

**HB**

**412**

*(File 9)*

**HFIN**

**FILE**

# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Finance Committee  
 (committee name)  
 committee on HB 412, dated 3-23-96.  
 bill/subject

My name is Carla Potter. I am an artist residing and working in Ketchikan. The Arts & Humanities Council has and continues to provide me with many opportunities to pursue my artistic career. All of these opportunities provide me with income that is spent in many sectors of the community. The arts council also administers most of the programs that provide wholesome quality entertainment for my family throughout the year. Programs like the first night series which bring high quality performing arts we would otherwise not have access to. This whole community benefits from the activities of this arts council. Not only are the arts our cultural heart they provide many jobs / industry for the community as well. The Arts Council also administers the artist in schools program, with arts education virtually eliminated at the elementary level. This program is vital to the youth of our community.

Many times it is the only exposure these

P.S.

4 times in your Document for House Finance budget subcommittee Dept of Adm. You mention people being more creative. Maybe we aren't getting creative education and that's why you're having a hard time getting it together to keep these programs funded.

(Continuation of written testimony)

STOP The Artistic Illiteracy  
Movement!!!

children get to an quality arts experience.  
 I feel that the fact we have to fight so hard  
 to preserve arts funding is symptomatic  
 of the lack of arts education in our  
 schools. The arts are a discipline just  
 a math and science are. To fully understand,  
 appreciate or utilize the arts a person needs  
 education in the use of the Visual language.  
 Just as one may appreciate the beautiful sound of a  
 foreign language we can only fully understand its full  
 meaning with in depth study. So it is with the  
 arts. Don't foster Arts Illiteracy. Fully  
 Fund the Arts Council. Increase Arts  
 education. Instill State income Taxes.

I also rely heavily on Public radio - T.V. I  
 support them annually with membership Fees. We need  
 more revenue. Be responsible not ignorant.

Signed:

Calle Potter

Phone: 225-4145

Testifier

Myself

Representing (Optional)

423 Cedar

Address

# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance  
(committee name)  
committee on HB412, dated March 23, 96  
bill/subject

I am appalled by the idea of cutting the state arts council from the budget.

As a life-long Alaskan and small business owner, I feel that a healthy art community/state is VITAL to our state.

Art is not an extra - it speaks of the cultural identity of our state =

① ART draws visitors to our state - tourists come to see the arts of Alaska, I receive letters all winter from tourists who have seen my art.

② ART creates industry = Ask the arts council for number

③ ART provides education through creative process: As an 'artist in school' - I tie regular coursework in science + natural history into hands on learning experience

④ ART brings groups together - on example this year in Ketchikan = the Forest Service, timber industry and arts council working together!

Signed: Ervin Zerbetz Phone: 225-8212

Testifier citizen

Representing (Optional) Box 8943, Ketchikan AK 99901  
Address

# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance  
committee on HB 412 (committee name) dated March 23, '96  
bill/subject

Public Radio and Television did a wonderful job, this past year, of reorganizing, cooperating, and maintaining services to Alaskans. They should be commended for their efforts, and set as an example to other state-depts, instead of being ~~cut~~ cut from the budget.

To be fair- I will offer a suggestion for savings:- As a former state employee I remember the scurry at the end of the fiscal year to spend extra money in order to maintain budget levels for the coming year. I would love to see departments rewarded for spending less than allocated, instead of penalized. - A change of policy in this area could provide savings to our state.

Signed: Evon Zerbetz Phone: 907-225-8212

Testifier citizen  
Representing (Optional) Box 8943, Ketchikan, 99901  
Address

# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance  
(committee name)  
committee on HB 412 bill/subject, dated 3/23/96.

I oppose the proposed cuts to the DOE.  
I speak as a citizen concerned over  
the current state of affairs of the  
arts, both nationwide and on my state  
and local level.

I have spent equal time living in Alaska  
California, New York, and New Mexico and  
feel I can safely say Alaska is an  
"archaic" state. The people living here  
and working and supporting the goals of  
the larger industries have a need for and  
the right to decent health care, education  
and arts programs.

Thank you.

Signed:

Matthew Shields

Phone: 225-5694

Testifier

CITIZEN

Representing (Optional)

028 2251 Ketchikan, AK 99901

Address

# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance  
committee on HB 412 (committee name), dated 3/23/96  
bill/subject

This space is small so I will be brief.  
I would reiterate all of the opposition I have  
heard to moving out the Arts budget & cuts to  
public radio & television. I am gravely concerned  
as to the priorities of a legislature that would seriously  
consider these recommendations. Alaska is a growing  
& developing state, it is inevitable that there will  
be many demands for financing. It is my opinion  
that the quality of life that we strive for in ~~our~~<sup>this</sup> great state,  
can be nothing more than a hollow promise  
if these proposed budget cuts become reality. Arts  
in all forms is essential to any measure of quality  
in life. Arts stimulates the imagination, fosters  
creativity & enables growth. Necessity is not  
the mother of invention — arts. Do not cut the arts  
budget or the public radio & television budgets.

Signed: SUSAN M. CROCKER Phone: 025-8490  
Testifier SELF  
Representing (Optional)  
Box 9258 KETCHIKAN, AK 99901  
Address

# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the NOISE POLLUTION MONITORING SUBCOMMITTEE  
committee on DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (committee name) dated 23 MARCH 96  
bill/subject

I AM LOUIE VEIT, PRESIDENT OF SIKKANOE ARTS COUNCIL, THE LOCAL COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL FOR PRINCE OF WALES ISLAND.

YOU HAVE ALREADY HEARD MANY ECONOMIC ARGUMENTS TO SUSTAIN THE STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS, SO I WILL NOT REPEAT THEM. RATHER I WOULD LIKE TO REMIND THE COMMITTEE THAT ONE PURPOSE OF GOVERNMENT IS TO LEAD AND PROVIDE THE GREATEST AND BROADEST DEVELOPMENT OF ITS POPULACE.

I AM REMINDED BY THE BACKWARD MARCH TO A MORE REPRESSIVE AND PARANOID CONCEPT OF WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A PERSON AND A CITIZEN OF THIS GREAT STATE OF ALASKA. I ENCOURAGE YOU TO RECONSIDER THE FUNDAMENTAL POSITIVE WAYS THAT THE ARTS IN ALASKA IMPACT ALL OF US.

Signed:

LOUIE VEIT  
Testifier  
SIKKANOE ARTS COUNCIL  
Representing (Optional)  
P.O. BOX 525 CRAIG, AK 99921  
Address

Phone: 826-3662-4  
826-7287-4

# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HOUSE FINANCE  
(committee name)  
 committee on HB 412, dated 3/23/96  
 bill/subject

I would like to make a statement in response to the proposed reductions in the Division of Public Health.

I am a long time public health nurse. I know what happens when travel budgets are cut. I have seen the results of reduced public health services: with reduced disease prevention and containment services, diseases and disabilities increase at great cost to individuals and the state. Other states are sadly aware of this, and are scrambling to make up for years of costly disarray in their public health systems. The Division spends a good deal of money on travel to provide services. That is the unavoidable cost of our state's geography and demographics. The Division serves villages and communities by traveling to them. Many little communities do not have any other health care provider than a public health nurse who visits one or two times a year. Thus, travel is essential.

The other proposed cuts in the Division's budget will affect service delivery. Our work today is so complex and in so many program areas that the workers in the field need enormous support from administration. I respectfully ask you to reflect on the potential consequences of these cuts. In public health, money spent up front is money saved. I am happy to provide any further information to you from my perspective. Thank you.

Signed: Jeanne W. Porotti Phone: 907-225-5992  
Testifier  
Self  
Representing (Optional)  
PO BOX 5904 Ketchikan AK 99901  
Address

# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance Committee  
(committee name)  
committee on HR 412, dated 3-23-96  
bill/subject

Alaska is different from the other states  
Alaskans feel, realize this, and  
therefore nothing further need be  
said or written. I also agree that  
the budget must be cut. There  
are many places to cut waste.  
The arts, education, public radio  
and TV should be fully funded,  
because all are essential to  
the basic needs of Alaskans, and  
it is not practical to privately  
fund and to provide for these  
necessities.

Signed: A. Fred Miller Phone: 907-225-6666  
Alfred Miller  
Testifier  
Private citizen  
Representing (Optional)  
637 Main St  
Address

Fax transmitted from Ketchikan Legislative Information Office  
Phone: 225-9675 Fax: 225-8546

# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance Committee  
(committee name)  
committee on HB 412, dated 3-23-96.  
bill/subject

My name is Karen Peterson. I am a 10 year volunteer  
at KRBD FM and also a 10 year volunteer in S.E.  
Symphony as a cellist. Every year Public Radio receives  
a DIS PROPORTIONATE cut to funding and every year  
we are told its the last time well be cut. HA!  
Politicians wonder why no one believe them ...  
Public Radio is unique in Alaska and more than  
anywhere else in the US. provides a life line to  
Alaskans. Congressman Don Young always asks public  
testifiers is this theirs Alaska. We are Alaskans -  
fighting to keep Alaskan programs going. The same  
goes for the Arts Council - S.E. Symphony was formerly  
the Shortring Symphony and that name is more  
apropos. We have 4000<sup>00</sup> in the bank - that's our  
total operating budget. We rely on the infrastructure  
→

Signed: Karen Peterson Phone: 225-7607  
Testifier

Representing (Optional)  
PO Box 9068 - Ketchikan Ak  
Address

Fax transmittal from Ketchikan Legislative Information Office  
Phone: 225-9675 Fax: 225-8546

(Continuation of written testimony)

of the Arts Council to support our performances.  
Since the schools have eliminated their music programs we have ~~to~~ several young people who play with us - the youngest is 8 years old. If SE Symphony ~~cannot~~ ceased to exist their music program would also stop.

Please do not increase your paychecks on the backs of the Arts and Public Radio

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
          Testifier  
          Representing (Optional)  
          Address

Fax transmitted from Ketchikan Legislative Information Office  
Phone: 225-9675 Fax: 225-8546

(Cont) Page 2

# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Finance Committee  
committee on HB 412 (committee name), dated 3/23/96.  
bill/subject

Mr. Chairman ! As a concerned citizen I came to this teliconferance  
to testify in favor of Public Broadcasting and the Arts. After an hour  
and a half my 3 year old ~~ds~~ and 2 mo old ~~daughter~~ have had enough.  
~~my 3 year old son~~ I can not imagin living in Ketchikan with  
out Public Broadcasting & the Arts Council. My daughter loves  
Sesame St and lots of other PBS programs. I want my baby  
to have those same programs to watch. We are constantly hearing  
how TV has too much violence and can be so ugly. Public Television  
is the only channel you can leave on all day & night and know it  
will always be educational and be in good taste. Public Radio  
is also very important to us. My husband and I used to live in a remote  
cabn and Public Radio was our only link to the world. That is how  
we stayed up to date on the world, the locals and you in Juneau.  
Even though we live in town now, Public Radio is still our major source  
of information & entertainment. for family entertainment (continued)

Signed: Ann Wickness (continued) Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Testifier

Representing (Optional) KTN, AK.  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Fax transmitted from Ketchikan Legislative Information Office  
Phone: 225-9675 Fax: 225-8546

(Continuation of written testimony)

In Town, The Arts Council is the organization that provides all the events. From the Blueberry Festival to Concerts to Educational Workshops to the Theater.

If the Arts Council is zeroed out, Entertainment in Ketchikan will go back to the Bars, and those of us with strong family values will be left with nowhere to go.

Thank you for funding Education and please fund Public Broadcasting and the Arts Council.

Signed:

Don P. Widness  
Testifier

Phone: (907) 225-1906

Representing (Optional)  
5081 S. Tongass Hwy Ketchikan, AK 99901  
Address

Fax transmitted from Ketchikan Legislative Information Office  
Phone: 225-9675 Fax: 225-8546

# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance  
committee on Public Communications/Arts (committee name), dated 3/23/96.  
bill/subject

I chose to live in Alaska 15 years ago  
because of its strong Public Radio & Arts. We  
cannot eliminate Arts/Public Radio-TV. They  
provide a vehicle to share information news like  
information available to sanity during long summer  
work hours and long winter sedentary days.  
My family & I feel this is our life line  
to the other communities of this state. We  
are in a broadcast shadow for public TV, so must  
subscribe to cable. I can tell you what happens  
on the streets of Chicago & Denver daily, but  
I would not be able to tell you anything about  
the daily happenings in Anytown, Alaska if you  
make these cuts - THAT IS NOT ACCEPTABLE. Support  
Public Broadcasting PLEASE! I pay tax & vote too

Signed: Bob Widunas Phone: 225-1906  
Testifier  
MVSLT  
Representing (Optional)  
Box 7462  
Address

The Arts and Humanities are an essential part of education. Perhaps they are not directly connected to economic concerns or even, on the surface, to the interests of the majority, they none the less have an important role in a healthy culture. Just as few people are interested in an education in medicine, we cannot deny the benefit we all receive from the tiny proportion of people who pursue such a course. The effect of the Arts and Humanities is less apparent but has an impact far beyond the minority who take interest in them. The primary benefit is their role as "cultural fertilizer" providing a rich soil out of which a healthy culture can grow. Generally speaking, this "cultural fertilizer" consists of encouraging flexibility of thought and, to a certain degree, an ability to observe ourselves more dispassionately. The fact that the majority are not interested in such tools does not negate the effect of those who are on society as a whole.

The Arts and Humanities are not essential in a decaying culture but they are essential for a healthy one.

Leslie Morgan



P.O. Box 23309

Ketchikan, AK 99901

March 20, 1996

Alaska Legislature  
 Finance Committee  
 Juneau, Alaska

Dear Finance Committee,

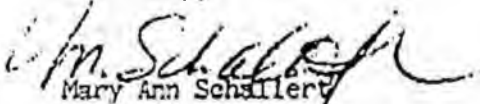
It has come to our attention that you are considering further funding reductions for Public Television and Radio in Alaska.

Your failure to understand the importance of Public Radio and Television in Alaska communities, large and small, is appalling. For the thousands of us who cannot receive cable TV for one reason or another the Public TV and Radio service is absolutely vital. There is nothing commercially available to replace the statewide weather broadcast by NOAA, the educational programs, nature programs, news programs and even financial programs. These Public Stations need a strong signal that will reach us! And they are doing it now on reduced funding you set last year. The development of Alaska One (KUAC, KYUK and KTOO) for instance has given us an even better product than RATNET and I support them with my own money as a subscriber. They are doing their part to operate with less.

Please think about the quality of life for Alaskans as you make your budget cuts. We want a leaner, cost efficient government, not a mean spirited, backward place where no one enjoys life at all. Surely there is still real "fat" you can cut that would not have such a negative impact on those who look to you for leadership.

We will be watching closely to see who is supportive and non-supportive of our Public Television and Radio funding. If you folks in the Legislature and on the Finance Committee are not "in tune" with what Alaskans want, ask your friends and neighbors back home.

Sincerely,

  
 Mary Ann Schallery

  
 Donald W. Sindlebecker

Ketchikan, Alaska

cc: Governor Tony Knowles, Juneau, AK

My name is Lucy Hope. I live in Wasilla, and am President of Mat-Su Education Association, representing 856 teachers.

First, I want to acknowledge the committee for fully funding pupil transportation. This is very significant for the Mat-Su Borough.

However the flat funding of public education since the early 90's is showing up as a huge budget cut to our School District.

One of the areas that will be cut is every teacher who teaches art in elementary schools, and elective teachers at the 5 high schools.

Before we had art teachers, we provided art instruction through Artists in Schools <sup>grants</sup> Program. The proposed elimination of this will END art instruction for all 5500 elementary children.

and severely restrict  
art education for the  
other 6500 students. Your  
hallways in this capitol will  
no longer feature unique  
& stunning artwork from  
children around the Mat-Su  
~~area~~ District.

I think this is un-  
acceptable, and urge you to  
reconsider educational  
funding and funding for  
arts.

Thank you

Lucy Hoff  
P.O. Box 870887  
Wasilla AK  
99687  
376-4796

My name is Lucy Hope. I live in Wasilla, and am President of Mat-Su Education Association, representing 856 teachers.

First, I want to acknowledge the committee for fully funding pupil transportation. This is very significant for the Mat-Su Borough.

However the flat funding of public education since the early 90's is showing up as a huge budget cut to our School District.

One of the areas that will be cut is every teacher who teaches art in elementary schools, and elective teachers at the 5 high schools.

Before we had art teachers, we provided art instruction through Artists in Schools <sup>group</sup> Program. The proposed elimination of this will END art instruction for all 5500 elementary children.

and severely restrict  
art education for the  
other 6500 students. Your  
hallways in this capitol will  
no longer feature unique  
& stunning artwork from  
children around the Mat-Su  
~~Woods~~ District.

I think this is un-  
acceptable, and urge you to  
reconsider educational  
funding and funding for  
arts.

Thank you

Lucy Hope  
P.O. Box 870887  
Wasilla AK  
99687  
376-4796

Mr. or Madam Chairperson, member of the committee, ladies and gentlemen. My name is Myra Olsen, Vice Chairperson of Rural Alaska Resources Association. Rural Alaska Resources Association is a statewide organization that represent the interest of rural Alaska's subsistence hunters and gatherers. I am here to testify in support of retaining full funding for Alaska Department of Fish and Game, with special emphases to retain general funding support to Division of Subsistence at this year level. The Division of Subsistence provides essential functions for the ADF&G in collecting and presenting information on subsistence fishing and hunting to resource managers to fulfill its legal mandate under the statute. Just a few days ago, the House cut \$200,000 of the general funds support for the Division. The aggregate cuts over the last six years have resulted in the reduction of the Division budget by 50%. These cuts will result in crippling the capacity of the division to fulfill its statutory mandate to ensure adequate

opportunity for subsistence taking and uses of fish and game resources.

Mr. Chairman, the only way the hunter in rural Alaska can put food on the table is to get a hunting license. Therefore, many of the hunters in rural Alaska contribute a substantial amount to the Fish and Game on the "hunting side." The Constitution states that there will be no dedicated funds. We proposed that this finance committee retain the level of funding from the general fund for the Division of Subsistence at the level it was funded last year and for the general fund to be replenished from the proceeds of licenses from rural Alaska. Rural Alaskan's do not hunt for "trophies" but hunts to put food on the table.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I submit with my testimony a fact sheet prepared by ADF&G of what the results will be of a gutted Division of Subsistence. Thank you for allowing me to testify on this very important fiscal matter.

## Subsistence Division Budget Gutted Further

The House budget cuts the Division of Subsistence program (general funds) by \$200,000. Combined with general fund cuts over the past six years, the Division's general fund program has been reduced by 50% (from \$2.1 million in 1992 to \$1.1 million in 1997) (see attached graph). State general funds are used to fulfill out statutory mandate to ensure adequate opportunity for subsistence taking and uses. With these funds, we pay for 15 full-time and 3 seasonal staff. These cuts would result in a loss of 3 full-time and 1 part-time staff, nearly one-third the staff charged to fulfill our statewide mandate.

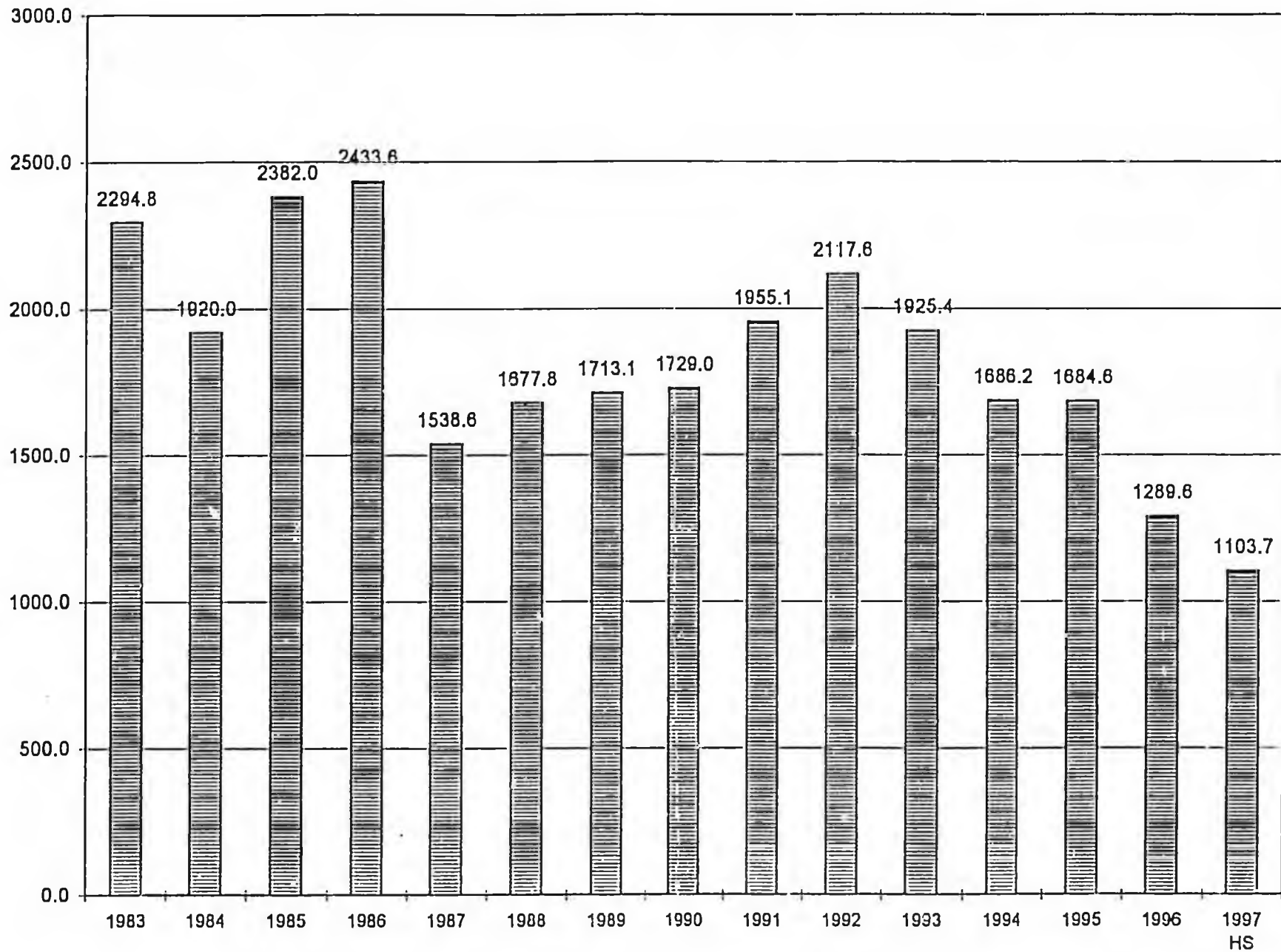
### A Gutted Program

At this funding level, the Division of Subsistence cannot carry out its legal mandates – to collect and present information on subsistence fishing and hunting to resource managers and to the public, so that subsistence uses can be protected within the state. At this funding level:

- The Division becomes simply a cataloger of old information.
- Staff would not directly participate in resource management decisions.
- New subsistence information would not be collected in most areas.
- Reliable subsistence information collected by the Division would become increasingly outdated.
- The Boards increasingly would depend on information collected under state harvest ticket and permit systems, which are notoriously inaccurate for representing subsistence hunting patterns in villages.
- Board decisions necessarily would have to be more conservative.
- Remaining staff in the Division would be centralized in Juneau, Anchorage, or Fairbanks. Regional office functions would be closed in Angoon, Nome, and Fort Yukon, and possibly Dillingham and Bethel.
- Collaborative projects with subsistence user groups would not take place under state funding.
- The Division would not have the core staff to attract federal money for subsistence research.
- The ability of the state to regain subsistence management is further eroded.

