

HB

312/313

(File 4)

HFIN

FILE

SEVERAL
SUBJECT
TESTIMONY

House Finance Committee Budget Hearings
4 March 2000
Comments by Carl S. Benson
1551 Farmers Loop, Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

In its goal to continue cutting the budget, the Legislature is philosophically on the wrong course. Worse yet, it is wasting its time. Cuts to the already decimated state budget will only hurt and cannot help. It is said that we have a shortfall of \$700 million. The proposed cuts, intended to yield \$30 million, will only meet 4% of this. It's as if I owe you \$1.00 and offer to pay you 4¢. You would tell me: "Get real, do something about raising the money you need to pay what you owe." Think about it; 4% is not much. Your body weight can vary 4% in a single day.

By means of this public hearing you have asked for my advice. Here it is. Take notes.

1. Reinstate our state income tax (the old one at 14% of the federal tax was fine).
2. Leave sales tax for local governments to administer (as before).
3. Leave property taxes for local governments to administer.
Stop consideration of a state-wide limit on property tax. This proposition could destroy some communities when combined with reduced revenue sharing from state to local governments. Alaskan property taxes are not high. For example, in the Fairbanks North Star Borough the 1999 dividend was almost three times more than the property tax (\$148.6 million in dividends and \$52 million in property tax).
4. Raise our state gasoline tax (now the lowest in the nation).
Don't worry, the overwhelming number of states, 45 out of 50, will still have higher gasoline taxes.
5. Raise our state vehicle registration fees (now the lowest in the nation).
When I tell people from other states about our vehicle registration fees they are astonished. Our fees are only \$35 per year for cars and \$40 for trucks, regardless of the age or cost of the vehicle. In most states, fees are about 5 times higher. And may add a whopping sales tax which can exceed two thousand dollars.
6. Use some of the EARNINGS from our Permanent Fund for their intended purpose of contributing to funding state government at the time when oil revenues decline.
That time is now!
7. Put an upper limit on the dividend.
The original plan was based on residency, paying \$50 per year up to a maximum of 20 years, or \$1,000. The residency part was struck down as unconstitutional, but the upper limit made sense and certainly did not violate the constitution. Indeed, this maximum value would still be \$1,000.00 more than the dividend in North Dakota and Montana.

8. Stop the witless counterproductive, cuts to state government.

Cuts to the already underfunded state government do no good toward solving the budget problem. Instead they become part of the problem. Our University of Alaska has been level funded for more than a decade in spite of growth and ever rising costs. This level funding has amounted to a cut of about \$50 million. It stifles the University's role as the primary engine for Alaska's economic development. Our Alaska State Troopers are operating with 73 fewer troopers than we had in 1987 when population and the associated problems were less. Our Alaska State Geological Survey is down by 80% of its strength a decade ago. It cannot meet its mandated requirements to monitor surface water and ground water. Similar examples can be cited for every state agency.

9. Stop using budget cuts vindictively.

The image of tight budgets (by ignoring our largest sources of income) has been used by some legislators as a basis for attacking programs they don't like. Cuts to Public Broadcasting and to the DEC were prime examples last year.

10 Try to keep in mind the size of our assets.

Our assets are enormous! With huge, income-producing savings accounts, and no debts, any of the other 49 states would trade financial places with Alaska in a heartbeat. The size of our Permanent Fund is beyond comprehension for most people, and its annual income is indeed the sustainable resource that the founders had in mind.

The income from the Permanent Fund last year was \$2,600 million. The income from the Constitutional Budget Reserve (CBR) was another \$300 million. The combined income from these two accounts exceeded the entire state general fund contribution to the budget by about \$1 billion. (In 1999 we paid about \$300 million in income tax to the IRS on dividends alone; that was roughly the same as the entire income of the CBR.)

11. Stop expecting the U.S. Federal Government to pay our way.

The federal component to the state budget (not counting the military expenditures in Alaska) exceeds what the state puts in from our general fund. Federal dollars have also exceeded state dollars in the University of Alaska budget for the past five years. The state must get back into the act. It can do this by raising revenues, using investment earnings, and by reducing the give-away binge, namely the unrestricted growth of the dividend. The dividend is now the biggest single item of our state expenditures.

Dear Legislator,

I am alarmed at how the legislature is dismantling everything of value in our state's infrastructure.

I voted against the permanent fund ballot issue last fall, not because I don't want the fund spent, but because I want more of the fund spent. There is plenty of money to provide for education, transportation, and other essential state services, if we stop pandering to a segment of our population that is motivated by personal greed, that wants "their" check, whether they've earned it or not. The dividend program is arguably the worst welfare program in the nation.

By refusing to spend money meant "for our future" on public education, which will significantly impact our future, the legislature is being short-sighted. We are told that we must implement state-wide quality standards, but the rug is pulled out from under our students, making it much more difficult to meet those standards. Here in Fairbanks, the school budget pinch is causing us to consider doing away with nurses, counselors, library services, instrumental music, increasing class sizes, and severe cutbacks in every other area.

We are told that the burden is being shifted to local governments, but then you take away our ability to tax segments of our population, like the 65 and over crowd, who stand to benefit greatly from the services that can be provided by an educated populace, but who are excluded from paying a dime for those benefits.

You tell us we have to provide busing for our students, but then you refuse to pay the cost.

What economic growth can we expect in the future? What light or heavy industry will want to locate in Alaska if we can't offer the families of potential employees a quality public education? Or if we can't offer the resource of a continuing supply of well educated high school grads to work in those industries?

I do vote in every election. I will reflect my displeasure at the ballot box if the state legislature refuses to adequately support public education on the one hand, and continue to insist on unfunded mandates on the other. You are doing a grave disservice not only to the state's children, but to everyone else, yourselves included.

Liz Engle
521 Hagelbarger Ave.
Fairbanks, AK. 99712
(907)457-3564

DON IAN GRAY
399 HILLSIDE DRIVE
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99712
TEL. (907) 457-5737

Saturday, March 4, 2000

Testimony on the Alaska FY2001 Operating Budget (proposed):

Gentlemen & Ladies of the Committee,

We often wear many hats, figuratively, as Alaskans. In the brief time allotted, I urge you to do four things in this next operating budget.

one: As President of the Friends of the University of Alaska Museum, do follow the recommendations of the statewide president of University of Alaska, Mark Hamilton, and the UA Statewide Board of Regents, (as well as the Friend Board of Directors) and fund the University of Alaska maintenance budget along with the operating budget. The deterioration cannot continue and it does impact the number of employee labor hours to merely continue operations. If you fund the repairs and maintenance to the UA Museum, private dollars will take care of the long-postponed completion of this Jewel of the North.

two: Speaking as a public member of the State of Alaska Mental Health Board, which serves both the Governor and your good offices as citizen advisory on mental health issues including Alaska Psychiatric Institute, the Chronically Mentally Ill, and related areas: Please do not cut the proposed amounts for grants serving the chronically mentally ill living in community-based settings instead of higher cost hospitalization or incarceration. Don't cut grants for child care assistance; this affects many Alaskans struggling to maintain jobs and independence. You choose NOT to use Draconian measures against alcohol abuse like mandatory fines and confiscation of vehicles for first offense DWI driving offenses involving alcohol, but something must be done for this major Alaskan problem, (i.e. Driving While Intoxicated). Please fully fund alcohol and drug abuse grants to address the 58,000 Alaskans who suffer directly from abuse problems. All these are vital for a safer, healthier Alaska.

three: Speaking as an Interior resident who is concerned with the quality of community life here, please do not cut our intellectual lifeline: Public Broadcasting. One measure of government is its capacity to serve its citizens as a body what we cannot do individually. Public radio informs, enlightens and entertains us in ways that commercial radio chooses not to. Public television lifts Alaskans beyond trivial game shows, situation comedies or violent crime dramas, and allows all of us to watch, learn and be informed without paying subscriber fees that would exclude many. The quality of Alaskan society is greatly enhanced by public radio and TV. Without them we suffer as a people.

lastly: As a parent of grown children who received excellent public educations in our local schools, please fully fund the school budget foundation formula and schools related items in this operating budget. Looking to the future, I want coming generations to learn to be civil in their public lives, to be competent in their careers, and to be courageous in their commitment to a fair, just and prosperous democracy. Years in the future, I want the certified nurses assistant who helps me in my sickness or infirmity to be accurate and efficient, but also caring and responsible. I want the streets safe from madmen who barrel through red lights without a concern for the rights of others. Schools help kids, our society's future, learn compassion and competence. And they require our money. You have a heavy responsibility to put our dreams into reality using our collective resources as a people. You make the laws, you pass the budgets. I thank you for your efforts, please be bold, be leaders, not whiners.



Alaska State Legislature

PUB. BROAD &
TOBACCO SETTLE

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance
committee name
committee on Operativy Budget dated 3/4/07
bill/subject

#1 I DO HOPE YOU CONTINUE TO FUND
PUBLIC RADIO FOR ALASKA. IT IS A
PUBLIC SERVICE FOR ALL ALASKIANS THAT
IS TRUELY NEEDED ACROSS THE BOARD.
ANY CUT WOULD BE DEVASTATING..

#2 REGARDING THE TOBACCO SETTLEMENT;
I STRONGLY URGE YOU APPROPRIATE THE FULL
\$2,800,000 FOR FY01. AS YOU REALIZE,
THESE FUNDS WOULD BE USED FOR PROGRAMS
SUCH AS CESSATION PROJECTS, PUBLIC EDUCATION,
SCHOOL BASED DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS AND MORE.
HELP MAKE ALASKA'S FUTURE A HEALTHY AND
TOBACCO-FREE STATE.

Signed: Perry Merikel PERRY MERIKEL
Testifier

#1 APT1 AND 2) AMER CANCER SOCIETY - ANCH DIV.
Representing (Optional)

821 WEST 14TH AVE ANCH AK 99501
Address

562-2326
Phone No.

Andree McLeod
3721 Young Street
Anchorage, AK 99508
(907) 561-8595
email: mcleodak@alaska.net

My name is Andree McLeod and I would like to speak about the budget process and how we do business, in general.

I was involved with the Commission on Privatization and Delivery of Government Services as a staff member as well as being a volunteer on both the Office of the Governor and Department of Administration subcommittees.

What the various subcommittees discovered was that the costs of performing specific state services is not available in the budget. One reason for that is because the State of Alaska Accounting System (AKSAS) is not programmed to effectively differentiate between direct and overhead costs for the various state programs in any standardized manner.

Alaskans are fortunate in that the Commissioner of Administration, Bob Poe, is one of the original Price Waterhouse program designers of AKSAS. With that kind of expertise on hand, I've no doubt that through a bipartisan effort on everyone's part, our accounting system can be programmed to its fullest potential to capture the full costs of providing services.

May I suggest combining the Office of Management and Budget and the Department of Administration, Finance division (home of AKSAS), so sound business accounting practices can be injected into the budget process. The result would be more reliable cost data to bring about a more efficient and cost-effective government, as well help you in making the hard decisions about the budget.

ANDRÉE McLEOD *Appendix J*

Commission on Privatization and Delivery of Government Services Department of Administration Subcommittee

Recommendation:

Establish a cost accounting system that identifies all costs associated with tasks performed by state employees.

Rationale:

Direct and indirect costs for specific services can be tracked by the State of Alaska Accounting System (AKSAS), as long as the accounting structure is set up in such a way that the "right data falls into the right buckets." At this time, only DOT/PF uses the AKSAS, Time and Equipment monitoring system. Decision-makers must know the real costs of services. It's impossible to determine efficiency, cost effectiveness or cost benefit without accurate, factual, quantifiable, and verifiable information.

Barriers:

Non-standardized use of AKSAS accounting structures by various departments. Presently, each department has the option of defining accounting structures.

The State of Alaska Accounting system (AKSAS), Time and Equipment (T&E) automated system calculates the costs related to hours worked, equipment usage and other work units reported on timesheets, and distributes the cost through the AKSAS reporting structures according to the timesheet financial coding.

Labor costs are calculated for hours worked based on the payroll rates maintained in the statewide payroll system master file. In addition to the base wage rate (hourly salary), overhead rates can be established for benefits, insurance, etc.

Equipment costs are calculated for equipment use based on the applicable rate for the individual piece of equipment, in the equipment master file, which is maintained in AKSAS. Equipment master file records are created and maintained through on-line equipment maintenance by the agency.

Through management reporting, statistical and performance reports can be created using T&E data. Hours and other work units are maintained in AKSAS where they are available for display and for performing calculations.

Experienced governments have reported that detailed cost analyses are more time consuming and costly, but the payoff comes in their ability to better evaluate competing proposals and identify cost savings.

ANDREE McLEOD

YOU MAY NOW SLUG THE BRIDE.



...TO MARRY ON THE JERRY SPRINGER SHOW?

Healthy activities for the next proposed expansion will be dollars. There is no way in lose on this effort.

— John C. Fleming Anchorage

nt rates quitters

For the Daily News story aid smokers, pro-tobacco (March 2) points out a classic. The story deals with ef- Philip Morris to fend smoking ban in Anchorage by tion options."

Philip Morris isn't try- Their true motive was re- ternal document: "Smoking st challenge we have ever es from 5% to 21% when onsmoking environment." nnows that most smokers en forbid that they actual- tter that they smoke until ncer, heart disease or em- ad about the nonsmokers reathe toxic air on the job). been lying to the American about smoking and second Options" program and the business owners and loca- med to achieve the compa- to keep smoking rates a- ere is no other motive.

— Anne Marie Holer Alaska Native Health Board

enefits Alaskans

Since long before the Fund was established. ears, our lawmakers have nto the Fund, and eventu-

ally they are going to succeed. Recently the Daily News published a story about a \$25,000 final payment being introduced into the Legislature ("\$25,000 dividend payment gets cool reception before House committee," March 2). This payout is equal to half of the Fund's value, \$27 billion. I agree. I think the idea is great, for several reasons.

There are many people who have come up here from other places specifically because of the Permanent Fund dividend. If they were to receive a lump sum, they would be headed back south to buy the farm or whatever they always wanted but could not afford. This would decrease our population, our welfare, and our school enrollment, thus saving the taxpayers millions of dollars.

I think the disbursement should be 75 percent of the Fund to the people of Alaska. Let the lawmakers have the rest and then sit back and watch them haggle over what they are going to spend it on and how fast they will spend it. It would be interesting.

— Terry N. Clark Wasilla

3/4/2000

Privatization article biased

State government cannot explain how much it costs to deliver government services. That's what I expected beneath the Feb. 28, front-page headline "Fatal flaws claimed in state study."

The most glaring fact emanating from the Commission on Privatization and Delivery of Governmental Services' report is that government cannot assess actual costs to specific services provided.

The commission gleaned that government doesn't account for direct and indirect costs (overhead) in its accounting for services. The privatization concept infers those costs be associated to specific services. That discipline alone brings about efficiency and cost savings

before any managed competition takes place. The reporter decided to taint the many volunteers' work by ignoring the merits of the report and recommendations, and by deciding to provide the critics yet another opportunity to continue undermining the progress of this commission with their vicious prattle. Having been involved, the only sweetheart deal observed was the empowering of average Alaskans as they stepped up to the plate and gratuitously contributed to the process of their government.

You'd think it's important to report that our state government cannot account for the services provided or how inefficiently it collects and spends our money. Maybe then topics like taxes can be taken seriously.

— Andree McLeod Anchorage

Governor ignores science

Gov. Tony Knowles says wolf management must be based on science. Gov. Knowles says wolf harvests outside of Denali threaten wolf populations in Denali. Gov. Knowles wants to outlaw wolf harvests outside Denali.

Layne Adams is a federal biologist who has studied Denali's wolves for years. Layne Adams' science says wolf populations in Denali are not threatened by wolf harvests outside Denali. Gov. Knowles thumbs his nose at science. Gov. Knowles is playing politics. Please stop pretending, Gov. Knowles.

— Tom Lessard Chugiak

Wolves not ours to manage

In his 1978 work "Of Wolves and Men," Barry Lopez gives a chilling account of the history between wolves and Caucasians: we have persecuted, tortured and systematically executed wolves in massive numbers, leaving Alaska with some of the last healthy wolf populations in the world.

In Lopez's words, "we do not understand our place in the universe and have not the courage to admit it." Native Americans, on the other hand, have coexisted with wolves for thousands of years. They understand wolves perhaps more deeply than any biologist ever can, and they have historically respected, learned from, and dwelled among wolves.

At the Alaska Wildlife Alliance's March 2 wolf rally, a man who described himself as one of "The First People" spoke from the audience. Among many valuable points, he stated that the wolf control debate centers around money -- and therefore around our interests. This is a critical point. We sincerely believe that the wolves are "ours" and that the real question centers around how we will manage them.

I believe the real issue is not how to manage wolves, but how to manage ourselves and recognize our place in this world. We users would do well to learn from history and from the wisdom of "The First People" who understand their own place in this world, as well as the place of wolves.

— Amy Crawford Anchorage

Child Care | Public Radio



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Finance Committee
 Public Radio
 committee name
 committee on Bill #312 Child Care dated 3/3
 bill/subject

My name is Anne Marie Moylan. I am a single mom whose child is enrolled in the Child Care Assistance Program run by the Education and Early Development Department. I feel very fortunate that this program has enabled me to work full time and afford the best possible care for my daughter.

I was feeling doubly-rewarded by having a job in public broadcasting — specifically as the development director, in charge of fundraising and membership at KBPSI and KDL. However, at this time it feels more like double jeopardy.

I urge you to reinstate the over \$400,000 you are proposing to cut from public radio's budget. The cutbacks we have already endured over the past 5 years have forced us to creatively restructure, but further cuts leave us — NO WHERE TO GO EXCEPT TO LOSE SERVICE TO RURAL COMMUNITIES.

I also ask you to STOP CUTTING CHILD CARE PROGRAMS, FOR, IN MY COMMUNITY ALONE, WAIT LISTS MEAN CRISIS FOR FAMILIES AND FEAR OF BEING CUT OFF FROM THE PROGRAM, HAS EVEN BROADENED FAMILIARITIES. Thank you for allowing me this opportunity.

Signed: Anne Marie Moylan
 Testifier

Anne Marie Moylan

Representing (Optional)
 PO Box 1168 Homer AK 99603
 Address
 935-8124(hm) 935-7721(work)
 Phone No.

Art / Public Radio
Income Tax



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance Committee
committee name
committee on Arts / Public Radio , dated March 4, 2000 .
bill/subject

I want to express my strong opposition to any funding cuts affecting the arts and public radio. In Homer, many people depend on public radio. We don't have access to many sources of news that are available elsewhere - public radio fills that gap by providing extensive, quality news programming. It also broadcasts our local city council meetings as well as state-wide political programming that keeps us informed on important issues. For many citizens, the bushline service provided by public radio is a vital communication link. In addition to these vital services, public radio adds much to our quality of life by offering a variety of quality programming. It should be obvious that budget cuts alone will not solve the deficit problem. The time has come for you to look at the other side of the equation and find ways to increase revenues. It is time to consider state income taxes. The burden of those taxes should be shared by all. It is time for all of us, including the oil companies, to pay our fair share. Thank you.

Signed: John Mow Testifier
Representing (Optional) _____
Address Po Box 212, Homer, AK 99603
Phone No. 235-7455

Budget cuts / income tax / sales tax / Radio



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance committee name
HTB-312
committee on Permanent Fund dated 3/4/00
bill/subject

The Greatest Accomplishment of Any Government in this World Today is The Permanent Fund! 83% of Alaskians Voted for you to continue it as it has been handed. [A Representative is one who acts in place of "Alaskans" an is to carry & repeat our message] a very clear message!!
Negatively: a politician (dictionary definition) "seeking personal or partisan gain, scheming" Also to covet the Permanent Fund is SIN ... AGAIN
CUT WHAT YOU NEED TO CUT TO LEAVE THE PERMANENT FUND ALIVE

- (A) You Politicians are too wealthy to realize how important this is to 83% of Alaskians
 - (B) Have you considered how many families will qualify for aid of one ^{kind} or another is robbed of the Permanent Fund Dividends? (my teacher friend with 3 children will be one)
- People are not being informed (or) are being deceived in a bid of wanting more services: They should clearly know!
- (1) Funding costs everyone from their Federal, State or local POCKET
 - (2) Bond funds a cost more in interest & raises Govt spending above limited ^{taxes}
 - (3) Growth: each New family coming into Alaska costs each existing son
 - (4) Moving from June to your Building in Anchorage would save "millions to billions"
 - (5) Privatizing snow removal & computer in schooling will help financially ^{each year}

Signed: Lynn Burkhardt
Testifier

Sales tax is the fairest tax. Representing 83% of Alaskan Voters
Representing (Optional)

But Nothing is fair. Was the cross fair? 62505 Olson Mt Rd
Address

Homer AK 99603
Phone No.

Politicians need to know going against Alaskans wishes (83% causes animosity for votes for Govt.) 213 to 12 Not to bring wisdom to Homer example - Please return to representation not domination!

Radio? Funding?
"My mom fed me"
FOR A WIFE"

Revenue share
Education / Page 1 of 2
Pub broad Craber



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance Committee
committee name
committee on HB 312 dated 3/4/00
bill/subject

My name is Elizabeth Craber, and I live in Homer, AK. I'm here today with one message: STOP CUTTING and look for more creative, well-reasoned ways than an ax to solve the problems we face.

As I listen to the eloquent pleas from people all across this state imploring you to spare their programs from further devastating blows, blows that have already left many of them feeling debilitated or even crippled, I feel frustrated and angry. Whether the cause they ~~support~~ defend is supporting education and family services for our children, higher education and our university, public broadcasting, support to municipalities, or any other of the worthy causes being defended here today, the solution (see pg 2)

Signed: Elizabeth Craber
Testifier
self

Representing (Optional)

P.O. Box 2609 Homer, AK 99603

Address

907-235-6078

Phone No.

Page 2 of 2
Crabber

Seems obvious: we must find new sources of revenue. We cannot continue to solve the problems we face only with an ax. Create a fair plan to use permanent fund earnings that voters can support. Many of us who voted down last year's plan would support a fairer and more clearly defined plan, even if it included reinstatement of an income tax.

Surely you have it within you to listen to and hear what all Alaskans are saying to you, not just those who conform to a particular party agenda or philosophy. It's time for creative new solutions. An ax only makes us bleed.

Thank you.

Public radio
maintenance
P. education
Chitchee
income
tax

3/4/97

To: House Finance Committee, of Alaska Legislature

Re: Any budget cuts destructive to Alaska's society

From: James E. Fisher, 171 Farnsworth, Soldotna 99669
Phone: 262-9601 - fax: 262-9641

An unnamed theologian said "the self righteous will lead us to hell", which prompts an analogy that permissive deterioration of Alaska's infrastructures or programs could fling us into a stagnant economy or some social hell.

This budget cycle should avoid any reduction in the need (yes, and the opportunity) to invest in our state's:

- children, by enhancing and maintaining, medical, protective and corrective programs, i.e., Denali KidCare for families without health insurance, increase educational funds so our kids will stay home (so your grandchildren desire to attend U of A?), and protect those children who might be neglected or abused...all of these opportunities are before this Legislature...
- infrastructure maintenance, i.e., adequate revenues for highway maintenance, is only one example..
- public radio system (cut 70% in recent years) - the only channel with a statewide reach, so essential to keep our citizens and neighbors informed and educated..

Over and over we hear Alaska will not grow, or cut, its way out of the perceived fiscal gap. The Legislature appears rigidly focused on numbers, while plainly ignoring adverse impact of funding reductions on essential services?

Do we, you, refuse to listen to warnings that our failure to have a reasonable statewide tax, on individual citizens for essential public needs, can cause business investment to shy away from Alaska (Anchorage News, 3/16/97)? And that failure to maintain roads, schools, and quality infrastructure, can prompt business to avoid a state so blindly economizing.

Will my Alaskan neighbors and I come to our senses, and insist more be spent on education and other essential, services - so we share both advantages and **responsibility**?

(HFin3400.testimony)



Testimony sent a second time, an additional paragraph added. Homer L10

✓
P. Broadensky
Arts
income
tax

Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance committee name
committee on HB 312 Budget / Public Art , dated March 3 2000
radio bill/subject

We do not want to see any money being cut for public radio and the arts program. These programs are essential to the communication needs of Alaskans.

- Please institute a state income tax if you ~~need~~ need money. Just about every other state has it.

Signed: Carole K Hamer
Testifier

family
Representing (Optional)

4002 Kachomak Way Homer
Address

907 235-2564
Phone No.

Post-it [®] Fax Note	7671	Date	3/4/00	# of pages	2
To	House Finance	From	Homer L10		
Co./Dept.		Co.			
Phone #		Phone #	235-7878		
Fax #	465-6813	Fax #			

ATIA
P. Broad
children

Testimony: HB 312

My name is Nancy Lethcoe. My husband and I own a small tourism company.

We are concerned about cuts in the budget which affect us directly now and indirectly in the future. These are:

The Division of Tourism: Please restore the nearly 1 million dollars that was taken from the Division of Tourism's budget and transferred to the tourism marketing budget. Although we are members of ATIA, we disagree with the ATIA board's position. We would rather see the Division of Tourism fully funded so it can perform its full functions than have the State's portion of the marketing budget increased. I am not asking you to spend more money, just to reallocate it.

Public Broadcasting is extremely important in rural Alaska in helping to facilitate communication between isolated communities and disseminating information which improves the quality of life and business in rural Alaska. Without public radio, rural Alaskans would be at an even greater disadvantage compared with their urban counterparts than presently. Please restore full funding for public broadcasting.

Children's programs: I am very concerned about the cuts in programs affecting children. These fall into the category of "A penny saved, a dollar lost." Children are our future. It is they who will either be productive citizens who will be paying taxes while all of us are retired, or who will be non-productive citizens placing an increased drain on public funds. We should invest now in their and our own futures.

Finally, I encourage you to come up with a comprehensive budgetary plan for the future. My vote against spending the Permanent Dividend Fund last year was because I thought it was a fatally flawed proposal. I hope you will consider other options besides cutting funds for the poor and rural Alaska.

Public Broadcasting
University

To: Members of the House Finance Committee
Fr: Naknek

I realize you are swamped with testimony and I suspect you are not going to get to our site so I would like to present our testimony via fax.

My name is Mary Burtness and I have two topics to cover

1. Keep the funding request of President Hamilton for the University of Alaska intact.

I am the Program Development Specialist for the University of Alaska/Bristol Bay Campus in Naknek. We serve the communities of King Salmon, Naknek and South Naknek. My job is to meet the post secondary education needs of our communities. In the last 11/2 years the greatest request for classes have been in areas in which our residents want to retool themselves to meet the changing economic needs of Alaska and especially rural Alaska. Without this rural UA program these residents would be seeking aid as opposed to finding new sources of employment.

2. Do not cut the Public Broadcasting funding.

I have been on line for the last three hours and agree with all reasons for not cutting the funding. I would like to add that Public radio not only provides important local and state news but also national and international news. This news not only makes us good state citizens but also U.S. citizens. Alaskans need to know what is going on nationwide in order to participate actively in issues that are not limited to our isolated geographically position.

My name is Sonja Pompe and I would like to urge the legislature to fund the University System in rural areas. I work for the rural campus in the Naknek/King Salmon area and I have seen the popularity of education in this area. Not only is education important to our rural site, but it is important to the state as the beneficiary of an educated population. I would also like to show support for the funding of public broadcasting. Personally I use public broadcasting as my source of news and communication and I believe that it is the same with many of the citizens of Alaska. Limiting public broadcasting limits knowledge of world activities for a great percentage of the citizens of Alaska. Please listen to the citizens of the state of Alaska and continue to fund the spread of knowledge in our state.

HYDER COMMUNITY ASSOC. INC.

P. O. BOX 149
HYDER, ALASKA
99823
(804) 836-9148
FAX (804) 836-2714

IN JUNEAU REPLY TO: MIA DOT
John Pearson
HCA Economic Development Office
8216 Cedar Drive
Juneau, Ak 99801
Tel: 907-789-1402
Fax: 907-789-1403

X

ATIA
ARDOOR
P. Radio
ARTS
CEO
SEA/CERT

Date: March 4, 2000

To: House Finance Committee
From: John Pearson, HCA Economic Development Office (Juneau)



Ref: Public Comment Forum ref: FY 2001 Funding Levels

I would like to take this opportunity to comment on behalf of the Hyder Community Association on several aspects of the FY2001 before you.

The interests of the Hyder Community Association in relation to the FY 2001 budget you are dealing with is best viewed by the fact that our community is small, isolated and receives very few benefits from their state. However we support in full the current efforts of the Legislature to bring state funding into line.

- Hyder supports a strong economic development program by the state but we feel many of the services of the Department of Community and Economic Development are not reaching those it should be serving.
- The current programs of the Division of Tourism are a disaster. As a retired Division of Tourism program manager, there has never been a weaker program in operation. Every effort should be made to work with the industry and exclude the weak programs being fostered by the administration.
- The Division of Trade and Development should receive major cuts until they can justify the direction they are going with development issues.
- Hyder does not support the SEA-CERT program efforts as it is currently structured with -- in DCED. This program needs to be restructured with some outside help. For three years we have wasted state funds in supporting this effort and shown no results! If any questions give me a call: 789-1402.
- We urge a stronger accountability by the ARDOR programs around the state. While many of the ARDORS are doing an outstanding job, there are some who need to produce some results before being funded.
- We strongly support the efforts of the Division of Investments from the standpoint of being a major contributor to the economy of Alaska with their business loan programs. .
- Closure of the Alaska Film Office by the DCED Commissioner last year was unjustified and now leaves Alaska out of the loop in attracting film producers to Alaska. We would suggest not funding any new efforts to reform the Alaska Film Office until we have a change of administration on the third floor.

-2-

- We strongly support the "Made in Alaska" program as well as the "Silver Hand" program.
- The HCA supports cutting of the arts as well as public radio for programs in favor of programs that will develop jobs and the economy, once a total re-vamp of the DCED has been accomplished.
- The Hyder Community Association supports the notion of the State of Alaska Legislature only funding those community projects within the DOT/PF STIP project where there is at least a 50% local community "buy-in" on the .9% matching funds required to attract federal DOT dollars. There should be no free rides by our communities in receiving transportation project funding.

For your information the community of Hyder is composed of 131 residents. We receive very little from our state and ask very little. Representative Williams or Senator Taylor will tell you of the pride Hyder has in that we are creating 41 new jobs in the community this year as the result of a local economic development effort to reduce all unemployment and welfare to zero in the year 2000. Today we have only five jobs in the community. The plant is now under construction.

In May 2000, we will open our new community owned and operated bottled water plant, employing 41. Not one penny has come from the State of Alaska and the third floor is not being invited for rural development photo opportunities at the time of the grand opening.

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions!

John Pearson
789-1402 Tel
789-1403 Fax

PCE
Rev. Shamy
DOT

Recent and proposed future budget cuts in municipal assistance, revenue sharing, power cost equalization and even Department of Transportation road projects with funding diverted to urban areas are creating a gross division between

urban and rural
white and native which is degenerating to our becoming
relative haves and have nots, especially where basic services are
concerned. In my view, the majority urban legislators are treading on the rural minority's rights. The recent court decision documenting the states lack of police protection in rural areas is a case in point. I think the fact of the federal government taking over subsistence management in the state is a definite statement concerning their lack of confidence regarding the state legislature's policies toward rural and minority citizens.

Most of the economic development in the past several years has been occurring in urban areas, leaving rural areas out or even removing investment money and employment opportunities out of rural areas. There is a real discrepancy between the capabilities that budget shortfalls will leave in rural areas as opposed to urban areas. Economic growth in urban areas will allow increased taxes to pay for the loss of State funds, as difficult as it might be to achieve.

There is no such economic growth in rural areas. In fact there is net economic loss in most rural areas in the past several years. There is nothing to tax in many villages.

Under present circumstances, unfunded mandates for increased levels of documentation, training and environmental monitoring combined with continued state budget cuts will eventually make it impossible to continue basic public services like police, water, sewer and solid waste disposal financially.

So, the legislature and all of the citizens of Alaska need to begin to decide how to make more money and opportunities, rather than attempt to hoard what little we have left. The money we have left should be invested wisely to prime the economic pump and create industries to replace the flagging oil industry.

Oil states like Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico that have experienced oil depletion budget crunches like Alaska is experiencing now have only gotten past their fiscal problems by investing in the education that has allowed new industries to be productive in those states. This can be done both in urban and rural areas.

Therefore, I urge the legislature to keep funding at least at present levels for municipalities, and rather than consider paying out one final payment to citizens from the permanent fund and garnisheering the rest to pay for government, to invest the permanent fund and any other available state monies like the budget reserve accounts in money making projects in Alaska to provide employment and infrastructure to those of us in 'third world' Alaska. All of the money sitting in a stock brokers office in New York City does not do any of us any good. We should be investing in ourselves.

If this kind of policy is followed as well as it was in the sun belt states that experienced similar problems, in the next several years, revenue from profits from the new industries will bring the state budget back up nearly to pre-shortfall levels. A better distribution of higher education, industry, power and internet access would allow local economic bases, at which time state funding to municipalities could be cut responsibly.

According to the economic principles espoused by economist John Maynard Keynes, drastic cuts to government budgets at this stage of the economic crisis is exactly the wrong thing to do. I highly recommend his works to each and every legislator. Even Milton Friedman would see the problem with pulling money out of the state economy with the existing amount of unemployment in rural Alaska. Perhaps the University of Alaska system could be imposed upon to assist the legislature in methods of application of modern economic theory.

Rather than cutting blindly, the state legislature needs to adopt and follow a long term economic plan that promotes responsible economic growth. Yearly budgets would then not turn into such furball knock down drag out fights each spring.

Jerry Clay

DON IAN GRAY
399 HILLSIDE DRIVE
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99712
TEL. (907) 457-5737

*Education 15/20
University
Mental Health
Pub. Broadcasting*

Saturday, March 4, 2000

Testimony on the Alaska FY2001 Operating Budget (proposed):

Gentlemen & Ladies of the Committee,

We often wear many hats, figuratively, as Alaskans. In the brief time allotted, I urge you to do four things in this next operating budget.

one: As President of the Friends of the University of Alaska Museum, do follow the recommendations of the statewide president of University of Alaska, Mark Hamilton, and the UA Statewide Board of Regents, (as well as the Friend Board of Directors) and fund the University of Alaska maintenance budget along with the operating budget. The deterioration cannot continue and it does impact the number of employee labor hours to merely continue operations. If you fund the repairs and maintenance to the UA Museum, private dollars will take care of the long-postponed completion of this Jewel of the North.

two: Speaking as a public member of the State of Alaska Mental Health Board, which serves both the Governor and your good offices as citizen advisory on mental health issues including Alaska Psychiatric Institute, the Chronically Mentally Ill, and related areas: Please do not cut the proposed amounts for grants serving the chronically mentally ill living in community-based settings instead of higher cost hospitalization or incarceration. Don't cut grants for child care assistance; this affects many Alaskans struggling to maintain jobs and independence. You choose NOT to use Draconian measures against alcohol abuse like mandatory fines and confiscation of vehicles for first offense DWI driving offenses involving alcohol, but something must be done for this major Alaskan problem, (i.e. Driving While Intoxicated). Please fully fund alcohol and drug abuse grants to address the 58,000 Alaskans who suffer directly from abuse problems. All these are vital for a safer, healthier Alaska.

three: Speaking as an Interior resident who is concerned with the quality of community life here, please do not cut our intellectual lifeline: Public Broadcasting. One measure of government is its capacity to serve its citizens as a body what we cannot do individually. Public radio informs, enlightens and entertains us in ways that commercial radio chooses not to. Public television lifts Alaskans beyond trivial game shows, situation comedies or violent crime dramas, and allows all of us to watch, learn and be informed without paying subscriber fees that would exclude many. The quality of Alaskan society is greatly enhanced by public radio and TV. Without them we suffer as a people.

lastly: As a parent of grown children who received excellent public educations in our local schools, please fully fund the school budget foundation formula and schools related items in this operating budget. Looking to the future, I want coming generations to learn to be civil in their public lives, to be competent in their careers, and to be courageous in their commitment to a fair, just and prosperous democracy. Years in the future, I want the certified nurses assistant who helps me in my sickness or infirmity to be accurate and efficient, but also caring and responsible. I want the streets safe from madmen who barrel through red lights without a concern for the rights of others. Schools help kids, our society's future, learn compassion and competence. And they require our money. You have a heavy responsibility to put our dreams into reality using our collective resources as a people. You make the laws, you pass the budgets. I thank you for your effort; please be bold, be leaders, not whiners.

House Finance Committee Budget Hearings
4 March 2000
Comments by Carl S. Benson
1551 Farmers Loop, Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

income tax
revenue sharing
gas tax
vehicle registration
PFD cap

In its goal to continue cutting the budget, the Legislature is philosophically on the wrong course. Worse yet, it is wasting its time. Cuts to the already decimated state budget will only hurt and cannot help. It is said that we have a shortfall of \$700 million. The proposed cuts, intended to yield \$30 million, will only meet 4% of this. It's as if I owe you \$1.00 and offer to pay you 4¢. You would tell me: "Get real, do something about raising the money you need to pay what you owe." Think about it; 4% is not much. Your body weight can vary 4% in a single day.

By means of this public hearing you have asked for my advice. Here it is. Take notes.

1. Reinstate our state Income tax (the old one at 14% of the federal tax was fine).
2. Leave sales tax for local governments to administer (as before).
3. Leave property taxes for local governments to administer.
Stop consideration of a state-wide limit on property tax. This proposition could destroy some communities when combined with reduced revenue sharing from state to local governments. Alaskan property taxes are not high. For example, in the Fairbanks North Star Borough the 1999 dividend was almost three times more than the property tax (\$148.6 million in dividends and \$52 million in property tax).
4. Raise our state gasoline tax (now the lowest in the nation).
Don't worry, the overwhelming number of states, 45 out of 50, will still have higher gasoline taxes.
5. Raise our state vehicle registration fees (now the lowest in the nation).
When I tell people from other states about our vehicle registration fee: they are astonished. Our fees are only \$35 per year for cars and \$40 for trucks, regardless of the age or cost of the vehicle. In most states, fees are about 5 times higher. And many add a whopping sales tax which can exceed two thousand dollars.
6. Use some of the EARNINGS from our Permanent Fund for their intended purpose of contributing to funding state government at the time when oil revenues decline.
That time is now!
7. Put an upper limit on the dividend.
The original plan was based on residency, paying \$50 per year up to a maximum of 20 years, or \$1,000. The residency part was struck down as unconstitutional, but the upper limit made sense and certainly did not violate the constitution. Indeed, this maximum value would still be \$1,000.00 more than the dividend in North Dakota and Montana.

8. Stop the witless, counterproductive, cuts to state government.

Cuts to the already underfunded state government do no good toward solving the budget problem. Instead they become part of the problem. Our University of Alaska has been level funded for more than a decade in spite of growth and ever rising costs. This level funding has amounted to a cut of about \$50 million. It stifles the University's role as the primary engine for Alaska's economic development. Our Alaska State Troopers are operating with 73 fewer troopers than we had in 1987 when population and the associated problems were less. Our Alaska State Geological Survey is down by 80% of its strength a decade ago. It cannot meet its mandated requirements to monitor surface water and ground water. Similar examples can be cited for every state agency.

9. Stop using budget cuts vindictively.

The image of tight budgets (by ignoring our largest sources of income) has been used by some legislators as a basis for attacking programs they don't like. Cuts to Public Broadcasting and to the DEC were prime examples last year.

10 Try to keep in mind the size of our assets.

Our assets are enormous! With huge, income-producing savings accounts, and no debts, any of the other 49 states would trade financial places with Alaska in a heartbeat. The size of our Permanent Fund is beyond comprehension for most people, and its annual income is indeed the sustainable resource that the founders had in mind.

The income from the Permanent Fund last year was \$2,600 million. The income from the Constitutional Budget Reserve (CBR) was another \$300 million. The combined income from these two accounts exceeded the entire state general fund contribution to the budget by about \$1 billion. (In 1999 we paid about \$300 million in income tax to the IRS on dividends alone; that was roughly the same as the entire income of the CBR.)

11. Stop expecting the U.S. Federal Government to pay our way.

The federal component to the state budget (not counting the military expenditures in Alaska) exceeds what the state puts in from our general fund. Federal dollars have also exceeded state dollars in the University of Alaska budget for the past five years. The state must get back into the act. It can do this by raising revenues, using investment earnings, and by reducing the give-away binge, namely the unrestricted growth of the dividend. The dividend is now the biggest single item of our state expenditures.

ADMIN.



March 3, 2000

By hand delivery

Hon. Gene Therriault
Co-Chair, House Finance Committee
Capitol Room 511
Juneau, Alaska

Hon. Eldon Mulder
Co-Chair, House Finance Committee
Capital Room 507
Juneau, Alaska

Re: **Personal Care Attendant program administered by
Department of Administration, Division of Senior Services**



JUNEAU

230 South Franklin
Suite 209
Juneau, AK 99801
(907) 586-1627
FAX (907) 586-1066

Dear Reps. Therriault and Mulder:

Enclosed please find a description of a problem that, through anecdotes with past clients and other complaints, we perceive in the delivery of Medicaid-reimbursed personal care attendant (PCA) service in Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Southeast Alaska, as well as a proposed solution. We hope that as you review the Department of Administration's budget for this item you can find time to look into this issue. We certainly would look forward to participation by your staff, or of other staff of the committee, with agency staff to discuss the situation and potential solutions.

Very truly yours,

Robert B. Briggs
Staff attorney

Encl.

Cc: (w/ encls.)

