

**From:** [Libby Dalton](#)  
**To:** [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Subject:** HB 259  
**Date:** Thursday, February 24, 2022 11:01:48 AM

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I strongly OPPOSE HB 259. Pay the statutory PFD as it existed before 2016.

You did not listen to the recommendations of the Fiscal Policy Working Group from summer of 2021. And you are not listening to the people.

The majority of Alaskans favor a full PFD, every year.  
LISTEN TO THE PEOPLE!.

Respectfully,  
Libby Dalton Slane  
HD 35 - Fairbanks



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**From:** [Donald Thompson](#)  
**To:** [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Subject:** HB259  
**Date:** Thursday, February 24, 2022 10:01:23 AM

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I apose HB259 and hereby site the Constitution of the State of Alaska

**From:** [danny slane](#)  
**To:** [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Subject:** HB259  
**Date:** Thursday, February 24, 2022 12:44:03 PM

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I strongly OPPOSE HB 259. Pay the statutory PFD as it existed before 2016.

You did not listen to the recommendations of the Fiscal Policy Working Group from summer of 2021. And you are not listening to the people.

The majority of Alaskans favor a full PFD, every year.  
LISTEN TO THE PEOPLE!.

Danny Slane  
Fairbanks

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**From:** [Kevin Hall](#)  
**To:** [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Subject:** Hb259  
**Date:** Thursday, February 24, 2022 10:59:24 AM

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I want to go on record, opposed to this bill.

The lawful, statutory PFD worked perfect since it's beginning some 40 years ago. It went up and it went down accordingly and no one complained because everybody understood the fluctuations were natural.

Incidentally, I find it very interesting that when the payout was 200 bucks, nobody in Juneau seemed to care about the PFD.

Now that it has grown to a large pot of money, it seems everyone there in Juneau is obsessed with getting their hands on it.

Follow the law. Nothing but a lawful, statutory PFD is acceptable to most of your constituents. We are watching and we have had enough of Juneau's refusals to spend within it's means even to the point of taking money from every man, woman and child.

Thanx for listening,

Kevin Hall  
Sterling, AK  
District 29  
Precinct 190

**From:** [Shelly Shupe](#)  
**To:** [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Subject:** NO to HB259  
**Date:** Thursday, February 24, 2022 11:51:45 AM

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Good afternoon,

I am emailing to testify that I am opposed to House Bill 259 25/75 split for education funding.

No.

Statutory PFD. That is what I support. That is what I will continue to support.

Thank you for your time.

Cheryl Shupe  
Moose Creek, AK 99705

**From:** [Ms. S. K. Taylor](#)  
**To:** [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Subject:** Opppose HB259 25/75 with special dollar to education  
**Date:** Thursday, February 24, 2022 4:10:02 PM

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I want to go on record, opposed to this bill.

The lawful, statutory PFD worked perfect since it's beginning some 40 years ago. It went up and it went down accordingly and no one complained because everybody understood the fluctuations were natural.

Incidentally, I find it very interesting that when the payout was 200 bucks, nobody in Juneau seemed to care about the PFD.

Now that it has grown to a large pot of money, it seems everyone there in Juneau is obsessed with getting their hands on it.

Follow the law. Nothing but a lawful, statutory PFD is acceptable to most of your constituents. We are watching and we have had enough of Juneau's refusals to spend within it's means even to the point of taking money from every man, woman and child.

Thanks  
Sandy Taylor

Kasilof, AK

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**From:** [S G-L](#)  
**To:** [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Subject:** Pfd hb 259 25/75  
**Date:** Thursday, February 24, 2022 10:45:26 AM

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Opposed

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

**From:** [btyndall](#)  
**Subject:** \*\*\*\*\*SPAM\*\*\*\*\* HB 259  
**Date:** Sunday, February 20, 2022 9:34:03 PM

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Dear Representative,

So it begins. The Legislature is determined to take from the poor and give to the rich, again. Why is it so difficult to obey the law and let the people of Alaska have their full PFD? Your budgets are bloated and wasteful. We wouldn't mind so much if you used it wisely and lived within your means; but you don't, and the budget grows while our state continues to shrink in population.

Please come up with a just and fair plan for the PFD. HB 259 is not acceptable.

Thank you

Barbara Tyndall

North Pole

Sent with [ProtonMail](#) Secure Email.



**From:** [Harry Holt](#)  
**To:** [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Subject:** HB 259 Education  
**Date:** Monday, February 14, 2022 2:18:33 AM

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Dear House Special Committee Members,

We are in total opposition to HB 259 to pillage the Alaskan PFD for education with this 75/25 split. The education our students in grades first through twelve are receiving is pathetic for the amount that is spent already. This bill is grabbing at anything, now it is education to drain our PFD that is rightfully for all Alaskans. It is insulting that the sponsors of this bill have the nerve to even present it, they will do anything to raid the fund with the excuse for the children. Vote NO with HB 259.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Harry and Jean Holt  
Palmer, AK.

**From:** [Kerri Mullis](#)  
**To:** [House Education](#); [House Ways and Means](#); [Rep. Mike Prax](#); [Rep. Ivy Spohnholz](#)  
**Subject:** HB259  
**Date:** Sunday, February 13, 2022 8:49:02 PM

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,I would like both committees, Representative Prax, and Representative Spohnholz to look at the schools test results. I have been watching the Peaks testing results for over 10 years. I have also heard "it's for the children", and "we need more money to fund the schools". But, I have also watched FNSB give new cell phones, and free internet at their homes to all the admin and higher ups in the school district, watched the Superintendent to give herself a nice raise a few times, while I watched the children get dumber.... And the odd thing, it's not the rural areas particularly that are getting worse quicker, it's the more affluent areas. In Fairbanks, West Valley and Lathrop have had terrible "non proficiency. But wait, there's more.....it isn't just limited to FNSB. Anchorage has horrible tests too, and the other areas, Juneau, look at it. Quit hiding your head and thinking stealing from the PFD (which takes money from the parents, by the way, which in turn, could hurt the children more than you know). How pious some of you are thinking you know how to spend money better, I have been here over 35 years, my husband has been here around 40. Guess what, the more you spend, the worse it gets, just look at the records of the Peaks testing.

Parents are continually having to fight the continued attack on the children's capability to just be children. CRT, reverse racism, book banning, LGBTQ agendas, slanted history, books that don't tell the true story

If what you are doing isn't working, it's time to come up with a different plan. I have a different plan, other parents have a different plan, maybe it is time for your group to think about a different plan.

Kerri Mullis  
Delta Jct,  
Mother, Grandmother, Great Grandmother

**From:** [Linda Morrison Goss](#)  
**To:** [House Ways and Means](#); [Rep. Mike Prax](#); [House Education](#)  
**Subject:** Oppose HB 259  
**Date:** Sunday, February 13, 2022 8:01:52 PM

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**I strongly oppose HB259.** Our education system does not need more money, it needs a desperate overhaul.

**Leave the PFD alone.** Haven't you robbed the citizens of Alaska enough. With so much distrust and disgust with our current legislature (minus a few including Rep Prax) plus the election coming up, you should all check yourselves and realize that your constituents have had enough.and want most of you gone.

Linda Morrison Goss  
67 year resident, Fairbanks

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**From:** [Rob B](#)  
**To:** [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Subject:** PFD is not your toy  
**Date:** Saturday, February 12, 2022 1:45:43 PM

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To whom it may concern,

We the people of Alaska are tired of your attempts to infiltrate the PFD for your pet projects.