House budget public hearing, March 23  
9 a.m. (House) (House hearing room? 5th Capital)

# Division of Subsistence General Fund FY83-96, 97 House





# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE House Finance  
 COMMITTEE ON Alaska Works Program COMMITTEE NAME  
Child Care Assistance Cuts DATED March 23, 1996  
BILL/SUBJECT

I've heard the discussions about welfare reform and how important it is to support families leaving the welfare system. I don't understand how cutting these two main supportive programs will support welfare reform. Transition from anything bureaucratic costs money! Please keep in mind people leaving the welfare system need help to keep moving into economic self sufficiency.

The current AK Work program has provided some families the opportunity to grow and achieve a job. ~~and create~~ It is not perfect, but has been established and has achieved its goal to get people off welfare to work.

Please consider what these programs provide and how important their goals are for families leaving our welfare system. Single parent families use the child care assistance program to stay off welfare.

SIGNED Eileen Cummings  
 TESTIFIER

Myself / Head Start  
 REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

1267 Jacqueline Lane North Pole, AK 99705  
 ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER 488-9386



# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE House Finance  
 COMMITTEE ON Cuts to public broadcasting DATED 3-23-96  
BILLSUBJECT COMMITTEE NAME

I'd like to point out to the committee the lack of public support for Rep. Kohnig's proposal to phase out funding for public broadcasting. If the public supported this at all I could accept this proposal because we are a democracy.

This seems very politically motivated, and is thus bad legislation. This phase out will harm all areas, not just the rural areas. We all need objective daily news, not a privatized news provider. There is little profit making potential in news provision - most people understand this.

You have a duty to protect our public b/c system, something that has benefitted all Alaskans since 1969.

SIGNED

Joy Morrison  
 TESTIFIER Joy Morrison

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

4910 Woodriven Drive, Fbx, AK 99709 4748328  
 ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER



# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE Finance  
 COMMITTEE ON HB 412 DATED 3/24/96 COMMITTEE NAME

BILLSUBJECT  
 Cuts to the Alaska State Council on the Arts are detrimental to the future of Alaskan communities across the state. Arts are crucial to a thorough education of both children and adults. Arts teach discipline, responsibility, problem-solving, creativity, independent thinking, and the ability to work together for a common good. These are all skills which are essential in the circumstances which face us in today's world.

Education in arts - for both children and adults - is central to the formation of responsible and productive communities and promotes the social involvement of citizens in the discussion, definition, and implementation of social values. Empirical research has shown that our understanding of and ability to discuss and apply values to our real life situations depends on our imagination. Arts also assist us in identifying common experiences and shared values, and in bringing order to our reality and our societies.

Education in, exposure to, and involvement in the arts have been shown to decrease the use of violence as a means of resolving differences and to increase tolerance and mutual respect between persons of diverse beliefs, races, and cultures. These abilities are critical for democratic government in our increasingly complex and pluralistic society.

In schools, the introduction of strong arts programs results in improvement in math, science, and reading scores, as well as a decrease in the drop-out rate. While some children will feel a need and find a way to draw, dance or sing without a school program in arts, (over)

SIGNED Carolyn A. Roeber, AP TESTIFIER

REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

1316 Regent Rd, Fairbanks, AK 99709 907/474-0753  
 ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER (day, time)

Just as some would excel in science or language without programs in those subjects, many children will be poorly prepared for entrance into tomorrow's fast-changing, international, competitive, and visually oriented information era, without the skills and benefits developed through access to and involvement in the arts. Arts in education is about training every child to understand, to analyze, to critique, and to communicate effectively. Increasingly, we are bombarded with mail, with media messages, with advertising - what we pay attention to is determined by layout, by sound bites, by music - which moves us. In order to be in control of, and not simply be controlled by, the information we are receiving, we must understand how and why images communicate, how and why nonverbal messages and music communicate, how and why movements and rituals communicate, as well as how and why metaphors from literature, drama, poetry and song communicate. Arts education in the schools helps children to integrate the various other subjects they are learning.

Words are only a small portion of the information we all use to communicate daily. Arts are one of the primary means through which we express values, discuss values, and come to common decisions about societal and shared values. If we do not educate our children (and ourselves) in these disciplines - and they are disciplines - they will be poorly prepared to enter into the workplaces of today and tomorrow and very poorly prepared to enter into the social and political processes through which we shape our shared future.

Public funding for the arts contributes to the equitable distribution of our resources and ensures that the benefits of the arts are available to all Alaskans. Public funding also ensures that a variety of voices are heard and perspectives are displayed, not merely the voices and opinions of those with the most money, power, media access, or other resources. Promoting the involvement of all citizens is essential for the healthy functioning of a democracy. Arts have a primary role in the dialogue about and development of our social and moral values. Ensuring equality of access to the arts is central to the role ~~of~~ of government in a democratic society.

Cutting the ASCA appropriation will result in a tremendous loss to our State, culturally, economically, and socially. I urge you to continue to ~~for~~ participate in funding the arts for the good of all Alaskans.

CAROLYN A. ROEBER, OF

**FRED W. TRIEM**  
**ATTORNEY AT LAW**  
**PROCTOR IN ADMIRALTY**  
**P.O. BOX 129**  
**PETERSBURG, ALASKA 99833**  
**(907) 772-3917**  
23 March 1996

House Finance Committee  
Alaska Legislature  
Juneau

In re: Appropriation for Public Broadcasting—radio and television

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

Among the reasons for maintaining the present funding level for public broadcasting in Alaska, please consider the following:

**(1) Public broadcasting promotes public safety:**

- (a) broadcasting of weather information—for safe travel, boating, and flying
- (b) emergency broadcasting—disaster and weather warning alerts; tsunami warnings

**(2) Public broadcasting promotes public health:**

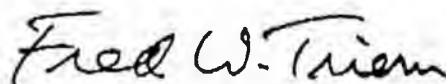
- (a) educational programs about disease prevention—example: hepatitis
- (b) informational programs—example, recent public t.v. show about ebola virus

**(3) Public broadcasting promotes public education:**

- (a) children's programs—*Where in the world is Carmen San Diego?* (teaches geography; produced in conjunction with Natl. Geographic Society)
- (b) science and math programs—teaches basic concepts to children and adults
- (c) adult education—broadcast of GED and telecourses to rural and bush areas

Please do not cut funding for public broadcasting—we are barely hanging on now!  
Regards from Petersburg.

Sincerely,



Fred W. Triem

3.23.96

Representatives:

I understand making difficult budget decisions. I'm on the board of directors of Narrows Broadcasting Corporation (KFSK, Petersburg) a public radio station that lost a third of our budget last year for a total of 70% in cuts over the past few years. We will not survive another 15% cut coming so soon after such drastic decreases. To indicate otherwise is a misrepresentation of the facts.

One fact is that Alaska is about to take a giant step backwards. In a world where government and business are laboring to increase the public's access to information the \$808,500 reduction in state funding will effectively deny access to life saving emergency messages, education, weather, community public service announcements, and local, state and national news. It will exaggerate the isolation and alienation of the rural population and destroy an existing telecommunications infrastructure.

Public broadcasting has been working to eliminate its dependence on state and federal funding. Reorganization and implementation of cost saving measures are in progress and being closely watched by the public broadcasting stations throughout the United States. If we succeed, our restructuring could provide an example for others, but we need that chance to succeed. A chance that could be realized through a cut-free recovery period. A chance to save an essential service to rural areas, a communications asset to the state and offer a model of operations to the rest of the country.

Governor Knowles understands this and has recommended funding for public broadcasting remain at last year's level. Don't sacrifice a part of Alaska's future and the leadership role we are taking in restructuring for a quick economic fix in the present.

Sincerely,

Chris Weiss  
Box 32  
Petersburg, Alaska 99833

## Testimonial on Budget.

What? Again you want to take away the few programs that add to the quality of living in Alaska -

Do not cut the state Arts Council! Besides the benefits of the arts to the human spirit, why would a tourist want to come see the only state where there is no arts council. How embarrassing is that?

Do not cut spending to ARCS and Public radio! These are essential services. These programs are a true link for Alaskans to the lower 48 and the world; especially for those living in the rural areas -

Ms Sandy K. Stolle  
PO Box 2363  
Seward, AK 99664  
224-5857

MARILYN E. DUGGAR

P O Box 355

Nenana, Alaska

March 23, 1996

HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

I am "speaking" to you to implore you not to cut public school funding. We desperately need to keep up with the quality of education of the rest of the US and of the World. While searching for places to cut, as you must, do not look to the children's education to take from. As a school board member I have witnessed repeated cutbacks that we have had to deal with. I believe we are to the bare bones already. We have taken away valuable programs that were considered extraneous, such as reading incentive programs, extra aids for high needs children, and many more. We have combined classes in the elementary leaving one teacher with two grade levels. Many high school electives are no longer available as we have fewer teachers there to teacher the state requirements of a basic no frills education.

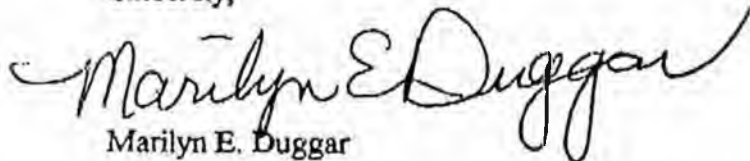
I would like to see the correspondence programs to continue with your funding. Correspondence values are unparalleled with any other program offered through state or federal education. The children in out-lying parts of our state, disabled students, and students who just don't fit into the school system and work better on their own are benefited.

The RSVP Program for the rural students is such a valuable tools for hands on experience in job fields students are interested in. This program encourages students to pursue vocational education in a field they are already familiar with instead of leaving High School hoping to fall into something. I think the RSVP Program would do well to be encouraged rather than cut.

I empathize with your task of cutting the budget. There are many more programs I would like to see receive their full funding, but I believe that there is no program as worthy and important to receive full funding as public education.

Thank you

Sincerely,

  
Marilyn E. Duggar

Box 633  
Petersburg, AK 99833  
772-4647

To All Members of the House Finance Committee -

I am writing to express my grave concerns about the proposed budget cuts to Public Broadcasting and to the Arts Council.

First about Public Broadcasting - The region is still trying to achieve equilibrium after all the budget cuts last year, on both the state and federal levels. To face even more extreme cuts this year is too much to bear. I fear for the loss of the station here in Petersburg. KFSK is vital to the denizens of the entire southcentral coast. It is our only link to national and international news services of any depth, timely state and local news, and cultural programming, not to mention the involvement on the local level of volunteers from children to senior citizens, who play shows all in the area listen to. I cannot imagine life here w/out this radio station - as it is today.

I think the regions public radio managers have done a great deal of inventive reorganizing, downsizing, and reprogramming to survive all the cuts we've already experienced. Extreme cuts could mean no more Petersburg station to possibly a public radio MUZAK. I can play CD's all day in my home - I look to radio for all the other services it provides, plus the music. We need to support this public radio system, on a state level. ~~support necessary to the station~~

About the State Arts Council -

Everywhere you turn these days you see research supporting the development and teaching of art and music as important counterparts to learning math and science and language. As a parent of two children heading into our public school system, I am disappointed in how little art and music is taught to our children. I believe there should be more and in every grade. ~~Used~~ The schools currently provide something, but w/ budget cuts may not be able to continue their programs.

The local arts council relies on some state funding to provide residents of Petersburg w/ the occasional performance by professional artists and with artists, teaching writers, and performing artists to come to town and hold workshops. How isolated our town will become without these efforts. We need to have state support for the arts - for our children, for ourselves.

Let's balance the budget some other way. ~~There~~ Cutting programs that are a benefit for the well being of the people of Alaska is not the way.

Please continue to support Public Broadcasting and The State Arts Council.

Sincerely,  
Suzanne Fuqua

Sean Parnell  
House Finance Committee  
fax: 465-2278

Representative Sean Parnell,

I'm writing to enlist your support for the funding of public radio, in particular that of the Kachemak Bay Broadcasting Incorporated. I manage a 40 plus unit motel in the Homer area, and I have found public radio to be an essential part of the services I can provide my customers. Through public radio I can keep abreast of local weather and fishing conditions for which most of my customers make the voyage to Homer for. Public radio also keeps me informed about interesting things going on within the Homer community that my customers may find of interest as well as those around the state. With the increase in tourism and the vast distances they traverse I have found that only public radio provides the detailed and widespread coverage that I need to stay informed on conditions and happenings that directly affect my business.

Recently there has been much discussion concerning the comparative industries in this area: oil and tourism. Needless to say my livelihood, and those of my employees rely on the tourist industry which I feel has been demeaned for the sake of the big business oil dollar. I find it objectionable to think that special breaks and conditions can be given to the oil industry which serves a minority of Alaskans while a public service, like radio, for all Alaskans continues to be the objects of cuts. I seriously hope you will reconsider the direction Alaska seems to be taking and in your hands guide it towards tourism and Alaskans which benefit more and is ecologically less damaging than the harvesting of oil.

For all of us the continuance and upgrade of public radio is not only important, but directly affects our lives and those of our visitors.

Thank you for helping us create better businesses,

Kenny Cobb, manager



Beluga Lake Lodge  
984 Ocean Dr.  
Homer, AK 996603



# STATE of ALASKA

*Bethel Legislative Information Office*

PO Box 888  
Bethel, Alaska 99559  
(907) 543-3541  
Fax- 543-3542

## Written Testimony for the Record:

TCN: 60523

Committee: (H) EN

Date: 3-23-96

Bill Number(s): HB 412

Subject(s): Budget

**Please enter my testimony into the record.**

AGAINST cuts of 6.5 million to Health & Social Services Dept  
AGAINST cuts to Alaska marine Hwy Systems  
5% Growth in MEDICARE for 97 is UNREALISTIC WITH  
RISE IN BIRTH RATES IN RURAL ALASKA  
AGAINST RED IN ADULT PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FR. 4% TO 3%  
FOR CUTS TO ARLS (RATNET) NOT MEETING NEEDS OF AREA

Mildred Thatchell  
Testifier's name (s):

Jill  
Representing (opt.):

PO Box 287 Bethel  
Address

907. 543 6260  
Phone



# STATE of ALASKA

*Bethel Legislative Information Office*

PO Box 886  
Bethel, Alaska 99559  
(907) 543-3541  
Fax- 543-3542

## Written Testimony for the Record:

TCN: 60523

Committee: (H) Fun

Date: 3.23.96

Bill Number(s): HB412

Subject(s): EDUCATION, Alcoholism TX, MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS

**Please enter my testimony into the record.**

\* I'm AN ALASKAN NATIVE I DID NOT HAVE Public TV or Radio FOR 22 YEARS I CAN DO w/o IT. BESIDES TECHNOLOGY TODAY allows or would allow me to ACCESS ANY PROGRAM OF THE SATELLITE TRANS PONDOR WITH THE AID OF A COUPLE HUNDRED DOLLAR Receiver - I see alot of waste in Public BROADCASTING - KNOW I could NOT DO w/o STUDENT LOAN AID, MENTAL HEALTH professionals & their programs - we need alcoholism TREATMENT AND intervention program Funding

PETER TWITCHELL Thank You. Self  
Testifier's name (s): Representing (opt.)

P. o. Box 703 Bethel, AK 907 543 3853  
Address 99559 Phone



# STATE of ALASKA

*Bethel Legislative Information Office*

PO Box 886  
Bethel, Alaska 99559  
(907) 543-3541  
Fax- 543-3542

## Written Testimony for the Record:

TCN: 60523

Committee: Reps: Hawley (H.Fid)

Date: 3/23/96

Bill Number(s): HB 412

Subject(s): Public Radio & Mental Health

**Please enter my testimony into the record.**

*I would like to request that the Committee restore the cuts from the Governor's budget in relationship to Public Radio & Public TV, Mental Health & DD services.*

Olga Ferguson  
Testifier's name (s)

Self  
Representing (opt.)

P.O. Box 119 Bethel, AK.  
Address

543-5472  
Phone



# STATE of ALASKA

*Bethel Legislative Information Office*

PO Box 886  
Bethel, Alaska 99559  
(907) 543-3541  
Fax- 543-3542

## Written Testimony for the Record:

TCN: 60523

Committee: House Finance Budget Sub

Date: March 25, 1996

Bill Number(s): HB 412

Subject(s): Budget

**Please enter my testimony into the record.**

*as a public health professional, I have several issues  
I would like to discuss with you First, thank you for  
not cutting the Council on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault within  
the Dept. of Safety. Domestic violence and sexual assault*

MARK W. JENKINS  
Testifier's name (s):

YUKON-KUSKOKWIM HEALTH  
Representing (opt.) CORP.

P.O. Box 2316  
Address

(907) 543-6040  
Phone

MARK W. JENKINS

April 25, 1996

Testimony for the  
Record

remain essential areas for public health funding, it is time that this public health issue receive appropriate funding. Second, continued funding from the State of Alaska for Public Broadcasting (radio) (AKCR) is critical for the health, emergency, and communication needs of rural Alaskan residents. The proposed phase out of the public funding for these programs will be disastrous for rural residents. We rely on these services for important information. Please do not cut these Public Broadcasting Programs. Lastly, Public-funded Arts Programs are critical to the health and well-being of Alaskan residents. The choice to cut funding for the Arts is near-sighted and will result in great harm to the people of rural Alaska. Thank you for accepting my testimony.

Mark W. Jenkins.



# STATE of ALASKA

*Bethel Legislative Information Office*

PO Box 886  
Bethel, Alaska 99559  
(907) 543-3541  
Fax- 543-3542

## Written Testimony for the Record:

TCN: 160523

Committee: House Finance Budget Subcommittee

Date: Mar. 23, 1996

Bill Number(s): HB 412

Subject(s): Budget

**Please enter my testimony into the record.**

*Good morning. My name is Carmen Lowry and i am the Executive Director of the Tundra Women's Coalition. TWC provides immediate safety, intervention services and prevention services - to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. i would like to address 3 issues:*

Carmen Lowry  
Testifier's name (s):

Tundra Women's Coalition  
Representing (opt.)

P.O. Box 1537  
Address

1907/543-3444  
Phone

(1) Thank you for your support to addressing the needs of domestic violence and Sexual assault. Supporting the CDUSA directly translates into supporting victims of crime AND supporting healthy, non-violent relationships. Thank you, esp. Rep. Parnell for your continued support.

(2) Public Broadcasting is an essential service, please don't cut our communication life lines.

(3) I fully support a State Income tax. Essential services can not be sacrificed while we sit back and not pay part of the services.

Thank you.

*Tommy Parnell*



# Alaska State Legislature

## Written Testimony Form

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HOUSE FINANCE  
(committee name)

committee on HB412 Op Budget, dated 23 March 1996  
(bill/subject)

Please restore funding for public broadcasting, which provides in-depth news coverage and other important information to a large constituency of listeners. Having volunteered my service to KCAW in Sitka, and lately to the translator repair group in Cordova for KCHU-Valde. I can assure you that there is a large constituency volunteering their time and/or money to keep public radio and TV on the air, to link Alaskans with the rest of the state, nation, and world.

