matt Shasby
Head Coach - Ice Hockey
University of Alaska Anchorage
mrshasby@alaska.edu
907-786-1227 (Office)



From: Jason [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 11:24 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: Port funding

Dear Representatives:

Funding for the Port of Anchorage is the core of what state government should be doing.

The port is literally a lifeline.

Please prioritize it appropriately.

Jason Mellerstig
President
Sand Lake Community Council

From: jdecker@afdf.org
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 10:38 AM
To: Rep. Kelly Merrick; Rep. Neal Foster; Rep. Daniel Ortiz; Rep. Adam Wool; Rep. Bryce Edgmon; Rep. Andy Josephson; Rep. Sara Rasmussen; Rep. Steve Thompson; Rep. Bart LeBon; Rep. Ben Carpenter; Rep. DeLena Johnson; House Finance
Cc: 'Ruaro, Randy (GOV)'; 'Matthew T Fagnani'; 'Fowler, Micaela R (GOV)'; julie.sande@alaska.gov; Liz Harpold; Tally Teal
Subject: HB 283 - AMA support for Mariculture Grant Program
Attachments: Mariculture Matching Grant - info packet - FINAL.pdf

To: House Finance Committee Members

On behalf of the Alaska Mariculture Alliance (AMA), please see the attached information in support of the Mariculture Matching Grant Program in the capital budget (HB 283).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email or call my cell: 907-305-0586.

Julie Decker
Executive Director

Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation
P.O. Box 2223
Wrangell, AK 99929
907-276-7315
jdecker@afdf.org
www.afdf.org

From: Stephen H Sheaffer <stephens@kmscpas.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 9:29 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: Support for UAA Ice Arena Improvements

Dear Representative:

I am writing to request your support for State funding assistance with improvements to the UAA Ice Arena on the Anchorage Campus. The local community has worked hard to obtain the financial funding and commitments to have the UAA Anchorage Ice Hockey program reinstated. Over three million dollars was raised by these local community efforts to restore this program at the University. Now we need your help to make necessary capital improvements to the ice facilities. The Sullivan Arena is no longer available or in working condition for use as an ice hockey venue after its conversion to a homeless shelter. The on campus facility is our only hope for current usable facilities for this program. A budget line item of \$340,000 has been requested for the State to help bring these facilities up to a workable venue, sufficient to hold collegiate competitions, and provide adequate seating for the student body and members of the local community wanting to attend and show support for these student athletes.

Please do your part to help support these young collegiate athletes and our community by passing and standing behind the requested funding of \$340,000 to improve these facilities.

Thank you for your support for our local community and our young student athletes.

Stephen H. Sheaffer
Anchorage, AK

From: jdecker@afdf.org
Sent: Tuesday, May 03, 2022 5:44 PM
To: Rep. Kelly Merrick; Rep. Neal Foster; Rep. Daniel Ortiz; Rep. Adam Wool; Rep. Bryce Edgmon; Rep. Andy Josephson; Rep. Sara Rasmussen; Rep. Steve Thompson; Rep. Bart LeBon; Rep. Ben Carpenter; Rep. DeLena Johnson; House Finance
Cc: 'Ruaro, Randy (GOV)'; 'Matthew T Fagnani'; 'Fowler, Micaela R (GOV)'; julie.sande@alaska.gov; Liz Harpold; Tally Teal
Subject: HB 283 - AFDF support for Mariculture Grant Program
Attachments: 2022-05-03 AFDF LOS - AMA mariculture grant program - with attachments.pdf

Dear House Finance Committee,

Please see the attached letter of support for the \$25 million mariculture matching grant program originally included in HB 283.

Julie Decker
Executive Director

Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation
P.O. Box 2223
Wrangell, AK 99929
907-276-7315
jdecker@afdf.org
www.afdf.org



Office of the Mayor and City Council

710 Mill Bay Road, Room 110, Kodiak, Alaska 99615

April 28, 2022

Senate.Finance@akleg.gov;
House.Finance@akleg.gov;
Senator.Click.Bishop@akleg.gov;
Representative.Neal.Foster@akleg.gov;
Representative.Kelly.Merrick@akleg.gov;
Senator.Bert.Stedman@akleg.gov

Sent electronically

Re: Funding Support for the Port of Alaska

Dear Senate and House Finance Committee Members:

As an island community who depends on ocean carriers of cargo providing twice-weekly scheduled container ship service, we request the State Legislature support funding for the Port of Alaska Modernization Program (PAMP).