The PFD was set up to help all Alaskans, not just other spin-offs from the government torso, i.e. the schools in this scenario .

With the rise of food prices, gas prices, heating fuel prices and housing prices you would think that those things would be at the top of your list to help fellow Alaskans.

The schools get plenty of money and year after year they get more money, to hold in their slush fund account, never actually using it.

It's time for you to rejoin the reality world of what it takes to live in Alaska.

You guys and girls are getting ready to get fatter thanks to Biden and associates from federal funds.

Have a great day and think about your future.

**From:** [redmond3@acsalaska.net](mailto:redmond3@acsalaska.net)  
**To:** [House Education](#); [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Cc:** [Rep. Mike Prax](#); [Rep.Ivy.Sponholtz@akleg.gov](mailto:Rep.Ivy.Sponholtz@akleg.gov)  
**Subject:** PFD  
**Date:** Saturday, February 12, 2022 2:50:47 PM

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Why do you people keep putting your sticky fingers into the PFD. Leave the PFD alone and let the people get what's coming to them. We haven't received our full PFD since Walker screwed it up when he was in office. Do what the people who elected you want you to do, not grab other peoples money.

Thank You  
Chris Redmond

**KENAI LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE**

Email: Kenai.LIO@akleg.gov

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

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY**

**NAME:** Ed & Kathleen Martin  
**REPRESENTING:** Self  
**BILL # or SUBJECT:** HB 259  
**COMMITTEE:** House Ways & Means                      **DATE:** 2-15-22

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

Dear House Special Committee Members,

We are in total opposition to HB 259 to pillage the Alaskan PFD for education with this 75/25 split. The education our students in grades first through twelve are receiving is pathetic for the amount that is spent already. This bill is grabbing at anything, now it is education to drain our PFD that is rightfully for all Alaskans. It is insulting that the sponsors of this bill have the nerve to even present it, they will do anything to raid the fund with the excuse for the children. Vote NO with HB 259.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Ed & Kathleen Martin

**From:** [Brad Keithley](#)  
**To:** [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Cc:** [Rep. Ivy Spohnholz](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Calvin Schrage](#); [Rep. Andi Story](#); [Rep. Mike Prax](#); [Rep. David Eastman](#); [Rep. Harriet Drummond](#)  
**Subject:** Comments in Opposition to HB 259  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 16, 2022 8:00:56 AM

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**Alaskans for Sustainable Budgets strongly oppose HB 259.** The effect of the bill is hugely regressive, shifting the burden of funding K-12 education largely to middle and lower income Alaska families while the top 20% largely get a free ride (and non-residents contribute nothing). As the Committee is aware from previous testimony before it, by using PFD cuts as the funding mechanism, the bill relies on the approach that also has the "largest adverse impact" on the Alaska economy of all of the various revenue options.

As we outlined in our [previous column on the bill's predecessor](#) in the *Alaska Landmine* - repeated below for the record - there are much more equitable and lower impact approaches available for such a purpose.

## Who should bear the state's share of K-12 spending?

DECEMBER 10, 2021 **BY [BRAD KEITHLEY](#)**

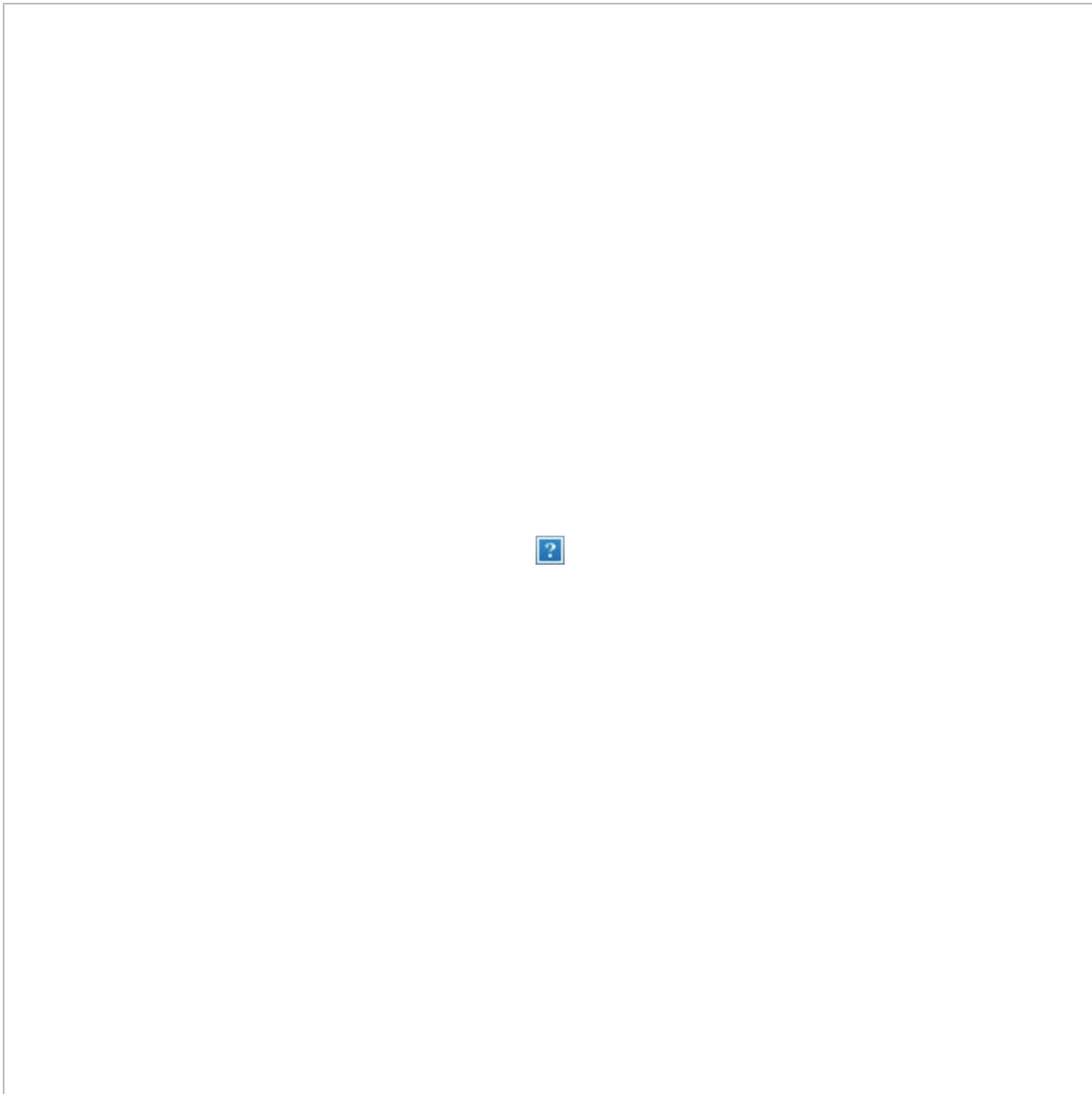
While the Legislature as a whole was largely idle during the fourth special session, the House Ways & Means Committee remained active, holding four hearings on a variety of proposed revenue measures. The fourth hearing – its last of the special session – was devoted entirely to [HB 4003](#), a committee bill which since [seems to be emerging](#) as the Committee's primary fiscal proposal this coming session.

