

HB

312/313

(File 5)

HFIN

FILE

EDUCATION

+

EARLY

DEVELOP.

Central Council
Tlingit and Haida



Indian Tribes of Alaska

CENTRAL COUNCIL
 tlingit and haida indian TRIBES of alaska
 ANDREW P. HOPE BUILDING
 320 West Willoughby Avenue • Suite 300
 Juneau, Alaska 99801-9983

March 7, 2000

The House Finance Committee
Representative Mulder, Co-Chair
Representative Theriault, Co-Chair
Representative Bunde, Vice-Chair
Members:

Representative Davis
Representative Austerman
Representative Foster
Representative Grussendorf
Representative Phillips
Representative Williams
Representative Davies
Representative Moses:

The Central Council, Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (CCTHITA) Head Start Parent Policy Council strongly urges your support of Governor Tony Knowles' proposed budget increase of \$2 million for the Head Start program. This increase would enable the Head Start program to serve an additional 400 children in Alaska who are in urgent need of this service.

Right now, only 23% of eligible families are being served in Alaska. The additional money would significantly increase our ability to serve the eligible children in need of this important program. It would enrich their lives and help them to realize their full potential in a regular classroom setting and in their learning abilities in the future.

The Tlingit & Haida Head Start Parent Policy Council appreciates your support for the additional money for the Head Start budget. Thank you for your time and attention to this crucial issue.

Sincerely,

Donna Brockschmidt, Chair
 Parent Policy Council
 Tlingit & Haida Head Start Program

161 Palace Circle
Fairbanks, AK 99701
907-451-8342
March 4, 2000

House Finance Committee
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: Education Funding

Dear Finance Committee Members:

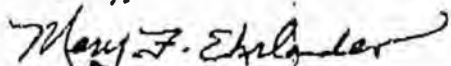
It is dismayng that in a state as rich in oil wealth as Alaska is that I should have to write and implore you to generously fund public education. I recognize that you are faced with fiscal constraints, particularly given the fact that the electorate essentially vetoed the legislature's use of part of the permanent fund for general purposes. However, it is your responsibility to establish priorities, and clearly education and public safety must be the top priorities of state government.

Because of anticipated cuts in funding for the Fairbanks North Star School District, the board and administration are contemplating cutting, among others, the instrumental music programs in elementary schools, as well as raising the PTR. At a time when the state is requiring that students take qualifying exams to receive high school diplomas (which I heartily support), it is ironic that school districts are facing funding cuts that will clearly compromise the school systems' ability to ensure the success of the maximum number of students.

While you do not determine how the school districts allocate their funds, you present them with unacceptable choices through the proposed cuts. As the mother of three sons who benefitted immeasurably from the instrumental music programs in grade school, I strongly oppose cutting these programs. My sons all excelled in music and in all academic areas (not coincidentally) through high school and went on to excel in college. In addition to the inherent benefits of music education, music played a significant role in building other academic skills, as well as instilling self discipline and character and contributing to their sense of self esteem. Eliminating the instrumental music programs from elementary schools would deny this enriching experience to many children, to the detriment of not only themselves, but the school community and society as a whole. Fairbanks should not be forced into this choice. Nor should we be faced with raising the PTR, which would clearly compromise children's achievement.

I urge you to rethink priorities, place the education and future of Alaska's children at the top of your list.

Sincerely,


Mary F. Ehrlander



Alaska State Legislature

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

I am a sixth grade teacher in Anchorage. I am responsible for teaching seven subjects. I have textbooks for only two or three. Many materials I purchase myself. Most of the curriculum I teach is curriculum I write, using resources I purchase. The resources we do have are outdated (some over 30 years)! Many students prefer to look at home because they have "better" resources. Currently I am the main resource for preparing my students for standardized exams. In order to succeed on these mandated exams (and in life!), students need current resources in the form of tangible materials that only sufficient funding can provide. Please consider the "damaging long term effects of further reductions in an absolutely essential Alaskan resource -

Signed:

funding Tara Lindh

Testifier

Representing (Optional)

PO BOX 241924 Anchorage AK 99524

Address

(907) 229-5746

Phone No.

OUR
 CHILDREN!
 Thank you!



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

I urge you to restore \$19 million to the Foundation Program for K-12 Education. We have less course offerings, larger class size, and less support staff in our schools than ever, even though our student enrollment has increased. Next year we are projecting a flat enrollment, however, our other expenses continue to increase.

Mandated benchmark exams, high school exams, Kindergarten Developmental Profile, and next year mandated Alternate Assessment all cost money \$16 per pupil is inadequate to do all that is required under the Quality Schools Initiative. Flat Funding Pupil Transportation will cause Mat-Su School district to take \$320,000

Signed: _____
 Testifier
 from our operating budget to pay for testing. This is drastic!
 Representing (Optional)

Address
 Please add the \$19 million back to Foundation

Phone No.
 Funding + Fully Fund Pupil Transportation
 9/85 Legislative Information Office
 Thank you
 Lucy Hope / Box 870887
 376-4794 / Wasilla AK
 99687

To House Finance Committee members,

I am a Head Start teacher for the Kenaitze Head Start program, and I am concerned that there are no increases for Head Start programs in the budget, nor increases in child care licensing, child care businesses or increases for operating funds for existing Head Start programs.

I urge you to think of investing in Alaska's children, especially young children. Head Start is a critical program, providing opportunities for low income children to attend preschool and be better prepared for school, and provide support and education for the families in Head Start programs.

Head Start is a preventative program. Money spent on preventative programs is money well spent for the greater good of our Alaskan communities.

I would urge you to rethink cutting money from the proposed increases for these child-directed programs, and consider taking money from proposed increases for prisons.

Children should come first. They are our future. At present, less than half the children who qualify for Head Start programs have the opportunity to attend these programs. Thank you for considering this testimony, and the importance of our Head Start and child care programs.

Sincerely,

Urinet Shapley
Kenaitze Head Start

292 Katmai Ave
Soldotna, AK 99669

Page 2 of 2
Martishev

House Finance Committee,

My name is Juley Martishev. I am an educator, a student, and a mother. So I see from every angle how the budget cuts are affecting us. We are losing teachers, support staff, and closing schools.

As an educator, I see it in the classrooms everyday. We are expected to do more and more all the time but when we lose teachers, there will be more kids in classrooms. And teachers are supposed to and do handle it.

As a student, I don't want our universities to lose money because I want to keep going to school here, in Alaska, not outside in the Lower 48.

And of course, as a mom, I want my kids to get as much out of school as possible. I don't want them to be in a classroom where the teacher is so overwhelmed, he/she doesn't have time for some one on one w/my ^{or any} child, when he/she needs it.

It is always said that children are our future. But if schools keep getting cut, it's our children that will be hurt. I implore you not to cut our schools and if possible to actually put more money into schools, universities, child care services.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HOUSE FINANCES
 committee name
 committee on HR 312, dated 3-4-2000
 bill # / subject

I WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS THE PROPOSED REDUCTION IN THE FOUNDATION FORMULA.

I AM THE HEADS CUSTODIAN AT SOCDOTNA HIGH SCHOOL. THE JOB OF CUSTODIANS IS NOT & CANNOT BE TIED TO ENROLLMENT. IT IS CALCULATED BY SQUARE FOOTAGE OF THE BUILDING. AT MY BUILDING OUR STAFFING HAS BEEN REDUCED FROM 11 CUSTODIANS TO 7 THROUGH PAST BUDGET CUTS. ALL OF THE SITES WITHIN OUR DISTRICT, 37 IN ALL, HAVE SUSTAINED CUTS IN BOTH CUSTODIAL STAFFING & CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES.

DECLINING ENROLLMENT DOES NOT RELIEVE OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO CLEAN RESTROOMS WITHIN 24 HOURS OF USE (DEC. REG.) OR TO KEEP CARPETS CLEAN AS THEY ARE THE NUMBER 1 FACTOR AFFECTING INDOOR AIR QUALITY. RECENTLY 2 SCHOOLS IN TUTTLE WASHINGTON WERE CLOSED DUE TO UNHEALTHY CONDITIONS FROM LACK OF CUSTODIANS. THE COST TO BRING THESE SCHOOLS BACK ON LINE WILL BE ENORMOUS, INVOLVING REMOVAL OF DRYWALL, INSULATION, & SANITIZING THE WALL STUDS.

CUSTODIANS ARE USUALLY THE FIRST CUTS WITH DOWNDING BUDGETS. IT IS VITAL TO FULLY FUND EDUCATION.

Signed: [Signature] - JUDITH GARDNER III VICE PRES. KPESA
 Testifier

KENAI PENINSULA EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT ASSOCI.
 Representing (Optional)

P.O. Box 1448 SOCDOTNA, AK. 99169
 Address

(907) 262-5254
 Phone number

My name is Kelly O'Connor Demko. I'm a teacher in the Petersburg School District and I'm concerned about your proposed cut to public education of 19 million dollars. Our school has experienced continual cuts to our budget for several years in a row. Long ago our music program was cut as well as a counselor position. Last year we suffered a huge loss of aid time in our classrooms and a reduction of special education services due to the new funding formula. The needy students do not lessen each year to coincide with these cuts, in fact it is just the opposite. We are experiencing an influx or increasingly needy children due to several factors in our community as well as environmental factors that influence children's growth. Continually under threat are our vital swimming and library programs. We're doing our best to keep up with mandates from the legislature for testing with no added income.

Every new year that goes by we can only cry for the continual loss of vital programs to our system. We should be talking about a foreign language program through out the school and an increase in technology training to help our children live and be successful in an increasingly competitive international market. We are unable to even talk about restoring the recent loss of programs because we are so involved in figuring out how we are going to keep our existing programs, let alone being able to talk about creating excellent educational programs for our children.

We all know that the price of oil is high right now and we are very aware of the money sitting in the permanent fund and we know that something creatively *can* be done with those monies to fund education fairly and rationally besides cutting the budget every year. This doesn't seem too creative from our perspective.

I also would like to comment on this process of public input. I've been sitting here for three hours waiting to speak to you. I know there are at least 200 people who feel the same as myself, but it is physically impossible for that many people to fit in this room and for a period of 4 hours! On the radio you said if you hear testimony against what you have proposed you will know people are unhappy with the budget proposal, now your saying that you cannot accommodate the very small number of people who are able to give input. This process is obviously inadequate!

I just have one question in closing that I would like you to answer for the public as you move forward in this process. What has happened between last year and this year to justify the diminished funds to education and public radio as well?

Thank you,
Kelly O'Connor Demko
P.O. Box 271
Petersburg, AK 99833
907 -772 -4389
3/4/2000

161 Palace Circle
Fairbanks, AK 99701
907-451-8342
March 4, 2000

House Finance Committee
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: Education Funding

Dear Finance Committee Members:

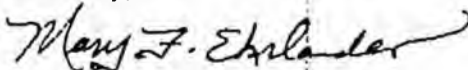
It is dismaying that in a state as rich in oil wealth as Alaska is that I should have to write and implore you to generously fund public education. I recognize that you are faced with fiscal constraints, particularly given the fact that the electorate essentially vetoed the legislature's use of part of the permanent fund for general purposes. However, it is your responsibility to establish priorities, and clearly education and public safety must be the top priorities of state government.

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While you do not determine how the school districts allocate their funds, you present them with unacceptable choices through the proposed cuts. As the mother of three sons who benefitted immeasurably from the instrumental music programs in grade school, I strongly oppose cutting these programs. My sons all excelled in music and in all academic areas (not coincidentally) through high school and went on to excel in college. In addition to the inherent benefits of music education, music played a significant role in building other academic skills, as well as instilling self discipline and character and contributing to their sense of self esteem. Eliminating the instrumental music programs from elementary schools would deny this enriching experience to many children, to the detriment of not only themselves, but the school community and society as a whole. Fairbanks should not be forced into this choice. Nor should we be faced with raising the PTR, which would clearly compromise children's achievement.

I urge you to rethink priorities, place the education and future of Alaska's children at the top of your list.

Sincerely,



Mary F. Ehrlander

March 12, 2000

Please distribute to all Finance Committee members - Thank you.

Re: **HJR 6 - To Amend the Constitution for Education**

Dear Representative Therriault,

I would like to request the House Finance Committee to hold hearings on HJR 6 to amend the constitution to make available a voucher system for education available to parents for the following reasons:

1. My son has birth defect/brain injury syndromes and the new learned devised strategies on these syndromes to create success for these children were not being applied to my six-year old son in the school district. My son's needs went by unaddressed for 1.5 years of kindergarten (he had to repeat). To put a disabled child into a classroom without the supports that work for the specific impairment is to abuse the child - *the idea is to bridge the educational gap that exists so that the impaired child can get the curriculum goals other children can ordinarily get on their own, but the impaired child cannot* - this takes specialized supports, techniques *specific* to each disability, which there are many children with various disabilities (a very individual thing, some brain, some developmental, etc.). If this is not happening, the child's educational and developmental goals fall grossly behind, as my son's consistently did. Quality education is the issue here - it has become too broad a business, children's needs not being met.

2. These children with the birth defect/brain injury syndromes are volatile and preventable secondary characteristics begin to occur if these children are not appropriately addressed according the needs of the disability - this occurred for my six-year old son in his first kindergarten year in Juneau. When it was occurring throughout his second year again, I had to remove him from the school setting.

3. When I tried to get into a home school correspondence situation for my son to use the known devised strategies for the disability myself, I became #723 on the waitlist for one; told there is a chance of not getting to participate in any of the correspondence programs I applied to. *These programs are not treated as the school district where if a new student is in need the funding becomes available to them.* They shut us all out after the funding allowable cutoff date occurs, and let us know there is no guarantee we will ever get to participate. There is no room in charter schools **(funding issues)**

4. I cannot afford to home school my child alone and need a voucher system so that I can receive the money the district ordinarily would receive. I am the low income, single parent household. I face many difficult crossroads such as, do I educate my child or keep letting his needs go by unaddressed because of the demands of American life to where he will not be able to have a quality life when the age and time arrives? This pulls at my heart and the hearts of many parents and I have had to make *desperate and difficult choices*. I need the resources to help me educate my impaired child in the home.

Please allow this bill to be given great merit and be scheduled for a hearing and moved on seriously for consideration on the floors. Your understanding is appreciated in the lives of our impaired children, so that they can be worked with to see what their latent potentials might be capable of doing, instead of an *ignorant, unpassionate, understaffed with disability specialists and unimpassioned ideas to help these impaired children* type of education system. This is very **serious** peril for these children. If there is the better thing to help parents - the child receives the better thing in life than the lesser that must be looked towards with only desire, unable for us to touch. Then, we have to deal with the state waitlist to even get resources to get the child to a special developmentally assistive clinic *known to help these children* while they are still young, to change the course of their life. The waitlists in these alternatives show there is very true needs occurring here. Your consideration is greatly appreciated in these serious matters.

Thank you.

Joan Dangeli
Joan Dangeli

Box 34711
Juneau, AK 99803-4711
586-2765



Alaska State Legislature

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

I support fully funding the Higher Education Budget as requested by the Chancellor. To do otherwise will cause further brain drain from our faculties and increase the number of students leaving the state, seeking the quality of higher education that should be available within our state!

Post-It® Fax Note	7671	Date	3/4/00	# of pages	10
To	House Finance	From	Homer LIO		
Co./Dept.		Co.			
Phone #		Phone #	235-87878		
Fax #	465-6813	Fax #			

Signed: Darlene Byrne
 Testifier
self
 Representing (Optional)
59855 Sanford Dr. Homer
 Address
907 235-6264
 Phone No.

FROM: MARTA MUELLER
PO BOX 82724
FAIRBANKS AK 99708
(907) 479-6780

RE: HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE
TELECONFERENCE
DATE: 03 04 00

Thank you for your service to the state of Alaska. I am an alumna of the University of Alaska Fairbanks. As an alumna I speak for many Alaskans when I say our state should be proud of our alma mates. Many of our community leaders and even our legislators are alumni, have worked for the university, received or sold ~~from~~ services from or for the university, or hired university alumni and students. With the myriad ways the university has worked in Alaskan lives it has been disappointing to see declines in enrollment, faculty, and services but yet student tuition and fees increase. Last year's increase to the UofA budget was met with enthusiasm and renewed spirit by our administrators, students, and Board of Regents. I hope the legislature carries this spirit forward by investing in the UofA now. I wholeheartedly support the \$16.9 million dollar increase to the UofA general fund. I encourage the House finance committee to meet the challenges of the new millennium by supporting this increase. Our state deserves an educated workforce, dedicated citizens, and educational opportunities the UofA can offer.

(And I'm sorry about my crack on UAA being underrepresented in the legislature and maybe they should start producing more dedicated citizens).

