

HB - 47

Joint House and Senate

COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS

Meeting Minutes
February 28, 1975
9:00 am

Meeting was called to order at 9:10 by Chairman Cotten for a presentation on Revenue Sharing. Present were:

Rep. Sam Cotten, Chairman	Senator Pat Rodey, Chairman
Rep. Oral Freeman	Senator Orsini
Rep. Al Ose	Senator Bradley
Rep. Glenn Hackney	Pat Corbett, Staff
Rep. Kathryn Ostrosky	Katy Straube, Staff
Rep. Larry Davis	Barbara Englert Thomas, Staff
Rep. Mike Hershberger	Andrea Guernsey, Staff
Gary Thurlow, Anchorage Borough Atty.	
John Spencer,	
Annette Viertel, City of Haines	
Donna Sherby, City of Cordova	
Werley M. Howe, Mat-Su Borough	
Jessie L. Dorkin, GAAB	
Cheryl Probst, Anchorage Daily Times	
Edward A. Stahla, city of Ketchikan	
Peg Benkert, City of Anchorage	
Ginny Kline, President, Municipal League	
Randy Phillips, House Minority	

(0-701) Mr. Thurlow started the presentation by passing out a statement on revenue sharing. His talk is going to show how state shared revenue program affects the Anchorage area right now and then how it affects other municipalities. The Anchorage area is broken up into service areas—Anchorage, Glenn Allen, Girdwood. State shared revenues can be distributed according to municipality and according to borough revenues instead of just within a municipality. Tax relief in Anchorage area now—for every dollar Spenard tax payers pay in taxes to local governments, the State puts up 20¢; Sand Lake—15¢; Glen Alps—\$1.45; Girdwood—73¢; City of Anchorage—26¢; Hillside—18¢. (The average is about 22¢). The Alaska Municipal League proposal would change these figures and substitute 50¢ for everybody, so every tax payer gets the same amount of tax relief.

Tax relief to local tax payer is one theory of revenue sharing. Under the existing law the municipality has to send the taxpayer notice indicating what the mill levy equivalent of State shared revenues is. The implication is the State is reducing his tax bill by so much. If it weren't for shared revenue in Spenard, for instance, the mill levy would be 21.68 instead of 19.68.

The other theory is to forget the tax payer and tax relief and look at how much goes out in per capita. (From \$9 in Chugiak [1973 figures] to 253 in Glen Alps per person). Mr. Thurlow said that on any type of revenue sharing program in order to have consistency of fairness, you either have to have the same figures in state shared revenue per capita or consistency in per capita. If you have consistency in

one you'll have it in the other. Most municipalities tax about 20 mills. The Anchorage area mill levy is 19.13 mills arrived at by dividing the total tax base into property tax revenues. Outside the Anchorage area it runs about 16-17 mills, and with a sales tax the amount is 20 or 21. The tax effort in the communities is roughly the same. You get about the same amount of money with per capita distribution as you would with matching of local tax effort. (An exception is North Pole whose tax levy is 2 1/2 mills and no sales tax.)

Revenue sharing ought to work with matching tax dollars or worked out from the stand point of getting money out to each individual. The bill to increase fire protection from \$5 to \$15 is a straight per capita revenue sharing bill because almost any municipality can qualify under it.

There are two myths that he would like to explode. The first is that Anchorage will take all the money, and that its wealthier than other parts of the State. This is not true; the per capita income in Anchorage area (1973) is \$4100 per person. Fairbanks is \$4300 and Kodiak is \$4200. The second myth is that the tax effort in Anchorage is smaller than in other areas. This only seems so because there is no sales tax.

You can't devise a revenue sharing formula based on per capita for the smaller communities. SB 105 allows communities to opt out of the standard revenue sharing formula and go off on block grant basis. The bill gives \$10,000 per community and \$30 per head. The communities with small population wouldn't come out on per capita basis. There is a lot of hit and miss with the present program particularly as it affects the smaller communities. Thurlow thinks that we're going to have to handle the smaller communities different than those in Anchorage area, which have property taxes etc.