Reducing the budget for Subsistence Division of the Dept. of Fish + Game, makes little sense, unless the State of Alaska is abdicating control of this facet of resource management to the federal government.

Power Cost Equalization is important in Cordova, as this program provides better than half of our generation and maintenance cost. Until facilities are constructed to reduce ~~the costs~~ these costs, I encourage you to maintain this program, or if necessary, reduce it gradually.

Thank you.

Signed: Charles Branch  
Testifier Name

Charles Branch and Brenda Branch  
Representing (Optional)

P.O. Box 1692 Cordova AK 99574  
Address

907-424-3894  
Phone Number

We support a state income tax based on income generated in Alaska, by both residents and non-residents.

Pete Kelly  
House Finance Committee  
fax: 465-2278

Representative Pete Kelly,

I'm writing to enlist your support for the funding of public radio, in particular that of the Kachemak Bay Broadcasting Incorporated. I manage a 40 plus unit motel in the Homer area, and I have found public radio to be an essential part of the services I can provide my customers. Through public radio I can keep abreast of local weather and fishing conditions for which most of my customers make the voyage to Homer for. Public radio also keeps me informed about interesting things going on within the Homer community that my customers may find of interest as well as those around the state. With the increase in tourism and the vast distances they traverse I have found that only public radio provides the detailed and widespread coverage that I need to stay informed on conditions and happenings that directly affect my business.

Recently there has been much discussion concerning the comparative industries in this area: oil and tourism. Needless to say my livelihood, and those of my employees rely on the tourist industry which I feel has been demeaned for the sake of the big business oil dollar. I find it objectionable to think that special breaks and conditions can be given to the oil industry which serves a minority of Alaskans while a public service, like radio, for all Alaskans continues to be the objects of cuts. I seriously hope you will reconsider the direction Alaska seems to be taking and in your hands guide it towards tourism and Alaskans which benefit more and is ecologically less damaging than the harvesting of oil.

For all of us the continuance and upgrade of public radio is not only important, but directly affects our lives and those of our visitors.

Thank you for helping us create better businesses,

Kenny Cobb, manager



Beluga Lake Lodge  
984 Ocean Dr.  
Homer, AK 996603

David & Maryann Frazier  
2636 Shepherdia Drive  
Anchorage AK 99508  
274-2869

---

March 23, 1996

To: Mark Hanley, Co-Chair  
House Finance Committee Member

Re: Funding cuts for Alaska State Council on the Arts (ASCA)

My husband and I are long time residents: 37 years for me and 28 years for him. He owns and runs an insurance brokerage company here and I am a bookkeeper. We own a home, a 4-plex and property. We have two children in school, one in junior high and one in grade school. We are all concerned about the proposed funding cuts to eliminate the ASCA and the devastating impact it would have on the entire state.

You see, we are more than just taxpayers and students. We are also citizens of this state, and as such, we are representatives of life in Alaska when we travel, and we travel quite a bit. Eliminating funding for the Arts doesn't just hurt the Art community, it hurts everyone. Art in this isolated region of the world is a connecting and uniting force. Without it we become void culturally. Without culture there is no richness to life. Without that, we simply labor.

My family would have little to stay in Alaska for if funding for the arts is eliminated. I am not just a bookkeeper, but also a dancer and painter. Both of my children dance and the oldest is a budding musician. My husband and I spend our extra money on supporting live performance and visual arts in Alaska. We have seen the magic the arts has on our lives and our children and know that it must continue for us. There are other states who value the arts. Must we be so short sighted?

**Please vote for continuing the ASCA. Our family does not support eliminating the Council or its role in Alaska.**

Maryann and David Frazier

# ASSOCIATED ISLAND BROKERS

March 25, 1996

House Finance Committee  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska

Post-It® Fax Note	7671	Date	3/23	# of pages	1
To	Rep. Mark Hooley	From	Sharlene Sullivan		
Co./Dept.		Co.	AIBI		
Phone #		Phone #	496-2000		
Fax #	465-2418	Fax #	496-2016		

Dear House Finance Committee,

This letter is regarding proposed budget cuts by the House sub-committee for Occupational Licensing for Fiscal Year 1997.

Associated Island Brokers, Inc. of Kodiak, a member of the Alaska Association of Realtors, shares the concerns of the Association regarding proposed budget cuts for Fiscal Year '97, and supports the position it has taken. These budget cuts would significantly affect objectives, positions and publications vital to the operation of the Association and its members. The effects of these cuts would be far-reaching and long-lasting, defeating the purposes for which it was established.

Associated Island Brokers, Inc. joins the Alaska Association of Realtors in respectfully requesting the reinstatement of these funds needed to continue such essential programs.

Sincerely,



Sharlene Sullivan, Broker



218 CENTER AVE., SUITE 200  
OFFICE: (907) 486-2000

KODIAK, ALASKA 99615  
FAX: (907) 486-4016





# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance committee name

committee on Education Funding dated 3/29/96  
bill/subject

I've worked as a teacher and principal at the elementary level for 25 years in the state of Alaska. I've seen a real decline in services & funding the past 10 years. I am currently working at Larsa Elementary in Kenai & have been in this district, Kenai Peninsula Board for 20 years. Our district has been in an ongoing cut mode for 9 years - flesh, fat & now down to the bones - the very structure of our educational system which is people's jobs. Education without people is like a cart without a horse - it goes nowhere.

Speaking on behalf of young children, the most effective & important tools we can put into their lives are more positive adults. I'm asking the legislature to increase funding to education in a major way. I can cite studies for you which have proven strong educational support for young children keep them out of prison. The added \$148mil we are using to build prisons could in future be diminished or disappear with the injection of a stronger education system. (over)

Signed: Josquin Imle  
Testifier

Education  
Representing (Optional)

714 Cypress, Kenai Ak. 99641  
Address

(907) 283-4347  
Phone No.

Our state is the wealthiest in the nation. So underfund education is a matter of misplaced priorities. With \$19 billion in savings earning \$150 mil in January alone, I find it baffling that there is not enough for school districts to keep up with inflation, let alone expand programs.

A state tax, an endowment for future funding, + use of permanent fund interest, all seem like obvious methods to support the State's mandate to fund education adequately. I do not see the current level of funding in the Kenai district as adequate. I would like to see the foundation formula increased immediately by 10% to help close the gap from the past 9 years, and then 4% a year in future to keep up with inflation.



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the \_\_\_\_\_  
 committee name  
 committee on Budget dated 3/19/96  
 bill/subject

I Believe That All programs, Departments +  
 Community Members have Reasons to Not Receive  
 Cuts. Your Decisions are Difficult, Painful &  
 Unpopular. It appears to me that we have  
 Multiple revenue sources that are not being  
 Tapped. Income Taxes are only one. Alaska  
 is a wonderful place to visit & live. Each person  
 who Benefits from Alaska needs to contribute,  
 Not just take. The historical experience of Alaska  
 is that people Decent, Take & leave. Lets Change it.  
 When our Siblings Decent - please Ask her to give Back  
 what a Concept - to give Back - Please See  
 Revenues to Approved to Bills. Please See

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Testifier

*[Signature]*

Representing (Optional)

Kenai

Address

283-9479

Phone No.



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
 committee name  
 committee on STATE OPERATING BUDGET dated 3/23/96  
 bill/subject

To Whom it may concern,  
 I would like to voice my strong support of any funding or assistance regarding the issues of Domestic Violence. This is an issue that needs the support of people like yourselves as well as the people that it affects.  
 Thank you.

Signed: Judy L. DeYoung  
 Testifier  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Representing (Optional)  
KENAI  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone No.



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
 committee name  
 committee on STATE OPERATING BUDGET, dated 3/23/96  
 bill/subject

FUNDING FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & SEXUAL ASSAULT PROGRAMS MUST BE SEEN OR VIEWED AS A PRIORITY. VIOLENCE CONTINUES TO INCREASE BECAUSE PEOPLE GET AWAY WITH IT. I AM VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE INCREASE OF VIOLENCE IN OUR YOUTH. FUNDING TO EDUCATE OUR CHILDREN & FAMILIES IS ESSENTIAL TO HELP STOP THIS GROWTH. WE CAN'T PRETEND THAT VIOLENCE IN THE HOME DOES NOT AFFECT ANYONE, ANYMORE.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR EARNEST CONSIDERATIONS. I KNOW YOU WILL CHOOSE TO TAKE A PRO-ACTIVE STEP IN ASSURING A SAFE PLACE FOR ALL OF US TO LIVE.

Signed: Kenhi M. Hunt  
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)  
1611 3RD AVE #1, KENAI, AK 99611  
 Address  
(907) 283-2025  
 Phone No.



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
 committee name  
 committee on STATE OPERATING BUDGET dated 3/23/96  
 bill/subject

I support continued  
 domestic violence shelter &  
 funding. Sincerely,  
 Patricia S. James

Signed: Patricia S. James  
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)  
1611 3rd Ave #2 Kenai AK  
 Address  
283 3522  
 Phone No.



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
 committee name  
 committee on STATE OPERATING BUDGET, dated 3/23/96  
 bill/subject

I strongly urge funding for DVSA programs be given priority in the state Operating Budget. At maintenance funding DVSA services to Alaskan women and children are suffering. Any budget cuts will endanger these women and children. Does Alaska want to continue to lead the nation in sexual assaults ??? DVSA programs need increased funding to provide services to children, to provide emergency transportation and to provide support groups. The DVSA program needs to provide a competitive salary for its employees. The state needs to attract competent DVSA employees in order to provide quality services to Alaskan women and children. DVSA program funding deserves highest priority.

Signed: Millie Russell  
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)  
Rt 1 Box 155 Kenai AK 99611  
 Address  
907 - 776 - 5647  
 Phone No.



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
committee name

committee on STATE OPERATING BUDGET dated 3/23/96  
bill/subject

It's Time to STAND, TO STAND HAND & HAND w/ victims...  
It's Time STAND Against Domestic Violence  
& sexual ASSAULT.  
use your HAND TO STAND AGAINST violence

By signing a budget that  
Prioritizes funds to support  
Programs that shelter, train, educate & support  
Women & children who are victims of  
Domestic violence. Violence Against Women &  
children can no longer be last on the  
list.

PLEASE TAKE A STAND, PUT THE PEN IN HAND  
& INCREASE FUNDING FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Testifier [Signature]

Representing (Optional)  
1611 3<sup>rd</sup> AVE #1 KENAI AK  
Address 99611

283-9479  
Phone No.



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the FINANCE  
 committee name  
 committee on \_\_\_\_\_, dated MARCH 23, 1996  
 bill/subject

I Support public radio AVAILABLE throughout ALASKA.

Please consider capping permanent fund dividends or  
 institute A state-wide tax to close budget shortages.

Signed: Jeff Graham JEFF GRAHAM  
 Testifier  
Myself  
 Representing (Optional)  
P.O. Box 1725 Soldotna, AK 99669  
 Address  
203-3793  
 Phone No.

TO: House Finance Committee  
State Capitol, Room 519  
Juneau, 99801-1182

From: Ph/fax 262-9601

Re: Reserve a safety net for your constituents when their jobs are lost  
by slashed state spending

Date: 3/23/96

From: James E. Fisher,  pro bono leg counsel, Alaska Legal Services (ALSC)

At a recent constituent hearing, I was shocked when my request to increase ALSC's grant, was emotionally and emphatically illustrated by the requests of more than 20 very worried employees of the Alaska Employment Service, concerned over prospective unemployment when lack of funding deletes the Kenai, Homer and Seward Offices. I predict, only a short time will pass until some of those neighbors will need Alaska Legal Services for help in a crisis resulting from unemployment.

It is probably not much comfort to those Alaskans, that the prospective job loss imminent for them, is apparently the fault of less Federal funding.

As a safety net, when your constituents lose jobs from slashed state spending, I urge the reservation of 1% of the sum(s) cut from state programs, to be added to the present level of the Alaska Legal Services allocation. If this safety net is reserved to ALSC it would assure the continuation of crisis help for those "knocked off their feet" by slashed state spending.

Many Alaskans feel insecure over the job/economy situation--which is probably not helped by repeated media reports of drastically proposed less state spending.<sup>1</sup>

To provide the crisis help for children, families, and other vulnerable Alaskans, legislative strengthening of the ALSC grant is wise because:

>>> ALSC is uniquely able to help Alaskans hurt by slashed state spending.  
>>>ALSC has a proven record of helping Alaskans catapulted into severe crisis to get "back on their feet" and is functioning statewide.

---

<sup>1</sup> Senator John Sachet, as a former Finance Chair, observed that 2000 jobs (state, local & private) would be lost for each \$100,000,000 in slashed state spending.

Without the direction of Ak Legal Services the Pro Bono Program will not perform. The private lawyers will be unable to systematically contribute to justice in Alaska, as such lawyers do now under the Pro Bono Program. Therefore, if Ak Legal Services is weakened (or horrors, vanishes if ALSC collapses) the amount of pro bono justice will decline, possibly to a drastic extent.

For protection of your constituents, I implore you to reserve to the ALSC grant an additional 1% of any overall state spending cuts, to insure crisis help will be available when it will be desperately needed by our Alaskan neighbors.

Thanks again for hearing my plea,

James E. Fisher  
171 Farnsworth Blvd. 99669, ph/fax:262-9601

(HF32396h.ear)



## Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance Committee committee on SB197/Operating Budget, dated 3/22/96.

Please protect funding for victim services in Alaska. Domestic violence & sexual assault are public safety issues which directly affect the lives of many Alaskans.

Consider:

- Alaskan women are killed at 1.5 times the national average.
- Last year, 67% of the murders investigated by the Alaska State Troopers involved domestic violence.
- Alaska leads the nation in per capita sexual assaults of adults.

The Alaska Network on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault has identified a \$735,500 current ~~unmet~~ financial need for victim service programs around the state. Locally, we at the Women's Resource & Crisis Center in Kenai are unable to adequately provide the requested children's services due to lack of sufficient funding. Women and children who need to reach our safe shelter from rural communities often must stay in abusive situations because there is not enough funding for their emergency travel.

Maintenance funding will not meet the current need. We urge you to deal with this public safety issue responsibly by ensuring that shelter and advocacy services are funded at a level which offers victims the safety and protection they deserve. Budget cuts should not endanger the lives of women and children. Thank you for your support.

Signed:

*Brenda G. Wieffering* 3/22/96

Brenda G. Wieffering, Executive Director  
Women's Resource & Crisis Center  
325 S. Spruce St., Kenai, AK 99611

Phone: 283-9479



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
 committee name  
 committee on SB197  
STATE OPERATING BUDGET dated 3/23/96  
 bill/subject

How could you ever consider withdrawing funding of shelters for victims of Domestic violence and sexual assault?

Where do you propose the victims should go? Stay and get abused some more? Put friends or families lives in jeopardy when the abuser comes after them with knife or gun?

If you don't believe it happens, research. ~~articles~~ articles in the Anchorage Daily News (ie Willa Pritchard, Susan Overbeck, Joyce Simpson, Theresa ~~Sass~~ 3/6/96, 3/20/96, 3/6/96, 9/30/95) to name just a few.

Maybe human life isn't as valuable as animal life. Consider the number of animal shelters compared to women + children shelters. Nationwide, for every 9 animal shelters there's 1 domestic violence shelter. Please think long & hard, what are the alternatives?

Signed: Gail Rivera  
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)  
P.O. Box 4244 Soldotna AK 99669  
 Address  
907-283-4884  
 Phone No.



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
 committee name  
 committee on STATE OPERATING BUDGET dated 3/23/96  
 bill/subject

It is imperative that we continue to provide Shelter to victims of domestic violence and sexual Assault. Alaska leads the nation in domestic violence and sexual assault. It would be tragic, given the statistics we have, to cut needed support and shelter - it would only lead to endangering victims even more.

Signed: Cheri Smith  
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)

Box 1747 Kenai

Address

283-4709

Phone No.



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HFIN  
 committee name  
 committee on HB 412 , dated 3-23-96  
 bill/subject

I would like to speak out in favor of funding for Public Broadcasting, both TV and radio. The development of PBS was such a positive step forward; it would be very sad to lose it now. It is more important than ever to have access to this source of information. PBS sets high standards for an industry desperately in need of standards. PBS is a reliable source of family and educational entertainment. Commercial TV has so little to offer a discerning audience. I am a contributing member of my local PBS media but these funds raised by my neighbors are not enough. Please support PBS in our state. Thank you.

Signed: *Gretchen L. Hundertma* Gretchen L. Hundertma  
 Testifier  
self  
 Representing (Optional)  
HCI Box 3812, Sterling, AK 99672  
 Address  
(907) 262-1907  
 Phone No.



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance  
committee name  
 committee on Budget, dated 3-23-96.  
bill/subject

After reading the 95 report to the Board of Forestry by ADF+G Habitat and Restoration Division and then hearing about proposed cuts to the Habitat division I have these comments.

When ADF+G staff uniformly believe implementation of the F.P.A. remains seriously deficient this alarms me. When funding cuts (proposed and in last three years) for proper monitoring make it difficult to protect the other resources (fish and wildlife) this alarms me.

"ADF+G cannot confidently advise the Board of Forestry or the public on the full range of effects <sup>on</sup> forest practices on Alaska's fish and wildlife resources (95 report). This is plainly shortsighted and probably damaging to commercial fishing especially when you view the Cumulative effects. Please restore then increase funding to ADF+G

Signed: John Z Murray  
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)  
224 OBSERVATORY ST SITKA

Address  
907 747 6212

Phone No.



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the FINANCE Committee  
 committee name  
 committee on BUDGET, dated 23 MARCH 1996.  
 bill/subject

I WAS, AND AM HORRIFIED TO KNOW ~~THE~~  
 THAT THERE HAS BEEN A RECENT VOTE TO  
 ZERO FUND THE ARTS COUNCIL. THE ARTS OUR  
 OUR HISTORY AND OUR FUTURE, THE ARTS REFLECT  
 OUR HUMANITY. IN ALASKA THE ARTS PROGRAMS IN  
 THE SCHOOLS - ESPECIALLY RURAL SCHOOLS WHERE BUDGET  
 CUTS HAVE ELIMINATED FULL-TIME ARTS PROGRAMS -  
 HAVE SIGNIFICANT IMPACT, TALENT HAS BEEN NURTURED  
 BY OTHER YOUTH ARTS PROGRAMS. THEY ARE OUR  
 FUTURE. CREATIVITY ~~IDEAS~~ BUILDS SELF-ESTEEM,  
 OFFERS HOPE, POSSIBILITIES, AND TEACHES PROBLEM SOLVING.  
 THE ARTS ARE NOT A LUXURY - THEY ARE ESSENTIAL.  
 I URGE YOU RESTORE FUNDING TO THE ARTS COUNCIL.

I URGE YOU, AS WELL, TO NOT CUT PUBLIC BROAD-  
 CASTING. YOUR PUBLIC - ESPECIALLY IN SMALLER COMMUNITIES  
 DEPENDS ON THE NEWS, WEATHER, PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCE-  
 MENTS. PUBLIC BROADCASTING IS A LIFELINE OF CONNECTION WITH

Signed: Linda Halton LINDA HALTON  
 Testifier

SELF  
 Representing (Optional)

439 VERSTOVIA ST. SITKA 99835  
 Address

747-6910  
 Phone No.

AND  
 BETWEEN  
 OUR  
 COMMUNITIES  
 WE DO  
 NOT WANT  
 THIS  
 CUT



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance  
 committee name  
 committee on Budget/HB 366, dated 3/29/96  
 bill/subject

I would like to offer the following testimony on behalf of the Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association (ALFA). ALFA is a Sitka based fishermen's organization with over 100 members in communities throughout Southeast. On behalf of ALFA's membership, I would like to express our disappointment that funding for the Alaska Marine Safety Education Association (AMSEA) has been cut from the budget and request this committee restore it.

Commercial fishing has changed a lot in recent years, one of the positive changes has been an increase in safety and a decrease in the number of lives lost each year. This change is almost entirely due to the training AMSEA provides <sup>on</sup> how to plan for an emergency and use the safety equipment on board. AMSEA is the major and often sole organization that provides this training in communities throughout the state.

The numbers show the importance and effectiveness of this training is with a question. Deaths in commercial fisheries have decreased by over 50% and statewide deaths has also decreased by 50%.

The only question is how to secure stable funding for AMSEA. Rep. AUSTERMANN'S HB 366 earmarks 50% of the largest ~~fishery~~ commercial fishermen's contribution to fisherman's fund earn for AMSEA. This is consistent with the goals of fisherman's fund and has ALFA's full support. In closing, I would like to stress the importance

Signed: DANIEL FALVEY  
 Testifier

ALFA  
 Representing (Optional)

Box 6083 Sitka 99835  
 Address

747-8710  
 Phone No.

THE IMPORTANCE & EFFECTIVENESS OF AMSEA'S TRAINING, AND THE NEED FOR YOUR COMMITTEE TO RESTORE THE \$80,000 FUNDING IF AMSEA IS TO CONTINUE TO EXIST.



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance Committee  
committee name

committee on Subcommittee Clean Budget dated March 22, 1996  
bill/subject

I urge the House Finance Committee to restore funding to the Alaska State Council on the Arts. ASCA is a model state agency in terms of serving a maximum number of people with a minimum amount of funding. ASCA's budget is currently only 11% of what it was in 1983. In spite of this drastic 89% cut over the years, ASCA has continued to serve a wide variety of people and communities. Last year's ASCA grants went to 46 communities and enriched the lives of thousands of Alaskans and in turn generated thousands more dollars in these communities. The arts are not a frill in our lives; they are essential to the well being of Alaskan citizens and communities. Elimination of ASCA is not a cost saving measure. It would, rather, cost the state and its communities the thousands of matching dollars that are raised from federal, corporate, and local sources.