The City of Kodiak supports the Port of Alaska (Port) in Anchorage to replace the aging docks before they are further derated. The Port is the heart of Alaska's supply chain and the Alaska's dependence on the Port cannot be overemphasized. There is no viable alternative for delivering the volume of goods and materials required to keep Kodiak residents fed and to sustain our economy. The Port provides the only fully operational facility for handling containers and roll-on-roll-off cargo in the state and is a crucial link in the supply chain for food security, national defense, and economic development of the entire state.

I strongly support the Port of Alaska Modernization Program project and encourage authorizing the full amount of funding necessary to maintain this important link for the City of Kodiak and mainland Alaska. Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please contact me at the number or email below.

Sincerely,

Pat Branson, Mayor
City of Kodiak

CC:

Kolby.Hickel@anchorageak.gov
steve.ribuffo@anchorageak.gov
dot.commissioner@alaska.gov
randy.ruaro@alaska.gov
Representative.Dan.Ortiz@akleg.gov
Representative.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov
Representative.Bryce.Edgmon@akleg.gov
Representative.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov
Representative.Sara.Rasmussen@akleg.gov
Representative.Steve.Thompson@akleg.gov
Representative.Ben.Carpenter@akleg.gov
Representative.DeLena.Johnson@akleg.gov
Senator.Lyman.Hoffman@akleg.gov
Senator.Natasha.vonImhof@akleg.gov
Senator.David.Wilson@akleg.gov
Senator.Donald.Olson@akleg.gov
Senator.Bill.Wielechowski@akleg.gov
heather@lobbyalaska.com
Senator.Tom.Begich@akleg.gov
Wendy@Lobbyalaska.Com
Representative.Bart.LeBon@akleg.gov

From: Monique Cortez at ANC <MCortez@matson.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 4:31 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: AWAIC's Shelter and Transitional Housing Renovations project


Dear Members of the House Finance Committee,

I support AWAIC's capital request of \$347,000 for renovations to their 67-bed emergency shelter and 10-bed transitional housing program. AWAIC provides the only emergency shelter and transitional housing for victims of domestic violence in Anchorage. These unique services save the lives of hundreds of women, men, and children every year.

These renovations will improve the living environment of the shelter and transitional living facilities. The shelter was built in 1984 and the transitional living facility was built in 2004. The shelter and transitional living facilities will both see improvements in some areas for the first time since they were built.

Your support for this project will make an impact on the lives of the victims and survivors of domestic violence that AWAIC serves.

Thank you for your consideration.

Monique "Mo" Cortez
 To Move Freight Better Than Anyone
Safety, Quality, Environment, and Security (SQES) Manager
1717 Tidewater Road
Anchorage, AK 99501-1036
p. 907-263-5045 | c. 907-223-6286

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From: Meghan Carson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 4:17 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: AWAIC's Shelter and Transitional Housing Renovations project

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee,

I serve on the AWAIC Board of Directors and strongly believe in the organization's mission and the incredible value provided to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in Anchorage. I support AWAIC's capital request of \$347,000 for renovations to their 67-bed emergency shelter and 10-bed transitional housing program. AWAIC provides the only emergency shelter and transitional housing for victims of domestic violence in Anchorage. These unique services save the lives of hundreds of women, men, and children every year.

These renovations will improve the living environment of the shelter and transitional living facilities. The shelter was built in 1984 and the transitional living facility was built in 2004. The shelter and transitional living facilities will both see improvements in some areas for the first time since they were built.

Your support for this project will make an impact on the lives of the victims and survivors of domestic violence that AWAIC serves.

Thank you for your consideration.

Meghan Carson, CPA, CFP®

From: Canfield, Andrea N. [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 4:16 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: AWAIC's Shelter and Transitional Housing Renovations project

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee,

I support AWAIC's capital request of \$347,000 for renovations to their 67-bed emergency shelter and 10-bed transitional housing program. AWAIC provides the only emergency shelter and transitional housing for victims of domestic violence in Anchorage. These unique services save the lives of hundreds of women, men, and children every year.

These renovations will improve the living environment of the shelter and transitional living facilities. The shelter was built in 1984 and the transitional living facility was built in 2004. The shelter and transitional living facilities will both see improvements in some areas for the first time since they were built.

Your support for this project will make an impact on the lives of the victims and survivors of domestic violence that AWAIC serves.