The firefighters want the increase in fire protection to be earmarked for that purpose only. This wouldn't affect the Anchorage area because they easily spend \$15 per capita on fire protection, but the smaller communities may have some trouble. How are you going to police them if they spend the money on something else? Revenue sharing should be a tax relief for local tax payer and not categorical assistance—carry out a State program using local governments, or it should be a straight per capita distribution.

The Municipal League bill is a tax relief program. Fire protection bill is a straight per capita distribution, as simple as you can get. If you're going to have consistency in tax effort and per capita distribution you need a simple formula but when you start getting complicated someone will get left out.

The cost of government will go up a lot in the next two years. Mayor Roderick eventually hopes that oil and gas revenues will go to municipalities. Would like to see formula providing for that type of distribution for when the money gets here.

Mr. Thurlow thinks that the present program could be totally revised with the money that would be spent to increase the present one.

(701)Mr. Spencer from Anchorage wanted to make a few comments. He said the municipalities take the brunt of the problems when it comes to delivery of services, which cost more money every year. Do we want to pass on this benefit we have through natural resources to the local governments and let them handle the services to the individuals or do we want to start handling more things on the State level? His thoughts are that the municipalities can do better on the local level than the State could do for everyone. Wants as much money transferred back to the municipalities as possible. How do you transfer funds? The Municipal League formula says that for every \$1 of taxes that you pay on scenic park you get 50¢ back to government which provides those services. There is a built in check and balance--if the taxes were raised to much you'd forget it and if they were lowered too much the State wouldn't contribute shared revenue. There are block grants for smaller communities which must have built in floor.

The bills in the Senate and House are ones that all the municipalities voted on and approved. The people want a new formula. Spencer talked to the Governor, who like the idea of tying a mill rate leveling concept in it so one community didn't pay 25 mills like Seward, and another pay 2 mills and get the same amount of dollars back from the State. Spencer said this was just a minor technical thing to be worked out in the bill.

(893) Chairman Cotten asked Mr. Thurlow what program he had in mind, using the \$3,000,000 that it would cost to increase the present revenue sharing. Thurlow said if you come up with a new formula you're not in a position to cut any municipalities back. With a new program you'd have to put more money into it and he thinks the \$3,000,000 would be enough to start

(917) Mr. Cotten said that the hold harmless clause in the Municipal League bill really means that before any pro ration of the formula took place that community would be allowed at least as much as they had before and if it were to be pro rated they would in effect get less.

(925) Thurlow agreed. The cost of the hold harmless clause in the League bill is minor (\$250,000). Mr. Spencer said they can't pass any new concept that is going to hurt anybody.

(950)Rep. Freeman asked if it wasn't true that many communities get revenue sharing for fire protection that don't get it for police or other things? If you had x dollars for revenue sharing and tripled the amount for fire it comes out of someone else's skin. Yes, it would so you have to change the whole thing because no community can come up with less.

(983)Freeman said that considering the finance of the state, you could give everyone more money with a new formula but no one will get it because the money isn't available. Two years ago it was 8 million, this year it's 14.

(996) Mr. Spencer realizes this, going to cost \$28 or \$29 million to fund this. But this doesn't change the concept of the formula. Formula can be funded on 50%, nobody would get less than before. Cotten asked if this was before or after pro ration. Spencer replied that nobody would get less than before if they opted that way--even after pro ration.

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International

Polar air crossroads of the world

**CITY OF
ANCHORAGE**



ALASKA

POST OFFICE BOX 400
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
99510

April 28, 1975

The Honorable Mike Bradner
Presiding Officer
State House of Representatives
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Representative Bradner:

On March 19th of this year, the Anchorage and Fairbanks City Councils met jointly and adopted the attached resolution which urges full funding of the current Shared Revenues formulas.

The City Councils urge you to consider this resolution carefully when dealing with the new fiscal year budget.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "D. G. Weiford".

Douglas G. Weiford
City Manager

Attachment:
Resolution No. A/F 2-75



ANCHORAGE -- FAIRBANKS JOINT RESOLUTION

JOINT RESOLUTUION NO. A/F 2-75



A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING INCREASED STATE REVENUE SHARING.