House Finance Committee members
Rick Tessandore, exec. dir., DLC-Anchorage
Dave Fleurant, legal dir., DLC-Anchorage

MEMBER OF THE
NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF
PROTECTION &
ADVOCACY
SYSTEMS



**MEDICAID-REIMBURSED PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANT (PCA) SERVICE IN
ANCHORAGE, FAIRBANKS, AND SOUTHEAST ALASKA**

PROBLEM: persons with significant disabilities (quadriplegia, etc.) who are able to live at home with appropriate in-home personal care attendant (PCA) services, experience *interrupted, inconsistent and incomplete service*. PCAs fail to show up as scheduled, or the agencies providing service says they cannot find personnel to fully serve the client. This creates a great strain on family, endangers the client, and increases the risk of hospitalization or a nursing home placement, at greater expense to the State. *Some clients have been left unserved for hours or days at a time, lying in their own excrement and urine because a PCA failed to show to help with toileting, feeding, assistance with taking medications, and other needs.*

PERCEIVED CAUSES OF PROBLEM:

(1) lack of competition among PCA providers. Through a General Fund grant provided by the Department of Administration, a single non-profit agency possesses the exclusive right to deliver Medicaid-reimbursed PCA service in Anchorage, Fairbanks and Southeast Alaska. Under the grant agreement, the grantee agency is obligated to serve all Medicaid-eligible clients, and required to maintain sufficient personnel to meet each client's needs. The grantee may, and in Anchorage and Fairbanks does, use subcontracting agencies to deliver the service. In practice, the grantee is to receive approximately \$700,000 in General Fund grant dollars to deliver at least 116,000 hours of service, or approximately \$6.00 per hour of service delivered. In addition, the grantee bills Medicaid at \$21 per hour of service delivered, for a total compensation of approximately \$27 per hour. Total cost of the program in Anchorage, Fairbanks and Southeast Alaska, for Fiscal Year 2000, was approximately \$3 million, with Medicaid paying approximately \$2.3 million. Subcontract agreements pay the subcontracting agencies \$19 to \$20 per hour. Both subcontractors and the grantee agency pay at rates of \$10 to \$12 per hour (per the enclosed job advertisements). The grantee reports paying an average rate of \$12 per hour; advertised beginning rates are \$10.35 to \$10.50 per hour. At \$12 per hour approximately 55% of public monies are reserved for overhead; this rate is even higher if the agency's actual rates of compensation average less than \$12 per hour. Despite estimating overhead expenses to provide fringe benefits to PCAs, anecdotal evidence by some of our underserved clients has been that PCAs would like to work more hours, but have been kept underemployed and thus ineligible for health insurance and other fringe benefits reserved to full-time employees. This, I believe, may be a substantial factor in high turnover, unreliable employees, and difficulty finding employees to deliver this much-needed service.

(2) Arbitrary disincentives to Independent PCA service delivery. At least two major disincentives prevent successful use of self-employed, or so-called independent PCAs. First, agency regulations prohibit Medicaid payment for agency-employed PCAs and independent PCAs during the same month. Thus an independent PCA cannot be used when an agency-employed PCA fails to show, or when the agency has been unable to find personnel to fill all the needed service hours. If a client has selected an agency, the client is forced by regulation to live with the inadequate service, at least until the end of the month. Also, the rate of reimbursement for independent PCAs is established by regulation at \$12 per hour (the agency rate is \$21 per hour). Self-employed persons must pay a minimum of 30% federal income tax (15% minimum tax, plus 15% self-employment tax), so the effective rate of compensation is \$8.40 per hour. Thus, a person will make more money as an employee of a PCA agency (where the rates of pay are at least \$10 per hour) than as an independent PCA. The State of Alaska regulations thus encourage a monopoly of agency-based PCA delivery. Curiously, State regulations expressly require an independent PCA to provide his or her own backup

if illness or a car breakdown causes a no-show, but the agencies delivering PCA service have denied any obligation to provide on-call backup when one of their employees fail to show, and insist that the client sign a contract purporting to obligate the client's family to be the backup. They say they cannot afford to hire a person on an on-call basis, even though other social service agencies appear to deliver comparable services on an on-call basis for rates of compensation well under the Medicaid reimbursement rate of \$21 per hour (see the enclosed job announcements).

I am aware of no other medical service or product reimbursed by Medicaid in which there is such a dramatic discrimination in the compensation rates between otherwise qualified providers.

SOLUTIONS:

(1) Intent language in appropriations: I do not believe the General Funds appropriated for this purpose should be cut, or that the exclusive grants given on a regional basis should be modified in the more rural regions of Alaska, where likely there is only one agency available to deliver the service. All of the complaints we have received have come from Anchorage, Fairbanks, or Southeast Alaska. However, I believe intent language should be adopted in the appropriation for this item, that avoids inducing a monopoly of service delivery in the three most populous regions of the state. I suggest the following language:

"it is intended that the Department of Administration, in awarding grants within Regions 9U and 10 (Fairbanks Urban, and Southeast Alaska) shall award the grant funds to no less than two qualified grant applicants. Within Region 6 (Anchorage) the Department shall award the grant funds to no less than three qualified grant applicants. In the event that insufficient qualified grant applications are received within either Regions 6, 9U and 10, then the Department shall make grant funds available to otherwise qualified entities delivering Medicaid-reimbursed PCA services at the same hourly rate as provided in the grant award to the successful grantee(s). In any event, the grant agreements awarded shall not provide an exclusive Medicaid billing right, and any qualified PCA agency may bill Medicaid at the minimal regulatory rate, currently set at \$21 per hour."

This intent language will not interfere with any current contractual obligations of the State, because the grant agreement expires at the end of Fiscal Year 2000.

(2) Abolishment of agency regulations that restrict fair competition among PCA service providers: I also believe that the prohibition on using a combination of independent and agency-employed PCAs should be abolished, and the rate of compensation for independent PCAs should be increased. I believe that fair market forces will induce a higher quality of service delivery. These solutions may require a statutory directive, and I look forward to working with the Legislature to this end. There should be no fiscal impact of such a change, since the rates of compensation for independent PCAs are *less* than the rates of compensation for agencies, although I believe there is justification for reimbursing independent PCAs at higher rates than agencies that enjoy economies of scale unavailable to independents. Under the current rates of reimbursement, clients would be fully served at a lower hourly cost by independent PCAs. The State would save money if these regulations were abolished.

TITLE:

PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANT SERVICES

REGIONS 6, 9U & 10

FY 2000

TO BOB BRIGGS

20 PAGES

SUBMITTED TO:

**MS. SUSAN COOK
Personal Care Program Coordinator
Department of Administration
Division of Senior Services
Frontier Building
3601 C St., Suite 310
Anchorage, AK 99503-5209**

SUBMITTED BY:

**CENTER FOR COMMUNITY, Inc.
700 Katlian St. Suite B
Sitka, Alaska 99835**

CONTACT PERSON:

**Roger Brobst, Executive Director
Phone 907 747-6960
Fax 907 747 4868
Email rbrobst@cfc.org**

CENTER FOR COMMUNITY
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
FY2000 PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANT SERVICES

At Center for Community we have developed our program based on concepts commonly found in the managed care arena. Our model is based on the idea of a central point of entry and a pool of subcontracted providers and in-house staff to utilize in the provision of services. Center for Community has offices in Fairbanks, Anchorage, Juneau, Ketchikan and Sitka and utilizes an in-house staff of about 130 employees. During FY2000 we anticipate that about 50% of our services will be provided through five subcontractors that include both for-profit and non-profit entities. Contract rates are standardized and are expected to be \$20.04 per hour in FY 2000. All billing, data analysis and compliance monitoring are conducted by Center for Community.

All applications are made through our central office and the central office maintains a formal relationship with each participant. Following Medicaid eligibility confirmation the central office arranges for an assessment that is conducted by our centralized assessment team who are all registered nurses and experienced evaluators.

Once the care plan is developed, the contract administration staff assign the service provision to one of several subcontracted providers from our provider network or our in-house staff. The provider selection is multifaceted in that we attempt to mediate between participant selection, the need to provide a minimum amount of work so that our subcontractors remain viable and the needs of our own organization.

Once the participant is in service, they primarily communicate with their provider but they maintain an on-going relationship with the contract administration staff to resolve any problems or request changes in service.

The contract administration staff make monthly site visits to all subcontractors and CFC offices to conduct program audits to insure program compliance and offer technical assistance.

Twice each month the subcontractors and CFC offices submit approved time and activity records to the director of administration. These records are processed for regulatory compliance, service level data for the management information system, billing and finally either subcontractor payment or payroll operations. Subcontractors are paid monthly.

In the FY 2000 program we anticipate serving over 400 people and providing a minimum of 116,652 hours of personal care services.

NOTE: If as suggested in section 6 page 5 of Appendix C, subcontractors must comply with regulations related to Grant Programs (Chapter 78 AAC?) it will be impossible to utilize subcontractors and significant revisions to this proposal will be required.

CENTER FOR COMMUNITY FY 00 PCA PROGRAM

DIRECT SERVICE COSTS			G.F. BUDGET	MEDICAID BUDGET	TOTAL BUDGET
PERSONAL SERVICES					
	FTE				
Contract Administrator	1.02	15.90	33688 ✓	0	33688
C.A. Assistant	0.99	12.00	24719 ✓	0	24719
Program Coordinator	3.48	15.00	108600 ✓	0	108600
Care Coordinator (RN)	2.04	17.00	72134 ✓	0	72134
PCA Staff	21.71	12.50	25500 ✓	538950 ✓	564450
Fringe Benefits @.31			82039 ✓	167075 ✓	249113
			0	0	
Total Expense (100)			346680 ✓	706025 ✓	1052704
TRAVEL					
Local Mileage			0	17340 ✓	17340
Assessment Travel			0	46134 ✓	46134
			0	0	0
Total Expense (200)			0	63474 ✓	63474
SUPPLIES					
Office Supplies			0	8778 ✓	8778
Program Supplies			0	3760 ✓	3760
Misc. Supplies / Postage			0	0	0
			0	0	0
Total Expense (400)			0	12538 ✓	12538
EQUIPMENT					
Program Equipment			0	19269 ✓	19269
Vehicle Expense			0	0	0
			0	0	0
Total Expense (500)			0	19269 ✓	19269
OTHER					
Staff Training			0	0	0
Contract PCA Services			36311 ✓	1396465 ✓	1432776
Denied Claims Reserve			0	0	0
Other Direct Expense			0	19997 ✓	19997
			0	0	0
Total Expense (600)			36311	1416462 ✓	1452773
SUB TOTAL OF DIRECT			382991	2217768	2600758
ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS					
PERSONAL SERVICES					
Executive director	0.59	31	38014 ✓	0	38014
Director of Admin	0.67	22	30600 ✓	0	30600
Director of Services	0.67	22	30600 ✓	0	30600
Regional Manager	1.72	19	67992 ✓	0	67992
Accountant	1.02	16	33943 ✓	0	33943
Admin Assistant	2.04	12	50917 ✓	0	50917
Fringe Benefits @ .31			57063 ✓	0	57063
			0	0	0
Total Expense (100)			309129 ✓	0	309129

CA #98T
CALIFORNIA w/ A.A.
FD 300 6/87

	G.F. BUDGET	MEDICAID BUDGET	TOTAL BUDGET
TRAVEL			
Local Travel	0	4264	4264
Admin Travel	7975	0	7975
	0	0	0
Total Travel (200)	7975	4264	12239
FACILITY EXPENSE			
Rent	0	32408	32408
Utilities	0	3060	3060
Telephone	0	39459	39459
Postage	0	3065	3065
Repair and Maintenance	0	0	0
Other Facility Expense	0	0	0
	0	0	0
Total Expense (300)	0	77992	77992
SUPPLIES			
Office Supplies	0	0	0
Misc. Supplies	0	0	0
	0	0	0
Total Expense (400)	0	0	0
EQUIPMENT			
Office Equipment	0	17472	17472
Lease Rental	0	3961	3961
Repair and Maintenance	0	0	0
	0	0	0
Total Expense (500)	0	21433	21433
OTHER			
Audit	0	7236	7236
Contract Services	0	18360	18360
Denied Claims Reserve	0	0	0
Other Admin. Expense	0	0	0
DSS Projects	0	0	0
Program Insurance	0	9904	9904
Printing / Advertising	0	5723	5723
Dues and Subscriptions	0	0	0
Legal Services	0	6120	6120
	0	0	0
Total Expense (600)	0	47343	47343
SUB TOTAL OF ADMIN EXP	317104	151032	468136
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSE	700095	2368800	3068894
(PCA AVG. WAGE \$12 PER HR.)			
HOURS OF DIRECT SERVICE BY CFC	2040	43116	45156
HOURS OF DIRECT SERVICE BY CONTRACTS	1812	69684	71496
	0	0	
TOTAL NUMBER OF DIRECT SERVICE HOURS	3852	112800	116652
AVERAGE COST			26.31

F. *Administrative Assistant - 2.04 FTE. (\$50,917 - GF) This position is primarily involved with data entry for payroll and billing but also provides support for administrative matters, supply control, reception and general office management of the organization and reports to the director of administration. The positions are currently held by Carla Mahoskey and Kim Watson.

G. Contract Administrator - 1 FTE. (\$33,688- GF) This position is responsible for the day to day management of the proposed project. Duties of this position include supervising project staff, participating in planning sessions, coordinating services with other providers, monitoring services, monitoring budgets and service levels, and insuring that all activities remain in compliance with program regulations and guidelines. This position reports to the Executive Director and is currently filled by Walter Spurling.

H. Contract Assistant - 1 FTE (\$24,719 - GF) This position works closely with the contract administrator in the administration of the day to day affairs of the personal care attendant program. This is also a cross training position to provide stability to the program in the event that the contract administrator cannot perform their functions. The position reports to the contract administrator and is currently held by Annette Lowe.

I. Program Coordinator - 3.48 FTE (\$108,600 - GF) This position is responsible for the daily supervision and scheduling of direct care staff and implementing processes to insure that appropriate levels and types of service are provided. The program coordinators report to the regional manager and Karen Kienbaum and David Rice currently fill the positions. Recruitment is just being completed for two additional positions one located in Ketchikan and one in Anchorage.

J. Care Coordinator / Supervising RN -- 2 FTE (\$72,134 - GF) These positions conduct all of the personal care assessments, reassessments and serve as the supervising RN's. The positions also conduct staff training and other professional support. The positions are currently housed in the Anchorage office and travel to service sites throughout the state on a monthly basis. The positions are also supported by a back up RN in the Southeast region who can aid in time sensitive situations. The positions are currently held by Desiree Fallor, RN., and Rick Herron RN and report to the contract administrator.

K. Personal Care Attendant - 22 FTE (\$25,500 GF - \$538,950 MC) These positions provide all of our direct service in the PCA program. These positions must meet the criteria as described in regulation. This proposal will actually employ about 50 individuals but many of them work less than 40 hours per week. The PCA's report to the program coordinator.

L. Fringe Benefits - (\$391,168 - GF, 167,065 MC) For FY00 employee fringe benefits are calculated at 31% of gross salaries. Specifically these expenses include: Payroll Taxes, Workers Compensation, Personal Leave, Holidays, Health insurance and Retirement.

TOTAL FOR CATEGORY 100: \$655,809 - GF \$706,025 - MC

Alaska's Job Bank - Job Description

Job Order: 9970188 Job Title: CNA/PCA

Region: ANCHORAGE/MAT-SU City: ANCHORAGE/99501

Education: NA Months of Experience: 00 Minimum Age: 18

License(s) Required:

Job Description:

MUST BE CERTIFIED CNA OR PCA. HAVE CURRENT CPR AND FIRST AIDE CERTIFICATION. PASS A STATE AND FEDERAL BACKGROUND CHECK. JOB LOCATION EAGLE RIVER. MUST HAVE OWN VEHICLE TO TRAVEL BETWEEN SITES. TRAVEL TIME IS PAID ** TO APPLY, APPLICANT MUST GO DIRECT TO JOB READY. 600 BARROW STREET. #104. ANCHORAGE 99501 OR CALL ERICA AT 907 258- 3498 BETWEEN 8-5. M-F.

Job Duration: FULL TIME OVER 150 DAYS Pay: \$ 10.50 PER HOUR ()

Hours: 40

If you meet the employer's requirements and wish to apply for this job. follow referral instructions in the job description above. If no instructions appear in the job description. mail or fax your resume to the local office.



Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development
Alaska Job Center Network

Alaska's Job Bank - Job Description

Job Order: 9120419 **Job Title:** PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANT(PC A)/A

Region: SOUTHEAST **City:** ANGOON

Education: 12 Months of Experience: 03 **Minimum Age:** 18

License(s) Required: CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION FIRST AID CERT/GENERAL ALASKA DRIVER'S LICENSE

Job Description:

OPEN TIL FILLED. QUALIFICATIONS: MUST HAVE CURRENT FA/ CPR OR ABILITY TO GET CERTIFICATION UPON OFFER OF HIRE. CURRENT ALASKA PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANT CERTIFICATE OR CNA CERTIFICATE REQUIRED. ABILITY TO PROVIDE OWN TRANSPORTATION WITH REIMBURSED MILEAGE OF \$.31/MILE. DUTIES: PROVIDE HANDS-ON ASSISTANCE W/ ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIVING SUCH AS BATHING & DRESSING. IN CLIENTS' HOMES.

WORK SITE IS LOCATED IN ANGOON, ALASKA.

****TO APPLY: CONTACT CENTER FOR COMMUNITY AT TOLL-FREE # 1-800-478-6970 FOR APPLICATION AND REFERRAL INSTRUCTIONS. ATTN: DAVE RICE**

Job Duration: PART TIME OVER 150 DAYS **Pay:** \$ 10.35 PER HOUR (PCA QUALIFIED/OR DOE)

Hours: 20

if you meet the employer's requirements and wish to apply for this job, follow referral instructions in the job description above. If no instructions appear in the job description, mail or fax your resume to the local office.



Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development
Alaska Job Center Network

Alaska's Job Bank - Job Description

Job Order: 9120264 Job Title: PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANT/HAINES

Region: SOUTHEAST City: HAINES

Education: 12 Months of Experience: 03 Minimum Age: 18

License(s) Required: CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION FIRST AID CERT/GENERAL ALASKA DRIVER'S LICENSE

Job Description:

OPEN TIL FILLED. FT & PT /PERM. QUALIFICATIONS: MUST HAVE CURRENT PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANT CERTIFICATE (PCA) OR CNA CERTIFICATE WOULD BE HELPFUL BUT NOT MANDATORY. NEEDS OWN RELIABLE TRANSPORTATION AND ALASKA DRIVERS LICENSE. WORK IS LOCATED IN HAINES, ALASKA.

DUTIES: WORKING IN PRIVATE HOME SETTINGS; ASSISTING CLIENTS W/ PERSONAL CARE. HYGIENE AND RELATED CARE DUTIES, AS NEEDED.

**TO APPLY: COMPLETE A GENERAL EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION, OR RESUME. SUBMIT TO: CENTER FOR COMMUNITY, 700 KATLIAN STREET, SUITE B, SITKA, ALASKA 99835 ATTN: DAVID RICE OR CALL TOLL FREE # AT: 1-800-478-6970

Job Duration: FULL TIME OVER 150 DAYS Pay: \$ 10.35 PER HOUR (PER HOUR/FT OR PT)

Hours: 40

If you meet the employer's requirements and wish to apply for this job, follow referral instructions in the job description above. If no instructions appear in the job description, mail or fax your resume to the local office.



Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development
Alaska Job Center Network

Alaska's Job Bank - Job Description

Job Order: 9110515 Job Title: PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANT

Region: SOUTHEAST City: JUNEAU

Education: NA Months of Experience: 03 Minimum Age: 18

License(s) Required:

Job Description:

MUST HAVE H.S. DIPLOMA OR EQUIVALENT & CURRENT ALASKA CERTIFIED NURSES AIDE CERTIFICATE OR LPN CERTIFICATE WITH IN 120 DAYS OF HIRE. CURRENT AK DRIVER'S LICENSE & FIRST AIDE & CPR CERTIFICATES. ABILITY TO ORGANIZE, WRITE REPORTS, & PROVIDE SERVICES IN A TIMELY MANNER. DUTIES: PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR THE ELDERLY AND DISABLED INDIVIDUALS TO INCLUDE BUT NOT LIMITED TO BATHING, DRESSING, GROOMING, MEAL PREP AND LIGHT HOUSEKEEPING. **SUBMIT A RESUME OR GENERAL APPLICATION TO THE JUNEAU JOB CENTER, 10002 GLACIER HYW., SUITE 200, JUNEAU, AK. 99801.

Center for Community ?

Job Duration: FULL TIME OVER 150 DAYS Pay: \$ 10.35 PER HOUR ()

Hours: 40

If you meet the employer's requirements and wish to apply for this job, follow referral instructions in the job description above. If no instructions appear in the job description, mail or fax your resume to the local office.



Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development
Alaska Job Center Network

Alaska's Job Bank - Job Description

Job Order: 9120420 **Job Title:** PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANT(PC A)/Y

Region: SOUTHEAST **City:** YAKUTAT

Education: 12 Months of Experience: 03 **Minimum Age:** 18

License(s) Required: CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION FIRST AID CERT/GENERAL ALASKA DRIVER'S LICENSE

Job Description:

OPEN TIL FILLED. QUALIFICATIONS: MUST HAVE CURRENT FA/ CPR OR ABILITY TO GET CERTIFICATION UPON OFFER OF HIRE. CURRENT ALASKA PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANT CERTIFICATE OR CNA CERTIFICATE REQUIRED. ABILITY TO PROVIDE OWN TRANSPORTATION WITH REIMBURSED MILEAGE OF \$.31/MILE. DUTIES: PROVIDE HANDS-ON ASSISTANCE W/ ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIVING SUCH AS BATHING & DRESSING. IN CLIENTS' HOMES.

WORK SITE IS LOCATED IN YAKUTAT, ALASKA.

****TO APPLY: CONTACT CENTER FOR COMMUNITY AT TOLL-FREE # 1-800-478-6970 FOR APPLICATION AND REFERRAL INSTRUCTIONS. ATTN: DAVE RICE**

Job Duration: PART TIME OVER 150 DAYS **Pay:** \$ 10.35 PER HOUR (PCA QUALIFIED OR DOE)

Hours: 20

If you meet the employer's requirements and wish to apply for this job, follow referral instructions in the job description above. If no instructions appear in the job description, mail or fax your resume to the local office.



Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development
Alaska Job Center Network

(-12-)

Alaska's Job Bank - Job Description

Job Order: 9440036 **Job Title:** PERSONAL CARE ATTD/RELIEF-ST.

Region: NORTHERN **City:** ST. MICHAEL

Education: 12 Months of Experience: 00 **Minimum Age:** 18

License(s) Required: NURSE AIDE CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION

Job Description:

RELIEF POSITION. HOURS FLEXIBLE. SOME WEEKENDS MAY BE REQUIRED. QUALS: HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR GED. MUST COMPLETE CNA TRAINING AND OBTAIN CPR CERTIFICATION PRIOR TO DATE OF HIRE. MUST BE ABLE TO FOLLOW WRITTEN INSTRUCTIONS AND KEEP SIMPLE RECORDS. MUST HAVE PERSONALITY CONDUCIVE TO WORKING CLOSELY WITH PATIENTS IN HOME. DUTIES: RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING PERSONAL CARE TO CLIENTS IN THE HOME. UNDER DIRECT SUPERVISION OF HOME CARE COORDINATOR. THIS INCLUDES BATHING, DRESSING, VITAL SIGNS. OTHER ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIVING. **TO APPLY, COMPLETE NORTON SOUND HEALTH CORP APPLICATION, SEND TO PO BOX 966. OR FAX TO (907) 443-3244.

Job Duration: PART TIME OVER 150 DAYS **Pay:** \$ 12.64 PER HOUR (NON CERT-13.27 CERT)

Hours: 20

If you meet the employer's requirements and wish to apply for this job, follow referral instructions in the job description above. If no instructions appear in the job description, mail or fax your resume to the local office.



Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development
Alaska Job Center Network

Alaska's Job Bank - Job Description

Job Order: 8440300 Job Title: PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANT/CNA -

Region: NORTHERN City: BREVIG MISSION

Education: 12 Months of Experience: 00 Minimum Age: 18

License(s) Required: NURSE AIDE CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION

Job Description:

THIS IS A RELIEF POSITION, ON CALL AS NEEDED. QUALS:
MUST BE CERTIFIED NURSE ASSISTANT OR COMPLETE TRAINING BEFORE HIRE DATE. MUST HAVE CPR CERT PRIOR TO HIRE. DEMONSTRATED ABILITY TO KEEP SIMPLE RECORDS & FOLLOW WRITTEN & VERBAL INSTRUCTIONS. MUST HAVE PERSONALITY CONDUCIVE TO WORKING CLOSELY W/ PATIENTS IN THEIR HOMES. DUTIES: PROVIDE PERSONAL CARE TO CLIENTS INCLUDING BATHING, DRESSING, TAKING VITAL SIGNS, ASSIST WITH TOILETING, & SIMPLE EXERCISES. KEEP RECORDS & REPORT CHANGES IN PATIENT'S CONDITION. **TO APPLY SEND COMPLETED NORTON SOUND HEALTH CORPORATION APPLICATION TO PO BOX 966, NOME, AK 99762 OR FAX TO 1-907-443-2085.

Job Duration: PART TIME OVER 150 DAYS Pay: \$ 14.50 PER HOUR (+DOE)

Hours: 10

If you meet the employer's requirements and wish to apply for this job, follow referral instructions in the job description above. If no instructions appear in the job description, mail or fax your resume to the local office.



Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development
Alaska Job Center Network

-14-

Alaska's Job Bank - Job Description

Job Order: 9110738 Job Title: **ACTIVITY ASSISTANT**

Region: SOUTHEAST City: **JUNEAU**

Education: 12 Months of Experience: 12 Minimum Age: 00

License(s) Required:

Job Description:

FT PERM. MUST HAVE ONE YEAR EXPERIENCE WORKING WITH THE ELDERLY AND/OR ONE YEAR EXPERIENCE IN PREPARING AND LEADING ACTIVITIES IN A GROUP ENVIRONMENT. HOME HEALTH AIDE, CNA OR HOMEMAKES EXPERIENCE DESIRABLE. PROVIDE DIRECT SERVICES TO PEOPLE WITH ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE OR RELATED DEMENTIA AND OR PHYSICALLY FRAIL. ASSIST IN IMPLEMENTING PROGRAM PLANS FOR PHYSICAL & RECREATIONAL THERAPY. MAINTAIN RECORDS. ASSIST WITH ACTIVITIES FOR DAILY LIVING WITH ALL ADULT DAY PROGRAM CLIENTS AS NEEDED. **MAIL OR FAX RESUME TO: CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICE, 419 6TH ST., JUNEAU, AK. 99801 OR FAX TO: (907) 463-6144 OR CALL (907)463-6161 FOR DETAILS.

Job Duration: FULL TIME OVER 150 DAYS Pay: **\$ 11.07 PER HOUR ()**

Hours: 38

If you meet the employer's requirements and wish to apply for this job, follow referral instructions in the job description above. If no instructions appear in the job description, mail or fax your resume to the local office.



Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development
Alaska Job Center Network

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Alaska's Job Bank - Job Description

Job Order: 9270584 **Job Title:** CERTIF. NURSING ASST.(CNA)-ON

Region: SOUTHWEST **City:** BETHEL

Education: 09 Months of Experience: 00 **Minimum Age:** 18

License(s) Required:

Job Description:

P/T, ON CALL (POOL); OPEN UNTIL FILLED. PROVIDE CARE TO PATIENTS, ASSISTS W/ ADL'S: SUPPORT HOSPITAL GOALS & OBJECTIVES; SERVES PATIENTS FROM BIRTH TO ELDERLY. QUALS: 9TH GRADE MIN.; EXPERIENCE PREFERRED BUT WILL TRAIN ON THE JOB & PROVIDE C.N.A. TRAINING TO ACQUIRE 1ST AIDE & CPR CERTIF.: ABLE TO WORK VARIED SHIFTS.

****TO APPLY****

SUBMIT A COMPLETED YKHC APPLICATION TO:
YKHC HUMAN RESOURCES DEPT., PO BOX 528/829 ED.HOFFMAN HWY
BETHEL, AK 99559 OR FAX TO: 907 543-6061. FOR MORE INFO,
CALL 907 543-6060 OR 800 478-8905.

Job Duration: FULL TIME 31 TO 150 DAYS **Pay:** \$ 11.58 PER HOUR (DOE/GRADE 2)

Hours: 30

If you meet the employer's requirements and wish to apply for this job, follow referral instructions in the job description above. If no instructions appear in the job description, mail or fax your resume to the local office.



Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development
Alaska Job Center Network

-16-

PUBLIC
BROADCASTING



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Finance
 committee name
 committee on HB 312, dated 3/2/00
 bill/subject

I am writing to express my concern on possible funding cuts to Public Broadcasting as a result of House Bill 312.

I live an isolated community of Alaska. Like many small town Alaskans I get much of my entertainment for radio. I depend on Public Broadcasting to bring me family entertainment, accurate news, both local and world wide and a varied view of the world. I know that when I turn on the radio, I will get programs produced for Alaskans in Alaska instead of canned top 40 music.

I appreciate that my local radio station, KCAW, offers the best local news coverage I've found anywhere in Alaska. I also can find regularly scheduled programming suitable for children and dinner time without advertisements and nauseam for stores and services not available in Alaska.

Sincerely,

Marg. Parsons

Marg. Parsons

Signed: MARG. PARSONS -
 Testifier
TAXPAYERS
 Representing (Optional)
PO Box 6461 Sitka
 Address
747-8421
 Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance Committee
committee name
 committee on _____, dated 3-4-2000
bill/subject

I encourage you to reinstate the 10% cut in state funding for public broadcasting for FY 2001. I am a local business woman and have served on the Board of Directors for KSKA/KAKM for the past 5 years. Our station has already been cut to the bone and I am appalled at the continued cuts that will undoubtedly cause some of the stations to go off the air. I am one of many Alaskans who are interested in paying income taxes in order to maintain a reasonable quality of life in our great state!

Signed: Jo Michalski
Testifier
Alaska Public Broadcasting
Representing (Optional)
3543 Stanford Drive Anchorage, 99508
Address
907-279-6376
Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance Comm.
committee name
 committee on Public Broadcasting dated 3-4-2000.
bill/subject

Public Broadcasting should be supported by an increase in State support rather than a decrease. Our State University system deserves increased support as well. Revenue Sharing should be increased to stem public rebellion over rising property taxes.

the Administration and
 All of this is to say the State Legislature needs to find new revenue sources - taxes, F. Fund monies - and/or something else. Stop allowing Alaska to turn into a second class state.

Signed: John W. Blaine
Testifier
Self - (member of Public Broadcasting)
Representing (Optional) Commission
2200 SUSITNA DR.
Address Anchorage, AK 99517
Phone No. 907/248-3219

Thanks for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Dave MacDowell. I am married, and have four kids ranging in age from 15 to 7 years old.

I am also president of the board of directors of Alaska Dance Theatre, the largest nonprofit dance organization in the state, with almost 500 students.

The organization has touched many lives since its humble beginnings in 1981, and we have made a positive difference in the community, and in the lives of our students.

ADT receives operational support from the Alaska State Council on the Arts. It makes a significant difference to us, and helps to ensure that quality performance and instruction is available to students and audiences from across all economic backgrounds.

So many individuals and businesses, large and small, continue to provide the bulk of our financial support. For that, we are grateful. Especially since they are being called upon more and more. Their private support is important. So is public funding from ASCA.

I ask you to ensure that ASCA's funding capability is not reduced. Please re-think the House Finance sub-committee recommendation, as it will hurt all arts groups around the state.

On behalf of the Alaska Dance Theatre board of Directors, my own family, and our community, please make the right decision.

David F. MacDowell
17600 Rosemont Drive
Anchorage, Alaska 99516

March 4th, 2000



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Education/Finance subcommittee name
recommendation
 committee on The state General dated 3/4/00
bill/subject fund match

see attached.

Robert Krumley

Signed: *Robert Krumley*
 Testifier

Alaska Dance Theatre, V.P.
 Representing (Optional)

2602 Gambell Street, Anchorage,
 Address *AK*

907-277-2511
 Phone No.

Patrick Rumley
Financial Consultant

907-277-2511
800-233-2511

 SALOMON SMITH BARNEY

A member of citigroup

SALOMON SMITH BARNEY INC.
2550 Denali Street, Suite 1404
Anchorage, AK 99503-2737
FAX 907-263-5725

Good afternoon. My name is Patrick Rumley. I am Vice-President of Alaska Dance Theatre, the largest not for profit dance organization in Alaska. We have, depending upon the time of year, between four and five hundred young dancers studying at our school. They obtain first rate instruction in dance from a dedicated teacher corps, with live accompaniment, working out of a small fifty year old building which houses its studios.

We are largely self-sufficient, depending upon significant contributions from the private sector. But, as with most arts organizations, there is a gap which the state and municipal governments have filled, to their everlasting credit. We benefit from a \$10,630 grant from the Alaska State Council on the Arts (ASCA). This money helps us to maintain the minimal level of operational expenditures necessary to support a dance group of this size and calibre. It helps keep the cost of instruction down to encourage diversity among socio-economic groups who can share in the joy of dance. Were this money to be withdrawn it would place serious financial pressure upon our organization, inevitably impacting the programs we can offer and the students we can serve.

You know. . . Activities such as dance are not just arts for arts' sake. In fact, they are character building. Dance teaches discipline and creativity, it builds physical strength and fitness among a population that is increasingly obese, and provides an uplifting focus for young minds and bodies that elevates the dignity and self-respect of all. Cutting funding for dance and other performing arts is short sighted. That \$75,000 is money well spent as an investment in the education and development of our students and also the patron public who also benefit from a vibrant performing arts community, including dance. It is a bargain if you consider for a moment what we spend on children who do not have the opportunity to participate and lose their way.

I urge you to resist cuts to the state General Fund match for the Alaska State Council on the Arts. Now is not the time to rob Peter to pay Paul.



Kachemak Bay Broadcasting, Inc. (907) 235-7721

PUBLIC RADIO • AM 890

Fax: (907) 235-2357

3913 KACHEMAK WAY • HOMER, AK 99603

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION SHEET

Sent to HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Company _____

Fax Number 405.6813 Date 3.6.00

Number of pages (including this one) 5

Sent By SUSAN KERNES

In Reference To HB 312

Reply Requested Yes No

Notes:

Please accept these petitions requesting that the proposed \$400,500 cut be withdrawn from your deliberations. This phone call is not being paid for with state money.

Thank you,
Susan Kernes
General Manager

Catherine,

Sorry I couldn't get more
signatures, need more time.

Good luck.

John Shows

Petition to support Public Broadcasting

We the undersigned respectfully request that the proposed \$400,500 cut to
Public Broadcasting be reinstated into the Department of Administration Budget

NAME (please print)	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS	PHONE
HEIDI GLOFFELY	<i>[Signature]</i>	BOX 15281 FISH CREEK	(907) 235-8253
Rachel S. Korman	<i>[Signature]</i>	BOX 18666 HOMER AK	907 235-6225
<i>[Signature]</i>	Drew Shows	Box 15069 FISH CREEK	(907) 235-8997
Steven Garrison	<i>[Signature]</i>	BOX 18666 HOMER AK	907 235-6225

↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓
Petition to support Public Broadcasting

Thank You

We the undersigned respectfully request that the proposed \$400,500 cut to Public Broadcasting be reinstated into the Department of Administration Budget

NAME (please print)	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS	PHONE
Karen E. Berman	<i>Karen E. Berman</i>	PO Box 1319 Homer	235-2936
Stephen McCasland	<i>Stephen McCasland</i>	PO Box 319 Homer	235-2936
Mari Turtaisen	<i>Mari Turtaisen</i>	40894 Old Sterling Hwy. N.P.	235-5367
Bob Jane	<i>Bob Jane</i>	PO Box 4564 Soldotna	262-5795
Larry Holmes	<i>Larry Holmes</i>	PO Box 314	235-1355
FRANCO VENUTI	<i>FRANCO VENUTI</i>	P.O. BOX 3652 HOMER	235-7480
Jeff Szarzi	<i>Jeff Szarzi</i>	PO Box 3482 Homer	235-9713
Jim Cavitz	<i>Jim Cavitz</i>	14742 Elab Rd Ender	694-5123
Mark Williston	<i>Mark Williston</i>	P.O. Box 3756 HOMER	299-1113
Hollan Smith	<i>Hollan Smith</i>	PO Box 122 Homer	235-9740
Sophie Smith	<i>Sophie Smith</i>	P.O. Box 122 HOMER AK	235-9740
Eric Clarke	<i>Eric Clarke</i>	PO Box 2741 HOMER AK	255-7721
Catherine McCarthy	<i>Catherine McCarthy</i>	P.O. Box 957 Homer, AK	235-5597
John Rolf	<i>John Rolf</i>	PO 2621 Homer	" 6750
Martha Piazza	<i>Martha Piazza</i>	PO Box 2571 Homer	8248
Paul Castellani	<i>Paul Castellani</i>	70B 682 Anchor Pt.	399-4638
Don Wainman	<i>Don Wainman</i>	PO Box 897 Homer	235-0628
CRIG BIEBER	<i>CRIG BIEBER</i>	P.O. Box 878	235-8207
CARMEN FIELD	<i>Carmen Field</i>	P.O. BOX 2551 HOMER	235-6016
Megan Brinson	<i>Megan Brinson</i>	PO BOX 118 HOMER	235-1816
Don McKenry	<i>Don McKenry</i>	"	"
Lauri Eggertsen-Goff	<i>Lauri Eggertsen-Goff</i>	P.O. BOX 3341 KENAI	260-5264
Darin B. Groff	<i>Darin B. Groff</i>	"	"
SEYMOUR SCHADLER	<i>SEYMOUR SCHADLER</i>	P.O. Box 3596	235-7336
Benjamin Jock	<i>Benjamin Jock</i>	Box 20 Kenai AK	283 6228
Steven Zimmerman	<i>Steven Zimmerman</i>	Box 1291 Homer	235-5597
MARK STOUT	<i>MARK STOUT</i>	Box 305 Homer AK	235-7074
William Miller	<i>William Miller</i>	PO Box 266 Homer AK	235-3626
Donna Kattenman	<i>Donna Kattenman</i>	P.O. BOX 3201 HOMER	235-1536
Jim Roe	<i>Jim Roe</i>	4255 Pleasure Way AK	235-6532
KURT HARGRAVE	<i>Kurt Hargrave</i>	106 W Bunnell Av Homer	235-7558
DAVID AERS	<i>David Aers</i>	Box 2045 HOMER	235-6036
TIMY CROFT	<i>Timy Croft</i>	Box 434 KASLOV AK	260 7572
Steve McKenry	<i>Steve McKenry</i>	P.O. Box 284 Kaslo AK	398-8018
RICHARD ARCH	<i>Richard Arch</i>	P.O. Box 589 ANCHORAGE	235-0592

M



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance
 committee name
 committee on Public Radio Act, dated March 4th
 bill/subject

Budget cutting hurts yet is necessary. I appreciate your hard work and thoughtfulness in considering so many aspects. We in Alaska have enjoyed the many benefits of various programs. Public radio reaches many people so please reconsider the cuts to the news programs. This radio coverage is the only source of news for some. Smaller bites in funding hurts less than chops and last longer.

Signed: Josanna Torres
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)
PO Box 2497
 Address
235-4772
 Phone No.

Post-it* Fax Note	7671	Date	3/4/00	# of pages	6
To	House Finance	From	Homer L10		
Co./Dept.		Co.			
Phone #		Phone #	235-87878		
Fax #	465-6813	Fax #			



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HB 312
 committee name
 committee on Public Radio / Arts dated March 4, 2000
 bill/subject

I would like to urge you to reconsider any budget cuts for public radio. It is a life line in rural communities. It is a life line to the outside world as well as the web of communication within our community. It is a quality of life that is simply not replaceable. It is an access that goes beyond roads or any other form of physical transport. It is VITAL in every way. Please do not cut public radio.

I also understand that the legislature is considering cutting over \$75,000. - from the general fund match for the Alaska State Council on the Arts, by taking that amount from the Art in Public Places Fund. ASCA cannot use the AIPP money for on going, vital programs. That means it is a \$75,000. - cut and an even bigger loss because of federal matching funds. For me, the quality of life would be so drastically cut if this occurred that I would have to consider leaving this state. Without the arts, without public radio, life here would be simply rudimentary. It is time to impose more taxes, income

Signed: Rika Mouw

Testifier

myself (arts community, Public radio)

Representing (Optional)

P.O. Box 4084 Homer, AK 99603

Address

907 235-7455

Phone No.

taxes, personal and corporate. It is time to tax the visitors who come to this state.

Think of new sources of revenue - not cuts on the humanitarian benefits and attractions of this state

9/88 Legislative Information Office

we are kidding ourselves to think it doesn't take more money to live here. We don't want to be a no tax, no service state.

MAR. 11 11 11 11

Dear Finance Committee Co-Chairs Mulder and Therriault,

Hello. My name is Joe Stratman. I serve on the board of directors of Narrows Broadcasting Corporation, the license holder of KFSK public radio in Petersburg. I urge you not to cut funding of public radio in this year's budget.

Petersburg is a rural community, and many of its residents work seasonally in the fishing industry. For many residents of central Southeast Alaska, KFSK is simply the only source of vital news and information. KFSK is a member of the Emergency Alert System, formally known as the Emergency Broadcast System. KFSK regularly broadcasts the local and marine weather, by which many residents plan their workday. This community and the outlying areas rely solely on KFSK for providing local news and messages and for airing important public events. The airwaves are open to all as KFSK provides production assistance to those wishing to air their views. KFSK keeps us connected to the rest of the state and nation by providing programming from APRN and NPR.

A couple of years ago, the State of Alaska mandated regionalization and streamlining in public radio. KFSK and the other stations in Southeast responded by being the first to answer this call, and CoastAlaska regional radio organization was formed. Now bookkeeping and other administrative services have been centralized. KFSK has learned to do more with less, over and over again. I implore you to not cut funding to public radio. We in rural Alaska can't live without it. Thank you for your time.

Joseph P. Stratman
P.O. Box 1736
Petersburg, Alaska 99833
907-772-2321

DATE: 03/04/2000
TO: STATE OF ALASKA, HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE
FROM: ANN M. YADON
RE: FUNDING FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING - RESTORATION

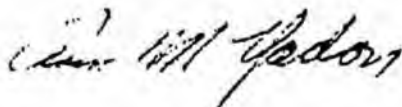
I ask that you restore all funding for public broadcasting, to include funding for state grants for public radio stations.

Throughout my graduate studies in International Relations and Political Science, a recurrent theme was that democracies which provide the means of communications to their populace remain healthy. Those democracies which do not provide means of communications, for purposes ranging from emergency warning to education, to those whom they serve, do not survive. In Alaska, the major means of communications, particularly in rural and bush communities, is public broadcasting, most especially the local-access public radio stations. Without funding these, you endanger our state and our nation.