I also urge reinstatement of full funding for public broadcasting. Public radio is an essential service for Alaskans in rural communities. It provides vital communication links for people all over the state.

Signed: Carolyne Servid  
Testifier

Representing (Optional)  
P.O. Box 2420, Sitka

Address  
907-747-3794

Phone No.

House Finance Committee Secretary

F. 465-2228

Please copy + distribute to all members

Re Funding for public Radio/TV.

Ladies + Gentlemen.

I have previously supported public Radio + TV both with donated time and money. I will continue to do so in the future.

I believe that public Radio/TV is most important to our community + Alaska rural areas as a whole.

Please do not further cut public Radio/TV funding.

---

Sincerely,

David A. Berg

P.O. Box 1435

Petersburg 99833

907-772-3404

**FAX TRANSMISSION**

**TO:** HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

**FAX #:** 465-~~218~~ 2278

**DATE:** 3-23-96

**MESSAGE:** One page to follow

**Subsistence Division Budget Cuts: \$200 GF**

- This represents a 15% cut and is in addition to the legislative reduction of \$395 for the current year and further erodes the state's ability to regain subsistence management.
- Reliable subsistence information collected by the division will become increasingly outdated and new information will not be collected in most areas. The division will become simply a cataloger of old information.
- The Boards of Fisheries and Game will have to increasingly depend on information collected under state harvest ticket and permit systems, which are notoriously inaccurate for representing subsistence hunting patterns in villages.
- The Boards will not have the information they need to precisely allocate resources to subsistence and other uses, resulting in more conservative management of these resources.
- Collaborative projects with subsistence user groups will not take place using state funding.
- The division will not have the core staff to attract federal money for subsistence research. Staff will not be able to directly participate in resource management decisions.
- Remaining staff in the division will be centralized in Juneau, Anchorage, or Fairbanks. Regional office functions will be closed in Angoon, Nome, and Fort Yukon, and possibly Dillingham and Bethel. At least 3 PFTs and 1 seasonal position will be laid-off.

**Sport Fish Division Budget Cut: \$100GF**

- The division added \$200 in GF/Program Receipts in FY97 to reflect revenue from Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association for the release of approximately 400,000 king salmon smolt at Earl West Cove. This reduction cuts the funding in half.
- The number of king salmon smolt produced and released will be substantially reduced and the cost effectiveness of running the Crystal Lake Hatchery will be jeopardized.

**Agency-wide Travel Reduction: \$101.2 GF**

- The department has over 40 offices statewide and literally hundreds of field camps to operate. The department is also very active in negotiations, treaties, legal disputes and a variety of other interactions on both the national and international level. As a result, travel is an integral part of the department's mission of managing the state's fish and wildlife resources.
- This cut is based on an inaccurate proration of general funds in the travel line and penalized the department for attempting to reflect the actual costs of travel in its budget. State agencies do not normally track line item expenditures by funding source.
- The cut has been evenly distributed throughout the department with approximately 75% coming out of the Commercial Fisheries Management and Development division.

# Cordova District Fishermen United

Celebrating 61 Years of Service to Commercial Fishermen in Cordova, Alaska  
P.O. Box 939 Cordova, Alaska 99574 / Telephone (907) 424-3447 / Fax (907) 424-3430

## ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME-IMPACTS OF PROPOSED FY97 GENERAL FUND REDUCTIONS BY THE HOUSE FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE

### Commercial Fisheries Management and Development Budget Cuts: \$400 GF

- This cut is in addition to the governor's budget reduction which cut \$200 GF and replaced it with program receipts for the limnology program.
- This additional reduction includes half of the program receipts (\$100) in the governor's budget as well as \$300 GF. This cut will limit the ability to do the science that allows the department to maximize sockeye salmon production—the bread and butter of the commercial fishing industry.
- It all but eliminates the division's regional planning program for hatchery production. It eliminates the people who would develop a comprehensive plan for statewide hatchery salmon production and it slows the development of new fisheries like sea urchins.
- Cuts an additional \$292.8 in fish and game funds which will prohibit the division from using the proceeds of civil judgements to conduct mitigation projects, such as the one to determine what has caused the serious decline in production of Nushagak coho salmon.
- Could result in the lay-off of up to 12 PFTs.

### Habitat and Restoration Division Budget Cuts: \$395.7 GF

- The proposed level of general funds will result in major damage to the division's primary management tool for salmon protection: the stream permitting component.
- This proposal is bad for fish, bad for fishermen, and will hurt small operators and industries that rely on the division to help them with design and construction of "fish friendly" facilities. It is not legal for the division to use its federal funds for permitting.
- The division has already eliminated general funds for lower priority projects in order to safeguard the salmon protection program. This proposed budget cut will hurt our ability to work on major initiatives like the Kenai River Center and efforts to develop gold mining projects that minimize effects on fish and wildlife in the Fairbanks area.
- The division will close area offices and review permits from paper, in urban offices, with limited field visits. This represents a 17% cut and is in addition to the \$500 legislative reduction for the current year. It could result in the lay-off of up to 5 PFTs.

# Cordova District Fishermen United

Celebrating 61 Years of Service to Commercial Fishermen in Cordova, Alaska  
P.O. Box 939 Cordova, Alaska 99574 / Telephone (907) 424-3447 / Fax (907) 424-3430

March 23, 1996

Rick Halford & Steve Frank, Co-Chairs  
Senate Finance Committee  
Capital Building  
Juneau, AK 99801

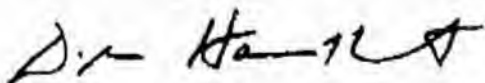
Mark Hanley & Richard Foster, Co-Chairs  
House Finance Committee  
Capital Building  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Msrs. Halford, Frank, Hanley and Foster:

Cordova District Fishermen United (CDFU), the oldest association of commercial fishermen in the State of Alaska, is pleased to submit the enclosed testimony for the record concerning the impacts to the Alaska Department of Fish & Game of the proposed FY97 General Fund reductions by the House Finance Subcommittee.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at the number above. Thank you for your consideration and leadership.

Sincerely,  
CORDOVA DISTRICT FISHERMEN UNITED



Dome Hawxhurst, Executive Director

22 March 1996

Dear Representative Vic Kohring,

We were shocked to hear the news from three public radio stations throughout Alaska, small to large, that funding for public broadcasting is in grave danger of being cut. We can't imagine how rural Alaska will keep up on the events of the world, including their state and local region, without access to the public radio stations that broadcast around the state.

We are ardent supporters of KTNA here in Talkeetna. We give a small amount of money, and we spend several hours a week volunteering. Our radio is on and tuned to KTNA throughout the day. We are informed, entertained, and educated by our local public radio station. In the morning, at midday, and in the evening, we hear national news through NPR and Pacifica, state news through APRN, and local news from KTNA. I understand that cutting funds to public radio or public television would practically eliminate APRN's ability to broadcast over satellite. A cut to KTNA's funds would severely hamper their ability to provide three half-hour news programs each day. The news staff there now consists of one three-quarter time position. How would we know what was happening in the rest of the world and in our local world without APRN and KTNA? The loss of the state satellite would prevent KTNA from rebroadcasting NPR from KUAC or KSKA as they presently do.

Have you ever tried to receive Anchorage radio signals in Talkeetna or anyplace else in the upper Susitna Valley? I just scanned the AM and FM dials on my radio and I picked up Christian radio, rock-n-roll, rock-n-roll, static, rock-n-roll, static, country, and more rock-n-roll. We have a fairly nice stereo receiver. I wonder what someone in the Bush picks up on a battery powered radio. KTNA. If KTNA folds, they lose information and connection to the news stream, not to mention the ability to hear a wide variety of music.

Please do not eliminate rural Alaska's access to public information. We are fortunate enough to live on the highway system so we can receive a newspaper. We can even get Channel 2. But how much Mat-Su or Talkeetna news does any Anchorage media cover? Maybe one or two items a week and those tend to be features, not real news about what affects our life up here. KTNA is our source of information on the events in the Mat-Su area. Let's not forget that Alaska is primarily a rural state. I'd rather see my tax dollars go to public broadcasting than to more law enforcement or prisons or wherever else you want to spend the money.

**The only purpose the elimination of funds serves is to prevent the people of the state from being informed about their government's actions. They will know that you took that away from them. But they won't know what you did with that money because they won't be able to listen to their public radio station to hear APRN or their local news.**

**PLEASE DO NOT ELIMINATE FUNDING FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING!**

Sincerely,

Corinne Smith

Paul Button

PO Box 138, Talkeetna, AK 99676

*Corinne Smith*  
*Paul Button*

P.S. Unfortunately we cannot pickup Channel 7, but we do not think the public television budget should be cut either.

cc: Rep. Mark Hanley, Rep. Richard Foster

**David & Maryann Frazier**  
2636 Shepherdia Drive  
Anchorage AK 99508  
274-2869

---

March 23, 1996

To: Sean Parnell  
House Finance Committee Member

Re: Funding cuts for Alaska State Council on the Arts (ASCA)

My husband and I are long time residents: 37 years for me and 28 years for him. He owns and runs an insurance brokerage company here and I am a bookkeeper. We own a home, a 4-plex and property. We have two children in school, one in junior high and one in grade school. We are all concerned about the proposed funding cuts to eliminate the ASCA and the devastating impact it would have on the entire state.

You see, we are more than just taxpayers and students. We are also citizens of this state, and as such, we are representatives of life in Alaska when we travel, and we travel quite a bit. Eliminating funding for the Arts doesn't just hurt the Art community, it hurts everyone. Art in this isolated region of the world is a connecting and uniting force. Without it we become void culturally. Without culture there is no richness to life. Without that, we simply labor.

My family would have little to stay in Alaska for if funding for the arts is eliminated. I am not just a bookkeeper, but also a dancer and painter. Both of my children dance and the oldest is a budding musician. My husband and I spend our extra money on supporting live performance and visual arts in Alaska. We have seen the magic the arts has on our lives and our children and know that it must continue for us. There are other states who value the arts. Must we be so short sighted?

**Please vote for continuing the ASCA. Our family does not support eliminating the Council or its role in Alaska.**

Maryann and David Frazier

3/23/96

Representative Sean Parnell  
Finance Committee  
Fax: 465-2278

Dear Representative Parnell,

Your proposed cut to public broadcasting is very distressing to me. I depend on the local, national and International news I get from my local radio station, KBBI, APRN, and National Public Radio and from the Jim Lehrer News Hour on PBS. None of Homer's commercial radio stations make any effort to provide the kind of news coverage I get from these sources.

My children grew up watching Sesame Street. Now they watch Nova, Bill Nye - Science Guy, The New Explorers. My high school daughter is taking a PE class via distance education from UAA. These programs educate above and beyond school! My husband and I keep in touch with what is going on around the state by watching Anchorage Edition and 120 Days - without that, we wouldn't know what's going on in Juneau! By the way, did you see the program last week called Hollywood vs. Religion? It was an excellent expose' on how badly religion (especially Christianity) is treated by many movie makers of today. It really made me think about it!

I make large contributions to both public radio and public television because they are very important to my family. Your \$800,000 cut is a relatively small amount of money in the statewide scheme of things, but it is enough to devastate one or the other of these entities. Please do not kill something that benefits so many people in our state. Public radio and television are resource goldmines that help bring the people of this huge state together!

Please reconsider your vote! Thankyou for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
*Tina Seaton*  
Tina Seaton  
58360 Bruce Dr.  
Homer, AK 99603

CC:Speaker of the House, Representative Gail Phillips

Pat Nunde

PO Box 30

Petersburg Ak 99833

House Finance Committee

Re: HB 412

Just of \$800,000+ cut to Public Broadcasting are too much again!

The proposed cuts to public radio would almost certainly kill APRN. With cuts of this magnitude stations would no longer be able to pay APRN membership dues, eliminating Alaska's only source of statewide news and information. This FY, locally, we are paying only a fraction of the full membership fee. With further cuts - we could be out of APRN.

Public broadcasting funding has already been cut by almost 70% over the past few years. The system has been pushed to the brink and needs time to recover from last year's reductions.

Here in Alaska you are cutting people and just money.

Please think of the small outlying communities all around the state when you are discussing this bill. Life does indeed exist outside of Anchorage and Fairbanks.

Thank you for this opportunity to express my views.

Patricia Hinkle

3/23/96

Representative Pete Kelly  
Finance Committee  
Fax: 465-2278

Dear Representative Kelly,

Your proposed cut to public broadcasting is very distressing to me. I depend on the local, national and International news I get from my local radio station, KBBI, APRN, and National Public Radio and from the Jim Lehrer News Hour on PBS. None of Homer's commercial radio stations make any effort to provide the kind of news coverage I get from these sources.

My children grew up watching Sesame Street. Now they watch Nova, Bill Nye - Science Guy, The New Explorers. My high school daughter is taking a PE class via distance education from UAA. These programs educate above and beyond school! My husband and I keep in touch with what is going on around the state by watching Anchorage Edition and 120 Days - without that, we wouldn't know what's going on in Juneau! By the way, did you see the program last week called Hollywood vs. Religion? It was an excellent expose' on how badly religion (especially Christianity) is treated by many movie makers of today. It really made me think about it!

I make large contributions to both public radio and public television because they are very important to my family. Your \$800,000 cut is a relatively small amount of money in the statewide scheme of things, but it is enough to devastate one or the other of these entities. Please do not kill something that benefits so many people in our state. Public radio and television are resource goldmines that help bring the people of this huge state together!

Please reconsider your vote! Thankyou for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
*Tina Seaton*  
Tina Seaton  
58360 Bruce Dr.  
Homer, AK 99603

CC:Speaker of the House, Representative Gail Phillips



# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance  
(committee name)

committee on \_\_\_\_\_ dated 3/22/96  
(bill/subject)

Public broadcasting is Alaska's connection to the rest of the world and within Alaska. We ~~fish~~ in commercial fish in Eggik during the summer. When our net was off the air we lost contact with what was happening in Alaska and the rest of the world. We had no idea what the weather held in store for us which is very important when you spend a lot of time on the water and in the air flying. If an emergency came up we had no way of knowing (we also do not have a phone). The public TV & radio are very important for our safety.

Signed: Bonnie Perata  
(Testifier)

(Representing / Optional)  
PO box 16916 Seward AK 99684  
(Address)  
224-5638  
(Phone No.)

1 1 2 X U S V L O I C W I

1 1 2 X U S V L O I C W I

---

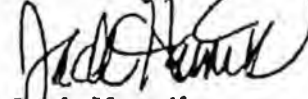
Art is very important to everyone's life. Could  
you imagine life without it. Art is necessary for  
our well being. Keep life beautiful Do not  
cut funds for the Arts

To: Members of the House Finance Committee

Re: Public Broadcasting in Alaska

Once again, public broadcasting is under attack. As a consumer of public radio, I can't understand why. It is the only way in the areas I live and work that information is disseminated. KGTL, KBBI, and KSDP mean a lot to myself and many others. I was a charter member of KSDP and am proud of it. Many from that area that benefit from the programming, such as weather, fishing openings, community news, the broadcasting of Board of Fish meetings, announcements, tsunami warnings, and (horror of horrors) entertainment, will not write in support of public radio, but we all listen and its importance cannot be underestimated. Homer, where I live during the winter, has an excellent station due to the dedication and hard work of many volunteers. KBBI not only does the community announcements in a clear and pleasant format, it goes out of its way to be educational besides informative. Kachemak Currents, Earth and Sky, Rabbit Ears Radio, National Press Club, Reading Between the Lines, National Public Radio, Monitor Radio, Christy the Wordsmith, Kachemak Review, Click and Clack, Homer City Council meetings, Coffee Table, Governor's Call-In, legislative addresses, community calendar, 51%, Morning Edition, and the list goes on and on in the effort to keep us educated and informed. This type of material and information is found nowhere else on radio, television, or computer internet. The public service rendered by public radio, and also public television, is the biggest bang for the buck possible for keeping the populace up to date on events and happenings, local and worldwide. But these services have been cut in recent years to where even heavy community involvement, support, and donations cannot take up the slack. Please help keep the communities in which I live and work alive with public radio. I feel we deserve to keep abreast of happenings throughout our world, nation, state, and community.

Sincerely,



Jack Hamik  
4002 Kachemak Way  
Homer, Alaska 99603

cc: Speaker of the House Gail Phillips

Joyce and Elmer Landingham  
P.O. Box 210055  
Auke Bay, AK 99821

March 22, 1996

Rep. Mark Hanley, Chair  
House Finance Committee

Dear Rep. Hanley:

We are writing in support of Public Broadcasting, both radio and television. We oppose the proposed cut of \$808K which is being considered. We have lived in Juneau for over 30 years. During this time we have observed and supported the inception and growth of Juneau's FM station, and later, the television station. Recently we have applauded the efforts of the local station, KTOO, together with the PBS stations in Fairbanks and Bethel to respond creatively to funding cuts with the inception of AlaskaOne, a unified station which brings diverse parts of our state together.

Although most of our viewing and listening time centers on PBS, we also are aware of what is being offered on commercial stations. Though we do not have children in our home, we think that children's programming should be of the highest caliber -- fun for children, participatory, and exposing them to interesting and challenging ideas -- qualities we have not observed in commercial programming (especially radio). We especially appreciate the quality and depth of news brought to us by PBS. We appreciate the opportunity to hear more than one side of an issue in a thoughtful, non-bombastic manner. Programs on natural history, science, history, drama, music, and much more are of the highest quality and fill a niche left (mostly) empty by commercial programming.

Our PBS stations listen to what we, the viewers and listeners, are interested in and invite our participation. PBS is strongly supported by volunteers working at the station in many functions from production to fund-raising. This is an important part of what helps us function as a community. Communities throughout Alaska are supported by PBS bringing local news, politics, local events, and special programming to us throughout the year in a way that keeps us informed and interested in public process.

Public broadcasting in Alaska is part of what keeps us connected to what is happening in communities in our state, our nation, and indeed, throughout the world. Many people I know have accepted employment in Alaska partly on the strength of public broadcasting here -- it is a vital part of Alaskan life. Please do not curtail the activities and contributions of public broadcasting. We encourage you to restore funding to PBS in Alaska.

Sincerely,

*Joyce H. Landingham*

Joyce H. Landingham

*Elmer L. Landingham*

Elmer L. Landingham

cc:

Rep. Richard Foster  
Rep. Vic Kohring  
Rep. Gail Phillips  
Gov. Tony Knowles

David W Schnicker  
Bonnie S Jason  
PO Box 424  
Homer, AK 99603

235-8984

March 22, 1996

Dear House Finance Committee Member,

We urge you to not support further cuts in the funding to public broadcasting. We rely a great deal on our local public broadcasting station to keep us informed on issues local, state wide and national.

Thank you for your attention to our concern.

Sincerely,

  
Bonnie S. Jason

TO: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
FR: CONCERNED CITIZENS, FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING

MARCH 22, 1996

YOUR PROPOSED SUB-COMMITTEE CUTS ARE VERY EXTREME AND DEFINITELY WILL HARM PUBLIC BROADCASTING. PLEASE RECONSIDER THIS PROPOSAL AND RESTORE OUR FUNDS.

AS YOU PROBABLY DON'T KNOW MUCH OF THIS REMOTE AREA, THIS IS OUR ONLY WAY TO REACH OTHER COMMUNITIES WITH LOCAL & STATE NEWS, WE DO FISHING REPORTS, WEATHER, WHICH IS A MAIN NECESSITY FOR THE FISHERMEN OF OUR AREA. ALSO WITH OUR AREA OF ALASKA, WE DO HAVE EARTHQUAKES AND TSUNAMI WARNINGS THAT WE DO NEED TO BROADCAST TO WARN THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES WITHIN THE ALEUTIAN EAST BOROUGH. THE EMERGENCY BROADCAST SYSTEM IS VERY IMPORTANT TO US. OUR RADIO STATION CANNOT AFFORD TO LOSE ANY MORE FUNDS, WE ARE STILL RECOVERING FROM LAST YEAR'S BUDGET CUTS.

AGAIN, PLEASE RECONSIDER THIS PROPOSAL. WE SUPPORT PUBLIC BROADCASTING.

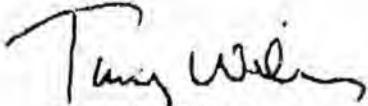
SINCERELY,



SAND POINT, ALASKA

The Council's programs mean that all Alaskans have affordable local access to the arts. In FY95, arts attendance totaled almost two million. On a per capita basis, every Alaskan attends three to four cultural events a year. The artists and arts organizations of Alaska offer services and programs that every community needs and attend to problems that every community faces. The State Arts Council promotes healthy communities, nurtures children, and helps create jobs.

Sincerely,



Timothy Wilson  
Executive Director

cc: House Finance DOE Committee Members  
Commissioner Shirley Holloway, DOE  
Pat Pourchot, Legislative Director, Office of the Governor

David W Schneider  
Bonnie S Jason  
PO Box 424  
Homer, AK 99603

235-8984

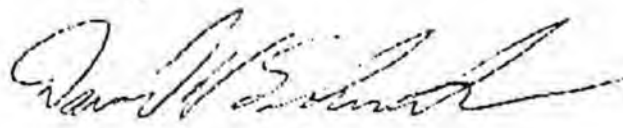
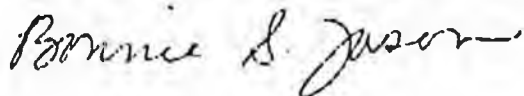
March 22, 1996

Dear House Finance Committee Member,

We urge you to not support further cuts in the funding to public broadcasting. We rely a great deal on our local public broadcasting station to keep us informed on issues local, state wide and national.