Marta Mueller

Committee Meetings



(S) FINANCE			STANDING COMMITTEE	*
Mar 3	Friday	9:00 AM	SENATE FINANCE 532	
=+SB 95		SCHOOL GRADE LEVELS	TELECONFERENCED	
=+SB 105		PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING	TELECONFERENCED	
+SB 198		INCREASE BASE ALLOCATION FOR EDUCATION	TELECONFERENCED	
+SB 244		QUALITY SCHOOL GRANT FUND INCREASE	TELECONFERENCED	
		Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

(H) JUDICIARY			STANDING COMMITTEE	*
Mar 3	Friday	1:00 PM	CAPITOL 120	
+HB 310		ALASKA INSURANCE GUARANTY ASSOCIATION	TELECONFERENCED	
+HB 284		UNINSURED MOTOR VEHICLE INSURANCE	TELECONFERENCED	
+HB 378		WORKERS COMP AND WORKER SAFETY	TELECONFERENCED	
		{Bill Postponed to 3/6}		
		{Pending Referral}		
		Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

(H) RESOURCES			STANDING COMMITTEE	*
Mar 3	Friday	1:00 PM	CAPITOL 124	
		-- Meeting Canceled --		
		Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

(S) COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS			STANDING COMMITTEE	*
Mar 3	Friday	1:30 PM	FAHRENKAMP 203	
		No Meeting Scheduled		

(H) FINANCE			STANDING COMMITTEE	*
Mar 3	Friday	1:30 PM	HOUSE FINANCE 519	
+SB 7		INCREASE LAND GRANT TO UNIV. OF ALASKA	TELECONFERENCED	
= HB 218		MUSEUM ACQUISITION OF UNCLAIMED PROPERTY		
		{Bill Held Over From 2/28}		
		Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

(S) JUDICIARY			STANDING COMMITTEE	*
Mar 3	Friday	1:30 PM	BELTZ 211	
		Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		TELECONFER.

(S) RESOURCES			STANDING COMMITTEE	*
Mar 3	Friday	3:00 PM	BUTROVICH 205	
= SB 273		OIL SPILL RESPONSE; NONTANK VESSELS & RR		
		Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

(H) LABOR & COMMERCE			STANDING COMMITTEE	*
Mar 3	Friday	3:15 PM	CAPITOL 17	
*+HB 398		LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE GUARANTY ASSN	TELECONFERENCED	
+HB 224		PERA: NOTICE BEFORE STRIKE	TELECONFERENCED	
		Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

(H) FINANCE			STANDING COMMITTEE	*
Mar 4	Saturday	9:00 AM	HOUSE FINANCE 519	

Testimony for 3/4/00 House Finance Committee meeting

● My goals are not modest. My life, education, and future is to empower Alaska through the improvement of the UA System. Only through improvement of our university system will Alaska thrive. Quality graduates and new research creates a powerful economy, which promotes a strong, flourishing state.

I transferred up here two years ago from Colorado State University. I feel the quality of education is much better at UAF. My professors are accessible, ● the classes are worthwhile, and my program, business administration, has the highest accreditation possible. We must promote the quality that UAF and the UA system has while looking for new avenues to increase appeal to prospective students and professors.

Through my employment at the Office of Admissions and my involvement in ASUAF Senate, I've been able to explore UAF's strengths and needs. UAF should emphasize its strengths, which include, but are not limited to, the ● sociology program, the accounting program and its 100% placement

Teleconference Announcement**TCN:** 10157**Date:** March 08, 2000 1:15 PM**Address:** 119 N CUSHMAN ST**Room:****Sponsor:** EXEC: DEPARTMENT OF H&SS, DFYS**Purpose:** PUB**Agenda:** PROPOSED REGULATION CHANGES REGARDING
1: LICENSURE OF RESIDENTIAL PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENT
CENTERS**Sponsor Remarks:****FAIRBANKS Teleconference Announcement****TCN:** 10514**Date:** March 08, 2000 1:30 PM**Sponsor:** SCRA: COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS**Purpose:** PUB**Agenda:** 1: HB 133 VOTER APPROVAL OF SERVICE AREA CHANGES
3: SB 284 FALSE CLAIMS AGAINST STATE OR MUNI.
2: HB 340 KETCHIKAN INDIAN CORPORATION AS A RHA**Sponsor Remarks:****Teleconference Announcement****TCN:** 10508**Date:** March 08, 2000 3:15 PM**Address:** 119 N CUSHMAN ST**Room:****Sponsor:** HL&C: LABOR & COMMERCE**Purpose:** PUB**Agenda:** 2: HB 422 WORKERS' COMPENSATION:DRUGS & ALCOHOL
4: Bills previously heard/scheduled
1: HB 334 CHARGE FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT QUOTA
3: HB 419 WORKERS' COMPENSATION**Sponsor Remarks:**

of graduates in accounting fields along with its success in math-modeling competitions. UAF needs to develop stronger associates programs in health fields and create undergraduate programs in tourism and marine biology.

These things can only happen with full funding of the university system. I love being here and my future after graduation lies in Alaska. I want the University to grow stronger. We need full funding so that the UA system can maximize its potential, create a strong Alaskan Economy, and receive the recognition it deserves.

Vanessa Spencer
UAF student



Teleconference Announcements

Main Menu Teleconference Announcement

Search

TCN: 10472

Date: March 03, 2000 9:00 AM

Address: 119 W CASHMAN ST

Room:

Sponsor: SFIN: FINANCE

Purpose: PUB

- Agenda:**
- 1: SB 95 SCHOOL GRADE LEVELS
 - 2: SB 105 PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING
 - 3: SB 198 INCREASE BASE ALLOCATION FOR EDUCATION
 - 4: SB 244 QUALITY SCHOOL GRANT FUND INCREASE

Sponsor Remarks:

FAIRBANKS Teleconference Announcement

TCN: 10468

Date: March 03, 2000 1:00 PM

Sponsor: HJUD: JUDICIARY

Purpose: PUB

- Agenda:**
- 2: HB 284 UNINSURED MOTOR VEHICLE INSURANCE
 - 1: HB 310 ALASKA INSURANCE GUARANTY ASSOCIATION
 - 3: HB 378 WORKERS COMP AND WORKER SAFETY

Sponsor Remarks:

FAIRBANKS Teleconference Announcement

TCN: 10479

Date: March 03, 2000 1:30 PM

Sponsor: SJUD: JUDICIARY

Purpose: PUB

- Agenda:**
- 1: Bill Previously Heard or Scheduled

Sponsor Remarks:

To: All members of the State House and Senate Finance and Health, Education and SS Committees

From: Carter (Sally to some) Crawford, Member Chamber University Committee

2/28 Page 1 of 2

YOU HAVE HEARD THE NEED

NOW FIND THE MONEY

UA EDUCATION IS AN INVESTMENT THAT PAYS DIVIDENDS TO ALASKA PERMANENTLY!

Thank you any and all efforts to find this investment

Reaume is convinced Alaska can't establish a significant high-tech industry without a strong university system. He noted national software and pharmaceutical firms located in

Boston and Ann Arbor, Mich., home to major universities.

The University of Alaska system could be the best bet for the future, Reaume said, but would need increased investment since "as an institution it's been crippled," he said.

Other universities, like the University of California Los Angeles and the University of Rochester in New York, have beefed up their programs, he said.

In Alaska it would first require building and student housing repairs, followed by pumping up two or three departments with leading professors, perhaps in mining sciences, arctic engineering and biotechnology, he said.

Payout from the change could take several years but could attract more students and opportunities, he added.

"I think it's worth investigating," Goldsmith said. "If we don't put money in the university system we do a disservice to the next generation."

Page 2: Crawford to Finance and Education

I am no student of the budget so it is difficult for me to know where to find the \$16.9 million. I know you can.

I certainly support the 60 day session idea, and I was one of the few who voted to cap the PFD. However in my neighborhood the reason was simply greed. No one wanted to give up even a little to get a long-term payout. I really do not think they understood it.

I also support the new Higher Education Tax-Deferred Account, but want more provisions in it to restrict its use outside Alaska.

If it is illegal to require the money be spent only in the state, can we put a penalty on its withdrawal for out of state use prior to age 59 ½?

For the record, the \$25,000 payout is not the solution. I agree with every objection. However I have not seen anyone mention the impact this would have on local retailers. Without this infusion every Oct., many businesses that rely on the PFD to jump-start the important 4th quarter sales would suffer enormously.

Thank you for 'listening.'



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Finance
 committee name
 committee on _____, dated 3-04-00
 bill/subject

The University is important
 for the future of Alaska. By
fully funding the University
 you are supporting the
 future of Alaska

Signed: Robert Rumble
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)
133 W. 24th #7
 Address
907-222-7756
 Phone No.

I support President Hamilton's budget plan for the rural university sites of Alaska. I enjoy the opportunities that have been presented to me to help further my education here at the U.A.F. in Nakhnek

4 MARCH 2000

Zoelle R. Nelson

I Abe Williams of King Salmon AK, am in strong support of : president Hamiltons Budget proposal for the rural learning sites. I fully believe that this is a very important learning tool for all rural residents, It would be very unfortunate to lose such a great program, in areas where learning programs are greatly appreciated.

Abe Williams _____


I am in support of President
Hamilton Proposed budget I have
recently taken classes at the NAKNEK
Campus and they have helped me
reach my full potential. Rural Campuses
are wonderful for those of us who
want to continue our education without
having to leave our villages.

Mary Swain

3/4/00

- I support President Hamilton's proposed budget for the Rural education of UAF campus in Valdez, AK. I use this campus frequently, and find it very useful and necessary.

Yvonne Gordon



I support President Hamilton's
Proposed budget for the Rural
UAF offices. It's vital for
Continued education in rural
communities.

Laura Whitta



I am in support
of UAF Campus in Naknek.
I feel it is a necessary
program. I support president
Hamilton's budget for UAF Rural
Sites. The classes offered here
at the Naknek site have enriched
my life and helps me in my
continuing education. I am currently
working towards my B.A.

Krista Williams

Krista Williams

I Support The Rural education
System. Without this system ~~a~~ most
people would not be able to even get
a education. ~~and~~ and I feel it is
Very important

Jane Munn



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

I just got finish w/ a semester at the Anchorage Campus and am 1/2 way through ~~the~~ semester at KBC. I'm so grateful for KBC. Anchorage. was full students who didn't appreciate the school. → KBC students show true compassion for learning. ~~to~~ I / money went to people who would appreciate the most KBC would be rich.

Signed: Heidi So Gagnon
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)
PO Box 14254
 Address
235-2064
 Phone No.

3/04/00

● To House Finance Committee:

I support President Hamilton's proposed budget for UAF, especially to support the Rural Campuses.

I also support continued adequate funding for public broadcasting... this is the life blood of rural Alaska.

Thank you for your attention.

Jeff Adams

Jeff Adams

MAR-04-00 SAT 12:40 PM FAIRBANKS LIO
FROM: MARITI MUELLEN

FAX NO. 907 456 3346

P. 16/20

PO BOX 82724
FAIRBANKS AK 99708

TELECONFERENCE

(907) 479-6780

DATE: 03 04 00

Thank you for your service to the state of Alaska. I am an alumna of the University of Alaska Fairbanks. As an alumna I speak for many Alaskans when I say our state should be proud of our alma mates. Many of our community leaders and even our legislators are alumni, have worked for the university, received or sold ~~some~~ services from or for the university, or hired university alumni and students. With the myriad ways the university has worked in Alaskan lives it has been disappointing to see declines in enrollment, faculty, and services but yet student tuition and fees increase. Last year's increase to the UofA budget was met with enthusiasm and renewed spirit by our administrators, students, and Board of Regents. I hope the legislature carries this spirit forward by investing in the UofA now. I wholeheartedly support the \$16.9 million dollar increase to the UofA general fund. I encourage the house finance committee to meet the challenges of the new millennium by supporting this increase. Our state deserves an educated workforce, dedicated citizens, and educational opportunities the UofA can offer.

(And I'm sorry about my crack on UofA being under-represented in the legislature and maybe they should start producing more dedicated citizens).

Mariti Muel

Testimony for 3/4/00 House Finance Committee meeting

● My goals are not modest. My life, education, and future is to empower Alaska through the improvement of the UA System. Only through improvement of our university system will Alaska thrive. Quality graduates and new research creates a powerful economy, which promotes a strong, flourishing state.

I transferred up here two years ago from Colorado State University. I feel the quality of education is much better at UAF. My professors are accessible, ● the classes are worthwhile, and my program, business administration, has the highest accreditation possible. We must promote the quality that UAF and the UA system has while looking for new avenues to increase appeal to prospective students and professors.

Through my employment at the Office of Admissions and my involvement in ASUAF Senate, I've been able to explore UAF's strengths and needs. UAF should emphasize its strengths, which include, but are not limited to, the ● sociology program, the accounting program and its local placement

of graduates in accounting fields along with its
● success in math-modeling competitions. UAF needs
to develop stronger associates programs in health fields
and create undergraduate programs in tourism and
marine biology.

These things can only happen with
full funding of the university system. I love being
here and my future after graduation lies in Alaska.
● I want the University to grow stronger. We need
full funding so that the UA system can maximize
its potential, create a strong Alaskan Economy, and
receive the recognition it deserves.

Vanessa Spencer
UAF student



Alaska State Legislature

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

Hello my name is Heather Reichenberg - and I am testifying for the full increase on the University's Operating Budget of \$16.9 million, for new operating funds that could put higher ed. in this state on track.

I am a full-time student at UAA at the KISC branch. Also Vice-Pres. on the S.A. I am here speaking on behalf of all the Officers & reps on the S.A. - included w/ quotes from our Pass over Treasurer. There are also 3 students here to testify. First off I believe funding Education should not be a question or put on the back burner. Since it is, I would like you to take into account the benefits that universities offer their states. Benefits that we as a state are losing. Such as new business, industry, cultural influences & outlets. Recognition from the rest of the nation as a state that provide its citizens w/ a promising economy due to ~~its~~ the good/promising education. But also a state that is in line w/ the rest of the world.

Signed: Heather Reichenberg Heather Reichenberg
 Testifier
 VA.
 Representing (Optional)
 P.O. Box 11685 Homer, AK 99103
 Address
 399-7433
 Phone No.

For example, we should be attracting college bound students into the state, not out. 60% of Alaska's college bound students leave this state, to then work for those states. This University offers fewer programs than any other western college or University.

This state has only increased its higher education spending by 2%, while other oil states have increased by 57%. To me these facts are insulting - the fact that you will not take into account ~~the~~ the education of the people who support & love this state.

I love this state, it is my birthplace. I do not need to leave to receive quality education - if you ~~can~~ support my needs. How does this lack of support make not only my future, but also the states future look?

(Annie Pao) "Alaskans possess some of the largest & most valuable resources in the world. Alaskans want to possess the tools to effectively utilize our untapped markets without exploiting our resources. Education will enable Alaskans to empower themselves, thus maintaining our quality of life."

The University has made due - by losing 230 full-time faculty, & preventing advancement. Leaving \$121 million dollars worth in repairs.

The University budget that was prepared by the board of regents asks for \$16.9 million in full. \$11.6 million is NEEDED to meet salary, inflation & program maintenance. An additional \$5.3 million will allow a continuation of programs that we have this year. ~~the~~ Finding for Databases for Alaskans (An essential research tool) is needed.

I believe that one of the five cornerstones of this state and our nation, is quality education! To refuse the people in a democratic nation this empowerment is a grave mistake. We understand the challenge this committee faces, but will leave you with this quote by Derek Bok:

"If you think education is expensive,
TRY IGNORANCE."

MUSEUM

MUSEUM

To the House Finance Committee

I am also faxing this testimony because I abbreviated it in order to present within the one-minute limit imposed on those of us who testified in Anchorage. I now see by looking at Gavel to Gavel that you are not restricting others to one minute, so I respectfully submit these comments.

I am Donna Matthews, Executive Director of Museums Alaska, a member organization of museums, museum professionals, and museum supporters.

We are relieved that you are no longer considering eliminating the budget for the Sheldon Jackson Museum. Nor are you considering moving the collection to another location. But we are still concerned that you are considering a budget cut of 20%—\$56,000—that means that the Sheldon Jackson Museum will be closed for 2 months.

Do you know what a 2-month closure means in this Museum?

The collection—Alaska's premier ethnographic collection valued at more than \$13.5 million dollars—will be at risk from all the lurking pests, systems failures, human errors and evils that can threaten valuable objects. Even the best intentions of a skeleton staff will not be comparable to the diligence of the FOUR staff (2 = professionally-trained museum staff; 2 = security/visitor services) who now care for this incomparable treasure.

There will be no revenue from program or admissions during that 2 months, nor will there be opportunities to plan and develop programs to generate revenue during that time. But you stated in intent language last year, that this Museum should increase its program receipts, and you propose this year that the Museum earn an additional \$30,000 in program receipts. How can a facility increase program receipts when it is closed for 1/6th of the year?

Do you know what the Sheldon Jackson Museum means to all of us?

This Museum is as comprehensive a representation of Alaska's cultural heritage as you will find.

Continued, next page

Continued from preceding page

- At 111 years, The Sheldon Jackson is the oldest museum in the State. It is a statewide facility that provides educational and curatorial services all around the State..
- This Museum provides hands-on objects to schools and libraries and tourism groups all over the State. Last year, 10,590 people handled these objects—and even more visited the Museum in person.
- The collection is the most historically significant in the State. Its Alaska Native artifacts are among the oldest and highest quality.
- Even the building is historically significant. It is the first concrete structure erected in Alaska and is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Do you know why this cut is before you?

Last year, you proposed in intent language that the Museum become self-supporting. This language was vetoed by the Governor. We believe that you did not have all the information you needed to make a sound recommendation about this Museum at that time. AND we know that you do not have all the information now. This budget cut came to you from the Governor's office because Education Dept. staff wanted to avoid your closing the Museum. That is laudable, but no one who participated in this recommendation is a trained museum professional who knows what the real impact of this closure means to Alaska's most valuable cultural heritage collection. That impact is significant and may potentially damage the collection and will surely have a negative effect on the quality of this great Museum.