As a concrete example, may I offer my own situation. I live 5 miles north of Talkeetna in a semi-remote, off-the-road-system setting. I cannot get TV reception, my phone is not reliable, internet access is available only in the town of Talkeetna, and radio reception of any station other than our local station is unreliable. The local station, KTNA, provides daily message services for people who live beyond the reach of the telephone system, it provides access to the Emergency Alert System (EAS), and provides time-sensitive local, state, national, and international news. Additionally it provides other unique services as a direct result of its local-access operations which would not be available from stations broadcasting from the large population centers of our state.

These services are essential to keep communications flowing between the government and its people and to keep the people well-informed, well-educated, and involved in their government. Therefore, I ask you to not only restore funding for public broadcasting, but to consider allocating additional funds to it.

Ann M. Yadon



Date: 03/04/2000

To: Members, Alaska State House Finance Committee

From: F. E. Yadon, P.O. Box 1022, Talkeetna, Ak 99676

I urge you as members of the Alaska State House Finance Committee to restore all state funding for public broadcasting, most particularly state grants for public radio stations.

Our state's rural, local-access public radio stations provide emergency and warning services, news, and other local services not available from commercial broadcasting, the internet, or even public broadcasting from the large population centers of our state.

Our local station, KTNA, based in Talkeetna provides essential services to rural residents in the upper Susitna Valley, including a daily message service for people who live beyond the reach of the telephone system, access to the Emergency Alert System (EAS), and current local, state, and national news. For many residents this station has the only reliable radio reception in the area. Because it is locally based, it also provides unique services. For example, on a winter day 2 years ago, the station coordinated the community-wide search for a missing resident who suffers from Alzheimer's disease. Very essential services such as this are not available from any other source.

Once again, I urge you to restore state funding for public broadcasting.

Sincerely,

Frank E. Yadon



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HFIN
 committee name
 committee on HB 312, dated Mar 4, '00
 bill/subject

The Proposed reduction in funds for Public Radio will mean the loss of stations which we remote listeners in Prince William Sound and the Copper River Basin (an area larger than Ohio) depend on as a vital source of local news, information & education. Please restore the cuts to Public Radio.

Signed Nikki Newcome
 Testifier
Member of Ketchikan Public Radio
 Representing (Optional)
P.O. Box 853, Valdez
 Address
831-0531
 Phone No



Alaska State Legislature

House

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

committee on HB 312 , dated 03 04 00
bill/subject

Please restore the cuts
to Public Radio & T.V.
we depend on KCMU
Public Radio out here.
Please leave Funding levels
the same as last year.

Thnx

John C. Anderson

Signed: [Signature]
Testifier

Representing (Optional)

POB 1956

Address

835 4281

Phone No



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the

HFIN
committee name

committee on

HB 312
bill/subject

dated

3/4/00

Please Do NOT cut
Public Radio & TV -
It would be a bad idea.
We depend on it
Thnx

Signed:

John L Anderson

[Signature]
Testifier

Representing (Optional)

ROB 1956

Address

835 4281

Phone No

House Finance Committee
Representative Mulder
Representative Theriault

CC: Representatives Bunde, Austerman, Davis, Foster, Phillips, Williams, Davies, Grussendorf, and Moses

RE: Operating Budget

Funding for public broadcasting is cost effective. I am writing to express my concern over the proposed cut in funding to public broadcasting in the state budget. We are all proud to live in this great state and due to its size many of us cannot afford to travel throughout this state.

Through the funding of public broadcasting, citizens are able to "speak" with each other on a statewide basis. Concerns and issues that face communities in Southeast will be of concern to those on the North Slope. It is through public broadcasting that I learn about other regions. I live in rural Alaska and have no other source available to me to keep informed on various issues throughout the state.

Municipal forums in rural areas would not be available to local citizens without public radio. Those that have spent any time in rural areas know that coverage of local city Council meetings, local school board meetings, and various other meetings is only provided by public radio.

Through these issues alone the funding of public broadcasting from the state is essential for these efforts to continue. The state has a responsibility to keep the public informed and to keep the lines of communication open among and between citizens. Funding for public broadcasting is essential for this service to be provided in rural Alaska.

Please vote to support a restoration of public broadcast funds. The service is cost effective.

Sincerely,

Tom Abbott

Tom Abbott
P.O. Box 1617
Petersburg, AK
99833

March 4, 2000

House Finance
Representative Mulder
Representative Therriault

As a member and firm believer in Public Radio and KFSK-Petersburg, I urge you to continue funding Public Radio without any of the proposed cuts and to continue to secure a functional budget for the future.

As one of the few remaining non-television viewers on news, I listen to Public Radio for all of my informational news and entertainment. Lets keep Public Radio and viable sources of information for folks like myself, those in the bush and remote locations and the general public.

Suzanne M. Hebert
P. O. Box 1536
Petersburg, AK 99833
907-772-4112

- Please do not
Cut Public Radio
I depend on it while
IN TENAKEE SPRINGS
And I listen 3-5
hours a day when
IN JUNEAU.
-
-

JOHN AND ANN SYMONS
Post Office Box-6
Douglas, AK 99824



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance
 committee name
 committee on HB 312 . dated 3/4/00
 bill/subject

It would be extremely detrimental to the entire community of Homer and the surrounding area if funding to KBBT were to be cut off or even significantly reduced. KBBT is an invaluable source of information and in many cases the only source in this area for local news to get out and also up to the minute emergency information as far as schools and/or emergency situations. Not to mention the public service programs that help the entire community.

Signed: David J. Davis
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)
P.O. Box 114
 Address
Homer, AK, 99603
 Phone No. (907) 235-4382



Alaska State Legislature

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

committee on Alcohol/Drug Abuse dated 3-4-00
bill/subject

Thank you for allowing me to testify in front of you today. My name is Joci Kutz, I am a recovering alcoholic. I have been sober a drug free for 24 years. I have lived on P.O.W. Island for 25 years.

The impact of the reduction of \$'s to the Alcohol & Drug Abuse programs in the state would be enormous & devastating.

I read in the paper every week. The devastation of Alcohol & Drug Abuse. The MIP's The domestic violence & suicides. I work as a High School & Middle School teacher & see daily the effects of drug & alcohol abuse. The parents that have been using for years. Their children or now using & swearing out for help. These children are feeling the effects of their parents use & abuse of Alcohol & drugs. Joci Kutz

Signed: _____
Testifier

Representing (Optional)

P.O. Box 4419

Address

Craig, AK 99921 907-826-2644

Phone No.

if the state was to take away funding of these important programs, these children don't have a chance. I have had them say to me, I want help. Help me!!!

I am asking for those people that are not able to ask you for the help & \$ to get this help. Please, help!!! fund these much needed foreign programs.

Again thank you for allowing me to ~~express~~ testify in front of you today.

Testimony Cont' Toni Kuntz C216

My name is Emily Merriam, an Alaskan resident since June 5, 1961. Presently I reside in the City of Kupreanof, a community of 34, across from Petersburg on Wrangell Narrows, accessible only by water. I moved to Petersburg in the winter of 1964-65. Our FM public radio station KFSK came into being in 1975. KFSK has served our City with State & local news, personal messages, music, civic programs and weather forecasts. KFSK unites people who would not under normal circumstances communicate with each other. At the present time KFSK is operating with a skeleton staff and further cuts would wipe it out. Please continue funding to public radio.

Emily Merriam

P.O. Box 321

Petersburg, AK 99833

772-3808

I'm a journalist & came to AK in 1946. Our public radio is important to us who do not have a local paper for our local news. We also listen to AK 1 & KTOO a great deal. There slogan, If PBS doesn't do it, who will." I especially like ConterSpin which says, "what was not in the Mainline News this week." I like Week in Review, Wall Street Week & McGlauphin Group, & the Weather Station. These all add to our quality of life for us Seniors. Please do not cut them.

MARILYN GEORGE

Box 1031

PETERSBURG, AK 99833

772-4515



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance
 committee name
 committee on HB 312, dated 3.4.00
 bill/subject

Please keep fully funding public radio, as it is our only information link to the rest of the country, state, and local Southeast Alaska towns. Cuts in funding to public radio would devastate us, causing the possible loss of our public radio station, KCAW from Sitka.

Our only physical link to the outside is once-a-week mail service at this time. We depend on the public radio station for our weather, news, and entertainment, as not all of us have or want television. Importantly, it is part of our local emergency planning notification.

We need your support to keep our vital link of up-to-date information flowing into the ears of our small community.

Why does the state feel it needs to spend more than 4 million dollars to promote large-scale tourism when our public services are being sacrificed?

Thank you for giving me the chance to let you all know how crucial this bad funding cut is for our community of Port Alexander.

Signed: Cherise Bonfret
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)
PO BOX 8118 Port Alexander
 Address
568-22-10
 Phone No.

Wayne Parks
Kupreanof, AK

Representative Mulder,

Being a resident of the City of Kupreanof and City Council member, I would like to voice my opposition to the proposed cuts to Public Broadcasting in House Bill 312. Public Radio is very important to us as citizens of outlying communities. We tend to rely on it for weather, news, messages, and of course entertainment. Please reconsider any cuts. Actually an increase would do the citizens of Alaska more good. Thank you.

Wayne Parks



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HFIN
 committee name
 committee on Budget, dated Mar 4 00
 bill/subject

Please do not cut funding to Public Radio. I've lived in Anchorage, Haines & now Valdez, have been a long-time public radio listener, supporter, & volunteer. It is essential to the rural communities. It is a means of keeping in touch with the rest of the country, the state & each other.

Signed: Jessie Clark
 Testifier

KCHU - Public Radio
 Representing (Optional)

PO Box 1912 Valdez 99686
 Address

835-2421 day-2764
 Phone No

Testimony of David Beebe, Mayor City of Kupreanof, on Cuts to Public Radio

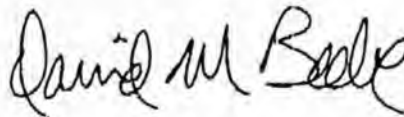
I was listening to the radio the other night when I learned the state legislature intended to cut 400,000 dollars from the funding of public radio throughout Alaska. This would be a crippling cut. And the fact is, our public radio is not a frivolous commodity we simply learn to live without when times get tough. Our local public radio is the primary source of news and information for almost every community in Southeast. If the informed citizen is the cornerstone of democracy, it would seem our legislators fail to grasp the gravity of their actions.

It's worthwhile to reconsider the circumstances of rural residents in Southeast Alaska. Which is to say, this is an archipelago we live in. A cluster of islands a few hundred miles long, on the edge of the North Pacific. It is not known for its accessibility or good weather and consequently, is sparsely populated. Nevertheless, there's over 25 tiny communities that call this place home and public radio is vital to their lives. It provides essential services such as messages to those without phones, official emergency broadcasts, and daily up to the minute news. It helps to fill the gaps of weather broadcasts vital to the fishing fleet, it provides music and entertainment and educational programs often hosted by volunteers from our communities.

Our legislators are severely mistaken if they think we can simply turn to another spot on our radio dial, or channel surf the tube to make up for the losses resulting from their cuts to public radio. In many cases, there are no existing alternatives. We're not going to have an opportunity to speak by telephone in public forums with our Governor or Representatives in State Legislature on issues that directly affect us. Public radio saves the time and expenses necessary to travel to these forums to have our voices heard. At a time when apathy is running rampant in the United States, it gives residents of remote communities the ability to participate directly in our local, regional and state institutions of democracy.

Public Radio is about community participation. Local, personal contributions of talent and time, money and energy, and that is the vital glue that holds our communities together. We are at a time when the public airwaves are being dominated by privately held media conglomerates which put commercial interests ahead of the public interest. Local public radio is the last example of public ownership in the public airwaves. Please do not cripple such a vital aspect of life in Southeast Alaska.

Sincerely, David Beebe
P.O. Box 148
Petersburg,
AK 99833 (907) 772-3357



Martha I Falk
P.O. Box 304
Barrow, Alaska 99723

Testimony House Finance Committee - Public Broadcastin 3/4/00

Hello, first of all I would like to greet all of you on the House Finance Committee. It brings fond memories of the years that I was there with Rep. Eileen MacLean. I know that you have a difficult task ahead of each of you as you try to decide where to cut the budget this Legislative Session.

I am testifying today as a Board Member of KBRW, in opposition to the budget cuts for Public Broadcasting in the amount of \$400,500.00.

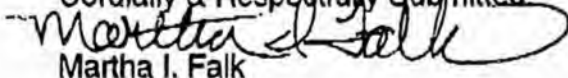
I know that all of you are well aware of the importance of Public Broadcasting in rural Alaska. It is a vital lifeline of communication in many aspects of everyday living throughout our villages.

Due to Public Broadcasting we are made aware of, local, state and national news. The diversity of our broadcasting programs are also a means of keeping us unified here on the North Slope through community involvement.

Every aspect of life is touched through our Public Broadcasting, secular, cultural and spiritual.

I would urge each of you on the House Finance Committee to remember the basic right of citizens of the State of Ak & United States, our right to be informed, and to have a voice. Our means of being informed and involved has been greatly enhanced through Public Broadcasting in rural Alaska. **Please do not take that right away.**

Cordially & Respectfully Submitted


Martha I. Falk

Alice R. Neakok
P.O. Box 27
Barrow, Alaska 99723

HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE TESTIMONY - PUBLIC BROADCASTING

Hello House Finance committee members at this afternoon public hearing on budget here at the Legislative Information Office on the third floor of the Court Building in Barrow, Alaska.

My name is Alice R. Neakok. I am a KBRW, the radio station Board Member, supporter and listener.

In my testimony I have come to ask and plead with you to please continue including Public Broadcasting funding for FY 2001 in your budget.

For all the reasons as follow: We, the people on the North Slope care a great deal for our very vital lifeline radio station KBRW. The Legislature once again need to listen to us. KBRW, the radio station that serves our communities with news, information and entertainment in our remote areas.

Here in Barrow community, the KBRW keeps us informed about the weather report, especially about the snow storm below chill factor weather conditions. It gives us the public safety report about road conditions so we can make it to work. Especially listen for school buses can be able to pick up or school children.

Also, it is Whaling season time coming up, the weather report is a very important component of the Whaling season as well as our inland camping seasons.

So this \$400,500.00 cut will be hurtful to our hearts as well as our vital wellbeing in our remote areas especially on the North Slope. Please do the right thing in the new millennium year that do not cut our funding for Public Broadcasting.

I am sorry to say my heart is already hurting so I want to say: You as the whole Legislature body needs to continue secure and to continue to safe guard our State of Alaska's share of public broadcasting funding.

Lastly, I want to thank House Finance Committee to hear me with your patience and compassion.

Thank You Very Much.

Alice R. Neakok, 3-4-2000
Alice R. Neakok



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance
 committee name
 committee of H.B. 312 dated 3/4/00
 bill/subject

It is appalling to me that the legislature is considering cutting public broadcast, & many more critical programs, when it fails to address the underlying problem, its failure to create a long term funding program.

Many Alaskan citizens, & voters, will be severely affected by continued cuts. Remember, you can't cut more & more until everyone has nothing!!

When will the legislature assume responsibility for adequately funding essential & needed services?

Signed: Roger D. Clyne Roger D. Clyne
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)
59855 Sanford Dr., Homer
 Address
235-6264
 Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HOUSE FINANCE
committee name
 committee on HB 312 . dated 3-4-2000 .
bill/subject

Greetings and Thank You for your collective consideration.
 I would like to ask you to re-evaluate your proposed cuts to Public Broadcasting. In our community, KBI is literally the people's voice, we as a community go a long ways towards funding and supporting the station, but state funding is critical.

Cuts to Public Broadcasting IS
CENSORSHIP

Signed: Joe Whitteberry
Testifier

Representing (Optional)
PO Box 2181 HOMER AK 99613
Address
235-4700
Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HOUSE FINANCE committee name
 committee on HB 312 , dated 3104/00
 bill/subject

I have lived in Alaska for 22 years and first arrived in 1968 (when we still paid a state income tax). I left Alaska for 10 years between 1987-97. One of the things I missed while living in 3 major cities in the lower 48 was the sense of community that public radio provides to rural communities in Alaska, it is a lifeline for vital emergency messages and keeps them connected to issues of our state government. Public radio in Alaska provides a voice to rural Alaska. Please don't silence it!

SINCERELY,

Signed: GINGER VAN WAGONER

Testifier KBBI / BOARD MEMBER

Representing (Optional) P.O. Box 294 HOMER AK 99603

Address 907-235-1424

Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance Committee
 committee name
 committee on House Bill 312, dated March 4, 2000
 bill/subject

Representatives - I request that the proposed cuts to Public Radio be withdrawn. Over the last 15 years, Public Broadcasting has withstood significant funding cuts and has responded in ways that have kept the essential values of its service intact. The community continues to feel the effect of that funding loss. Any further cuts to state funding of Public Broadcasting will only serve to erode the fundamental values just barely hanging in there. Please do not cut Public Broadcasting funding any more. Thank you.

Signed: Laure Daniel
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)
PO Box 3713 Homer AK 99603
 Address
275 4349
 Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance Committee
 committee name
 committee on HB 312 Kenai Peninsula Public Radio dated March 4 2000
 bill/subject

Public Radio is a community building expense. How do we communicate and/or exchange information ~~and~~ to so many without it? Public Radio is a tool in our community that we pick up and use countless times a day. If we need to re-work the method of collection of funds, ~~since~~ ^{if} ~~since~~ our problems are purely financial, then let us take on more responsibility. Let's not close the door on Public Radio. Local information and National Issues of huge importance need an uncensored voice. Help us think ~~and~~ and do for ourselves. Thank You.

Signed: Kathryn P. Crowley Kathryn P. Crowley
 Testifier
Two Sisters Bakery / myself
 Representing (Optional)
106 W. Bunnell St suite B
 Address
235. 0192 (H) 235 - 0280
 Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance Committee
 committee on HB 312 Ketchikan Peninsula Public Radio committee name
 dated 3/4/2000
 bill/subject

I have been a member of this community for 12 years. I have benefited greatly from the presence of K3B1 Public Radio being here. I have been dependent on it for local & marine weather as well as receiving information on local and state government decisions. This radio station is vital to the community and ask that you do not make the cuts that are proposed.

Signed: Elizabeth Neumann (ELIZABETH NEUMANN)
 Testifier
myself
 Representing (Optional)
42410 Old Sterling Hwy
 Address
Anchor Pt Ak 235-3667
 Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance
 committee on Public Radio funding dated 3-4-00
 bill/subject HB 312 committee name

I strongly support funding of public radio as it is a key element of a healthy community. And for a change it would be great to see a productive stance for Alaskan residents (indeed anyone's) well being. I listen to KBBI daily. I listen to the news in the morning and evening. Both local & national news events are important. I listen to our city council meetings. I learn from talk shows like The Infinite Mind and am entertained by others like Click and Clack. Our bush lines are vital both for community communication and ties to family "Outside". I enjoy the rich variety of music available, produced locally or from the NPR system in general. KBBI ~~makes~~ is a large part of ~~the~~ heart of our city, our community. I do my part by

Signed: Jennifer Edwards Testifier give money.

Please do your part. I
 urge you NOT to cut
 our funding. Address PO BOX 2296 Homer, Ak 99603
Phone No. 235-8161 WK 235-7605 home



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance
 committee on HB 312 dated 3/4/00
 committee name
 bill/subject

I implore you, do not cut public broadcast funding. It is the essential lifeline in many communities in our state. Having lived in Barrow, Anchorage and Homer I realize the critical communication link public broadcast has throughout our state. The smaller communities rely on the larger stations, and the downlink throughout the state. Because of the independent & cooperative nature of AK Public Broadcast System, the proposed cuts threaten the only link to news that many communities have. Please do not cut AK Public Broadcast Funds.

Signed: Denice Clyne
 Testifier Denice Clyne

ALC
 Representing (Optional)
5985.5 Airport Dr. Homer 99603
 Address
907-235-6264
 Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

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

committee on HB 312, dated 4 MAR 00
bill/subject

I URGE YOU TO RESTORE THE BUDGET FOR PUBLIC RADIO. IT IS THE HEARTBEAT AND LIFELINE OF SMALL COMMUNITIES SUCH AS HOMER. WE DEPEND ON IT FOR NEWS, PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS, SAFETY BULLETINS, FISHING ANNOUNCEMENTS, CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS, POLITICAL INFORMATION AND CULTURE. AS A LONG-TIME CONTRIBUTOR TO OUR LOCAL STATION, I KNOW HOW MUCH OUR LOCAL PEOPLE HAVE GIVEN TO FILL THE GAPS CREATED BY RECENT BUDGET CUTS. WE ARE STRETCHED TO THE LIMIT AND FURTHER CUTS WILL ELIMINATE OUR STATIONS ON THE KENAI PENINSULA. WE CANNOT AFFORD TO LOSE THIS VITAL RESOURCE.

I ALSO URGE YOU TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA. I WAS A UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR FOR 32 YEARS IN CALIFORNIA, MICHIGAN, AND UTAH. UNIVERSITIES ARE THE GREATEST ECONOMIC ENGINE THAT A LOW POPULATION STATE CAN HAVE. THE EXTREME GROWTH AND HIGH TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY THAT FUELS THE ECONOMY OF UTAH OCCURRED BECAUSE OF THE HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION AND TECHNICAL RESOURCES PROVIDED BY THE UNIVERSITY. THESE INVESTMENTS IN OUR YOUTH AND RESEARCH PROGRAMS DRIVE THE ECONOMY AND ENSURE THE FUTURE FINANCIAL HEALTH OF THE STATE. THE UNDER-FUNDING OF OUR UNIVERSITY HAS BEEN SHORTSIGHTED AND SELF-DESTRUCTIVE. PLEASE REVERSE THIS PROCESS AND FUND THE UNIVERSITY TO PROVIDE QUALITY EDUCATION AND NEEDED RESOURCES TO DEVELOP THE ECONOMY OF ALASKA.

FINALLY THE SOLUTION TO THIS ANNUAL TURMOIL CREATED BY PROPOSED BUDGET CUTS IS ABUNDANTLY CLEAR. RESTORE THE STATE INCOME TAX! A PROPER GRADUATED TAX IS THE SOLUTION FOR THE BUDGET AND WOULD SIMULTANEOUSLY REDUCE THE UNFAIR TAX BURDEN CURRENTLY BORNE BY PROPERTY OWNERS. I PAID STATE INCOME TAXES IN THOSE STATES AND WOULD BE HAPPY TO DO SO IN ALASKA. HEED THE ADVICE OF THE MOST THOUGHTFUL GOVERNOR OF ALASKA, JAY HAMMOND - RESTORE THE INCOME AND SOLVE THE FISCAL PROBLEMS AND RESTORE THE EDUCATIONAL, SOCIAL, AND PUBLIC PROGRAMS WE ALL NEED AND DESERVE.

Signed: David C. Raskin - DAVID C. RASKIN
Testifier

SALF
Representing (Optional)
P.O. BOX 2419 HOMER AK 99603
Address
907-235-0514
Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance committee name
 committee on HB 312 Budget / Public Radio , dated March 3 1997
 bill/subject

We do not want to see any money being cut for public radio and the arts program. these programs are essential to the communication needs of Alaskans.

Post-It* Fax Note	7671	Date	3/4/00	# of pages	10
To	House Finance	From	Homer L10		
Co./Dept.		Co.			
Phone #		Phone #	235-7878		
Fax #	465-6813	Fax #			

Signed: Carole K Hamak
 Testifier
family
 Representing (Optional) c
4002 Kachomak Way Homer
 Address
907 235-2564
 Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

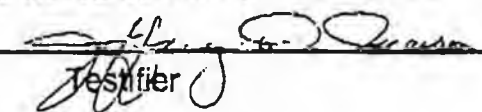
Please enter into the record my testimony to the HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE
committee name

committee on HB 312, dated 3/7/2000
bill/subject

I HAVE BEEN A MEMBER AND VOLUNTEER AT KCAW IN SITKA SINCE 1985. AS SO MANY OTHERS HAVE DONE I HAVE INVESTED HUNDREDS OF DOLLARS AND MANY HUNDREDS OF HOURS OF VOLUNTEER WORK IN SUPPORT OF PUBLIC RADIO. IT WILL BE NO SURPRISE THAT I AM AGAINST THE PROPOSED BUDGET CUTS TO PUBLIC BROADCASTING.

I HAVE INVESTED IN PUBLIC BROADCASTING, BECAUSE I RELY ON KCAW FOR LOCAL NEWS & WEATHER AND UPON THE COAST ALASKA AND ALASKA PUBLIC RADIO NETWORKS FOR STATE AND REGIONAL NEWS. SINCE BECOMING INVOLVED IN OUR STATION, I HAVE SEEN THE STAFF AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS RESPOND TO ONE BUDGET CUT AFTER ANOTHER WITH CREATIVE AND INOVATIVE APPROACHES TO KEEP THE STATION ON THE AIR. THE PROPOSED CUTS WILL DESTROY THAT HARD WORK AND THE LOCAL, STATE, AND REGIONAL PROGRAMMING THAT SO MANY DEPEND ON.

WE ALL KNOW THAT AN INFORMED CITIZENRY IS THE CORNERSTONE OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT. PUBLIC BROADCASTING FILLS A NEED THAT COMMERCIAL BROADCASTERS, PRINT MEDIA, AND THE INTERNET CANNOT ONLY PUBLIC BROADCASTING BRINGS TOGETHER THE VOICES AND CONCERNS OF INDIVIDUALS ACROSS OUR STATE. PUBLIC BROADCASTING CONTRIBUTES GREATLY TOWARDS KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY INFORMED AND STRENGTHENS PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT.

Signed:  (JEFFREY D. PEARSON)
Testifier

Representing (Optional)

P.O. Box 6565 SITKA AK 99835

Address

(907) 747-4551

Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

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

committee on House Bill 312, dated 3-5-00
bill/subject

In regard to the cutting of funding for the Public Broadcasting System. I have lived in the Southern States in Rural Sites. Public Radio was important but here in S.E. Alaska it is completely different - here it is vital. The Public Radio stations fill a gap or spot which other media like Newspaper and TV can not and do not fill. Cutting funding will impact the whole community, everything from city council meeting to timely weather warnings come from our S.E. Alaska stations. The fishing community depend on the radio for messages weather, etc. The local Sitka station KCAW helps with educational projects for the school children which could not be replaced by any other method or media. Cutting funding will cause these stations to lose federal matching funds, and result in actual station closing. Please restore the funding level to at least that of last year.

Signed: Dr. Jerry Z. Ainsworth
Testifier

Restoring Funding to Public Broadcasting
Representing (Optional)

305 Eler St. Sitka Alaska 99835
Address

907 747 2681
Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance
 committee name
 committee on HB312 Operating Budget ^{HB313}, dated 3/4/00
 bill/subject

Raven Radio, KCAW in Sitka is heard by almost 4,000 people each week. 90 people volunteer at the station each week. Sitka, Kake, Angoon, Tenakee Springs, Pelican, Port Alexander, Yakutat and Elfin Cove ~~are~~ provide over \$140,000 to the station each year. KCAW is an active member of Coast Alaska, Southeast Community Radio Collaboration designed to provide basic community radio service at an effective cost.

Signed: [Signature]
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)
305 Chartered St
 Address
907-747-~~5807~~ 7410
 Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE
 committee name
 committee on HB 312, dated 3/04/00
 bill/subject

TO: THE HONORABLE REPRESENTATIVE ELDON MULDER:

PUBLIC RADIO & PUBLIC BROADCASTING ARE AN
 ESSENTIAL COMPONENT IN THE FREE
 DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION IN OUR
 DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY. IT IS IMPERATIVE
 THAT THIS REPRESENTATIVE VOICE OF
 THE NON-COMMERCIAL ELEMENT OF OUR
 ALASKAN COMMUNITIES, MUST BE
 PRESERVED, FULLY FUNDED & SUPPORTED.

WE MUST MAINTAIN THE INTEGRITY
 OF PUBLIC BROADCASTING FUNDING.
 THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT,

Signed: Fred Knowles FRED KNOWLES
 Testifier

MY FAMILY of 3
 Representing (Optional)

P.O. BOX 10026 / 611 BIRKBE ST., SITKA, AK 99835
 Address

907-747-3678
 Phone No.

Martina Kurzer, P.O. Box 6001, Sitka AK 99835
March 2, 2000

The Honorable Eldon Mulder
Alaska State House of Representatives
Juneau, Alaska

Fax. 465.3518

Funding cuts for Public Broadcasting

Dear Mr. Mulder,

I am outraged that the House Finance Committee voted to cut a substantial amount in state funding for public broadcasting. Funding levels for public radio stations have already been cut in recent years.

Further reductions threaten the existence of the extremely important service and will waste the opportunity for a far greater amount of federal funding.

Alaska's public radio system connects rural communities and keeps them in touch with the world. Nothing can replace that.

Per capita contributions for the public radio station in Sitka is already the highest in the nation. The state wide information highway should be funded like any other highway.

Please don't cut funding!

Martina Kurzer



Alaska State Legislature

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

committee on funding for public dated 3-4-00
bill/subject radio

As a senior citizen (age 82) I'm asking you please not to cut funding for public radio. The local and state news is very important and we don't get it any where in our community but our public ~~radio~~ radio station. I am no longer able to drive after dark but I can hear the City Assembly meetings broadcast by public radio - also other meetings and call in programs. Public radio is a way that people of all ages are able to keep up with local, state, national affairs. As a senior citizen let me assure that public radio is one of ^{my} last programs I want to see cut away. The local financial support of our Raven Radio KCAW - indicates how important the station is to our local citizenry but we cannot keep our station afloat with local funds only. State cuts also mean Federal cuts.

Signed: Eleanor J. Smith
Testifier

Representing (Optional)
P.O. Box 1920 Sitka, Ak 99835
Address
907-747-6934
Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance
 committee name
 committee on Public Radio, dated March 4, 2000
 bill/subject

Dear Sirs + Ms Phillips

Please don't cut public Radio. as a President of Bush Alaska for 15 years - The summer were our lifeline to the rest of the world - These cuts with many if not most of the stations may make them go off the air -

As a member (paying of a number) of public radio urban + rural please Don't make these cuts!

Signed: Susan Stanford
 Testifier
Board of Directors Kaven Radio
 Representing (Optional)
709 Lincoln St Sitka
 Address
907 747 4900
 Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance Committee
 committee name
 committee on Funding Public Radio, dated March 4, 2000
 bill/subject

I have been a listener of public radio for 20 years, and have contributed financially for the past 12 years. I see no greater, single impact on our community than the contribution of public radio. It is an essential part of my being connected to the rest of the country and my community. I do not receive TV, nor listen to commercial radio - greatly prefer public radio to newspaper, which we receive only late in the p.m. Public radio is a crucial link for our communities in Southeast AK. It would profoundly impact the quality of life for me living here in Sitka. I urge you to continue funding public radio in Alaska, a critical link for this large, disconnected state.

Signed: Sara Bruhl
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)
101 Winchester Way Sitka, AK 99835
 Address
(907) 747-9319
 Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance
Public Broadcasting committee name
UA Funding
 committee on Permanent Fund Div., dated March 4, 2000
Permanent Fund Div. bill/subject

- Public Broadcasting - As a member of a small community in Southeast, I feel that cutting public broadcasting would significantly decrease the quality of life and potentially endanger our citizens. For many Southeast communities, public radio is a crucial link to the world outside. We rely on radio for news, instructions in emergencies, marine weather reports for our fishing and travel needs, entertainment, information, and inter-community communication. Please consider ~~our~~ small, isolated communities and do not cut funding to public broadcasting.
- UA Funding - Our educational system is the backbone of our economy. Cutting funding here would be to cut Alaska's own lifeline of it's economic future. We must invest in our natural resources - and training our citizens is the most important ~~one~~ step.
- Permanent Fund - I and many of my friends & colleagues would gladly pay a state income tax before tampering w/ the permanent fund, it is our responsibility as citizens ~~to~~ and as individual to support the whole. Please help us to help ourselves!
 Thank you.

Signed: [Signature] Ludmela Konshin
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)
PO Box 6433 Sitka AK 99835
 Address
907 747 1033
 Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance Committee
 committee name
 committee on Public Radio Funding, dated March 4, 2000.
 bill/subject

I'm here to let you know I strongly oppose cuts to public broadcasting funding. These seemingly insignificant cuts would result in enormous cuts in federal funding as well, with devastating effects on our public radio stations. When I first came to Alaska, I was really impressed with public broadcasting in this state. As I travelled around the state, I spent time in a huge number of places where public radio was the only radio. It is a vital tie for keeping our ~~community~~ communities together and keeping people close when distances are great. I hope you seriously consider this response when you make a final vote on the issue. P.S. I support an income tax if it means not cutting these important public services.

Signed: Sarah Ferrence Sarah Ferrence
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)
PO Box 6551 Sitka AK 99835
 Address
907-747-5674
 Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

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

committee on Finance Bill 312, dated _____
bill/subject

I am signed up to testify on the impact that this budget plan will have on the Sheldon Jackson Museum but I also feel strongly about the proposed budget cuts to public broadcasting. This is an absolutely essential community service in all Alaskan communities, but especially for small/rural communities. The public shows its strong support for public broadcasting by raising a substantial proportion of funding through donations and grants. Please support public broadcasting.

Signed: Kristen Griffin Kristen Griffin
Testifier

Representing (Optional)

3708 Nesbit Pt Rd.

Address

747-4955

Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance Committee
 committee name
 committee on Funding for Public Radio, dated March 4, 2000
 bill/subject

Thank you for the opportunity to make our voices heard on this subject of funding cuts for Public Radio. In Southeast Alaska Public radio is the heart of many of our communities. Without it, and without adequate funding, it would be detrimental to the people for which it serves. Radio is what links many of these communities to the outside world and to each other. Fishermen rely on it for weather information, which could mean life and death in some situations. In Sitka, we have shown our support every year by locally raising more money among individuals and businesses than what our state grant actually is. I believe that if a community with 8,500 people can raise \$100,000 among individuals, \$40,000 among businesses and \$10,000 from other sources, it is a major slap in the face for the House Finance Committee to cut our grant. We are doing our part, please do yours.

Signed: Joni Sue Hitchcock

Testifier
Raven Radio KCAW

Representing (Optional)
Joni 594

Address
(907) 747-6467

Phone No.

Thank you.

Transcript of testimony to state House Finance Committee by William De Armond, presented by teleconference 4 March 2000. My residence is at 419C Lincoln Street (Mail: P.O. Box 6044), Sitka, AK, 99835, telephone (907) 966-2367 home, (907) 966-2304 work, (907) 966-2305 fax, e-mail: southcastersitka@alaska.com

I have been an employee of community radio station KCAW, Raven Radio, here in the past, but am no longer; that is, my paycheck doesn't depend on public radio and I have no financial interest in this matter. I do have a great personal interest as a listener who depends on public radio for news and information.

THERE ARE A LOT OF DIVISIONS IN ALASKAN SOCIETY THESE DAYS - BETWEEN URBAN AND RURAL, WHITE AND NATIVE, SUBSISTENCE AND SPORT/COMMERCIAL, ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT, TOURISTS AND LOCALS, TO NAME JUST A FEW AREAS, AND THE SPLITS ARE GROWING DEEPER AND WIDER. PUBLIC RADIO IS ONE OF THE VERY FEW INSTITUTIONS THAT BRIDGES THOSE GAPS, HOLDS THE FABRIC OF ALASKAN SOCIETY TOGETHER, DRAWS PEOPLE TOWARD ONE ANOTHER RATHER THAN DRIVES THEM APART. THERE ARE THOSE WHO ARE EXPLOITING THOSE DIVISIONS AMONG THE PEOPLE OF OUR STATE FOR THEIR OWN SHAMEFUL ENDS. TRYING TO CREATE A FURTHER SPLIT BY ATTEMPTING TO PIT THE NEEDS OF PUBLIC RADIO AGAINST THE NEEDS OF OTHER ALASKANS IS CONTEMPTIBLE. DON'T FALL FOR IT, DON'T LET IT HAPPEN. DON'T CUT STATE SPENDING FURTHER, BUT INCREASE IT. PUBLIC RADIO IS CHEAP AT THE PRESENT PRICE FOR THE PEOPLE OF ALASKA. IT WOULD STILL BE CHEAP AT MANY TIMES THE CURRENT LEVEL OF STATE SUPPORT.

Public broadcasting (radio and television) is a lifeline for tens of thousands of Alaskans. It connects us to the world of information and ideas and acts as a source of continuing education. Public broadcasting is the heart which conveys the flow of vital information, the bloodline linking the state and the state with the world.

Rural Alaskans are unable to obtain this quality and level of information by any other means. Alaskans would be unable to keep up with the information age without public broadcasting remaining financially viable.

After suffering drastic reductions for the past 14 years, public broadcasting is absolutely bare bones, lean and streamline. Further cuts threaten its very existence, and will cause us to lose this vital link.

Permanently remove public broadcasting from your chopping block. Streamline at the top of State bureaucracy, i.e. the thick layers of administrators. Recognize the absolutely essential service that public broadcasting provides ALL Alaskans by enriching our minds and lives. DO NOT cut funding any further and send us back to the dark ages. Keep us growing, keep us linked, keep our heart healthy and bringing us a steady flow of information.

Thank you for considering my input in your decision making.

Sincerely,


Lynne McGowan

2301 Halibut Pt. Rd
Sitka, AK 99835



Alaska State Legislature

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

committee on HB312 , dated _____
bill/subject

As you consider how to allocate the state resources, I urge you to

① continue to fund public broadcasting at a level which equals or improves the monies which they received in the last fiscal year. Our family contributes faithfully each year into memberships of both public television and public radio - we have done this for years. Some families, however, are not able to support it. In a state with wide geographic distances and low population, public broadcasting is one of those very special threads which help hold our state together in a spirit of community. Please do not cut state funding of Public Broadcasting.

Signed: David M. Busey
Testifier
self

Representing (Optional)
801 Lincoln St., Sitka AK 99835
Address

(907)-747-7677
Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance Committee
committee name
committee on HB 312, dated 3-4-2000
bill/subject

Please do not cut funding to Alaska Public Radio by \$100,000 or even by \$40,000. This communication, information, and entertainment link is vital to remote Alaska (which is essentially all of Alaska's cities and villages except Anchorage and Juneau).
Public Radio in Alaska needs to THRIVE. It is already receiving significant support from volunteer donations and from people volunteering time on programs.
We would support a cap on the Dividend or a 2% state sales tax to provide essential public facilities and programs such as Public Radio.

Signed: Richard & Alice Smith
Testifier

Representing (Optional)

1016 Monastery Street, Sitka 99835
Address

747-6499

Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance Committee
 committee on Public radio & ^{Social Services} cuts, dated 3/4/00
 bill/subject

Cutting funding to public radio is penny smart & pound foolish. The proposed cuts would result in reduction of federal grants, of about \$1 million, resulting in many stations needing to close. In S.E. Alaska, the stations have taken all the steps they possibly could to save the stations, by combining into the formation of Coast Alaska. By doing so the stations share admin. costs. The stations now operate with bare bone staffs. Local fundraising at this point in Sitka, brings in more \$ than the state gives us. There is no more \$ to be gotten there. Our community radio station provides vital services to this community with local news, marine forecasts and with volunteers upward of 80 people, providing the bulk of the programming. The station provides training to ~~volunteer~~ volunteers. It helps strengthen the fabric of the community.

we need new revenues in the state. govt. cuts are no back

Signed: Libby Stortz
 Testifier LIBBY STORTZ

Self family
 Representing (Optional)

POB 6/198 Sitka 99835
 Address

747-5916
 Phone No.

There is no longer any fat to cut. You are eviscerating the very fabric of the community. What point is there for gov't other than improving the lives of the citizens? We need an income tax.

Proposed cuts to domestic violence, mental health & drug/alcohol programs, etc. likewise, is ~~so~~ suicidal for our gov't to undertake.

You know, if the roads are unpaved, a car can drive slowly, or a person can walk, & you can still get to where you are going. But with the ~~so~~ cuts you are entertaining, you'll have great roads but your citizens will be drunks, addicts, criminals & mentally ill and totally lacking ~~into~~ ~~in~~ in a sense of community or support or vital safety info from their radios, uninformed, etc.

The right thing to do is restore these vital funds and seek new sources of revenue such as income tax.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HOUSE FINANCE
 committee name
 committee on BUDGET, dated 3/4/00
 bill/subject

Thank you for your time. I urge you to oppose state funding cuts to public broadcasting. Alaska has a system of public broadcasting in place that is the envy of the nation - it would be a shame to weaken something we should all be very proud of. I don't need to point out to you that Alaska's public broadcasters provide more than just emergency, weather, educational and public service information, they also provide a voice for local communities, and reach more of your constituents - more efficiently - than any other form of communication in this state. Support for public broadcasting shows your commitment to a healthy and effective legislative process. As a money-giving supporter of public broadcastin

Signed: Darryl Rehkopf (DARRYL REHKOPF)
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)
Box 6294, SITKA 99835
 Address
907.747.5629 (darrylrehkopf@hotmail.com)
 Phone No.

I am part of a group of caring people who have always tried to do our part to help fund public broadcasting. As a result, Alaska's public broadcasting system has the highest per-capita giving support in the nation - support which has helped bring our public broadcasting system to where it is today, in spite of state legislative cuts to public broadcasting of nearly 70% over the last 14 years.

Your constituents are doing their part - please help us by opposing state funding cuts to public broadcasting.

Thank you.



Alaska State Legislature

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

committee on budget, dated _____
bill/subject

I was a founding ^{board} member of the Public Radio Station, which has the Record for contributions per capita, Raven Radio, KCAW in Sitka.

For 15 years now, I have been a volunteer and supporter of Public Radio in Alaska.

The amount of time put into this station has been a major part of my life. A lot of sweat equity, why? Because there is not enough information

on the right wing christian stations which are left when you take away Public Radio.

Public Radio ~~gives~~ ^{equity} truth and information, Commercial Radio means hype & tries to sell you what you don't need.

over →

Signed: Kenneth Whittemore
Testifier

Representing (Optional)

P.O. Box 264 Sitka

Address

907-747-8312

Phone No.

I am a 30 year Alaskan with a college degree. I think. There fore, I need Public Radio and the information which comes from there.

without Public Radio - Alaska goes back to the dark ages.

If I were a legislator like yourself, I would take a cut in my own pay, before I would cut Public Radio. It is that important.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and I honor all of you for taking the time out of your life to do this job for Alaska.

Hal Wilton



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Finance Committee
 committee name
 committee on reduction of funding, dated 2-4-00
 bill/subject
to public radio

I'm not an employee of a public radio station, I'm not a volunteer but I am an avid listener! Raven Radio is the best source & often the only source of information regarding local, state and Native News, not to mention the incredible national programs-both news and entertainment. As we all know, an effective democracy relies on a well informed citizenry & those of us who live in remote areas rely heavily on public radio to become and remain informed.