*Thank you for your consideration,
Andrea*

Andrea N. Canfield, Attorney
Stoel Rives LLP | 9 [REDACTED]
Please excuse any brevity or typos [REDACTED]
Sent from my iPhone

From: Shawn Holdridge <SHoldridge@cookinlethousing.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 4:02 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: AWAIC's Shelter and Transitional Housing Renovations project

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee,

AWAIC is a long standing partner of Cook Inlet Housing Authority and we provide Project Management services to AWAIC from time to time for some of their capital improvement projects. I personally have been the Project Manager for some of their projects and can attest to their need for improvements to their facilities. AWAIC provides the only emergency shelter and transitional housing for victims of domestic violence in Anchorage. These unique services save the lives of hundreds of women, men, and children every year.

I wholeheartedly support AWAIC's capital request of \$347,000 for renovations (interior door replacement, lighting upgrades, cabinetry replacement, bathroom & kitchen refinishes, etc.) to their 67-bed emergency shelter and 10-bed transitional housing program. These important renovations will improve the living environment of the shelter and transitional living facility. The shelter was built in 1984 and the transitional living facility was built in 2004. In most cases these improvements will be done in areas that are of original construction.

Your support for this project will make an positive impact on the lives of the victims and survivors of domestic violence that AWAIC serves.

Thank you for your consideration.

Shawn M. Holdridge, CCM



Shawn M. Holdridge, CCM

Director of Construction & Energy Sustainability | 907.793.3023 direct | 907.231.0042 cell
sholdridge@cookinlethousing.org | www.cookinlethousing.org
[3510 Spenard Rd., Suite 100, Anchorage, Ak 99503](#)

From: Heidi Hill <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 1:30 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: AWAIC's Shelter and Transitional Housing Renovations project

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee,

I am writing in support of AWAIC's capital request of \$347,000 for renovations to their 67-bed emergency shelter and 10-bed transitional housing program. AWAIC provides the only emergency shelter and transitional housing for victims of domestic violence in Anchorage. These unique services save the lives of hundreds of women, men, and children every year.

These renovations will improve the living environment of the shelter and transitional living facilities. The shelter was built in 1984 and the transitional living facility was built in 2004. The shelter and transitional living facilities will both see improvements in some areas for the first time since they were built.

Your support for this project will make an impact on the lives of the victims and survivors of domestic violence that AWAIC serves.

Thank you for your consideration!

Heidi Hill

From: Bryan Haugstad <bryanhaugstad@haloak.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 1:11 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: AWAIC's Shelter and Transitional Housing Renovations project

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee,

I support AWAIC's capital request of \$347,000 for renovations to their 67-bed emergency shelter and 10-bed transitional housing program.

AWAIC provides the only emergency shelter and transitional housing for victims of domestic violence in Anchorage. These unique services save the lives of hundreds of women, men, and children every year.

These renovations this funding will allow for will improve the living environment of the shelter and transitional living facilities. The shelter was built in 1984 and the transitional living facility was built in 2004. Both have need for updating and improvements. The shelter and transitional living facilities will both see improvements in some areas for the first time since they were built.

Your support for this project will make an impact on the lives of the victims and survivors of domestic violence that AWAIC serves.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bryan D. Haugstad
Haugstad Advocacy & Litigation Office, LLC
12350 Industry Way, Suite 203
Anchorage, AK 99515
(907) 202-8888

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From: Rep. Kelly Merrick
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 5:10 PM
To: Helen Phillips
Subject: Fwd: Testimony for HB 283

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jan Carolyn Hardy <jancarolynhardy@yahoo.com>
Date: May 4, 2022 at 3:58:22 PM AKDT
To: House Finance <House.Finance@akleg.gov>, "Rep. Neal Foster" <Rep.Neal.Foster@akleg.gov>, "Rep. Kelly Merrick" <Rep.Kelly.Merrick@akleg.gov>, "Rep. Daniel Ortiz" <Rep.Daniel.Ortiz@akleg.gov>, "Rep. Adam Wool" <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>, "Rep. Bryce Edgmon" <Rep.Bryce.Edgmon@akleg.gov>, "Rep. Andy Josephson" <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>, "Rep. Sara Rasmussen" <Rep.Sara.Rasmussen@akleg.gov>, "Rep. Steve Thompson" <Rep.Steve.Thompson@akleg.gov>, "Rep. Bart LeBon" <Rep.Bart.Lebon@akleg.gov>, "Rep. Ben Carpenter" <Rep.Ben.Carpenter@akleg.gov>, "Rep. DeLena Johnson" <Rep.DeLena.Johnson@akleg.gov>
Cc: Kim Hays <kim@akaficio.org>, Jan Carolyn Hardy <jancarolynhardy@yahoo.com>
Subject: Testimony for HB 283
Reply-To: Jan Carolyn Hardy <jancarolynhardy@yahoo.com>

9 [REDACTED]

Anchorage, Alaska

May 4, 2022

Honorable Members of the House Finance Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget, HB 283. The Budget proposed addresses a spending cap to protect the principal of the Permanent Fund as well as an energy relief payment to be made concurrent with the payment of the

PFD.