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska has anticipated income from petroleum related activities of great magnitude; and

WHEREAS, municipalities of the state have increasing responsibilities for services to the residents of the state; and

WHEREAS, revenue sources available through taxation are limited to the municipal governments; and

WHEREAS, costs of services have increased in staggering amounts over the past few years and are anticipated to increase at even higher rates in the future,

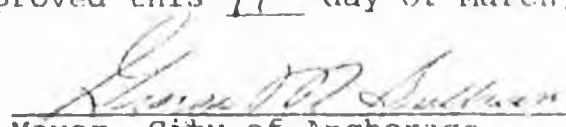
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCILS OF THE CITIES OF ANCHORAGE AND FAIRBANKS, ALASKA:

1. That they support a continuing plan of sharing of state revenues with municipal governments within the State of Alaska.

2. That the legislature be urged to fund the current shared revenue formulas fully.

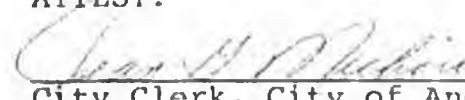
3. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honorable Jay Hammond, Governor of Alaska, and to the members of the Alaska State Legislature.

Passed and approved this 19th day of March, 1975.



Mayor, City of Anchorage

ATTEST:

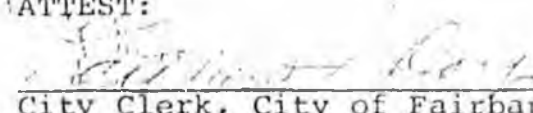


City Clerk, City of Anchorage



Mayor, City of Fairbanks

ATTEST:



City Clerk, City of Fairbanks

January 28, 1975

Samuel R. Cotten
House of Representatives
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear

Enclosed you will find a copy of House Bill 47 relating to state revenue sharing payments to municipalities. The proposed changes this legislation seeks to make could have major ramifications for your municipality.

I have written to you earlier (copy enclosed) requesting any recommendations or comments you might wish to make concerning this. Once again let me stress the importance of this bill concerning revenue sharing and ask that you send me your ideas and recommendations. Any input you might make will offer invaluable assistance in considering this bill which affects all areas of our state.

If you have any questions, or if I can be of help in any way, please don't hesitate to call on me.

Hoping to hear from you in the immediate future.

Sincerely,

Samuel R. Cotten
Representative

SRC:ASG

Enclosures (2)

Attached Letter Sent to:

Tom G. Armour
Borough Manager
Bristol Bay Borough
Nabrek, AK 99737

✓ Barbara Steckel
~~Joe P. Schaffner, Jr.~~
City Manager
Box 46
Kotzebue, AK 99752

Kenneth E. Pythor, Mayor
~~Barbara Prindle~~
~~Clerk/Treasurer~~
City of Delta Junction
Box 229
Delta Junction, AK 99737

Mr. Jack P. English
City Manager
City of Seldovia
Drawer B
Seldovia, AK 99663

Barbara Jeffingell
Finance Director
City of Kingway
Box 715
Kingway, AK 99840

Mr. Stanley Bippus
Mayor, City of Craig
Box 12
Craig, AK 99921

✓ Mrs. Joyce Easter, City Clerk
~~Mr. H.E. Hobb~~
Acting City Manager
City of Wrangell
Wrangell, AK 99929

Wesley M. Heine
Borough Manager
Mt. Aruskuk - Susitona Borough
Box B
Palmer, AK 99645



February 28, 1975

Samuel R. Cotten
House of Representatives
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Re: House Bill # 47

Dear Mr. Cotten:

Thank you for your concern in your recent letter concerning HB #47, which relates to State Revenue Sharing payments to municipalities. I apologize for the delay in answering your request for our opinions concerning this house bill, but I felt that there should be adequate time on my part as well as the Council to thoroughly discuss and research the possible ramifications of the proposed HB #47. I wish to inform you that the City of Delta Junction must go on record as being opposed to the proposed HB #47. As you may or may not know, the City of Delta Junction at this point in time does not have a tax base although efforts in the past have been tried to establish a sales tax, these initiatives have been defeated. The Council at this time, is in the process of trying to develop both a proposed sales tax question and also a property tax to be brought before the people. We do not anticipate though that either tax initiative, if passed, would be in effect much before the latter part of 1975. If HB #47 were to be passed, I'm afraid this would create severe financial hardship on our municipality on this point in time.