Thank you for your attention to our concern.

Sincerely,

To: Members of the House Finance Committee

Re: Public Broadcasting In Alaska

Once again, public broadcasting is under attack. As a consumer of public radio, I can't understand why. It is the only way in the areas I live and work that information is disseminated. KGTL, KBBI, and KSDP mean a lot to myself and many others. I was a charter member of KSDP and am proud of it. Many from that area that benefit from the programming, such as weather, fishing openings, community news, the broadcasting of Board of Fish meetings, announcements, tsunami warnings, and (horror of horrors) entertainment, will not write in support of public radio, but we all listen and its importance cannot be underestimated. Homer, where I live during the winter, has an excellent station due to the dedication and hard work of many volunteers. KBBI not only does the community announcements in a clear and pleasant format, it goes out of its way to be educational besides informative. Kachemak Currents, Earth and Sky, Rabbit Ears Radio, National Press Club, Reading Between the Lines, National Public Radio, Monitor Radio, Christy the Wordsmith, Kachemak Review, Click and Clack, Homer City Council meetings, Coffee Table, Governor's Call-In, legislative addresses, community calendar, 51%, Morning Edition, and the list goes on and on in the effort to keep us educated and informed. This type of material and information is found nowhere else on radio, television, or computer internet. The public service rendered by public radio, and also public television, is the biggest bang for the buck possible for keeping the populace up to date on events and happenings, local and worldwide. But these services have been cut in recent years to where even heavy community involvement, support, and donations cannot take up the slack. Please help keep the communities in which I live and work alive with public radio. I feel we deserve to keep abreast of happenings throughout our world, nation, state, and community.

Sincerely,



Jack Hamik

4002 Kachemak Way  
Homer, Alaska 99603

cc: Speaker of the House Gail Phillips

March 22 1996

*Opposing Public Broadcasting Funding cuts*

TO: MARK HANLEY  
CO-CHAIR HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
FAX (907) 465 2418


FROM: SARAH POSEY  
HAINES BUSINESS OWNER AND RESIDENT  
P O BOX 123  
HAINES AK 99827  
PHONE & FAX (907) 766-2074

Dear Mr. Hanley,

I am writing to urge you *not* to impose *another* budget cut which would adversely affect the state of public broadcasting in Alaska. Public radio is an essential part of my daily life here in Haines. Our local station, KHNS, is highly informative, well-managed, and a crucial part of the Haine community. I urge you to support the Governor's budget, which does not cut public radio funding. Please, don't cripple the future of public broadcasting in Alaska.

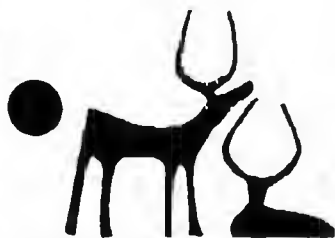
Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,



Sarah Posey  
Haines resident  
Owner, Bear Star Communications (writing and editing services)  
Founder and Director, Inner Mountain Wilderness Education Center (a  
nonprofit outdoor education center for adult cancer survivors)

cc: Richard Foster, co-chair



March 22, 1996

Representative Mark Hanley, Co-Chair  
House Finance Committee  
The Alaska Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 428  
Juneau, AK 99811-1182

Dear Representative Hanley:

I am writing to ask that the House Finance Committee reconsider the House Finance Department of Education Budget Subcommittee's proposed elimination of the Alaska State Council on the Arts.

If eliminated, Alaska would be the only state in the union without a state arts agency. Alaska is ranked 49 out of 50 states in the percentage of general fund spending dedicated to the arts.<sup>1</sup> The Arts Council's State appropriation is about one four-thousandth (1/4000) of 1 percent of the general fund. To put this in perspective, it might be helpful to compare this spending with that of a typical Alaskan household. According to the U.S. Department of Commerce (Census Bureau), the median household income in Alaska is \$41,408. On a household scale, state arts spending is about equivalent to two cheap seats at the movies ( $\$41,408/4000 = \$10.35$ ).

ASCA's FY96 budget is \$1,254,300 --11 percent of what it was in 1983. The Legislature made its first appropriation to the Alaska State Council on the Arts in FY67. With a full-time staff of four, the Council maintains the smallest staff of any state arts agency in the United States. In partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), the Council makes a big impact on Alaska. Council grants invest in communities across Alaska. In FY95, ASCA disbursed \$986,167 in state and federal funds through grant programs. The Arts Council helps local arts organizations raise private contributions. On average, they match ASCA grants ten to one. These grants mean jobs and work for Alaskans. The Council's Arts in Education program reaches 29,000 students and 2,000 teachers to enrich the curricula of local schools.

Congress cut the National Endowment for the Arts 40 percent for FFY96. The Council expects its Federal grants to drop 35% in FY97. In addition to the grants made to the State Arts Council, the NEA made 22 grants directly to arts organizations in Alaska. The Arts Endowment estimates that two-thirds of arts organizations previously served by the Endowment will no longer be funded. This year it is especially important to maintain level state support to help ease the loss the Federal funds.

---

<sup>1</sup>Legislative Appropriations Annual Survey -November 1995, National Assembly of State Arts Agencies; The Fiscal Survey of States: October 1995, Nat. Governor's Assoc. & the Nat. Assoc. of State Budget Officers.

## Alaska State Council on the Arts

411 West 4th Avenue, Suite 1E, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2343 (907) 269-6610 Fax: (907) 269-6601

General Delivery  
Takotna, AK 99675  
March 22, 1996

Dear Legislator,

We like public radio because you tell us about the weather and the news around here. We like its music. Please keep sending the money to help pay for it.

Sincerely,

*Derek Wilson*

Derek Wilson

General Delivery  
Takotna, Alaska 99675  
March 22, 1996

Dear Legislator,

We like public radio because you tell us about the weather and the news around here. We like its music. Please keep sending the money to help to pay for it. I like to listen to the music on the radio or my walkman.

Please don't stop sending money because I like to hear what's going on and to hear the good music they play.

Thank you,

*Misty Wachter*  
Misty Wachter

Dear Legislator  
We Want KSKO Radio  
Station. Please don't  
stop the money. =  
enjoy music and We  
need the radio. We are  
and messages.

thank you

Amanda Paxson.

Dear Legislator,

Amanda G  
Greene  
Takotna A  
99075

We want KSKO radio  
so please do not take  
KSKO away from every  
person because my Grandpa  
loves KSKO.

Takotna Alaska 99075

Amanda Greene.



8  
 C  
 from V.H.H.

KESKO O NO  
 on O-04571

K  
 K  
 K

TO: MARK HANLEY  
FX: 465-2418

TALKEETNA, ALASKA IF ONE FORGETS, IS AT THE "END-OF-THE-ROAD COMMUNITY" OFF THE PARKS HWY AT MILE 98. A COMMUNITY OF 300+ SOULS THAT DEPENDS IN-PART ON ITS PUBLIC RADIO A. P. R. AND LOCAL K.T.N.A. STATION 88.5 FM IN THE WAY ONE DEPENDS ON FOOD-CLOTHING-SHELTER-GAS-FIRST AID etc. THOSE IN THE BUSH LISTEN ARDENTLY FOR "BUSH DENKI ECHO'S" AS THEIR COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE "VILLAGE OF TALKEETNA", OTHERS IN THE BUSH" PUBLIC BROADCASTING MUST NOT BE USED

AS A "BUREAUCRATIC WHIPPING BOY" WHEN IT COMES TO FUNDING BECAUSE SO MUCH DEPENDS ON PUBLIC RADIO IN SMALL VILLAGES.

The countless hours of  
VOLUNTERISM

AND THOSE BEHIND THE SCENES TO present TOP-DRAWER SHOWS FOR OUR LISTENERS — .....

A WINTER IN-TALKEETNA IN A SMALL CABIN WOULD OPEN THE POLITICIANS EYES WHO OTHERWISE MIGHT LIVE IN OUTSIDERS HOMES LIVING IN ALASKA CANNOT POSSIBLY UNDERSTAND HOW MUCH RADIO(NON-COMMERCIAL) MEANS TO



US THAT CHOOSE OUR FORM  
AND WAY OF LIFE.

FUNDING MUST NOT BE CUT  
BUT RATHER INCREASED FOR  
PUBLIC RADIO IN ALASKA.

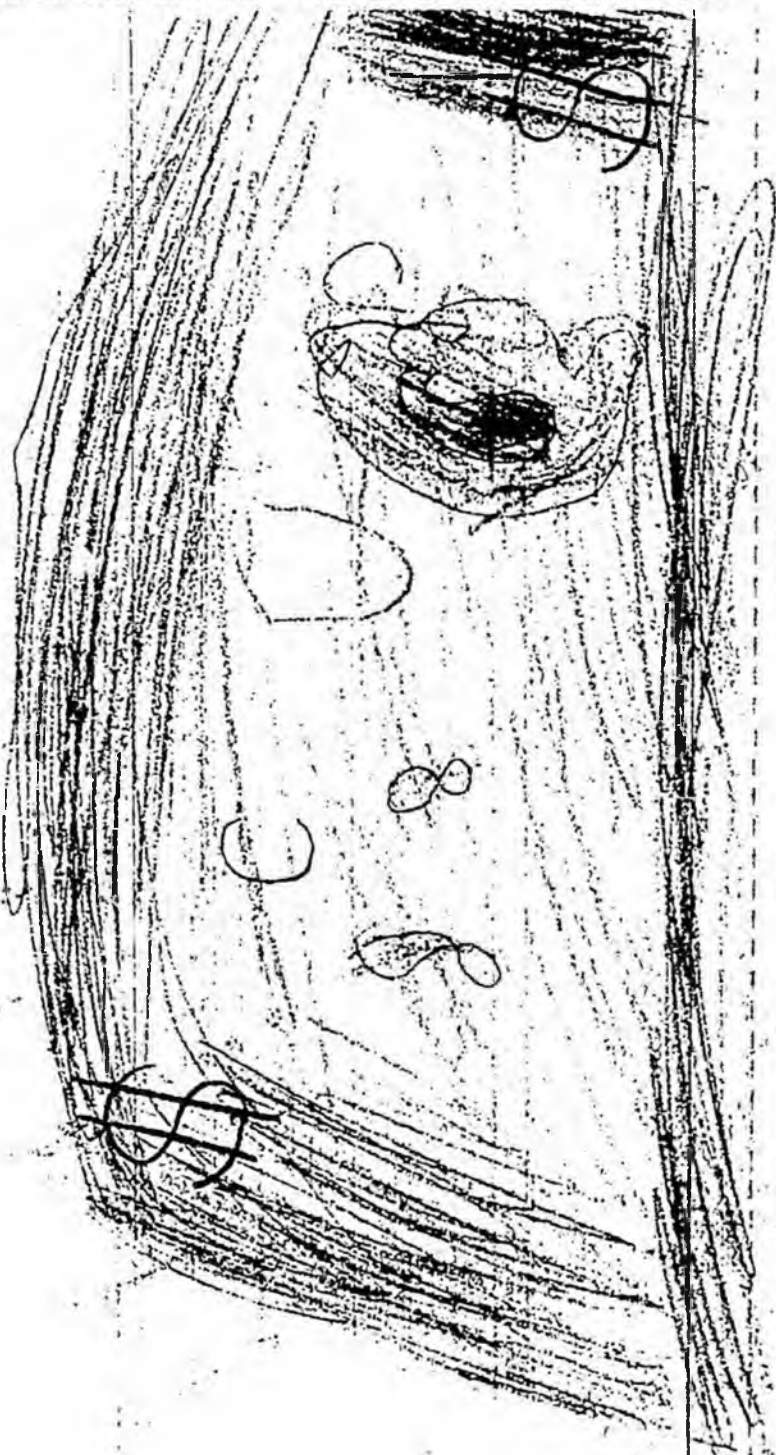
KTNA TALKEETNA  
IS BUT ONE EXAMPLE.

PAUL R. "Pappy" LOWE  
CITIZEN 733-2348

ALSO: PRODUCER  
"MYSTERY-DRAMA-SUSPENSE  
THEATRE"

PRODUCER  
"CHILDRENS RADIO"

ALSO: FILL IN  
NEWS PROGRAM  
MUSIC PROGRAMS



D

K

S

K

r

B

T

Handwritten scribbles at the bottom of the page.

March 22, 1996

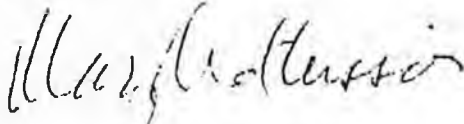
House Finance Committee

Attention: Mark Hanley 465-2418  
Richard Foster 465-3242  
Vic Kohring 465-3818

Dear Sirs:

As a listener/viewer of public radio and television I am writing to express my concern at the proposed cuts in funding that threaten to affect public broadcasting and to urge you to support the Governor's proposed budget. As a resident of Petersburg, where other forms of media are less accessible, I rely heavily on public radio and television for information. I believe the quality of life in rural communities such as Petersburg would be greatly diminished without public broadcasting.

Sincerely,



Mary Mathisson  
General Delivery  
Petersburg AK 99833

Janet Long  
P.O. Box 663  
Whittier, AK 99693

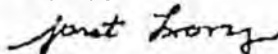
Mark Hanley, Co-Chair  
House Finance Committee  
Juneau, AK

March 21, 1996

Dear Representative Hanley:

It was with shock and disappointment that I heard the news of the House Finance Department of Education Budget Subcommittee 's proposal to eliminate the Alaska State Council on the Arts. I feel it is sometimes difficult for many in the urban mainstream to truly know how cut off the citizens of rural Alaska are from the services and programs vital to a healthy lifestyle. As a parent of two school- aged children and a member of our local educational advisory committee, I am particularly concerned about how the decision to cut funds to the arts would impact the youth of Alaska. Further, would it not make an alarming statement nationally for Alaska to be the only state in the union without an arts agency? Where lie our priorities? How can we ever hope for our young citizens to compete globally without the added depth of character provided by exposure to the multicultural outreach experiences brought to us by the Alaska State Council of the Arts? It has been statistically proven that students involved with arts programs experience both higher test scores and create fewer challenges for their communities. With the loss of 40 percent of federal funds to the National Endowment for the Arts for FY 1996, it is more critical than ever that the state *maintain level support*.

I would thank you greatly for your time and support in this most important issue.

  
Janet Long, Vice-President  
Whittier Community School  
Educational Advisory Committee



# Ingersoll Hotel

DATE: MARCH 21, 1996  
TO: MARK HANLEY AND RICHARD FOSTER  
CO-CHAIRS HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
FROM: ROBERT KOENITZER  
RE: BUDGET CUTS FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING

DEAR SIR;

WHILE I DO SUPPORT REDUCED SPENDING BY STATE GOVERNMENT I AM CONCERNED ABOUT THE CURRENT PROPOSAL TO ELIMINATE OR DRASTICALLY REDUCE FUNDING FOR PUBLIC RADIO AND TELEVISION. ALASKA HAS A WELL DEVELOPED PUBLIC RADIO AND TV PRESENCE. THIS HIGH QUALITY SERVICE IS DEPENDENT ON NATIONAL, STATE AND PRIVATE DOLLARS. IF STATE FUNDING WERE REDUCED TO THE PROPOSED LEVEL IT WOULD BE DEVASTATING. IF CUTS MUST BE MADE PLEASE DO IT IN SMALL INCREMENTS AND OVER A PERIOD OF FIVE TO TEN YEARS. THE DEMISE OF PUBLIC RADIO AND TELEVISION WOULD BE A GREAT LOSS TO ALL ALASKANS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION.

SINCERELY,

ROBERT KOENITZER  
MANAGER, INGERSOLL HOTEL

CC: BILL WILLIAMS  
ROBIN TAYLOR

22 March 1996  
Representative Mark Hanley

Representative Hanley

I am writing with grave concern about the proposal to further cut funding for the State Council of the Arts, and for Public Broadcasting in Alaska.

I feel that this draconian action is very short sighted and mostly politically driven. The conservative movement has recently pointed to the Arts, and Public Broadcasting, as undeserving of public funding support. The reality is very much different.

Very few programs provide the tangible benefits to the state that arts funding does. As a house manager of the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts I regularly see the rewards which come from funding arts organizations. Since we opened our doors in 1988 well over one million people have attended functions as paid patrons. The economic value of this is measureable, and is not by any measure insignificant. National surveys regularly demonstrate a "multiplying factor" for each dollar spent on the arts. This conservatively amounts to a doubling of each dollar spent, and in some cases can be much higher. Every travelling company performing in Alaska spends thousands in hotels and restaurants, and on tourist activities. Patrons to the Center spend dollars on babysitters, parking, clothes, restaurants and post performance activities.

As an additional benefit, each season tens of thousands of school students attend daytime events at reduced or no cost. Two recent children's concerts by the Anchorage Symphony drew 3,000 students for daytime performances. The reactions of the children was beyond heartwarming. At a time when we worry about what our kids are exposed to in the modern world, seeing this crowd watching and responding to great works of symphonic music restored a modicum of hope for their future.

The Public Broadcasting System is also a great multiplier of resources. Any commercial business could only dream about the compound returns the PBS generates from the seed money provided by the state. Not everyone can afford cable television, and public broadcasting gives everyone access to consistent, reliable quality entertainment. The value is beyond measure.

Surely, there are areas which will suffer less from a reallocation of monies than the two described above. We read daily of the lavish waste in state spending, e.g. giving thousands in "office expenses" to an outgoing member, or millions in selling Alaska salmon.

We who support these important issues will be watching the actions of the finance committee in the next weeks. The collective actions of the legislature will reflect in the voting booth.

Jeremy Seftor  
1220 W 11th  
Anchorage 99501

3.22.96

Representative Hanley:

I understand making difficult budget decision. I'm on the board of directors of Narrows Broadcasting Corporation (KFSK, Petersburg) a public radio station that lost a third of our budget last year for a total of 70% in cuts over the past few years. We will not survive another 15% cut coming so soon after such drastic decreases. To indicate otherwise is a misrepresentation of the facts.

One fact is that Alaska is about to take a giant step backwards. In a world where government and business are laboring to increase the public's access to information the \$808,500 reduction in state funding will effectively deny access to life saving emergency messages, education, weather, community public service announcements, and local, state and national news. It will exaggerate the isolation and alienation of the rural population and destroy an existing telecommunications infrastructure.

Public broadcasting has been working to eliminate its dependence on state and federal funding. Reorganization and implementation of cost saving measures are in progress, but we need a chance to succeed. A chance that could be provided through a cut-free recovery period. A chance to save an essential service to rural areas and a communications asset to the state.

Governor Knowles understands this and has recommended funding for public broadcasting remain at last year's level. Don't sacrifice a part of Alaska's future for a temporary victory in the present.

Sincerely,

Chris Weiss  
Box 32  
Petersburg, Alaska 99833

cc: Governor Knowles

LUAN SCHOOLER  
2615 INGRA STREET  
ANCHORAGE, AK 99508-3949  
907/274-7615

---

March 22, 1996

The Honorable Brian Porter  
Fax 907/465-3834

Dear Representative Porter,

I urge you to fund the Alaska State Council on the Arts at the level proposed in Governor Knowles' budget. As your constituent, I ask that you represent my needs and desires in the legislature rather than following the fringe thinking about "necessary" budget cuts. We need the arts in this state and I hope you will work to preserve the tiny state appropriation that enables them to flourish.

I was very angry to read of Representative Kohring's proposal to eliminate the Council by claiming that we cannot afford to fund it. That thinking is specious and I believe it to be sheer political grandstanding. Kohring cut even deeper than House caps required! I hope you will not fall into that same pit. Eliminating the Arts Council will not make any significant difference to the State budget, but it will have an enormous -- and detrimental -- impact on the quality of life here.

The arts contribute to our economy (it ain't just the landscape tourists come here for...), the ability of our children to learn (studies show that children who study music also have higher math scores), and perhaps most importantly, our ability as humans to be compassionate and thoughtful. Alaska already ranks 49th in terms of public money spent on the arts per capita; it would be a great shame to not even be on the chart. Supporting the arts is good, moderate public policy.

I hope to hear soon that you are doing the right thing by supporting arts funding. Then I will be happy to say that you are my representative in Juneau.

Respectfully,  
Luan Schooler

cc: Rep. Mark Hanley  
Rep. Richard Foster  
Rep. Eldon Mulder  
Rep. Sean Parnell  
Rep. Pete Kelly  
Rep. Gene Therriault

Rep. Terry Martin  
Rep. Vic Kohring  
Rep. Kay Brown  
Rep. Ben Grussendorf  
Rep. Mike Navarre

March 21, 1996

Jim Bacon  
Box 210383  
Auke Bay, Ak  
99821

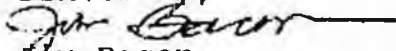
Members of the House Finance Committee,

I am writing to urge you to maintain funding for the Public Broadcasting System. Over my twenty one years living in Alaska my wife and I both have come to rely greatly on the services of public radio and television, primarily for news, however the feature programs are also very valuable.