The 2022 Budget also reverses cuts in human services. Public Health services have become more significant and necessary over the last two plus years. Covid 19 has highlighted the need to improve services so that we can address issues such as long term care for dementia and Alzheimer patients; services for individuals with Developmental Disabilities; Behavioral Health treatment for addiction and mental disorders; training for RNs; and an enhancement of General Relief funding.

The proposed 2022 Budget also includes much needed funding for Education to protect schools from cuts due to the rise in inflation. The State has of late refused to fund School Bond Debt Reimbursement on which Districts relied. This Budget will re-establish Debt Reimbursement. Additionally, this Budget will fund Pre-K, fund WWAMI, and refill the Higher Education Fund which has been drained in a reverse sweep.

It is vital for international commerce and for job creation that we fully fund the Ports of Anchorage and Nome. These ports have become critical to Arctic commerce and to our strategic location in the world now that the Arctic is open to navigation. We need \$200 Million for the Port of Anchorage and \$173 Million for the Port of Nome. Investment in our ports and our infrastructure in general will require training through apprenticeship programs. Pre-apprenticeship programs need to be funded and initiated early in the educational process. If we are to fill our need for trained labor pool from our citizenry, we need our Alaska workforce to be fully prepared through AFL-CIO sanctioned apprenticeship programs.

HB 283 as it is read in Committee today will go a long way to benefiting the People of Alaska and to moving Alaska into a competitive position with other Arctic Nations. I encourage you to support HB 283.

Jan Carolyn Hardy, President

Alaska AFSCME Retiree Chapter 52

Tikkun Olam,

Jan Carolyn Hardy

AFSCME Retiree Chapter 52 Executive Board President

ASEA/AFSCME PAC Director, District 22

Anchorage Area Central Labor Council Member

Social Action Committee, Member, Congregation Beth Shalom

+1 (907) 301-4685

JanCarolynHardy@yahoo.com

Theology defines what is possible in our lives. Rabbi Kari Tuling

No one is free until everyone is free. Maya Angelou

Silence is complicity. Joseph R. Biden

*Everyone does better when **everyone** does better.* Eleanor Roosevelt

Please spay or neuter your pets!

If they don't give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair. Shirley Chisolm

Days are like scrolls: write on them only what you want Remembered. Bachya ibn Pakuda

From: Jan Carolyn Hardy [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 3:58 PM
To: House Finance; Rep. Neal Foster; Rep. Kelly Merrick; Rep. Daniel Ortiz; Rep. Adam Wool; Rep. Bryce Edgmon; Rep. Andy Josephson; Rep. Sara Rasmussen; Rep. Steve Thompson; Rep. Bart LeBon; Rep. Ben Carpenter; Rep. DeLena Johnson
Cc: Kim Hays; Jan Carolyn Hardy
Subject: Testimony for HB 283

[REDACTED] e

Anchorage, Alaska

May 4, 2022

Honorable Members of the House Finance Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget, HB 283. The Budget proposed addresses a spending cap to protect the principal of the Permanent Fund as well as an energy relief payment to be made concurrent with the payment of the PFD.

The 2022 Budget also reverses cuts in human services. Public Health services have become more significant and necessary over the last two plus years. Covid 19 has highlighted the need to improve services so that we can address issues such as long term care for dementia and Alzheimer patients; services for individuals with Developmental Disabilities; Behavioral Health treatment for addiction and mental disorders; training for RNs; and an enhancement of General Relief funding.

The proposed 2022 Budget also includes much needed funding for Education to protect schools from cuts due to the rise in inflation. The State has of late refused to fund School Bond Debt Reimbursement on which Districts relied. This Budget will re-establish Debt Reimbursement. Additionally, this Budget will fund Pre-K, fund WWAMI, and refill the Higher Education Fund which has been drained in a reverse sweep.

It is vital for international commerce and for job creation that we fully fund the Ports of Anchorage and Nome. These ports have become critical to Arctic commerce and to our strategic location in the world now that the Arctic is open to navigation. We need \$200 Million for the Port of Anchorage and \$173 Million for the Port of Nome. Investment in our ports and our infrastructure in general will require training through apprenticeship programs. Pre-apprenticeship programs need to be funded and initiated early in the educational process. If we are to fill our need for trained labor pool from our citizenry, we need our Alaska workforce to be fully prepared through AFL-CIO sanctioned

apprenticeship programs.