As you may or may not know, the City is experiencing a rather considerable increase in population, primarily due to the pipeline. We are also experiencing ansuiary pipeline impact in the form of increasing crime and demands on the city services. We are at this point in time in the process of trying to develop a local police department, as well as trying to develop a full-time fire department in the form of 24 hour coverage.

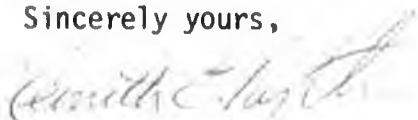
The North End of the Alaska Highway

Samuel R. Cotten
February 28, 1975
Page 2

We are anticipating using the majority of our \$379,000 that we received from the State last year for impact funding for these projects. It should be noted that the city budget for Fiscal Year 1975 increased close to \$35,000 over last year's budget. This reflects an increase in contractual services that the City has provided for in the past as well as increased administrative costs. Our budget for Fiscal Year 1975 totaled in excess of \$114,000. As you can see according to HB #47, Section 43.17.030, Titled Minimum Grants to Municipalities, the City of Delta Junction would be entitled to a \$25,000 Grant. This would not provide 1/3rd of the needed revenues that the City now requires to operate a minimal municipal function. Therefore, at this point in time until the City can establish a tax base, whether it be sales or property tax, we would be totally against the proposed bill. Possibly in the near future, if and when we get a tax base, especially a property tax with the amount of pipeline we have going through our City Limits, the proposed bill would certainly be of benefit to us having some idea of our taxable property base within our city limits.

I wish to thank you for your concern for our municipality. If I may be of future service to you, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Sincerely yours,



KENNETH E. RYTHUR
Mayor

cc: Red Swanson

pd



Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Inc.

BOX B, PALMER, ALASKA 99645 • PHONE 745-3246

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

February 3, 1975

Representative Samuel R. Cotten
Alaska House of Representatives
Pouch V, State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Representative Cotten:

Thanks for your inquiry about this Borough's position with respect to proposed amendments to the State's Municipal Revenue Sharing program.

We feel that the present scheme is not adequate and the proposed changes would be a definite improvement. State aid to this Borough under the proposed legislation would increase.

I think the provisions you have referred to are contained in HB 47. We urge your support.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wesley M. Howe".

Wesley M. Howe
Borough Manager

WMH/rr

cc: Alaska Municipal League, Juneau

CITY OF WRANGELL

P.O. Box 531 • Wrangell, Alaska 99929 • Area Code 907 Ph. 874-2381

February 3, 1975

Samuel R. Cotten
Alaska House of Representatives
Pouch V - State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Re: HOUSE BILL NO. 47

Dear Sir:

The City of Wrangell is aware of the proposal for the amendment and revision to the State Revenue Sharing Program. We supported the proposal at the Alaska Municipal League meeting held in Juneau in the latter part of October 1974.

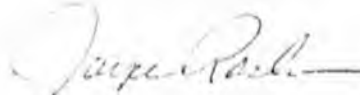
The City felt the present system was inadequate and that the proposed changes would be a great improvement. The provision of Sec. 43.17.030 would protect those municipalities which have no tax revenue sources. The increased revenue the City of Wrangell would derive from the proposed change would enable us to furnish more services which would control pollution (ie. we are presently faced with solid waste management for which no local funds are available without increased taxes and/or rates). Whether the City could expand transportation services other than the present harbor and port facilities has not been determined. A great improvement of present services would be realized through the proposed change in all areas such as police protection, etc.

One question is raised. Under the present program the entitlement based on hospitals and health facilities must be used only for the specific hospital and health facility included in the application. I find no provision in the proposed bill which mandates any specific amount for hospitals and health facilities. I assume, since they are essentially supported by the recipient government, the provision was not required.

Your support of House Bill No. 47, as written, is solicited.

Very truly yours,

CITY OF WRANGELL



Joyce Rasler (Mrs.), City Clerk
Acting City Manager

cc: Representative E. J. Haugen
Senator Pete Meland

CITY OF KOTZEBUE

P.O. BOX 46
KOTZEBUE, ALASKA 99752
907-442-3571

February 4, 1975

Samuel R. Cotten
House of Representatives
Pouch V
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Cotten:

Thank you for the copy of HB 47 relating to state revenue sharing payments.