Alaska is a large state. In my view, Public Broadcasting serves to bring Alaskan's together, giving us the oppurtunity to learn about each others concerns. It would be a great disservice to all Alaskans to end this program.

I respect your efforts to address the fiscal problems facing our State, however, I urge you to maintain enough funding to keep Public Broadcasting.

Sincerely,

  
Jim Bacon

● *MTNT, Limited*

March 21, 1996

Representative Mark Hanley  
House Finance Committee  
Alaska House of Representatives  
Juneau, AK 99801

P.O. Box 309  
McGrath, Alaska 99627  
Office (907)524-3336  
Fax (907)524-3701

Dear Rep. Hanley:

The Finance Committee is scheduled to take up the issue of funding for public broadcasting for FY97 in the near future. When you do I respectfully ask that you consider the following:

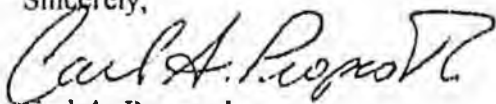
**Only Source of News and Information.** Alaska's rural public radio stations provide the only source of news and other vital information to many bush residents. I am writing this letter to you on a Thursday evening. The most recent copy of the Anchorage Daily News available at the local store is last Monday's. In more remote communities, fish camps, mining camps, etc., even that alternative doesn't exist. In McGrath, as in many other communities, when a moose cow and calf are on the main road, we learn about it on KSKO. When a local resident's house catches on fire, we learn about it on KSKO. And when a bear sow and cub are heading toward someone's dog lot, we hear about the danger on KSKO. KSKO is our primary, if not only, source of information in McGrath and the upper Kuskokwim area.

**Public Radio has taken major budget cuts in recent years.** Last fiscal year the state's public radio budget was reduced by some 40%. Any further budget cuts would have at least two impacts: (1) federal matching funds would be lost because of the state's failure to adequately match these funds; and (2) local radio stations such as KSKO in McGrath would be reduced to repeater status, which, in my opinion, would defeat their purpose.

Public radio stations have become a necessity in bush Alaska, and they should be funded by the state at a level which allows them to survive. Repeater status is not a solution. I am a strong advocate for tight fiscal controls, reduced overhead, etc., but the basic functions of public radio in the Alaskan bush must be maintained. Stations should be expected to raise a portion of their funding from local sources, but in an area with as sparse a population as the upper Kuskokwim, these funds are extremely limited. MTNT, Limited is a major contributor to KSKO. I believe that public radio deserves our continued support. I believe that it is worth yours also.

Your support of continued funding for public radio in bush communities will be most appreciated.

Sincerely,



Carl A. Propes Jr.,  
Chief Executive Officer

A.S. "Micky" Becker  
2026 Crataegus Circle  
Anchorage, AK 99508

March 21, 1996

To the Members of  
the Alaska State House  
Finance Committee

RE: Alaska State Council on the Arts

I am writing to voice my opposition to the FY97 Budget proposal to eliminate funding for the Alaska State Council on the Arts. Your committee is strongly urged to continue funding at last year's budget amount of \$564,000.

This is a quality of life issue as well as an economic issue. Without the contributions of Alaskan arts organizations, this state will find it difficult to attract outside investment and/or business relocation. Not only would this severely affect Anchorage, but since the Council reaches over 45 communities in our state, the impact would be far-reaching and severe.

I don't have to tell this Committee how much trimming the ASCA budget has had to absorb during the last few years! If the Legislature were to trim the remainder of the State budget by only a fraction of what the Arts have had to absorb, your current exercise would not be nearly as challenging. It is always easy to target the arts, but please consider the many educational aspects this latest proposal represents, not to speak of the payroll and economic multiplier effect manifest from arts dollar spending. Last, but not least, at least this year, the National Endowment of the Arts matching dollars would be lost if you were to go ahead with this proposal.

Don't cut the soul out of Alaska! Cut you must, but please try to be equitable and consider the severe paring already effected in the arts!

Sincerely,

Micky Becker

**TO:**

**Representatives**

**Mark Hanley  
Richard Foster  
Pete Kelly  
Gene Theriault  
Vic Kohring  
Ben Grussendorf  
Mike Navarre  
Brian Porter**

**FROM:**

**A. S. Micky Becker  
907 274-6144**

**DATE:**

**March 21, 1996**

## Douglas Island Veterinary Service

Lesley De Krey, DVM  
1/2 mile North Douglas Hwy  
P O Box 240031  
Douglas, Alaska 99824

Telephone (907) 463-5377  
Fax (907) 586-6332

The Honorable Mark Hanley  
Chair  
House Finance Committee  
465-2418

Dear Representative Hanley:

The disappearance of public broadcasting would affect me more strongly than any other cuts you could make.

KTOO radio wakes me up in the morning, keeps me informed throughout the day, exposes me to ideas and music that local commercial stations won't touch. *It's the only source of opera in southeast Alaska!*

I support my local public television and radio stations financially and as a volunteer, so I'm not just begging for a handout without doing my part. Every listener benefits from the information disseminated, yet only 10% contribute. The charter which created public broadcasting precludes charging for the service, so what other sources of funding does that leave? No more fat remains to be cut from the Alaska system.

Please continue funding for public broadcasting in Alaska at existing levels.

Thank you for your consideration of this issue.

Lesley De Krey

Donna Bell

3643345

**Mako Haggerty**

Phone/Fax 907.235.6410 PO Box 737, Homer, AK 99603

22 March 1996

Chairman Mark Hanley  
House Finance Committee  
Juneau, AK

Dear Mr Hanley,

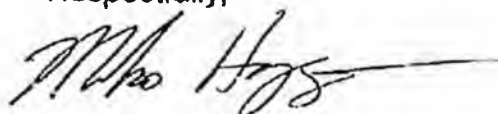
It is my understanding that we have public broadcasting back on the chopping block. This is almost unbelievable considering how hard the system has been hit the last few years. Why must you guys continue to bleed to death one of the most important functions of a first world society. Shame on you for even considering it.

Many of us who live in Alaska don't reside in Anchorage and don't have the access to flow of information that city dwellers enjoy. Staying current is just as important to many of us in the more rural areas, sometimes more important lest we get left behind. Considering how important it is for an Alaskan to stay informed and considering that many of us have neither the resources and / or the inclination to surf the Internet the Alaska public broadcasting system becomes integral to being an Informed citizen.

Alaska's public broadcasting system took years to create. Please don't destroy it. Indeed please consider dedicating more money to the system so Alaska can continue to stay informed as well as share our unique perspectives with the rest of the country.

Thank you.

Respectfully,



March 22, 1996

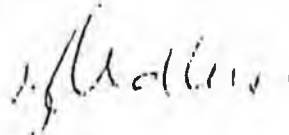
State Finance Committee

Attention: Mark Hanley 465-3433  
Richard Foster 465-3411  
Vic Kohring 465-3435

Sirs:

As a listener/viewer of public radio and television I am writing to express concern at the proposed cuts in funding that threaten to affect public broadcasting and to urge you to support the Governor's proposed budget. I am a resident of Petersburg, where other forms of media are less accessible. I rely heavily on public radio and television for information. I believe the quality of life in rural communities such as Petersburg would be greatly diminished without public broadcasting.

Sincerely,



J. Mathisson  
General Delivery  
Petersburg AK 99833

Glenn E. Caldwell  
P.O. Box 2308  
Homer, Alaska 99603

March 22, 1996

Representative Mark Hanley  
Juneau, Alaska  
Fax 465-2418

Dear Mark,

Just a short note with my input on the proposed cuts to Public Broadcasting. While I understand you are dealing with the problems of declining revenues, please remember that here in Homer, Public Broadcasting is an integral part of the life and pulse of the community. Besides, money spent on Public Radio in our state is an excellent value, and one of the wisest possible uses of state money.

Do not cut \$800,000 from Public Broadcasting. As you deliberate this issue, remember all the people across the state who would be impacted by these proposed cuts. Remember that everywhere in Alaska, every day, Public Broadcasting earns its keep.

Let's keep funding Public Broadcasting.

Thank you.  
Respectfully,

Glenn E. Caldwell

Tamás Deák  
 Landscape Architect  
 915 W 15TH AVE APT A  
 ANCHORAGE, AK, 99501

rk Hanley, Co-Chair  
 use Finance Committee  
 aka Legislature  
 ato Capitol  
 wa, AK 99801-1182

ch 22, 1996

ar Representative,

would like to express my disapproval of the complete diminution of the Alaska  
 Council on the Arts budget for FY 1997.

ides enjoying the work of such artists as Dale Chihuly, Andy Goldsworthy, Ravi  
 Shankar, who exhibited or performed in Alaska in 1996, we need to be supportive of  
 aspects of creativity to enrich our lives.

It is an integral part of our culture and eradicating public support for it is  
 unacceptable.

ose consider my opinion, when you vote in the Finance Committee.

mk you,  
 fm Deák

ms Deák, ASLA

To Mark Hanley,

I am writing to you regarding the additional purposed budget cuts of public radio.

The community of Homer with its many rural residents depend on public radio for communication and connection with others. The news, marine and local weather are extremely important.

Please our public radio cannot be cut back any more.

Dana Roberts

P.O. Box 1974

Homer, AK 99603

To	Mark Hanley	From	M. Calmes
Co.	House Finance.	Co.	
Dept.	Committee	Phone #	907-488-4312
Fax #	465-2418	Fax #	

Fairbanks AK 99712  
22 March 1996

To

in particular Representative Kelly —  
and Representative Theriault —

I have watched my two sons respond to the arts from a very young age — in all forms, music, drama, the written word, dance, visual art, crafts — and now they participate in the arts and are learning more than I'll ever be able to completely articulate from the process. I know one thing — the ARTS are IMPORTANT to all of us — man, woman and child. The arts connect us generationally, culturally and on a very deep primal level. People have "done art" since very primitive times — people will continue to "do art" until the human race no longer exists. We have the responsibility as a civilized society to acknowledge and support this very vital role of art in our lives. We can not afford to cut the lifeline that feeds our souls. Maybe it is time to make some difficult political decisions — like reinstate the state income tax — unpopular? yes! — necessary? — I think so. Support of the arts is a necessity — we need to support it.

DO NOT CUT The Alaska State Council for the Arts.

Mary A. Calmes

JUNEAU  
ARTS &  
HUMANITIES  
COUNCIL



P.O. Box 20562 / 234 North Franklin Street Juneau, Alaska 99802-0562 (907) 586-ARIS FAX: (907) 586-2148

This letter has been submitted to the House Finance Committee as written testimony for the March 23 hearing on the House version of the FY 96 operating budget

March 21, 1996

Rep. Mark Hanley, Co-Chair  
Rep. Richard Foster, Co-Chair  
House Finance Committee  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Rep. Hanley, Rep. Foster and members of House Finance:

The Juneau Arts and Humanities Council (JAHC) urges the House Finance Committee to restore funding for the Alaska State Council on the Arts before reporting the FY 97 operating budget out of committee.

Members of the Alaska State Legislature generally support economic development to improve the state economy. The legislature actively seeks ways to foster economic growth and improve the climate for industry in Alaska. **Art is an industry.** In Juneau alone in 1994 the art industry employed 333 people (full-time, part-time and temporary) with an annual payroll of \$5.4 million. It garnered \$10 million in sales and other income. 744 art-related events in Juneau during 1994 attracted attendance of 238,700. State grants were a key element in making this possible.

The Juneau Arts and Humanities Council is the official arts agency for Alaska's Capital City, and the largest concert presenter in Southeast Alaska. It makes grants to individual artists and local arts organizations, and provides youth art scholarships. In cooperation with the local school district and UAS it presents a film series.

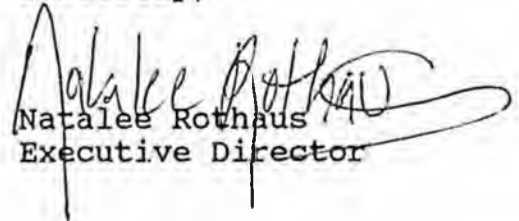
A few years ago, our grant from ASCA represented about a third of our budget. At that time we had three full-time staff positions. This year the ASCA grant accounts for about 15% of our budget. In response to last year's reductions in government support we increased efforts to obtain funding from the non-government sources, and have cut staff to one and a half. JAHC remains committed to maintaining services to the community, however further erosion of state support will undermine our ability to do so.

House Finance Committee  
March 22, 1996  
page two

The arts constitute an industry, and are an important economic force. If public funding for the arts is allowed to erode throughout the country, we will be impoverished in more than an economic sense.

Please restore funding for the Alaska State Council on the Arts, which provides essential support statewide. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,



Natalee Rothaus  
Executive Director

cc: Rep. Eldon Mulder  
Rep. Sean Parnell  
Rep. Pete Kelly  
Rep. Gene Thierrault  
Rep. Terry Martin  
Rep. Vic Kohring  
Rep. Kay Brown  
Rep. Ben Grussendorf  
Rep. Mike Navarre

To: Rep. Mark Hanley, House Finance  
From: Pat Lukin Box 305, Homer, Alaska  
RE: **PUBLIC RADIO FUNDING**  
Date: March 22, 1996

---

Throwing **support for public radio** in the trash has become an annual event in Juneau these days. Almost a rite of spring. Well, **defending public radio** is also a **tradition**.

Here in Homer **public radio station KBBI, AM 890, is the information highway** available to all citizens. The station offers access to local government meetings, interviews with local policy makers and cultural icons, school bus delays and school closings, emergency information as well as contact between neighbors via the bush line, ride line, job line, ect.

**You know all that, but have you considered ...**

As the Internet and other electronic information sources come on line a station like KBBI becomes even more **vital**. Why? Because **local public radio stations are links to the community**. The community is public radio via financial support and volunteer staffing.

I am hooked up the the Internet. I can find information on Homer as long as my interests mirror the tourist ambling up the Alcan. I can also access volumes of info from state agencies. This is awesome, but requires a computer, appropriate software and maintenance of a monthly access charge else the information door will be slammed shut in my face!

My point is that **public radio offers equal access to news and information**. Do not make the **mistake of restricting communication to the elite**. Communities thrive with common causes and open forums. States in turn blossom from a free exchange of ideas and compromise. **Alaska's strength is derived from its diversity. Squash that by cutting the links people have between themselves and the communities next door and you will plant the seed of a narrow minded, bitter populace always suspecting the other guy of getting more than his/her fair share.**



**DO NOT THROW PUBLIC RADIO OUT WITH THE TRASH!  
IT IS UP TO YOU!!**

**THANKS,  
Pat Lukin  
Homer, Alaska**

March 21, 1996

Representative Mark Hanley:

I am writing to you to request your support for Public Broadcasting in Alaska. I have been an avid listener of K.B.B.I. in Homer for the last 15 years. K.B.B.I. is not an "extra" but an integral part of my life. As a teacher, I listen to K.B.B.I. to learn about current national, international and local news.

The station is also an integral part of our community, not only relating local news, but supporting local projects. They report on activities within our schools as well as training students on radio programming techniques.

Public radio is essential in Alaska. It is my connection to the rest of the world. It makes my life in Alaska complete.

I hope that you change your mind and decide to continue supporting public broadcasting at its current level.

Thank you,



Janet Fink

P.O. Box 1644

Homer, Alaska 99603

URGENT MESSAGE

TO: (your representatives) V. Kohring, M. Hanley, R. Foster, P. Kelly, E. Mulder,  
T. Martin, S. Parnell, G. Therriault, M. Navarre, K. Brown, B. Grussendorf  
NAME: Cathy Flavin

MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 492  
Dillingham AK 99576  
City State Zip

DAY PHONE: (907) 842-9345

BILL (HOUSE BILL) 42

MESSAGE:

DO NOT CUT FUNDING FOR PUBLIC  
RADIO. Rural Alaska relies on public radio  
to get vital information out to people.  
KDLG is our vital link to necessary  
information such as emergency messages to  
people without phones, year round, but  
especially in summer during fishing season.

Signature: Cathy Flavin

Date: 3-22-96

URGENT MESSAGE TO LEGISLATURE

TO: EACH AND EVERY LEGISLATOR on House Finance Sub Committee

V. Kohring, M. Hanley, R. Foster, P. Kelly, E. Mulder,  
T. Martin, S. Arruel, G. Theriault, M. Novare, K. Brown

NAME: Gladys Lind B. Grussendorf

MAILING ADDRESS: PO Box 845

Billingham AK 99576  
City State Zip

DAY PHONE: (907) 842-9526

BILL (HOUSE BILL) 412

MESSAGE:

Do not cut the funding for our Public  
radio in Bush Alaska. Bush Alaska  
depends on public radio to get important  
information to the residents of remote  
villages. Locally, KDLG is our  
communication link within the region  
and without it, our region would  
suffer tremendously.

Signature: Gladys Lind

Date: 3/22/96

MARK MURPHY  
465-2418

PLEASE SUPPORT MAXIMUM FUNDING FOR PUBLIC RADIO. WE RELY ON IT  
FOR NEWS COVERAGE AND GENERAL INFORMATION.  
COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING IS NOT AN ALTERNATIVE!

DORLE SCHOLZ  
HC 67, BOX 1258C  
ANCHOR POINT, ALASKA 99556

D. Scholz

Janet Long  
P.O. Box 663  
Whittier, AK 99693

House Finance Committee  
Juneau, AK

March 21, 1996

Dear House Finance Committee Member:

It was with shock and disappointment that I heard the news of the House Finance Department of Education Budget Subcommittee 's proposal to eliminate the Alaska State Council on the Arts. I feel it is sometimes difficult for many in the urban mainstream to truly know how cut off the citizens of rural Alaska are from the services and programs vital to a healthy lifestyle. As a parent of two school- aged children and a member of our local educational advisory committee, I am particularly concerned about how the decision to cut funds to the arts would impact the youth of Alaska. Further, would it not make an alarming statement nationally for Alaska to be the only state in the union without an arts agency? Where lie our priorities? How can we ever hope for our young citizens to compete globally without the added depth of character provided by exposure to the multicultural outreach experiences brought to us by the Alaska State Council of the Arts? It has been statistically proven that students involved with arts programs experience both higher test scores and create fewer challenges for their communities. With the loss of 40 percent of federal funds to the National Endowment for the Arts for FY 1996, it is more critical than ever that the state *maintain level support*.

I would thank you greatly for your time and support in this most important issue.

*Janet Long*

Janet Long, Vice-President  
Whittier Community School  
Educational Advisory Committee

REP. HANLEY

**Fax**

Date: 3-20-96

To: House Finance

Fax:

From: Sara Boesser  
9365 View Drive  
Juneau, AK 99801  
789-7450 (fax) 586-5230 (w) 789-9604 (h)

Total Pages: 1

Regarding: Public broadcasting

**Please don't cut public broadcasting!**

House Finance Majority Members:

How much injury does you have to cause to Alaskans you don't happen to agree with?

Last year's cuts to public broadcasting were almost too severe for public TV and radio to survive. Whether you comprehend it or not, loss of public stations will lessen the quality of life, education and entertainment that is truly valued by many Alaskans.

With last year's cuts you made your point that you don't agree with some of public broadcasting's values. . . but you must realize that whether you like it or not, this is a large diverse state, and this proposed cut rings heavily of an uninclusive attempt to kill anything you disagree with. That kind of behavior does not build a strong democracy.

Who knows, maybe if you kill public broadcasting altogether it will be the last straw to get the majority of Alaskans to vote you out of office. But the pain that entire process will cause Alaskans and yourselves is unnecessary if you could just bear to live and let live a little bit once and a while.

So -- please don't cut public broadcasting as your subcommittee proposed; don't cut it at all this year. Thank you.

March 20, 1996

465-2418

Dear Representative

Mark Hanley

As a concerned citizen I am writing to you to voice my opposition to the FY97 Budget proposal to eliminate funding for the Alaska State Council on the Arts (ASCA). I feel very strongly that ASCA is a necessary and vital organization and that the House Finance Committee should approve level funding at last year's budget amount of \$64,000.

Arts Council programs reached over 45 communities in 1995. The existence of arts and cultural programming improves the quality of life in our communities and fosters a sense of civic pride that goes a long way towards achieving the goal of a positive and healthy living environment for residents of Alaska. Elimination of the Alaska State Council on the Arts would make arts programming less affordable to the average citizen and severely decrease the impact of arts organizations that serve as important resources in our community.

I have heard that certain members of the Alaska State Legislature feel that this issue does not have an impact on constituents in their district. In my opinion, that is a very narrow and uninformed view. ASCA programs affect residents throughout Alaska. Public funding to an organization such as ASCA, which has a state-wide impact, makes far more sense than eliminating this exemplary agency in the favor of funding services for only one community.

The elimination of the Alaska State Council on the Arts would be a grave mistake with far-reaching repercussions. Again, I urge you to support level funding of the Alaska State Council on the Arts.

Sincerely,

Sandra K. Moeller

Sandra K. Moeller  
Moeller and Moeller  
9920 Spring Hill Dr.  
Anchorage, Ak. 99507

THE OBSERVATORY, ABAA 235 SECOND STREET, JUNEAU, ALASKA  
99801

Telephone 907/ 586-9676  
e-mail deelong@alaska.net

Fax 907/586-9606  
March 20, 1996

Dear Sen. Hanley,

Sometimes I think the legislative Masjority forgets they were elected to represent the State of Alaska, not simply their ideaology or their constituents.

If you had ever spent any time in the Bush, you would know what a lifeline public broadcasting is. Weather reports, personal messages, and just plain communicating with the outside world make all the difference. The monthly call-in to the Governor is a good example of genuinely giving all Alaskans a chance to air their views, ask questions, and get a feel for what the rest of the state is thinking.