HB 283 as it is read in Committee today will go a long way to benefiting the People of Alaska and to moving Alaska into a competitive position with other Arctic Nations. I encourage you to support HB 283.

Jan Carolyn Hardy, President

Alaska AFSCME Retiree Chapter 52

Tikkun Olam,

Jan Carolyn Hardy

AFSCME Retiree Chapter 52 Executive Board President

ASEA/AFSCME PAC Director, District 22

Anchorage Area Central Labor Council Member

Social Action Committee, Member, Congregation Beth Shalom

+1 (907) 301-4685
JanCarolynHardy@yahoo.com

Theology defines what is possible in our lives. Rabbi Kari Tuling

No one is free until everyone is free. Maya Angelou

Silence is complicity. Joseph R. Biden

*Everyone does better when **everyone** does better.* Eleanor Roosevelt

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Days are like scrolls: write on them only what you want Remembered. Bachya ibn Pakuda



Affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters

Gary Dixon, Secretary-Treasurer

520 E. 34th Ave., Suite 102, Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Phone (907) 751-8500 • Fax (907) 751-8599

May 5, 2022

Via Email Rep.Kelly.Merrick@akleg.gov & Rep.Neal.Foster@akleg.gov

Via Email Sen.Click.Bishop@akleg.gov & Sen.Bert.Stedman@akleg.gov

The Honorable Co-Chairs of House and Senate Finance

120 4th Street

Juneau, AK 99801

Re: Letter of Support for Port of Alaska Funding

Committee Co-chairs:

Teamsters Local 959 represents over 300 workers for the Port of Alaska which needs funding for refurbishment and modernization. Since 1966, Teamsters have delivered the cargo brought to Alaska through the Port and plan to continue doing so far into the future. Funding is a crucial necessity for the Port to continue operations at its current levels of approximately 1000 containers per day.

The Port is the linchpin for Alaska providing supplies to the road system. Food, pipeline material and other goods hauled by Teamster trucks are brought to the interior and Kenai Peninsula and is the lifeline for Alaska's development and food security. Teamsters work a 24/7 schedule to ensure that goods are offloaded when the cargo ships come in, and the distribution of goods timely gets out for delivery.

With more federal dollars being made available, it is crucial that Alaska be competitive in applying for these grants to secure money over larger ports across the country. Teamsters Local 959 fully supports the \$200 Million appropriated for the Port of Alaska modernization with the purpose of matching each dollar received in federal funds in the House Finance committee substitute version G working draft. This funding will allow for better competition for the Port of Alaska to obtain grants and more federal funds.

Sincerely,
Teamsters Local 959

Patrick FitzGerald
Political Coordinator

PF:jk

050522 House Finance Committee Letter of Support Port of Alaska

1453 University Avenue, Fairbanks, AK 99709 • P (907) 452-2959 • F (907) 450-6181

306 Willoughby, Juneau, AK 99801 • P (907) 586-3225 • F (907) 586-1227

610 Attla Way, Suite 8, Kenai, AK 99611 • P (907) 283-4498 • F (907) 283-8030

1201 Mill Bay Road, Kodiak, AK 99615 • P (907) 486-8818 • F (907) 486-0080

1529 Ocean Drive Ste. 1, Homer, AK 99603 • P (907) 226-5151 • F (907) 235-0656

www.akteamsters.com



NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Ambler · Buckland · Deering · Kiana · Kivalina · Kobuk · Kotzebue · Noatak · Noorvik · Selawik · Shungnak
PO Box 51 · Kotzebue, Alaska 99752 · Phone (907) 442-1800

May 5, 2022

Re: Testimony on HB 283

My name is Aviññaq, Terri Walker, Superintendent of the Northwest Arctic Borough School District (NWABSD). I am an Inupiat from Buckland, Alaska, and have lived in Alaska all my life.

For the past 32 years, I have served as a teacher, principal, director, assistant superintendent, and now the superintendent for three years. I believe that ***all students receive the best education by providing the skills and values they need to lead a productive and independent life in the NANA region.***

In addition to providing traditional K-12 through eleven sites within the borough, the NWABSD operates a vocational education program through the Alaska Technical Center here in Kotzebue. Graduates of the Alaska Technical Center have increased employment opportunities within and outside of the region. Additional education opportunities for residents are available through Chukchi College, a satellite campus of the University of Alaska.