By this time you should be in receipt of my comments to your January 4th letter. My comments remain the same. I note that HB 47 does include the provision under Sec. 3 that a community would not receive a cut in their revenue sharing for at least two years. This would appear to be fair to a community who would receive a cut and allow them sufficient time to plan accordingly, but, would prefer to see them continue to receive at the rate they are currently receiving. Would it be possible to know the communities that would receive a cut and the exact amount?

We shall continue to watch the progress of HB 47 and others that are introduced regarding revenue sharing.

IF HB 47 does not go through, we would strongly support both HB 15 & 16 relating to Fire Protection.

Sincerely,


Barbara Steckel
City Manager

BJS:dm

"GATEWAY TO NORTHWEST ALASKA"

CITY OF KOTZEBUE

P.O. BOX 46
KOTZEBUE, ALASKA 99752
907-442-3871

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

January 26, 1975

Honorable Samuel R. Cotten
Alaska House of Representatives
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

DEar Representative Cotten:

Thank you for your interest in the proposed changes to the state revenue sharing program.

The proposals presented by the Alaska Municipal League through the City and Borough of Anchorage were discussed very thoroughly at the AML meetings in Juneau. The original proposals helped all the communities in Alaska with the exception of about 7, Kotzebue being one of the 7. If the proposal you received contained the clause that no community would receive less than they are presently receiving, then the City would have no objection. However, if the clause is not in it, we would be hurt very badly.

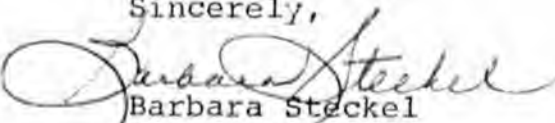
The present proposal from AML would be a definite asset to the communities who have a property tax, which we do not. Our present tax base amounts to only a 3% sales tax. Therefore, on the basis of local tax revenues, the City of Kotzebue would lose at least \$10,000 of the state shared revenue presently received. Several other small communities would be in a similar position. I do not believe the proposal had the intention of communities raising their taxes in order to get additional state shared revenue.

At the present time we are satisfied with the program, with the exception of a definite increase in the Fire Protection from the \$5 per capita presently received and there is no way that the \$1500 per mile covers our extensive snow removal and road repair.

Under the circumstances, unless we would receive the amount currently being received, we would have to disagree with the AML proposal.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,


Barbara Steckel
City Manager

cc: Senator Frank Ferguson
Representative Brenda Itta

"GATEWAY TO NORTHWEST ALASKA"

Representative mill levies
and sales tax levies (1973)

<u>City</u>	<u>Mill levy</u>	<u>Sales tax</u>
<u>Anchorage</u>	20.36	
Eagle River	20.36 13.64	—
Muldoon	19.55	—
Sand Lake	19.75	—
Spennard	19.68	—
Rabbit Creek	15.81	—
<u>Cordova</u>	18.00	4%
<u>Juneau</u>	17.83	3%
<u>Homer</u>	17.00	3%
<u>Kenai</u>	15.50	4%
<u>Kodiak</u>	13.48	3%
<u>Fairbanks</u>	18.50	5%
<u>Palmer</u>	12.80	2%
<u>Petersburg</u>	17.00	5%
<u>Seward</u>	25.00	3%
<u>Sitka</u>	no info	4%
<u>Soldatna</u>	19.00	3%
<u>Skaqway</u>	15.00	2%
<u>Wrangell</u>	18.00	4%
<u>Yakutat</u>	15.00	2%
<u>Valdez</u>	13.58	4%

Alaska State Legislature

HB 47

REPRESENTATIVE
SAM R. COTTEN
P.O. BOX 296
EAGLE RIVER, ALASKA 99577

CHAIRMAN
COMMUNITY & REGIONAL
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

MEMBER
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE



OFFICE IN BUREAU
POUCH V
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801

House of Representatives

February 19, 1975

Robert A. Breena
Deputy Borough Attorney
Greater Anchorage Area Borough
3500 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, Alaska 99507

Dear Bob:

We are in the process of studying Revenue Sharing as a package. There have been several bills introduced concerning this matter (enclosed). Also several of the CAA legislative proposals have been introduced. I'm not sure right now if all the areas have been covered. I will find out.