And we don't need to hear any nonsense about the expense. You must know public broadcasting costs pennies compared to most programs. Outsiders like to portray NPR as elitist entertainment. When I lived in Sitka the town of Pelican held a bake sale to raise money during our fund drive. Is that elitist or real Alaska?

The television stations have cobbled together Alaska One which is far from perfect but still offers television across the state. They can't cut any more - you cut into the marrow last year. I don't know and would like to hear your real reasons for trying to kill public broadcasting. The Bush cannot support radio let alone dream of television stations. For example, Sitka repeats to Tenakee Springs, Port Alexander, Pelican, and Angoon. Gustavus and Hoonah listen in on KTOO. They had nothing before and they will have nothing again. If you are successful, I can only wish you would get stuck in mid-winter in Barrow or Bethel or Pelican and want to listen to the news.

Please think of all Alaska for a change.

Dee Longenbaugh

BEVERLY LINDELL MS, LPA

---

408 Gold Street  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
(907) 586-4432

March 20, 1996

Mr. Hanley, Chair  
Finance Committee

Dear Mr. Hanley,

I strongly urge you to continue to fund public radio and television at their current levels. The proposed massive cuts would undermine the educational and cultural environment that makes Alaska a fascinating place to live and work. When we moved to Alaska five years ago, one of the considerations in our choice was the fact that there was a strong and well supported public radio service. I urge you to support continued funding for public radio and tv.

Sincerely,

Beverly Lindell



## Anchorage Opera

19 March 1996

Representative Terry Martin  
The Alaska Legislature  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Martin:

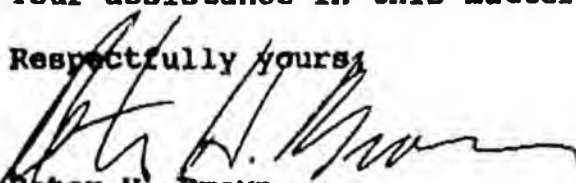
As a resident of your district, at 108 East Cook, on Government Hill, I am writing to request your support for the Alaska State Council on the Arts. As you may be aware, the House Finance Department of Education Budget Committee has approved a FY97 Budget proposal that would eliminate the Alaska State Council on the Arts. Clearly this is not a wise course of action.

With the present cuts in funding for the National Endowment for The Arts passed by Congress, it is vitally important to maintain level support for the State Arts Council in order to help ease the loss of federal funds to the estimated two thirds of the organizations previously served by the NEA.

The present budget for the State Arts Council is a mere \$1,254,300, which is only 11% of what it was in 1983. The State Arts Council has taken its share of cuts - last year the legislature cut the Council's budget by 32%. Alaska is rated 49 out of 50 states in the percentage of general fund spending related to the arts, and if the State Arts Council is eliminated, Alaska will be the only state in the Union without a state arts agency, a dubious distinction at best. Arts Council programs insure that all Alaskans have affordable local access to the Arts, to programs and services that promote healthy communities, nurture our youth and help create employment. Considering what Alaskan artists and arts organizations accomplish \$1,254,300 is a bargain price.

Your assistance in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully yours,

  
Peter H. Brown  
General Director

John Luther Adams, Composer in Residence for Meet The Composers New Residencies

1507 Spar Avenue • Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
(907) 279-2557 • Facsimile (907) 279-7798



## Anchorage Opera

March 19, 1996

Representative Brian Porter  
The Alaska Legislature  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Porter,

As a resident of House District 20, at 1781 East 53rd Avenue, I am writing to request your support for the Alaska State Council on the Arts. As a member of the House Finance Department of Education Budget Subcommittee, you voted on March 18th to approve a FY97 Budget proposal which would eliminate ASCA completely. I disagree with your position, and urge you to reconsider it.

With current cuts in funding for the National Endowment for the Arts passed by Congress, it is vitally important to maintain present levels of support for the State Arts Council in order to help ease the loss of federal funds to the estimated two thirds of the organizations previously served by the NEA.

The present budget for ASCA, at \$1,254,300, is only 11% of what it was in 1983. Haven't the Arts taken their share of cuts? Last year the legislature cut the Council's budget by 32%. Alaska is rated 49 out of 50 states in the percentage of general fund spending related to the Arts, and if the State Arts Council is eliminated, Alaska will be the only state in the Union without a state Arts agency. This is an embarrassment to those of us in the Arts who live and raise families here, as it should be to every resident!

In my position at Anchorage Opera, I spend time in the schools doing educational outreach. I have seen the intellectual spark that is generated by participation in Arts activities, and recognize that for some students, this involvement is the sole motivation for remaining in school. Considering our collective concern for the future of our youth, I cannot support the dismantling of this important avenue of expression and participation.

Your assistance in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully yours,

Ed Bourgeois  
Assistant General Director

# THE ISLAND INSTITUTE

BOX 2420, SITKA, ALASKA 99835

PHONE 907 747 3794 ♦ FAX 907 747-6554

18 March 1996

To: Bonnie Bernholz, Chair  
Alaska State Council on the Arts / Copies to all House Finance Committee members

From: Carolyn Servid *Carolyn Servid*  
Co-Director, The Island Institute

This is in response to your FAX concerning Representative Vic Kohring's proposal to eliminate ASCA. I understand that the DOE Budget Subcommittee has acted affirmatively on this and the Subcommittee recommendation will now go to the full House Finance Committee for approval or amendment.

If ASCA is eliminated and there is no state appropriation for the arts in Alaska, of course this would mean that matching funds from the National Endowment for the Arts would also be lost. These cuts would seriously threaten The Island Institute. As the state budget for ASCA dropped during each of the last three years, the Institute received diminished season support grants from ASCA — \$11,970 in '94, \$10,000 in '95, and \$7,935 in the current year. So far, we have managed to continue our program without compromising its integrity through increased fund-raising and volunteer contributions, and budget tightening, but we have reached the limit of our capacity to do more with less. The net effect of the elimination of ASCA would be at least a 50% reduction in the number of people we serve. The Institute would likely have to cut one of our two staff positions and scale back or eliminate one or more of our programs, as described below.

- **Sitka Symposium on Human Values & the Written Word**

This is an annual conference, now in its 13th year, led by noted writers, thinkers, and community leaders from around the country, exploring social and cultural ideas within a selected theme. It has attracted participants from Sitka and 23 other Alaska communities, and from 25 other states. It has also earned a reputation nationally for being an exemplary program, unlike any other. This is our most expensive program and would probably have to be held alternate years rather than annually.

- **Resident Fellows Program**

Three month-long residencies with artists, writers, and humanities scholars, allowing them to pursue their work and share it with the community through exhibits, readings, workshops, forums, and school presentations. This component would have to be reduced from three residencies to one or two. The length of the residency may be shortened, and it might not be possible to continue our practice of having Resident Fellows make visits to outlying villages such as Angoon, Hoonah, and Pelican.

- **Visiting Writers Series**

4 - 5 day visits with two noted writers each year, involving writing workshops, readings, and talks to students in schools. This has been a cooperative program with other communities (Ketchikan, Petersburg, Anchorage, Fairbanks). It would very likely have to be eliminated entirely.

- **Connotations, a semi-annual journal**

Features essays, poetry, and stories by participants in our programs, and enables us to reach more people. Since this journal is oriented around our other program, its fate would depend on what happens to them. We might have to give up the journal entirely, or produce a single annual issue.

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Box 907

Nome, Alaska 99762

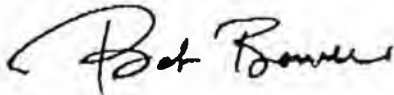
Phone &amp; Fax: 443-2865

MARCH 18, 1996

FAX TRANSMISSION

TO: Representative Mark Hanley, Co-Chair of House Finance  
FROM: Bob Bowers  
SUBJECT: Defunding of Alaska Arts Council

In my estimation Representative Kohring's move to defund the Alaska State Council for the Arts is a deplorable move that will hurt the whole state. A state which inspires artists as Alaska does and which has received as much inspiration and enrichment from its artists as Alaska has received can ill afford to destroy support for its artists. Such a move is a slap in the face to some of the most hard working, conscientious and creative people in our state and those who are enriched by their efforts. Please do not let this effort get through the Finance Committee.



20 Mar 1996

TO: Rep. Mark Hanley, Co-Chair House Finance Committee

FROM: Frederick C. Dean, 810 Ballaine Road, Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-6606  
Tel. (Voice Only) 907-479-6607

Subject: Budget - ARTS & PUBLIC BROADCASTING

Rep. Kohring's proposal to "save" money by eliminating funding for the Arts Council and for public broadcasting is shortsighted to say the least. He proposes to put the arts money into state troopers but neglects to recognize that societies with high participation in the arts quite probably require fewer troopers and jails. Even if he funds more troopers with the arts money at this moment, he is going to have to find other trooper salary moneys and jail-related funds in the future. It is about time to start addressing some of our problems at the root rather than with opaque salves and band-aids.

Will this battle for public broadcasting funds never stop? Most of the state does not have the population base to support public stations (decent, "family values" programming) without state support.

Let's get on with the re-establishment of a state income tax! The Governor's proposal on this is very modest; let's do it!

END PAGE 1/1.

J.G. HAIGH DESIGN-RESEARCH  
280 E. Birch Hill Rd.  
Fairbanks, AK 99712  
907 457-7834  
e-mail: jhaigh@polarnet.tnsb.ak.us

March 20, 1996

Dear Rep. Hanley,

I am very upset about efforts by Rep. Kohring to zero out arts funding, and make further major cuts to Public Broadcasting. It seems that the Majority is using the supposed budget crisis to get rid of programs you don't like on ideological grounds.

Both the arts and public broadcasting are important to our communities. There is no justification for zeroing out these programs while putting an additional billion into the permanent fund, still without any long range plan for the future.

Having recently visited Anchorage, I saw a city with empty malls and parking lots whose economy seems to be heading downhill. I fail to see how cutting hundreds of jobs of State workers, workers on capital projects, and workers in the arts is going to improve things.

I urge you to give serious consideration to plans for a soft landing which would protect education using an educational endowment! concept. We need to move ahead to meet the twenty-first century in a bold and positive manner, not shrink back, allowing other outside interests to take control

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*Jane G. Haigh*

Jane G. Haigh

**Carol Harding  
P.O. Box 2563  
Homer, Alaska 99603  
(907) 235-8635**

March 23, 1996

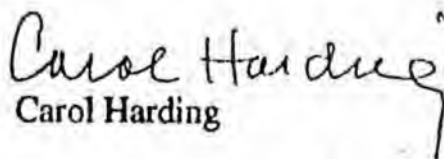
To the House Finance Committee:

I am very distressed to hear that the House Finance Department of Education (DOE) Budget Subcommittee approved an FY97 budget proposal to eliminate the Alaska State Council on the Arts!

Grant reductions would have a profound, and devastating effect in our community. The arts play a significant role in the community of Homer. It is wrong that arts programs that emphasize serving our community should be eliminated. Arts programs mean that all Alaskans have affordable local access to the arts. The artists and arts organizations of Alaska offer services and programs that every community needs and attends to problems that every community faces. The State Arts Council promotes healthy communities, nurtures children, helps create jobs, and attracts tourist dollars.

If ASCA is eliminated, Alaska would be the ONLY state in the union without a state agency!

Sincerely,

  
Carol Harding

cc: Mark Hanley 465-2418  
Richard Foster 465-3242  
Kay Brown 465-4419  
John Torgerson, State Senator 465-4779  
Gail Phillips, Representative 465-3472

Benjamin A. Barrera  
2301 St Elias  
Anchorage, AK. 99517

March 20, 1996

To: House Finance Committee  
Rep. Mark Hanley Co-Chair  
Fax 907-465-2418

Dear Rep. Hanley,

The elimination of the State Council on the Arts is simply  
**not a good idea.** I will not bore you with my reasons,  
just with my ultimate opinion.

Sincerely,



Ben A. Barrera

REBECCA BLASCO  
3184 Pioneer Avenue  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

March 20, 1996

Representative Vic Kohring  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Representative Vic Kohring:

My name is Rebecca Blasco and I am a 16 year old sophomore at JDHS. I have been following your legislation on the funding for the arts and am extremely upset that you would even consider cutting all arts funding. I dance and play piano and take these hobbies seriously as do many other young and old people.

I don't know if you are aware of this, but before there were troopers or paved roads, there were pictures drawn on stone walls by the natives. These pictures not only depicted their lives, but also their culture. They told stories and recorded important dates. During the slavery years, African-Americans expressed their oppression through music and blues which soon became a major part of their culture. This music provided a reason to live, something to strive for. During World War II, Winston Churchill maintained funding for the arts even though a war was going on. He once said, "I kept the arts alive so that people would remember what they were fighting for."

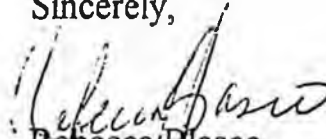
The Renaissance was a unique time period in history, one that has never been repeated. During the Renaissance, arts were valued more than any other part of life, creating what is the western culture. All over the world people use art as a form of expression, allowing art to become one of the strongest assets in every culture. I know that if I couldn't dance or play piano it would be like losing an arm or leg. Nobody, no matter what their position is in government, has the right to take away someone's freedom of

expression and, without funding for arts, many children and young people will not have the opportunity to become something great.

I realize that Alaska doesn't have endless bundles of money to be spent on every issue, but I know that the arts cannot afford such a cut. We need your help to realize that such a cut is foolish. We need you to realize that without the arts there is no culture and without culture there is nothing to live for. I hope you find this letter useful in determining your future decisions and I hope you take all I've said under consideration before you take away all our rights.

Thank you for your time and consideration. There are a lot of young people out there who feel the same as I do and I wish there were something more we could do. Please listen to us.

Sincerely,



Rebecca Blasco

cc: Representative Mark Hanley ✓  
Senator Steve Frank  
Senator Rick Halford  
Senator Jim Duncan  
Representative Caren Robinson  
Representative Kim Elton  
Representative Bettye Davis  
Senator Steve Rieger

1510 P Street,  
Anchorage,  
AK 99501.

March 21st 1996

Dear Representative Hanley,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the FY97 Budget proposal to eliminate funding for the Alaska State Council on the Arts (ASCA). I feel strongly that ASCA is a necessary and vital organization and that the House Finance Committee should approve funding at last year's budget amount of \$564,000.

Arts Council programs reached over 45 communities in 1995. These programs improve the quality of life in our communities, they foster civic pride and often have a strong positive economic impact. Elimination of the Alaska State Council on the Arts would severely decrease the positive contribution of arts organizations.

Our budget deficit is often attributed to programs that other states do not have. This is not the case with respect to state support for the arts: Alaska is 49th in arts spending on a per capita basis and if ASCA is eliminated then Alaska would have the dubious honor of being the only state without a State Arts Council. In addition, ASCA funding has already been drastically reduced and in 1995 was a mere 11% of the 1983 funding level.

The elimination of the Alaska State Council on the Arts would be a grave mistake with far-reaching consequences, Again I urge you to support level funding of the Alaska State Council on the Arts .

Sincerely

*Brian Davies*

March 21, 1996

To. Mark Hanley, Co-Chair  
House Finance Committee Member

FAX: 465-2418

Dear Sir,

I **STRONGLY** oppose the funding cut for the Alaska State Council on the Arts. Please take a moment to reconsider this action.

Sincerely,



Catherine J. Deak

915 W. 15th Avenue, #A  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
(907)272-0173

A.S. "Micky" Becker  
2026 Cratnegus Circle  
Anchorage, AK 99508

March 21, 1996

To the Members of  
the Alaska State House  
Finance Committee

**RE: Alaska State Council on the Arts**

I am writing to voice my opposition to the FY97 Budget proposal to eliminate funding for the Alaska State Council on the Art. Your committee is strongly urged to continue funding at last year's budget amount of \$364,000.

This is a quality of life issue as well as an economic issue. Without the contributions of Alaskan arts organizations, this state will find it difficult to attract outside investment and/or business relocation. Not only would this severely affect Anchorage, but since the Council reaches over 45 communities in our state, the impact would be far-reaching and severe.

I don't have to tell this Committee how much trimming the ASCA budget has had to absorb during the last few years! If the Legislature were to trim the remainder of the State budget by only a fraction of what the Arts have had to absorb, your current exercise would not be nearly as challenging. It is always easy to target the arts, but please consider the many educational aspects this latest proposal represents, not to speak of the payroll and economic multiplier effect manifest from arts dollar spending. Last, but not least, at least this year, the National Endowment of the Arts matching dollars would be lost if you were to go ahead with this proposal.

Don't cut the soul out of Alaska! Cut you must, be please try to be equitable and consider the severe paring already effected in the arts!

Sincerely,

*Micky Becker*

**TO: Representatives**

**Mark Hanley  
Richard Foster  
Pete Kelly  
Gene Theriault  
Vic Kohring  
Ben Grussendorf  
Mike Navarre  
Brian Porter**

**FROM: A. S. Micky Becker  
907 274-8144**

**DATE: March 21, 1996**



# ALASKA CENTER *for the* ENVIRONMENT

519 West 8th Avenue, Suite 201 • Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
(907) 274-3621 • fax; 274-8733

March 22, 1996

House Finance Committee  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol (MS 3100)  
Juneau, AK 9801-1182

Re: Resource Agency Budgets

Dear Committee Members:

Since I will not be able to be at your statewide teleconference tomorrow morning, I would like to offer for the record the following written testimony on behalf of the Alaska Center for the Environment and its approximately 1000 members.

Alaskans are passionate about the protection and appropriate enjoyment and use of the state's fish and wildlife. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game is the agency we depend on to accomplish that objective, but they cannot do that, in spite of the best intentions, without adequate funding. Cutting \$546,000 from the Division of Habitat and Restoration's budget, as we understand has been proposed, would be not only unwise but, we believe, unsupported by the great majority of Alaskans. Senator Phillips' survey results, for example (copy enclosed), suggest that cutting natural resource budgets is one of the least favored spending reduction targets.

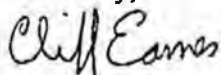
Furthermore, one of the functions that would be lost or substantially reduced, we understand, is the monitoring of logging operations. A great many Alaskans, including for example the State Board of Fisheries, are seriously concerned about the cumulative impacts that extensive logging operations on a variety of land ownerships are likely to have on our fish and wildlife and other non-timber forest resources. Crippling ADF&G's ability, which is already inadequate, to monitor logging operations could have serious long-term impacts that would affect not only Alaskans but also the many visitors who are attracted to our state by our presently abundant fish and wildlife.

Finally, we would like to speak in opposition to the \$93,000 cut proposed for the Division of Parks' budget. Does it really make sense to spend millions of dollars to try to attract tourists to the state, and then fail to provide adequate funding to the agency that has a large share of the responsibility for making their visits enjoyable ones?--not to mention the importance of the division's functions to individual Alaskans, who recreate outdoors at twice the national average. \$93,000 might not sound like much, but that figure needs to be viewed in the context of a long list of sizable cuts over the last several years. Parks has already been stripped to the bone, further cuts could truly emasculate the agency.

Additionally, the division should be rewarded, not punished, for the substantial revenue that it has worked hard to generate from fees in recent years. If some portion of those fee revenues were used to eliminate the proposed \$93,000 cut, the division would have an incentive to generate, responsibly we hope and assume, additional revenue. Not allowing the agency to keep more of its fee income will have exactly the opposite effect, and will discourage revenue generation.

Thank you very much for your serious consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,



Cliff Eames  
Issues Director

As a result of declining oil production in Alaska, revenues received by the state each year are less than the current level of spending. This has resulted in a "fiscal gap," currently a shortfall of \$524 million for FY 96 including ending for Permanent Fund Dividends and inflation proofing. In the past the fiscal gap has been closed by using reserve funds, one time revenues, and reducing spending levels. In 1995, the Legislature established the "Long Range Financial Planning Commission" to make recommendations on a plan to close the fiscal gap. These recommendations are listed below.

**Attention, Please Note: Read the next two pages before answering questions.**

**Budget Cuts**

**100 Million Budget Cut**

Do you favor or oppose a \$100 million cut to the state general fund budget over the next three years to close the fiscal gap?

Favor 786/34% Oppose 149/16% 935 Total Responses

Do you favor or oppose cuts larger than \$100 million over the next three years to close the fiscal gap?

Favor 441/50% Oppose 434/50% 875 Total Responses

The FY 96 state general fund budget of \$2.4 billion as adopted by the Legislature was based on an estimate of \$1.95 billion available from revenues, including one time revenues, and \$487 million from the Constitutional Budget Reserve. Following are the fiscal year 1996 state general fund expenditures by function given in millions of dollars.

Please choose 3 functions that you would cut. If you feel that spending cuts are not needed, please check here 66/7%. If you feel that spending cuts are needed, please check 3 functions below.

	Millions		Millions
<u>13/33%</u> Education	\$855	<u>129/14%</u> Natural Resources	\$111
<u>15/53%</u> Health and Social Services	\$567	<u>71/0%</u> School Debt	\$ 80
<u>13/20%</u> Law, Justice, and Public Protection	\$312	<u>92/10%</u> Economic Development	\$ 20
<u>17/75%</u> General Government	\$197	General Obligation Bonds	\$ 19
<u>10/20%</u> Transportation	\$129	Other Debt	\$ 10
<u>10/53%</u> Capital Projects	\$116	Total	\$2.4 billion

**Permanent Fund**

**Permanent Fund Endowment**

With voter approval, amend the State Constitution to change the Permanent Fund from a savings account to an endowment account. The change provides for increased deposits into the Permanent Fund and then an annual payout from the Permanent Fund equal to 4% of the market value of the Fund (market value approximately \$18 billion). This payout would be used to fund state government and to pay dividends at a reduced amount.