The bill deals primarily with the POMV draw, designating a quarter (25%) for the PFD, and dividing the remaining 75% equally between the "public education fund for foundation formula and pupil transportation" (K-12) and the general fund. As usual for the bills both this Committee and others have considered this Legislature, HB 4003 has not been accompanied by a distributional analysis, obscuring its impact on Alaska families and the Alaska economy.

But as we have said in previous columns in this space, that sort of analysis isn't hard to do. And doing so here reveals, in our view, a deeply troublesome impact.

While individual years may be higher or lower, assuming "statutory net income" – the basis for the current PFD law – results over time generally in the same 5% real rate of return used in the calculation of the POMV draw, the current law PFD generally equals 65% of the annual POMV draw smoothed out over time.

As we have [explained elsewhere](#), that differs from POMV 50/50 and other “percent of POMV” approaches because there is a significant difference between the two approaches in the treatment of the so-called “inflation adjustment” – the amount deposited annually in the fund to offset the impact of inflation. While a percent of POMV approach effectively splits the inflation adjustment proportionately between the PFD and the government’s share of the draw, the current law approach as codified in [AS 37.13.245\(c\)](#) effectively assigns all of the adjustment to the government’s share. Based on [the Permanent Fund Corporation’s most recent projections](#), at least over the next decade the difference between the two roughly equals 15% over a POMV 50/50 approach.



Given that baseline, the effect of HB 4003 then is permanently to reduce the PFD from roughly 65% of the POMV under current law to 25%, shifting the difference –

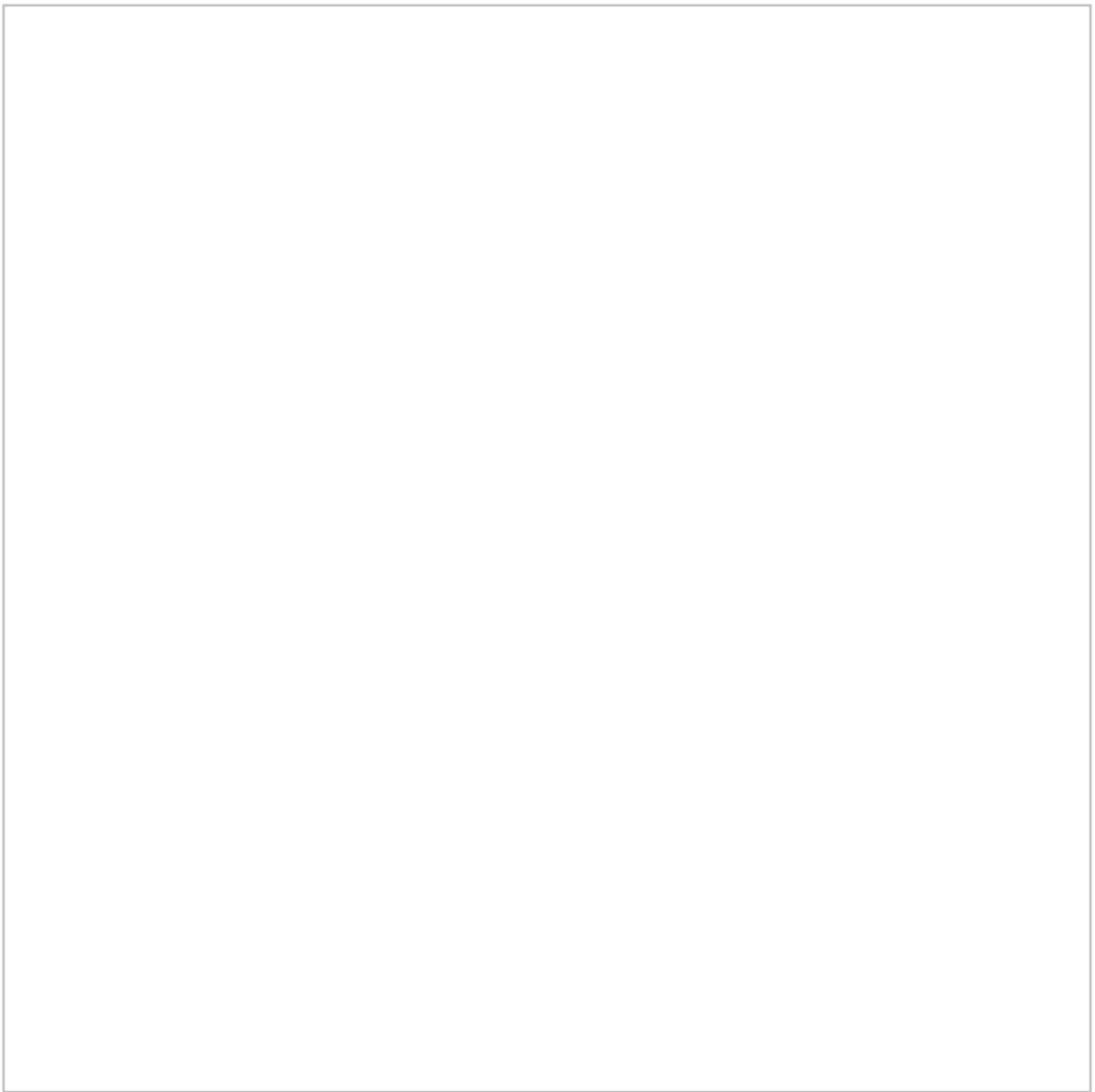


currently, about \$1.3 billion, or roughly 5% of total Alaska household income – from Alaska households to government.

Where does the reduction – 40% of the POMV – go? Simple; almost all of it goes to the 37.5% the bill simultaneously sets aside for K-12 spending. (The remaining 2.5% goes to slightly increase the portion allocated to the general fund.) In short, the bill effectively proposes to finance K-12 through a permanent dollar-for-dollar reduction in the current PFD law.

While we know that the overall impact is to shift about 5% of total household income to government, by failing to do a distributional analysis, the committee has avoided confronting exactly “who” – which Alaska families – end up paying for K-12 under that approach.

But as we noted above, that isn’t hard to calculate once we know the source of the funding. Applying the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy’s (ITEP) 2017 analysis [we have discussed in previous columns](#), it becomes clear that, by using PFD cuts, those paying for K-12 under the bill largely are middle and lower income – 80% of – Alaska families. As a share of income, the top 20% contributes a relatively trivial share.