The material you provided me has been very valuable in studying the Revenue Sharing program. Many others have used the same information and they extend their thank yous.

The more you are aware of our efforts to aid the law through. I'm sorry to report we haven't had all the cooperation we could use from all parties concerned. Things are moving slow and I still am not sure how things are going to work out.

Thanks for writing and you can expect to hear from me soon.

Sincerely,

Sam R. Cotten

Enclosure

HB 15, 16, 21, 23

39, 41, 65, 85, 88, 3

HB 47

GREATER ANCHORAGE AREA BOROUGH

3500 EAST TUDOR ROAD
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99507

February 10, 1975

DEPARTMENT OF LAW
279-8686



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Representative Sam Cotten
Chairman
Community & Regional Affairs Committee
State House of Representatives
Room 210 Assembly Building
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Sam,

I am writing to inquire as to how far your Committee has progressed with any bills relating to State revenue sharing. It is my understanding that several bills have been submitted relating to this issue. I would very much appreciate it if a member of your staff could xerox any such bills and forward them to me.

I hope that the materials I have given you in our meetings have been of some assistance to you in chairing your Committee. I sincerely hope that your Committee can serve as a launching pad for a new State revenue sharing program. If I can be of any assistance in helping you develop legislation or research its impacts, please let me know. I would be happy to journey to Juneau if you ever feel it would really be beneficial to do so.

I would also like to know if you have had an opportunity to review the Borough's legislative proposals I gave you. Several of those proposals could have a strong positive impact on the new Eagle River Borough. I speak specifically of our proposals relating to local water pollution control programs, State assistance for local sewer and water supply projects, water supply and sewer construction bonds, State compliance with local planning, platting, and zoning regulations, Senior citizens property tax exemptions, vacation of public easements and right-of-ways, and our motor vehicle registration proposal. Each of these proposals would either put more

money into the hands of the new Borough, or provide it with necessary powers to handle pressing problems such as junk car removal, water pollution, sewer extensions, and land use control. I would urge you to consider these proposals carefully, for I think you would agree they could all have a positive impact in your community.

Let me thank you in advance for sending me the materials on revenue sharing. Keep up the good work and don't let the oil people steal the State treasury.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bob".

ROBERT A. BREEZE
Deputy Borough Attorney

RAB/cro

Samuel R. Cotten
Alaska House of Representatives
Box 296
Eagle River, Alaska 99577

Jan. 4, 1975

Leo P. Schaeffer, Jr.
City Manager
Box 46
Kotzebue, Alaska 99752

Dear Sir:

I have just recently received legislative proposals from the Alaska Municipal League, Greater Anchorage area Borough, and the City of Anchorage. These proposals deal with changes in the state revenue sharing programs. I would appreciate your feelings and reactions to these proposals.

As you may know, the proposals seek to replace funding on the basis of services furnished with funding on the basis of local tax revenues, and on a per capita or minimum block grant basis for smaller municipalities. I would like to know (1) if you are satisfied with the way the existing program works, (2) if you think the proposals represent a positive change, (3) if the current scheme could be altered slightly, in the amounts granted or with minimum grants for certain services such as transportation not currently being furnished, and (4) are you in support of the proposed changes? It is important that any changes in the program equally benefit both the smaller and larger municipalities alike. Therefore municipal input for this legislation is very important.

Since this legislation is of great importance to all areas of the state, your comments and recommendations would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Samuel R. Cotten

A

Samuel R. Cotten
Alaska House of Representatives
Box 296
Eagle River, Alaska 99577

Jan. 4, 1975

Tom G. Armour
BorupuganMgnager
Bristol Bay Borough
Naknek, Alaska 99737

Dear Sir:

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As you may know, the proposals seek to replace funding on the basis of services furnished with funding on the basis of local tax revenues, and on a per capita or

minimum block grant basis for smaller municipalities.