The relatively small amount of money that the state invests in public radio has a huge payoff. Because it is so important to so many people we donate money, out of our pockets, to make certain that it stays on the air. The state's money actually

Signed: Arvid E. Jones
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)
1724 Halibut Pt Road Sitka, AK 99835
 Address

Phone No.

generates revenue, both from individuals & businesses. How many people do you know who say, "I want that new airport, road, or school so much, that I'll give you \$300 out of my bank account"?

Not only does the state's investment serve its citizens information & entertainment needs, it generates revenue & jobs. What a win/win situation.

The state's contribution, while small, has huge pay-offs.

Amad E. Jones



Alaska State Legislature

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

committee on Funding Public Radio, dated Mar 4, 2000
bill # / subject

Public radio has already experienced
severe budget cuts

Many people depend on public radio for
news and information and entertaining programming.

Public radio also adds greatly to
quality of life through educational and
cultural programs.

For many people Public Radio is a daily
part of life

It is supported by its listeners both
financially and through volunteers.

Please restore proposed cuts to
continue this service

Signed:

Ratty L. Oberdorf
Testifier

Representing (Optional)

P.O. Box 233

Soldotna

Address

~~262-9880~~ 262-9880

Phone number

Reinstated
State Income
TAX

CRESCENT  MAKE A WAY

907.747-4900 phone/FAX 709 Lincoln Street

Saturday, March 04, 2000

Don't Cut Public Broadcast Monies

Dear Rep. Mulder

Please find another way to balance the budget as a resident of Alaska for 35 years I have depended on public radio since the 80's when KBBF Homer came on the air. 15 years that we spent in Bush Alaska living (very remote) and public radio was our lifeline to the world

Now living in Sitka it is the public affair station in our community.

Don't balance the budget on the back of rural as well as urban listeners who are trying to stay informed by cutting their flow of information

Respectfully Submitted

Susan Stanford

a paying member of Down Radio



JIM STEFFEN, AMS-SAMS
Member ABYC, NFPA, IAM

P. O. Box 936, Sitka, Alaska 99835
Phone 907-747-5394
Fax 907-747-6394
Mobile 907-738-6394
norcoast@ptlalaska.net

Condition / Valuation and Damage Surveys • Consulting • Audlogauge and Moisture Testing

Rep. Eldon Mulder

3/3/00

As a founder of the Raven Radio Foundation, KCAW community FM in Sitka, I join others who are strong supporters of community radio in Alaska in wishing to express our extreme frustration with your intention to lay severe budget cuts on the APBC, and consequently, the stations.

In fact, I personally cannot fathom your reasoning, unless you have a personal bias against the network of stations that make up the Alaska system. And if that is the case, why?

Two nights ago I participated in a call-in show on KCAW that dealt with Sitka's municipal waste crisis. This is a current issue, and KCAW is one of several partners, including the local newspaper, that are helping to educate the public for the purpose of solving our problems. In addition, the radio forum reaches a segment of the population which is not served by the other media. It is a key element in the local political process, and by laying off a budget cut of this magnitude, you are effectively disenfranchising our community. You also take away weather reports for mariners, local and regional news not provided by commercial radio in the small communities. And for a budget savings of something around \$400K. You apparently have no idea what the trickle down effect of this cut would be. It is time to REWARD the entities that have endured cuts, reduced costs and maintained services.

I hope by now you have hears from other rural Alaskans who see their community radio stations as an essential service. I challenge you to find a single state-funded entity that has stretched its budged dollars farther that public broadcasting. And if you should find one, I WANT TO KNOW WHICH IT IS.

Respectfully yours,

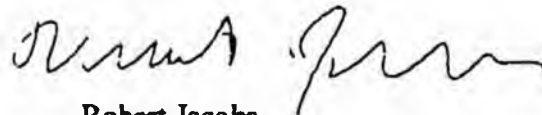
Jim Steffen
Member, Raven Radio Board of Directors

Robert D Jacobs
117 Granite Creek Rd.
Sitka, Ak 99835
(907)747-8533
(907)747-7286 fax
kballard@ptialaska.net

Dear Representative Mulder:

Once again the yearly ideological battle disguised as a budget matter is joined regarding funding for public radio. Listener support, in the form of financial contributions is already higher here in Alaska than everywhere else in the nation. This in itself demonstrates the importance of continued funding for non-commercial media in Alaska. The amount of money saved by this ill-considered measure is chicken feed compared to the benefits conferred upon your constituency by the presence of a national media outlet not beholden to the influence of your local commercial media. Should these cuts come to pass, this same constituency will most definitely remember the guilty parties responsible when election time rolls around. Do the right thing. Don't stifle this media outlet in the name of petty cost-cutting. Public radio and television are irreplaceable. You sir, are not.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert Jacobs", written in dark ink.

Robert Jacobs



Alaska State Legislature

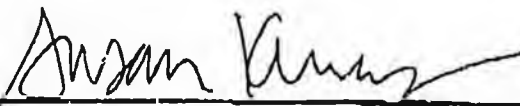
Please enter into the record my testimony to the HOUSE FINANCE
 committee name
 committee on HB 312, dated 3.4.00
 bill/subject

FOLLOWING THIS PAGE ARE PETITION SIGNATURES
 GATHERED IN HOMER YESTERDAY (FRIDAY) AND
 TODAY. THE PETITION ASKS HOUSE FINANCE TO
 RESTORE FUNDING FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING.
 THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING OUR REQUEST.

Second fax.

Attn. Louanne

Post-It® Fax Note	7671	Date	3/4/00	# of pages	▶
To	House Finance	From	HOMER LIO		
Co./Dept.		Co.			
Phone #		Phone #	235-7878		
Fax #	465-6813	Fax #			

Signed:  SUSAN KEYNES

Testifier

KHBI-HOMER & KOLL-KENAI

Representing (Optional)

BOX 984, HOMER

Address

235.5194

Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

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

committee on Budget bill, dated March 4th, 2000

bill # / subject

I WOULD LIKE TO STATE, FIRST, THAT I CONSIDER PUBLIC BROADCASTING TO BE NOT A LUXURY OR AN AMENITY, BUT A VITAL PUBLIC SERVICE. FUNDING FOR THIS SERVICE HAS ALREADY BEEN CUT DRASTICALLY, AND I URGE YOU TO CONTINUE TO FUND IT AT A LEVEL OF AT LEAST THE SAME AS IN THIS YEAR'S BUDGET.

LIKE MOST ALASKANS, I VOTED "NO" LAST SEPTEMBER, BECAUSE I FELT THAT THE PLAN WE WERE BEING ASKED TO ENDORSE WAS POORLY THOUGHT OUT. I HAVE LIVED IN ALASKA SINCE 1957, AND WHEN THE INCOME TAX WAS REPEALED BY THE LEGISLATURE I AGREED WITH JAY HAMMOND THAT THAT WAS A MISTAKE. I WOULD STRONGLY SUPPORT A FAIR, GRADUATED STATE INCOME TAX TO FUND NEEDED STATE SERVICES, AND I BELIEVE THAT OTHER ALASKANS, WHEN THE NEED FOR IT BECOMES OBVIOUS, WOULD GO ALONG WITH THIS. IN ADDITION, I BELIEVE THAT THE OIL INDUSTRY HAS NOT BEEN PAYING ITS FAIR SHARE OF TAXES IN OUR STATE SINCE THEY WERE ABLE TO GET THE METHOD USED TO DETERMINE THE FORMULA BY WHICH THEIR TAXES ARE CALCULATED CHANGED, NEARLY 20 YEARS AGO, GIVING THEM AN UNFAIR ADVANTAGE OVER OTHER BUSINESSES OPERATING IN OUR STATE.

I URGE THAT YOU KEEP AN OPEN MIND, AND ACT IN THE INTEREST OF ALL ALASKANS, AND TO HAVE THE COURSE TO DO WHAT IS REIGHT DESPITE ANY OBJECTIONS FROM THOSE WHOSE ONLY PRIORITY IS TO CONTINUE TO RECEIVE THEIR "SACRED" UNEARNED PERMANENT FUND DIVIDEND EVERY YEAR, AND NOT TO HAVE TO PAY ANY INCOME OR SALES TAXES TO THE STATE. WE SHOULD AND MUST ALL PAY OUR FAIR SHARE.

Signed:

GERALD R. BROOKMAN *Gerald R. Brookman*

Testifier

Representing (Optional)

715 MUIR AVENUE, KENAI, ALASKA 99611

Address

283-9329

Phone number



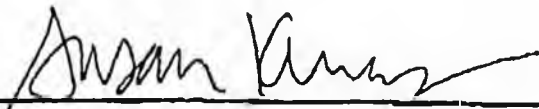
Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HOUSE FINANCE
 committee name
 committee on HB 312, dated 3.4.00
 bill/subject

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 THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING OUR REQUEST.

Att. Louanne

Post-it® Fax Note	7671	Date	3/4/00	# of pages ▶	7
To	House Finance	From	HOMER LIO		
Co./Dept.		Co.			
Phone #		Phone #	235-7878		
Fax #	465-6813	Fax #			

Signed:  SUSAN KERKNES

Testifier

KHBI-HOMER & KOLL-KENAI

Representing (Optional)

BOX 984, HOMER

Address

235.5124

Phone No.

Petition to support Public Broadcasting

We the undersigned respectfully request that the proposed \$400,500 cut to Public Broadcasting be reinstated into the Department of Administration Budget

NAME (please print)	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS	PHONE
Jane Bowen	Jane Bowen	Box 1612 Homer	235-2136
Bill DeVries	Bill DeVries	Box 2456 Homer	235-7594
Doug Bowen	Doug Bowen	Box 1642 Homer, AK	235-6242
MARY McISAAC	Mary S. McIsaac	P.O. Box 3 HOMER AK	235-2708
STACEY CLARK	Stacey Clark	P.O. Box 1203 Homer	235-7239
Pat McBride	Pat McBride	P.O. Box 1203 Homer	235-7239
TERRI L. OTTO	Terri L. Otto	P.O. Box 792 Homer	235-6916
Mike Branch	Mike Branch	P.O. Box 1203 Homer	235-7239
Brad Otto	Brad Otto	P.O. Box 792	235-6916
Al Steenhout	Al Steenhout	P.O. Box 2273	235-7328
JOHN SEITZ	John H. Seitz	Box 119 Homer	235-5494
Kelly Goodfisk	Kelly Goodfisk	P.O. 3206 Homer	
Candus Condit	Candus Condit	P.O. Box 3224 Homer	
Ashley Huoton	Ashley Huoton	P.O. Box 3603 / Homer	235-4718
Michelle Jones	Michelle Jones	P.O. Box 3228 / Homer	235-1230
Lisa L. Cruble	Lisa L. Cruble	6354 S. Kudline Dr. Homer	235-3432
BILL HOLT	Bill Holt	P.O. Box 1511 HOMER AK	235 2538
E.C. CHO	E.C. Cho	P.O. Box 1960 Homer	235-7250
Michelle Uno	Michelle Uno	615 E. Pioneer Ave	235-6392
Jared Cook	Jared Cook	P.O. Box 2332 Homer AK	235-7928
J.E. CERRIE	J.E. Cerrie	BOX 3572 HOMER AK	N/A
JULIA BERRUMAB	Julia Berrumab	Box 2072 Homer AK	235-8252
FRANK McCAMPBELL	Frank McCampbell	Box 2062 HOMER AK	235-8465
Yvonne Poucha	Yvonne Poucha	P.O. Box 2670 Homer	235-4043
KAREN ROUSH	Karen Roush	P.O. Box 3256 Homer	235-1162
REBECCA BROWN	Rebecca Brown	P.O. Box 2722 Homer	235-3714
SILVIA R. BECHTEL	Silvia R. Bechtel	P.O. Box 3426 HOMER	235-6713
WILLIAM WEBB	William Webb	P.O. Box 1020 Homer	235-7414
DONIG VAN PATTEN	Donig Van Patten	P.O. Box 1348 Homer	235-7690
Tommy S. Ackerman	Tommy S. Ackerman	P.O. Box 1973 Homer	235-0662
PATRICK KELLY	Patrick Kelly	P.O. Box 2204 HOMER AK	235-6152
Sung T. Fernandez	Sung T. Fernandez	1007 Hallford Ct	235-3632
Emily Jungersen	Emily Jungersen	P.O. Box 2633 Homer	235-3511

Petition to support Public Broadcasting

We the undersigned respectfully request that the proposed \$400,500.00 cut to Public Broadcasting be reinstated in the Department of Administration Budget

NAME (please print)	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS	PHONE
Howard L. Hedges	<i>Howard L. Hedges</i>	4032 Beluga Cir. Homer	235-2701
Valerie Davidson	<i>Valerie Davidson</i>	P.O. Box 310 Homer	235-3202
Curtis Argus	<i>Curtis Argus</i>	PO Box 2127 Homer	235-5994
Loena Sparks	<i>Loena Sparks</i>	PO Box 473 Homer	2604
Deborah Bell	<i>Deborah Bell</i>	PO Box 3057 Homer	235-3800
Tindra Hafer	<i>Tindra Hafer</i>	4282 Hope #3 Homer	235-1947
Bonita Dunbar	<i>Bonita Dunbar</i>	POB 15223 Fritz Creek	-7578
Dana Rae Faulkner	<i>Dana Rae Faulkner</i>	POB 3004 Homer AK 99608	235-4778
Lora Wilke	<i>Lora Wilke</i>	Box 2792 Homer	-2478
Catie Bursch	<i>Catie Bursch</i>	Box 2582 Homer 99603	235-4324
Mary Donlon	<i>Mary Donlon</i>	PO Box 2610 Homer	235-6213
Michael Sheppard	<i>Michael Sheppard</i>	P.O. Box 888	235/5640
Marilyn Kirkham	<i>Marilyn Kirkham</i>	P.O. Box 2111 Homer	235-7690
Carol Aderhold	<i>Carol Aderhold</i>	350 Grubstake HOMER	235 6540
Mike Hermbach	<i>Mike Hermbach</i>	4540 Anderson St.	235-6329
Ann Hermbach	<i>Ann Hermbach</i>	4540 Anderson St	5-10329
John Rife	<i>John Rife</i>	Box 2169 Homer	235-8098
Ridgely Swasey	<i>Ridgely Swasey</i>	1423 Lakeside Homer	-
Fred Pfeil	<i>Fred Pfeil</i>	436 Noview Ave Homer	235-8480
Tom Fiedler	<i>Tom Fiedler</i>	488 Homer	299-1619
Alice Haggerty	<i>Alice Haggerty</i>	PO 737 Homer	907 235-6410
Elizabeth Sutter	<i>Elizabeth Sutter</i>	POB. 827 Homer	907 235-1431
Daniel Thomas	<i>Daniel Thomas</i>	OT P.O. Box 1936 Homer	907-235-1431
Becky Pfeil	<i>Becky Pfeil</i>	436 Noview Ave Homer	- 8480
K. Bain	<i>K. Bain</i>	292 Pioneer Ave.	907-361-0077
Charles Thompson	<i>Charles Thompson</i>	895 Lindact	907-235-8623
Gregory Smith	<i>Gregory Smith</i>	895 Lindact	907 235 6823
Tony Neal	<i>Tony Neal</i>	Box 3368 Homer	907 235 8141
Gwen M. Neal	<i>Gwen M. Neal</i>	PO Box 3368 Homer	235-8220
Inez Dunn	<i>Inez Dunn</i>	PO Box 15202 Fritz Creek	#3253
John Phillips	<i>John Phillips</i>	4711 Cedar Hwy AK	235-7280

3

Petition to support Public Broadcasting

We the undersigned respectfully request that the proposed \$400,500 cut to Public Broadcasting be reinstated into the Department of Administration Budget

NAME (please print)	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS	PHONE
PAT SCHNEIDER	<i>[Signature]</i>	P.O. Box 667 Homer	235-6843
Paul Dungan	<i>[Signature]</i>	35047 Lowbush rd Homer	8557
Heather Reichmeyer	<i>[Signature]</i>	P.O. 11085 Homer AK	235-7438
DONNA SHORE	<i>[Signature]</i>	PO Box 247 Anchor Pt AK	235-2131
JANICE B. NEEDHAM	<i>[Signature]</i>	PO Box 532 Homer AK 99603	235-8395
PEPE CERRIAN	<i>[Signature]</i>	475 E Pioneer Ave	235-4943
JOANNE PERRET	<i>[Signature]</i>	P.O. Box 1507, Homer	235-7217
Scott Connelly	<i>[Signature]</i>	Box 437 Homer AK	235-3973
Dick Sankost	<i>[Signature]</i>	5890 6th St Homer	235-6183
Heather Lewis	<i>[Signature]</i>	Box 1833 Homer AK	235-3210
Theresa RL Dirks	<i>[Signature]</i>	POB 1132 Homer AK	235-6922
Susan Woulgenath	<i>[Signature]</i>	312 Lee	235-4080
Donald Hressowak	<i>[Signature]</i>	Beaufort rd #32	235-5290
Athena Petritz	<i>[Signature]</i>	PO Box 2827 Homer	235-3778
Judy Gates	<i>[Signature]</i>	528 A E. Pioneer	235-4970
Mimi Burkholder	<i>[Signature]</i>	35717 Park Rd Homer	235-2631
Loto Andrews	<i>[Signature]</i>	PO Box 355 Homer	235-5324
Sheila Grossman	<i>[Signature]</i>	PO Box 3443 Nana	235-5436
Charlotte Adams	<i>[Signature]</i>	Box 3764 Homer	235-2725
OTTO KILCHER	<i>[Signature]</i>	Box 333 Homer	235-6262
Leslie Mastich	<i>[Signature]</i>	Box 1076 Homer	235-6234
Kevin M Short	<i>[Signature]</i>	Box 15114 Fritz Creek	235-16957
Laura Asbell	<i>[Signature]</i>	184 W. 11th St Homer	235-4832
Craig Asbell	<i>[Signature]</i>	184 W. 11th St Homer	235-4832
Shirley Kinney	<i>[Signature]</i>	564 E. Pioneer Ave	235-5068
SCOTT ECKLES	<i>[Signature]</i>	Box 1703 Homer	235-3155
Karen Noyes	<i>[Signature]</i>	Box 15411 Fritz Creek	235-2154
Wanda Anderson	<i>[Signature]</i>	350 Lowbush rd Homer	235-6390
SARA WELTON	<i>[Signature]</i>	Box 3474	-4863
Debra L. Metzger	<i>[Signature]</i>	Box 1914	11410
Marilyn Dungan	<i>[Signature]</i>	Box 876 Homer	-5442
Paula G Snell	<i>[Signature]</i>	Box 777 Anchor Pt	235-73347
Bonnie Mashier	<i>[Signature]</i>	1035 Newberg, Homer	-8105
NANCY MARTIN	<i>[Signature]</i>	PO Box 2624 Homer	-8674
PETER C. O'NEILL	<i>[Signature]</i>	1292 BELUGA CIR. HOMER	235-6318
KARIN SONNEN	<i>[Signature]</i>	4046 BELUGA CIR. HOMER	-4726

Petition to support Public Broadcasting

We the undersigned respectfully request that the proposed \$400,500.00 cut to Public Broadcasting be reinstated in the Department of Administration Budget

NAME (please print)	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS	PHONE
KARIL MINTZHOFF	Karil Mintzhoft	158 W. Pioneer St E D	235-6375
SIRYME J. CROON	Siryme J. Croon	"	235-3206
MICHAEL P. MCGURK	Michael P. McGurk	P.O. Box 4343	235-4551
VALIETTA CALVIN	Valietta Calvin	PO Box 179	- 3647
ALEXANDER STAR	Alexander Star	248 W. Pioneer Homer	- 7252
TERRI BARLEY	Terri Barley	P.O. Box 425 Homer	5916
SARAH LAQUE	Sarah LaQue	PO Box 2696	7854
JENNIFER CARROLL	Jennifer Carroll	35217 Lombard St Homer	8557
SALLY OBERSTEIN	Sally Oberstein	P.O. Box 2094 Homer	2308
TAMARA SCHMIDT	TAMARA SCHMIDT	PO Box 65 Homer	2142
BARBARA GOULETTA	Barbara Gouletta	PO Box 15297 Homer	4065
HAULETTE SARTOR	Haulette Sartor	PO Box 34 Homer	2536
JULIE GOODWIN	Julie Goodwin	P.O. Box 1873 Homer	- 6927
MARSHA NIKOLAUS	Marsha Nikolaus	P.O. Box 5012 Nikolaus	- 2221
CHRIS PEYTON	Chris Peyton	56760 E. End Rd	5446
MARY ESTERSON	Mary Esterson	Box 221	8513
FRAUKI DONDEA	Frauki Dondea	1740 SALTWATER	
MARSHANE MURPHY	Marshane Murphy	PO Box 3185 Homer	- 6065
DAVE SWARTZBAUM	Dave Swartzbaum	PO Box 671 Homer	- 4290
KATHERINE K. GEORGE	Katherine K. George	542 Mountain View Dr	235-4313
MAH YAKI	Mah Yaki	4331 Mariner Dr.	235-2402
LEE YOST	Lee Yost	Box 1069-	235-6247-
JENNY STROYCK	Jenny Stroyck	Box 38	235-7496
LENNI MARTIN	Lenni Martin	Box 889	235-5130
DANIEL D. CRUMP	Daniel D. Crump	Box 268	8068
GUIQUITA YETT	Guiquita Yett	P.O. Box 2935	235-2244
ANNE MALK ABRAHAMSON	Anne Malk Abrahamson	65561 Outback Ave	- 7678
RE SCHMIDT	Re Schmidt	2964 Box #	8406
KAREN HAYN	Karen Hayn	Box 2228 Homer	235-7267
JAN ROBERTS	Jan Roberts	Box 1503 Homer	235-7257
STEPHEN C. SMITH	Stephen C. Smith	Box 3235 Homer	235-6703
SUSAN KADAN	Susan Kadan	POB 385 Homer	235-7767
MICHAEL ARMSTRONG	Michael Armstrong	POB 38 Homer	- 7310
EDWARD A. WOOD	Edward A. Wood	POB 511 "	235-6160
STEVEN VAN WAGOLEN	Steven Van Wagolen	POB 294	235-1424
VIRGINIA VAN WAGOLEN	Virginia Van Wagolen	PO Box 294 Homer	235-1424
JONDA CRONLAND	Jonda Cronland	PO Box 3036 Homer	235-5142

Petition to support Public Broadcasting

We the undersigned respectfully request that the proposed \$400,500 cut to Public Broadcasting be reinstated into the Department of Administration Budget

NAME (please print)	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS	PHONE
SUSAN B.	[Signature]	3860 KICKAPOO RD.	235-3460
NANCY MILL	[Signature]	PO BOX 365 HOMER	235-6037
David Hunter	[Signature]	PO Box 453 Homer	399-4976
JOYNA GRAHAM	[Signature]	32646 SWIFT CREEK	235-3944
Cherryl Pickler	[Signature]	PO BOX 3483 HOMER	361-0001
Randy Greenman	[Signature]	PO 1046 Homer	235-5629
Dave O'Neil	[Signature]	Box 367 Anchoke Pt	235-6491
TIM Malloy	[Signature]	Box 2057 Homer	235-1998
Kathleen Swanson	[Signature]	P.O. 2655 Homer	235-9332
Wendy E. Hamilton	[Signature]	PO BOX 2118 Homer	235 4150
DAVID L. GREENE	[Signature]	POB 2918 Homer	212118
Judd S. Sander	[Signature]	P.O. Box 3342 Homer	0148
Suzanne Atkins	[Signature]	PO BOX 4015 HOMER	235-8840
TONY STANFILL	[Signature]	175 E. Pioneer Hwy	235-7650
LEE HAMMARSTROM	[Signature]	BOX 3545 HOMER	235-8358
Marnie Beverage	[Signature]	Box 3515 Homer	235-8358
Jean Munn	[Signature]	PO Box 2594 Hwy	235-4808
CHRIS KRAUSE	[Signature]	PO Box 17317 Homer	235-1790
Denise Jantz	[Signature]	PO Box 3342 Homer	235-5570
Patricia Co	[Signature]	3482 Mall. E. St. Homer	235-2475
ANOT WATKINS	[Signature]	Box 6433 Hildan	296-2231
ALEDA YOUNG	[Signature]	Box 2209 HOMER	235-2753
Mike Hayes	[Signature]	Box 3532 Homer	235-1721
R.W. Tyler	[Signature]	PO Box 1291 Homer	235-5171
MICHAEL YANIKOWSKI	[Signature]	3099 KACHOMAR DR. HOMER	235-2628
Collette Ireland	[Signature]	3035 KACHOMAR DR. HOMER	235-5157
William Dwyer	[Signature]	PO Box 15723 Ft. 9960	235-7578
BARBARA MEYER	[Signature]	PO Box 1675 Homer 99603	235-6565
Jessica Fern	[Signature]	761 East Bullard St.	719 3606
[Signature]	[Signature]	" "	" "
GARY L. FREEBURG	[Signature]	37347 CENTRAL WY. KENAI, AK.	983-4375
WILLIAM V. LEON	[Signature]	POV, 3112 HOMER AK.	235-8758
LINDA FEILER	[Signature]	Box 148 ANCHORAGE PT.	235-8459
Jim Hornaday	[Signature]	4359 Gilman St	11-5976
Will Files	[Signature]	59850 Tern Ct	235-2943
Eileen Muller	[Signature]	Box 1394 Homer	235-2265

Box 869
Homer, Alaska 99603
March 3, 2000

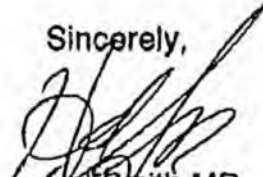
Representative Eldon Mulder
State House
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Representative Mulder:

I will not be able to attend the teleconference scheduled for tomorrow, so I am writing this letter to ask you to please support full funding for public radio in the Finance Committee. The benefits of public radio have been enumerated many times in the past. Public radio enjoys wide support among the citizens of the state and this support crosses party lines. The cuts proposed are likely to devastate a system that has already absorbed more than its fair share of cuts in past years. Shouldn't downsizing and efficiency be rewarded? That is what the public radio system has done to maintain the level of service it provides with half the state funds it used to have.

Please support restoring the proposed cuts, and fully fund the public radio budget. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Hal Smith MD



Dear Rep. Hudson and Rep. Kerttula

March 2, 2000

cc: All members of the House Finance Committee

WE STRONGLY SUPPORT PUBLIC BROADCASTING. CUTTING THE BUDGET FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING WOULD CRIPPLE A VALUABLE PUBLIC ASSET.

We are very much against the current plan in the House Finance Committee to cut yet more funds from Public Broadcasting. We know that there are a number of people in the Legislature who have that as one of THEIR agenda items. We think they are wrong.

The Public Broadcasting station we know most about is KT00-FM in Juneau, Alaska. (We do not own a TV and, hence, do not watch TV at all.) For 26 years, KT00 has been an integral part of the community life Juneau.

Plain and simple, commercial radio stations are in it for the money. Public service? Only if it brings listeners, which bring advertising dollars (or if laws require public service). We find almost nothing on any of the commercial station WE want to listen to.

As for Public Radio stations? The name says it all, they are public. They belong to and serve the public, not some owner out of Alaska.

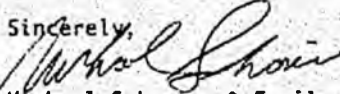
There is a synergy between KT00 and non-profit community focused organizations in Juneau that enhances both. From what we have seen of other communities in Alaska, this is a universal trait. Public radio stations are COMMUNITY stations; they are a focus for the best in community spirit. For the small amount of money public radio costs, the public benefits are massive. Non-profits usually do what they do on a shoestring budget, and they do things governments can't or won't, but that still are good to do. Would commercial station go out of they way to help promote non-profit community activities? For a buck maybe, but KT00 helps as part of its mission. KT00 provides a breadth of music and other programming that no commercial station would attempt. This breadth gives depth to Juneau that would disappear with further impairment due to lack of funding.

If we have to cut the budget, Public Broadcasting is the wrong place to do it. With the help of Public Broadcasting, non-profits can get the word out and improve their communities. Without public radio, more than just public radio would suffer.

We know the litany "We don't have the money, we don't have the money, ..." to which we say, "bull." We have the money to spend on the things that benefit Alaskans. Public Broadcasting is too valuable to Alaskan's to kill, under whatever guise; and, most certainly some stations would die or be so impaired that they'd decide to shut down.

You know that Senator Ted Stevens strongly supports Public Broadcasting in Alaska.

Sincerely,


Michael Sakarias & Family
7943 N Douglas Hwy
Juneau AK 99801
586-4422

PS: We were not asked, but the reason WE voted against the Legislature's PFI measure last Fall was NOT because we're against using some of the PFD to pay for government. We feel we should ALSO use other sources, also. In other words: PFD and TAXES, both.

We do not make a lot of money, but do not mind paying taxes because of the good it contributes to. We do NOT understand all those people who earn so much more than we do, but would rather not pay any taxes. We have enough money. Some people NEVER have enough money, no matter how rich they are.

Katherine G. Jacobs
Box 920
Sitka, Alaska
99835

Phone 907-747-8533
Fax 907-747-7286

March 3, 2000

To: Rep. Eldon Mukder

Public radio in Alaska is not just entertainment for the masses. Public radio is vital information for the people of Alaska. It is news of the world and local affairs when you are out on the fishing grounds. The only source of news in small towns across Alaska. It is the only source of weather information for those who live in "the bush" and for those same people their only source of music, and other entertainment. In fact for some, their only form of contact with what is happening in the world. Public radio is the only way of getting messages to those same outlying bush people.

The Legislatures plan to slash funding for public radio will seriously hurt the people of Alaska. Our government is supposed to help and protect the people it serves. Cutting funding for public radio would hurt and endanger a large portion of Alaska's people. Please consider the people you serve before cutting the funding to this vital service in our lives.

Sincerely

Katherine G. Jacobs

Sally Smith

1 March 2000

The Honorable Eldon Mulder, Co-Chair
House Finance Committee
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: KTOO/Public Broadcasting

Dear Eldon:

First of all--hi, and how are you? Now, on to business--my unshaken belief that funding for Public Broadcasting and KTOO should be maintained. As you know, information and dialogue keep people involved; they are the DNA of creative thinking.

Because of its focus, public radio is an investment in the well-being of our state. Commercial radio is an investment for advertising businesses. Both are important; both have a place; but the missions (read that "profits"), are vitally different.

Coast Alaska, the product of creative thought, is a cost-effective network of SE radio stations that share not only state and regional information to raise the level of public awareness, but encourage involvement and a sense of community. By pooling their resources Coast Alaska has reduced operating costs for each member station, but KTOO, as the urban hub of this network, is crucial to its strength and continuance.

Supporters have worked hard to counter the annual reductions in public funding, but because they've met past challenges doesn't mean they can continue to do so. Please support full funding of the APBC. Their work brings all Alaskans information that educates.

Sincerely,

Sally Smith



March 1, 2000

Rep. Carl Moses
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol Building, Rm 500
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Carl Moses:

I understand that the House Finance Committee has a proposal from your subcommittee to cut over \$400,000.00 dollar from public broadcasting.

Rural Alaska depends on public broadcasting, particularly the senior citizens who cannot afford cable. Radio is of particular importance and is the only communication link that many villages have to the rest of the State and the outside world.

When is the State Legislature going to realize that they are a body that has a responsibility for the entire State and Rural Alaska cannot function without State funding. Alaska is the wealthiest State in the union and richer than many countries in the world and yet our politicians act like a bunch of scrooges and are trying to cut off Rural Alaska from sharing in the wealth that belongs to all of it's citizens.

With crude oil up to \$31.00 + per barrel, the fiscal gap that has been plaguing the legislature for the last few years will disappear very rapidly, so why the slash and cut mentality?

Give Rural Alaska public broadcasting.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Davis, Jr.

Richard L. Davis, Jr.
Chief Executive Officer

cc: file

Luda Konshin
PO Box 6433
Sitka, AK 99835
March 2, 2000

Rep. Eldon Mulder
House Finance Committee
Juneau, AK

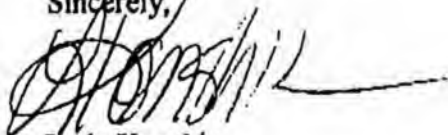
Dear Sir:

I am writing to you to share my feelings on the proposed budget cuts to public broadcasting. As a member of a small community and a volunteer at my local public radio station, I know that the effect that these cuts would have upon our community alone would be devastating. Alaska depends on public broadcasting for many reasons-- everything from marine weather forecasts that insure the safety of fishermen and boaters to message services for people in other communities or those who do not have telephones or telephone access. These reasons alone should be enough to justify funding this important resource. Also, in smaller communities, public radio is the only tie to the outside world. It is a source of information, news, and politics. Certainly your own campaign efforts would be affected without this important medium.

Please do not interfere with a system that works so well for our communities and our state as a whole. The repercussions would be tragic. A state cut would also mean large losses of federal funding, and our small communities who need it most would feel the fullest impact of your decisions.

Thank you for reading. I know that once you consider the consequences, you will make the only decision there is that is in support of the people of Alaska. Do not cut funding to public broadcasting.

Sincerely,



Luda Konshin

Subject: Public broadcasting

Date: Tue, 29 Feb 2000 13:24:00 EST

From: BrtherDawn@aol.com

To: Representative_Eldon_Mulder@legis.state.ak.us

Representative Mulder:

Public broadcasting is an essential component of my life in Southeast Alaska.

Through the fine programs of National Public Radio, Public Radio International, and Alaska Public Radio Network, and the very fine news programming produced by our local community radio station, KRBD, I am able to live and work in this fine, beautiful state and remain connected and well informed on local, state, national, and international issues. Through the fine work of Public Broadcasting and Alaska One TV, I am able to further my understanding of complex issues, and become a well-informed participant in the democratic process. Gavel-to-Gavel is a vital link to our legislature in a state with significant transportation costs.

Beyond the life-enriching effects, public broadcasting has a significant economic benefit for Alaska. Over \$1 million dollars in federal grants comes into our state through public broadcasting. Much of this money "stays Inside" in the form of wages to our dedicated staffs.

Another significant economic benefit is the ability for public broadcasting to attract newcomers to our communities. My husband, a local pediatrician, and I, a local pastor, are among the people who would not have considered serving this community without the presence of strong public broadcasting.

I urge you to support the funding of public radio and public television.

Sincerely,
The Reverend Ms. Dawn Allen-Herron

Grete Perkins
P. O. Box 243
Talkeetna, AK 99876
907-733-2354

March 2, 2000

To: Representatives Eldon Mulder and Gene Theriault
Co-Chairs, House Finance Committee

Re: Public Broadcasting

Dear Representatives Mulder and Theriault,

I would like to send you a **big** message from a small community:

Please don't vote to slash funding for public broadcasting!

Living in Talkeetna, our public radio station, KTNA is part of the lifeblood of the community. State grants makeup about one third of our operating budget, and if this were eliminated, I feel certain that our radio station would be forced to go off the air. Even with local underwriters, and thousands of volunteer hours, we simply cannot afford the current programming and services without the critical state grants.

Talkeetna residents from all walks of life, and with varying interests and philosophies, come together and volunteer countless hours as newscasters, broadcasters, disc jockies, mechanical wizards, talk show hosts, fund raisers, and news writers. It is the one common ground where Talkeetna residents of all persuasions can come together.

Where else can residents of Talkeetna and vicinity receive local news, announcements of school closures, or icy road conditions? Where else can residents of Talkeetna learn of an emergency quickly? (One New Year's Day, the local grocery store was burning, and a plea went out for pot luck food and dry gloves for the volunteer firefighters to replace the ones frozen by the 20 below degree weather.) Where else can the residents of Talkeetna learn that a woman with Alzheimers disease was lost, so that attempts to find her could be coordinated by the local radio station? Where else can residents of Talkeetna receive weather forecasts specifically for this area, so critical in the winter? Where else could the residents of Talkeetna be alerted to a possible flood - extremely critical to a town that is in the flood plain of three major rivers? Where else can local residents without telephone service receive messages, locally called "Dial Echoes" to learn of family emergencies, a change in the train service due to a derailment, or trail conditions.

The effects of the House proposal would be devastating to our public radio station. Please don't cut funding for public broadcasting!

Please don't cut off the lifeblood of our community.

Sincerely,

GRETE PERKINS

Grete Perkins

JOE D'ARIZZO
2219 SAWMILL CRK. HWY.
SITKA, AK. 99835

REP. ELSON MULDER
REP. GENE THERRIAULT
CO-CHAIRS, HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN, ONCE AGAIN WE MUST AMASS SUPPORT
FOR OUR RADIO STATION, KCAW-FM.
A PROPOSED \$400,000 CUT IN PUBLIC BROADCASTING
AND THE RESULTING \$100,000 TO COAST ALASKA
WOULD BE DEVASTATING. IT COULD MEAN THE
LOSS OF OVER \$1,000,000 IN FEDERAL GRANTS FOR
PUBLIC BROADCASTING. KCAW SERVES NOT ONLY
SITKA, BUT, ANGOON, ELFIN COVE, TENAKEE SPRINGS, FORT
ALEXANDER, YAKUTAT, PELICAN, CAKE AND THE FISHING
GROUNDS.
SURELY, YOU DO NOT INTEND TO ELIMINATE THE
COMMUNITY SERVICE THEY PROVIDE. (INCLUDING
LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION FROM JUNEAU.) PLEASE CONSIDER
THE FULL IMPACT OF WHAT YOU ARE PROPOSING AND
KILL THIS PLAN. THANK YOU, Joe D'Arizzo



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance committee name
 " HB 312
 committee on AK State Council , dated 3/4/00
 bill/subject

Please do not cut funds to AK State Council on the Arts. Specifically I am requesting that \$75,600 be restored to ASCA's general fund. Do not otherwise threaten switching federal funds.

Signed: Denise Clyne Denise Clyne
 Testifier
Self and Bunnell Street Gallery Board Member
 Representing (Optional)
59855 Sanford Drive Homer AK 99603
 Address
907/235-6260
 Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance
committee name
 committee on HB 312 , dated 4 Mar 00
bill/subject

Cutting the fat is a good thing. But now we've gotten down to the meat. And the circulation system and heart and spleen. You are now killing the patient.

I urge you to stop any further cuts from ~~the~~ public broadcasting and the Alaska State council on the Arts. And institute an income tax.

Signed: Mako Haggerty MAKO HAGGERTY
Testifier

Representing (Optional)
PO Box 2001 Homer 99603
Address
235-4357
Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance Sub-Committee
 committee name
 committee on Finance , dated 3/2/00 ?
 bill/subject

Dear Representatives Phillips, Bunde,
 Davis, Davies, Moses, Cherniack, Foster,
 Quateman, Williams & Grussendorf,

I sincerely hope that you will put forward
 an amendment to restore \$75,600
 to Alaska State Council on The Arts General
 Fund. Replacing this amount with
 \$75,600 from The Art in Public Places Fund
 will have a devastating effect on all ASCA grant
 and service programs. ASCA is seeking a legis-
 lative appropriation to access AIPP funds of \$75,600
 to make required art purchases, but these funds
 by law cannot be used as state General Fund Match
 as required by the federal agency that funds nearly 50%
 of ASCA's services and programs. **THANK YOU!**

Signed: Asia Freeman / ASIA-FREEMAN

Testifier

Homer / Alaskan Art Supporters

Representing (Optional)

106 West Bunwell, Ste D, Homer

Address

235-7558

Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance
 committee on Budget Alaska State Council on the Arts committee name
 dated March 4, 2000
 bill/subject

ASCA's Budget from sub-committee
 mistakenly includes \$75,600 in capital
 projects funds from Art in Public Places (AIPP)
 This capital money cannot be used to
 match Federal funds from the National
 Endowment. Alaska will lose \$75,600.
 in Federal funds.

Please ammend sub committee
 Recommendation to restore \$75,600 from General
 Funds.

Signed: Lance Petersen Lance Petersen

Testifier

ASCA

Representing (Optional)

Box 894 Homer

Address

235-7333

Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance
 committee on HB 312 committee name
Council of Arts dated 3-4-00
 bill/subject

Money is tight. Everyone knows that. So why don't you implement a state income tax. Lots of us are in favor of it.

We need government to support it's citizenry through their support of the arts. Look at history and what survives through the ages - art, visual, movement, creative, all forms. Look at occupation and the ~~role~~ that musicians, ~~artists~~ dancers have played over the centuries. Look at brain development and what it is that gets positive brain chemistry flowing. As the human race, we need the arts, and we the people need the government's support.

Thank-you.

Signed: Jennifer Edwards
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)
P.O. BOX 2296 Homer, AK 99603
 Address
235-7605
 Phone No.

COMMERCE

+^R ECON.

DEV.

Melissa Sanford

To: Senator_Lyda_Green@legis.state.ak.us; Senator_Tim_Kelly@legis.state.ak.us;
 Senator_Georgianra_Lincoln@legis.state.ak.us
Cc: Representative_Gary_Davis@legis.state.ak.us;
 Representative_Bill_Williams@legis.state.ak.us;
 Representative_Richard_Foster@legis.state.ak.us;
 Representative_Carl_Moses@legis.state.ak.us;
 Representative_Ben_Grussendorf@legis.state.ak.us;
 Representative_John_Davies@legis.state.ak.us;
 Representative_Gail_Phillips@legis.state.ak.us;
 Representative_Alán_Austerman@legis.state.ak.us;
 Representative_Con_Bunde@legis.state.ak.us;
 Representative_Gene_Therriault@legis.state.ak.us;
 Representative_Eldon_Mulder@legis.state.ak.us; Steven Rouse
 [steven_rouse@makeitalaskan.com]
Subject: Funding for Made In Alaska program

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

First, I would like to thank you for restoring the Made In Alaska funding a couple of weeks ago. This is an important program and many of us want to see it continued.

I understand that the budget of this has been decreased by \$5000. I am writing to encourage you to increase the budget back from \$25K to \$30K...the Made In Alaska program funding is already low and to cut it further endangers many of the services it provides.

The Made In Alaska program does many services to promote Alaskan goods, which is important to a state that spends millions in getting tourists to come to Alaska. Surely you can see the value of having those tourist dollars stay in the state...and the only way those same tourists will be educated to buy Alaskan products is through the education and support of the Made In Alaska program. Otherwise why would they buy Alaskan goods instead of overseas goods? Many tourists stop at my place of business and explain that they are specifically looking for the Made In Alaska logo (available only through the Made In Alaska program). Although I am a small business (3 full time employees) when you multiply the effect this has on the HUNDREDS of Made In Alaska permit holders, there is a huge domino effect that contributes to the livelihood of THOUSANDS of Alaskans.