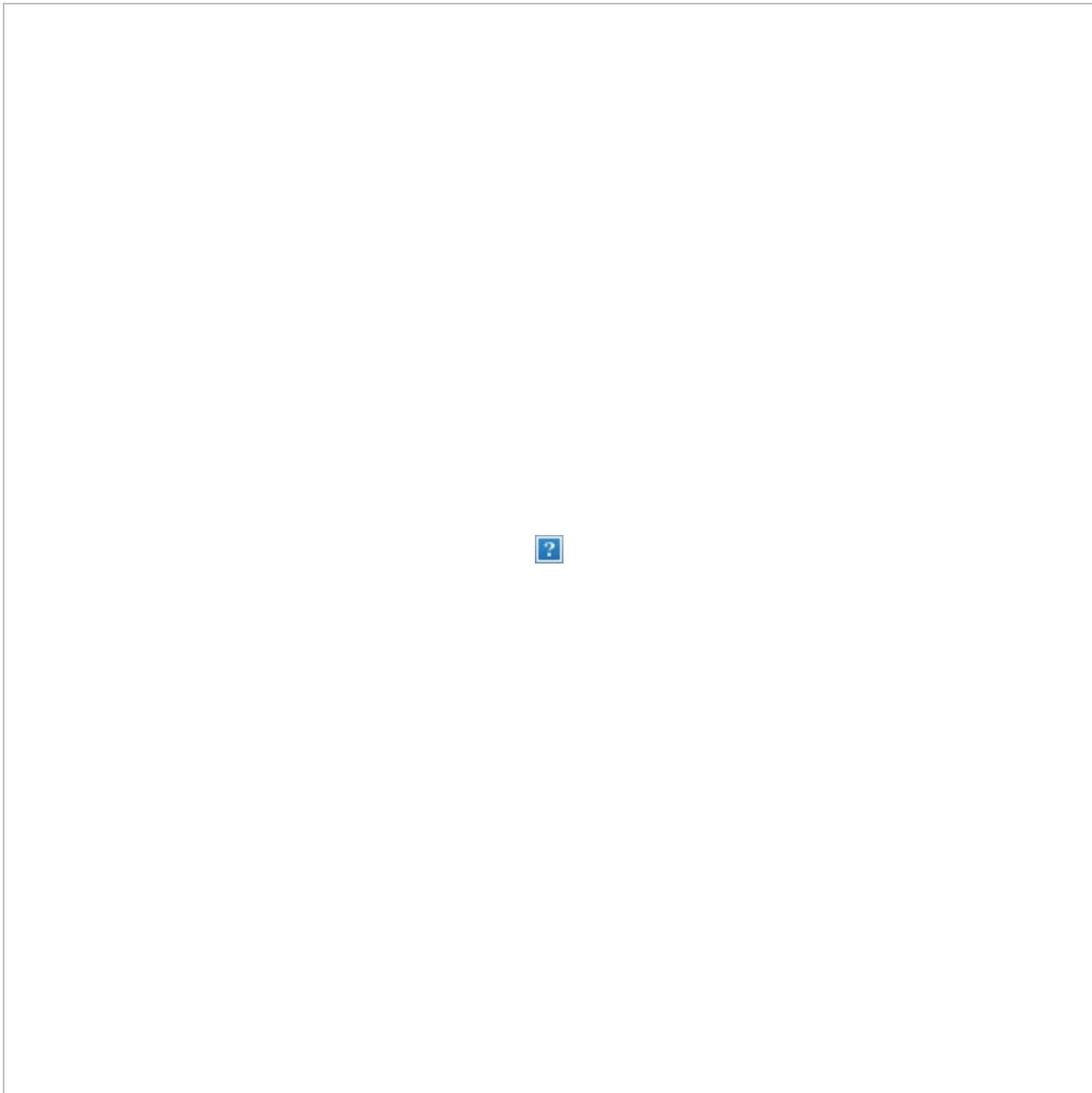
This result is hugely regressive. Lower income families contribute 36 times, middle income families 13 times and even upper-middle income families 8 times the share of income taken from the top 1% for K-12 education. Put more succinctly, middle and lower income Alaska families are expected to pay the tab for K-12 spending while the top 20% largely get a free ride.

Is there a more equitable approach?

Absolutely. Let's compare these results, for example, to those if, rather than PFD cuts, HB 4003 instead used a flat tax to pay for K-12.

To analyze that, we use the "Option 1" flat tax approach contained in the [2020](#)

report prepared for the Legislature by ITEP we discussed in last week's column. We compare the two approaches here:



Clearly, the distributional impact from using a flat tax to fund K-12 is much more equitable. ALL Alaska families, including both middle and lower income – 80% of – Alaska families AND the top 20% contribute relatively the same amount as a share of income toward the costs of K-12. No income bracket contributes more than 1.2 times another.

And unlike using PFD cuts where only Alaskan families bear the burden, by using a flat tax non-residents receiving Alaska sourced income contribute as well, as occurs in a number of other states.

As we noted [in last week's column](#), Option 1 isn't perfectly flat. As we explained there, that's largely because Option 1 excludes PFD's from income. If that's an important issue, it can be resolved by eliminating the exclusion. Doing so would result in all income brackets (and non-residents) contributing the same, roughly 4.5% of income, to cover the costs of K-12.

By designating a portion of the POMV to K-12 funding, the bill's political purpose obviously is to enlist Alaska's education community in supporting the fiscal restructuring it proposes. But by failing to analyze the bill from a distributional perspective, the Committee is asking them to buy a proverbial pig in a poke.

The effect of this particular "pig" is largely to shift most of the burden of K-12 costs to middle and lower income Alaska families, while those in the top 20% essentially get a free ride. The question is why is that fair?

The Committee should transparently and publicly attempt to answer that question. In our view, once it attempts to do so in the light of day, we'll discover there isn't a good answer.

Using Permanent Fund Corporation estimates, on average over the next 10 years HB 4003 proposes annually to shift roughly \$1.65 billion – or based on current estimates, roughly 5% of total household income – from Alaska households to K-12. As a share of income, HB 4003 proposes that middle and lower income Alaska families bear most of the burden. Because K-12 benefits all Alaska families, in our view *ALL* Alaska families should have the same stake in those costs instead.

*Brad*

**Brad Keithley**  
**Managing Director, Alaskans for Sustainable Budgets**

Email: [manager@AKforSB.com](mailto:manager@AKforSB.com)

Web: [AKforSB.com](http://AKforSB.com)



**From:** [Dixie D. Banner](#)  
**To:** [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: HB 259 - No to this proposal  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 16, 2022 11:28:21 AM

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> To: All,

>>

>> No to HB 259 for it is a waste of money and time! We already fun the Education program in AK and the system seems unable to produce a favorable outcome! Why add more funding??? Throwing money to poor system is ineffective and inefficient!

>>

>> If there is any extra money it should be spent to create a viable economy and get people off of welfare! Especially Baby Mommas! Tired taking of irresponsible people.

>>

>> Why is it we have to educate you to make smart decisions and demand accountability! When asked to be elected it was expected that you as an elected official to do your job and manage accordingly to the Will of the People not as you see fit! This is why we must move the Capital since you fail to follow the law!

>>

>> Note we have had enough of the games and if you per-sue this bill, plan for discharge papers come Election time!

>>

>> Tired of your games!!!!

**From:** [snowshoehair@mosquitonet.com](mailto:snowshoehair@mosquitonet.com)  
**To:** [Rep. Grier Hopkins](#)  
**Cc:** [Rep. Bart LeBon](#); [Rep. Steve Thompson](#); [Rep. Mike Prax](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Mike Cronk](#); [Rep. Christopher Kurka](#); [Rep. Kevin McCabe](#); [Rep. George Rauscher](#); [Rep. David Eastman](#); [Rep. DeLena Johnson](#); [Rep. Cathy Tilton](#); [Rep. Ken McCarty](#); [Rep. Kelly Merrick](#); [Rep. David Nelson](#); [Rep. Ivy Spohnholz](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Harriet Drummond](#); [Rep. Geran Tarr](#); [Rep. Zack Fields](#); [Rep. Matt Claman](#); [Representative.Sarah.Rasmussen@akleg.gov](mailto:Representative.Sarah.Rasmussen@akleg.gov); [Rep. Chris Tuck](#); [Rep. Thomas McKay](#); [Rep. Calvin Schrage](#); [Rep. Laddie Shaw](#); [Rep. Liz Snyder](#); [Rep. James Kaufman](#); [Rep. Ben Carpenter](#); [Rep. Ronald Gillham](#); [Rep. Sarah Vance](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Representative.Sarah.Hannan@akleg.gov](mailto:Representative.Sarah.Hannan@akleg.gov); [Rep. Andi Story](#); [Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins](#); [Rep. Daniel Ortiz](#); [Rep. Bryce Edgmon](#); [Rep. Tiffany Zulkosky](#); [Rep. Neal Foster](#); [Rep. Josiah Patkotak](#)  
**Subject:** HB 259  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 15, 2022 10:52:05 PM

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HB 259 "An Act relating to use of income of the Alaska permanent fund; relating to the amount of the permanent fund dividend"

I do not support this bill.