Unfortunately, for many high school graduates, access to the post-high school education opportunities here in Kotzebue is challenging, in large part due to the lack of available housing. To address this challenge, our Northwest Arctic Leadership Team (NWALT), which includes the Northwest Borough, the regional school district, NANA, and Maniilaq, has ranked Family Housing for continuing education students as their #2 priority.

We request the HFIN Committee consider an amendment to the proposed capital spending bill (HB283) to include \$1.3 million for preliminary design and engineering planning for the Family Housing project. The school district will provide the necessary land for the facility. While working amongst our regional partners during the planning process, we hope that we can identify a financial plan that would result in a joint funding proposal for construction.

Getting the planning process underway in FY2023 would significantly advance this project and increase our continued efforts to increase local hires throughout the region, thereby optimizing the economic benefits that currently flow out of the region or out of state due in part to a shortage of trained residents.

A CAPSIS request for the overall project was submitted earlier this session. Your consideration to consider an amendment to the proposed capital spending bill (HB283) to include \$1.3 million for preliminary design and engineering planning for the Family Housing project is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Terri Walker, Superintendent



May 4, 2022

Representative Kelly Merrick
Representative Neal Foster
Co-Chairs
House Finance Committee
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Re: FY23 Capital Budget – HB 283

Dear Co-Chairs Merrick, Foster, and all members of the House Finance Committee:

The purpose of this message is to ask you for your support of FY23 capital budget items that directly impact behavioral health supports to stand up Crisis Now services.

- There are many parts to make this system work, and the Careline will provide the federally mandated 988 emergency number statewide starting in July 2022. **An essential part of the Crisis Now model is the Crisis Call Center, which addresses the majority of crises in the crisis continuum of care.**
- Currently, the Crisis Now legislation has funding for the Crisis Stabilization Center and the Crisis Residential Center. Careline Alaska is the organization which will operate the call center, but **they require additional funds (\$1.5 million) to prepare their building to launch the center this summer.** Their prior building was rendered uninhabitable due to extreme weather in Fairbanks.

NAMI Alaska supports the Crisis Now/988 initiative, and legislative support is necessary to make this system work. Your support will save lives.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ann Ringstad", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Ann Ringstad
Executive Director
NAMI Alaska, Inc.

NAMI Alaska • PO Box 201753 • Anchorage, AK 99520-1753
(907)277-1300 • Fax (907)277-8456 • alaskanami@gmail.com

TESTIMONY

ALASKA STATE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

May 4, 2022

house.finance@akleg.gov

Honorable members of the Alaska State Legislature,

As Mayor of Nome, I am indebted to you, good Representatives, for this additional opportunity to speak in favor of and confirm the request for the needed state matching funds for construction of the nation's first Arctic Deep Draft Port at Nome. We presented before you on this project a few weeks ago, and are grateful you recognize the positive outcome that will result.

I'd also like to thank members of both the state house and state senate that have visited Nome during the various stages of project development.

Ladies and gentlemen; we are at a critical juncture. To keep moving forward, the matching funding need is NOW. Any delay means we face the REAL risk this likely once-in-my-lifetime opportunity is stalled for the foreseeable future, or worse, shelved.

Thanks to hard work by our U.S. congressional delegation, the White House OMB released \$250 million in federal subsistence and remote harbors funding to construct the Nome

Port expansion. The funds are available to the Corps of Engineers now. To keep the project a priority and moving forward with the great momentum it has envisions bid solicitation by spring 2023, less than a year from now.

We have thoroughly investigated with the Corps options for the project to commence if only incremental funding is available. It has been confirmed ALL \$175 million in “local sponsor funds” must be available to the Corps at one time, before the bidding process can commence.

Throughout the development of the project, the Corps of Engineers has traveled to Nome on multiple occasions. This has included representatives from national headquarters, the Division headquartered out of Hawaii, and Alaska District staff stationed at JBER. Ongoing congressional delegation inquiry confirms the Corps “brass” is very much attuned to maintaining the construction and delivery timeline for the Arctic Deep Draft Port project. Their last visit was just a few weeks ago. They advised they “are on schedule”, and are hopeful we are, too.

Corps civilian staff must always exercise caution so as not to step in to the political arena. They can’t be as forceful advocate for a project, nor risk getting in an adversarial position. We believe recent cautious comments were misinterpreted downplaying the urgency in locking in the funding match. So, it is left to us as local government representatives to implore you to show the State of Alaska’s support, financially, now.