I would also like to address Representative Con Bunde's reference to Made In Alaska permit holders as "trinket people" and "small ornament people". Not only were many of us incensed at this insult, it shows how truly clueless Representative Bunde is about this. This state should be proud of its artist and craftsmen that give us such a good reputation for having so much creative energy. Other states go out of their way to promote and expound on what great artists and craftsmen they have...and our artists and craftsmen are reduced to "trinket people"??? Also, I have listed below a HANDFUL of Made in Alaska permit holders other than those involved with arts or crafts....I would like to see Representative Bunde call THEM trinket people to their face!!!

Examples of a small sample of Made In Alaska permit holders:

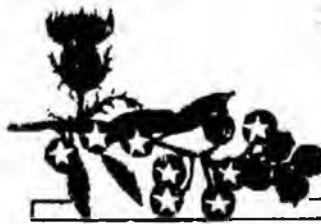
Tesoro
 Alaska Petroleum Contractors
 Greer Tank
 Alaska Mill and Feed
 Matanuska Dairy
 Kaladi Bros. Coffee
 Alaska Brewery
 Metal Fabricators
 Aluminum boat manufacturers
 Camper Manufacturers
 Metal Fabricators
 Furniture Manufacturers

Fishing products
over 30 Building and Construction companies
Clothing Manufacturers
Video productions
Etc, etc, etc.

So you think that the Made In Alaska Program is just a handful of "trinket people"? These same folks will remember what you do for the Made In Alaska program when election time rolls around.

Please recognize the valuable asset the Made In Alaska program is to this state. Protect the \$50K in the General Fund and increase the Made In Alaska's authorization for Program Receipts from \$25K to \$30K.

Thank you,
Melissa Sanford
Wilderness Expressions



Thistleberries

P.O. Box 383
Willow, Ak 99688
Phone & Fax (907) 495-1008
E-Mail: thistleberries@gci.net

All Members of the House Finance Committee:

I would like to say "Thank You" on behalf of myself and artisan friends who have been proud sponsors of the Made In Alaska (MIA) program. Your vote of re-inserting the \$50,000 back into the budget to support the MIA program is greatly appreciated.

We artists, craftspeople and assorted artisans have come to realize, as well as our loyal visiting customers, the value of providing top quality authentic products made in Alaska by Alaskans. As an artist, I do my best to make the visitor knowledgeable on the Made in Alaska, the silver hands, and the Alaska grown logos. Explaining to them the importance of these logos and the guarantee each logo brings to them. By purchasing a product with any of these logos, assures them they have purchased a Made in Alaska product. They are not some cheap replica that has been imported for quick sales. All too often I hear, "We come to Alaska and want to purchase something made in Alaska, not something from China. We can buy that at home." I am not opposed to all import trade and realize the international composition of our customer base. For those businesses that choose to go this route with their products, that is their choice. But I feel that Alaska is deserving of only a genuine representation and try to do this by representing that sentiment in my products. In my place of business the tourist as well as the local customer prove to me that they support and respect my beliefs. Made in Alaska is so very important to them.

Thank You once again for your supporting votes concerning the MIA program. I look forward to your continued support of MIA.

Yours in Responsibility Promoting Alaska,

Ruth A. Holland
@ Thistleberries



**CUSTOM KNIVES
AND
ACCESSORIES**

P.O. Box 326
Tahleena, Ak 99676
Phone (907) 733-4424
E-Mail: littlebighorn@gci.net

TO: ALL MEMBERS, HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

RE: MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM

Speaking for myself and on behalf of many artisan friends who are proud sponsors of the Made In Alaska (MIA) program, I would like to express my gratitude for your vote in favor of re-inserting into your proposed budget the \$50,000 necessary for continued funding of the MIA program.

We as artists, craftspeople and assorted artisans have come to realize, as have our loyal visiting customers, the value of providing top quality authentic products made in Alaska by Alaskans. Our products vary from foodstuffs to the very best in craft and fine art. In this day and age it is so easy and tempting to bow to the lure of importing cheapened reproductions of Alaskan products or products that can be easily disguised as "Alaskan", solely for the higher profits that can be gleaned. It is not that I and others are opposed to all import trade. Certainly we recognize the international composition of our customer base. Some businesses have opted for the imported goods market and we recognize that as their prerogative. But I, and others, feel that Alaska is deserving of only a genuine representation and try our best to represent that sentiment in our products. Certainly both our tourists and local customers do so also and their education and preferences in this regard do not go unnoticed by us who deal with them on a regular basis in our places of business.

In view of your recent vote I am both refreshed and hopeful that it is a vote of confidence in the MIA program. We who support MIA in our businesses take great pride in giving to our visitors a true taste of Alaska and feel adamantly that our great State deserves only the best of genuine representation. We trust that this vote of confidence portrays a like feeling on your part and I, for one, am grateful and look forward to your continued support of MIA.

Yours in Responsibly Promoting Alaska,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John W. Saily". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a horizontal line.

John W. Saily
Little Bighorn Custom Knives



Thistleberries

P.O. Box 383
Willow, Ak 99688
Phone & Fax (907) 495-1008
E-Mail: thistleberries@gci.net

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Thank You once again for your supporting votes concerning the MIA program. I look forward to your continued support of MIA.

Yours in Responsibility Promoting Alaska,

Ruth A. Holland
@ Thistleberries



**CUSTOM KNIVES
AND
ACCESSORIES**

P.O. Box 326
Tukwila, Ak 99676
Phone (907) 733-4424
E-Mail: Littlebighorn@gcl.net

TO: ALL MEMBERS, HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

RE: MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM

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In view of your recent vote I am both refreshed and hopeful that it is a vote of confidence in the MIA program. We who support MIA in our businesses take great pride in giving to our visitors a true taste of Alaska and feel prominently that our great State deserves only the best of genuine representation. We trust that this vote of confidence portrays a like feeling on your part and I, for one, am grateful and look forward to your continued support of MIA.

Yours in Responsibly Promoting Alaska,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John W. Saily". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John W. Saily
Little Bighorn Custom Knives

**Fax**

'OOMINGMAK'
MUSK OX PRODUCERS' CO-OPERATIVE

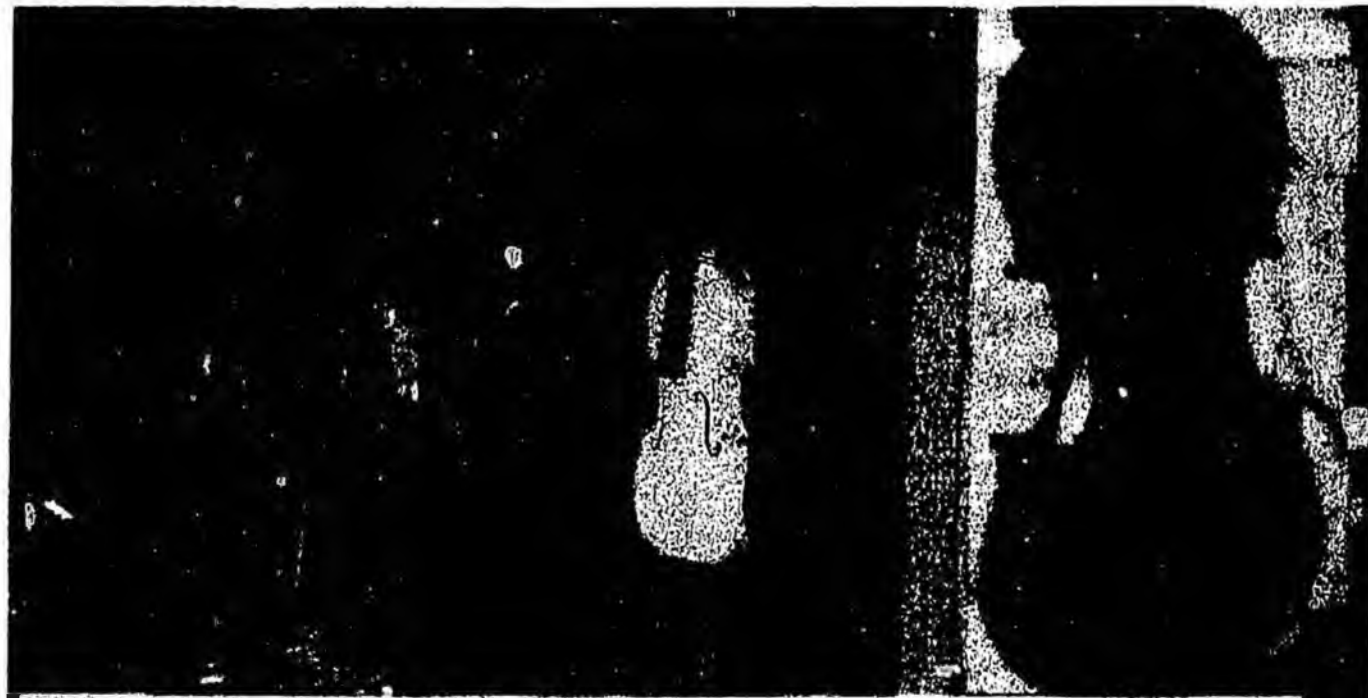
604 H Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907) 272-9225

Name: All Members
Organization: House Finance Committee
Fax: (907) 465-6813
Phone: [Phone]
From: Musk Ox Producers' Co-Operative
Date: March 9, 2000
Subject: MADE IN ALASKA FUNDING
Pages: 1

Comments: We thank you for restoring the funding to the MADE IN ALASKA Program. This program is important to ensure that visitors and local customers know what items are made in Alaska. Since it should be important to all of us that preference is given to Alaskans and items made in Alaska, ensuring that money spent in Alaska stays in the state to the greatest possible extent, such a program is crucial.

Sincerely

Sigrun C. Robertson
Executive Director
Musk Ox Producers' Co-Operative
Hand knit Qiviut made by Native Alaskans



Handwritten insertments
 Dennis V. Abbl
 Hc 34 B, 2085a
 Wasilla AK 99684

I Would like to thank all the Finance Committee, (Except Con Bunde) members for restoring fund's for Make It Alaska program. I like to see this program continue which I feel is good for the state of Alaska. Ive had comments on my violin's with the Make It Alaska logo In Tucson AZ. last year at the violin class. I want to thank all the Rep's. That are keeping this program alive

Sincerely Dennis V. Abbl

Dennis V. Abbl 3-10-00

To Rep. Con Bunde; When you start calling people name's you'd better know who's out there that your slanting names at behind someones back. I'm at the lowest eb of my life. My wife of 54 years is h incapacped & totally blind. Ive had to put her at a home. I have no insurance & I get nothing from the State of Alaska. I foot the bills my self. It's breaking me & it leaves me nothing for my self.
 • When my wife was in the hospital Oct. 99 the social worker Ellen Busak alamed me in the face about my VA benefit's Now you are calling me names behind my back. I was on the invasion of France WW11 landed on Omaha Beach. Came home with a busted back Now I'm getting slapped in the face by you Con Bunde. Ive seen more blood & gut's then 100's of people will see in a life time. I didn't feel I put my life on the line for some one the likes of you.

Dennis V. Abbl

3/11/2000

House Finance Committee
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, Alaska

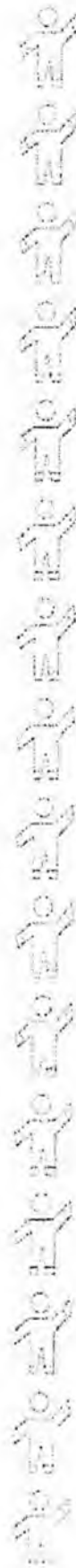
Via Fax

Dear Folks:

Thank you for your support in funding the Made in Alaska Program. This program plays an important role in the Alaska economic picture.

As for Mr. Bunde's comments, referring to the membership of the Made in Alaska program as being "trinket makers", I am appalled by his insensitivity and ignorance perhaps born of too many years in academia and lack of real world experience. Is the Anchorage Daily News, Tesoro Petroleum, Indian Valley Meats, Alaska Seafood International, Superior Logs, DiFrancia Lingerie, Arctic Spas, Silver Lining Seafoods, Alaska Petroleum Contractors, Alaska Mint, Alaska Canine Cookies, Cameron Birch Works, Sunrise Bakery, Culfabco, Morris Communications, Alaska Candle Factory, Apocolypse Design, Alaska Herb and Tea, Taco Loco, The Knot Shop, and hundreds of other businesses are trinket makers by any stretch of imagination then perhaps it is time for Mr. Bunde to take up residence at API. I feel than Mr. Bunde owes his neighbors an applogy..... and perhaps can learn to engage brain before putting mouth in motion.

Sincerely,
/s/ Bishop T. Buckle
The Knot Shop
Hc 31 Box 5163
Wasilla, Ak 99654



To All House Finance
Committee Members...

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!!!

The Make It Alaskan certification program is essential to my business. Thank you for securing funding for this program. Please do everything you can to see that funding continues for many years to come.

C & C Unlimited
Jaslynn Casey / Owner
PO Box 873814
Wasilla, Alaska 99687
907-376-1033



FAX: 907 465-6813

To All the Members of the House Finance Committee:

Thank you ALL very much for the continued funding of the Made In Alaska program. It touches many, many people's lives around the state of Alaska.

Sincerely,

Penelope Cyr-Lorenson

Penelope Cyr-Lorenson

Wild Iris Basket Designs

Kodiak Island, Alaska

Fax

Name: House Finance Committee
Please forward to each member

Fax: 1/907/465-6813

From: Linda L. Hill,
Alaska Wild River Productions, Inc.
907/338-1005

Date: March 8, 2000

Subject: Made in Alaska Funds

Pages: 1

Thank you so much for your work in restoring the \$50,000 in general funds for MADE IN ALASKA. We appreciate your support in helping us identify our products as "genuine Alaskan" when people shopping are being so bombarded with imported items.

Thanks again!



TO: ALL MEMBERS
HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

March 7, 2000

Honorable Members of the House Finance Committee:

Thank you for restoring funding for the Made In Alaska program. This program not only supports those Alaskans that make and sell Alaskan products, it also assures that visitors to our wonderful state get the authentic items they seek. The Made In Alaska program provides a level of integrity found few other places in the world.

Special Note to Representative Con Bunde

Mr. Bunde, Alaska has some of the finest Artisans, Photographers, Carvers, Film Makers and Crafts people found in the world. They are proud to be Alaskans and proud to display the fact their products are Made In Alaska. Referring to us as "trinket people" is not only an insult to us but to you. It demonstrates that you are ignorant and uninformed of the people of Alaska and all Alaskans lose by having such uninformed persons represent us. I am sure if the voters of your district know how uninformed you are, you are currently serving your last and final term.

Again, a special thank you to all Honorable Members of the House Finance Committee who made this funding possible. If you wor'd continue to lend your support and influence to the Made In Alaska program and see that the funding makes it through the whole process - that would also be appreciated.

Respectively,

Harry and Ginger Phenice
Toklat Video Productions
33080 Bolan St.
Soldotna, AK. 99669
(907) 262-9320
reach@toklatvideo.com

file:///Unfiled

I would like to thank each HFC member for their support for the MADE IN ALASKA program. we feel this program is very important to Alaska economy. thank-you all.

Linda & Robert Harmon
Nome Beach Gold

ñóòJU**~R"E†RÆ~TñóòJU**~R"E†RÆ~TñóòJU**~R"E†RÆ~TñóòJU**~R"E†RÆ~TñóòJU**~R"E†RÆ~T

To: Steven Rouse <steven_rouse@makeitalaska.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 08, 2000 12:40 PM
Subject: Re: Amendment passes-thank you's NOW

Linda C. Vollertsen
4871 Retriever Circle
Anchorage, Alaska 99502
(907) 243-0535

To all members of the House Finance Committee,
Thanks to all of you for passing the amendment to the Made In Alaska program. This is very encouraging to all of us who contribute Alaska-made products to the economy. We work very hard and are proud of the quality work we create. Thank you for appreciating this work and supporting us. You can see some of what you supported at www.mirow.com, and thank you again.

Sincerely,



Linda Vollertsen

From: Linda Vollertsen <mirow@alaskalife.net>
To: <Representative_Con_Bunde@legis.state.ak.us>
Sent: Wednesday, March 08, 2000 12:15 PM
Subject: Made In Alaska permit holder of trinkets??

Mirow
Linda C. Vollertsen
(907) 243-0535

Representative Bunde,

I am taking the time to write you in regards to the amendment to the budget for the Made in Alaska program. I am a hard working Alaskan making nothing even close to what anyone would call 'trinkets'. I, at first, felt insulted that you would label me and my co-members in that light and then after some thought I felt sorry for you for being so ignorant of the high quality work we bring to our communities and to our beautiful state.

My family came to Alaska in 1898 and we have all contributed to Alaska in many different ways. I am proud of my heritage, from gold mining to aviation to logging to my company, Mirow; making jewelry and home accessories. My family and friends and my large number of repeat customers (in state and out of state) are also proud of me and my work. They appreciate what I do.

Next time you think of labelling someone or something so casually why don't you stop and think about how much you actually know about the subject. If everyone took the time to do this our world would be a much kinder place to live in.

One of the reasons I started my own company 12 years ago was to raise my children at home. Not only do mothers who decide to stay home with their children get very little recognition for this important job, now you also insult and give me and others in this profession no recognition for what we have created.

If you would like to educate yourself in this area why don't you look at my web site at www.mirow.com and then tell me if you still think I design 'trinkets'.

Sincerely,



Linda C. Vollertsen


March 6, 2000

TO : ALL MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

From: Laura Ferguson; Anchorage Senior Center

It has been brought to my attention that you may cut funding to the MADE IN ALASKA program. Here at the Senior Center we have started using the MADE IN ALASKA stickers and they have really helped our gift shop sales. We sure like the program and would miss the many benefits it offers should you discontinue it.

Sincerely,



Laura Ferguson
Gift Shop Mgr.
Anch. Sr. Ctr.

To: All house finance committee members...

I have been alerted by Steve Rouse (Made in Alaska program director) that funding for the program is in jeopardy.

Funding in the amount of fifty thousand dollars...these are likely some of the most well spent dollars in our entire state budget.

I make soap and other body care products in my home. I sell them at Saturday market, the annual Made in Alaska show at the Sullivan arena, the Alaska State fair and at other Alaskan bazaars and craft fairs.

I have been doing this since 1996. A huge percentage of my customers are familiar with and greatly appreciate having the Made in Alaska symbol shown on the products they buy.

Locals seem proud to support fellow Alaskans in their entrepreneurial efforts. Visitors are tickled to be assured that the gift that they are bringing home from their Alaskan vacation, was made in Alaska by an Alaskan.

My Made in Alaska certification directly impacts my business in a positive way.

I implore you to reconsider cutting the funding to this program. It would be a mistake that would affect too many individuals and businesses to justify shaving \$50,000 from the budget...the harm done would be far more costly.

Carol A. Green
dba Sound Soap
Made in Alaska membership # 4190
po box 2173
Palmer Alaska 99645
(907) 746-7627 ph or fax
rainyday@alaska.net



Alaska Herb Tea Company
PO Box 110289
Anchorage, Alaska 99511

Fax Message

Tel/Fax 907-522-3499

Date: March 6, 2000

To: State of Alaska

House Finance Committee members

Please deliver to all House Finance Committee members

From: Charles Walsh
Alaska Herb Tea Company

Re: Funding Made in Alaska program

We understand that all funding for the Made in Alaska program has been terminated as part of budget cuts to the Department of Community and Economic Development.

Of course we support your attempts to reign in the budget and make it as lean and efficient as possible. That is exactly why you must restore the funds for MIA. The tiny amount of money budgeted for MIA yields relatively huge returns – it binds together and organizes hundreds of independent Alaskan businesses to make them stronger in the face of outside competition. The success of these Alaskan businesses keeps money in Alaska.

Also, the MIA program assures visitors to Alaska that any gifts or remembrances they buy during their visit will be authentically Alaskan, thereby enhancing the quality of their visit. Happy and satisfied visitors to Alaska are more likely to return, and to encourage their friends and family to come to Alaska. That's the best kind of advertising you can buy!

Only \$50K + program receipts – what a bargain! Please restore funding for the Made in Alaska program.

120 Second Street Juneau, Alaska 99801

The
SILVER BOW

(907) 586-4146

fax (907) 586-4242

www.silverbowinn.com

inn

• bakery

• restaurant

• catering

• cinema

March 3, 2000

To: All House Finance committee members (please reproduce and distribute)
Via: Fax 465-6813

Hon. Representatives:

We are the owners of the Silverbow, an historic business operating in downtown Juneau. We are proud members of the Made In Alaska program and strongly urge you maintain funding for this program at \$50,000 per year; the amount requested in Governor Knowles's budget.

At present we use the Made in Alaska labeling on our breads and bagels sold via local markets. The labeling assists us in promoting our products as fresh, all natural, and of local origin. We intend to expand our use of this label to unique and inexpensive manufactured goods for the tourist market.

We are firm supporters of tourism in Alaska, including and especially southeast Alaska. We also appreciate the many benefits to our community provided by the cruise lines, who will likely have a primary voice in the new Alaska Visitor Industry Association. However, we are concerned for the continued quality, individuality, and authenticity of the Alaska experience provided by much of modern package tourism.

By having a program to recognize and support products made locally, from local materials by local Alaskan hands, we distinguish ourselves, our cities, and our culture from that of other tourist destinations. A visitor to Alaska should be able to see and purchase items that they can be confident are not simply relabeled imports, such as could as easily be purchased in the Caribbean, Mexico, Disneyland, and other major vacation destinations.

Without this program there will be no oversight for misuse of the Made In Alaska label, and a consequent potential loss of trust and integrity with our visitors. This is a very small and inexpensive program that goes a long way to protect the interests and viability of many small businesses operating, admittedly, at the fringes of the dominant tourism trend. In the interest of the continued breadth and diversity of the local tour industry, we respectfully request you continue funding for this program.

Sincerely,


Ken Alpek & Jill Rarniel, owners

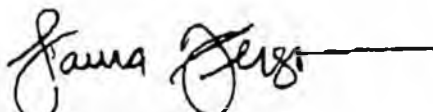
March 6, 2000

To : ALL MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

From: Laura Ferguson; Anchorage Senior Center

It has been brought to my attention that you may cut funding to the MADE IN ALASKA program. Here at the Senior Center we have started using the MADE IN ALASKA stickers and they have really helped our gift shop sales. We sure like the program and would miss the many benefits it offers should you discontinue it.

Sincerely,



Laura Ferguson
Gift Shop Mgr.
Anch. Sr. Ctr.

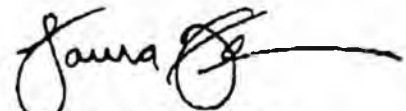
March 6, 2000

To: All Members Of The HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

From: Laura Ferguson, owner of Laura's Original Designs

I have heard that you may cut the funding for the MADE IN ALASKA program and I am upset to say the least. I have a retail store and the stickers are the best thing going for Alaskan merchants. I always point out to visitors to watch for the little bear on products as that is their assurance that it was made in Alaska. I tell them our sites of manufacture are inspected by the state. If the state cant come up with \$50,000 to continue this program than you are not doing your job, which is to serve the best interests of the people of Alaska.

Sincerely,


Laura Ferguson

FAX COVER SHEET

LELOS CHRONICLE
 1200 W. Diamond # 104
 Anchorage, Ak. 99515
 907-344-3894
 Fax: 907 868-2780

SEND TO Company name	Finance Committee	From	
Attention	Finance Committee	Date	Lea and Lois Hade
Office location		Office location	March 6th, 2000
Fax number		Phone number	Anchorage, Ak. 907-344-3894

Urgent
 Reply ASAP
 Please comment
 Please review
 For your information

Total pages, including cover: 2

COMMENTS

Please consider the impacts to the state and the artists in Alaska before cutting the IMA program.

Save The MIA Program

This program is essential and beneficial for the tourism and growth of the state of Alaska. It is a program we are all proud to be a part of.

Any cut backs in the MIA program would be harmful to and for the permit holders and citizens of Alaska.

We need our seal of approval, we are proud of it and work very hard to keep "State of the Ark".

Leo Hads
Lelo's Ceramics.



FELIX PAYDIRT'S GOURMET GOLD™

1890 Steese Highway
Fairbanks, AK 99712

Phone: 907-457-1120
Fax: 907-457-7774
www.felixpaydirt.com

March 6, 2000

ALL House Finance Committee Members

(Please see that this fax is distributed to ALL members of the House Finance Committee.)

Dear Committee Members:

I was born here in Fairbanks, I went to school here in Fairbanks, I built a home here in Fairbanks, I own a family based business here in Fairbanks. I am proud to be MADE IN ALASKA!

When I put my MADE IN ALASKA sticker on my product (an Alaskan gold panning kit), it says more than just those three simple words. It says, quality, authenticity, originality, it says pride, "Proud to be ALASKAN"

Your proposed budget cut will hurt my product tremendously, there are other similar products out there, but because of the MADE IN ALASKA program mine is unique, sales around the world reflect this uniqueness.

"Felix Paydirt's Gourmet Gold™ was developed for our children, so that they could attend college here in Fairbanks, build a home here in Fairbanks, create their own businesses and opportunities here in Fairbanks. When you take the money and funding away from our children and put it towards encouraging visitors to Alaska, 10 or 15 years from now who and what will these visitors be visiting? Our Alaskan children are leaving Alaska, because their future opportunities are being taken away from them.

I URGE you to reconsider this budget cut. Please continue to support Alaskans and their unique products. The future of Alaskan Tourism depends on it.

Sincerely,

Laura A. Marvin

From: David & Veronica Bennett
Eagle's Peak Glass Studio
P.O. Box 451
Tok, AK 99780

To: ALL House Finance Committee Members
House Finance Committee Office
Juneau, Ak
Fax # 907-465-6813

Dear Members,

We wish to express our dismay and concern for steps taken by your committee to cut all funding from the Department of Community and Economic Development which will eliminate the "Made In Alaska" program. This program, at a small relative cost, has a tremendous impact on the selling and marketing of Alaska products. We know from direct experience that tourists in particular look for the "Made In Alaska" sticker on our artwork. Additionally, the program helps to weed out those entrepreneurs importing goods and selling them as Alaskan products. Competition is stiff enough for the tourist dollar without the misinformation peddled by some dishonest people.

The program is clearly in line with the purposes of the DCEC. MIA has been a successful and inexpensive program for the state to fund. By funding the the new Alaska Visitor Industry Association to the tune of 100 times the amount required to maintain the existing, successful MIA program, we can only wonder at the motivations of your committee.

Can your committee quell the concerns of the 1300 or so members of Made In Alaska by assuring that the AVIA's use of \$50 million will somehow maintain the positive impact that the Made In Alaska program has been for us these last 5 or 6 years? Can you assure us that we will not be the chosen losers in this game of picking winners and losers? What will the AVIA do for those of us who have paid our dues for membership, used this program to it's fullest, and continue to do so? Will all those tourists that \$50 million will supposedly bring still buy from us without the assurance that what they are buying is truly ALASKAN?

Please re-fund the Made In Alaska program for all of us who work so hard to provide the tourists with unique choices only available in Alaska.

Thank you.

David & Veronica Bennett

Linda Vollertsen

From: Linda Vollertsen <mirow@alaskalife.net>
To: <House Finance Committee>
Sent: Sunday, March 05, 2000 1:03 PM
Subject: MADE IN ALASKA FUNDING

Linda Vollertsen
4871 Retriever Circle
Anchorage, Alaska 99502
(907)243-0535
mirow@alaskalife.net

House Finance Committee Office
(907) 465-6813 FAX

To All members of the House Finance Committee,

I am very concerned about the impact of cuts being made to the DCED budget. If these cuts are made it will eliminate the Made In Alaska program that is funded under the DCED budget. I have been a member of the Made In Alaska since its inception. This program is very important to my business' legitimacy as a true Made In Alaska product. We Made In Alaska members are competing with the large growing segment of items from China, Japan, Korea and elsewhere. This funding cut will mean no permits, no protection from logo misuse, no directory, no web site, and no promotions. This would also mean no state assistance for Alaskans who want to sell in foreign markets as it would eliminate the International Trade office.

I would like to know why Alaska is willing to spend Millions to attract tourists and yet eliminate the small percentage, 1% (\$50K) of the proposed budget to the Tourism Association, for the people of Alaska who make authentic Alaska products to sell to those tourists

Please review the proposed operating budget again and **KEEP** the funding for Made In Alaska at the level submitted in Governor Knowles' budget. We need this to be restored and protected now! Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,

Linda C. Vollertsen

**Igloo Arts and Crafts
3040 Concord Lane
Anchorage, Alaska 99502-3120**

**All House Finance Committee Members, please distribute
RE: "Made In Alaska" program**

Dear Finance Committee Members,

I am amazed that after so many years of trying to establish a program that guarantees residents and visitors that the crafts and products purchased here were actually made here, and you are actually considering abolishing this program ? Shame !

The "Made In Alaska" program has been promoted by all the tour/cruise companies, recommending their clientele that they should only purchase items with the "Made In Alaska" sticker.

As a soapstone carver, in the past, I have signed my carving with "Hand Carved In Alaska by Larry Eaton" but purchasers often bypassed my carving because they did not have the Made In Alaska sticker.

2

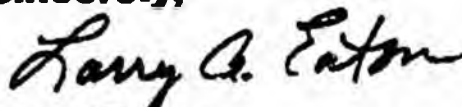
Without the Made in Alaska program, Alaska will be inundated with soapstone carved by duplicating machines in Seattle and imports from Asia.

This directly effects me and all and producers that live in Alaska.

I implore you to appropriate the necessary funding submitted by Gov. Knowles of 50K to insure that this program remains viable and that the budget funds be restored and protected .

You are about to spend millions to entice visitors to Alaska and without the Made In Alaska program, you must not leave them and Alaskans without the quality control of the Made In Alaska Program.

Sincerely,



Larry Eaton

Igloo Arts and Crafts

Soapstone Carver

907-248-0032

907-245-0039 Fax

iglu@alaska.net

web site: alaska.net/~iglu

Catherine Joan Petersen
Snowbuddies
9717 East Chichlagof Loop
Eagle River, Alaska 99577
(907) 696-3541 snowbuds@alaska.net

House Finance Committee Membership
House Finance Committee Office

4 March, 2000

A permit process to certify the authenticity of truly Alaskan products is absolutely essential to this state. The (exponentially growing) number of tourists who visit each year uniformly expect and look for souvenirs (whether expensive native crafts or more simple cottage industry products) which are not foreign made. Alaska is spending millions of dollars promoting tourism for our wonderful State. Why bring the tourists here and not complete the promotion process by funding the Made In Alaska program.

As a cottage crafter I personally sell to tourists all summer at Saturday Market and the first question they all ask is "Is this made in Alaska?" Those of us who subscribe to the Made In Alaska program take pride in displaying the familiar Mama and baby bear logo which authenticates our work but we also know there are many out there selling foreign made products with an "Alaska" stamp on them and pushing them as Alaska made. Without our "Made In Alaska" logo how is the average tourist to know which is truly an Alaska crafted product?

Steven Rouse of the Made in Alaskan program is a zealot in his quest to ensure that manufacturers outside our program do not misuse the Make It Alaska Logo. Without our logo and the Make It Alaska Program, artists such as myself have no protection against the competition of cheaply made foreign products which abound in the Alaska market place.

The current process is clear, effective, and has a "multiplier effect" in marketing our Alaskan products. We are a major part of the tourism industry.

The current process of individual artists and the public sharing the costs of this process is both fair and effective. Why fix something that isn't broken.

The proposal to eliminate funding is really discrimination against those who make up this unique crafts industry. Certification by the state, as you know, exists throughout many diverse industries - from seafood products to manufacturing - why attack this cottage industry and the many self employed vendors who depend for their livelihood on craft making.

Sincerely,

Catherine Joan Petersen
Make It Alaskan Permit Holder

Attn: Please Distribute to all Finance Committee Members

Krafts With Kare
 PO Box 871049
 Wasilla, Alaska
 99687-1049
 E-Mail
kraftswithkare@gsi.net

Facsimile transmittal

To: Entire Finance Committee	Fax: (907)373-4854
From: Kraftz With Kare	Date: 03/04/00
Re: MIA Funding Cut?	Pages: 1
CC:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urgent <input type="checkbox"/> For Review <input type="checkbox"/> Please Comment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please E-mail Reply <input type="checkbox"/> Please Recycle	

To the Members Of the finance committee who think it a good idea to cut funding of the "Make It Alaska" program..... picture this..... The phone rings, it's a tourist wanting to buy three dozen cute little dogsleds that they saw when on vacation in Alaskasaying they would be great souvenirs to send to folks down here to prove that they saw the start of The Kitarod sled dog race in Alaska, they were priced at \$100.00ea but considering that the sleds were "Hand Made" That's not a bad price.....The vendor having only paid \$15.00ea for the sleds was more than happy to give the couple a large discount for purchasing such a large amount...(he knocked the price down to \$75.00ea) And that he would cover the shipping to Florida himself...The couple received the sleds in good condition and sent them to all there friends.....a few days pass and one of their friends calls them from the airport in Minnesota wanting to know if \$35.00 is to much to pay for a genuine handmade Dog sled Like the ones they got in Alaska and that they were very cute did they want one to add to their collection ?The couple said sure that they would look good sitting on the fireplace Mantle ,When they got the one from Minnesota they found it to be the same as the ones they had purchased in Alaska?

Now I'll admit that some of the tourists that come to Alaska are kinda gullible but how many Sled dog races are held in Taiwan or China or Brazil, The "Made in Alaska" program is a watch dog for you and them.

Please reconsider your plan to cut the funding for them just to Boost the Funding for the "Alaska Visitor Industry Association" HHHMmmmm are they not one and the SAME!!!!!!! If we as voters ever figure out the way politicians think.....well I guess we'd All Be Politicians.....Lets see.....They can't feed themselves with their left hand so lets CUT OFF THE RIGHT ONE!!!!!!

Have a nice day...See you at Fur Rondy MUHAhahaha (I have a Dogsled for ya to buy HANDMADE....NS)
 KWK

MIA# 3954



END

**Twin Rocks Enterprises, Inc.
Cohoe Micro Bakery**

PO Box 1095
53780 Florence Ave.
Kasilof, AK 99610-1095

Phone/Fax - (907)262-1690
Email - karnikis@alaska.net

March 3, 2000

To:
House Finance Committee Office

Attention:
All Members of House Finance Committee

Regarding:
Funding Cuts for Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED)

Dear House Finance Committee,

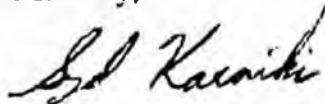
We would appreciate your continued support of DCED and its many valuable functions.

The "Made In Alaska" program assists small businesses such as ours by promoting Alaskan products. The well recognized "Made in Alaska" logo is an important aspect of our marketing and we are proud to display it on all our packaging.

The International Trade Office provides valuable assistance regarding the export of Alaskan products. Though we have not yet entered the international market, we have spoken with this office and received much needed information and insight into this important aspect of trade. We hope to use their services in the future as our business expands.

Thank you for ensuring that programs such as these remain available for all Alaskan businesses.

Sincerely,



Syd Karnikis
President - Twin Rocks Enterprises



KAWERAK, INC.

P.O. BOX 948 • NOME, ALASKA 99762

TELEPHONE: (907) 443-5231 • FAX: (907) 443-3708

- SEKVINU II IL
- VILLAGES OF:
- BREVIG MISSION
- COUNCIL
- DIOMEDE
- EUM
- GAMSHI
- GOLVIN
- KING ISLAND
- KOYUK
- MARYS IGLOO
- NOME
- SAVOUNGA
- SHAYTOOLIK
- SHISHMAREF
- SOLOMON
- STEBRINS
- ST. MICHAEL
- TELEK
- UNALAKLEET
- WALES
- WHITE MOUNTAIN

DT: March 3, 2000

FR: Branson Tungiyon
 Eskimo Heritage Program Director
 Kawerak, Inc.
 P.O. Box 948
 Nome, AK 99762

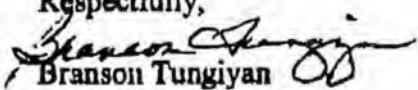
TO: House Finance Committee
 State Legislature
 Juneau, AK

RE: Letter of Protest on Longevity Bonus

Committee Members,

I am writing a Letter of Protest on behalf of the Kawerak Elders Advisory Committee to the Cuts that the Republican Majority have decided to the Longevity Bonus that our senior citizens have "faithfully earned" in our Great State of Alaska. Too long have the Republican led majority Legislature ventured into the heritage programs of the "True Alaskans" and made "Cuts" for the benefit of the Republicans "needs". It is not fair, nor will it be fair, for the House Finance Committee to cut \$1.75 million of the Longevity Bonus of those that got us to where we are today - the Senior Citizens of Alaska.

Please take this letter into consideration as a protest during the Public Hearing on Saturday, March 4, 2000 to the decision on the Longevity Bonus cut.
 Thank you.

Respectfully,

 Branson Tungiyon
 Eskimo Heritage Program Director

cc: Loretta Bullard, President, Kawerak, Inc.
 Eileen Norbert, Vice-President, Kawerak, Inc.
 Kawerak Elders Advisory Committee
 Files

FAX to House Finance Committee Office, All Members -
907-465-6813

To: All members of the House Finance Committee

I urgently request that the \$50K funding for the MADE IN ALASKA program in Governor Knowles' budget be restored and preserved! That amount is in general funds AND authorization for program receipts.

I am deeply concerned to hear that the LEGISLATURE would cut the DCED budget and thus eliminate the MADE IN ALASKA program. I am a self-employed computer builder AND I PROUDLY DISPLAY THE MADE IN ALASKA STICKER! My entire customer list looks for the Made in Alaska stickers on my products! This program is VERY POPULAR WITH THE PEOPLE OF ALASKA AND THE TOURISTS WE ATTRACT TO VISIT.

The benefit of this program for the self-employed VOTERS of Alaska, and the Tourism business goes way beyond the money invested by the Legislature. This is money well spent!

Why is Alaska willing to spend MILLIONS to attract tourists, to then turn around and eliminate the tiny amount that protects people who make authentic Alaska products to sell to those tourists!

The \$50K is less than 1% of what is planned to give the Tourism Association. In the long run YOU WILL ONLY UNDERMINE THE TOURISM INDUSTRY, if you eliminate this wonderful program! Please save the budget for the Made in Alaska program.

Sincerely,
Richard McCorkle
418 Baranof Avenue
Fairbanks, AK 99701

Note: Please deliver to EACH Member's office.

Thank you, RHM

Attention FINANCE COMMITTEE members
FAX: 465-6813
March 3, 2000



Finance Committee
State Capital Building
Juneau, Alaska

RE: FY01 Funding for the Made in Alaska Program

Gentlemen/Ladies of the committee

Glacier Scents is a small manufacturing firm located in Juneau. We've been in business for 4 years- and consider one of our proudest assets our Made in Alaska permit. I was born and raised in Fairbanks so believe that I can speak with a *great deal* of knowledge about Alaskan owned businesses. This permit sets us apart from any other business because we've had to prove that we do make our products here in this State. Because the program requires a business to substantiate their products many consumers look specifically for this symbol because they are assured that items have been made here, by Alaskan's and the money goes back into the local economies.

This is not my first business venture, but if you take away the vital funding for continued administration of the Made in Alaska program it may be my last. Our business creates, among other items; very high quality hand made candles. I have to compete against large impersonally manufactured products, many of which aren't even made in the USA. If you take away the funding for the program administration this symbol will become nothing more than "another symbol of a good Alaskan idea- dumped by bad choices of elected officials".

Please do not make a bad choice. A mere \$50,k in general funds and the continued authorization for using program receipts assures that this program will continue it's excellent work on behalf of business owners and Alaskan's. This money represents less than 1% of the intended funds to be issued to the Tourism Association. If we can't supply tourism with unique Alaskan made products and services, supported by a permitted symbol that REALLY means something, eventually they won't return.

Dawn Borjesson
Owner

**GLACIER SCENTS
JUNEAU, ALASKA
907/789-2222**

Fax to House Finance Committee Office, All Members.
907-465-6813

To: All members of the House Finance Committee

I urgently request that the \$50K funding for the MADE IN ALASKA program in Governor Knowles' budget be restored and preserved! That amount is in general funds AND authorization for program receipts.

I AM OUTRAGED, and extremely concerned to hear that MY LEGISLATURE would cut the DCED budget and thus eliminate the MADE IN ALASKA program. I am a self-employed herbal products and gift manufacturer AND I PROUDLY DISPLAY THE MADE IN ALASKA STICKER! My entire customer list would rebel if the Made in Alaska stickers were eliminated, or came to mean nothing!!!! This program is VERY POPULAR WITH THE PEOPLE OF ALASKA AND THE TOURISTS WE ATTRACT TO VISIT. It has worked hard to be very cost efficient. The benefit to the hard-working people of Alaska, and the tourism business is immeasurable and goes way beyond the money invested by the Legislature.

Why is Alaska willing to spend MILLIONS to attract tourists, to then turn around and eliminate the tiny amount that protects people who make authentic Alaska products to sell to those tourists! These people are YOUR CONSTITUENTS!! The people YOU were elected to represent and protect! Many, many visitors have expressed how much they depend on the Made in Alaska sticker for genuine Alaskan-made crafts when buying for themselves, and especially when buying gifts for family and friends. The \$50K is less than 1% of what is planned to give the Tourism Association. It is NOT ESSENTIAL to the Tourism Association's budget!! And in the long run YOU WILL ONLY UNDERMINE THE TOURISM INDUSTRY!! No MADE IN ALASKA program means the market will be flooded with cheap, imported gift items that will out-compete our Alaskan craftspeople and DESTROY 1000'S OF HOME BUSINESSES!!! Gifts from Alaska will become known as cheap and tacky and the only people benefiting from Tourism will be the cruise and buslines!!

Sincerely, Deborah Paetzhold McCorkle
418 Baranof
Fairbanks, AK 99701

Note: Please deliver to EACH members office.

Thanks. DPM

Hugh Darling

From: Hugh Darling <darling@seward.net>
To: <Representative_Eldon_Mulder@legis.state.ak.us>
Sent: Friday, March 03, 2000 10:22 AM
Subject: Made In Alaska

Dear Rep. Mulder:

Sweet Darlings is a three year old candy company which has grown tremendously since its inception and employs six people year 'round with a good outlook for future growth. We give a lot of credit to our MADE IN ALASKA program which is administered by Steven Rouse. Our tourists have become aware that any product bearing the "Bear Insigna" is a product this is truly made in Alaska.