Museums Alaska urges you to remove this cut from your budget consideration until you have all the information you need to make a sound decision for the future of this remarkable and valuable Alaska cultural heritage resource. Sheldon Jackson initiated his collecting for this museum because he was appalled by the mass exodus of Alaska's objects to museums and collectors in the rest of the United States. He understood this vision: that if the "stuff" isn't here for us to see, to hold, to share, our children, our visitors, our future generations will not know who we are and what we did here.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the AFIN
Finance Comm.
 committee name
 committee on Budget, dated 3/4/00
 bill/subject

Please do not close Sheldon Jackson Museum.
 It is an important collection that should stay
 together in the oldest Museum in the state.
 It has been used in exhibits traveling the state -
 and nation - including Yupik Mask Exhibit curated by
 Anchorage Museum a few years ago. There will
 be a cost and trauma to saleable artifacts
 moving them and putting them in other
 museums.

Signed Jennie Clark
 Testifier
 Museums AK (Sheldon Jackson Museum)
 Representing (Optional)
 Address PO Box 1912 Valdez - 99686
 Phone No 835-2421 day - 20964



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the EDUCATION
 committee name
 committee on SHELDON JACKSON, dated 3/4/00
 bill/subject MUSEUM

I URGE YOU TO RECONSIDER THE PROPOSED \$50,000 CUT TO THE OPERATING BUDGET FOR SHELDON JACKSON MUSEUM FOR FY 2001.

SHELDON JACKSON MUSEUM IS THE OLDEST MUSEUM IN THE STATE WITH ONE OF THE STRONGEST RECORDS OF OUTREACH TO A STATEWIDE CONSTITUENCY BOTH IN TERMS OF ITS EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND REPRESENTATION OF ALL OF THE ALASKA NATIVE CULTURES WITHIN THE STATE.

I, AND MANY OTHERS ARE AFRAID IF THIS CUT BECOMES A REALITY, IT WILL BE THE FIRST STEP IN AN IRREVERSIBLE DIRECTION WHICH COULD ULTIMATELY DESTROY ONE OF THE STATES MOST VALUABLE ASSETS.

Signed: Janet L. Steinerquist JANET L. STEINERQUIST
 Testifier
FRIENDS OF SHELDON JACKSON MUSEUM
 Representing (Optional) BOARD
P.O. Box 2462 - SITKA, AK 99835
 Address
(907) 966-4623
 Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance
 committee name
 co.mmittee on St. Museum
cut or removal, dated March 4, 2000.
 bill/subject

Dear Sirs & Ms.

Alderson Jackson Museum is our
 heritage here in Sitka. it goes
 beyond tourism. it goes to education
 and native studies as well students
 using museum -
 it feels like once a again a jewel
 making a part of our property
 & heritage

Signed: Susan Stanford
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)
709 Lincoln St Sitka
 Address
907 747 4900
 Phone No.

*Elizabeth Pontti Eufemio, MA, RPA
P.O. Box 907
Kodiak, AK 99615
(907) 486-7004, FAX (907) 486-7048
libby@eagle.ptialaska.net*

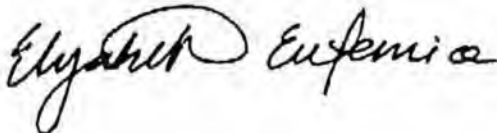
February 28, 2000

Representative Eldon Mulder
FAX (907) 465-3518

Dear Representative Mulder,

I am writing you because I am concerned about the status of the Sheldon Jackson Museum. I strongly urge you to support continued funding of this wonderful and historic museum. You might not realize how great an impact the Sheldon Jackson Museum has across the state of Alaska. On many occasions I have used the museum's Hands-On Loan program, both for staff training and for enrichment here at the Alutiiq Museum in Kodiak. I have found this service invaluable - nowhere else can museum professionals so easily access materials such as these on a loan basis. Programs such as these serve rural Alaska and should continue to be supported at their current level. I hope you will reconsider your position and vote to preserve this state treasure.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth P. Eufemio
Collections Manager
Alutiiq Museum

Representative Eldon Mulder, Alaska State Legislature

I am an Anchorage resident and an ardent supporter of Alaska's cultural heritage. I write to urge you to reject any cuts to the budget for the state's museums and especially to voice my concern over proposals that are being suggested to cut or eliminate funding for the Sheldon Jackson Museum.

Unfortunately, most of the objects of our history (Native and non-native) have left Alaska. Those of us who are concerned about our great cultural heritage can still, however, point with pride and enthusiasm to the Sheldon Jackson Museum in Sitka as one of the most significant repositories of our history still remaining in the state.

These are some of the reasons why I urge you to continue responsible support for this important cultural institution:

- **The Sheldon Jackson Museum is charged by statute with collecting and preserving the evidence of Alaska's past and providing programs to educate the public and to assist small museums around the state.**
The Alaska State Museums (Juneau and Sitka) are charged by statute (AS 14.57.010) with collecting and preserving the evidence of Alaska's past and providing programs to educate the public and to assist small museums around the state. The staff has experienced a 41% cut since FY 1986. With less money than was appropriated in 1986, the Museum is required to care for and administer a collection valued at millions of dollars.
- **The Sheldon Jackson Museum is a statewide facility,** providing educational services to schools and libraries all around Alaska. Its collection formed the nucleus for the highly regarded Yup'ik Masks exhibition that traveled throughout Alaska and nationally to great acclaim. One of its most far reaching programs is the Hands-on Loan program. Over a one-year period 10,590 people (other than Museum visitors) had the opportunity to interact with these materials in their schools, libraries, local museums and through exhibits on board ships.
- **The Sheldon Jackson Museum is an important visitor destination.**
In 1999 the Museum served 18,872 people. There were 9579 general public visitors; 4034 were visitors coming through on bus tours. Forty-five researchers made use of the Museum's collections.
- **The Sheldon Jackson Museum is important in the story of our state's history.** At 111 years, The Sheldon Jackson is the oldest museum in the state. The building that houses the Museum's collection is the first concrete structure ever built in Alaska. Its significance is recognized by placement on the National Register of Historical Places. The collection of objects at the Sheldon Jackson Museum is acknowledged as the most important ethnographic collection in the state.

Our museums and cultural centers care for our cultural objects so that we can share our stories with our children and our visitors, and we can explain and describe ourselves to future generations. We rely on objects to help us tell the story of what we have been and what we might become. I hope you will reject any cuts to the budget for the state's museums.

Donna Matthews

Donna Matthews
8916 Gloralee St
Anchorage AK
907-243-4714

9541 Victor Road
Anchorage, AK 99515
25 February 2000

VIA FAX

Rep. Eldon Mulder 465-3518
Rep. Lisa Murkowski 465-2293
Rep. John Coghill 465-3258
Rep. Andrew Halcro 465-2418
Rep. Sharon Cissna 465-4588
Rep. Jeannette James 465-2381
Rep. Rcggie Joule 465-4586

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I was distressed to hear of the proposed \$56,000 reduction of the Sheldon Jackson Museum's funding. I understand that the Department of Education's proposal for this cut was a response to a legislator's misapprehension that the State has two museums, which I am quite sure you know is not the case.

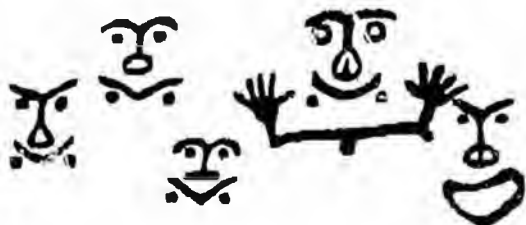
The acquisition of the Sheldon Jackson Museum by the Alaska State Museum was a major step in assuring the preservation, in perpetuity, for the benefit of the people of the State, of a truly major collection of literally irreplaceable anthropological materials. The present decision appears to place that collection under a significant and unacceptable threat.

I urge you to either press the Department of Education to find other, less damaging, places to make cuts in its budget, or, failing that, adding funds to that budget to correct the problem.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Diters
Former Chair, Alaska State Museum
Collections Advisory Committee



Alutiiq Museum and Archaeological Repository

215 Mission Road, Suite 101, Kodiak, Alaska 99615
(907) 486-7004 Fax: (907) 486-7048 E-mail: alutiiq2@ptialaska.net

February 28, 2000

Honorable Eldon Mulder
Honorable Lisa Murkowski

Alaska House of Representatives
State Capitol Building
Juneau, AK 99801


Re: Funding for Sheldon Jackson Museum

Dear Representatives Mulder and Murkowski,

I am writing to express our most serious concern with your proposal to close the Sheldon Jackson Museum in Sitka. This wonderful facility and its professional staff have been an outstanding resource for small museums like ours. We have relied on their experience in rural Alaska to help us serve our remote community. They have set an outstanding example and their hard work deserves recognition not termination. Moreover, it is simply not appropriate for all of Alaska's treasures to be stored in urban centers. Rural Alaska's heritage should not be removed from its home simply because it is more convenient. Both state and federal historic preservation laws recognize the importance of curating objects in the communities they most closely reflect. Sheldon Jackson's collection may be from across Alaska, but it reflects the development of Sitka and is a cornerstone of the community's history.

I urge you to maintain funding for the Sheldon Jackson Museum. Rural Alaska deserves access to the objects of its heritage. The collection belongs in Sitka where it can continue to educate and inspire the community and its visitors. Closing it would be a tragedy. I cannot believe that Alaska would mortgage its heritage in such a way.

Sincerely,


Amy Steffian
Deputy Director / Curator

cc. Bruce Kato, Chief Curator, Alaska State Museum, Juneau
Kristen Griffin, Board Chair, Sheldon Jackson Museum, Sitka

Hames Corp.Hames Corp.
1867 Halibut Point Rd.
Sitka, AK 99835Phone: 907.747.6044
Fax: 907.747.7952
E-mail:
rogerhames@seamart.com

Facsimile

To: Senator Eldon Mulder, Chair
House Finance Committee on the
Education Budget
@Fax: 907-465-3518
From: Roger L. Hames
Date: Monday, February 28, 2000 @ 9:29 AM
Re: Sheldon Jackson Museum
Pages: 1, including this

Dear Senator Mulder,

I am writing to inform you that I strongly oppose the proposed part time closure of the Sheldon Jackson Museum, one of Alaska's two state museums. The state museums are an important part of Alaska's educational system. They are also important economic resources, serving our statewide visitor industry. The proposed closure of the Sheldon Jackson Museum will reduce the Department of Education and Early Development budget by only \$56,000 but will hurt our region by causing the loss of permanent full time jobs and restricting public access to an important visitor destination. It will also prevent the museum from being used as it was intended: as a statewide educational and cultural resource available to the public. This loss will be felt by thousands of Alaskans who benefit from the programs of the Sheldon Jackson Museum.

Sincerely,



Subject: Sheldon Jackson Museum

Date: Fri, 25 Feb 2000 19:34:17 GMT

From: "Phyllis Hackett" <phackett@hotmail.com>

To: Representative_Eldon_Mulder@legis.state.ak.us

Dear Senator Mulder,

I am writing to inform you that I strongly oppose the proposed part time closure of the Sheldon Jackson Museum, one of Alaska's two museums. The state museums are an important part of Alaska's educational system. They are also important economic resources, serving our visitor industry. The proposed closure of the SJ Museum will reduce the Department of Education and Early Development budget by only \$55,000 but will hurt our region by causing the loss of permanent full time jobs and restricting public access to an important visitor destination. It will also prevent the museum from being used as it was intended: as a statewide educational and cultural resource available to the public. This loss will be felt by thousands of Alaskans who benefit from the programs at the SJ Museum.

Sincerely,

Phyllis A. Hackett

Get Your Private, Free Email at <http://www.hotmail.com>

TO: Representatives Eldon Mulder and Lisa Murkowski

CC: Fairbanks Senators Pete Kelly, Georgianna Lincoln, Gary Wilken and Fairbanks Representatives Tom Brice, John Davies and Jim Whitaker

FROM: Molly Lee, Ph.D., Curator of Ethnology, UA Museum and Associate Professor of Anthropology, UAF

DATE: February 29, 2000

RE: Proposed Closing of Sheldon Jackson Museum

As a museum professional and a researcher who has published on the Sheldon Jackson Museum, I strongly oppose the closing of the Museum for several reasons:

First, the Alaska Native artifacts deposited at the Sheldon Jackson Museum are the oldest, highest quality, and most historically significant of any in the State. If the collection is moved to the Alaska State Museum it will no longer be on view and will therefore become inaccessible to tourists and Alaska Native people alike.

Second, quite apart from the collection, the Sheldon Jackson Museum itself is an important historic artifact. The building is the first concrete structure erected in Alaska and is on the National Register of Historic Places. Its application for the more prestigious National Historic Landmark status (of which there are only 250 nationwide) is presently in process. The Museum building is a prime destination for tourists, architectural historians and history buffs alike.

Finally, taken together, the Sheldon Jackson Museum and its contents provide a unique lens for viewing the activity of Alaska Native artifact collecting at the turn of the twentieth century. To separate them, and to reorganize the collection according to current practice, constitutes the loss of one of the few collections still housed in its original building, one organized according to turn-of-the-century categories. Closure of the building and removal of its contents will destroy the integrity of this invaluable historic resource.

In view of these factors, I urge you to reconsider your position on the Sheldon Jackson Museum and urge the Fairbanks legislators to oppose this bill.



Sitka Tribal Government Alaska

Tribal Government of Sitka, Alaska

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Senator Elton Mulder	FROM: <i>Carol J. Aceveda</i> Carol J. Aceveda, General Manager
COMPANY: Chair, House Finance subcommittee on the education budget	DATE: 02/28/00
FAX NUMBER: 465-3518	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: 1
PHONE NUMBER:	SENDER'S REFERENCE NUMBER: Fax 747-4915
RE: Sheldon Jackson Museum	YOUR REFERENCE NUMBER:

URGENT
 FOR REVIEW
 PLEASE COMMENT
 PLEASE REPLY
 PLEASE RECYCLE

NOTES/COMMENTS:

The importance of keeping the museum opened and operating full time is critical to the cultural, economic, educational and social impact of all Alaskans. The pride of Alaskans is presented to visitors from outside the state, and not to mention local students from the educational environment. Status and history is preserved from years of work by dedicated volunteers who believed in Alaska's people. Please continue to fund the Sheldon Jackson Museum.

Thank you for your assistance.

Subject: Sheldon Jackson Museum

Date: Sun, 20 Feb 2000 10:26:32 -0900

From: Paul and Sande Anderson <psjsbb@alaska.net>

To: Representative_Eldon_Mulder@legis.state.ak.us

House Education Sub Committee to Finance Committee

Re: consideratin of funding cut for the Sheldon Museum, Sitka, Alaska

I oppose the proposed cut to the Sheldon Museum. The Sheldon Museum belongs to all Alaskans. It enriches our lives. Surely we are not so rich that we can afford to do without the Sheldon Museum or so poor that we cannot support it. A Museum is the caretaker of our past to enlighten our future. It is not just a tourist destination. It belongs to us,

Sandra Anderson



Education Subcommittee on Finance
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Gentlemen and Ladies,

On behalf of the 300+ members of the Alaska Anthropological Association, I am writing to urge re-consideration of funding cuts to the Sheldon Jackson Museum proposed by the Department of Education. This department erred in their evaluation of the Sheldon Jackson Museum's role when it proposed to cut \$56,000 out of the budget in response to a legislator's question as to why the State has two museums.

The State of Alaska does not have two museums. It has one museum, the Alaska State Museum, in two locations. This is completely analogous to the University with campuses in several locations, and the court system with courthouses throughout the State. We also have one capital, with several meeting and administrative locations throughout the State.

The whole objective of a museum is education. Education about Alaska's history must occur statewide. Sheldon Jackson is the one arm of the State's museum system that provides critically needed outreach programs not only for other museums, but for schools and libraries throughout the State. The Hands-on Loan program, developed by Sheldon Jackson staff, is a model program that you should be proud of. It provides special programs and lectures for the visiting public and offers first rate visitor services throughout the year.

The collection itself, with a declared value in excess of \$50million, is in fact a priceless Alaskan treasure. None can be replaced. Closing this 111 year old museum for two months annually, as proposed by the Department of Education, is completely irresponsible. Collections need security and constant environmental monitoring to prevent deterioration of fragile objects. Surely the Department, if required, can find \$56,000 worth of cuts without jeopardizing the State's oldest and best Museum and its collections?

Please think carefully before committing to these cuts. The Department of Education needs to be questioned thoroughly as to why it feels closing this museum two months each year, jeopardizing priceless collection's, without presenting alternatives, is acceptable to the people of this State. Cutting funding for museums is has been a disturbing trend for the past several years;

Our quality of life and the quality of our educational system depends in large part on the resources in our State Museum. To cut funding for the State's premier collection without solid justification reflects extremely poor judgement from an agency that should know better.

We urge you to carefully review this matter, and to maintain funding for the Sheldon Jackson Museum.

Sincerely,

kinko's

Express Yourself™

fax cover sheet

Kinko's of Anchorage • Telephone: (907) 276-4228 • Fax: (907) 276-8357

Date 2-28-00

Number of pages 2 (including cover page)

to: Name Education Subcommittee on

from: Name Debra Corbett, President

Company Finance

Company Alaska Anthropological Association

Telephone 465-2647

Telephone evening 561-8734

Fax (907) 465-3518

Comments Please distribute to the whole subcommittee, Thanks

More than 900 locations worldwide. For the location nearest you, call 1-800-2-KINKOS. Visit our Web site at www.kinkos.com.