Nome is not the only area of this great state that has been hit in the knees by the Covid pandemic. Our economy is struggling. We have skilled and able-bodied equipment operators, mechanics, truck drivers and laborers who are unemployed or underemployed. The ADDP will have long-term economic and socioeconomic benefits to our community, to the region, to the state and to the nation. Not only will those who are directly employed see benefit and much-needed relief, but other sectors of the economy, such as the service industry and housing market can also rebound.

Our good Senators and late lone Congressman fought hard to deliver the Arctic Deep Draft Port, as well as other quality projects and economic opportunities to the peoples of Alaska. The state legislature must continue to take bold steps to partner with our federal delegation, capitalizing on this and other federal funding opportunities the three have been able to deliver.

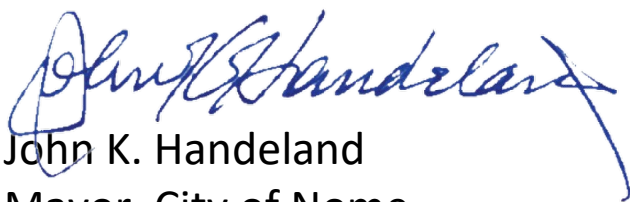
Other areas of the state are in position to benefit substantially from national funding associated with [IIJA] Eye-Eye-Jay-A. Federal highways allocations will bring much needed marine highway funding to southeast and construction projects creating jobs to southcentral and statewide. For many programs, state funds are pretty much “automatic” to capture federal dollars. I think it’s the fact ADDP funding is coming through another program that makes it stand out, that – and it’s a large project. It still requires a match.

Getting the ADDP project bid this year will be HUGE to help us raise up out of the Covid embers. Arctic waters are becoming ice-free for longer periods with each passing year. Alaska is a strategic location of greater significance as world tensions escalate. Activity and interest Alaska's Arctic is continuing to grow. We need to be acting, getting infrastructure in place, not reacting. Folks are coming North. North to the future. And the future is NOW.

PLEASE do all you can to keep the GF Arctic Deep Draft Port at Nome matching funds appropriation in THIS YEAR'S capital budget.

I also want to state Nome recognizes the important role the Port of Alaska facility serves in Alaska's port network. It ALSO needs funding at this time.

Thank you.



John K. Handeland
Mayor, City of Nome

PO Box 281

Nome, AK 99762

(907) 443-6302 direct

mayor@nomealaska.org

Testimony on HB 283 – Capital Budget Testimony

House Bill 283 should be amended to include our \$1.0 million CAPSIS request to pay off one-third of the City's \$3.0 million debt on our Waterfall Creek Hydro facility. This debt reduction will save the city approximately \$75,000 in annual debt service.

In turn, this debt reduction will be used to lower our residential kilowatt hour cost of electricity by up to \$0.05/kWh. This will lower our current rate to \$0.25/kWh, which will make our kWh cost consistent with more than 150 rural communities that currently **receive** a PCE subsidy.

King Cove is one of four PCE-eligible utilities, out of 195, that does NOT receive a PCE subsidy. In our case it is because our 25+ year investment in successful renewable energy conflicts with the current PCE statutes that do not fairly allow for annual expenditures for the total cost of debt service investing in our two hydro facilities vis-à-vis the annual cost avoidance of approximately \$250,000 in diesel fuel.

From our perspective, this is simply not fair or prudent to encourage more small utilities to significantly invest in renewable energy. Our two hydro facilities produce 80% of our annual electricity demand of 5 MWh. There is only one other rural, PCE-eligible electric co-op that produces more annual renewable energy than King Cove – and, they still receive more than a half of million dollars in annual PCE payments.

The city has requested the Administration to review our situation. However, no meaningful discussion or solution has been identified by the Administration at this time.

Consequently, the City is seeking this Legislative capital grant to address and resolve our unfair PCE situation.

Thank you.

Gary Hennigh
City Administrator

MADE IN ALASKA MARICULTURE

Mariculture Matching Grant Program

Produced by the Alaska Mariculture Alliance

May 3, 2022

What is the Mariculture Matching Grant Program?