Why do you people hate us so much?

Why do you keep looking for ways to take our PFD away from us?

Why do you keep hurting the poor, the low income people of the state, the unemployed and disabled, the senior citizens? These and the middle class are two thirds of the Alaskan population that you are hurting by stealing our PFD.

Every time we look away for just one second, there is another attempt by certain people in our legislature to take our Dividend away from us so it can be spent on a larger and more expensive government. People are working two or three jobs, and then we are criticized for not spending hours out of our days waiting on hold on the phone for a turn to testify for three minutes that we want our PFD. "Gee... they aren't interested".... that's bull.

I thought you Democrats were supposed to care about the people you represent... all I see is you dishing out hurt. Hopkins, I'm talking to you!

I want my Dividend and I think the 50/50 split is the only fair way to do it.

Lori Horvath

[REDACTED]

Fairbanks, AK 99709

Dist 4-B

**From:** [Kerri Mullis](#)  
**To:** [House Education](#); [House Ways and Means](#); [Rep. Mike Prax](#); [Rep. Ivy Spohnholz](#)  
**Subject:** HB259  
**Date:** Sunday, February 13, 2022 8:49:02 PM

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,I would like both committees, Representative Prax, and Representative Spohnholz to look at the schools test results. I have been watching the Peaks testing results for over 10 years. I have also heard "it's for the children", and "we need more money to fund the schools". But, I have also watched FNSB give new cell phones, and free internet at their homes to all the admin and higher ups in the school district, watched the Superintendent to give herself a nice raise a few times, while I watched the children get dumber.... And the odd thing, it's not the rural areas particularly that are getting worse quicker, it's the more affluent areas. In Fairbanks, West Valley and Lathrop have had terrible "non proficiency. But wait, there's more.....it isn't just limited to FNSB. Anchorage has horrible tests too, and the other areas, Juneau, look at it. Quit hiding your head and thinking stealing from the PFD (which takes money from the parents, by the way, which in turn, could hurt the children more than you know). How pious some of you are thinking you know how to spend money better, I have been here over 35 years, my husband has been here around 40. Guess what, the more you spend, the worse it gets, just look at the records of the Peaks testing.

Parents are continually having to fight the continued attack on the children's capability to just be children. CRT, reverse racism, book banning, LGBTQ agendas, slanted history, books that don't tell the true story

If what you are doing isn't working, it's time to come up with a different plan. I have a different plan, other parents have a different plan, maybe it is time for your group to think about a different plan.

Kerri Mullis  
Delta Jct,  
Mother, Grandmother, Great Grandmother

**From:** [Linda Morrison Goss](#)  
**To:** [House Ways and Means](#); [Rep. Mike Prax](#); [House Education](#)  
**Subject:** Oppose HB 259  
**Date:** Sunday, February 13, 2022 8:01:52 PM

---

**I strongly oppose HB259.** Our education system does not need more money, it needs a desperate overhaul.

**Leave the PFD alone.** Haven't you robbed the citizens of Alaska enough. With so much distrust and disgust with our current legislature (minus a few including Rep Prax) plus the election coming up, you should all check yourselves and realize that your constituents have had enough.and want most of you gone.

Linda Morrison Goss  
67 year resident, Fairbanks

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**From:** [Rob B](#)  
**To:** [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Subject:** PFD is not your toy  
**Date:** Saturday, February 12, 2022 1:45:43 PM

---

To whom it may concern,

We the people of Alaska are tired of your attempts to infiltrate the PFD for your pet projects.

The PFD was set up to help all Alaskans, not just other spin-offs from the government torso, i.e. the schools in this scenario .

With the rise of food prices, gas prices, heating fuel prices and housing prices you would think that those things would be at the top of your list to help fellow Alaskans.

The schools get plenty of money and year after year they get more money, to hold in their slush fund account, never actually using it.

It's time for you to rejoin the reality world of what it takes to live in Alaska.

You guys and girls are getting ready to get fatter thanks to Biden and associates from federal funds.

Have a great day and think about your future.

Wasilla, Ak 99623

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [Aileen Cotter](#)  
**To:** [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Subject:** Stay out of our PFD  
**Date:** Monday, February 14, 2022 10:20:37 AM

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They have failed at teaching our children truth so we the people do not want any of our PFD going to a worthless cause! We will teach them ourselves!

Ella Cotter

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [mcleod\\_kenneth1](#)  
**To:** [Rep. Ivy Spohnholz](#)  
**Subject:** HB 259  
**Date:** Thursday, February 17, 2022 10:40:04 AM

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Dear Rep Spohnholz,

I am writing to ask you to oppose HB 259. Alaskans want their full statutory PFD and a repayment of monies taken by the state without their consent. I have lived and worked in Alaska since 2004 and every one of my neighbors and coworkers feel the same way.

Sincerely,

Ken McLeod

North Pole, Alaska

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S21 Ultra 5G, an AT&T 5G smartphone

**From:** [janetluce132](#)  
**To:** [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Subject:** HB259  
**Date:** Sunday, February 20, 2022 10:30:12 PM

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Sent from my Galaxy

Please vote NO on HB259.

We want the PFD as traditionally calculated prior to 2016.

Thank you

Janet Luce. Hoonah, AK. 99829

**From:** [Louis Imbriani](#)  
**To:** [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Subject:** I Oppose HB259  
**Date:** Thursday, February 17, 2022 12:56:16 PM

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Members of the House Ways and Means Committee,

I listened to a majority of the public testimony and as you can hear there are many people who are upset about this bill and do not agree with it. I oppose HB259 because it doesn't matter if you do 50/50 75/25 or 90/10 because it has been proven by the Alaska Supreme Court that the governor and/or the legislature do not need to adhere to any formula and can determine what the PFD distribution will be.

This doesn't fix any problem, it just further pushes the lingering problem down the road. Those lingering problems are a bloated budget and wasteful state spending. This bill and others like it (HB37) and bills before it have not fixed the root cause of the issue. We have seen this with the ARPA funds and the CARES act funds. Those funds were doled out with no accountability for action taken after the funds were received.

Any program that the state offers or money that the state offers to a private entity should be held accountable. What did they do? What impact did they make? Is the program efficient and is the program benefiting Alaskans?

If the impact is not measurable then chances are they are wasteful and we are seeing that especially in public schools. The return on the investment is not there.