If you do away with the funding for this program you will severely hurt many small Alaskan businesses and open the market further to those companies who are in the lower forty-eight and off shore. It will also send an important message to our visitors that we only want their money and do not care what products we have representing our State.

I realize that it is necessary to curb spending, but please, please let's not do so to the detriment of our own businesses and people. We must put our best foot forward to compete with the other states for the tourism dollar and believe me those visitors who come here are looking for products Made in Alaska - we must encourage more Alaskan businesses, not discourage them.

We also have a retail business, Brown and Hawkins, which has been doing business in Alaska under the same family ownership since 1900 - that's 100 years in business, so we are not newcomers to the State. When the summer visitors come into our store, they immediately ask where the Made in Alaska products are with the Bear insignas, as they have learned that is their assurance of an authentic gift.

Thank you for not cutting the funding for the Made In Alaska Program.

Sincerely,

Iris A. Darling

I attempted to e-mail this to you - am not certain it went through - Please help us with this as it is very important to our Alaskan manufacturers.

Iris A. Darling

FAX COVER SHEET

Lasertech Alaska
2341 Cinnabar Loop
Anchorage, AK 99507-3150

Date 03/03/00

Phone (907) 344-6677
Fax (907) 344-3772
e-mail: linda@lasertechalaska.com

Company Name: **House Finance Committee**
Contact Name: **All Members**
Fax Number: **907-465-6813**

Re: Request for reconsideration of cutting funds within DCFD; eliminating the "Made in Alaska" program

Dear Representatives:

I was notified that Gov. Knowles' budget level for the DCFD was chosen by the House to be cut so that the funding (\$50K approx.) for the Made in Alaska program would be entirely eliminated. I believe you would not even consider such a cut if you knew some of the important services this small amount of funding provides.


As a small business owner, 37 year resident of Alaska, commercial and residential property owner, I have personally seen the immense benefits this Made in Alaska program has provided to almost 1500 business owners. For example; our company began manufacturing a Tourist souvenir item last year made of Alaskan Birch. It was the hottest selling Tourist item in the State last year and will far eclipse last year's sales this coming year. This one product was so successful that, within 9 months, there were two "knock-off" imports that will compete with our Alaskan-made product this year. The only thing that sets our product apart is the fact that we are Certified Permit Holders of the MIA logo ("The Bears Logo"). If it weren't for the MIA program and the policing done by all of our staff and our members (of the non-profit, Make It Alaskan, Inc.); these Thailand and Chinese imports would not hesitate to put the MIA logo on their packaging and pass it off to our Tourists as something made by the Peoples of Alaska. It would kill our market! We also had our first "Web Hit" last year. The company on the East Coast were looking for "an Alaskan-made product" for a gift item for their customers. They ordered our gift item because they were assured it was authentic MIA. The dollar amount of this one order was almost 6-figures! We were also able to sell our products to a large, tourist-oriented company in the lower 48. We are doing special customization for their area and I was pleasantly surprised that the Purchasing Agent requested we leave the Made in Alaska logo on the tags!

I have been involved with the MIA and the non-profit Make It Alaskan, Inc., for over 10 years. I was also involved with the Alaska Manufacturers Assoc. prior to that (since 1977). In all these past years, this idea of promoting (with just a little help from the State) Alaskan-Made goods and services has been a "No-Brainer" for all its members who make their living manufacturing items from Boats to Minted coins; Tourist giftware and Seafood to Fine art; and who can forget that beer made in Juneau!

Cutting this program, this small amount that reaches so far into our community, would be outrageous and ill-advised!

Thank you for your time and assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,


Linda M. Schroeder
Co-owner/ Lasertech Alaska
Vice-President/Make It Alaskan, Inc.

PLEASE DELIVER THIS FAX TO ALL HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

March 3, 2000

I am submitting this letter to demand that funding for the MADE IN ALASKA program at the level submitted in Governor Knowle's budget be restored and protected. That amount is \$50 K in general funds and authorization for program receipts.

I am a permit holder with the MADE IN ALASKA program, and using the well-known MADE IN ALASKA logo increases the desirability of my product. Without this recognizable logo on my packaging, there is nothing to guarantee to my customers that my product *is* made in the state.

Without this program, once again, entrepreneurs who create authentic Alaskan products will be unprotected and will again have to wage an uphill battle against companies and retailers who bring in outside products that resemble Alaskan work. For years artists and craftsmen have combatted products that look and feel Alaskan but are made elsewhere. The MADE IN ALASKA program, like the Silver Hand program, protects your constituents and ensures that Alaskan-made products receive recognition and are differentiated from other items. The logo program is one way to satisfy our customers and promote Alaska.

We spend millions to make Alaska a desirable tourist destination. The \$50K for the MADE IN ALASKA program is less than 1% of what the state will give to the Tourism Association. Alaska is a popular place, and our visitors often request products made here. It makes no sense that we spend money to get people here and then give them no means of determining which products are made in the state.

Please fund the MADE IN ALASKA program with full funding.

Sincerely,

Natasha Zahn Pristas
D Street Designs
1026 D Street
Juneau, Alaska 99801
907/586-1454
pristas@alaska.net



ALASKAN CHOPPED STICKS

P.O. BOX 73203

Fairbanks, Alaska, USA

99707

March 3, 2000

Fax: (907) 490-5981 Voice: (907) 488-7422
E-mail: sales@akchopsticks.com

PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO ALL HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

To Whom it may concern:

I would like to express my concern, disapproval, and outrage that the impact of cuts to the DCED budget will eliminate MADE IN ALASKA. I clearly request that funding for MADE IN ALASKA at the level submitted in Governor Knowles' budget be restored and protected. That amount is \$50K in general funds.

MADE IN ALASKA is important to Alaska Chopstick Company. Very often we get feedback from tourists saying how nice it is that they can just look for the "Made in Alaska Bears" and know they have a product from Alaska. There is no question and its something they can trust.

Why is Alaska willing to spend MILLIONS to attract tourists and yet eliminate the tiny amount that protects people who make authentic Alaska products to sell to those tourists. The \$50K is less than 1% of what you plan to give the Tourism Association. When we go to trade shows "outside" we are very proud to be a "Made in Alaska" product and get only positive response because of it. The amount of imported (outside the United States) goods sold to the tourists industry is appalling. It doesn't represent our state very well if a tourist visits Alaska, buys presents to take home, to find out the product was made in Asia somewhere.

Not only will our product suffer if this program is cut but Alaska's reputation for quality made products will suffer too.

Thank you for the opportunity to be heard

M.A. Staton

M. A. Staton

Phone: (907) 488-7422

Fax: (907) 490-5981

Web: akchopstick.com

Fax Cover Sheet

Don's Wood and Craft Barn
17800 James Way, Eagle River, AK 99577
(907) 694-9668
(907) 694-9668 *9

Send to: House Finance Committee Office	From: Don's Wood and Craft Barn / Rowi Slifer
Attention: All Members	Date: March 3, 2000
Office location:	Office location:
Fax number: (907) 465-6813	Phone number: (907) 694-9668

Urgent Reply ASAP Please comment Please review For your information

Total pages, including cover:
Three

Comments:

MADE IN ALASKA funding cut and request to restore.

Don's Wood and Craft Barn
17800 James Way
Eagle River, AK 99577
(907) 694-9668

March 3, 2000

To all Members of the House Finance Committee.

I hereby ask strongly that the funding for **MADE IN ALASKA** (as it was submitted in Governor Knowles' budget in the amount of \$50K) will be restored and protected.

MADE IN ALASKA has grown to a strong tool for us Alaskan Crafters and producers! Last summer I overheard several people (tourists and locals) saying, that they have to look for the "Made-in-Alaska" sticker to make sure the merchandise was really made in the State. It was a pleasure to see customers choose our product over some cheaper merchandise that was imported from the lower 48.

Alaska itself is a small market place and we are fighting daily the big Wal-Marts, K-Marts, Pier Ones, etc. Now you want to take away that one tool that sets our merchandise apart from imported "stuff". Most of us buy our supplies locally and it is us, the small vendors and crafters, that keep the money in Alaska. Please don't forget: We are the small people that put you where you are now and we gave you our vote so you can represent us!

We need our **MADE IN ALASKA** for our unique merchandise and to get our share of tourist and local market. With all the publicity of the BP and ARCO merger you have forgotten us the Alaskan small businesses that rely on programs like **MADE IN ALASKA**.

Have you ever looked at a **MADE IN ALASKA** directory..... do you see how many of us are participating! Now you want to put us out in the cold! Wake up!!!! Keep Alaska's small businesses competitive and give us back our **MADE IN ALASKA** program!!!! It's still growing and we need it here in Alaska to survive in the small business world.

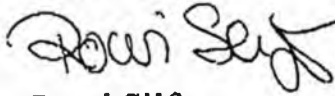
Page 2

Don's Wood and Craft Barn, 17800 James Way, Eagle River, AK 99577

PLEASE KEEP THE MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM ALIVE.

SUPPORT THE PEOPLE THAT VOTED FOR YOU AND RESTORE
THE \$50K IN GENERAL FUNDS AND AUTHORIZATION FOR
PROGRAM RECEIPTS.

Sincerely,



Rowi Slifer

Don's Wood and Craft Barn

Ron Wendt P.O. Box 870624 Wasilla, AK 99687 (907)376-4715

RE: MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM

ATTN:

To ALL House Finance Committee members

Please restore funding that was cut for the Made in Alaska program.

This program has been of great assistance to Made in Alaska members in promoting Alaska Made products & businesses. This is a small amount but has a great impact on tourism to our state. Its not asking too much to restore this tiny amount that does so well in impacting thousands of Alaskans.

Cutting back on tourism advertisement has cut down immensely on our businesses, we don't need another blow by the state. You can invest permanant fund monies to outside interests, surely you can invest in Alaskan businesses. We don't ask for much.

Thank You

Ron Wendt
GOLDSTREAM PUBLICATIONS
Wasilla, Alaska

FAX to: House Finance Committee Office
PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO ALL HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS.
Fax #: 907-465-6813

From: Dulce Ben-East and Michael East, Owners
Kahiltna Birchworks
Kahiltna Gold Birch Syrup
PO Box 13243
Trapper Creek, AK 99683
Phone/fax: 907-733-1309
Email: quietlake@matnet.com

To all House Finance Committee members:

I am writing to ask that the finance committee restore and protect the funding for the **Made In Alaska** program at the level submitted in Governor Knowles' budget. This amount is \$50,000 in general funds and authorization for program receipts.

As owner and operator of an Alaskan birch syrup business and president of the Alaska Birch Syrupmaker's Association, I cannot emphasize enough the importance of the **Made in Alaska** program to our business and to our industry. The labels on each of my products – and most of the products of association members - displays the **Made in Alaska** logo, and I know from our direct sales that tourists are familiar with and seek this symbol of guaranteed quality. Our retailers also request this symbol of authenticity. It seems absurd that the legislature, in order to fund a tourism -related industry, would disregard the symbol of Alaska's small manufacturers.

The **Made in Alaska** program has successfully helped to promote our business and industry through their website and publications over the past decade. It has helped to make our business healthy; and a healthy business has more need of Alaskan goods and services, in turn contributing to a healthy state economy and tourism industry. The program has also protected our business from outside manufacturers claiming to have an authentic Alaskan product that competed with our own. The **Made in Alaska** program guarantees the Alaskan authenticity that most tourists seek.

To delete this modestly funded program will hurt Alaskan businesses, making it easier for Outside competition to push it's way into our territory. Manufacturing In Alaska is extremely challenging and deserves continued support from the state. Please consider our contribution to a healthy Alaskan economy and do not withdraw the support given Alaskan manufacturers by the **Made in Alaska** program. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Dulce Ben-East
Michael East
Owners, Kahiltna Birchworks



5429 SHAUNE DRIVE • JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801 • 907/780-5866

Date: 3/2/00

FACSIMILE MESSAGE COVER SHEET

To: House Finance Committee Office
Alaska State House

*** Please distribute to All House Finance Committee Members

fax: (907) 465-6813

Following are 1 page(s) including this cover sheet.

Remarks:

URGENT!!! We have just been alerted that the MADE IN ALASKA program will be cut from state government oversight and funding. This program was funded at a level of \$50,000 annually along with authorization for program receipts. PLEASE DO NOT CUT THIS INVALUABLE PROGRAM! We have been a proud permit holder since our beginning in 1987, and this program helps protect authentic made in Alaska products such as ours. We have been asked countless times to brew our beer under contract in breweries in the lower 48. It would be much cheaper and cost effective, and those down south don't believe people would ever even know. But, we believe in this state and we believe in authenticity. The made in Alaska seal of the two bears is proof that we are not merely imitators of the real thing. Please help us continue to protect the good name of all things Alaskan!!! Please CONTINUE FUNDING THE MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM, EVEN AT THE CURRENT SMALL LEVEL OF \$50,000. We need STATE oversight, NOT visitor industry association oversight. PLEASE!?

From: Marcy Larson
Alaskan Brewing Co.
5429 Shaune Dr.
Juneau, AK 99801
Ph: (907) 780-5866
Fax: (907) 780-4514



Alatheia D. Clymer

P.O. Box 15002 • Fritz Creek, Alaska 99603
(907) 235-7553 or 235-8696
FAX 235-8245

March 2, 2000

To: **ALL** House Finance Committee members
Re: Made in Alaska, Inc.

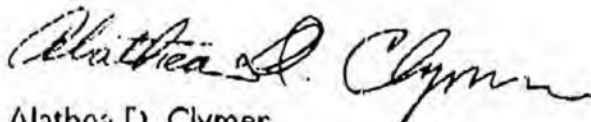
When the Made In Alaska program first started, it was a tremendous boost for our note card business. We have been active participants in the program ever since, and would not miss out on being part of the fall craft show at the Sullivan Arena.

The program has helped make people more aware of the genuine Alaskan-made products, and now **people look for the Made In Alaska logo on what I sell.** It has come to really mean something. I really appreciate this as an Alaskan. Cheap foreign imports, disguised as genuine Alaskan products, can be difficult to compete against. Both tourists and Alaskans appreciate knowing they are getting the real thing. This program has been very valuable for the craftsman, for the tourist, and for the Alaskan wanting to send genuine Alaskan articles as gifts stateside.

It has just been brought to my attention that there is a movement to totally wipe out the entire Made In Alaska program. I find this hard to believe. Do you realize what a valuable program you are trying to eliminate?

Please rethink this situation! The program needs the type of funding proposed in Governor Knowles' budget (which I understand is \$50K in general funds and authorization for program receipts). This program is important for tourism, and tourism is and should be an important part of Alaska's future.

Sincerely,


Alatheia D. Clymer

FAX 907-465-6813

3-2-00

House Finance Committee Office

To all members of the House Finance Committee:

I am very concerned and outraged that the impact of cuts to the DCED budget will eliminate the Made In Alaska program.

My livelihood is basket weaving and Made In Alaska has been promoting my business for many years and has been beneficial to my earnings.

Alaska is willing to spend millions to attract tourists and yet eliminate the small amount that protects people who make authentic Alaska products to sell to tourists, why?!?

No Made In Alaska program would mean no permits, no protection from logo misuse, no directory, no web site, and no promotion.

PLEASE DO NOT CUT THIS FUNDING!

Please distribute this letter to all the members of the House Finance Committee.

Sincerely,

*Penelope Cyr-Lorenson
Wild Iris Basket Designs
PO Box 3527
Kodiak Island, Alaska 99615*

DATE: March 3, 2000
TO MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE
RE: "MADE IN ALASKA" PROGRAM ----DCED BUDGET
FROM: P. ALVA AND MARIE REED
dba MASTERS TOUCH MANUFACTURING

I want each and every one of you to know what a disastrous impact your current quest to find funds for the new Alaska Visitor Industry Association will have on those of us who have chosen to live in Alaska, contribute to our communities and make our living by manufacturing something "MADE IN ALASKA"

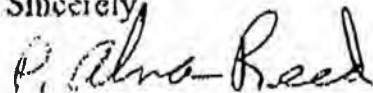
It should be obvious to most that if our logo and organization are taken from us through political process, those of us who identify with pride the fact that we live here, and are creative enough to make items available from Alaskan goods and labor will be gone, as well as a huge retail market place the tourists are coming here to see. Take a moment, and count the gift shops in any of our communities, and check out the makeup of the gifts they have for sale.

It's true, these same gift shop owners can purchase "look alike" from a foreign manufacturer, but the class and quality are gone. and gone too should be the pride of those who sit on these committees, that make decisions like this one, over a extremely small item like \$50,000.

I know that Gene Therriault is a Chair of this committee, and he is a neighbor here in North Pole who has derived his living for years working in a small business in our community. We personally urge him to reconsider his thinking on this issue, and reassure us that "MADE IN ALASKA" is critically important and cannot be cut in quest of funds for an association that the MADE IN ALASKA logo can only benefit.

Please call or come by at any time if constituency input is important to you individually or as a group in making your decision.

Sincerely,



P. Alva Reed
Owner

The Alaska Horse Directory

P.O. Box 871966
Wasilla, Alaska 99687-1966

March 2, 2000

State of Alaska
House Finance Committee Office
FAX: 907 465-6813

Dear Sirs;

I understand that you are considering cutting funding to the 'Made in Alaska Program.'

This will be my second year as a member of the "Made in Alaska" program. I am proud to be able to display their emblem on my product, an Alaskan publication.

I sought membership in this program because they promote Alaskan products. When shopping for Alaskan, I LOOK for the **Made in Alaska** emblem. It tells me I am not buying something made outside of Alaska and that my money is not leaving the state.

I was born in Alaska and feel that we already have too much money leaving the state that should remain here to build our economy. One positive way to help build our infrastructure is to promote Alaskan goods and services.

"Made in Alaska" is your program to do that very thing. It would be a big loss to eliminate the checks and balances that this program performs for the true Alaskan businessperson.

Please consider the long lasting consequences of eliminating the budget for this very worthwhile program.

Sincerely,

Judy Beckhorn-Ross
Judy Beckhorn-Ross, Editor
Alaska Horse Directory
(Proud to be an Alaskan)

Please deliver to all House Finance Committee members.

ALASKA WILD RIVER PRODUCTIONS, INC.
P.O. Box 210728
Anchorage, AK 99521-0728
907/338-1005
March 3, 2000

House Finance Committee Office
Fax 1/907/465-6813

Please distribute my letter to all House Finance Committee Members.

Dear Committee Members:

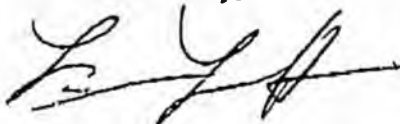
I understand that in an effort to find money to contribute to the new Alaska Visitor Industry Assn, your Committee has cut all economic development funds and related functions from the Department of Community and Economic Development.

Within that budget was \$50,000 earmarked for operation of MADE IN ALASKA. As you know, if that funding is not restored, there will be no oversight of MADE IN ALASKA which means no permits, no protection from logo misuse, no web site or directory and no promotion of the MADE IN ALASKA products. This would totally eliminate the valuable program which helps us market our Alaskan products locally, nationwide and even internationally.

I beg you to restore the funding for MADE IN ALASKA at the level submitted in Governor Knowles' budget (\$50,000 in general funds and authorization for program receipts).

Thank you for your support of this program which helps those of us who produce products in Alaska prove our authenticity, and shows our clients that we have a product worthy of their dollars. Help us keep bringing the dollars to Alaskan business owners, rather than supporting the import business with "wannabe" made in Alaska products.

Yours sincerely,



Linda L. Hill
Chief Financial Officer

www.alaskahuntingvideos.com

BCN**Adela W. Batin**
Publisher

March 2, 2000

To: House Finance Committee Office**FAX 907-465-6813****Please deliver to all House Finance Committee members****From: Adela Batin, Publisher, Alaskabooks****Alaska Angler Publications****Subject: MADE IN ALASKA program cuts**

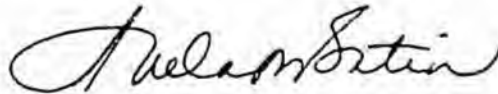
Why is the State of Alaska willing to spend millions of dollars to attract tourists and yet eliminate the tiny amount of \$50,000 that protects people who make authentic Alaska products to sell to those tourists? This \$50,000 is less than 1% of what the state plans to give the Tourism Association!!!

The Made in Alaska program was designed to encourage tourists to purchase items authentically made in Alaska, which in turn would keep the tourism dollars within the state. It directly supports and benefits local businesses, the majority of them small businesses upon which the state, and our nation is founded. Is this the way the state of Alaska chooses to support it's small businesses, by making cuts which directly affect their welfare and support? SHAME!!!

I am a lifetime Alaskan, who has been a small-business owner for over twenty years. I've published eight books on Alaska. As a photojournalist I publish my photographs in all the major outdoor/travel magazines. I promote the state of Alaska through my journalistic efforts, and I am in direct contact with the travel industry. I know that when people come to Alaska, they want authentic, original Alaska-made products.

The Made in Alaska program protects the visitor by providing the products they want and providing a guarantee. Most importantly, the integrity of the program adds value to the Alaska experience and the products that the visitor takes home with them. I urge you to support this valuable program and say **YES to continuing the financial support of the Made in Alaska program.**

Sincerely,



Adela Batin, Publisher

Alaska Angler* Publications
Alaska Angler* Public Relations
Alaska Angler* Photo Bank
Alaska Hunter* Publications
Alaska Angling & Hunting Library
Award Design

P.O. Box 82222
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709
Phone (907) 455-8222
FAX (907-455-6691

ACTIVE
MEMBER

~~TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE FINANCE COM.~~ TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE FINANCE COM.

IN REGARDS TO TAKING AWAY THE FUNDING TO THE MADE-
IN ALASKA PROGRAM. I AM NOT FAMILIAR WITH EACH
DETAIL, I JUST KNOW THAT THE FUNDING FOR THIS TIME
PROVIN, PUBLICLY RECOGNIZED PROGRAM WAS TAKEN AWAY
AND GIVEN TO A NEW TOURISM PROGRAM. THIS IS
UNACCEPTABLE, PLEASE RECTIFY.

TOM COOPER

907-262-9759

To: House Finance Committee Office
**PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO ALL HOUSE
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

It is my understanding that there is a proposal to drastically cut the amount of funds allocated to the Department of Community and Economic Development. As a result, the \$50,000 that would have been appropriated for the operation of the MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM will be cut - resulting in the end of the program.

I am very unhappy about this proposal - I am a registered participant in the MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM, (permit number 3435), and a large percentage of my product is purchased by tourists. Having the MIA logo on products is an important factor in tourist purchases - they feel better about buying something that was made here in the state, as opposed to Taiwan, and in many cases, without the MIA logo, there is no way to tell the difference.

I urge you to restore the monies allocated for the MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM - it amounts to less than 1% of the funds you will be giving to the Tourism Association, and it benefits MANY Alaskan Artisans and vendors. Please restore and protect the the \$50,000 in general funds and authorization for program receipts that was submitted in Governor Knowle's budget.

Thank you for your consideration.

Robin Hopper
Alaskan Musician and Artisan
MIA Member, #3435
PO Box 670549
Chugiak, AK 99567
email <njncer@alaska.net>
Tel. (907) 688-2032
Fax (907) 688-2032



CUSTOM KNIVES Made In Alaska Permit #4224
AND
FINE ART COLLECTIBLES

P.O. Box 326
Talaketa, Ak 99676
Phone (907) 733-4424
E-Mail: littlebighorn@gci.net

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE
RE: PROPOSED BUDGET CUTS

As a working artisan who makes my sole livelihood from my business, I was both appalled and outraged to hear, on very short notice that the House Finance Committee has recommended the cutting of all economic development funds and related functions from the Department of Community And Economic Development. As I understand it, this would totally eliminate the \$50,000 within that budget that is currently earmarked for the operation of the Made In Alaska (MIA) program.

This decision seems extremely paradoxical in that these funds are being eliminated in order to create \$5 million to fund the Alaska Visitor Industry Association. Though said Association I am sure would indirectly benefit those of us who make our living serving the tourists who visit our great state it simply does not make sense that you would go to such great lengths to encourage tourism on the one hand and then on the other hand cut an essential program such as MIA, whose sole purpose is to promote quality Alaskan made products for these same tourists to purchase when visiting.

The MIA program has gone to great lengths to educate tourists on the value of buying products made in Alaska. Countless times I have heard tourists who come into my shop complain about the abundance of cheap, imported items that abound in many of the gift venues. (I have been jokingly asked "Where is Tiawan, Alaska, anyway?") These tourists are eager to buy genuine Alaskan made products and many, many times I have been complimented on my working studio/shop. Tourists can not only purchase my goods, but can visit with me in my shop and watch art being produced. Many have made the comment that this experience is one of the highlights of their visit. Quite simply, tourists want to see and remember Alaska, not by some cheap imported quasi-Alaskan souvenir, but by taking home a genuine piece of Alaska. The MIA program helps the discriminating tourists make the right choices. More and more of them are looking for the MIA logo. When they see it attached to our products, they invariably choose them over the others. It is this kind of educated tourist who allows those of us artists and craftspeople to make our living doing the work that we love. Please do not short-change us or our valued customers by taking away such a valuable program just when its effects are becoming so evident. Should we lose the effects of the MIA program, the tourists you are trying so hard to attract are certainly going to enjoy a diminished experience while here. IS THAT WHAT YOU REALLY WANT?. If so, I for one find this unconscionable and question the value of your recommendation. The \$50,000 that you propose to cut is after all only 1% of the \$5 million that you seek to generate. NEVER before have I seen the potential for such a small percentage to make such a huge negative impact on the whole that your recommendation will do if implemented. Again I urge you to reconsider.

Yours in responsibly promoting Alaska, John W. Saily



CUSTOM KNIVES Made In Alaska Permit #4224
AND
FINE ART COLLECTIBLES

P.O. Box 326
Talkeetna, Ak 99676
Phone (907) 733-4424
E-Mail: littleblighorn@gci.net

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE
RE: PROPOSED BUDGET CUTS

As a working artisan who makes my sole livelihood from my business, I was both appalled and outraged to hear, on very short notice that the House Finance Committee has recommended the cutting of all economic development funds and related functions from the Department of Community And Economic Development. As I understand it, this would totally eliminate the \$50,000 within that budget that is currently earmarked for the operation of the Made In Alaska (MIA) program.

This decision seems extremely paradoxical in that these funds are being eliminated in order to create \$5 million to fund the Alaska Visitor Industry Association. Though said Association I am sure would indirectly benefit those of us who make our living serving the tourists who visit our great state it simply does not make sense that you would go to such great lengths to encourage tourism on the one hand and then on the other hand cut an essential program such as MIA, whose sole purpose is to promote quality Alaskan made products for these same tourists to purchase when visiting.

The MIA program has gone to great lengths to educate tourists on the value of buying products made in Alaska. Countless times I have heard tourists who come into my shop complain about the abundance of cheap, imported items that abound in many of the gift venues. (I have been jokingly asked "Where is Tiawan, Alaska, anyway?") These tourists are eager to buy genuine Alaskan made products and many, many times I have been complimented on my working studio/shop. Tourists can not only purchase my goods, but can visit with me in my shop and watch art being produced. Many have made the comment that this experience is one of the highlights of their visit. Quite simply, tourists want to see and remember Alaska, not by some cheap imported quasi-Alaskan souvenir, but by taking home a genuine piece of Alaska. The MIA program helps the discriminating tourists make the right choices. More and more of them are looking for the MIA logo. When they see it attached to our products, they invariably choose them over the others. It is this kind of educated tourist who allows those of us artists and craftspeople to make our living doing the work that we love. Please do not short-change us or our valued customers by taking away such a valuable program just when its effects are becoming so evident. Should we lose the effects of the MIA program, the tourists you are trying so hard to attract are certainly going to enjoy a diminished experience while here. IS THAT WHAT YOU REALLY WANT?. If so, I for one find this unconscionable and question the value of your recommendation. The \$50,000 that you propose to cut is after all only 1% of the \$5 million that you seek to generate. NEVER before have I seen the potential for such a small percentage to make such a huge negative impact on the whole that your recommendation will do if implemented. Again I urge you to reconsider.

Yours in responsibly promoting Alaska, John W. Saily



Thistleberries

P.O. Box 383
Willow, Ak 99688
Phone & Fax (907) 495-1008
E-Mail: thistleberries@gci.net

All Members of the House Finance Committee:

I would like to say "Thank You" on behalf of myself and artisan friends who have been proud sponsors of the Made In Alaska (MIA) program. Your vote of re-inserting the \$50,000 back into the budget to support the MIA program is greatly appreciated.

We artists, craftspeople and assorted artisans have come to realize, as well as our loyal visiting customers, the value of providing top quality authentic products made in Alaska by Alaskans. As an artist, I do my best to make the visitor knowledgeable on the Made in Alaska, the silver hands, and the Alaska grown logos. Explaining to them the importance of these logos and the guarantee each logo brings to them. By purchasing a product with any of these logos, assures them they have purchased a Made in Alaska product. They are not some cheap replica that has been imported for quick sales. All too often I hear, "We come to Alaska and want to purchase something made in Alaska, not something from China. We can buy that at home." I am not opposed to all import trade and realize the international composition of our customer base. For those businesses that choose to go this route with their products, that is their choice. But I feel that Alaska is deserving of only a genuine representation and try to do this by representing that sentiment in my products. In my place of business the tourist as well as the local customer prove to me that they support and respect my beliefs. Made in Alaska is so very important to them.

Thank You once again for your supporting votes concerning the MIA program. I look forward to your continued support of MIA.

Yours in Responsibility Promoting Alaska,

Ruth A. Holland
@ Thistleberries



**CUSTOM KNIVES
AND
ACCESSORIES**

P.O. Box 326
Talkeetna, Ak 99676
Phone (907) 733-4424
E-Mail: littlebighorn@gci.net

TO: ALL MEMBERS, HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

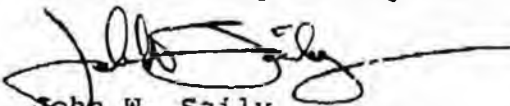
RE: MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM

Speaking for myself and on behalf of many artisan friends who are proud sponsors of the Made In Alaska (MIA) program, I would like to express my gratitude for your vote in favor of re-inserting into your proposed budget the \$50,000 necessary for continued funding of the MIA program.

We as artists, craftspeople and assorted artisans have come to realize, as have our loyal visiting customers, the value of providing top quality authentic products made in Alaska by Alaskans. Our products vary from foodstuffs to the very best in craft and fine art. In this day and age it is so easy and tempting to bow to the lure of importing cheapened reproductions of Alaskan products or products that can be easily disguised as "Alaskan", solely for the higher profits that can be gleaned. It is not that I and others are opposed to all import trade. Certainly we recognize the international composition of our customer base. Some businesses have opted for the imported goods market and we recognize that as their prerogative. But I, and others, feel that Alaska is deserving of only a genuine representation and try our best to represent that sentiment in our products. Certainly both our tourists and local customers do so also and their education and preferences in this regard do not go unnoticed by us who deal with them on a regular basis in our places of business.

In view of your recent vote I am both refreshed and hopeful that it is a vote of confidence in the MIA program. We who support MIA in our businesses take great pride in giving to our visitors a true taste of Alaska and feel adamantly that our great State deserves only the best of genuine representation. We trust that this vote of confidence portrays a like feeling on your part and I, for one, am grateful and look forward to your continued support of MIA.

Yours in Responsibly Promoting Alaska,


John W. Saily
Little Bighorn Custom Knives

Thistleberries
 Ruth A. Holland
 P.O. Box 283
 Willow, AK 99588
 Phone - (907) 485-1008
 Fax - (907) 485-1008

THISTLEBERRIES

Fax

To: House Finance Committee Office	From: Ruth A. Holland @ Thistleberries
Fax: (907) 485-8813	Pages: 2
Phone:	Date: 03/02/00
Re: Made in Alaska Program Cut	CC:

Urgent
 For Review
 Please Comment
 Please Reply
 Please Recycle

ATTENTION! ALL HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS!

I am requesting this be delivered to all House Finance Committee Members.

On March 01, 2000 it was brought to my attention that in order to accommodate a \$8 million budget for the NEW Alaska Visitor Industry Association, the Finance Committee has cut all economic development funds and related functions from the Department of Community and Economic Development. The Made in Alaska Program holds an essential part in this funding. I find this devastating to ALL of the individuals that have purchased the logo as well as retail store owners that have supported this program and based their calendar year sales accordingly. This decision is ludicrous!

It makes no sense whatsoever that Alaska is willing to spend MILLIONS to attract tourists to our state and yet eliminates the minimal amount of money that it takes to support the ONLY EXISTING PROGRAM that PROTECTS people who make authentic Alaska products to sell to these tourists. I was SHOCKED to know that \$50K is all the money this program is allotted in the first place!

Those of you in the House Finance Committee should attend a Saturday Market or Make It Alaska Show or talk to the tourist while here in our beautiful state. Maybe it would be a SURPRISE to you to gain the knowledge that Alaska Tourists, DO NOT repeat DO NOT want to take home a souvenir that says MADE IN CHINA on the bottom.

We have a state that STANDS OUT from the rest. Known for its beauty and diversity we have the opportunity to take the MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM even further. Many of the

March 2, 2000

artists that I have come to know and respect have battled and fought through their own personal struggles to give the visitors to this state a piece of Alaska Memorabilia to take home and remember their travels to the UNIQUE & DIFFERENT Land of the Midnight sun. As a permit holder in the Made in Alaska Program since 1987, I too have been one of those artists. Steve Rowe has believed in Alaska and its Vendors and Artists and gone that "Stop Above All The Rest" to support, promote and SAVE the Made in Alaska Program. We "The People" have supported, promoted and are WANTING TO SAVE this program through efforts of our own and are asking that the House Finance Committee NOT CUT the Made in Alaska Program!

Please, please, do your homework before such decisions are made... The loss of this program will devastate the individuals that have supported this program, not just financially as their means of supporting themselves and their families, but ALL retail outlets that promote Made in Alaska products as their sales base for this tourist season as well as seasons to come.

Please take a stand for "We the Made in Alaska permit holders". Believe in our talents and support our state and the opportunity we have at hand through the Made in Alaska Program to make it even BETTER! This program provides a net-working that can ONLY GET BETTER...

Sincerely,

Ruth A. Holland

© Thistleberries

permit # 3962



CUSTOM KNIVES Made In Alaska Permit #4224
AND
FINE ART COLLECTIBLES

P.O. Box 326

Talkeetna, Ak 99676

Phone (907) 733-4424

E-Mail: littlebighorn@gci.net

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

RE: PROPOSED BUDGET CUTS

As a working artisan who makes my sole livelihood from my business, I was both appalled and outraged to hear, on very short notice that the House Finance Committee has recommended the cutting of all economic development funds and related functions from the Department of Community And Economic Development. As I understand it, this would totally eliminate the \$50,000 within that budget that is currently earmarked for the operation of the Made In Alaska (MIA) program.

This decision seems extremely paradoxical in that these funds are being eliminated in order to create \$5 million to fund the Alaska Visitor Industry Association. Though said Association I am sure would indirectly benefit those of us who make our living serving the tourists who visit our great state it simply does not make sense that you would go to such great lengths to encourage tourism on the one hand and then on the other hand cut an essential program such as MIA, whose sole purpose is to promote quality Alaskan made products for these same tourists to purchase when visiting.

The MIA program has gone to great lengths to educate tourists on the value of buying products made in Alaska. Countless times I have heard tourists who come into my shop complain about the abundance of cheap, imported items that abound in many of the gift venues. (I have been jokingly asked "Where is Tiawan, Alaska, anyway?") These tourists are eager to buy genuine Alaskan made products and many, many times I have been complimented on my working studio/shop. Tourists can not only purchase my goods, but can visit with me in my shop and watch art being produced. Many have made the comment that this experience is one of the highlights of their visit. Quite simply, tourists want to see and remember Alaska, not by some cheap imported quasi-Alaskan souvenir, but by taking home a genuine piece of Alaska. The MIA program helps the discriminating tourists make the right choices. More and more of them are looking for the MIA logo. When they see it attached to our products, they invariably choose them over the others. It is this kind of educated tourist who allows those of us artists and craftspeople to make our living doing the work that we love. Please do not short-change us or our valued customers by taking away such a valuable program just when its effects are becoming so evident. Should we lose the effects of the MIA program, the tourists you are trying so hard to attract are certainly going to enjoy a diminished experience while here. IS THAT WHAT YOU REALLY WANT?. If so, I for one find this unconscionable and question the value of your recommendation. The \$50,000 that you propose to cut is after all only 1% of the \$5 million that you seek to generate. NEVER before have I seen the potential for such a small percentage to make such a huge negative impact on the whole that your recommendation will do if implemented. Again I urge you to reconsider.

Yours in responsibly promoting Alaska, John W. Saily



'OOMINGMAK'
MUSK OX PRODUCERS' CO-OPERATIVE
604 H Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907) 272-9225

March 2, 2000

TO: All Members of the House Finance Committee

FROM: Sigrun C. Robertson

We have learned that all the funds related to economic development and related functions are being cut from the Department of Community and Economic Development, and we wish to express our disapproval. Particularly concerning to us are that the funds for MADE IN ALASKA, a very successful program, are completely eliminated.

MADE IN ALASKA is an important program to small business such as ours, in that it clearly helps the buying public identify products that are Made in Alaska. This program has been valuable in establishing authentic Alaskan goods, and distinguishing them from cheap imitation products, stamped with Alaska, made abroad or elsewhere in the United States.

Our understanding is that the cut was made to finance the marketing of Alaska for the tourism industry, which certainly is an important project, if we wish to prosper from the large renewable resource, tourists. However, a cut to the MADE IN ALASKA program would be very detrimental, since it would take many of those same tourist dollars generated by the tourism marketing effort and sending them outside of Alaska, rather than circulating them in Alaska to grow the economy.

PLEASE GIVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO FUNDING THE MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM.

Please restore the funding
to our Market Access Program.
This helps our candle business
and promotes Alaska.

We are able to make
business contacts through our
Program.

We really need the program
to promote Alaska products
made in Alaska not foreign
countries.

You attract tourists from around
the country and they spend tourist
dollars on products made in Alaska.

Thanks
Vera Delgado #4180

907-248-2041

Cameron Birch Syrup & Confections, Inc.

1265 Seward Meridian Road

PO Box 872090

Wasilla, Alaska 99687-2090

Ph 907-373-6275 Fax 907-373-6274

<http://www.birchsyrup.com>

March 2, 2000

To: House Finance Committee

For distribution:

Eldon Mulder
Alan Austerman
John Davies
Richard Foster
Carl Moses
Bill Williams

Gene Therriault
Con Bunde
Gary Davis
Ben Grussendorf
Gail Phillips

Fax: 907-465-6813

RE: Budget Cuts/Made in Alaska Program

I understand that the proposed budget cuts will in effect eliminate the current Made in Alaska program. In view of the fact that the Finance Committee wishes to contribute a large amount of funding to the Alaska Visitor Industry Association, it seems inappropriate at least and absurd at most to disregard such a significant element of our tourism industry—the recognized and respected symbol of products truly made here in Alaska.

This year Cameron Birch Syrup is celebrating its 10th anniversary—*"Tapping Into 2000"*—and our success in large part has been due to enthusiastic support from the state and exposure through the Made in Alaska program. We are a leader in Alaska's birch syrup industry which now claims seven commercial syrupmakers throughout the state. Our products are marketed in-state and out of state, and we are currently negotiating a five-year contract with a major European distributor of health and nutrition products for all the syrup we can produce. In addition, I am being "tapped" for speaking engagements at international conferences and for consulting with potential birch syrup producers in Canada.

As everyone knows, manufacturing in Alaska is more challenging than in any other state, and yet small businesses make up a large part of Alaska's economy. The Alaskan spirit is alive and well; the state should be proud of that and should actively protect and promote its native products. Competition is tough from products made outside the state and country that trade on the Alaskan name and image.

I urge you to restore funding in the budget specifically for the Made in Alaska program, \$50,000 in general funds (no increase from prior years) and authorization for program receipts. Don't sell out Alaskan manufacturers to Outside businesses.



Marlene Cameron, President
CAMERON BIRCH SYRUP & CONFECTIONS, INC.

Norma & John

From: Norma & John <daniels@customcpu.com>
To: <Representative Eldonmullder@legis.state.ak.us>; <RepresentativeGeneTherriault@legis.ak.us>
Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2000 1:25 PM
Subject: MADE IN ALASKA ??

Is that made in Alaska ?? The tourist asks, but no question when it " is "labeled " Made in Alaska" It seems that over the past 20 some years of being in business it Does concern the tourist !!

As owner of the Alaska Doll & Ornament Co. and a member of Made In Alaska Program since it started; it has come to my attention that as of June the program may cease , and all the hard work to get the program to where it is today will be lost !! This is a very important part of the tourism industry and has been overwhelmingly accepted in the state . The program assists many business with the tools to sell their items on a website, The Product Directory , and being protected by with labeling of products!! and acts as a watchdog for products that are not produced here ; and labeling them as though they were. Alaska business needs this protection. This Program

is only a fraction of the budget and should not be eliminated !!

We small business owners are proud of our state and Proud of our products and our elected officials should keep the program in tact as to promote small business , and help preserve the livelihoods of the families that depend on tourism in our state !!

On behalf of all who haven't had an opportunity to E-mail or get a hold of any of you I would like you to reconsider not funding " Made in Alaska" . Steven Rouse needs to be commended on the achievements that the program was intended to do, and should be given the support of the State Officials !!!!

Will you please distribute this to all the Members of the House Finance Committee TODAY !!