- \$25 million in the Governor’s Capital Budget to establish a Mariculture Matching Grant Program; the program was recently reduced by the House and Senate Finance Committees to \$5 million.
- An amendment by the Administration provides the grant to the Alaska Mariculture Alliance (AMA) for the *“purpose of establishing and operating a grant program for the mariculture industry...grants made through this appropriation will assist in the establishment of new mariculture businesses and the expansion of existing farms.”*
- The Grant Program will be administered by the AMA with oversight by ADCCED. AMA will designate a committee to work with ADCCED’s investment experts to create program objectives that reduce hurdles to industry development. The committee will look to models, such as the Alaska Community Foundation’s (ACF) successful distribution of COVID relief funds, to incorporate best practices for efficiently and effectively impacting the mariculture sector.
- The Grant Program will make funds available through an annual competitive RFP process. The RFPs will set out the guidelines and eligibility criteria for applying for grants including minimum and maximum amounts, and requirements for matching funds in the form of cash or loans. Assuming a limited time frame for expending these funds, AMA intends to issue annual RFPs for the duration of the program in order to spread investments over time and allow for thoughtful and deliberative proposals as the industry grows. Providing the grants over time will also allow for more equitable distribution as many Alaska Native entities and coastal communities are still formulating ideas for how mariculture best fits within their communities.

What is the Alaska Mariculture Alliance (AMA)?

- The Alaska Mariculture Alliance (AMA) is a private non-profit association dedicated to the development of mariculture in the State, for the economic and social benefit of Alaska communities and the health of our ocean resources.
- The AMA is the successor organization to the Governor’s Mariculture Task Force, which delivered a [strategic plan for the development of mariculture industry](#) to the Administration in summer 2021, with the goal to grow a \$100 M industry in 20 years.
- The AMA membership includes approximately 100 entities representing seaweed and shellfish farmers, hatcheries and nurseries, communities and tribal organizations across Alaska (61 full board members, seven ex-officio members, and 40 associate members - see attached membership list).

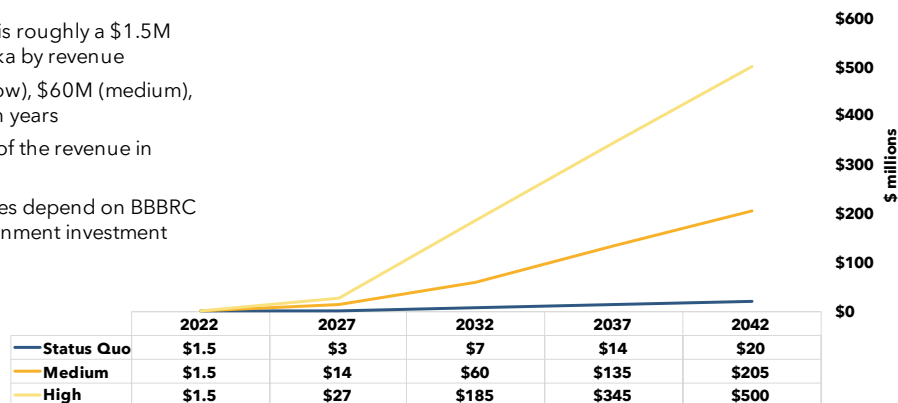
- The AMA leadership has overlap with the previous Task Force and consists of an Executive Committee of nine members, including its four officers. The AMA Officers are as follows: President Eric Wyatt, Vice-President Alec Mesdag, Secretary Tommy Sheridan, and Treasurer Markos Scheer. Other members of AMA's Executive Committee are as follows: Heather McCarty, Thea Thomas, Anthony Lindoff, Dr. Mike Stekoll, Dr. Ginny Eckert. The Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation (AFDF) provides financial and operational management services to AMA.

Why is the Mariculture Matching Grant Program beneficial to Alaskans?

- Mariculture provides benefits to the communities, economy and environment of Alaska. The mariculture industry in Alaska has tremendous potential for growth. Entering at this stage means new and current participants shoulder all of the risk. The Grant Program greatly reduces that risk, encourages expansion of current businesses, and enables for equitable entry of new businesses into the industry.
- Investing state funds in this Grant Program will not only double the funds spent to develop a new industry, it will also pay returns to the state through increased annual economic activity for many years to come.
- The investment of public funds will increase the trajectory of industry growth beyond the original \$100 M goal. A recent analysis by McKinley Research Group projects three possible growth scenarios: status quo, medium and high. The determining factor between these three scenarios is significant government investment, such as the EDA BBB grant (\$50 M), or the state's \$25 M Grant Program. ***A public sector investment of this size is projected to increase annual revenues to \$205 M, and total economic output to \$325 M and 1,825 jobs.***

Industry Development Trajectory

- Currently mariculture is roughly a \$1.5M dollar industry in Alaska by revenue
- Could grow to \$7M (low), \$60M (medium), or \$185M (high) in ten years
- Seaweed the majority of the revenue in these models
- Medium and High cases depend on BBBRC award or similar government investment



Alaska Mariculture Industry Revenue Projections (\$millions)