Thank you

Louis Imbriani

**From:** [Maggie Matheson](#)  
**To:** [Rep. Ivy Spohnholz](#)  
**Subject:** I do NOT support HB 259  
**Date:** Thursday, February 17, 2022 5:01:37 PM

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Hi Rep. Spohnholz,

I do not believe that this bill is in the best interest of the schools or the communities that it's supposed to be. We are electing you to be a good steward of the money that you are in charge of and this bill does not show that this would be a good, long term solution for our communities. We are in the predicament of having to scale down due to parents not having the confidence of our schools to properly educate our students. We are #51 in 4th grade reading. The amount of money that the government has thrown at our education has been frivolously spent and it's time to teach our government to spend money wisely. My taxes should not be a splurge for the state to throw at the schools that are failing.

I appreciate your time.

Thank you,

MM

--



**Maggie Matheson, MBA**  
FNSBSD Board Member



**From:** [Richard Heller](#)  
**To:** [Sen. Click Bishop](#); [Sen. Bert Stedman](#); [Sen. Lyman Hoffman](#); [Sen. Natasha Von Imhof](#); [Sen. David Wilson](#); [Sen. Donny Olson](#); [Sen. Bill Wielechowski](#); [Senate Finance](#); [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Cc:** [rheller@mtaonline.net](mailto:rheller@mtaonline.net)  
**Subject:** Keep the traditional formula  
**Date:** Monday, February 21, 2022 7:59:24 AM

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Year	Statutory PFD	Actual PFD	Retained PFD	Year to Date ROR	5 Year Average ROR	Accrued Value (YTD ROR)	Owed to Alaskans that Year
2016	2085	1022	1063	3.25%	6.35% <sup>a</sup>	1063	1063
2017	2458	1100	1358	12.75%	8.94% <sup>b</sup>	1198.5	2556.53
2018	2924	1600	1324	10.74%	8.91% <sup>c</sup>	2831.1	4155.11
2019	2884	1606	1278	6.32%	7.31% <sup>d</sup>	4417.7	5695.71
2020	2895	992	1903	2.01%	6.44% <sup>e</sup>	5809.6	7712.62
2021	3687		3687	28.46%	11.62% <sup>f</sup>	9907.6	13,594

a Source APFC Board of Trustees *Monthly Performance Report* , June 30, 2016, Line 18, Column G  
b Source APFC Board of Trustees *Monthly Performance Report* , June 30, 2017, line 1, column G  
c Source APFC Board of Trustees *Monthly Performance Report* , June 30, 2018, line 1, column G  
d Source APFC Board of Trustees *Monthly Performance Report* , June 30, 2019, line 1, column G  
e Source APFC Board of Trustees *Monthly Performance Report* , June 30, 2020, line 1, column G  
f Source APFC Board of Trustees *Monthly Performance Report* , May 30, 2021, line 1, Column G  
g Prior year carry over times YTD ROR reported by the APFC Board of Trustees Report  
2017 Total Fund Return Objective is the CPI plus 5%

Each Alaskan who met the residency requirements for each year since 2016 are owed \$13,564

Please go back to what we had in place, by law, prior to the 2016 changes. We deserve to have these monies as the law states.

Richard Heller

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone



**From:** [Kelly Nash](#)  
**To:** [House Ways and Means](#); [Sen. Bert Stedman](#); [Sen. Bill Wielechowski](#); [Sen. Click Bishop](#); [Sen. David Wilson](#); [Sen. Donny Olson](#); [Sen. Lyman Hoffman](#); [sen.natasha.vonlmhof@akleg.gov](mailto:sen.natasha.vonlmhof@akleg.gov); [Senate Finance](#)  
**Date:** Monday, February 21, 2022 9:19:12 AM

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SB 199 NO  
SB200 NO  
HB 259 NO

WE WANT THE PFD AS TRADITIONALLY CALCULATED PRIOR TO 2016

Thank you  
Kelly Nash  
Fairbanks 99701

**From:** [Tiffany Damota](#)  
**To:** [Sen. Click Bishop](#); [Sen. Bert Stedman](#); [Sen. Lyman Hoffman](#); [Sen. Natasha Von Imhof](#); [Sen. David Wilson](#); [Sen. Donny Olson](#); [Sen. Bill Wielechowski](#); [Senate Finance](#); [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Subject:** NO!!!  
**Date:** Saturday, February 19, 2022 12:36:17 PM

---

I am writing to tell you NO! We do not want SB199. No! We do not want Sb200 no! HB 259 no!

We want the PFD as traditionally calculated prior to 2016

Thank you,

Tiffany DaMota Supplee, Fairbanks 99712

**From:** [Harmony Tomaszewski](#)  
**To:** [Sen. Click Bishop](#); [Sen. Bert Stedman](#); [Sen. Lyman Hoffman](#); [Sen. Natasha Von Imhof](#); [Sen. David Wilson](#); [Sen. Donny Olson](#); [Sen. Bill Wielechowski](#); [Senate Finance](#); [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Subject:** PFD  
**Date:** Saturday, February 19, 2022 12:58:01 PM

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Greetings,

The traditional payout, as done prior to 2016, should be how the PFD is dispersed to all Alaskans. The misappropriation over the last many years is a regressive tax on the lowest income earners. It has hurt our economy and shuttered many businesses. Please do the right thing and support a full and statutory PFD consistent with those paid prior to 2016.

Many thanks,  
Frank Tomaszewski  
Fairbanks  
District 34

**From:** [sheldon coles](#)  
**To:** [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Subject:** PFD  
**Date:** Saturday, February 19, 2022 2:17:44 PM

---

SB199. No. Sb200 no HB 259 no

We want the PFD as traditionally calculated prior to 2016

Thank you,

Sheldon Coles, Anchorage , Alaska 99507

**From:** [Alisha](#)  
**To:** [House Ways and Means](#); [Rep. David Eastman](#); [Rep. Mike Prax](#); [Rep. Andi Story](#); [Rep. Calvin Schrage](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Ivy Spohnholz](#)  
**Subject:** Public testimony against HB 259 by Alisha Asplund on February 17 2022  
**Date:** Thursday, February 17, 2022 8:50:41 AM

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Hello, my name is Alisha Asplund, I live in D8; I am representing myself today and wish to testify against HB 259

I wish to thank the chair of the Ways and Means Committee and the Committee members for letting me testify against HB 259 today February 17, 2022

I wish to thank Spohnholz for explaining her bill so that I now know in which of the 4 categories of bills fits in. I explained about these four categories in my public testimony which I emailed to the House Education committee testimony on February 4, 2022. And this bill fits into the three categories that I do not find acceptable because the undermine the integrity of the legislature and the rule of law.

- **Category #2** This is a bill that Spohnholz believes would create an unconstitutional law if it were a “true” law that is binding and enforceable.
- **Category #3** This is a bill Spohnholz and the lawyers of the legislature have purposely written to create a non-binding “law” a “law” to be ignored. Undermining the integrity of the rule of law.
- **Category #4** This Bills that will result in statutes/laws that can be disregarded because current legislators believe Representative Spohnholz’s statement from the April 29th House Ways and Means Committee, “Because we ultimately make the laws and therefore, we have the ability to disregard law” after hearing Spohnholz’s comments in the February 4, 2022 Education meeting I see how current legislators could believe this statement is true, if they no longer believes that a law is – A rule formally recognized as **binding and enforced** by controlling authorities, but instead current legislators and the lawyers who advise them believe a “law” is – merely a suggestion that can be disregarded. That is a terrifying idea for the law enacting branch of the government to have.