It is for the commongood of Small business in Alaska

Sincerely,

Norma Daniels
Small business owner

03/02/2000

Creations by Teri

"Gifts from the Heart"

6867 Markgraf Street

Salcha, Alaska 99714

1-888-480-9466



(907)488-9466

byteri@ptialaska.net

www.creationsbyteri.com

March 2, 2000

To: House Finance Committee

It has just been brought to my attention that the Finance Committee has cut all economic development funds and related functions from the Department of Community and Economic Development. Within that budget was the \$50,000 earmarked for operation of MADE IN ALASKA. As an Alaskan artisan who depends on tourist dollars every year to keep her business up and running I cannot begin to express my dismay, concern and outrage! To eliminate this program means letting manufacturers send their second rate copies of Alaskan made art and crafts into our state, which will successfully destroy the income of many Alaskan artists, artisans and crafters. Visitors to our state come here looking for authentic Alaskan artwork; not something which was manufactured overseas and is usually of poor quality. Just think how you would feel if you bought something to commemorate your visit to a special place and it fell apart after you got it home. For ever after you would be left with the impression that products made in Alaska were cheap and therefore, Alaskan's were only out to get your money - take you for a "ride", so to speak. Is this conducive to the tourist trade you are trying so hard to increase? Why you spend millions of dollars to attract tourists and at the same time cut the only program which assures them of authentic, quality merchandise is totally beyond comprehension. Our visitors are very interested in our art and culture and have a strong desire for authenticity. I receive many requests for my specific location so they can visit simply because of that little sticker which assures them my products were, in fact, Made In Alaska.

I am terribly concerned that the impact of cuts to the DCED budget will eliminate MADE IN ALASKA and am requesting that funding for MADE IN ALASKA, at the level submitted in Governor Knowles' budget, be restored and protected. That amount is \$50K in general funds AND authorization for program receipts.

Please support us in our effort!

Sincerely,

Leslie K. Kozeluh

March 1, 2000

To All House Finance Committee Members:

I am a member of the Made In Alaska program and have just learned of the cuts to all economic development funds and related functions from the Department of Community and Economic Development which includes \$50,000 earmarked for operation of the Made In Alaska program. If that funding is not restored, the entire program will be eliminated.

I ask that funding for Made In Alaska be restored and protected at the level submitted in Gov. Knowles' budget. That amount is \$50,000 in general funds AND authorization for program receipts.

The Made In Alaska program is very important to the people of this state, even those who are not members. It promotes the state through sales of items produced by Alaskans. Many of these items go outside the state, even outside the country, and each time those items are viewed, the Made In Alaska logo is there to remind viewers of the items' origins.

It doesn't make sense that funding for Made In Alaska will be taken away only to be given to the Alaska Visitor Industry Association. What is the point of spending millions of dollars to attract visitors while eliminating a very small amount of money that would protect Alaskans who make products to sell to those very visitors? \$50,000 is a pittance for what it accomplishes.

If there is no Made in Alaska program the following will undoubtedly happen:

1. People will have no idea if items they purchase are made in Alaska or not.
2. Products from out of state and out of the county will be imported and passed off as Alaskan-made with no policing. Sales of these fakes will cut into the sales of items truly made by Alaskans.

When you visit a place, do you not look for items specific to that place to take home for yourself and others to continue to remind you of the uniqueness of that place? I'm sure we all agree that Alaska is a special place and should be promoted and kept as that.

Thank you for taking the time to read my plea to restore funding for the Made In Alaska program.


Megan Pasternak
Made In Alaska program member
Box 830
Sitka, AK 99835
(907) 747-5943
mwpstnk@ptialaska.net



Abeare Photography

Arne Grisham

P.O. Box 888 Kenai, Alaska 99661

March 2, 2000

To all House Finance Committee Members:

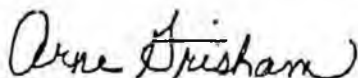
I am very concerned and outraged about the proposal to cut the funding for operation of Made In Alaska. This is a very important program for the State of Alaska and all the people who participate in it.

Abeare Photography is a very active participant in this program. We take pride in the fact that all of our products are 100% Made In Alaska. This program is important to all those who participate and the level submitted in Governor Knowles budget of \$50.K needs to be restored and protected.

Authentic Alaskan products are important to the State of Alaska and the people who purchase them and we need all of your help to keep this program on track.

I, for one, am very tired of seeing so called Alaskan products with labels stating they are made in China, Korea, Taiwan, etc.

Thank you for your time.



Arne Grisham
Abeare Photography
Made In Alaska permit #3841



TO: All Members
House Finance Committee FAX: 907-485-8813

FROM: Jerry /Leslie Gustafson FAX: 907-488-2551
White Spruce Enterprises, Inc. PHONE: 907-488-3004

DATE: March 2, 2000

SUBJECT: Made In Alaska NO. OF PAGES: 1

Dear House Finance Committee Members:

I would like to address my concern with the decision to eliminate funding for the MAKE IN ALASKA program.

This program protects people who make authentic Alaskan products to sell to tourists as well as to Alaskans. This could allow any person, using any products, to market them as Alaskan—which is a deceiving practice and will be done without a program implemented such as MADE IN ALASKA. The \$50,000 earmarked for this operation is worth the investment to the goods made in Alaska and marketed as such.

Please support the level submitted in Governor Knowles' budget—that amount of \$50,000 in general funds and authorization for program receipts.

We run a small sawmill operation producing house logs, as well as rough lumber. We have a growing value-added market of storage bams, garages, and frame cabins. It is important to us to market it as MADE IN ALASKA. (see www.whitespruce.com)

Thank you for reviewing this decision.

Sincerely,

Leslie Gustafson
Vice President

WHITE SPRUCE ENTERPRISES, Inc.
10293 Old Valdez Trail
Salcha, AK 99714
www.whitespruce.com
whitespruce/?mosquitonct.com

SUPERIOR PRODUCTS INC.

Creator and Maker of ALASKAN MADE Pre-Cut Log Systems

SUPERIOR LOGSTM

March 2, 2000

To: House Finance Committee Office
 Attention: ALL Committee Members
 FAX # 465-6813

From: Jerry Green of Superior Products, Inc. & *Superior Logs*
 FAX # (907) 345-0323 CELL # (907) 244-7476 OFFICE # (907) 345-3323
 E-mail: alaskalog@gci.net Web site: alaskamall.com/alaskalog
 # Pages: 1

Subject: Made In Alaska program budget cuts

Dear Committee Members,

As the Alaskan manufacturer of pre-cut *Superior Logs* since 1983, I have watched the "Made In Alaska" program grow to become a viable presence & advocate for the Alaskan entrepreneur.

I have been informed you plan to do away with this low cost, high affect program. I have found a great deal of misrepresentation by Lower 48 log manufacturers & dealers presenting themselves to our Alaskan public as Alaskan products using the "Made In Alaska" symbol over the years. Through the efforts of the "Made In Alaska" program, this has been successfully stopped, but you want to bring it back.

The "Made In Alaska" program efforts protect the Alaskan manufacturer, artists, fabricator, craftsperson & agricultural businesses from outside misrepresentation of what actually is an ALASKAN PRODUCT. One of the reason tourists come to Alaska is for authentic Alaskan products which NOW seem to be in jeopardy.

I have provided projects for Princess Tours, ARA Denali Parks Hotel, ERA Aviation, Residence Inn, lodge owners, lenders & many tourism providers. They all make note of the "Made In Alaska" logo we display in our literature & ads.

The current combination of private & State participation in the "Made In Alaska" program is excellent & inexpensive. You are now creating a very, very serious business breech for the "true" Alaskan creator.

I request you reinstate this program immediately & let me know by email, fax or tel # with the result. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter in advance.



"Simple yet SUPERIOR"

PHONE (907) 345-3323
 FAX (907) 345-0323

MAILING: P.O. 11046E
 ANCHORAGE, AK
 99511-046E

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee,

I formally request that the funding for MADE IN ALASKA at the level submitted in Gov. Knowles budget be restored and protected. That amount is \$50K in general funds and authorization for program receipts.

My name is Caroline Gutierrez, sole proprietor of Beads by Caroline, a small cottage industry located in Hyder Alaska. I just returned from trip south where I had my first booth at the Seattle Gift Show. There I learned there the importance of my little MADE IN ALASKA bears. Alaskans support Alaskans! I will probably skip the Seattle Gift Show next year and only attend the Anchorage Gift Show.

Could you tell me why Alaska is willing to spend millions to attract tourists yet eliminate the tiny amount that protects people, like myself, who make authentic Alaskan products to sell to those tourist? Surely less than 1% of that which is slated for the Tourism Association can be spared for a program so important to Alaskans. I should hate to see Alaskan artists suffer the indignities of artists in states like Arizona, where mass-produced, imitation artwork is passed off the "Real Deal". Those two little bears are my protection from those who would do that here, and I charge that you *must not* allow that to happen!

Most humbly and sincerely,


Caroline Gutierrez
Alaskan Artist

March 02, 2000

Summit Windows and Doors, Inc.
7950 King Street
Anchorage AK 99518
phone: 907-522-7757
fax: 907-522-7457

DELIVER TO: ALL MEMBERS of the House Finance Committee Office
fax: 907-465-6813


RE: Funding for the MADE IN ALASKA Program

We, at Summit Windows and Doors, Inc. are extremely displeased and concerned at your proposed cut in funding of the MADE IN ALASKA program . As a long time permit holder, we want to encourage you to re-think the decision to eliminate the \$50,000.00 in order to come up with funds for the new Alaska Visitor Industry Association.

The MADE IN ALASKA program is essential in assuring consumers that they are getting authentic products manufactured in our state. Without this program, there will be NO way to identify Alaska-made products, which will affect consumers when making purchase decisions.

Again, we ask that you restore the \$50,000.00 in general funds and authorization for program receipts, as submitted in Governor Knowles' budget. This amount is a mere fraction of a percentage of which you are willing to spend on the Tourism Association.

Alaskans prefer MADE IN ALASKA products. Legislators should support Alaskan manufacturers who employ workers, pay taxes and vote!



Stewart Barnes
President

From: John Lucas <jlucas@ptialaska.net>
To: Representative_Eldon_Mulder@legis.state.ak.us
<Representative_Eldon_Mulder@legis.state.ak.us>
Date: Thursday, March 02, 2000 9:23 AM
Subject: Made In Alaska Program.

Dear Sir. We would like to express our concern, disapproval and outrage over the impact of cuts to the DCED budget that will eliminate the Made in Alaska program. We are requesting that the portion of Gov. Knowls budget be restored and protected of which \$50K in general funds and authorization for program receipts be included.

We are a small business just starting up, producers of Alaskan berry wines. We will rely on the tourist trade of which the state has spent millions of dollars promoting. In the few months we have been in business we have already received inquiries from out of state residence thru the Made in Alaska program. We feel the cuts will have a great detrimental impact on small businesses in Alaska.

respectfully John and Judy Lucas
Kodiak Island Winery
P.O. box 5630
Chiniak Ak. 99615

P.S. please forward this to all House Finance Committee members.

3/2/00

Wilderness Inspirations™

*Targeted Electronic Marketing:
Custom Screensavers
Electronic Postcards
Custom Cardshops*



P.O. Box 190647
Anchorage, Alaska 99519
TEL. (907) 248 9916
FAX (907) 248-8589
e-mail: swimages@alaska.net
<http://www.swimages.com>

March 1, 2000

House Finance Committee Office
Attention: all House Finance Committee members.

My husband and I have owned a wildlife photography business for 12 years. Our work has been carried in the gift shops of the Smithsonian Museum, Yellowstone National Park, Zion National Park, the Columbus Zoo, the Santa Barbara Zoo, the Anchorage Zoo, the Anchorage Museum of History and Art, the Alaska Natural History Association, countless gifts shops within Alaska, and, more recently, worldwide through our Web site over the Internet. Our work, promoting Alaska as a tourism destination, has been featured in national ad campaigns that have appeared in National Geographic, Life, Smithsonian, Newsweek, Sports Illustrated, Field and Stream, People and Alaska Magazines as well as The Washington Post, and The New York Times. Our photos have graced the covers of books, calendars, notecards, and videos that can be found in every gift shop in this State.

For years, we have depended on the MADE IN ALASKA program, especially its trade show, to help us grow our business and make the contacts that have lead us to the success we now enjoy. Therefore, we are outraged that the House Finance Committee members have chosen to cut the DCED budget and eliminate MADE IN ALASKA program. We ask that you restore the funding for MADE IN ALASKA at the level submitted in Governor Knowles' budget and protected it from future assaults. We understand the amount is \$50K in general funds AND authorization for program receipts.

Why is Alaska willing to spend MILLIONS to attract tourists and yet eliminate the tiny amount that protects people who make authentic Alaska products to sell to those tourists? The \$50K is less than 1% of what the House Finance Committee is planning to give the Tourism Association.

We urge you to reconsider your shortsighted approach to this issue, and restore all requested funding to the MADE IN ALASKA program immediately,

Sincerely,

Dorothy and Leo Keeler

ALASKA WILD BERRY PRODUCTS
 5225 JUNEAU STREET • ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99518
 PH. (907) 562-8858 FAX (907) 562-5467



DATE: March 2, 2000

TO: **House Finance Committee**
 Representative Eldon Mulder, Chair
 Representative Gene Therriault, Co-Chair
 Representative Con Bundc, Vice-Chair
 Representative Alan Austerman
 Representative Gary Davis
 Representative Richard Foster
 Representative Gail Phillips
 Representative Bill Williams
 Representative John Davies
 Representative Ben Grussendorf
 Representative Carl Moses

FROM: **Peter G. Eden, President and Owner, Alaska Wild Berry Products**

As the owner of Alaska Wild Berry Products, an Alaskan business that manufactures products in Alaska, employs over 80 Alaskans during tourist season, and attracts tourists to our great state, I request that you restore \$50,000.00 of development funds earmarked for the MADE IN ALASKA program to the Department of Community and Economic Development.

It has come to my attention that in an effort to contribute \$5 million to the new Visitor Industry Association, the House Finance Committee has cut all economic development funds and related functions from the budget of the Department of Community and Economic Development. Included in the funds cut was \$50,000.00 designated for the operation of MADE IN ALASKA.

Without MADE IN ALASKA, Alaskan manufacturers will have no protection from logo misuse, there will be no permits, and no promotion of products made in Alaska. Promoting Made In Alaska Products supports Alaskan manufacturers and serves to stimulate the state's economy by employing Alaskans.

Additionally, there are many products on the market in Alaska that imitate and/or represent to be products made in Alaska. Alaskan manufacturers, employing Alaskan citizens, and promoting the growth of the economy of the State, are unable to compete with products manufactured outside the State of Alaska. Based upon the higher cost of manufacturing in Alaska, imitation Alaskan products can be manufactured outside Alaska that use the name "Alaska," and sell for a lower price. As such, imitation Made In Alaska products are more attractive to tourists, and outsiders. Without MADE IN ALASKA to protect Alaskan manufacturers our viability in the Alaskan marketplace will be destroyed.

House Finance Committee
March 2, 2000
Page 2 of 2

It is imperative to Alaskan manufacturers that funding for MADE IN ALASKA be restored and protected at the level submitted in Governor Knowles budget, \$50,000.00 in general funds, and authorization for program receipts.

If the House Finance Committee is unwilling to restore the budget, I respectfully request an explanation regarding why the legislature is willing to spend millions of dollars to attract tourists to our state, yet eliminate the minimal amount of funding that goes far to protect the manufacturers of authentic Alaskan products. Please note, \$50,000.00 is less than one per cent of the budgeted amount that will be given to the Tourism Association.

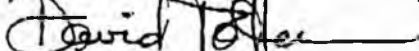
March 1, 2000

To: All Members, House Finance Committee

From: David Totten

Ref: Made In Alaska Funding

I am the owner and sole artist at Willow Wildlife Art Gallery at Mile 85 on the Parks Highway, north of Willow. I have been a member of Made In Alaska (MIA) for several years and am appalled that you would consider cutting funds for such a necessary organization. Many of our visitors are from outside of Alaska and tell us that they appreciate knowing the products in my shop are made here in this state. This is assured by the two-bear logo of MIA. The amount of MIA funding is small compared to the projected funding to the new Alaska Visitor Industry Association and there is no reason that it could not be included in those funds. Please continue to protect the artisans and craftspeople of Alaska and their patrons from the influx of products from other countries.



David Totten, Willow Wildlife Art Gallery

Phone: (907) 495-1090

Fax: (907) 495-5811

FAX COVER SHEET

TO: State of Alaska, House Finance Committee

ATT: Members

FAX #: 907-465-6813

FROM: NANCY BORG

COMPANY: NOMAD ART AND DESIGN

FAX #: 907-333-1347

PHONE #: 907-333-1146

DATE: 3-3-2000

PAGES: 1
(INCLUDING COVER)

NOTES:

Why does the state of Alaska spend millions to attract visitors & yet eliminate the tiny amount spent to protect people who make authentic Alaskan products to sell to those tourists? This makes NO sense! Please restore funding to the Made In Ak. program. Nancy Borg

N
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A
D

A
R
T
&
D
E
S
I
G
N



To: *The Finance Committee*
<Representative_Eldon_Mulder@legis.state.ak.us>, <Representative_Gene_Therriault@legis.state.ak.us>, <steven_rouse@makeitalaska.com>
From: Shadow Mountain Trading Company <shadowmountain@worldnet.att.net>
Subject: MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM
Cc:
Bcc:
Attached:

Page 1 of 2

Fifty thousand dollars - \$50,000 - an extremely low price for the benefits we, as Made in Alaska Permit Holders, receive through the Made in Alaska Program. Shadow Mountain Trading Co. is run by two Permit Holders, and we sell art and products made by 29 other permit holders from Alaska.

Our store is on the cruise ship dock here in Ketchikan, and we have noticed over the past two years (especially), that the **cruise lines are educating their passengers about the special value of Made In Alaska-marked products.** They are telling their people that if they want the "real thing", be sure to look for the Made in Alaska symbol or the Silver Hand symbol. Our visitors are not dumb, as some storekeepers in the past liked to believe. We receive comments daily from Summer visitors that its nice to see so much "real stuff" all in one place (at our store) after going through store after store full of imported curios. I have witnessed customers rejecting an item that does not carry the symbol for one that does - in my own store!

I remember when the program was begun back in the 80's - it sounded so great.. then it went through its growing pains, with good ideals but little enforcement, and other "development" problems. Although I've never told them directly (and I should have), the Non-profit (Steve Rouse) and the \$50,000 per year that keeps this program running has made **Alaska-made products finally stand out** among the foreign-made imported tourist "stuff" - we're **finally recognized and preferred.**

Now that **it is a viable, workable, extremely cost-effective and valuable program,** please, please, don't kick the bucket out from under us now! I know there's a budget crunch! Look at the statistics a little - unemployment is rampant in Southeast, tourism is the only growing industry, small businesses make up the majority of business (period!) in Alaska... "Little people" like us, the Alaskan artist and crafter (and there are very very many of us) use the Made in Alaska to help with product advertising (through its website and its product catalogue), we use the stickers to identify our products, there are real enforcements going on after people who abuse the use of the symbol, and frankly, now people finally recognize it and look for it - why "kill" it? Many of our 29 artists use their Alaska-made art to augment their family income - it's their "other job"! Cutting the program will make their work less valuable in a short time as the "vultures and liars" again start telling the innocent visitors that , *"of course, my dear, everything here is made in Alaska"*. Like I said, our visitors aren't dumb - and they leave with a real sour taste for Alaska and Alaskans in general when they know they've been lied to and cheated. Most of all, most of the artists would have to give up their "part-time" jobs of making art - and that's the biggest shame of all.

Page 2 of 2

Fifty thousand dollars - its not just a couple of guys you feed to stand around -- this non-profit has worked their fannies off for us! I urge you - **line item them out of this budget cut - they're in a "different category" that is not only using their funding well, but stretching it out.** Quite literally, for every dollar that has gone into them, like seeds, they've sprouted, nurtured and grown better things. The program is over the "development hump" - it's sailing -- Please, don't pull the plug and make us all go down....

Arilee Carlson and Terry Davis
along with 29 other Made in Alaska artists
in and around Ketchikan and Southeast Alaska

907-225-6619

FAX TO: House Finance Committee ATTN: ALL MEMBERS 907-465-6813

FROM: Denali Dreams Soap Company

March 3, 2000

Topic: Made in Alaska

Dear House Finance Committee:

As a small business in Alaska, we are very concerned that the cuts to the Department of Community and Economic Development budget will eliminate the MADE IN ALASKA program. We rely on MADE IN ALASKA as a source for networking with fellow Alaskans for products and services we might need. We appreciate the effort MADE IN ALASKA makes to further the business enterprises in our state. It is also important to us that we maintain the International Trade Office.

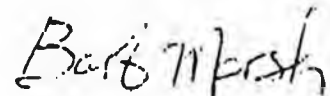
Please make sure that funding for MADE IN ALASKA as submitted in Governor Knowles budget be restored - \$50K in general funds and authorization for program receipts.

We are working hard to compete in the Alaska tourist market and have found MADE IN ALASKA a real support towards helping small businesses like ours. They are always ready to answer questions or help out in any way possible. They work hard promoting ALASKA businesses, a real advocate for us little guys. It is important to attract tourists, but it is equally important, or more so, to support fellow Alaskans.

We urge you to make sure MADE IN ALASKA stays in the budget to help all Alaska business persons.

Sincerely,

Janie Taylor and Barb Marsh
owners, Denali Dreams



Denali Dreams

Fine Handcrafted Soaps & Accessories

1300 W 46th Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99503

(907) 222-2644

Barb Marsh & Janie Taylor

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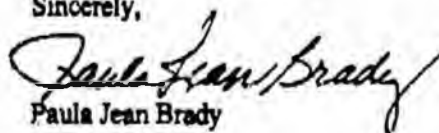
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I'm proud that the state has the program. It is a real asset. It is well thought out and organized, and is respected. Please restore and protect the \$50K that was included in the original budget. Please don't abandon a successful program when later, down the road, someone will come up with an identical idea, probably costing more.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Paula Jean Brady
16541 Davis St.
Eagle River, Alaska 99577
(907)694-2415
pbrady@alaska.net



INTERSTATE BRANDS CORPORATION

2248 Spenard Road / P.O. Box 92517 / Anchorage, AK 99509
(907) 277-3548 / Order Fax: 1-800-478-1925 / Fax: (907) 277-3243



March 1, 2000

**To: House Finance Committee
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, Alaska**

Re: Make It Alaska Program

I am an employee of Interstate Brands Corporation (Wonder Bread) in Anchorage. I have been told that the funding has been stopped for the Make It Alaska Program and that the program is being stopped. I am very upset that this is happening. This program has helped keep local jobs in our bakery and frozen bread in Washington. We are all tax payers and voters and feel like we have been shafted. Please reconsider this move.

Respectfully,

Louis Neuk



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Respectfully,

*9311 Stathmon
Anchorage, AK 99575*



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Respectfully,

*10612 Washington Circle.
99515.*



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Respectfully,

*DAN FISHER
20124 Spenard DR
PETERS ROCK, AK*



INTERSTATE BRANDS CORPORATION

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(907) 277-3548 / Order Fax: 1-800-478-1925 / Fax: (907) 277-3243



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Respectfully,

*LARRY STIDDIAL
354 LIONHEART CT.
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99508-2527*



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Respectfully,

*CHARLES A. TARSELLI
11925 LUGENE LANE
EAGLE RIVER, AK
99577-7902*



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Respectfully,

*SEAN Dolan
18726 Sarichef lp.
Eagle River, AK 99577*



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Respectfully,

2807 LEAWOOD, DR
ANCH AK. 99515



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Respectfully,

Tasha D. [Signature]
2180 TASHA DR.
Anch. AK 99502



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Respectfully,

Mel Porter

**GENERAL MANAGER
INTERSTATE BRANDS CORP
2248 SPENARD RD
ANCHORAGE, AK 99503**

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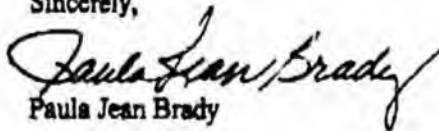
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Thank you for your consideration.

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16541 Davis St.
Eagle River, Alaska 99577
(907)694-2415
pbrady@alaska.net

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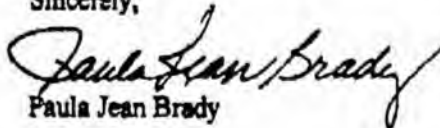
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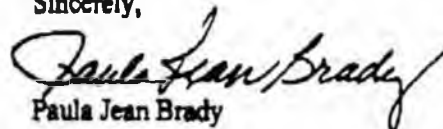
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Eagle River, Alaska 99577
(907)694-2415
pbrady@alaska.net

House Finance Committee
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, Alaska

Mar 3, 2000

(Please distribute this letter to ALL House Finance Committee members)

This letter is to express my concern and disapproval over your committee's pending decision to drop funding for the Made In Alaska program.

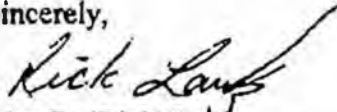
I live in North Pole and run small business called "Treasures In Wood". My wife and I make wood items and sell to over 20 gift shops throughout the state. We rely heavily on the Made In Alaska program to market our hand made items and to insure out of state interests don't try to pass their merchandise off as being Made In Alaska. I'm sure Mr. Rouse can give you examples of outside interests trying to capitalize on the importance being "ALASKAN MADE" and his successful efforts to stop this from happening.


Without continued funding for the Made In Alaska program you are telling me, and small business owners in you districts, that we are not worth helping. If you continue as planned and drop this vital program, it will only take a couple years to realize your mistake and the program will have to be re-implemented. Would it not be more cost effective to continue the program now and avoid the much higher price down the road of starting all over?

Granted, we are a small "Mom and Pop" business and don't bring millions into the State's economy each year. But consider this: Last year our small business grossed nearly \$30,000. Add to this the retail mark up on our items and it accounts for over \$60,000. Multiply this by the number of Made In Alaska permit holders and you'll find that collectively we DO bring a sizable amount into the State each year. Are we not worth protecting?

I urge you to restore and protect funding for the Made In Alaska program at the level submitted in Governor Knowles' budget. You were not elected to the State Legislature to spend millions to attract tourists, yet eliminate the tiny amount needed to protect people who make authentic Alaska products.

Sincerely,


Alva R. (Rick) Lahtz
Treasures In Wood
P.O. Box 56844
North Pole, AK 99705
MIA #3520

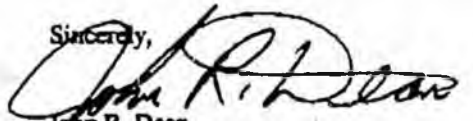




Dear All of the House Finance Committee

I must congratulate all of you on your infinite wisdom in getting rid of the Made in Alaska program. You are so wise to have us import more things from Seattle and get rid of Alaska Made Products. Why would we want to create jobs here in Alaska and have the money stay in Alaska when we can send it to Seattle? I didn't realize that I was so stupid to try to create products that we import from Seattle. Why didn't you campaign with the idea of importing more from Seattle and get rid of Alaska Product. I have to think that you are sure to get reelected when ever you run. You are sure saving a lot when you cut \$50,000 and you must have dug deep to find a small amount like this.

Sincerely,



John R. Dean
President, Environmental Recycling, Inc.

PS

Makers of Alaska Gold Compost, Potting Soil and Sandblasting Media of which is made from waste material and manufactured and sold here in Alaska.

ENVIRONMENTAL RECYCLING, INC.
P.O. Box 92229
Anchorage, Alaska USA 99509-2229
Telephone: 907-243-8577 • FAX: 907-248-2402

Windsong Designs
201 Vitskari St.
Sitka, Alaska 99835
(907)747-3382

March 3, 2000

To:

All House Finance Committee Members:

I am very concerned about the impact of cuts to the DCED budget which will eliminate the MADE IN ALASKA program funding. I request that the funding for the MADE IN ALASKA Program at the level submitted in Governor Knowles' budget be restored and protected. That amount is \$50K in general funds and authorization for program receipts.

Windsong Designs is an Alaskan family owned business which provides 75% of our entire family income. We produce Alaskan ornaments and nativity sets which are marketed primarily to Alaskans and visitors of Alaska. The MADE IN ALASKA program is very important to our business. The program assists us in letting our buyers know that they are buying a QUALITY Made In Alaska product. There is much competition from products which are imported from the Far East. My buyers are looking for products which are Made in Alaska. Through the use of the MADE IN ALASKA stickers and program, we are able to let our buyers know that they are buying an authentic Alaskan made product. We are proud to be Alaskans and proud to attach the MADE IN ALASKA stickers to our products.

One of our own products was just recently reproduced by another company with help from far east production companies. They have changed the product just enough to be within the copyright laws. People come to Alaska looking for our product which is made in Alaska. Without the MADE IN ALASKA program, we would not have a state wide program to help designate our product as authentic Alaskan. If Alaska is willing to spend tourism dollars to attract visitors, we should be willing to spend a small amount to protect the Alaskans who make authentic Alaskan products to sell to the tourists who visit our state.

Thank you for your consideration.

Please leave the funding for the MADE IN ALASKA program intact.

Sincerely,

Becky Martin
Becky Martin
Windsong Designs

March 4, 2000

Members of the House Finance Committee:

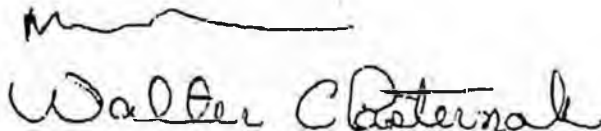
Your proposed budget includes cuts to the Alaska public radio system. These cuts must not be implemented.

The public radio budget has repeatedly taken large cuts over the past years and can no longer afford to do so. Staff and programming have already been pared down to bare minimums. Many, many volunteers put in many, many hours to supplement the budget.

As you are well aware, most of your constituents rely on public radio for vital information. Most are in isolated areas of the state and this is their only means of keeping in touch. Public radio is an essential part of their lives.

Please, do all you can to restore funding for the Alaska public radio broadcasting system.

Thank you for your time in considering this matter.



Walter Pasternak

Megan and Walter Pasternak
Box 830
Sitka, AK 99835
(907) 747-5943
mwpstnk@ptialaska.net

To House Finance Committee Members

I am writing this on Made In ALASKA program. We need this for the tourists cause they look for the made in ALASKA sticker. to make sure they are getting a real ALASKAN made product. And not something made in China or some other country that puts ALASKA on it. And a fake sticker. We are ALASKA and have a lot of Artists here who count on the Made in ALASKA sticker. So tourists know they get a real ALASKAN gift. Please reconsider it.

Please deliver to all House Finance Committee members.

Thank You

All ALASKAN Arts + Gifts

June M Wall

March 3 2000

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All Alaskan Arts + Gifts

June M Wall

Off-The-Wall, Inc.

P.O. Box 112743

Anchorage, Alaska 99511-2743

Phone (907) 345-2766 Toll Free 1-800-607-2766 Fax (907) 345-2780

www.offthewallinc.com

March 3, 2000

House Finance Committee Office

Via Fax 1-907-465-6813

Re: MADE IN ALASKA

Attn: ALL HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMEBERS

I really can't believe you folks are considering dropping the MADE IN ALASKA program. This is one of the very few things that helps level the field for companies like Off-The-Wall, Inc. who are trying to compete with companies who make everything out of State or overseas.

My company, Off-The-Wall, Inc., makes Alaskan gifts to sell in gift shops around the State and custom mouse pads for other customers. As our custom mouse pad business grows, we are talking more and more about relocating to the Lower 48 so that we can be more competitive in this very large market. The only reasons we are still here is 1) because of our large Alaskan gift shop market, and 2) because I want to live here. Our biggest selling point right now is that all of our products are MADE IN ALASKA. The main reason this helps is that there are several large distributors who copy every good idea and have these products made overseas for less money. The only two selling points we have left are quality and MADE IN ALASKA.

If you take away the MADE IN ALASKA program, within a year or two, all of these companies that make stuff out of State will start claiming MADE IN ALASKA and devalue that selling point. After that, it won't make any economic sense for our business to stay in Alaska.

My company will only have about \$700,000 in payroll this year, but if you add up all of the other businesses that will shut down or relocate without this program, it **is** going to make a substantial economic impact on our State.

I really hope you consider all of the effects of dropping the MADE IN ALASKA program before you move ahead with doing it. So many other states are bending over backwards to attract new businesses; it doesn't make much sense to discourage the businesses that are already here.

Sincerely,



William Kellogg

President

Off-The-Wall, Inc.

TO: House Finance Committee
FROM: Andrew deValpine, Dillingham
RE: Funding for public radio

My name is Andrew deValpine and once a week I volunteer to put on a one-hour radio show of music from around the world at our local public radio station, KDLG.

One weekday I was walking down the street and passed a young Yup'ik boy who was whistling a strange melody. I didn't think much of it at first, except that it lodged in my head, and I began whistling it to myself, and then I noticed it was a melody familiar to me, and finally I realized that it was from a show I did the previous Sunday – traditional wedding music from the east coast of Africa.

My show is, to say the least, often full of challenging – by that I mean extremely unfamiliar – music and, consequently, is probably not broadly popular. But this small incident reminded me of why I've always appreciated public radio, and that's because of its ability to take us someplace we ordinarily wouldn't go and, as a result, we grow and expand our horizons.

Our resources this far away are limited and we are pretty isolated as it is. We need every venue we can get to connect to the rest of the state and world, not to mention simply to our region, which is the size of the state of Ohio. KDLG and public radio link us as no other medium can or will, and I encourage you to fully support – and, indeed, increase – funding for public radio in Alaska.

Andrew deValpine
Dillingham

A = S V



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Finance
 committee name
 committee on HB 312, dated 3/2/00
 bill/subject

I am writing to express my concern on possible funding cuts to Public Broadcasting as a result of House Bill 312.

I live an isolated community of Alaska. Like many small town Alaskans I get much of my entertainment for radio. I depend on Public Broadcasting to bring me family entertainment, accurate news, both local and world wide and a varied view of the world. I know that when I turn on the radio, I will get programs produced for Alaskans in Alaska instead of canned top 40 music.

I appreciate that my local radio station, KCAV, offers the best local news coverage I've found anywhere in Alaska. I also can find regularly scheduled programming suitable for children and dinner time without advertisements ad nauseam for stores and services not available in Alaska.

Sincerely,

Marg. Parsons

Marg. Parsons

Signed: MARG. PARSONS -
 Testifier
TAXPAYERS
 Representing (Optional)
PO Box 6461 Sitka
 Address
747-8421
 Phone No.



Hats by Judy Stauffer

PO BOX 146
ESTER, ALASKA 99725
PHONE/FAX: (907) 479-5525



JUDY STAUFFER

TUNDRA, TOWN, TRAIL, GARDEN, MOUNTAIN, BEACH

907-465-6713

FAX TO: all House Finance Committee Members March 2, 2000

I am shocked to hear that funding for the Made In Alaska program has been cut by the Finance Committee!

You must realize the importance of MIA to Alaska's Citizen Entrepreneurs. Certification by MIA has more than doubled my sales through promotion, networking and increased sales to visitors to our state. My customers rely on the MIA logo to ensure the products they buy are made right here and not by workers from other countries.

Cutting MIA means you are taking food from my table and funds that provide my very existence.

I urge you to restore complete funding as submitted in Gov. Knowles' budget. Please feel free to call if you need more information regarding the importance of this program. Respectfully
Judy Stauffer



Shop located at Ester Gold Camp. Open every summer evening, holiday weekends, & year round by appt. #3084

March 3, 2000

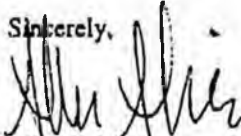
Dear House Finance Committee Members,

Please vote against proposed cuts to public broadcasting. Public radio (KFSK, in my case) and public television (AlaskaOne) play an important role in my life and in my community. In addition to providing essential Emergency Broadcast Alerts, my local public radio station informs, stimulates, and entertains me every day. KFSK provides the only daily local news available in Petersburg. It also broadcasts weather reports, school board and city council meetings, national and state news, and important local public service announcements.

Watching AlaskaOne connects me to the rest of Alaska. Shows produced in the Fairbanks and Bethel areas bring me closer in touch with the people of mainland Alaska. Without that programming, I would be a less-educated person regarding statewide issues and events. Because of these efforts on the part of public broadcasting in Petersburg and in Alaska in general, I am a better-informed citizen of my town, my state, and my country.

KFSK, and all the CoastAlaska stations in Southeast, have worked long and hard and have been very innovative in dealing with cuts already made to their budgets. Rather than punishing those cost-cutting efforts with further cuts, why not show that you see the same value that I do in these services that public broadcasting provides to Alaska communities by voting to continue funding at the present level?

Sincerely,



Allison A. Rice
P.O. Box 1736
Petersburg, AK 99833
907-772-2321



FAX

MELISSA SANFORD
P.O. BOX 671701
CHUGIAK, AK 99567
www.alaska.net/~wildexp

DATE: 3/3/00
TO: ALL House Finance Committee Members
PHONE:
FAX: (907) 465-6813

FROM: Melissa Sanford
Wilderness Expressions
PHONE: (907) 688-0556
FAX: (907) 688-0557
E-MAIL: wildexp@alaska.net

RE: Cutting of funds to the MADE IN ALASKA program
Number of pages including this cover sheet: 2

Message:

Dear House Finance Committee Members,

I am writing to protest the cutting of funds to the MADE IN ALASKA program! How can you eliminate a program that so clearly supports Alaskan businesses? Without this program many tourist dollars will be going to "outside" or overseas companies! How can you consider such a move that would so clearly hurt our economy?

I was recently at a wholesale in Seattle where the buyers are avidly searching for "Made-In-Alaska" products because that is what their customers (mostly tourists) buy. By eliminating this program you are eliminating that focus and therefore a large portion of the local economy. Why are we spending millions of dollars to attract tourists and then do away with the one program that protects authentic Alaskan products to sell to those tourists? I can't tell you how many visitors come to my place of business and explain how they look for the "Made-In-Alaska" logo....and most of this is a result of the Made-In-Alaska education program. I just returned from a business trip to the East coast where there is strong support of the Made-In-USA program along with individual state's programs to support the local "Made In _____" programs. To cut funding to our state's program would be a HUGE step backwards!!!

As a small manufacturer, this program has many aspects that promote my work, which in turn supports my employees. A trickle-down effect that when you multiply it by the number of Made-In-Alaska participants adds up to a tremendous impact on our state's economy.

I would like to strongly request that the \$50,00 in general funds and authorization for program receipts in Governor Knowles budget be restored and protected. It is the right thing to do for our state and our economy.

Respectfully,

Melissa Sanford
Wilderness Expressions

Judie Gumm
DESIGNS

made in alaska u.s.a.

POB 169 · Ester, Alaska 99725 · Phone/Fax: 800-478-4568 or 907-479-4568 · Email: rjgumm@compuserve.com
Web Site: Wholesalecrafts.com



To: All members of the House Finance Committee, (please copy to Rep. John Davies)

From Richard Gumm, Judie Gumm Designs

Re: Proposed Budget Cuts to the MADE IN ALASKA and the International Trade Office

Date: 3/3/00

Dear Representatives,

I have learned today that the MADE IN ALASKA program along with the International Trade Office has been eliminated from the state budget. I strongly protest this proposal.

As a small business person who produces a handmade Alaskan product our company has benefited immensely from the MADE IN ALASKA program in the following ways


-It provides a necessary level of documentation and authorization for product that is authentically Alaskan. Without it any company can proclaim their product is made in Alaska.

-It provides marketing venues for small business person's such as myself. The MADE IN ALASKA show which takes place in the fall in Anchorage provides us with both wholesale and retail opportunities that don't otherwise exist. Their directory listing us as a MADE IN ALASKA business is another example of their ability to help small business people.

Furthermore programs such as MADE IN ALASKA and the International Trade Office are essential to the export efforts of small businesses.

I request that both of these fine programs be reinstated at the original levels as submitted in the Governor's budget. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Richard Gumm
Judie Gumm Designs

GREER

Steel ■ Tanks ■ Welding

March 3, 2000

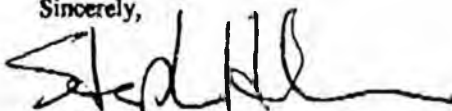
House Finance Committee
"All Members"

re: Budget cuts to Made In Alaska Funding

Sirs/Madams:

I can't believe the committee is wanting to cut funding from something that benefits so many many businesses in Alaska. This is not some special interest group that has no redeeming qualities. The "Made In Alaska" program works, but it won't work without help from you!!! So, please restore the funding at the level submitted in Governor Knowles' budget, which is \$50K in general Funds and authorization for program receipts. I would like a reply as to what your final decision is. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Stephen Helms
General Manager

Off-The-Wall, Inc.

P.O. Box 112743

Anchorage, Alaska 99511-2743

Phone (907) 345-2768 Toll Free 1-800-607-2766 Fax (907) 345-2780

www.offthewallinc.com

March 3, 2000

State of Alaska
House Finance Committee

Attn: Representative Gene Therriault

Via Fax 1-907-465-6813

Re: MADE IN ALASKA Program

Dear Representative Therriault,

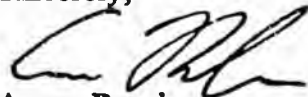
As a small Alaska business that manufactures all of its products in Alaska, our company is keenly aware that cutting the small funding for MADE IN ALASKA would be detrimental to many Alaska businesses, including ours. The MADE IN ALASKA logo is one of stature and is respected by consumers throughout the world. Consumers purchasing products in gift shops specifically look for the MADE IN ALASKA logo.

To discard the MADE IN ALASKA program would be like dropping the MADE IN USA logo. Alaskans take great pride in their products. If you were to proceed with this elimination, it will most likely result in the misidentification of where Alaskan products are actually made.

PLEASE KEEP THIS FUNDING FOR THE MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM.

Please feel free to contact me at 1-800-607-2766 for any additional information or insight.

Sincerely,

Anson Renshaw
Vice President Marketing
Off-The-Wall, Inc.

Off-The-Wall, Inc.

P.O. Box 112743

Anchorage, Alaska 99511-2743

Phone (907) 345-2766 Toll Free 1-800-607-2766 Fax (907) 345-2780

www.offthewallinc.com

March 3, 2000

State of Alaska
House Finance Committee

Attn: Representative Eldon Mulder

Via Fax 1-907-465-6813

Re: MADE IN ALASKA Program

Dear Representative Mulder,

As a small Alaska business that manufactures all of its products in Alaska, our company is keenly aware that cutting the small funding for MADE IN ALASKA would be detrimental to many Alaska businesses, including ours. The MADE IN ALASKA logo is one of stature and is respected by consumers throughout the world. Consumers purchasing products in gift shops specifically look for the MADE IN ALASKA logo.

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Sincerely,

Anson Renshaw
Vice President Marketing
Off-The-Wall, Inc.

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Anchorage, Alaska 99511-2743

Phone (907) 345-2766 Toll Free 1-800-607-2766 Fax (907) 345-2780

www.offthewallinc.com

March 3, 2000

State of Alaska
House Finance Committee**Attn: ALL HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Via Fax 1-907-465-6813

Re: MADE IN ALASKA Program

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PLEASE KEEP THIS FUNDING FOR THE MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM.