LLOYD'S CENTER

329 Harbor Drive, Suite 207 • Sitka, Alaska 99835 • (907) 747-8486 or 747-6320

Fax # 465-3518

March 1, 2000

Dear Senator Eldon Mulder, Chair
House Finance Committee on Education Budget

I am writing to inform you that I strongly oppose the proposed part time closure of the Sheldon Jackson Museum, one of Alaska's two State Museums. The state museums are an important part of Alaska's educational system. They are also important economic resources, serving our statewide visitor industry. The proposed closure of the Sheldon Jackson Museum will reduce the Department of Education and Early Development budget by only \$56,000 but will hurt our region by causing the loss of permanent full time jobs and restricting public access to an important visitor destination. It will also prevent the museum from being used as it was intended: as a statewide educational and cultural resource available to the public. This loss will be felt by thousands of Alaskans who benefit from the programs of the Sheldon Jackson Museum.

Sincerely,

Lloyd and Barbara Hames
329 Harbor Dr. Ste 301
Sitka, Alaska 99835

ENV.

CONS.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the H. Finance
committee name
 committee on HJR 56, dated 3/16/00
bill/subject

Now that our predominantly anti-environmental legislature knows without doubt that the average Alaskan is more pro-environment than they are, a proposal has been put forth to limit public input in these matters, citing "laws based on science" as the goal. What was the scientific basis for the McGrath bear-wastage rule? You just couldn't rest until somebody had been told to go ahead and Kill something... anything!

Most hunters have some idea of where to look for game, and how best to dress out a kill, but that is where the ~~sciet~~ "scientific" knowledge of the average hunter ends. For the rest you will need to ask real scientists, studying live animals.

Signed: Lars Opland
Testifier

Representing (Optional)

P.O. box 875638 Wasilla AK 99687

Address

376 4912 or 357 3799 Mondays

Phone No.

Even the average big game photographer knows more about these animals, because they observe them over a longer period of time.

FISH

+

GAME

ALCOHOL

+

DRUG

House Finance Committee

Re: HB 312: Operating Budget

Dear Committee Members:

I would like to thank you for this opportunity to express my thoughts and feelings regarding an issue related to the operating budget. Specifically, the issue I would address is the funding that has been cut for the Infant Learning Program. In order to help you understand I would like to tell you the following story:

"Welcome to Holland"

I am often asked to describe the experience of raising a child with a disability – to try to help people who have not shared that unique experience to understand it, to imagine how it would feel. It's like this....

When you're going to have a baby, it's like planning a fabulous vacation trip - to Italy. You buy a bunch of guidebooks and make your wonderful plans. The Coliseum, the Michelangelo "David", the gondolas in Venice. You may learn some handy phrases in Italian. It's all very exciting.

After months of eager anticipation, the day finally arrives. You pack your bags and off you go. Several hours later, the plane lands. The flight attendant comes in and says, "Welcome to Holland".

"Holland?!?" you say.

What do you mean, Holland? I signed up for Italy! I'm supposed to be in Italy. All my life I've dreamed of going to Italy."

But there's been a change in the flight plan. They have landed in Holland, and there you must stay.

The important thing is that they haven't taken you to a horrible, filthy place full of famine and disease. It's just a different place. So you must buy new guide books. And you must learn a whole new language. And you will meet a whole new group of people you would never have met.

It's just a different place. It's slower-paced than Italy, less flashy than Italy. But after you've been there a little while, you look around, and you begin to notice that Holland has windmills, Holland has tulips, Holland even has Rembrandts.

But everyone you know is busy coming and going from Italy, and they're all bragging about what a wonderful time they had there. And for the rest of your

life, you will say, "Yes, that's where I was supposed to go. That's what I had planned."

The pain of that will never, ever, ever go away, because the loss of that dream is a very significant loss.

But if you spend your life mourning the fact that you didn't get to Italy, you may never be free to enjoy the very special, the very lovely things about Holland."

Source Unknown

Imagine yourself in Holland, not by choice, but by circumstance. Then imagine how difficult your life would be if you knew that the counselors, family facilitators, physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists and other support systems you needed were available, just not available to you. That is what happens to families who wait on lists for available funding for programs like the Infant Learning Program.

As you know the most critical years of a child's development are the years between birth and age three. The Infant Learning Program offers all of these support services to the young children of Alaska. Please ensure that the children of Alaska with these special needs are provided for in those critical early years.

As the grandmother of a beautiful little girl with disabilities, who is not on the waiting list, I ask you to provide for the 333 children who wait for services that can bring them a better quality of life and can offer them the chance to reach their highest potential.

Thank you,

Karen Kostenko

Karen Kostenko

9237 Ge St

Juneau, AK 99801

907-789-2875



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

I'd like to testify on the VALUE OF PROVIDERS in the Community. I personally know of 2 people who would be institutionalizable without the support + medication monitoring done by these VALUABLE people. The cost of a provider is from \$30.00 to \$40.00 per day as opposed to thousands of dollars that institutional placement costs.

I'd also like to mention the importance of continuance of Medicaid so that some people can work who otherwise are not hireable. Somehow, the insurances of Medicaid need to continue although they are not as needed by those who are already insured.

Signed: Sabrina Ann Smith

Testifier

SELF - South Peninsula MHC board of directors
Representing (Optional)

3479 Landing #1, Homer, Alaska 99603
Address

235-7423
Phone No.



**Fax To: House Finance Majority Members
Re: FY 01 Operating Budget**

Date: 3-4-00

**Fax From: Dennis E. Hojna MSW, LCSW
Director/Clinician
Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc.
Yukon Tanana Counseling Services
1302 21st Avenue, Fairbanks, AK 99701
(800)478-6822 xt 3462, fax: (907)459-3934
<dhojna@tananachiefs.org>**

Dear Representative,

I am an Itinerant Mental Health & Substance Abuse Clinician on the front lines in 9 Interior Native villages. The incidence of severe and devastating substance abuse is legendary and has numerous costly spin-off consequences in terms of overall health care costs. Needs assessments done by various agencies and Tribal Councils themselves always target substance abuse services as a primary need. In addition to getting adults and teens into treatment and providing aftercare, programs like ours are doing direct prevention with the impressionable (and still reachable) kids to build identity, coping skills, awareness of resources and resilience. Do I need to mention how this helps prevent Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and how crippling that is? The *last thing* Interior Alaska needs is cuts in this area. We do also serve the chronically mentally ill and those with domestic violence and sexual assault issues, and extensive national experience has shown that child care assistance works in terms of promoting welfare-to-work. Make cuts in these areas and you will pay for it at another time out of another budget line. I realize making decisions in these areas is difficult in a state where people don't want to pay for government and have grown to feel entitled. But PLEASE, please, don't even THINK of cutting substance abuse funds. Thanks for listening.

Dennis E. Hojna

March 2, 2000

To ALL House Finance Majority members:

Proposed cuts in budget, for FY01, include cuts to Mental Health funding. For this to go forward would mean great hardship for thousands of people in our region. Cuts would seriously affect services that are already under funded. Please consider the following:

1. The Yukon-Koyukuk Mental Health Region is seated in Galena – but 5 other communities are provide services as well.
2. For most of those communities, YKMH is the only source of counseling and support for troubled children, parents, families, service providers and the community.
3. Travel must be via plane – there are no roads between any of the communities – air travel is costly – a cost that recently went up due to a 300% fuel price increase.
4. In theory, YKMH travels to each community once per month – budget realities dictate that YKMH actually gets to each community every 5-6 weeks.
5. In urban settings, no one would have to ever wait 5-6 weeks between counseling sessions!!! Yet . . . this is the reality of current budget cuts – and more cuts are proposed?
6. Suicide, alcohol abuse, domestic violence and child sexual abuse are rampant problems in this area – those who are affected number in the thousands – and are manifestations of years and years where preventative services have not been possible due to a lack of funding. People who have already lost hope, who must wait for assistance are seriously at risk.

There have been continued cuts to funds for Mental Health. Currently, there is only enough in the budget for the YKMH Itinerant Therapist to be part-time. The YKMH Director must constantly seek sources of funding for current services and also provide services– and the increased need is steady. Calls come in daily asking for appointments or inquiring when the YKMH Itinerant Therapist will next be in their community.

In the YKMH region, there are over 175 people – children, mothers, fathers, elders – who are either on a wait list or 'on-hold' due to current funding problems. Some have been on hold or waiting for four months. Yukon-Koyukuk Mental Health is too often the only source of assistance – and is not even funded for emergency response.

Are you really going to vote to add to problems or to address them proactively and properly fund Mental Health Services?

Miriam A. Jensen
Galena, Alaska 99741
Ph. 907-656-1951

March 3, 2000

Dear Finance Committee,

My name is Deanna Captain. I am the Tribal Family & Youth Specialist for the community of Ruby, Alaska. We have a population of less than 200 people. The Ruby Tribal Council, under the Indian Child Welfare Act employs me. Currently the only Mental Health Services we receive is through Yukon Koyukuk Mental Health Program out of Galena. The services that we receive is so limited it barley makes a dent. A once months visit by an itinerant counselor. This is pathetic.

There have been so many traumatic events in our community, that it is overwhelming. I worked this job since 1992, but my sister-in law, Agnes Wright, was brutally murdered in 1996. She was the postmaster here in Ruby, I am sure you remember the front-page headlines that still haunt me. When this happened I could not continue working, I quit my job and was finally able to cope two years later.

Since I returned to this position in August of 1998 there have been numerous suicide attempts, child molestation and a murder suicide. We really need help.

There is no local position here in Ruby for a Mental Health Counselor, due to cutbacks the position has been vacant for two years. There are limited jobs in our community and a high rate of unemployment, many people don't have benefits to choose from, because they don't meet the criteria of these programs. This leads to loneliness, depression and alcohol. We don't expect handouts and are not asking for any. We are asking you to reconsider where you do your cutting. We are in dire need of Mental Health Services.

Currently we have an Itinerant Counselor who travels to the villages once a month who has now been cut to part-time because of the diminishing funds.

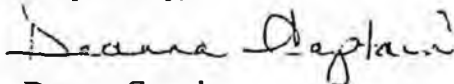
Travel to the villages is expensive but necessary. Please don't take what limited means of services that we have.

I am trying to help my people by getting them the help we all need at different times in our life. You are in a position to help with this. You know as well as I do, that early intervention is the key to prevention. Please consider the impact you will be making on our community and many like ours.

There are problems in every community, we are bringing ours into the open and are trying to make changes to break the cycles of abuse & neglect, please help us, don't impede us. Make the right decision.

Thank you for your time and your consideration.

Respectfully,



Deanna Captain
Tribal Family & Youth Specialist



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance Committee
 committee name
HB 313 Mental Health
 committee on 313 , dated March 4, 2000
 bill/subject

I'd like to thank you for funding Community Health
 by Grants to General Community Mental Health
 1,007,400; Emergency Psychiatric Services 6,005,400;
 Services to the Chronically Mentally Ill
 10,801,400; Designated Evaluation and
 Treatment; 1,046,300 and services to Seriously
 Emotionally Disturbed Youth 4,432,400.
 These funds are truly needed.

Signed: Patricia Ann Penick
 Testifier SELF - Mental Health Board (South Peninsula)
3479 Landing #1, Homer, Alaska
 Representing (Optional)
3479 Landing #1 Homer, Alaska 99603
 Address
235-7423
 Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance
 committee on HB 313, dated 3/4/2000
 bill/subject committee name

I don't want the Provider Service to be cut, otherwise I will end up back in the hospital. I am bipolar and manic depressive and I have dementia. I have been going here for 10 years. I feel that it is very important that this mental health provider service not be cut.

Post-it® Fax Note	7671	Date	3/4/00	# of pages	9
To	House Finance	From	HOMER LIO		
Co./Dept.		Co.			
Phone #		Phone #	235-7878		
Fax #	465-6813	Fax #			

Signed: Kenny Porter

Testifier
Self

Representing (Optional)
PO Box 3097 Homer AK

Address
235-1362

Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance
committee name
committee on 312 Budget FY2001, dated 3-3-00
bill/subject

Alaska Tobacco Prevention and Control programs are budgeted to use only \$1.2 M. of the \$77M. annual tobacco settlement money. That is less than 2%!

I don't know how many years it took to reach the tobacco settlement. I do know that each of those years and continuing, over ~~the~~ four hundred thousand lives are lost nationally, some 900 in Alaska. I know that those who survive suffer disfiguring surgeries, radiation and chemo therapies and crushing financial burdens. Tobacco is an ugly, addictive, cancer-causing substance.

Tobacco use is preventable, especially among youth. I ask, I beg that this state, this House and this Governor use every cent of the hard-won tobacco settlement money to work against disease, work toward health, work to prevent tobacco-use among youth, and work to help survivors... every cent.

Signed: John C. Steiner

Testifier

Kids Are People Inc / Saxton Youth Shelter

Representing (Optional)

Mat-Su Tobacco Control Alliance

Address

481 Briar Dr. Wasilla 376-0580

Phone No.



Kids are People, Inc. Saxton Youth Shelter

Services for Youth

851 E. Westpoint Dr. No. B-2, Wasilla, AK 99654

Phone: 907-376-6016 Fax: 907-373-4850

Website: <http://www.akcache.com/kids/index.htm>

E-mail: kap@denalics.net

March 7, 2000

House Finance Committee
Co-Chair Eldon Mulder
Co-Chair Gene Therriault
Vice-Chair Con Bunde
Rep. Alan Austerman
Rep. Gary Davis
Rep. Richard Foster
Rep. Gail Phillips
Governor Tony Knowles

Rep. Bill Williams
Rep. John Davies
Rep. Ben Grussendorf
Rep. Carl Moses

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee and Governor;

Alaska Tobacco Prevention and Control Programs are budgeted to use only \$1.2 million of the \$77 million annual tobacco settlement money. That is less than 2% for tobacco prevention!

I don't know how many years it took to reach the tobacco settlement. I do know that nationally each of those years and continuing, over four hundred thousand lives are lost to tobacco related disease. Some 900 of those occurring in Alaska. I know that those who survive suffer disfiguring surgeries, radiation and chemo therapies and crushing financial burdens. Tobacco is an ugly, addictive, cancer-causing substance.

Tobacco use is preventable, especially among youth. I ask, I beg, that this state, this House and this Governor use every cent of the hard-won tobacco settlement money to work against disease, work toward health, work to prevent tobacco-use among youth, and work to help survivors. Every cent.

Yours truly,

John C. Stein
Executive Director



Alaska Native Health Board

4201 Tudor Centre Dr., Suite 105
Anchorage, Alaska 99508

Phone: (907) 562-6006
FAX: (907) 563-2001

Testimony on House Finance budget
Statewide hearing, March 4, 2000

Representative Therriault, Representative Mulder, and Members of the Committee:

I'm sorry I cannot testify by teleconference today. My sister is visiting from Tennessee and we cannot fit a legislative hearing into our schedule this weekend!

My sister Susan is a former Alaskan and a former smoker. I can remember her telling me, when she lived in Anchorage, that she wanted badly to quit smoking, but couldn't. She was able to quit only after she became pregnant and had a baby; even then, she relapsed a couple of times. No wonder – nicotine is as addictive as heroin or cocaine.

Susan was lucky – she finally did quit. A quarter of Alaskan adults have not been so lucky and continue to struggle with nicotine addiction. Thousands of Alaskan kids become new smokers each year. The tobacco industry spends about \$11 million a year in this state to promote smoking. Current state funding for tobacco prevention and control from the tobacco settlement is only \$1.4 million, and now the House Finance Committee is proposing to cut that.

We are just beginning to make headway in reducing the epidemic of tobacco addiction and disease in Alaska. We should be ramping up our efforts, not cutting back. You have all seen information provided by the Alaska Tobacco Control Alliance that shows that tobacco control programs work. New research continues to prove this point. An article in Wednesday's *Anchorage Daily News* reports on a 50% reduction in smoking rates among young teenagers exposed to anti-tobacco ads in Massachusetts.

We could and should be doing the same thing here. Instead, our countermarketing program is underfunded – as are all other program components needed for an effective comprehensive attack on tobacco. There is currently no funding for school-based programs and very little for cessation programs to help people who want to quit. When the state is taking in \$30 million a year from the tobacco settlement, it is unconscionable to cut funding to tobacco prevention and cessation programs that are already underfunded!

We ask that you please reconsider these cuts, and commit instead to **AT LEAST** hold the line at \$1.4 million to maintain the existing program at the American Lung Association, where they're doing such a great job with limited dollars. If the committee is to contemplate a change in funding for FY 2001, it should be to increase the war on tobacco, not back off.