I would like to know (1) if you are satisfied with the way the existing program works, (2) if you think the proposals represent a positive change, (3) if the current scheme could be altered slightly, in the amounts granted or with minimum grants for certain services such as parking, your municipality could provide services such as parking, and recreation and transportation not currently being furnished, and (4) are you in support of the proposed changes? It is important that any changes in the program equally benefit both the smaller and larger municipalities alike, so municipal input for this legislation is very important.

Since this legislation is of great importance to all areas of the state, your comments and recommendations would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Samuel R. Cotten

Samuel R. Cotten
Alaska House of Representatives
Box 296
Eagle River, Alaska 99577

Jan. 4, 1975

Barbara Frindie
Clerk/Treasurer
City of Delta Junction
Box 229
Delta Junction, Alaska 99737

Dear Clerk:

Recently I have received proposals for changes in the state revenue sharing program, sponsored by the City of Anchorage, as well as the Anchorage Borough and the Alaska Municipal League. In order for me to evaluate these proposals, I need to know your feelings on them.

As you may know, the proposals seek to replace funding on the basis of services furnished with funding on the basis of local tax revenues, and on a per capita or minimum block grant basis for smaller municipalities. I would like to know (1) if you are satisfied with the way the existing program works, (2) if you think the proposals represent a positive change, (3) if the current scheme could be altered slightly, in the amounts granted, or with minimum grants for certain services, so that your municipality could provide services such as planning, transportation and police not currently being furnished, and (4) are you in support of the proposed changes? It is important that any changes in the program equally benefit both the smaller and the larger municipalities alike, so municipal input for this legislation is very important.

Since this legislation is of great importance to all areas of the State, your comments and recommendations would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Samuel R. Cotten

Samuel R. Cotten
Alaska House of Representatives
District 8
Box 296
Eagle River, Alaska 99577

Jan. 4, 1975

Mr. Jack P. English
City Manager
City of Seldovia
Drawer B
Seldovia, Alaska 99663

Dear Mr. English:

Recently I have received proposals relating to proposed amendments to the existing revenue sharing distribution (Title 43). I am writing this letter so that I can evaluate both the existing scheme and the proposed legislation.

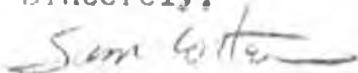
Basically the proposals, supported by both the City and the Borough of Anchorage, and the Alaska Municipal League, plan to replace the funding on the basis of services performed with funding on the basis of locally-raised revenues, or a per-capita or minimum block grant for smaller municipalities. What I need to know concerns the following: What are the basic drawbacks to the present funding scheme? Could the amounts be increased, revised or modified to enable you to perform services not presently performed, such as transportation and parks? Do you have any further suggestions and recommendations on either the existing scheme or the proposed legislation? Have you had an opportunity to review the proposal sponsored by the Alaska Municipal League?

As the session will begin in about two weeks, it would be greatly appreciated if you could reply as quickly as possible. As this legislation deals with matters of great importance to all areas of the State, it will undoubtedly be the center of much discussion and debate.

If I can be of any help to you and your community in the future, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,



Samuel R. Cotten

Samuel R. Cotten
Alaska House of Representatives
Box 296
Eagle River, Alaska 99577

Jan. 4, 1975

Barbara Leffingwell
Finance Director
City of Skagway
Box 415
Skagway, Alaska 99840

Dear Mrs. Leffingwell:

Recently I have received from the Greater Anchorage Area Borough, the City of Anchorage, and the Alaska Municipal League, proposals for amendments and revisions to the state revenue sharing program. In order that I might better evaluate these proposals, I would like to know your feelings on them.

As you may know, the proposals seek to replace funding on the basis of services performed with funding on the basis of local tax revenues, or per capita and minimum block grants for smaller municipalities. I would like to know (1) if you feel the present system is inadequate, (2) if the proposed changes would be an improvement, (3) if increases in the amounts granted, or similar minor modifications would enable your municipality to provide services such as planning, parks and recreation and transportation not currently being furnished and (4) is the proposed change supported by your municipality? It is important that any changes made should equally benefit both the larger and smaller municipalities. For this reason, it is important that I have some input from other interested municipalities before the proposal receives further consideration by the legislature.