As Spohnholz pointed out in her explanation of HB259 in the House Education Committee on Feb 4, 2022, current legislators believe any statute written to only changes the PFD formula without a containing a constitutional component, and putting it before the people for a vote, will turn the PFD in to a mere suggestion which can be ignored.

So, it seems that in the eyes of current legislators any bill that deals with the PFD formula without also fixing the loop hole that the Wielechowski case created in the constitution and is not brought before the people for a vote, would be unconstitutional if it were binding. I feel spending so much time and resources on mere suggestions which can be ignored is a waste of the limited time and resources made available for the legislature to fulfill its constitutional required duty to pass a balanced budget each year.

She seemed to be saying that her bill was purposely written to be non-binding because she believed that if it were binding it would violate the appropriation power of legislators. So, it seems that current legislators feel that they can fix unconstitutional laws by just making them non-binding. But if a “law” is non-binding is still a law?

If so, have current legislators decided that the definition of a law should be changed to say laws are mere suggestions and are no longer - a rule formally recognized as binding and enforceable.

Given the definitions supplied in the legislature's web site.

- Statutes-The codified body of laws enacted by the Legislature, known as the Alaska Statutes.
- Law - A rule formally recognized as **binding and enforced** by controlling authorities. Statute law is law enacted by the Legislature. Common law is law set by precedent in court and by interpretation of the Constitution and statute law.

I do not see how it would be the intent of the constitution for legislators to purposely create non-binding laws that contradicts the definitions given which clearly shows that statutes are meant to be recognized as binding. Therefore, in my opinion this kind of action undermining the very idea of the "rule of law". These non-binding suggestions that current legislators are representing as Statutes/laws - should not be called statutes because that would be the legislators setting precedents that statutes need not be binding and can be mere suggestions, thus undermining the 'rule of law' that is critical for Statute to be respected by the public.

Why would legislators wish to turn laws into mere suggestions because then the definition for a statute or law could be interpreted as "a rule formally recognized as a mere suggestion and not binding". I do not believe that this is a, wise or constitutionally intended, precedent which legislators should be reinforcing and validating.

Instead of calling these suggestions, statutes/laws, it should be made clear to those in the general public, who do not have time to watch every committee meeting, that legislators are creating suggestions not laws/statutes and since they are mere suggestions which have little to no significant value to any long-term fiscal solution since current legislators are purposely wording them so that they can be ignored.

I feel that spending all this time making bills that will result in suggestions that are made to be ignored, is not a wise use of time and resources that should be being used to fulfill the legislature's constitutional requirement of passing a balanced budget in the 90-day regular session. Any time wasted in making mere suggestion that will result in the legislator ignoring the 90-day regular session statute that represents the people's will and results in legislators having an excuse to extend the regular session to 120 days which costs all Alaskans money that could have gone toward their PFDs or other needed services but instead would go toward rewarding legislators for not completing their constitutional required work done on time, by increasing their yearly income.

I feel that wasting time creating suggestion and then calling them laws, against constitutional intent. It also goes against the ethics act AS 24.60.010 because it undermines the "trust, respect, and confidence of the people of the state" in the legislative branch of government and does not "preserve the integrity of the legislative process"

Thank you for your time.

Alisha Asplund  
District D8

Wasilla, Ak 99623

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [Jan DeLand](#)  
**To:** [Sen. Click Bishop](#); [Sen. Bert Stedman](#); [Sen. Lyman Hoffman](#); [Sen. Natasha Von Imhof](#); [Sen. David Wilson](#); [Sen. Donny Olson](#); [Sen. Bill Wielechowski](#); [Senate Finance](#); [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Subject:** Reject SB199, SB200 & HB 259  
**Date:** Saturday, February 19, 2022 2:06:42 PM

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Senators and House members, Reject SB199, SB200 and HB259.

As a life-long Alaskan, I have seen the devolving of the PFD by politicians who wish to have more control over spending.

Trust the people to take care of their portion and keep the PFD as traditionally calculated prior to 2016.

Jan DeLand, Anchorage, Alaska 99507



**From:** [Aileen Cotter](#)  
**To:** [Rep. Ivy Spohnholz](#)  
**Subject:** SB 199; SB 200; HB 259  
**Date:** Sunday, February 20, 2022 8:09:39 PM

---

NO

Ella Cotter  
North Pole

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [corey allen](#)  
**To:** [Sen. Click Bishop](#); [Sen. Bert Stedman](#); [Sen. Lyman Hoffman](#); [Sen. Natasha Von Imhof](#); [Sen. David Wilson](#); [Sen. Donny Olson](#); [Sen. Bill Wielechowski](#); [Senate Finance](#); [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Subject:** SB199. No. Sb200 No HB 259 No  
**Date:** Sunday, February 20, 2022 4:50:08 PM

---

SB199. No SB200 No HB 259 No

We want the PFD as traditionally calculated prior to 2016.

PLEASE! No more cutting from the people. The people know how money will best help them and their families. Don't cut from seniors and the vulnerable! Stop cutting from small businesses and people who need it most. Alaska spends the most per capita on education. More money will solve nothing. Stop sucking more money from Alaskan families while we are trying to navigate this covid recovery and insane inflation. It will solve nothing!

Sincerely,

Corey Allen  
Fairbanks, Alaska, 99701

**From:** [ArtDuncan](#)  
**To:** [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Subject:** SB199. No. Sb200 no HB 259 no  
**Date:** Saturday, February 19, 2022 1:47:26 PM

---

We want the PFD as traditionally calculated prior to 2016

Arthur Duncan  
Two Rivers 99716

Sent from ProtonMail mobile

**From:** [Nina Delain](#)  
**To:** [Sen. Click Bishop](#); [Sen. Bert Stedman](#); [Sen. Lyman Hoffman](#); [Sen. Natasha Von Imhof](#); [Sen. David Wilson](#); [Sen. Donny Olson](#); [Sen. Bill Wielechowski](#); [Senate Finance](#); [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Subject:** SB199. No. Sb200 no HB 259 no  
**Date:** Sunday, February 20, 2022 8:45:07 AM

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SB199. No. Sb200 no HB 259 no

We want the PFD as traditionally calculated prior to 2016.

PLEASE! No more cutting from the people. The people know how money will best help them and their families.

We have 5 children. I have lived in Alaska over 30 years and grew up here. We spend our PFDs on buying back to school items, heating fuel, meat, winter gear, and paying for medical and dental bills while also contributing to our childrens savings accounts for their futures. That's how we have been spending ours. Just as my family did growing up. Not everyone has the biggest budget especially with this inflation. Now with this inflation you want to take more from the people. But then you want to wrap it up in "for the children" gift wrap by "sending it to education". That leads me to ask you all a very serious question. How much money will it take for quality education in Alaska? Per capita we are a state that spends the highest amount per child at yet we are one of the lowest ranking states as far as education.

With sticking things like the liberal agenda in public schools and turning them into propaganda echo chambers thousands of parents have pulled there students from schools. Enrollments in public schools have been on a decline in this state for years. Then add Covid 19 and it added fuel to the fire. I already pay insane amounts in taxes to public schools I don't use. Why do I want more money being fed into a failing education system?

You think you know what's best, but this will hurt so many Alaskan families, small businesses and especially our seniors.