Sincerely,

Anne Marie Holen

Anne Marie Holen
SmokeLess States Project Manager

ALEUTIAN/PRIPILOF ISLANDS ASSOCIATION
BRISTOL BAY AREA HEALTH CORPORATION
CHUGACHMIUT
COPPER RIVER NATIVE ASSOCIATION
EASTERN ALEUTIAN TRIBES
KODIAK AREA NATIVE ASSOCIATION
MANIILAQ ASSOCIATION

MEJLAKATLA INDIAN COMMUNITY
MT. SANFORD TRIBAL CONSORTIUM
NATIVE VILLAGE OF EKLUTNA
NATIVE VILLAGE OF TYONEK
NINILCHIK TRADITIONAL COUNCIL
NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH

NORTON SOUND HEALTH CORPORATION
SELDOVIA VILLAGE TRIBE
SOUTHCENTRAL FOUNDATION
SOUTHEAST ALASKA REGIONAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM
TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE
YUKON-KUSKOKWIM HEALTH CORPORATION
VALDEZ NATIVE TRIBE

Barbara Cohea
P.O. Box 412
Kotzebue, Alaska 99752
907-442-3175

Gosh I'm getting tired. What more do we have to do? How many times do we have to fight and win the same battles over and over again?

The tobacco settlement money was a settlement to help prevent the deaths of future generations of children. It really is that simple. It was not a settlement to fund schools, or new roads, or whatever other good use the money could be used for. I have faith that you don't want to use the money for frivolity. I have faith that the other items you want to use the tobacco settlement money for are vital concerns for which money is needed. And honestly, I have no informed knowledge of what these needs are and so I can't argue how much more they would benefit us than funding tobacco prevention would. What I do know is that when we don't use the settlement money to fund tobacco prevention, or we use only a small amount, we send a very powerful message to Philip Morris, Lorillard, Brown and Williamson and all the rest of the tobacco companies.

We send them the message that we are no better than they are.....that it is all about the money for us just as it is all about profits for them. We send them the message that we won't cut into their profits by cutting into the numbers of their customer-victims. We send them the message that it isn't about the future health of our children. We send them the message that we can be bought off. That if they give us the money, we'll use it for our roads, or schools and then we will be silent about tobacco prevention.

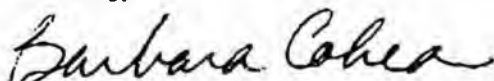
You know, they're smart. They know they have the money and the resources to hang with those of us who do this work until the bitter end. They know they just have to wait us out. I'm tired. They know we get tired. They know we do this on our own time, as volunteers. They know if it is part of our jobs, it's only a small portion of our work. They know our time has to be divided among tobacco, diabetes, alcohol, pregnancy, HIV, and on and on and on. They have the money to pay endless legions of lobbyists. They have bottomless pockets to draw money from to contribute to political campaigns.

They have fought the truth for years, and so far, with a very small exception, they've won. You know, they want us to use the money for something other than tobacco use prevention. They want us to do exactly what you are thinking about doing. They have a proven track record of 30 years that says time is on their side and money talks.

People like me are getting tired. And they are counting on it! Don't make this a complex decision, because it really isn't. Sometimes certain things are just clearly the right thing to do.

You have got to be better than they THINK you are, because they think you can be bought. And if you cut funding for tobacco prevention, people will think you have been.

Sincerely,



Barbara Cohea



Bering Strait Coalition for Prevention
 "Uniting Substance Abuse Coalitions for the Bering Strait Region"

Northwestern Regional Tobacco Prevention & Control Program
 March 8, 2000

Dear Representative Eldon Mulder:

I am writing in strong support of continued and increased Tobacco Settlement appropriations for a comprehensive, sustained tobacco control program. Funding this program should be the first priority for use of these funds. The Legislature could then appropriate the remaining balance to any program it desires.

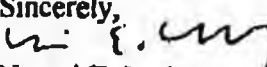
Settlement funds should be used for exactly what they were intended: to reduce and prevent tobacco-related suffering and disease among Alaskans. We have started an important program last year, we need to continue this funding, but \$1.4 million is not enough.

We support the Alaska Tobacco Control Alliance's \$2.8 million request for FY2001. This will slowly ramp program funding up to \$8.2 million recommended by the Alaska Tobacco Control Alliance and supported by the Centers for Disease Control.

When given a legitimate chance, these types of programs work. They have proven to work in California, Oregon, Florida and Massachusetts. They can work here.

The youth who are not addicted and the adult smokers who are addicted to tobacco products deserve to receive tobacco cessation programs that Settlement money can fund. Medical costs for treating tobacco related illnesses totals \$154 million, yet the state's level of funding is only \$1.6 million.

If there is one thing that we can strive to achieve, it is to reducing the suffering inflicted from tobacco-related diseases. Please help us help Alaskans to prevent and break their tobacco addiction.

Sincerely,

 Naomi E. Malony
 Program Coordinator

Cc: Representative Con Bunde
 Representative Norm Rokeberg

Post-It® Fax Note	7671	Date	3/8/00	# of pages	1
To	Rep Mulder	From	NAOMI MALONY		
Co./Dept		Co.			
Phone #		Phone #			
Fax #	465-3518	Fax #			

BERING STRAIT COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

P. O. Box 1350 - Nome Alaska 99762 - (907) 443-5888; fax 3880; 1-800-478-5888

Brevig Mission • Council • Diomedea • Elm • Gambell • Golovin • Koyuk • Nome • St. Michael • Savoonga • Shaktoolik • Shishmaref • Stebbins • Teller • Unalakleet • Wales • White Mountain



Check our Website
auroraweb.com/ahec

P.O. Box 100563, Anchorage, Alaska 99510

March 8, 2000

Members of the House Finance Committee:
Co-Chairs, Eldon Mulder and Gene Therriault
Members, Con Bunde, Alan Austerman, Gary Davis, Richard Foster
Gail Phillips, Bill Williams, John Davies, Ben Grussendorf, Carl Moses
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol (MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear House Finance Committee Member:

This letter is on behalf of the Alaska Health Education Consortium to express our consistent support for a comprehensive, sustained tobacco control program funded by the Tobacco Settlement. We support the Alaska Tobacco Control Alliance's \$2.8 million request for FY 2001, which is still far less than the \$8.2 million recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Last year the Legislature appropriated start-up funds for activities to reduce and prevent tobacco-related suffering and disease in Alaska. However, \$1.4 million is not enough to adequately fund sustained programs throughout the state. Examples of current activities include cessation demonstration projects, public media/education, the development of a quit kit, and training for health care professionals, to name a few. With time, these and other strategies will work, just as they have in California, Oregon, Florida and Massachusetts.

The Alaska Health Education Consortium, a statewide organization committed to promoting health and preventing disease, urges you to fund tobacco prevention and control efforts at the \$2.8 million level.

Sincerely,

Rocky Plotnick, Past-President

CC: Representatives Con Bunde and Norm Rokeberg

KGH Recovery Center
126 Washington Street
Ketchikan, AK 99901
(907) 247-4330 Phone
(907) 247-4293 Fax



PeaceHealth

Ketchikan
General Hospital

Dear Rep. Eldon Mulder;

I am writing in strong support of continued and increased Tobacco Settlement appropriations for a comprehensive, sustained tobacco control program. Funding this program should be the first priority for use of these funds. The Legislature could then appropriate the remaining balance to any program it desires.

Settlement funds should be used for exactly what they were intended: to reduce and prevent tobacco-related suffering and disease among Alaskans. We have started an important program last year, we need to continue this funding, but \$1.4 million is not enough.

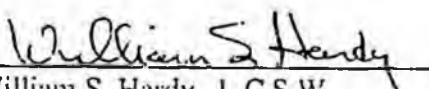
We support the Alaska Tobacco Control Alliance's \$2.8 million request for FY2001. This will slowly ramp program funding up to \$8.2 million recommended by the Alaska Tobacco Control Alliance and supported by the Centers for Disease Control.

When given a legitimate chance, these type of programs work. They have proven to work in California, Oregon, Florida and Massachusetts. They can work here.

The youth who are not yet addicted and the adult smokers who are addicted to tobacco products deserve to receive tobacco cessation programs that Settlement money can fund. Medical costs for treating tobacco related illnesses totals \$154 million yet the state's level of funding is only \$1.6 million.

If there is one thing that we strive to achieve it is to reducing the suffering inflicted from tobacco-related diseases. Please help us help Alaskans to prevent and break their tobacco addiction.

Sincerely,


William S. Hardy, L.C.S.W.
KGHRC Program Manager

Cc: Rep. Con Bunde
Rep. Norm Rokeberg

3100 Tongass Ave.
Ketchikan, AK 99901-5791

Tel. (907) 225-5171
Fax (907) 228-8322

From Jenny Murray
Am. Cancer Assoc.
1057 W Fireweed
Anchorage, AK 99503

State Programs Can Reduce Tobacco Use

National Cancer Policy Board

INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE
NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

Growing attention is focused on how states can prevent deaths due to tobacco use. Thus state governors, state legislators, and their staffs currently must decide whether to fund tobacco control programs, and, if they do, how much to spend on them.

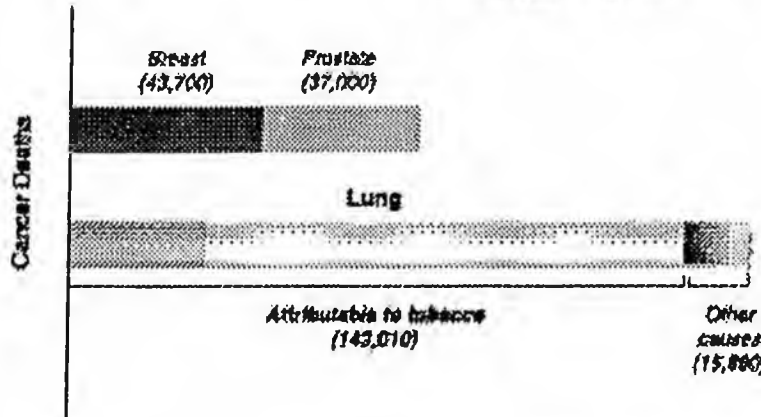
The National Cancer Policy Board (a joint program of the Institute of Medicine and the National Research Council) is charged with carrying out policy analyses to help the nation deal with cancer; in 1997, it quickly identified tobacco's role as the foremost cause of cancer deaths as its first topic of concern.¹ The board followed debates taking place in state capitals throughout 1998 and 1999, and decided in July 1999, in consultation with the Board on Health Promotion and Disease Prevention of the Institute of Medicine, that it would be useful to summarize evidence about the effectiveness of state tobacco control programs and to briefly describe those programs for state government officials.

Tobacco control will likely remain on the agenda of many states for several years. Public health advocates, tobacco firms, tobacco growers, retailers, and the general

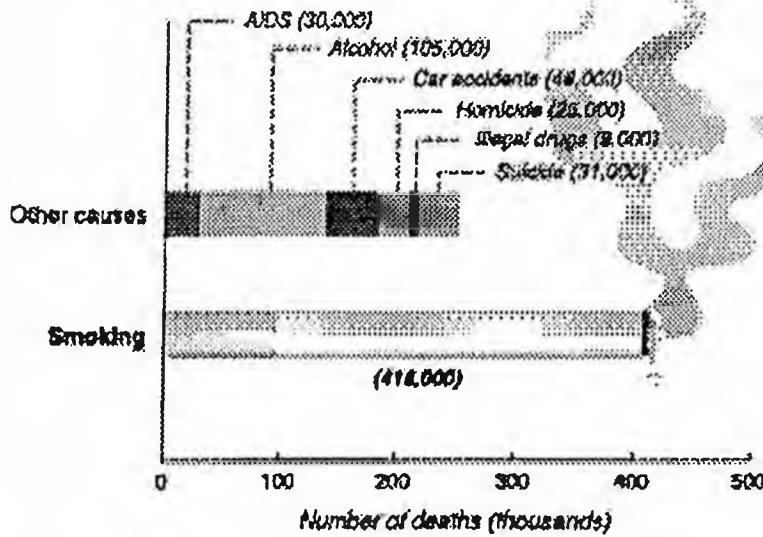
public have all been drawn into the debate. This report does not address the merit of tobacco control compared to alternative uses of state funds or attempt to balance the interests of contending stakeholders; instead, it focuses on the narrower question of whether state tobacco control programs can reduce smoking and save lives. As states contemplate increasing their tobacco control efforts, many have asked if such programs can make a difference. **The evidence is clear: They can.**

The stakes are high. Tobacco use kills more Americans each year than any other cause. The estimated 430,000 deaths attributed to tobacco use annually are far more than those caused by illegal drugs, homicides, suicides, AIDS, motor vehicle accidents, and alcohol combined.² Lung cancer kills more Americans than breast and prostate cancer combined,³ and tobacco accounts for over 30% of all cancer deaths and a comparable fraction of deaths due to heart and lung diseases. Yet despite these risks, many, many people start smoking each year. In 1996, over 1.8 million people became daily smokers, two-thirds of them (1.2 million) under age 18.⁴

Lung cancer kills more Americans than breast and prostate cancer combined



Tobacco use kills more Americans than homicide, suicide, car accidents, AIDS, alcohol, and illegal drugs combined



SOURCES: American Cancer Society, "1999 Facts and Figures: Selected Cancers," available at www.cancer.org/statistics/cff99/selected_toc.html (top), and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Comparative Causes of Annual Deaths in the United States," available at www.cdc.gov/tobacco/andths.htm (bottom).

Over the past decade, states have moved to the forefront of tobacco control. Starting with California in 1988, and followed by Massachusetts, Arizona, Oregon, and other states, referenda have increased tobacco excise taxes and dedicated a fraction of the revenues to reducing tobacco use. Legislatures in other states—such as Alaska, Hawaii, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, and Washington—have increased tobacco taxes substantially, raising questions about how much of the revenue should go to tobacco control. In addition, settlements of lawsuits against tobacco firms to recoup state monies spent through Medicaid have now resulted in individual state revenue

streams (in Florida, Minnesota, Mississippi, and Texas) or in revenues anticipated through the Master Settlement Agreement with the other states and territories signed in 1998. In aggregate, these agreements could transfer as much as \$246 billion from tobacco firms to states over the next 25 years.

What Is the Evidence that State Programs Make a Difference?

The best evidence for the effectiveness of state tobacco control programs comes

Resources on State Tobacco Control Programs

- ❖ The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently surveyed state tobacco control programs and recommended benchmarks.⁵ Several other CDC reports are also of interest.⁶
- ❖ The National Governors Association (www.nga.org) and the National Conference of State Legislatures (www.ncsl.org) both have projects to monitor state tobacco control developments.
- ❖ The National Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (www.astho.org/prevention/tobacco.html) and the National Association of County and City Health Officials (www.naccho.org/PROJECT44.htm) also have tobacco control projects.
- ❖ The University of California at San Francisco has analyzed developments in many states (www.library.ucsf.edu/tobacco), and researchers there have worked with California senate staff to prepare model legislation on state tobacco control.⁷
- ❖ In addition, several states have evaluated existing programs or have formulated plans for future ones:⁸
 - Prospect Associates produced a planning guide on state tobacco control for the American Cancer Society,⁹
 - The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation funds the SmokeLess States initiative administered by the American Medical Association (www.ama-assn.org/special/aos/tobacco/main.htm),
 - The National Center for Tobacco-Free Kids monitors developments at the state level (www.tobaccofreekids.org), and
 - The American Legacy Foundation will also be carrying out national tobacco control activities (www.americanlegacy.org).

from comparing states with different intensities of tobacco control, as measured by funding levels and "aggressiveness." For example, when California and Massachusetts mounted programs that were more "intense" than those of other states, they showed greater decreases in tobacco use compared to states that were part of the American Stop Smoking Intervention Study (ASSIST) funded by the National Cancer Institute.¹⁰ From 1989 to 1993, when the Massachusetts program began, California had the largest and most aggressive tobacco control program in the nation, and it showed a singular decline in cigarette consumption that was over 50% faster than the national average.¹¹ A recent evaluation of the Massachusetts tobacco control program showed a 15% decline in adult smoking—compared to very little change nationally—thus reducing the number of smokers there by 153,000 between 1993 and 1999.¹² States that were part of the ASSIST program, in turn, devoted more resources to tobacco control than did other states except Massachusetts and California, and they showed in aggregate a 7% reduction in tobacco consumption per capita from 1993 to 1996 compared to non-ASSIST states.¹³ Such a "dose-response" effect is strong evidence that state programs have an impact; that more tobacco control correlates with less tobacco use, and that the reduction coincides with the intensification of tobacco control efforts.

A second line of evidence comes from observing effects on tobacco consumption beyond those associated with price. When tobacco prices rise, sales should drop, and when prices drop, sales should rise. Yet price alone does not explain the observed consumption patterns. In the first 2 years

after Oregon's ballot initiative was implemented, for example, cigarette consumption dropped by over 11%, which is 5% more than would be expected from the price increase alone.¹⁴ The recently reported decreases in tobacco use in Alaska, California, and Florida similarly exceed what would be expected from price increases alone. Moreover, when cigarette prices dropped nationwide during 1992–1994, consumption rose in states with small tobacco control efforts but did not rise in 11 of 14 ASSIST states;¹⁵ consumption also plateaued in California and Massachusetts. This suggests that tobacco control measures limited the increase in tobacco sales expected as a result of a price drop.