As this legislation will most certainly be of considerable importance to all municipalities, your comments, suggestions and recommendations will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Samuel R. Cotten

Samuel R. Cotten
Alaska House of Representatives
Box 206
Eagle River, Alaska 99577

Jan. 4, 1975

Mr. Stanley Elppus
Mayor, City of Craig
Box 12
Craig, Alaska 99921

Dear Mayor:

Recently I have received proposals for changes in the state revenue sharing program, sponsored by the City of Anchorage, the Anchorage Borough and the Alaska Municipal League. In order for me to evaluate these proposals, I would appreciate some input from you.

As you may know, the proposals seek to replace funding on the basis of services performed with funding on the basis of locally raised tax revenues, with alternatives for smaller municipalities based on population or a minimum block grant. I would like to know (1) if you are satisfied with the way the current program works, (2) if you think the proposed changes would be an improvement, (3) if increases in the amounts granted, or other minor changes would enable you to provide services not currently being provided and (4) if the proposed change supported by your municipality? It is important that any changes be equally beneficial to larger and smaller municipalities alike, and for this reason, municipalities should make their preferences available for consideration.

As this legislation is of great importance to all areas of the state, your comments and recommendations will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Samuel R. Cotten

Samuel R. Cotten
Alaska House of Representatives
Box 296
Eagle River, Alaska 99577

Jan. 44, 1975

Mr. H. E. McNabb
City Manager
City of Wrangell
Wrangell, Alaska 99929

Dear City Manager:

Recently I have received from the Greater Anchorage Area Borough, the City of Anchorage, and the Alaska Municipal League, proposals for amendments and revisions to the state revenue sharing program. In order that I might better evaluate these proposals, I would like to know your feelings on them.

As you may know, the proposals seek to replace funding on the basis of services performed with funding on the basis of local tax revenues, or per capita and minimum block grants for smaller municipalities. I would like to know (1) if you feel the present system is adequate, (2) if the proposed changes would be an improvement, (3) if increases in the amounts granted, or similar minor changes would enable your municipality to furnish such services as transportation and pollution control that are not currently being furnished and (4) is the proposal supported by your municipality? It is important that any changes made should equally benefit both the larger and the smaller municipalities. For this reason, it is important that I have some input from individual municipalities before the proposal receives further consideration by the legislature.

As this legislation will certainly be of great concern to all municipalities, your comments and recommendations will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Samuel R. Cotten.

Samuel R. Cotten
Alaska House of Representatives
Box 296
Eagle River, Alaska 99547

Jan. 4, 1975

Wesley M. Howe
Borough Manager
Matanuska-Susitna Borough
Box B
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Dear Manager:

Recently I have received from the City of Anchorage, as well as the Anchorage Borough and the Alaska Municipal League, proposals for amendments to the state revenue sharing program. In order that I might better evaluate these proposals, I would like to know your position on them.

As you may know, the proposals seek to replace funding on the basis of services furnished, with funding on the basis of local tax revenues, or per capita and minimum block grants for smaller municipalities. I would like to know (1) if you feel the present scheme is adequate and equitable, (2) if the proposed changes would be an improvement, (3) if increases in the amounts granted, or similar minor changes would enable you to provide services not currently furnished and (4) are the changes supported by your municipality? It is important that any changes should benefit both the larger and smaller municipalities equally, and for this reason the legislature should have adequate input on this proposed change.

As this legislation will be of great importance to all areas of the state, I would greatly appreciate any comments and suggestions you might have.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Samuel R. Cotten

Hearings:

Received CPA 1/23/75

HB 47

Notified Present Testified

Tom Georgianna, Kutzeck & Assoc (586-3227)

Carolyn Burg 6-2747

Rowley Phillips 971-1118

Feb 27 - Bd mtg of NML

113

Some things discussed at board meeting 2/27, record of work done
state and some other by committee

Board of directors for the school year, 1954-55

1. Board of directors

2. Board of directors

3. Board of directors

4. Board of directors

5. Board of directors

6. Board of directors

7. Board of directors

8. Board of directors

9. Board of directors

10. Board of directors

11. Board of directors

12. Board of directors

in progress of