Please feel free to contact me at 1-800-607-2766 for any additional information or insight.

Sincerely,

Anson Renshaw
Vice President Marketing
Off-The-Wall, Inc.

To: ALL House Finance Committee

Subject: MADE IN ALASKA

I wish to thank the members of the House Finance Committee for cutting the funding of the MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM! Your action is making my early retirement possible.

I'm not ready for retirement or even prepared for it. But that is what is going to happen as a direct result of your above action. Instead of being an asset to the Alaskan economy, I'll be forced to be a burden to it! Unemployed and on Welfare. That ought to really help the Alaskan economy!

Instead of cutting the MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM, it should be enlarged. Why enlarge it? To keep jobs in Alaska, by Alaskans. These MADE IN ALASKA products are what the tourists spend their money on. These products are unique to ALASKA! So is this program! In the long run it increases the tax base of Alaska! So why not create a larger tax base through programs like MADE IN ALASKA?

I really don't want to be forced to retire. That is the current direction your current proposal is heading. It isn't too late to rectify this situation, so please do. Restore the funding for MADE IN ALASKA to the level submitted in Governor Knowles' budget and protect that funding level!

The State of Alaska is spending \$5 million to bring the tourists(customers) here. Let's work together and give them products MADE IN ALASKA to spend their tourist dollars on!

Randy S. Core
MADE IN ALASKA Employee



To all House Finance Committee Members:

The proposed budget cuts to our Department of Community Economic Development do not make any sense. That these cuts eliminate the MADE IN ALASKA program is even more absurd. No more MADE IN ALASKA would hurt me, other permit holders and all businesses that sell our products. One has to wonder what the value of hurting so many small businesses could possibly be. Certainly it can not be budget reduction. It is my understanding the budget for MIA is only \$50,000 in state funds and yet you are preparing to give \$5.5 million to a tourism association to attract more tourists. I ask you what do you think tourists want when they come to Alaska? I suggest it is in large part a unique and authentic experience. And when they return home with a remembrance or souvenir they want it to be authentic too. MADE IN ALASKA protects that authenticity. Plus the bears logo is as much and as big a tourism marketing symbol as Alaska owns. By killing those bears you will be harming the very industry you are attempting to grow.

Please restore FULL funding for MADE IN ALASKA. The program deserves more not less and certainly not extinction.

Thank you.

Susan DiFrancia





STATE OF ALASKA/ LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY

Legislative Administrative Services

Petersburg Legislative Information office

PO Box 1470 Petersburg, AK 99833

Phone: 907-772-3741 Fax: 907-772-3779

FAX TRANSMISSION

TO: Representative Mulder

FAX: 907-465-6813

DATE: March 3, 2000

MESSAGE: Written testimony from Julie Hursey on HB 312, TCN 10452, March 4, 2000.

March 3, 2000

Dear Representative Mulder;

I am writing to urge you to maintain present funding levels for Public Radio in Alaska. The radio stations in small, remote communities like mine are a lifeline to the world. They provide not only national and international news but also keep us informed of what is going on across our sprawling state.

In rural Alaska, not everyone has access to cable television and some people cannot afford it. Their sole source of news and weather forecasts is from their Public Radio station. It provides a vital link between people living in isolated Alaskan communities. Besides providing news people without access to phones are able to communicate over the airwaves with messages that are aired at regular times. Public Radio provides weather and safety advisories that are essential to the well being of our town.

Besides all the other services that our radio station provides it is also the center of our community. How else would we find out about the activities in town or the time of public meetings? Who else is going to let people know the roads are icy and that the school bus will be late picking up the kids "out the road", or that the black lab with the purple collar has been found? Where else can people as young as ten and as old as eighty-three entertain the town with radio programming?

There has been talk that the money taken from Public Radio will be given to the "frail and elderly". Well, who took money away from the frail and elderly in the first place? Tell them to give it back. Besides, the elderly in our town listen to KFSK all the time and are some of our staunchest supporters.

Public radio has taken lots of cuts in previous years and at this point is operating on a shoestring. If you came to our station you would see the skeleton staff and the equipment held together by duct tape. Signs of scrimping and saving are evident everywhere except on the airwaves where the quality of programming remains high. We are proud of our station and our town works hard to support it during fundraisers but we cannot keep it going alone. Please save Public Radio by maintaining the present level of funding. Do not cut the funding. It is too important to our town and others like it.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Julie Hursey

Petersburg, Alaska

FAX COVER SHEET

TO: STATE OF ALASKA, HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE
 ATT: MEMBERS
 FAX #: 907-465-6813

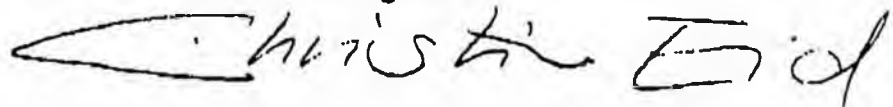
FROM: CHRISTINE EID
 COMPANY: NOMAD ART AND DESIGN
 FAX #: 907-346-4439
 PHONE #: 907-346-3958 (CHRISTINE EID)
 907-333-1146 (NANCY BORG)

DATE: 3-3-2000

PAGES: -1-
(INCLUDING COVER)

NOTES:

There are millions spend to attract visitors, yet elemenate the little amount spent to protect people who produce authentic Aiaskan products to sell to ose tourists? Please restore funding to the Made in Alaska Programm.



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To:

ALL FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Please do not cut funding
for the MADE IN ALASKA
Program! I make jewelry pins
with real fur on them, and
I would hate to see them
reproduced by somebody in
TAIWAN and then sold in
ALASKA! Thank you—

(337-0081)

Yvonne HALL
Anchorage, Alaska

Export Council of Alaska



March 3, 2000

The Honorable Eldon Mulder and
The Honorable Gene Therriault
Co-Chairmen
House Finance Committee
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Representatives Mulder and Therriault:

The Export Council of Alaska is a statewide non-profit group of business leaders who understand and promote the value of international trade. In the 1960's Alaska showed its keen understanding of the importance of international trade by being the first state to open a Tokyo office. The Council feels it is essential to continue to demonstrate that understanding by providing necessary support today for the State's Division of International Trade & Market Development (DITMD) programs.

Alaska businesses benefit from overseas representation and programs that DITMD provide. The Council is concerned about the effects on our key trading partners under the House Finance subcommittee's plan to close Alaska's DITMD overseas offices in Japan and Korea. The state business culture values government involvement, promotion and representation.

The Council urges that you not put Alaska at a disadvantage in global competition by closing overseas offices in Japan and Korea and by eliminating the state's trade and research spending in Alaska. We ask that you provide funding at last year's level for these important international trade programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Charles R. Webber".

Charles R. Webber
Chairman



BY FAX ONLY

Friday, March 03, 2000

Rep. Eldon Mulder, Co-Chair House Finance
Rep. Gene Therriault, Co-Chair House Finance

Eldon and Gene:

I was in Juneau last Tuesday. If I had realized the impact of cutting the International Trade Budget so drastically I would have tried to see you on Tuesday. I was there to update Ramona Barnes/John Cowdery's Committee on World Trade on ASI's substantial growth.

Although ASI is concentrating on domestic US production this year, we are also working with customers in the Pacific Rim. As the largest seafood facility in the US we are ramping up to our full 125,000,000 pounds of value added seafood production. The Pacific Rim represents markets for ASI products 34 times the total seafood consumption of the US.

International Trade and Development has opened a number of doors for us. With their help we have just quoted on 60,000 to 100,000 daily seafood meals for Korean Airlines, Asiana Airlines, Samsung and Hyundai. I cannot imagine more valuable help to Alaskan companies doing business in the Japan, Korea, Taiwan areas. To cut off International Trade's assistance will Kill the Goose That Laid the Golden Egg !!

As important as it is to curb wasteful expenditures and develop realistic budgets, it is equally important to grow tax revenues. The seafood industry is the largest employer of Alaska citizens. *Alaska needs to expand our export trade and damaging International Trade Division would be counter-productive to everyone's best interest.*

These proposed cuts also eliminate the MADE IN ALASKA program that builds on the romance of seafood from the "Cold, clear unpolluted waters of Alaska". ASI planned to use this label extensively on its products. Eliminating this program hurts both Tourism in the service sector and Seafood in the manufacturing sector, both of which contribute substantial revenue to the State.

I urge you to help the private sector to help the public sector's revenue growth. By supporting International Trade you support ASI's efforts to export Alaska products.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Howard M. Benedict', written over a horizontal line.

Howard M. Benedict
Chairman

- c. Finance Committee members
- c. Ramona Barnes, John Cowdery, World Trade

Douglas M. Steenland
Executive Vice President
Chief Corporate Officer

Northwest Airlines, Inc.
Department A1180
5101 Northwest Drive
St. Paul MN 55111-3034

612 727-6500
612 727-4839 Fax

March 2, 2000

Rep. Gene Therriault
Co-Chair, House Finance Committee
State Capitol Building, Room 511
Juneau, Alaska 99801
Fax: 907-465-3884

Rep. Eldon Muider
Co-Chair, House Finance Committee
State Capitol Building, Room 507
Juneau, Alaska 99801
Fax: 907-465-3518

Dear Sirs:

We at Northwest Airlines wish to take this opportunity to urge a continuation of support for the important work of the Department of Community and Economic Development's Division of International Trade and Economic Development.

Northwest Airlines has had a long and successful presence in Alaska dating back to 1947, when Anchorage was on Northwest's original route to Asia. It was that year that Northwest became the first airline to link North America to Asia via the "Great Circle Route." That same route through Anchorage continues to play a vitally strategic role in our company today, especially from a cargo perspective.

A key anchor in our relationship is the Department of Community and Economic Development, and specifically, the Division of International Trade and Market Development. Together we have partnered over the years to identify and support new markets for Alaska products throughout Asia. Last year, we hosted a state-sponsored seafood trade mission to Japan for smaller Alaskan firms with limited or no contacts in Asia. Expanding markets in Asia for Alaska products means more business for air cargo operators like Northwest and more local jobs to support our Anchorage cargo operations.



But effective marketing in Asia is a big job. There's no substitute for consistency in keeping the pressure on. We're hopeful of continuing to partner with the Division of International Trade and Market Development to build on the momentum we've generated together these past several years. The division is a valuable partner for companies like Northwest Airlines and we hope its mission will not be jeopardized by severe budget cuts.

We see a bright future in the Pacific air freight market. Last year, Northwest expanded cargo service to Guam and Singapore as well as introduced new 747 all-cargo freighter service to Shanghai, China. Earlier this week, Northwest filed direct exhibits with the U.S. Department of Transportation in support of our application for five new frequencies between the U.S. and China. The new services would enable Northwest to provide a total of four weekly all-cargo flights to China, currently Alaska's fifth largest trading partner. The service would operate on a Chicago-Anchorage-Narita-Shanghai routing.

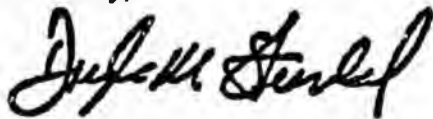
To meet the growth potential for air cargo operations in Asia, Northwest acquired two additional 747 freighters last year, bringing our total to 10 air-cargo aircraft and we are continuing to actively seek additional 747 freighters to add to our fleet. During our peak season, Northwest's 747 freighters touch down at Anchorage International Airport an average of 36 times each week. Unlike some cargo carriers, we don't depend upon AIA as just a fueling stop. Instead, we maximize the strategic location of Anchorage to conduct our domestic cross-loading operation, which we plan to grow significantly in the next few years.

On the passenger side, Northwest is working closely with the Division of International Trade and Market Development to identify ways to enhance passenger growth between Asia and Alaska via our Seattle gateway and, hopefully, on a seasonal nonstop basis in the next two to three years. That partnership is invaluable and we look forward to the State of Alaska's continued role with us.

We at Northwest certainly respect your efforts to carefully develop the state's budget for the next fiscal year. It is our hope that the Division of International Trade and Market Development will remain intact and fully supportive of the many ongoing efforts to expand the trade potential for Alaska-based companies throughout Asia.

If Northwest can provide additional information regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Bob Benner at 612-726-2828.

Sincerely,



Douglas M. Steenland

James V. Drew
4725 Villanova Drive
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-3220

Tel: 907-479-2212
Fax: 907-479-0847

Rep. Eldon Mulder
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, Alaska

March 2, 2000

Dear Representative Mulder:

I urge you to provide an appropriation for the Department of Community and Economic Development that will maintain the activities of the Division of International Trade and Development.

Exports of Alaska seed potatoes and tablestock potatoes to Taiwan by Alaska Agricultural Development & Marketing, Inc., an Alaska nonprofit corporation, increased from a few hundred pounds of seed potatoes in 1996 to 30 metric tons of seed potatoes, 40 metric tons of tablestock potatoes, 15 metric tons of carrots, and 15 giant cabbages in 1999. The Division of Trade and Development effectively assisted in this export growth.

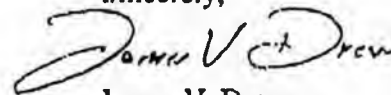
Specialists from the division showcased Alaska agricultural products at the 1999 American Food Festival held in three cities in Taiwan. Their work opened the door for a representative from Alaska Agricultural Development & Marketing, Inc., to present scientific data regarding the quality of Alaska food products to potential buyers attending the Food Festival.

Alaska agricultural products are of high quality, but they must compete in international markets with food products from states and countries that enjoy a fully developed infrastructure for agricultural marketing. Thus, Alaska farmers go head to head with the marketing expertise of major suppliers of food products outside of Alaska. Moreover, international buyers want suppliers that can meet their needs rather than a myriad of individual producers, and they want personal contacts with suppliers.

Alaska Agricultural Development & Marketing, Inc., seeks orders and organizes logistics to export agricultural products from individual Alaska farms. The Division of International Trade and Development provides visibility for Alaska agricultural products and personal contacts with customers in Taiwan and, potentially, in other countries. This compensates, in part, for the lack of a fully developed marketing system for Alaska farm products, and provides incentive for Alaska producers to increase production to expand Alaska's agriculture. In turn, it creates jobs and opportunities for Alaskans.

I urge you to provide an appropriation for the Department of Community and Economic Development that will permit the Division of International Trade and Development to continue to promote Alaska farm products overseas.

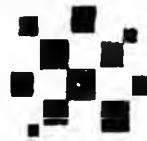
Sincerely,



James V. Drew

DEPT. COM
+ ECON DEV.

DIV. INTL
TRADE



Anchorage Economic Development Corporation
The Center of Opportunity

Executive Committee Resolution

Whereas the State Legislature is considering drastic budget cuts to the Department of Community and Economic Development, Division of International Trade and Market Development; and,

Whereas, the budget plan eliminates the trade program — the State's trade and research specialists; and,

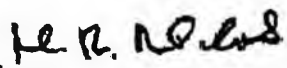
Whereas, the proposed cuts eliminate the State's only position responsible for recruiting new business and investment; and,

Whereas, the proposed cuts end 35 years of state trade representation in Japan and 15 years in Korea; and,

Whereas, the State has an important role to play in economic development,

Therefore be it Resolved that AEDC recommends that the House Finance Committee reconsider the proposed drastic cuts to the Department of Community and Economic Development, Division of International Trade and Market Development.

Passed and approved this 6th day of March, 2000.



Melvin R. Nichols, Chairman



Anchorage Economic Development Corporation
The Center of Opportunity

MEMORANDUM

Date: March 8, 2000

To: House Finance Committee, Alaska State Legislature
Rep. Eldon Mulder, Co-Chair
Rep. Gene Therrialut, Co-Chair
Rep. Con Bunde, Vice Chair
Rep. Alan Austerman
Rep. Gail Phillips
Rep. John Davies
Rep. Ben Grussendorf
Rep. Carl Moses
Rep. Richard Foster
Rep. Bill Williams

cc: Rep. Brian Porter, Speaker of the House
Rep. Ramona Barnes

From: Larry D. Crawford, AEDC President & CEO

The Anchorage Economic Development Corporation's Executive Committee has passed a resolution requesting that the House Finance Committee reconsider the proposed severe reductions to State funding for the Division of International Trade and Market Development. The budget being proposed to the House Finance Committee essentially eliminates the State's trade and research specialists. If passed, this will end 35 years of state trade representation in Japan and 15 years in Korea. These are Alaska's two largest export markets. The state's only position responsible for recruiting new business and investments will be eliminated should the proposed budget become reality.

Now is the time for economic development to be one of the State of Alaska's top priorities. Alaska needs to diversify its economy and become less dependent on oil revenues.

Please reconsider making such severe cuts to the budget of the Department of Community and Economic Development, Division of International Trade and Market Development. The State government has an important role to play in economic development.

Sincerely,


Larry D. Crawford
President & CEO

Attached: AEDC Executive Committee Resolution



Alaska Herb Tea Company
6710 Welmer Drive
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Fax Message

Tel/Fax 907-522-3499

Date: March 6, 2000

To: Representative Eldon Mulder, Co-Chair
House Finance Committee

From: Charles Walsh, President, Alaska Herb Tea Company, Inc.

Re: Funding Alaskan International Trade

We support your actions to control the State budget and make State government as efficient as possible – and we appreciate the difficult decisions you have to make.

We also believe that the DCED Division of Trade and Development is a net gainer for the State of Alaska, that it generates more money than it costs.

Therefore it is counterproductive to cut funding to the Division of Trade and Development – you will loose more than you will gain.

We have worked with the Division of Trade and Development for years and are very satisfied that they are seriously business minded. We also worked for several years with the state trade representation offices in Japan when we exhibited our product at FOODEX in Tokyo. They were extremely helpful.

Thank you for considering our request and our advice. Please fund the Division of Trade and Development’s international trade program – it’s a good investment.

Chesloknu Foods
Alaska Tribal Cache
Drawer L, Seldovia, AK 99663
907-234-7859, 800-270-7810
Fax: 907-234-7637, E-mail: rhilts@tribalnet.org

Date: March 6, 2000

Re: Support, Division of International Trade and Development.

To: Representative Mr. Eldon Mulder, Co-Chair
House Finance Committee
FAX: 907-465-3518

As the General Manager of Chesloknu Foods, Seldovia, I urge you to fund the Division of International Trade and Development.

Chesloknu Foods is owned/operated by Seldovia Village Tribe. We produce jams, jellies and syrups using wild berries from native lands, using old tribal recipes.

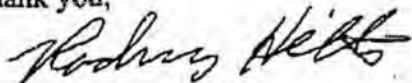
For three years we have participated in several Trade Shows in Japan and Korea through the State's products booths, sponsored by the International Trade Division. This exposure for our products would be impossible for us from both the aspects of cost and expertise in making contacts. The costs of sponsoring our own booth would be prohibitive.

We have received several good contacts from this exposure most notably, the receipt of a \$24,000 order in March of 1999. From our viewpoint, the efforts of the Division of International Trade and Development have been very successful and worthwhile.

Our contact with all personnel from the International Trade Division have been courteous, timely, and professional.

Please continue funding of this International Trade Division. Many small Alaskan businesses benefit from the Division's efforts, and would be unable to duplicate their participation in international trade without the very effective programs and expertise of the Trade Division's specialists.

Thank you,



Rodney Hilts, General Manager, Chesloknu Foods



VALDEZ CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

P.O. Box 1603 • Valdez, Alaska 99686 • Ph.: 907 836-2084 • Fax: 907-836-4845 • E-mail: valdezak@alaska.net

VALDEZ CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

RESOLUTION NO. 00 - 1

A RESOLUTION OF THE VALDEZ CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU, VALDEZ ALASKA, SUPPORTING THE MAINTENANCE OF A STRONG DIVISION OF TOURISM.

WHEREAS, the House Finance Committee is considering the elimination of the Alaska Division of Tourism by funding the department at the level of only \$200,000; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Tourism is responsible for overseeing the marketing contract between the State of Alaska and the new Alaska Tourism Industry Association as outlined in the legislation approving the New Millenium Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Tourism provides necessary community, and business assistance around the entire state; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Tourism is responsible for tourism development for the entire state of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Tourism maintains and operates the Tok Visitor Center, the ambassador visitor center for all travelers entering the state via the Alaska Highway; and

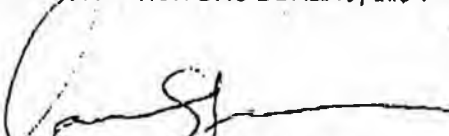
WHEREAS, the Division of Tourism sponsors necessary programs like the *North! to Alaska* guidebook for highway and ferry travelers, the *Tourism North* partnership with the Yukon, *Travel Agent Training*, and *Travel Fair* and much more; and

WHEREAS, no marketing and development plan has yet been established by the Alaska Tourism Industry Association.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Valdez Convention and Visitors Bureau, that:

The Valdez Convention and Visitors Bureau supports the maintenance of a strong Division of Tourism.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE VALDEZ CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU, this 1st day of March, 2000.


Colleen Stephens, President

VALDEZ CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU


Laura Weaver, Secretary/Treasurer



DUTY FREE ALASKA

P.O. Box 220687 • Anchorage, Alaska 99522-0687 • U.S.A.

★ DAVID GREEN GROUP ★

Ph.: 907-248-8485 • Fax: 907-245-0190

ADM ✓

VIA FAX

3 March, 2000

Representative Eldon Muldur, Co-Chair
House Finance Committee
Juneau, Alaska

Re: Alaska State Division of International Trade & Market Development Funding

Dear Representative Muldur:

We understand that the House Finance Subcommittee has voted recently to drastically reduce funding for the State's Division of Trade & Development.

It's our understanding that the Subcommittee's plan eliminates the current trade program along with the State's trade specialists and research arm. It also ends a long and established history of Alaska trade representation in important Asian markets like Japan and Korea, the State's two largest export markets.

This will leave the State without any effective responsible representation for recruiting new business development and investment.

It is our belief this will work to the longer term harm of the State's vital trade and business interests.

We urge you to oppose this budget plan and restore full funding for this important State agency.

We thank you for your understanding and support.

Richard E. Benedetti
Partner

cc: Jerry & Perry Green

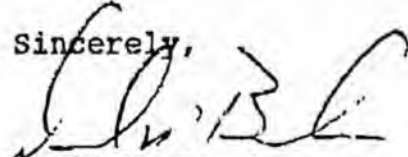
Representative Eldon Mulder, Co-Chair
Representative Gene Therriault, Co-Chair
March 3, 2000
Page 2

This 'team' approach has provided a steady stream of business contacts between Asian buyers and Alaskan businesses and has resulted in substantial sales of Alaskan products. Without the support of the Division of Trade and Development, that activity would basically disappear.

The message would be 'loud and clear' to Asian buyers. Alaska is taking itself 'out of play'. Competition is intense. We MUST NOT let this happen. We CANNOT let this happen. Alaskan businesses NEED this support to survive. We're on a roll. PLEASE support these efforts by restoring those funds to 'make it happen'.

I can't fully appreciate the difficulties you face in trying to trim the budget without causing some grief. However, developing non oil related business is Alaska's future. We CAN'T sell our future. There MUST be a better alternative.

Sincerely,



David W. Beach
President

cc: Rep. Con Bunde
Rep. Alan Auterman
Rep. Gail Phillips
Rep. John Davies
Rep. Ben Grussendorf
Rep. Carl Moses
Rep. Richard Foster
Rep. Bill Williams
Rep. Gary Davis
Rep. Brian Porter
Rep. Ramona Barnes



A Seafood Logistics Company, and more!

March 3, 2000

Representative Eldon Mulder, Co-chair
Representative Gene Therriault, Co-Chair
House Finance Committee
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Gentlemen,

I have been made aware a proposal has been set forth to reduce the budget for the Division of Trade and Development from 2.1 million dollars to approximately \$625,000 effectively wiping out the efforts of the State of Alaska to advance business opportunities and develop trade relationships with international companies.

This would be disastrous!

I respectfully ask the questions: Are you people aware of the work currently being done by the staff of the Division of Trade and Development? Do you have a feel for the benefits and opportunities that have been created for Alaskan businesses as a result of this work? It would appear the business community has been remiss in NOT keeping you abreast of these developments. Let me say, the opportunities have been many. Very tangible, very productive, and very timely. I would think this would be of particular interest to State Legislators. At a time when oil revenue is expected to continue to fall, developing non oil related commerce SHOULD be a priority. The sale of Alaskan seafood to Asian countries is certainly one of the ways to achieve that aim.

I have personally been involved in the selection process to place the best possible person in Tokyo to represent the interests of Alaskan businesses in Japan. This was accomplished and accomplished, I might add, at a substantially lower cost than was previously paid. We are CERTAINLY getting our money's worth.

Although we are greatly 'outgunned' by Europe, South America, and individual countries such as Canada and New Zealand, through close coordination by the Division of Trade and Development with our Japanese and Korean representatives, we are doing remarkably well.



INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL CONSULTANTS, INC.

2000 E. Dowling Road #10 • Anchorage, Alaska 99507-1956
(907) 561-7722 • FAX: (907) 561-3600

A Professional Corporation

March 03, 2000

To: House Finance Committee
Rep. Eldon Mulder, Co-Chair
907-465-3518

Dear Committee Member,

International trade is important to Alaska businesses and the Pacific Rim markets. Japan is Alaska's most important trading partner and yet the House Finance subcommittee is voting to eliminate Alaska representation there. This will end three decades of official state promotions and representation in Alaska's largest export market.

By closing Alaska's trade programs, Asian companies might see this as a slight in the way business is done here. Instead of cutting finances, we should be finding ways to support the overseas trade offices to continue growth in our state. Alaska faces competition from other states and countries in the important Asian marketplace. Why do you want to make it more difficult to compete.

Please restore funding to the Division of Trade & Development for the coming years so Alaska businesses can continue to benefit from the Division's work in the international markets.

Thank you for the consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,


Yoshi Ogawa
President

BROOKS ALASKAN SEAFOOD
38225 GREER ROAD
HOMER , ALASKA 99603
PHONE 907-235-5623 FAX 907-235-5623
CELLULAR 907-399-1156 E-MAIL brooks@alaska.net

House Finance Committee
ATTN: Rep Eldon Maulder , Co Chair
Date: 3/3/ 2000

Dear Representative Maulder:

On February 28th the House Finance Subcommittee voted to drastically cut funding for the States International Trade Program. Over the last twelve years the Department of Community and Economic Development has proven a useful resource in building my business from a one desk office to a multi-state, multi-country enterprise. I hope that you will reconsider this abrupt and ill conceived decision. A vote against trade will represent a vote against the future of Alaska. Thank you for your consideration.



Michael G. Brooks

cc State of Alaska Dept. of Community and Economic Development



CAPITOL TOKYU HOTEL

Fax: (907) 465-3518

March 2, 2000

the Honorable Eldon Mulder
Co-chair, House Finance Committee
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
U.S.A.

Dear Representative Mulder,

We get to know the Alaska Legislature is judging the budget of the state's international trade program, including its trade representation in Japan.

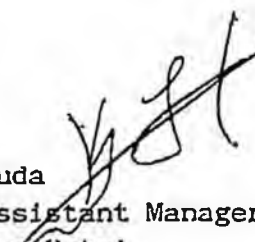
Capitol Tokyu Hotel in Tokyo, a prestigious hotel where many world-renowned guests have stayed, had a special Alaska Seafood Fair at 5 restaurants in the hotel this January and February. The Fair was successful in over \$200,000 Alaska seafood sales for two months.

We are now planning to have Alaska Seafood Fair in our hotel in the coming Fall again.

This successful Alaska Seafood Fair in our hotel would not have existed if the state representative in Japan could not suggest it to us.

Japan Office of the State of Alaska is very important in helping our business and developing new ideas in many fields.

Sincerely,


Kinichi Fukuda
Executive Assistant Manager
Capitol Tokyu Hotel

SEIBU TRAVEL, INC.**HEAD OFFICE**

16-1, Nishi-Shimbashi 2-chome Minato-ku, Tokyo 106, Japan. Phone(03)3431-3745, Facsimile(03)3434-3807

BRANCH OFFICES

Arrow Center Phone(03)3431-8185
 Marunouchi Phone(03)3314-8186/Shimbashi Phone(03)3459-8186
 Tokyo Prince Hotel Phone(03)5472-8186/Akasaka Prince Hotel Phone(03)3239-8186
 New Takanawa Prince Hotel Phone(03)3444-8186/Shinagawa Prince Hotel Phone(03)3442-8186
 Shinjuku Phone(03)3209-8186/Takadanobaba Phone(03)3205-8186
 Ikebukuro Phone(03)3981-8186/Sunshine City Prince Hotel Phone(03)3946-8186
 Shin Tokorozawa Phone(0429)26-8186/Makuhari Prince Hotel Phone(043)296-8186
 Yokohama Prince Hotel Phone(045)754-8186/Shin Yokohama Prince Hotel Phone(045)474-8186
 Sapporo Phone(011)222-8186/Nagoya Phone(052)561-8186
 Otsu Prince Hotel Phone(0775)541-8186/Kyoto Phone(075)341-8186
 Osaka Phone(06)363-8186/Fukuoka Phone(092)291-8186

Fax: (907)465-3518

March 2, 2000

The Honorable Eldon Mulder
 Co-chair, House Finance Committee
 Alaska State Legislature
 State Capitol
 Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Representative Mulder,

It has come to my attention that as the Alaska Legislature reviews the State budget for its international trade program, the role of its Tokyo Office will also come under consideration. As a beneficiary of the services of the Japan Office of the State of Alaska, I would like to submit a few words for your kind consideration.

Even though our company has been taking Japanese tourists to Alaska for 30 years now, Office continues to be an invaluable source of information and assistance to us. Their trade and tourism projects assist our industry in marketing and promoting Alaska as a fascinating and beautiful part of the world to visit. In the course of doing business, they were able to come up with just the contact or the facts we needed so that we could move ahead and create business opportunities that are mutually beneficial.

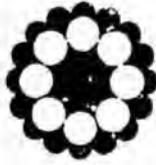
To date our company has taken over 2,500 groups, totally 50,000 Japanese tourists to Alaska, and look forward to increasing this figure by 80,000 because our company is a sister company of Westin Alyeska Prince Hotel invested by our boss company, Kokudo Inc. Research by consumer groups estimate that the average Japanese tourist spends \$1,400 on accommodations and gifts on a 3 - 5 day tour, a significant amount in any family's annual budget.

Being able to obtain swift replies to our inquiries and to consult in Japanese with your Japan Office has been invaluable in bringing together the changing needs of our customers and of the merchants in Alaska. It is my hope that the State of Alaska will take this opportunity to recognize the firm foundation upon which Alaska's presence in Japan has been built and to develop it even further as a stimulus for tourism and trade in Alaska.

Sincerely,

Seibu Travel, Inc.


 KEIJI SAKAKIBARA
 General Manager of Arrow Center



PRINCE HOTELS, INC.

Kokudo Bldg., 35-1, Jingumae 6-chome, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-8381 Japan
Phone:03-3498-1111 Facsimile:3498-1113

March 3, 2000

The Honorable Eldon Mulder
Co-chair, House Finance Committee
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Representative Mulder,

As the Alaska Legislature proceeds with its deliberations on its budget for the international trade program. I wish to offer a few ideas on the efficacy of maintaining your State Office in Japan

Our company purchased and invested Alyeska Ski Resort in 1980, and built a new deluxe hotel, Westin Alyeska Prince Hotel in 1994 for promoting Alaska tourism. The State Office continues to be an invaluable source of information and assistance to promote Japanese travel market and airline traffic.

Their trade and tourism projects in Japan assist our industry in marketing and promoting

Alaska as a wonderful and beautiful part of the world to visit.

We are confident that by maintaining your current Office in Japan you will be able to continue to expand your businesses and as yet unexplored areas of economic growth.

Sincerely,

Shunichi Yamazoe
Director of Overseas Department
Prince Hotels, Inc.

Usibelli Coal Mine, Inc.

Seoul Representative Office

Room 105 Pegam Bldg, 1303-34 Socho-dong, Socho-gu, Seoul, Korea

Tel : 822-556-2898 Fax : 822-556-4456

E-Mail : injaekim@shindokorea.com

The Honorable Eldon Mulder
Co-Chairman, House Finance Committee
State Capitol, Room 507
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
Tel : 907-465-2647
Fax : 907-465-3518

March 3, 2000
Via Fax

Dear Mr. Mulder,

We would like to express our appreciation for the supports from Alaska State Division of International Trade and Market Development, and its Seoul Office in Korea enabling Usibelli to export almost 10.0 million tons for last 15 years. Every year, whenever we negotiate with Korea for price and terms, State and Seoul Office have helped us very much and coordinated with U.S. Embassy and Korea Electric Power Corporation.

Our next negotiation for year 2000/2001 with Hyundai Merchant Marine and Korea Electric Power Corporation is being scheduled in the coming August. We are always happy to work with State and Seoul Office and appreciate very much your continuous support for economic relationship between Alaska and Korea.

Sincerely yours,



Injae Kim
Representative

대한항공 KOREAN AIR

서울특별시 중구 회현동 41-3, 中央郵政局 特設局 864 電話總機 (02)751-7114, (02)656-7114, <http://www.koreanair.co.kr>
C.P.O. Box 864, Seoul, Korea Tel. (02)751-7114, <http://www.koreanair.com>

March 3, 2000

The Honorable Eldon Mulder
Co-Chairman, House Finance Committee
State Capitol, Room 507
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
Tel: (907) 465-2647
Tel: 888-465-2647
fax: (907) 465-3518

Dear Honorable Eldon Mulder:

We sincerely appreciate the support from Alaska State Division of International Trade and Market Development and its trade representative in Korea in promoting cargo services between Seoul and Anchorage.

As part of promotional efforts to air cargo services to Alaska, your trade offices in Anchorage and Seoul co-sponsored the Alaska Seafood Seminar together with us last April. We also have had the opportunities to work with your trade offices and have found them to be effective in promoting our air cargo services between Seoul and Anchorage.

We would like to commend both the Division of International Trade and Market Development and its Korea Office for their assistance in creating these opportunities.

Again, I thank the staff of the Division of International Trade and Market development for a "job well done" and look forward to working with all of them in the future.

Very Sincerely Yours



Soo-Myung Choi
Managing Vice president
Cargo Sales & Marketing

Asiana Town
Lansjeo P O Box 98
17, Osuc-Dong, Kangseo-Ku,
Seoul, Korea

Tel: (02)669-5124
Fax: (02)669-5130
Cargo Res: (02)669-5095
<http://www.asiana.co.kr> E-mail: jikim@asiana.co.kr



The Honorable Eldon Mulder
Co-Chairman, House Finance Committee
State Capitol, Room 507
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Via fax: (907) 465-3518

Dear Mr. Mulder,

We have had the good fortune of working with Alaska State Division of International Trade and Market Development, and its overseas office in Korea. It was really rewarding and enjoyable to meet with the people from these two offices and discuss the pending aircargo issues in Alaska.

We hope the cooperation between your trade offices (in Anchorage and Seoul) and Asiana Airlines will bring about the desired results. Taking this opportunity, we would like to thank the people from the above office what they have helped for our business interest in Alaska and hope that they will continue to favor us with their generous support.

Very Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J Kim".

Jae Il Kim
Vice President
Asiana Cargo

Daerim Corporation

692-13 Namburnin-Dong, Seo-Ku,

Busan, Korea

Tel : 82-51-250-2121 Fax : 82-51-242-0110

Mar 03, 2000

The Honorable Eldon Mulder
Co-Chairman, House Finance Committee
Legislative Session Contact,
State Capital, Room 507,
Juneau, Ak 99801-1182
Tel : (907)-465-2647 Fax : (907)-465-3518

Dear Mr. Mulder

We are first of all, greatly pleased to have an opportunity to contact with you. As you might know the captioned name of company, we are one of the leading company for Seafood Processing and Trading business in Korea. Our main supplying source for the Seafood Processing and Trading business are being come from mainly Bering Sea & Aleutian Islands and Gulf of Alaska regions.

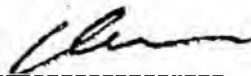
We used to get greatly valuable and vivid informations related the seafood business through Alaska State Division of International Trade and Market Development and its branch Office in Seoul, Korea.

These two organizations could help us a lot for predicting market trends and also to make a decision to buy or not.

We, sometimes, ask them to get any informations which is related overall Seafoods Industry in USA and they used to provide us many valuable informations from time to time.

We always appreciate cooperations from these two organizations and sincerely hope they will continue to support us in order for us to keep our good business.

Cordially,



Poseidon Cho
General Manager/Seafood Trading Dept.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Foreign
Agricultural
Service

Office of
Agricultural
Trade Officer

March 3, 2000

The Honorable Eldon Mulder
Co-Chairman, House Finance Committee
State Capitol, Room 507
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Sir:

I write this letter to commend the activities of the Alaska State Division of International Trade, and the Alaska State Office in Seoul, Korea. I hold both of these organizations in very high regard. We are currently cooperating with these two offices on several seafood export promotion activities. They are providing assistance we simply could not find elsewhere. I am confident that these activities will increase export sales of Alaskan industries to Korea.

Sincerely,

Daryl A. Brehm
Agricultural Trade Office
Seoul, Korea



KYOKUYO CO., LTD.

TELEPHONE: 81-3-5545-0709
FAX: 81-3-5545-0736



KOKUSAI SANNO BUILDING,
3-3 5 AKASAKA, MINATOKU,
TOKYO. 107. JAPAN

March 2, 2000

The Honorable Eldon Mulder
Co-chair, House Finance Committee
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Representative Mulder,

We get to know the Alaska Legislature is reviewing the state's international trade budget program, including its trade representation in Japan.

Our company, Kyokuyo Co., Ltd., has imported various Alaska seafoods over 40 million dollars annually as we have been doing business with Alaska nearly 40 years.

It is a pleasure for us as a major seafood company in Japan to say that the state representative in Japan has helped Japanese seafood industry in connection with Alaska.

From what we know of a Japanese presence by the State of Alaska we have no doubt that, they will not only carry on their Alaska business promotion but also promote the existing friendship between Japan and Alaska.

It will be most appreciated if you take consideration of the importance of your trade representation in Japan when you review this matter.

Yours respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yuzo Nimura', written over a horizontal line.

Yuzo Nimura

President



THE WESTIN CHOSUN

In preparation for the June Alaska Festival, I plan to visit Alaska along with our chefs and food & beverage manager around the end of this month. While we are in Alaska, we are going to select not only top quality Alaska seafood but also other food items suitable to Alaska Festival.

Under these circumstances, the support from your State Division of International Trade and Market Development (DITMD) and its trade office in Korea is an absolute necessity for a success of the scheduled Alaska Festival this June. I plan to discuss the details on the Festival with DITMD people this month.

My very best wishes for your health, wealth and happiness.

Young Hee Lee, Director
Purchasing Department

Stepped in Tradition, with Modern Comfort

87 Sokong-dong, Chung-gu, Seoul 100-070, Korea Tel: (82-2) 771-0500 Fax: (82-2) 752-1413 / 753-6470 E-mail: marketing@westinchosun.com

Reservations: Toll-free 020-417-0001

 **Mitsubishi Corporation**

63, MARUNOUCHI 2-CHOME,
CHYODA-KU,
TOKYO 100-8282, JAPAN
TELEPHONE (81) 310-2121
TELEX NICTON A 33223

March 1, 2000

The Honorable Eldon Mulder
Co-chair, House Finance Committee
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear, Representative Mulder,

I understand the Alaska Legislature is considering the budget of the state's international trade program, including its trade representation in Japan.

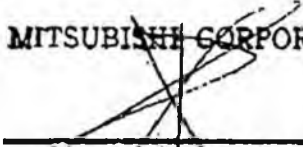
My company, Mitsubishi Corporation, has been doing business with Alaska companies for 30 years.

Having the state representative in Japan has greatly helped my company to conduct business with Alaska companies. We rely on Alaska's state trade representative for information about Alaska, assistance in contacting Alaska companies.

A Japanese presence by the State of Alaska is very important in helping my company to do business with Alaska companies.

Sincerely ,

MITSUBISHI CORPORATION



Manager, Alaska Project Team
LNG Business Department A

Marubeni

IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO
SEC. NO.
LETTER NO.

March 2, 2000

The Honorable Eldon Mulder
Co-chair, House Finance Committee
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Representative Mulder,


I understand the Alaska Legislature is considering the budget of the state's international trade program, including its trade representation in Japan.

My company, Marubeni Corporation, has been involved, well in concert and cooperation with Alaska companies, in the activities in pursuit of commercializing North Slope natural gas for more than a decade. I believe my company may also have a good business relation with Alaska companies in the other fields, such as fishery.

Having the state representative in Japan has greatly helped my company to conduct business with Alaska companies. Especially, it is of very help to us that Alaska's state trade representative provides us with the updated information in connection with the business climate in Alaska in a timely fashion.

A Japanese presence by the State of Alaska is very important in helping my company to do business with Alaska companies.

Sincerely,



Shigeki Maeda
Assistant General Manager
LNG Project Department

MARUBENI CORPORATION
C. P. O. BOX 585, TOKYO 100-8892 JAPAN
TELEPHONE: TOKYO 3282-2111
CABLE: MARUBENI TOKYO
TELEX: J22326, J22327, J22328

CORRECTIONS



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance Committee
 committee name
 committee on HB 313 Mental Health dated March 4, 2000
 bill/subject

As an adult with a physical disability due to a spinal
 cord injury, I wish to thank you for "fully
 funding the Adult Public Assistance for the
 needy blind, elderly and disabled individuals"
 Thank you for considering the need of these people.

Signed: Patricia Ann Grubbs
 Testifier

SELF - MENTAL HEALTH BOARD
 Representing (Optional)

3479 Harding St. 1, Homer, Alaska, 99613
 Address

235-7423
 Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance
 committee name
 committee on 312 Budget FY2001, dated 3-4-00
 bill/subject

The Mat-Su youth facility is complete! If MSYF is not opened in FY 2001 then every district in Alaska will suffer. 17 mat-su youth are now causing the McLaughlin statewide service unit to be at 135% over capacity. Detaining Mat-Su youth fifty miles distant in Anchorage is more costly and a great strain to already dysfunctional families.

When an incident due to McLaughlin's overcrowding results in litigation, the only ones to benefit will be the litigator's attorneys.

Please add the \$1.3M operating budget to provide fifteen youth-detention beds in Mat-Su

Signed: Paul Stein John C. Stein
 Testifier
Kids Are People, Inc / Saxton Youth Shelter
 Representing (Optional)
481 Briar Dr. Wasilla
 Address
376-0580
 Phone No.