In the review of tobacco control program elements that follows, results are reported in ranges, and sometimes those ranges are large. It is generally quite difficult to attribute a reduction in tobacco use to any single factor; often, many factors work in parallel. The underlying message is quite clear, however: **Multifaceted state tobacco control programs are effective in reducing tobacco use.**

Counteradvertising and Education

Counteradvertising and public education campaigns have become standard elements of tobacco control, although their funding levels and aggressiveness vary considerably among the states. Counteradvertising campaigns can convey a variety of messages and can be aimed at different audiences. An evaluation of the California tobacco control program concluded that it

was most effective in its early years, when the highest-impact advertisements emphasized deceptive practices undertaken by tobacco firms.¹⁶ Evaluators concluded that the program became less effective when spending for counteradvertising dropped (from \$16 million in 1991 to \$6.6 million by 1995), and when the advertisements began to focus on health risks rather than tobacco industry practices.¹⁷ As a result, the program's advisory committee made its foremost 1997 goal to "vigorously expose tobacco industry tactics."¹⁸ A "natural experiment" under way in Florida may provide further insight. The Florida Pilot Program, funded by that state's tobacco settlement, created the edgy "Truth Campaign" and SWAT (Students Working Against Tobacco) program. During its first year, tobacco use among youths decreased dramatically. The second-year budgets for both programs were seriously threatened in the Florida legislature—at one point facing extinction—but funding was partially restored. The program director was removed and the counteradvertising campaign was said to be heading "in a new direction."¹⁹ The budget for public media is slated to drop from \$24 million to \$18 million in the second year. If the rate of decline in tobacco consumption among youths stalls in Florida, as it did in California after 1994, this would provide further evidence that the "dose" of tobacco control predicts its impact.

School-based tobacco prevention programs are also part of state tobacco control programs. The effectiveness of school-based programs varies. They are most effective when the message is delivered repeatedly and is taken as seriously and promoted as powerfully as are other forms of drug abuse education. Properly imple-

mented school programs can, however, lower smoking prevalence from 25% to 60%.²⁰ These programs have been evaluated repeatedly,²¹ and in 1994 CDC produced a set of guidelines for school-based programs.²² States will want to take care in implementing school-based programs, however, because they can consume considerable resources to little effect; a 1996 meta-analysis showed only a modest impact for most programs. The 1994 Institute of Medicine report *Growing Up Tobacco Free* noted the variable results of school-based programs but concluded that they should be part of a comprehensive tobacco control strategy because educating school-age children and adolescents about the consequences of tobacco use is clearly important to sustain a smoke-free norm.²³

Experimentation with the content and style of counteradvertising and education programs will and should continue, subject to evaluation to enable improvements and increase their impact. With that in mind, the American Legacy Foundation is being established with funding from the Master Settlement Agreement. Its duties will include funding and oversight of a national counteradvertising campaign. Many states are also planning major increases in their counteradvertising and education initiatives.

Establishing Smoke-Free Workplaces and Public Spaces

The main impetus for smoke-free environments grew from concern about exposing nonsmokers to the toxic effects of tobacco smoke. Making worksites, schools, and homes smoke-free zones is a

powerful strategy for reducing tobacco use overall because it boosts quit rates and reduces consumption.²⁴ A 1996 review, for example, estimated that smoke-free workplaces reduced the number of smokers by 5% on average (meaning that almost one in five smokers quit, as smoking prevalence is about 25%) and reduced use among continuing smokers by 10%.²⁵ Another review attributed over 22% of the tobacco consumption drop in Australia between 1988 and 1995, and almost 13% of the drop in the United States between 1988 and 1994, to smoke-free workplace policies.²⁶ The death toll and ill-health attributable to involuntary smoking are thoroughly documented in a Surgeon General's report, a report from the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and a study by the California EPA.²⁷ Federal regulations prohibit smoking in federal buildings and in airplanes. In some states and localities, laws and ordinances proscribe smoking in workplaces, schools, public spaces, restaurants, and other sites. Creating smoke-free workplaces and public spaces reduces tobacco use among smokers while reducing involuntary smoking by nonsmokers.²⁸ Smoking restrictions have been a major focus of some states' tobacco control efforts and are a central thrust of much activity at the county and city levels.

Increasing Prices Through Taxation

Raising the price of tobacco products through taxation is one of the fastest and most effective ways to discourage children and youths from starting to smoke and to

encourage smokers to quit.²⁹ In 1994 and 1998, the Institute of Medicine recommended price increases of \$2 per pack (or equivalent for other tobacco products), based on levels needed to approach the health goals in *Healthy People 2000* and to approach parity with other countries that have effective tobacco control programs. Wholesale prices have increased an average of \$0.65 per pack nationwide since the Master Settlement Agreement was signed in 1998, the federal excise tax was raised to \$0.24 per pack in the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, and six states now have excise taxes over \$0.75 per pack. Even high-tax states remain short of the Institute's recommended level, however, and 20 states have excise taxes below \$0.20 per pack. The wholesale price and excise tax increases do not necessarily imply equal increases in retail prices that consumers see, as discounts to retailers are commonplace for tobacco products, and local business factors are important. It is nonetheless clear that the floor for prices has risen, even if the ceiling is variable.

Economists have reached a consensus that a cigarette price increase of 10% will decrease total consumption by about 4%. Most economists now believe the response is larger (i.e., about 8%) among youths, based on recent studies. Conclusions about whether price disproportionately affects children and youths are based on fewer data than larger studies of total tobacco consumption. A classic 1990 study showed that responsiveness to price (elasticity of demand) increased over time from 1970 to 1985 but found little difference between adults and youths.³⁰ A more recent review of more elaborate studies showed elasticities in the range noted above; it also found that youths were more

sensitive to price, as demonstrated by fewer youths starting to smoke and reduced consumption among continuing youth smokers.³¹ An April 1998 report from the Congressional Budget Office reviewed many studies of price and consumption. It found unequivocal evidence that increased prices reduce use, although details about the mechanisms and effects are not completely understood.³²

Proposals to increase cigarette taxes face strong opposition. (Interestingly, tobacco taxes are one of the few taxes for which a majority of Americans favor increases, especially if the revenues derived are dedicated to tobacco control.³³) The principal policy concern is that tobacco taxes are regressive, because tobacco use is more common among people with low incomes, and thus the poor spend proportionately more of their incomes on cigarettes. Tax increases are actually less regressive than simple projections suggest, however, because the poor are more sensitive to price and their consumption falls more sharply when prices rise. The World Bank supports increasing tobacco excise taxes for its public health impact and notes that judgments about regressiveness "should be over the distributional impact of the entire tax and expenditure system, and less on particular taxes in isolation."³⁴

Governors and legislators have raised concerns about increasing prices on tobacco because revenues from excise taxes might drop, along with payments expected under the Master Settlement Agreement (because payments to states are tied to sales). States concerned about revenue loss have an effective option—raising the state excise tax rate. The World Bank notes that "empirical evidence shows that raised tobacco taxes bring greater [overall] tobacco

tax revenues."³⁵ Reduced consumption will also ultimately lead to lower health costs to states through Medicaid and other health programs. In one study, the health benefits due to lower rates of heart attack and stroke began quickly, and the health benefits more than offset the program's costs after 1 year.³⁶ The immediate economic and health benefits are later compounded by reductions in cancer and other chronic diseases.

Supporting Treatment Programs for Tobacco Dependence

Nicotine addiction, like other addictions, is a treatable condition. Treatment programs for tobacco dependence can work. States have two major roles in treating tobacco dependence: (1) educating tobacco-dependent people about their treatment options through public health programs, and (2) ensuring that medical programs cover and reimburse the costs of the treatments. As of 1997, only 22 states and the District of Columbia covered such treatment under Medicaid, leading to a recommendation that state Medicaid agencies "incorporate explicit language into their managed-care contracts, policy briefs, lawsuit provisions, and Medicaid formularies."³⁷ States can take guidance on policies to improve tobacco treatments from a report by the Center for the Advancement of Health.³⁸

Community-based resources such as centralized "quitlines" and workplace wellness programs can increase access to cessation programs. State governments are among the largest employers in most

states, and a major employer in all. States can ensure that their employees have access to treatment through their health plans, and smoking bans in state buildings can increase cessation and reduce tobacco use among continuing smokers. States can also pass laws to create smoke-free businesses, public buildings, and worksites. State and local media campaigns that reinforce nonsmoking norms also enhance motivation to quit, reduce tobacco use among those who continue to smoke, and prevent relapse.³⁹

Much can be done to improve access to and the effectiveness of treatment programs within medical systems. More than 70% of smokers visit a primary health care provider at least once a year. Systematic reviews conclude that routine, repeated advice and support can increase smoking cessation rates by 2- to 3-fold.⁴⁰ Physicians, nurses, psychologists, dentists, and other health professionals are more likely to give such advice and support if they practice in a system that encourages such behavior through practice-based systems for tracking smoking status, office-based written materials for smokers to take home, training of health professionals in screening and advising patients, coverage of cessation programs by health plans, and reimbursement for treatments by payers (including Medicaid).

Most people who use tobacco—at all ages—express a desire to quit, but only a small fraction succeed on their own. Although many who do quit do so without formal treatment, treatment clearly improves cessation rates. Controlled studies generally report 30%–35% cessation rates at 1 year for intensive treatments and 10%–20% cessation rates for less-intensive treatments.⁴¹ Treatment for ad-

diction to tobacco products ranks high in cost-effectiveness among health program spending options.⁴² Programs that combine behavioral therapies with pharmacotherapies (i.e., medications) have the best results, and evidence-based guidelines recommend that all smokers should be offered both. Behavioral programs can be delivered in group settings (in person) or individually (in person or by telephone). FDA-approved medications include nicotine replacement agents (in gum, patch, nasal spray, or inhaler delivery systems) and the antidepressant drug bupropion.

Treatment works, but there is ample room for improvement. Despite evidence of its effectiveness, relatively few smokers seek out formal treatment, and relapse rates are high. Improving smoking cessation success rates would be especially important in certain target populations. For example, Massachusetts placed an emphasis on reducing smoking among pregnant women because it would produce long-lasting benefits for the prospective mothers and reduce risks to their children. As a result, the number of mothers who smoked during pregnancy dropped by almost 48% during 1990–1996, a rate far ahead that of any other state.⁴³

Enforcing Youth Access Restrictions⁴⁴

It has long been illegal—in every state—to sell tobacco products to minors, but until recently, enforcement was lax. The federal Synar Amendment ties federal block grant monies to improved compliance with state laws prescribing such sales. States risk reduced payments from

the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration if they fail to meet compliance targets. The federal government has never withheld state funds based on the Synar Amendment, but such withholding is under discussion for several states that have not met Synar targets. Enforcement of youth sales, with mandatory ID-card inspection of those 26 and younger, was the central thrust of a 1996 FDA tobacco regulation. This part of the regulation remains in force pending a U.S. Supreme Court ruling about FDA's jurisdiction over tobacco products. States now have FDA contracts to enforce and monitor youth sales. Several reports have noted that enforcing laws against sales to minors can reduce tobacco consumption.⁴⁵ Although one 1997 study of enforcement showed no decline in youth smoking,⁴⁶ the authors attributed the lack of impact to insufficient merchant compliance⁴⁷ and developed a model approach that is being used in Massachusetts.⁴⁸ Excessive focus or exclusive reliance on youth access restrictions can siphon resources and political will from more powerful tobacco control measures.⁴⁹ Yet all U.S. jurisdictions have youth access laws, and if those laws are to become meaningful, they must be enforced.⁵⁰

Monitoring Performance and Evaluating Programs

Today's tobacco control programs build on decades of research and demonstrations. The scale and scope of tobacco control in the United States—particularly in the most aggressive states—has grown considerably over the past decade, and the proper balance and content of program

elements are the subjects of continuing debate. Tobacco control can improve over time only if (a) its elements are assessed, (b) state programs that choose different strategies are compared, and (c) research to improve the programs is carried out. Governors and state legislators, moreover, need to be able to be accountable for the use of public dollars. This does not imply that results will be quick; significant reductions in tobacco use take years even in states where tobacco control has clearly been effective.

Performance monitoring of public health programs is receiving increased attention.⁵¹ Measures to monitor the performance of tobacco control programs are in place, and efforts are under way to improve them.⁵² Without specified goals and ways of measuring progress, the effectiveness of public monies spent on such programs is hard to judge, so state tobacco control programs should include resources for evaluation and research as part of a comprehensive tobacco control program.

Conclusions

- ❖ Tobacco control programs can reduce tobacco use, thus saving lives.
- ❖ Tobacco control programs can incorporate many different elements modeled on existing state programs that have proved effective.
- ❖ The effects of counteradvertising and education depend on their "intensity" and "dose."
- ❖ Smoke-free worksite policies reduce illness and death from involuntary smoking, increase smoking cessation, and

reduce consumption among continuing smokers.

❖ Raising excise taxes on tobacco products can reduce tobacco use while increasing state revenues.

❖ Tobacco addiction is treatable, and treatment programs are cost effective.

❖ The enforcement of youth access laws will not achieve its full potential impact until merchant compliance rates are high.

❖ To ensure accountability and enable future improvements in tobacco control programs, state tobacco control programs must be evaluated and have explicit goals coupled to performance measures.



Notes

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 52. Davis R.M., An overview of tobacco measures, *Tobacco Control* 7(Suppl.): S36-S40, 1998; Wakefield M.A. and Chaloupka F.J., Improving the measurement and use of tobacco control "inputs," *Tobacco Control* 7:333-335, 1998; Alciati M.H., Frosh M., Green S.B., et al., State laws on youth access to tobacco in the United States: Measuring their extensiveness with a new rating system, *Tobacco Control* 7:345-352, 1998; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Best Practices . . . , op. cit.*; National Cancer Policy Board, *Taking Action . . . , op. cit.*, pp. 11-18; Center for the Advancement of Health, *Development of Tobacco Performance Indicators for Managed Care*, Washington, D.C.: Author (www.cfah.org).

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- KRISTINE GEBBIE**, Assistant Professor of Nursing, Columbia University School of Nursing
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ELLEN GRITZ, Professor and Chair, Department of Behavioral Science, University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston

RUTH GROSS, Professor of Pediatrics, Emerita, Stanford University, Longboat Key, Fla.

GEORGE ISHAM, Medical Director and Chief Health Officer, HealthPartners, Inc., Minneapolis

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JOYCE KOBAYASHI, Director, HIV/AIDS Neuropsychiatric Consultation Services, Denver Health Medical Center, Denver

MARIE McCORMICK, Professor and Chair, Department of Maternal and Child Health, Harvard School of Public Health

ELENA NIGHTINGALE, Scholar-in-Residence, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, D.C.

HUGH TILSON, Senior Advisor to the Dean, School of Public Health, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

KATHLEEN TOOMEY, Director, Division of Public Health, Georgia Department of Human Resources, Atlanta

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KENNETH WARNER, Richard D. Remington Collegiate Professor of Public Health, Department of Health Management and Policy, University of Michigan School of Public Health

DONALD WHORTON, M. Donald Whorton, Inc., Alameda, Calif.

Staff

ROBERT COOK-DEEGAN, Director, National Cancer Policy Board

KATHLEEN STRATTON, Interim Director, Division on Health Promotion and Disease Prevention

CARMIE CHAN, Research Assistant

ELLEN JOHNSON, Administrative Assistant

INDEPENDENT REPORT REVIEWERS

This report has been reviewed in draft form by individuals chosen for their diverse perspectives and technical expertise, in accordance with procedures approved by the National Research Council's Report Review Committee. The purpose of this independent review is to provide candid and critical comments that will assist the Institute of Medicine and the National Research Council in making the published report as sound as possible and to ensure that the report meets institutional standards for objectivity, evidence, and responsiveness to the study charge.

DILEEP G. BAL, California Department of Health Services, Sacramento
FRANK J. CHALOUPKA, University of Illinois at Chicago
MICHAEL P. ERIKSEN, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta
HAROLD J. FALLON, School of Medicine, University of Alabama at Birmingham
HARVEY J. FINEBERG, Harvard University
STANTON A. GLANTZ, University of California at San Francisco

The review comments and draft manuscript remain confidential to protect the integrity of the deliberative process. The National Cancer Policy Board wishes to thank these individuals for their participation in the review of this report.

While the individuals listed below have provided constructive comments and suggestions, it must be emphasized that responsibility for the final content of this report rests entirely with the National Cancer Policy Board, the Institute of Medicine, and the National Research Council.

JACK HENNINGFIELD, Pinney and Associates, Bethesda, Md.
THOMAS P. HOUSTON, American Medical Association, Chicago
MARC MANLEY, Center for Tobacco Reduction and Health Improvement, Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Minnesota, Eagan
MATTHEW MYERS, Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, Washington, D.C.
VIRGINIA V. WELDON, Monsanto, Inc., St. Louis, Mo.

NOTICE: Preparation of this report was approved by William Colglazier, Executive Officer of the National Research Council, on behalf of its Governing Board, whose members are drawn from the councils of the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, and the Institute of Medicine. The members of the National Cancer Policy Board and Board on Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, which are responsible for the report, were chosen for their special competences and with regard for appropriate balance.

This study was supported through funding provided by the National Cancer Institute (Contract No. NO2-CO-71024); the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; the American Cancer Society; Amgen, Inc.; Abbott Laboratories; and Hoechst Marion Rousel, Inc. The views presented in this report are those of the National Cancer Policy Board and are not necessarily those of the funding organizations.

Additional copies of *State Programs Can Reduce Tobacco Use* are available from the National Cancer Policy Board, 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20418.



The full text of this report is available on line at www.nap.edu.

For more information about the Institute of Medicine and the National Cancer Policy Board, visit www.iom.edu.

INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE
2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20418

The serpent has been a symbol of long life, healing, and knowledge among almost all cultures and religions since the beginning of recorded history. The serpent adopted as a logotype by the Institute of Medicine is a relief carving from ancient Greece, now held by the Staatliche Museen in Berlin.