What will cutting the people's PFD do? Well it will feed the government! More government jobs and state positions to bloat yourselves even more. We have WAY too many state positions for the population we have compared to other states.

Ridiculous.

I really hope you start working for the people instead of continuing to work against them. When I see the needs of people not being met because the government only ever increases....the true pandemic then becomes our own government!

My property taxes went up because inflation said the value of my home went up 58%!!!! Thats 58% in one year! My electric bill was over \$600 for one month. I am hearing the same for many people and many of our friends and family have begun to move or are taking about moving out of state. This is not sustainable! People can't deal with this nonsense anymore. You are driving people away.

Stop sucking the life out of Alaskans,

Nina Delain, Fairbanks AK 99712

**From:** [Joe Sallee](#)  
**To:** [Sen. Click Bishop](#); [Sen. Bert Stedman](#); [Sen. Lyman Hoffman](#); [Sen. Natasha Von Imhof](#); [Sen. David Wilson](#); [Sen. Donny Olson](#); [Sen. Bill Wielechowski](#); [Senate Finance](#); [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Subject:** Statutory PFD  
**Date:** Sunday, February 20, 2022 2:51:18 PM

---

To whom it may concern

Say SB199. No. SB200 No HB 259 No

We want the PFD as traditionally calculated prior to 2016.

PLEASE! No more cutting from the people. The people know how money will best help them and their families. Don't cut from seniors and the vulnerable! Stop cutting from small businesses and people who need it most. Alaska spends the most per capita on education. More money will solve nothing. Stop sucking more money from Alaskan families while we are trying to navigate this covid recovery and insane inflation. It will solve nothing!

Sincerely,

Joseph Sallee  
Homer Ak, 99603

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [jennifer sampson](#)  
**To:** [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony  
**Date:** Thursday, February 17, 2022 4:14:26 PM

---

We OPPOSE HB 259!!!!

**From:** [kathleen shoop](#)  
**To:** [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Subject:** hb259  
**Date:** Thursday, February 17, 2022 2:38:11 PM

---

Dear House Ways and Means;

My Name is Kathleen Shoop, Alaska resident since 1992.

Please vote no,no,no,no,no for HB 259 25/75 PFD split and education.

The residents need their PFD just to survive in Alaska where the cost of living is far higher than the lower 48, especially our electric/energy bills.

Education does not work in Alaska and there is no possible I would ever send a child to school in Alaska. The education system is a sham, and we pay more than anyplace else in the country and the children can't read. It's disgusting.

I do a lot of volunteer work to help make up for the problems in this State.  
I need my PFD!

Kathleen Shoop



**From:** [Michelle Myers](#)  
**To:** [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Subject:** HB 259  
**Date:** Monday, February 21, 2022 9:22:10 AM

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Please as you read this, take huge deep breathe and let it out slowly. Protests are about small rules that hurt people and these rules are everywhere. Business as usual in Juneau, Please Please Just Don't.

Little rules have unintended impacts. Same old approach with no thought about how it is impacting people who work is creating more and more anger. Parents want to be heard and given workable options.

Just say NO to mandatory PFD allotments to Education.

How do we improve education in Alaska?

First get the University of Alaska to teach an inclusive of all learning styles approach to reading and writing.

Second is get the University of Alaska to offer an online teacher apprenticeship based program. This program needs a Certified Teacher Aid to help fill in immediate needs. This should include daycare to highschool. Th programs.

Encourage each local school board to consider new options that include early identification of Dyslexia, ADHD, FASD, etc and early intervention.

Read Hammonds report on Dyslexia. Realize that over 30 years ago it was known that getting programs like hooked on phonics in the hands of parents and at daycare centers can make a huge difference in outcomes for many.

Encourage alternatives to one long summer break.

Thanks for reading.

Michelle

Sent on my own time and these are my own thoughts.

**From:** [GCI Mail](#)  
**To:** [Sen. Bert Stedman](#); [Sen. Lyman Hoffman](#); [Sen. Natasha Von Imhof](#); [Sen. David Wilson](#); [Sen. Donny Olson](#); [Sen. Bill Wielechowski](#); [Senate Finance](#); [House Ways and Means](#)  
**Subject:** No No No!!! We the people reject SB 199, SB 200, and HB 259!!!Please adhere to the voices of your constituents!  
**Date:** Monday, February 21, 2022 11:16:24 AM

---

Dear Members of our Alaska Senate,

We adamantly reject and request that you vote NO on SB199.  
No. Sb200 no

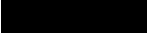
HB 259 no

We want the PFD as traditionally calculated prior to 2016.

How on earth do you think you can fix our broken education system with more of Alaska residents' money?

We parents have defunded our local school district by pulling our children. It's not money they need it's an overhaul of the failed policies that must take place. We reject th these radical progressive ideologies and if you want to see a return of children to School and an increase in enrollments in the public school system that's where we need to focus. On the curriculum. On the teachers. On the radical agendas. Stop taking our money that is protected by Alaska constitution.

Thank you,

Theresa Groves  
James M Groves  
District 3  
Fairbanks Alaska 99712  


Sent from my iPhone


**From:** [Carmen Durham](#)  
**To:** [Rep. Ivy Spohnholz](#)  
**Subject:** Vote No  
**Date:** Monday, February 21, 2022 9:49:59 PM

---

Dear Representative,

Please vote no on SB 199, SB 200, and HB 259.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Carmen Durham  
1178 Skyline Dr  
Fairbanks, Ak 99712  


**From:** Dixie D. Banner  
**To:** House Ways and Means; House Finance; Sen. David Wilson; Sen. Natasha Von Imhof; Sen. Bill Wielechowski; Sen. Donny Olson; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Bert Stedman  
**Subject:** We want the Traditional Formula of the PFD to be set in Stone!  
**Date:** Monday, February 21, 2022 4:49:15 PM  
**Attachments:** IMG\_7599.PNG

To: Sen Bill W, please hold your counter parts accountable! Yes, You are the only ethical Dem Rep in Juneau! We count on you to do right by the People!

To All,  
Quit screwing around with our money! Note, you have no —right to do as you please! FOLLOW the Dam Law! We are fed up with the games!  
If you to set 25/75 plan for issuance of your dishonorable discharge papers!

You have were hired to manage our resources not destroy them!



## Nina's post



write a reply...



**Dixie Steinfeld Banner**

So tired of this game and come 22 we have to take a stand!!!

2h Like Reply

1

View 1 reply...



**Barbara Haney**

Hi Nina, Sen Showers is not on Senate Finance, so he would not be getting letters.  
Sen.click.bishop@akleg.gov,  
Sen.Bert.Stedman@akleg.gov,  
Senator.Lyman.Hoffman@akleg.gov,Senator.N  
atasha.vonImhof@akleg.gov,Senator.David.Wil  
son@akleg.gov,Senator.Donald.Olson@akleg.g  
OV,  
Senator.Bill.Wielechowski@akleg.gov,Senate.fi  
nance@akleg.gov,  
house.ways.and.means@akleg.gov

SB199. No. Sb200 no HB 259 no

Request keeping the traditional formula as it was paid prior to 2016, and include the graphic below and request payment of back owed PFD

Year	Statutory PFD	Actual PFD	Retained PFD	Year to Date ROR	5 Year Average ROR	Accrued Value (YTD ROR)	Owed to Alaskans that Year
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