Do you favor or oppose a Constitutional Amendment that would change the Permanent Fund from a savings account to an endowment account?

Favor 233/23% Oppose 759/77% 992 Total Responses

**Additional Transfers to the Permanent Fund**

Changes to the Permanent Fund would change the need for other reserve funds.

Do you favor or oppose transferring \$800 million from the Constitutional Budget Reserve Fund and \$1.2 billion from the Earnings Reserve Account of the Permanent Fund to the Principal of the Permanent Fund?

Favor 380/42% Oppose 526/58% 906 Total Responses

**Permanent Fund Dividends**

Reduce the amount used to pay permanent fund dividends (\$565 million 1995) by \$50 million per year for the next three years. This would reduce dividends to approximately \$700 per Alaskan in 1998, and lower the amount in years thereafter.

Do you favor or oppose this reduction in the permanent fund dividend to close the fiscal gap?

Favor 262/26% Oppose 739/74% 1001 Total Responses

March 22, 1996

Representative Mark Hanley, Co-Chair  
and House Finance Committee Members  
The Alaska Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 428  
Juneau, AK 99811-1182

Dear Representative Hanley and House Finance Committee Members:

As I will be traveling tomorrow, I write in place of testimony at tomorrow's public hearing. The proposed elimination of the Alaska State Council on the Arts would be devastating for several reasons.

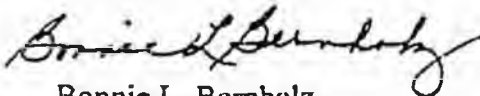
Elimination of the Council means the elimination of jobs -- both those employed in the arts and those employed in support and service industries such as printing companies, restaurants, hotels, etc. In FY95, arts attendance totaled almost two million! In Anchorage, as you are well aware, downtown restaurants, as an example, rely on the continuation of performances in the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts to employ waiters, waitresses, cooks, etc. There is no question that if the number of performances is downsized, so will the jobs supporting those organizations presenting the performances. At a time when employment of Alaskans is a key issue among your constituents, it is appropriate to remember that in addition to many affordable programs and services provided by the arts community, we are also a credible and viable employment sector within this state.

Additionally, ASCA has taken more than its share of budget cuts during the past several years. Our state is ranked 49th out of 50 in the percentage of general fund spending dedicated to the arts. Last year, this agency disbursed \$986,000 of combined state and federal funding through 185 grants in 46 communities.

Like most Alaskans, I am keenly aware of the need to bridge the fiscal gap -- but it cannot and should not require the demise of this state's arts agency. If you eliminate ASCA, Alaska would be the ONLY state in the union without a state arts agency. Clearly, we are not the ONLY state with current or past budget problems.

I urge you to consider the ramifications of any decision that drastically affects the Alaska State Council on the Arts, and to remember that the arts are important to the health, safety, and vitality of a community.

Sincerely,



Bonnie L. Bernholz  
Chair, Alaska State Council on the Arts

6500 Switzerland  
Anchorage, AK 99516  
(907) 345-1394



# Alaska State Legislature

## Written Testimony Form

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HOUSE FINANCE  
(committee name)

committee on BUDGET, dated 3-21-96  
(bill/subject)

PLEASE DO NOT ELIMINATE THE STATE GENERAL FUND MATCH FOR THE ASMI EXPORT PROGRAM. THE TOTAL SFY 95 ASMI BUDGET AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL ALASKA SALMON EXPORT VALUE IS 19%. PLEASE SUPPORT ASMI. PLEASE ALSO SUPPORT FULL FUNDING FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME. THANK YOU.

Signed: Virginia Miller  
Testifier Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Representing (Optional)

P.O. BOX 295 Cordova  
Address

424-3786  
Phone Number



# Alaska State Legislature

## Written Testimony Form

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance  
(committee name)

committee on BUDGET, dated 3-21  
(bill/subject)

PLEASE DO NOT ELIMINATE THE STATE  
GENERAL FUND MATCH FOR THE ASMI  
EXPORT PROGRAM. THE TOTAL SFY 95  
ASMI BUDGET AS A PERCENTAGE OF  
TOTAL ALASKA SALMON EXPORT VALUE  
IS 19%. PLEASE SUPPORT ASMI. PLEASE  
ALSO SUPPORT FULL FUNDING FOR  
PUBLIC BROADCASTING AND THE DEPART-  
MENT OF FISH AND GAME. THANK YOU.

Signed: Jack Balne  
Testifier Name

Self  
Representing (Optional)

Box 1208 Cordova 99574  
Address

(907) 424 7244  
Phone Number



# Alaska State Legislature

## Written Testimony Form

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HOUSE FINANCE  
(committee name)

committee on BUDGET, dated \_\_\_\_\_  
(bill/subject)

PLEASE DO NOT ELIMINATE THE STATE  
GENERAL FUND MATCH FOR THE ASMI  
EXPORT PROGRAM. THE TOTAL SFY 95  
ASMI BUDGET AS A PERCENTAGE OF  
TOTAL ALASKA SALMON EXPORT VALUE  
IS 10%. PLEASE SUPPORT ASMI. PLEASE  
ALSO SUPPORT FULL FUNDING FOR  
PUBLIC BROADCASTING AND THE DEPART-  
MENT OF FISH AND GAME. THANK YOU.

Signed: [Signature]  
Testifier Name

Representing (Optional)

Box 2453 - Cordova AK 99574  
Address

(907) 424-5779  
Phone Number



# Alaska State Legislature

## Written Testimony Form

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HOUSE FINANCE  
(committee name)

committee on BUDGET, dated \_\_\_\_\_  
(bill/subject)

PLEASE DO NOT ELIMINATE THE STATE GENERAL FUND MATCH FOR THE ASMI EXPORT PROGRAM. THE TOTAL SFY 95 ASMI BUDGET AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL ALASKA SALMON EXPORT VALUE IS 19%. PLEASE SUPPORT ASMI. PLEASE ALSO SUPPORT FULL FUNDING FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME. THANK YOU.

Signed: Matt Babic  
Testifier Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Representing (Optional)

Box 1208  
Address

(907) - 424 - 7245  
Phone Number



# Alaska State Legislature

## Written Testimony Form

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HOUSE FINANCE  
(committee name)

committee on BUDGET, dated \_\_\_\_\_  
(bill/subject)

PLEASE DO NOT ELIMINATE THE STATE  
GENERAL FUND MATCH FOR THE ASMI  
EXPORT PROGRAM. THE TOTAL SFY 95  
ASMI BUDGET AS A PERCENTAGE OF  
TOTAL ALASKA SALMON EXPORT VALUE  
IS 10%. PLEASE SUPPORT ASMI. PLEASE  
ALSO SUPPORT FULL FUNDING FOR  
PUBLIC BROADCASTING AND THE DEPART-  
MENT OF FISH AND GAME. THANK YOU.

Kayley Babie

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Testifier Name

\_\_\_\_\_   
Representing (Optional)

Box 1208 \_\_\_\_\_

Address

(907) 424 7244 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number



# Alaska State Legislature

## Written Testimony Form

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HOUSE FINANCE  
(committee name)

committee on BUDGET, dated \_\_\_\_\_  
(bill/subject)

PLEASE DO NOT ELIMINATE THE STATE GENERAL FUND MATCH FOR THE ASMI EXPORT PROGRAM. THE TOTAL SFY 95 ASMI BUDGET AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL ALASKA SALMON EXPORT VALUE IS 10%. PLEASE SUPPORT ASMI. PLEASE ALSO SUPPORT FULL FUNDING FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME. THANK YOU.

Signed: Mike Benic  
Testifier Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Representing (Optional)

Box 1208  
Address

(907) 424-7240  
Phone Number



# Alaska State Legislature

## Written Testimony Form

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HOUSE FINANCE  
(committee name)  
committee on BUDGET, dated 3/22/96  
(bill/subject)

PLEASE DO NOT ELIMINATE THE STATE  
GENERAL FUND MATCH FOR THE ASMI  
EXPORT PROGRAM. THE TOTAL SFY 95  
ASMI BUDGET AS A PERCENTAGE OF  
TOTAL ALASKA SALMON EXPORT VALUE  
IS 19%. PLEASE SUPPORT ASMI. PLEASE  
ALSO SUPPORT FULL FUNDING FOR  
PUBLIC BROADCASTING AND THE DEPART-  
MENT OF FISH AND GAME. THANK YOU.

Signed: Marcen Bardush  
Testifier Name

citizen of Alaska  
Representing (Optional)

Box 751 Cordova AK 99574  
Address

424-3659  
Phone Number



# Alaska State Legislature

## Written Testimony Form

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HOUSE FINANCE + Senate  
(committee name)

committee on BUDGET, dated 3/22/96  
(bill/subject)

PLEASE DO NOT ELIMINATE THE STATE GENERAL FUND MATCH FOR THE ASMI EXPORT PROGRAM. THE TOTAL SFY 95 ASMI BUDGET AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL ALASKA SALMON EXPORT VALUE IS 19%. PLEASE SUPPORT ASMI. PLEASE ALSO SUPPORT FULL FUNDING FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME. THANK YOU.

Signed: [Signature]  
Testifier Name

Representing (Optional)

Box 1566  
Address

(907) 424-5266  
Phone Number

At a time when Alaska salmon markets are in crisis, this is not the time to be cutting the ASMI budget. ASMI is one of the few hopes we have in increasing our salmon markets.



# Alaska State Legislature

## Written Testimony Form

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House of Finance  
(committee name)

committee on the budget, dated 3/23/96  
(bill/subject)

Please do not make further cuts to public radio - its funding should be increased!  
 Public radio is a vital link for all rural Alaska to the legislature of the outside world. Public radio is a cheap <sup>effective</sup> means of communicating about all the issues concerning rural Alaska - from natural resources to health to statewide concerns and national issues. Most people can afford a radio. It can be a method of information exchange because it is accessible to many - and hosts talk shows and allows extensive volunteer participation. It does not require a lot of time on the part of the listener - and allows even those who can't read to be informed. Much of rural Alaska does not get regular newspapers - and print media is not very accessible to those of another first language than English. ~~It~~ If the legislature zeros out public radio - after what it has already done to communications sectors of fish and other departments - it will send a clear message to rural Alaska - "Shut up and learn us alone." We do not care if you know what we do, or why or how."

Signed: Judy Seitz  
Testifier Name Judy SEITZ

Self  
Representing (Optional)

Box 881 Cordova, AK 99574  
Address

424-3719  
Phone Number

Fish and other departments - it will send a clear message to rural Alaska - "Shut up and learn us alone." We do not care if you know what we do, or why or how."



9040 Glacier Highway, Juneau, AK 99801 TELEPHONE (907) 789-3888  
 March 22, 1996 FAX (907) 789-7038

Senator Mark Hanley  
 Alaska State Legislature  
 State Capital Building  
 Juneau Alaska 99801  
 Via: Fax # 465- 2418

RE: FY 97 BUDGET REQUEST FOR  
 Department of Commerce  
 Occupational Licensing  
 REAL ESTATE COMPONENT

Dear Senator:

The Department of Commerce, Division of Occupational Licensing has chosen to play a "shell game" with proposed cuts. They have noted a CUT of appropriation \$82,000 in the area of Real Estate Education funds. This money was to be funded by the Surety Fund, which is paid into by real estate licensees per AS 08.88.450

"...THE FUND IS COMPOSED OF PAYMENTS MADE BY LICENSED REAL ESTATE BROKERS AND SALESMEN UNDER AS 08.88.455 AND FILING FEES RETAINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH AS 08.88.460. THE FUND MAY NOT EXCEED \$500,000 AND AMOUNTS IN THE FUND IN EXCESS OF \$250,000 MAY BE APPROPRIATED FOR REAL ESTATE EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES AS PROVIDED IN AS 08.88.091 .....

The cuts that have been made, have not CUT MONIES FROM THE GENERAL FUND. They will in fact, require increase expenditures of general fund monies. The publication specialist position ( PCN 08-2049) is proposed to be funded now 1/2 time by GENERAL FUND MONIES rather than Surety Fund monies. These cuts make the division appear to be doing just what you wish to happen, cutting GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES. Instead, it is just harming licensees that have paid into the fund for the specific purposes of receiving educational benefits

This year, occupational licensing increased the licensees fees by \$40.00 to a total of \$290.00. The licensees were told that was due to the increase in services to the licensees. The division then, has chosen not to use funds, that would not be GENERAL FUND MONIES, to cut the educational goals of the Real Estate Commission. The real estate industry is working very diligently to upgrade the profession. With increased education, comes an increase in public protection. The division of occupational licensing as broken trust with the industry.

I ask, that you restore the appropriation, for funds from the Surety Fund to enable the Real Estate Commission to continue working towards a better educated industry. Thank you for your support

Sincerely,

*Janie Bee Powell*  
 Janie Bee Powell, Broker



9040 Glacier Highway, Juneau, AK 99801 TELEPHONE (907) 789-3888  
FAX (907) 789-7038

Representative Mark Hanley  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capital Building  
Juneau Alaska 99801  
Via: Fax # 465-2418

March 22, 1996

RE: FY 97 BUDGET REQUEST FOR  
Department of Commerce/Occupational Licensing  
REAL ESTATE COMMISSION FUNDS

Dear Representative:

The Department of Commerce, Division of Occupational Licensing has chosen to play the old confuse the issue and don't worry about the "details or the people involved" with proposed cuts to the real estate commission budget. They have proposed a CUT of \$82,000, in the area of Real Estate Education funds. These costs were to be funded by the Surety Fund, which is paid into by real estate licensees.

The term licensees means ME, LARRY TELFER, LICENSED REAL ESTATE ASSOCIATE BROKER. I paid my renewal fee of \$290.00, of which \$125.00 was to go into the surety fund. That fund was set up for two purposes, to insure the general public that intentional acts that caused monetary harm would be paid, and to educate the licensees so that they would not harm the public. Now, the administration, by use of "CREATIVE BUDGETING", have decided that it is not necessary to appropriate the funds from the Surety Fund for the educational purposes that the Real Estate Commission and the licensees feel are necessary.

I feel that my trust has been broken. I paid the funds, with the understanding that the purpose by which the money was collected would be spent. And to make matters worse, from a taxpayers view, the cuts are really increased expenditures of general fund monies. The publication specialist position (PCN 08-2049) is proposed to be funded 1/2 time by GENERAL FUND MONIES rather than TOTALLY BY Surety Fund monies as done in the past. These cuts make the division appear to be doing just what you wish to happen, cutting GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES. Instead, it is just harming licensees that have paid into the fund for the specific purposes of receiving educational benefits or the use to that position.

I ask, that you restore the appropriation, and restore mine and all other licensees trust in the state government. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Larry Telfer".

Larry Telfer, Associate Broker

**FAX****Date** 03/22/96**Number of pages including cover sheet** 1

**TO:**

Rep. Mark Hanley 465-2418  
Rep. Pete Kelly 465-3765  
Rep. Eldon Mulder 465-3518  
Rep. Sean Parnell 465-2278  
Rep. Mike Navarre 465-2278  
Rep. Ben Grussendorf 465-2278  
Rep. Richard Foster 465-3242  
Rep. Vic Kohring 465-3818  
Rep. Terry Martin 465-2293  
Rep. Gene Therriault 465-3884  
Rep. Kay Brown 465-4419

**FROM:** PeggyAnn McConnochie,  
Real Estate Broker  
ALASKA COASTAL  
HOMES

**Phone** (907) 789-3540

**Fax Phone** (907) 789-3456

**CC:** file / AAR / AREC

**REMARKS:**  Urgent  For your review  Reply ASAP  Please Comment

I am deeply concerned about the proposed cuts to the Alaska Real Estate Commission's funding for FY 1997. The funds that are being taken are deposits to the Surety Fund paid by the licensees of the State. These moneys fund, among other activities, a specialist who provides us with news on the latest in education, court cases; the publication of the Landlord Tenant Act Booklet which helps licensees as well as renters and landlords understand the laws that everyone must abide by; Broker training; Instructor training. These cuts jeopardize the continuing efforts of the Real Estate Commission to protect the buying/selling public, and educate the real estate community.

I urge you to look closely at the proposal that Director Kathryn Readon has recommended to the House Subcommittee on Finance and see it for what it is - merely a shell game to take away the funding that comes from our license deposits. This move does not cut moneys from the general fund.

We need the Real Estate Commission to continue to be a receipts-based program so that together we can work for a more educated real estate community and thereby a happier buying/selling public.

Thank you in advance for your time and attention to this most important matter.

# Public Opinion Message

Fairbanks Legislative Information Office (LIO)

119 N. Cushman St. Suite 101, Fairbanks, AK 99701 - Phone: 452-4448 Fax: 456-3346

**From:** Print your name and address as it appears on your voter registration card.

Ms., Mr., Mrs.	First name	Last name	Jr., Sr., III
	Katharine	Kawlings	
Residence (street address)	1522 Kathrop Street Fairbanks, AK 99701		Zip code
Home address	same		Zip code
City or town (if not member)	Group affiliation (if applicable)		
457-1677			

**To:** Write an H or an S in a Committee box; put a V in a Caucus or Member's box.

Committees (enter H or S)	House members	Senate members
<input type="checkbox"/> Community & Regional Affairs (cra)	<input type="checkbox"/> Austerman (aus)	<input type="checkbox"/> Adams (ada)
<input type="checkbox"/> Finance (fin)	<input type="checkbox"/> Bames (bar)	<input type="checkbox"/> Denley (don)
<input type="checkbox"/> Health, Ed. & Social Services (hes)	<input type="checkbox"/> Brice (br)	<input type="checkbox"/> Duncan (dun)
<input type="checkbox"/> Judiciary (jud)	<input type="checkbox"/> Brown (bro)	<input type="checkbox"/> Ellis (ell)
<input type="checkbox"/> Labor & Commerce (l&c)	<input type="checkbox"/> Bunde (bun)	<input type="checkbox"/> Frank (fra)
<input type="checkbox"/> Resources (res)	<input type="checkbox"/> Davies (dav)	<input type="checkbox"/> Green (gre)
<input type="checkbox"/> Rules (rls)	<input type="checkbox"/> Davis, B. (dab)	<input type="checkbox"/> Halford (hal)
<input type="checkbox"/> State Affairs (sta)	<input type="checkbox"/> Davis, G. (dag)	<input type="checkbox"/> Hoffman (hof)
<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation (tra)	<input type="checkbox"/> Elton (elt)	<input type="checkbox"/> Kelly, T. (kel)
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Finkelstein (fk)	<input type="checkbox"/> Leman (lem)
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Foster (fos)	<input type="checkbox"/> Lincoln (lin)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Green (gm)	<input type="checkbox"/> Miller (mil)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Grussendorf (grs)	<input type="checkbox"/> Pearce (pea)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hanley (han)	<input type="checkbox"/> Phillips, R. (ph)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Ivan (iva)	<input type="checkbox"/> Rioger (rie)
	<input type="checkbox"/> James (jam)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sato (sat)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kelly, P. (kd)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sharp (sha)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kohring (kar)	<input type="checkbox"/> Taylor (tay)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Kott (kot)	<input type="checkbox"/> Tongorson (ton)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Kubina (kub)	<input type="checkbox"/> Zharon (zha)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Long (lng)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Macko (mak)
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Martin (mar)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Masak (mas)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Moses (mos)
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mudder (mul)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Navarre (nav)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Nicholas (nic)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Ogan (oga)
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parnell (par)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Phillips, G. (phg)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Porter (por)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Robinson (rob)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rokeberg (rok)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Sanders (san)
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theriault (thr)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Toohay (toh)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Vexey (vez)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Williams (wil)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Willis (wis)

**Subject:** Enter a bill number and check one box below OR enter a subject.

HB or SB	Bill number	and check one:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	OR	Subject:
		<input type="checkbox"/> Oppose			ASEA CONTRACT
		<input type="checkbox"/> Amend			

**Message:** \* This form MUST be completely filled out, including a phone number. You may phone, fax, or deliver your POM to any LIO. \* Please PRINT. Your message cannot exceed 50 words (one word per box), and cannot contain any vulgar language.

I	am	sending	you	this
in	hopes	that	you	will
support	ASEA'S	contract.	As	you
know	we	have	given	up
quite	a	bit	and	have
not	had	a	cola	for
a	long	time.	if	would
appreciate	your	support	for	our
contract.	I	feel	that	it
is	very	reasonable.	Thank	you!

B2

March 22, 1996

Please read this as part of the House Finance Committee's Public Teleconference  
March 23, 1996.

As Vice President of the Board of Directors of AWAIC I strongly encourage you to support level funding for the Council's line item in the Department of Public Safety's Budget. Our staff are dedicated, hard working individuals who are underpaid and greatly appreciated. They are committed to the delivery of complete, professional services to battered women and their children. I, as a Board member am proud of the work they do. Without the continued support of the legislature for the DPS's Council budget victims could be at risk. Please consider the faces of women and children as you search for places to **cut** the budget. AWAIC is appreciative of your continued support of **all** of their programs.

Thank You,

Louann Cutler  
V.P. Board of Director  
Abused Women's Aid In Crisis