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THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

National Academy of Sciences
National Academy of Engineering
Institute of Medicine
National Research Council

The **National Academy of Sciences** is a private, nonprofit, self-perpetuating society of distinguished scholars engaged in scientific and engineering research, dedicated to the furtherance of science and technology and to their use for the general welfare. Upon the authority of the charter granted to it by the Congress in 1863, the Academy has a mandate that requires it to advise the federal government on scientific and technical matters. Dr. Bruce M. Alberts is president of the National Academy of Sciences.

The **National Academy of Engineering** was established in 1964, under the charter of the National Academy of Sciences, as a parallel organization of outstanding engineers. It is autonomous in its administration and in the selection of its members, sharing with the National Academy of Sciences the responsibility for advising the federal government. The National Academy of Engineering also sponsors engineering programs aimed at meeting national needs, encourages education and research, and recognizes the superior achievements of engineers. Dr. William A. Wulf is president of the National Academy of Engineering.

The **Institute of Medicine** was established in 1970 by the National Academy of Sciences to secure the services of eminent members of appropriate professions in the examination of policy matters pertaining to the health of the public. The Institute acts under the responsibility given to the National Academy of Sciences by its congressional charter to be an adviser to the federal government and, upon its own initiative, to identify issues of medical care, research, and education. Dr. Kenneth I. Shine is president of the Institute of Medicine.

The **National Research Council** was organized by the National Academy of Sciences in 1916 to associate the broad community of science and technology with the Academy's purposes of furthering knowledge and advising the federal government. Functioning in accordance with general policies determined by the Academy, the Council has become the principal operating agency of both the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Engineering in providing services to the government, the public, and the scientific and engineering communities. The Council is administered jointly by both Academies and the Institute of Medicine. Dr. Bruce M. Alberts and Dr. William A. Wulf are chairman and vice chairman, respectively, of the National Research Council.



Alaska State Legislature

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

committee on Tobacco Settlement funds, dated 3/4/2000
bill/subject

Jim concerned about the proposal concerning the Tobacco Settlement funds. ~~First~~, thank you for allocating the \$1.2 million that helps Alaskans receive tobacco addiction treatment, age-appropriate prevention and community/statewide education.

I have several family members who smoke and my mom has chronic pulmonary disease that has resulted in numerous hospitalizations and expensive home-health care. I feel strongly that the Tobacco Settlement funds should be used solely for what they are intended - treat Alaskans with tobacco-caused diseases and prevent further deaths. \$1.2 million is NOT enough to adequately address our state's high level of tobacco addiction. We have one of the highest smoking rates, and consequently one of the highest death rates from tobacco, in the U.S. The Center for Disease Control says we need \$8.1 million to adequately address our problem. The request for \$2.8 million will get us a little closer to our goal.

Signed: _____

Testifier

Representing (Optional)

Address

Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

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

committee on 312 Budget, dated 3-4-00
bill # / subject

the future health of Alaska's children. Please continue to support the ATCA Tobacco Program. It is right that the Tobacco Tax revenues be used, in part, to support educational programs for children - I am reporting to you that this kind of program works - we know it does - the proof is here on the Peninsula!
THANK YOU!

Signed:

Testifier

Pat Ivessell

Representing (Optional)

Address

Phone number



Alaska State Legislature

①

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

committee on 312 - Budget -, dated 3-4-2000
bill # / subject

I would respectfully request that this Committee Support the ATCA Comprehensive Tobacco Control Plan in the ^{amount} ~~amount~~ of \$8.2 million. This is a small portion - Very small, of total Tobacco Revenues. - These moneys are needed to continue the work started with the tobacco tax - on the Peninsula, we are beginning to see a decline in youth experimentation - According to the YRBS (1999) - Middle School students are reporting less experimentation = tobacco products - But we must continue the work - we are making progress to reduce these numbers - we are thinking about -

Signed: Ratti Thuesd000 -
Testifier

Tobacco Control Alliance -
Representing (Optional)

Box 1452 Saldotua AK 99669
Address

260.3682 -
Phone number



Alaska State Legislature

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

committee on 312 . dated March 4, 2000 .
bill/subject

I work with young people throughout our region, and see the struggles that we have with tobacco addiction. Both youth and elders in our region tell me how much they wish they never started to use tobacco. I commend you for the investment that you have made in tobacco prevention. It is my hope that we can begin to curb the use in our state, especially in our rural communities. But we also need to vigorously attack the problem of those who are already addicted. Increasing the tobacco settlement funding to \$2.8 million would begin to approach the level needed to impact tobacco cessation. Funding a comprehensive tobacco control program should be the first use of settlement funds. The long-term health of ~~the~~ Alaskans is at stake. Thank you.

Signed: Marsha Maroelli

Testifier

Bering Strait Community Partnership

Representing (Optional)

P.O. Box 1350, Nome

Address

443-5888

Phone No.

3-4-00

As a recovering alcoholic and drug addict, I ask you that the state don't cut any of the budget to services of alcohol and drug treatments center. If you do cut the budget there won't be any services do to alcohol and drugs treatment, where will the people who wants help go? alcohol and drugs is a highly progressing disease. I went through the program myself. ^{for 2 months} graduated then got into the aftercare program for 3 months. the program do work for people who want and need the help. I thought I didn't need the help. but as I continue through the program I realized where my life was going with alcohol and drugs. I was going no where, but dying slowly. Our people in the Nana region and all over the state need your help. so please think about the people before you cut the budgets. I've learned alot through the program. I had to learn all over again. I got to know myself and got to know who I really am inside. again I really stress this issue that you really think before cutting the budget. I'my work at the alcohol program and understand what air people are going through coming down from alcohol, drugs.

I had to learn to be ²responsible all over again,
and to work with others. I was in denial for
awhile and ~~was~~ until I was ready I surrendered
I had to give up all my old habits, friends, ect,
in order to maintain my sobriety and live
one day at a time. Thank you for your time

Amelia D Boyd

Kotzebue



YUKON FLATS SCHOOL DISTRICT
P.O. Box 359
Fort Yukon, Alaska 99740
Phone: (907) 662-2515
FAX: (907) 662-3094

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: FAIRBANKS LIO	FROM: MARYLU MARTIN Itinerant Counselor
House Finance Committee	
FAX NUMBER: 907 456 3346	DATE: 3/8/00
RE: STOP BUDGET CUTS IN ALCOHOL & SUBSTANCE TREATMENT	TOTAL PAGES INCLUDING COVER: 1

NOTES/COMMENTS: TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I would like to urge you not to make any cuts to Alcohol and substance abuse programs from currently being considered for the State's operation budget for FY00. Alaska has the highest rate of alcohol-related accidents, deaths, and fetal alcohol or alcohol-related birth defects in the nation. Budget reductions will be devastating to ongoing work in substance abuse treatment and prevention.

Specifically, any cuts to the current budget would impact Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc's Hunik Zoo, the Old Mirro Family Recovery Camp and the Fairbanks and Tok Subregional alcohol program.

I have personally seen the response of all the children in seven of the school sites in the Yukon Flats School District. To the Hunik Zoo. They avidly read the publication and they submit material to be published. It is an important tool in the classroom. The Old Mirro Family Recovery Camp gives the family opportunity to recover from the effects of substance abuse and gives the principal person support after treatment. This is an important step in treating substance abuse. I have worked with a family that has been through this and it helps keep the family together in a positive way.

These programs are vital to the Interior and are making great progress in the field of alcohol and substance abuse treatment and prevention.

However, it's not enough. Currently, there is a three to six month waiting list for treatment programs. More preventative education is needed to reach a constantly changing population. Reductions would be a step backwards.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Marylu Martin, Itinerant Counselor

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE

This facsimile transmission and the documents accompanying it may contain confidential information. This information is intended only for the use of the individual(s) named above. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, distributing or the taking of action in reliance on the contents of this information is prohibited. If you received this facsimile in error, please immediately notify us at the telephone number listed above.

Dear HFC:

I would like to urge you to not make any cuts to alcohol and substance abuse programs from currently being considered for the State's operation budget for FY00. Alaska has the highest rates of alcohol-related accidents, deaths, and fetal alcohol or alcohol-related birth defects in the nation. Budget reductions will be devastating to ongoing work in substance abuse treatment and prevention.

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However, it's not enough. Currently, there is a three to six month waiting list for treatment programs. More prevention education is needed to reach a constantly changing population. Reductions would be a step backwards.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectively,

Sharon L. Jimmie

Dear HFC:

I would like to urge you to not make any cuts to alcohol and substance abuse programs from currently being considered for the State's operation budget for FY00. Alaska has the highest rates of alcohol-related accidents, deaths, and fetal alcohol or alcohol-related birth defects in the nation. Budget reductions will be devastating to ongoing work in substance abuse treatment and prevention.

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However, it's not enough. Currently, there is a three to six month waiting list for treatment programs. More prevention education is needed to reach a constantly changing population. Reductions would be a step backwards.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectively,

Misty Vant

Dear

HFC

I would like to urge you to not make any cuts to alcohol and substance abuse programs from currently being considered for the State's operation budget for FY00. Alaska has the highest rates of alcohol-related accidents, deaths, and fetal alcohol or alcohol-related birth defects in the nation. Budget reductions will be devastating to ongoing work in substance abuse treatment and prevention.

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However, it's not enough. Currently, there is a three to six month waiting list for treatment programs. More prevention education is needed to reach a constantly changing population. Reductions would be a step backwards.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectively,

Tyrone Peters

Dear HFC:

I would like to urge you to not make any cuts to alcohol and substance abuse programs from currently being considered for the State's operation budget for FY00. Alaska has the highest rates of alcohol-related accidents, deaths, and fetal alcohol or alcohol-related birth defects in the nation. Budget reductions will be devastating to ongoing work in substance abuse treatment and prevention.

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However, it's not enough. Currently, there is a three to six month waiting list for treatment programs. More prevention education is needed to reach an constantly changing population. Reductions would be a step backwards.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectively,

Diana M. Sam

Dear

HFC

I would like to urge you to not make any cuts to alcohol and substance abuse programs from currently being considered for the State's operation budget for FY00. Alaska has the highest rates of alcohol-related accidents, deaths, and fetal alcohol or alcohol-related birth defects in the nation. Budget reductions will be devastating to ongoing work in substance abuse treatment and prevention.

Specifically, any cuts to the current budget would impact Tanana Chiefs Conference, the 'Hunik Zoo', the Old Minto Family Recovery Camp, and the Fairbanks and Tok Subregional alcohol programs. These programs are vital to the Interior and making great progress in the field of alcohol and substance abuse treatment and prevention.

However, it's not enough. Currently, there is a three to six month waiting list for treatment programs. More prevention education is needed to reach a constantly changing population. Reductions would be a step backwards.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectively,

J. J. J. J.



P. O. Box 516 • Northway, Alaska 99764 • (907) 778-2311 • FAX (907) 778-2220

March 8, 2000

House Finance
119 N. Cushman
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

Dear House Finance Committee:

I would like to urge you to not make any cuts to alcohol and substance abuse programs from currently being considered for the State's operation budget for FY00. Alaska has the highest rates of alcohol-related accidents, deaths, and fetal alcohol or alcohol-related birth defects in the nation. Budget reductions will be devastating to ongoing work in substance abuse treatment and prevention.

Specifically, any cuts to the current budget would impact Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc's Hunik Zoo, the Old Minto Family Recovery Camp, and the Fairbanks and Tok Subregional alcohol programs. These programs are vital to the Interior and making great progress in the field of alcohol and substance abuse treatment and prevention.

However, it's not enough, currently, there is a three to six month waiting list for treatment programs. More prevention education is needed to reach an constantly changing population. Reductions would be a step backwards.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectively,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joyce Johnson".

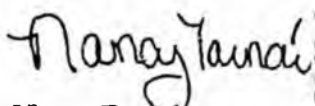
Joyce Johnson, Tribal Administrator

P.O. Box 187
Tanana, AK 99777
March 9, 2000

House & Senate Finance Committee:

We would like to encourage you to allocate as much funding as possible for Head Start services in Alaska. Recent scientific studies have proven that the first three years of life are the most important time for children's development, and Head Start is very supportive of young children in our state, especially in the villages, where this program may often be a young child's only educational and social opportunity.

Thank you.



Nancy Tarnai



Sandor A. Tarnai

TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE, INC.

122 FIRST AVENUE, SUITE 600
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701-4897
PHONE 907/452-8251 • FAX 907/459-3850

March 7, 2000

Senate Finance Committee Members:

Sean Parnell, Co-chair
John Torgerson, Co-chair
Dave Donley
Lyda Green
Pete Kelly
Loren Leman
Randy Phillips
Gary Wilken
Al Adams

House Finance Committee members:

Eldon Mulder, Co-chair
Gene Therriault, Co-chair
Con Bunde
Alan Austerman
Gary Davis
Richard Foster
Gail Phillips
Bill Williams
John Davies
Ben Grussendorf
Carl Moses

Dear Senators and Representatives:

Rural Alaska, particularly Alaska Native villages, will be significantly impacted by the proposed cut to the Department of Commerce and Economic Development budget in the amount of \$2.2 million.

One of the positions that will be eliminated will be that of the Deputy Commissioner that oversees work to bridge the rural/urban divide, to assist in building rural economies and to carry out specific recommendations made in the Rural Governance Report.

Rural tourism, an infant industry in rural Alaska, will also suffer from the proposed budget reduction as the tourism planning staff and trade and development staff at DCED will be significantly reduced or eliminated.

While Tanana Chiefs Conference is certainly aware that good government works to be both efficient and effective, government in Alaska must also work to establish a wider tax base so that budget deficits do not continue. Interior rural Alaska has a wealth of natural resources to be developed, has the youngest work force in Alaska, and is in a position, with assistance from DCED, to develop healthy, sustainable village economies.

Under the current administration, Alaska Natives finally have representatives in government administration that grew up in, and understand both the culture and needs of rural villages. In the past, many of the good ideas that came from Juneau were simply not appropriate for development in rural Alaska, and have resulted in considerable expense to the state, with little real economic development. Through representative government, ideas coming from rural villages that have not formerly had the political environment to germinate, will be able to grow into actions that can sustain village economies. This will not be the case if the Deputy Commissioner's position is not funded.

As an elected representative of 42 rural villages, I urge you to reinstate the proposed budget reductions which, if enacted, would eliminate the Deputy Commissioner's position and those positions in DCED that are needed to foster economic development in rural villages. Thank you for your consideration.

Working together toward sustainable, village economies, I remain,

Yours truly,

TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE, INC.



Steve Ginnis
President

465-6813

FAX COVER PAGE

RUBY TRIBAL COUNCIL
P.O. BOX 210 - RUBY, AK. 99768
Phone: (907) 468-4479 - Fax: (907) 468-4474

TO: House Finance Committee

Fax: 465-3341

Phone: _____

Number of Pages Including Cover Sheet: 2

FROM:

- Kendra McCarty, Tribal Administrator
- Monica Gustafson, Tribal Clerk
- Gloria George, Education/Employment
- Charles Morgan, IGAP Coordinator
- Randy Shaw, RAVEN AmeriCorp. Member
- Joe Wright, Environmental Technician
- Kody Honea, TWDS
- Deanna Captain, TFYS

Sender's Phone Number: _____ Sender's Fax Number: _____

MESSAGE:

- URGENT
- FOR REVIEW
- PLEASE COMMENT
- CONFIDENTIAL

Public Opinion Message

Ruby Tribal Council

P.O. Box 210 – Ruby, Alaska 99768
(907) 468-4479 Fax (907) 468-4474

To whom it may concern,

I would like to urge you not to make any cuts to alcohol and substance abuse programs from currently being considered for the state's operation budget for FY-00. Alaska has the highest rates of alcohol-related accidents, deaths and fetal alcohol or alcohol-related birth defects in the nation. Budget reductions will be devastating to ongoing work in substance abuse treatment and prevention.

Specifically, any cuts to the current budget would impact Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc.'s 'Hunik Zoo', the Old Minto Family Recovery Camp, and the Fairbanks and Tok Subregional alcohol programs. These programs are vital to the Interior and making great progress in the field of alcohol and substance abuse treatment and prevention.

However, it's not enough. Currently, there is a three to six month waiting list for treatment programs. More prevention education is needed to reach a constantly changing population. Reductions would be a step backwards.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectively,

Ruby Tribal Council and Staff

Dear HFC

I would like to urge you to not make any cuts to alcohol and substance abuse programs from currently being considered for the State's operation budget for FY00. Alaska has the highest rates of alcohol-related accidents, deaths, and fetal alcohol or alcohol-related birth defects in the nation. Budget reductions will be devastating to ongoing work in substance abuse treatment and prevention.

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However, it's not enough. Currently, there is a three to six month waiting list for treatment programs. More prevention education is needed to reach a constantly changing population. Reductions would be a step backwards.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ida McCullough

Respectively,

Dear House Finance Committee:

I would like to urge you to not make any cuts to alcohol and substance abuse programs from currently being considered for the State's operation budget for FY00. Alaska has the highest rates of alcohol-related accidents, deaths, and fetal alcohol or alcohol-related birth defects in the nation. Budget reductions will be devastating to ongoing work in substance abuse treatment and prevention.

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However, it's not enough. Currently, there is a three to six month waiting list for treatment programs. More prevention education is needed to reach a constantly changing population. Reductions would be a step backwards.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kathleen M. Sam
Respectively,

NULATO TRIBAL COUNCIL

P.O. Box 65049 • Nulato, Alaska 99765

PHONE 898-2339 • FAX 898-2207



March 8, 2000

Dear House Finance Committee,

Nulato Tribal Council would like to urge you to not make any cuts to alcohol and substance abuse programs from currently being considered for the State's operation budget for FY 2000. Alaska has the highest rates of alcohol-related accidents, deaths, and fetal alcohol or alcohol-related birth defects in the nation. Budget deductions will be devastating to ongoing work in substance abuse treatment and prevention.

Specifically, any cuts to the current budget would impact Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc.'s Old Minto Family Recovery Camp, the Hunik Zoo' and the Fairbanks and Tok Subregional alcohol programs. These programs are vital to the Interior and making great progress in the field of alcohol and substance abuse treatment and prevention.

However, it's not enough. Currently, there is a three to six month waiting list for treatment programs. More prevention education is needed to reach a constantly changing population. Reductions would be a step backwards.

Thank you for your consideration,

Respectively,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ruth Madros".

Ruth Madros, Director of Tribal Operations

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon Demoski".

Sharon Demoski, Human Services Director

March 8, 2000

Dear Mr. Terriault,

I would like to urge you to not make any cuts to alcohol and substance abuse programs from currently being considered for the State's operation budget for FY00. Alaska has the highest rates of alcohol-related accidents, deaths, and fetal alcohol or alcohol-related birth defects in the nation. Budget reductions will be devastating to ongoing work in substance abuse treatment and prevention.

Specifically, any cuts to the current budget would impact Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc.'s Hunik Zoo', the Old Minto Family Recovery Camp, and the Fairbanks and Tok Sub-Regional Alcohol programs. These programs are vital to the Interior and making great progress in the field of alcohol and substance abuse treatment and prevention.

However, it's not enough. Currently, there is a three to six month waiting list for treatment programs. More prevention education is needed to reach a constantly changing population. Reductions would be a step backwards.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectively,



Luke Titus
P.O. Box 74
Minto, Alaska 99758

March 8, 2000

Dear Mr. Terriault,

I would like to urge you to not make any cuts to alcohol and substance abuse programs from currently being considered for the State's operation budget for FY00. Alaska has the highest rates of alcohol-related accidents, deaths, and fetal alcohol or alcohol-related birth defects in the nation. Budget reductions will be devastating to ongoing work in substance abuse treatment and prevention.

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However, it's not enough. Currently, there is a three to six month waiting list for treatment programs. More prevention education is needed to reach a constantly changing population. Reductions would be a step backwards.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectively,

Cheryl L. Brady

Cheryl L. Brady
1618 Madison Drive
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

Dear HFC :

I would like to urge you to not make any cuts to alcohol and substance abuse programs from currently being considered for the State's operation budget for FY00. Alaska has the highest rates of alcohol-related accidents, deaths, and fetal alcohol or alcohol-related birth defects in the nation. Budget reductions will be devastating to ongoing work in substance abuse treatment and prevention.

Specifically, any cuts to the current budget would impact Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inupiat Munik Zoo, the Old Minto Family Recovery Camp, and the Fairbanks and Tok Subregional alcohol programs. These programs are vital to the Interior and making great progress in the field of alcohol and substance abuse treatment and prevention.

However, it's not enough. Currently, there is a three to six month waiting list for treatment programs. More prevention education is needed to reach a constantly changing population. Reductions would be a step backwards.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectively,

J. J. J. J.

Dear HFC:

I would like to urge you to not make any cuts to alcohol and substance abuse programs from currently being considered for the State's operation budget for FY00. Alaska has the highest rates of alcohol-related accidents, deaths, and fetal alcohol or alcohol-related birth defects in the nation. Budget reductions will be devastating to ongoing work in substance abuse treatment and prevention.

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However, it's not enough. Currently, there is a three to six month waiting list for treatment programs. More prevention education is needed to reach a constantly changing population. Reductions would be a step backwards.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectively

Digie M. Searns

Dear HFC:

I would like to urge you to not make any cuts to alcohol and substance abuse programs from currently being considered for the State's operation budget for FY00. Alaska has the highest rates of alcohol-related accidents, deaths, and fetal alcohol or alcohol-related birth defects in the nation. Budget reductions will be devastating to ongoing work in substance abuse treatment and prevention.

Specifically, any cuts to the current budget would impact Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc.'s Hunik Zoo', the Old Minto Family Recovery Camp, and the Fairbanks and Tok Subregional alcohol programs. These programs are vital to the Interior and making great progress in the field of alcohol and substance abuse treatment and prevention.

However, it's not enough. Currently, there is a three to six month waiting list for treatment programs. More prevention education is needed to reach a constantly changing population. Reductions would be a step backwards.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectively,

Tyrone Peters

Dear HFC:

I would like to urge you to not make any cuts to alcohol and substance abuse programs from currently being considered for the State's operation budget for FY00. Alaska has the highest rates of alcohol-related accidents, deaths, and fetal alcohol or alcohol-related birth defects in the nation. Budget reductions will be devastating to ongoing work in substance abuse treatment and prevention.

Specifically, any cuts to the current budget would impact Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc.'s Hunik Zoo, the Old Minto Family Recovery Camp, and the Fairbanks and Tok Subregional alcohol programs. These programs are vital to the Interior and making great progress in the field of alcohol and substance abuse treatment and prevention.

However, it's not enough. Currently, there is a three to six month waiting list for treatment programs. More prevention education is needed to reach a constantly changing population. Reductions would be a step backwards.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectively,

Misty Vant

Dear,.....HFC.....:

I would like to urge you to not make any cuts to alcohol and substance abuse programs from currently being considered for the State's operation budget for FY00. Alaska has the highest rates of alcohol-related accidents, deaths, and fetal alcohol or alcohol-related birth defects in the nation. Budget reductions will be devastating to ongoing work in substance abuse treatment and prevention.

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However, it's not enough. Currently, there is a three to six month waiting list for treatment programs. More prevention education is needed to reach a constantly changing population. Reductions would be a step backwards.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectively,

Sharon L. Jimmie

Dear HEC

I would like to urge you to not make any cuts to alcohol and substance abuse programs from currently being considered for the State's operation budget for FY00. Alaska has the highest rates of alcohol-related accidents, deaths, and fetal alcohol or alcohol-related birth defects in the nation. Budget reductions will be devastating to ongoing work in substance abuse treatment and prevention.

Specifically, any cuts to the current budget would impact Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc.'s Hunik Zoo, the Old Minto Family Recovery Camp, and the Fairbanks and Tok Subregional alcohol programs. These programs are vital to the Interior and making great progress in the field of alcohol and substance abuse treatment and prevention.

However, it's not enough. Currently, there is a three to six month waiting list for treatment programs. More prevention education is needed to reach an constantly changing population. Reductions would be a step backwards.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ida McCullough
Respectively,

Dear House Finance Committee:

I would like to urge you to not make any cuts to alcohol and substance abuse programs from currently being considered for the State's operation budget for FY00. Alaska has the highest rates of alcohol-related accidents, deaths, and fetal alcohol or alcohol-related birth defects in the nation. Budget reductions will be devastating to ongoing work in substance abuse treatment and prevention.

Specifically, any cuts to the current budget would impact Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc.'s 'Hunik Zoo', the Old Minto Family Recovery Camp, and the Fairbanks and Tok Subregional alcohol programs. These programs are vital to the Interior and making great progress in the field of alcohol and substance abuse treatment and prevention.

However, it's not enough. Currently, there is a three to six month waiting list for treatment programs. More prevention education is needed to reach a constantly changing population. Reductions would be a step backwards.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kathleen M. Sam
Respectively.

**NULATO TRIBAL COUNCIL
FAX COVER PAGE**



DATE: 3-8-00

PAGES INCLUDING COVER PAGE: 2

TO: Diana Campbell

COMPANY: _____

PHONE: 456-3376

FAX: _____

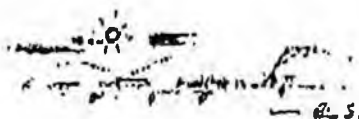
FROM: Nulato Tribal Council

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Peter J. Demoski, Tribal Administrator | <input type="checkbox"/> Corrine M. Stickman, Administrative Assistant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ross L. Peter, Tribal Accountant | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruth A. Mudros, Tribal Operations Director |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sharon A. Demoski, Human Services Director | <input type="checkbox"/> Elizabeth Wofford, Human Services Assistant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Harold Sommer, Environmental Technician | <input type="checkbox"/> Elaine Nickoll, TWSS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carol Alexie, Ameri-Corps Volunteer | |

PHONE: _____

FAX: (907)898-2207

COMMENTS: _____



NULATO TRIBAL COUNCIL

P.O. Box 65049 • Nulato, Alaska 99765

PHONE 898-2339 • FAX 898-2207



March 8, 2000

Dear House Finance Committee,

Nulato Tribal Council would like to urge you to not make any cuts to alcohol and substance abuse programs from currently being considered for the State's operation budget for FY 2000. Alaska has the highest rates of alcohol-related accidents, deaths, and fetal alcohol or alcohol-related birth defects in the nation. Budget deductions will be devastating to ongoing work in substance abuse treatment and prevention.

Specifically, any cuts to the current budget would impact Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc.'s Old Minto Family Recovery Camp, the Munk Zoo and the Fairbanks and Tok Subregional alcohol programs. These programs are vital to the interior and making great progress in the field of alcohol and substance abuse treatment and prevention.

However, it's not enough. Currently, there is a three to six month waiting list for treatment programs. More prevention education is needed to reach a constantly changing population. Reductions would be a step backwards.

Thank you for your consideration,

Respectively,

Ruth Madros, Director of Tribal Operations

Sharon Demoski, Human Services Director

March 8, 2000

Dear Mr. Terriault,


I would like to urge you to NOT make any cuts to alcohol and substance abuse programs from currently being considered for the State's operation budget for FY00. Alaska has the highest rates of alcohol-related accidents, deaths, and fetal alcohol or alcohol-related birth defects in the nation. Budget reductions will be devastating to ongoing work in substance abuse treatment and prevention.

Specifically, any cuts to the current budget would impact Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc.'s 'Hunik Zoo', the Old Minto Family Recovery Camp, and the Fairbanks and Tok Sub-Regional Alcohol programs. These programs are vital to the Interior and making great progress in the field of alcohol and substance abuse treatment and prevention.

However, it's not enough. Currently, there is a three to six month waiting list for treatment programs. More prevention education is needed to reach a constantly changing population. Reductions would be a step backwards.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectively,



Luke Titus
P.O. Box 74
Minto, Alaska 99758

March 8, 2000

Dear Mr. Mulder,

I would like to urge you to not make any cuts to alcohol and substance abuse programs from currently being considered for the State's operation budget for FY00. Alaska has the highest rates of alcohol-related accidents, deaths, and fetal alcohol or alcohol-related birth defects in the nation. Budget reductions will be devastating to ongoing work in substance abuse treatment and prevention.

Specifically, any cuts to the current budget would impact Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc.'s Hunik Zoo, the Old Mine Family Recovery Camp, and the Fairbanks and Tok Sub-Regional Alcohol programs. These programs are vital to the Interior and making great progress in the field of alcohol and substance abuse treatment and prevention.

However, it's not enough. Currently, there is a three to six month waiting list for treatment programs. More prevention education is needed to reach a constantly changing population. Reductions would be a step backwards.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectively,

Cheryl L. Brady

Cheryl L. Brady
1618 Madison Drive
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

465-6213

FAX COVER PAGE

RUBY TRIBAL COUNCIL
P.O. BOX 210 - RUBY, AK. 99768
Phone: (907) 468-4479 - Fax: (907) 468-4474

TO: House Finance Committee

Fax: 456.3346

Phone: _____

Number of Pages Including Cover Sheet 2



FROM:

- Kendra McCarty, Tribal Administrator
- Monica Gustafson, Tribal Clerk
- Gloria George, Education/Employment
- Charles Morgan, IGAP Coordinator
- Randy Shaw, RAVEN AmeriCorp. Member
- Joe Wright, Environmental Technician
- Kody Honta, TWDS
- Deanna Captain, TFYS

Sender's Phone Number: _____ Sender's Fax Number: _____



MESSAGE:

- URGENT
- FOR REVIEW
- PLEASE COMMENT
- CONFIDENTIAL

Public Opinion Memo

Ruby Tribal Council

P.O. Box 210 - Ruby, Alaska 99768

(907) 468-4479 Fax (907) 468-4474

To whom it may concern,

I would like to urge you not to make any cuts to alcohol and substance abuse programs from currently being considered for the state's operation budget for FY-00. Alaska has the highest rates of alcohol-related accidents, deaths and fetal alcohol or alcohol-related birth defects in the nation. Budget reductions will be devastating to ongoing work in substance abuse treatment and prevention.

Specifically, any cuts to the current budget would impact Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc.'s Huvik Zoo, the Old Minto Family Recovery Camp, and the Fairbanks and Tok Subregional alcohol programs. These programs are vital to the Interior and making great progress in the field of alcohol and substance abuse treatment and prevention.

However, it's not enough. Currently, there is a three to six month waiting list for treatment programs. More prevention education is needed to reach a constantly changing population. Reductions would be a step backwards.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectively,

Ruby Tribal Council and Staff



P. O. Box 516 • Northway, Alaska 99764 • (907) 778-2311 • FAX (907) 778-2220

March 8, 2000

House Finance
119 N. Cushman
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

Dear House Finance Committee:

I would like to urge you to not make any cuts to alcohol and substance abuse programs from currently being considered for the State's operation budget for FY00. Alaska has the highest rates of alcohol-related accidents, deaths, and fetal alcohol or alcohol-related birth defects in the nation. Budget reductions will be devastating to ongoing work in substance abuse treatment and prevention.

Specifically, any cuts to the current budget would impact Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc's Hunik Zoo, the Old Minto Family Recovery Camp, and the Fairbanks and Tok Subregional alcohol programs. These programs are vital to the Interior and making great progress in the field of alcohol and substance abuse treatment and prevention.

However, it's not enough, currently, there is a three to six month waiting list for treatment programs. More prevention education is needed to reach an constantly changing population. Reductions would be a step backwards.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectively,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Joyce Johnson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Joyce Johnson, Tribal Administrator



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Drug and Alcohol
 committee name
 committee on Drug + Alcohol Budget Cut, dated 3/3/00
 bill/subject

I am a living witness that the programs that are provided by the funding by the state budget concerning Drug + Alcohol abuse does work. I am a recovering alcohol + addict and I used the programs that were provided by the state budget. I am a graduate of Alaska State and I have 5 years of recovery. I am a responsible and focused Alaskan who takes pride in this state and country. I would like to say if the budget got cut we will have to pay a bigger price up the road. ~~that~~ Thank you for your time

Signed: HERMAN Goodhope
Herman Goodhope
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)
P.O. Box 201412
 Address
(907) 2580401
 Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the FINANCE COMMITTEE
 committee name
 committee on Residential Alcho. TREATMENT, dated 3-4-2000
 bill/subject

I am a Recovering Alcoholic,

I have been a real drain on the resources of this state.

Now that I am Recovering, I can give back to the civic I have helped drain.

Without residential treatment programs this would have been impossible for me.

I have tried out patient services and they did not work for me.

Please don't take funds, so someone else can do the same

Signed: Paul Helquist
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)
1028 E 8th AVE Anchorage AK 99501
 Address
283-8042
 Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Kenneth L WASSON

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Finance ^{Committee} ~~Committee~~
 committee name
 committee on Funding For Drug & Alcohol Treatment Centers dated 03/04/00
 bill/subject

ATTACHED you'll find my personal plea
 NOT TO CUT Funding To Alcohol and
 Drug Centers through out Anch, And
 Alaska.

Signed: Kenneth L Wasson Kenneth L WASSON
 Testifier

myself And Clithorne Center,
 Representing (Optional)

1709 S BRAGAW Suite B Anch AK 99508
 Address

 Phone No.

TO: Our Representative

I'm Ken WASSON And I'm here to voice my opinion. On The Proposed Budget Cut To The Funding For Alcohol And Drug Inpatient Treatment Facilities. Some times we Alcoholics Do NOT have the means to afford a much needed treatment that can provide a clean safe place to resolve some of the large issues and problems that surround our Alcoholism. I understand and believe that Alcoholism is a fatal disease and with out the help of Clithove Center I would probably be dead or would have taken a very valuable, life of someone that I don't even know. As a result of my continued drinking

While in treatment the staff work very closely with me and my individual situation. I don't believe that I could have gotten that much attention or help for that matter, by going to an outpatient treatment. If I did not have the access to an inpatient treatment program I would still be living on the street and eating out of dumpsters, and in all being a public nuisance, I'm learning how to be come a productive part of society, and a lot of new tools to deal with life on life terms

If the moneys are not available for center's like the one that I'm in, it will deprive another person like me the chance at a new and better way of life. For us and our children.

I Believe That There Are Other Ways
To Balance The Budget, & you might Put A
Higher TAX ON Alcohol sales And use THAT money
OR you might eliminate All the Flowers Around
Anch that are planted Every spring and Die
Every Fall, I Think that Human life is
More Important Than the Short Life of
these Flowers,

AGAIN I AM ASKING you to Please Consider
Such Unfortunates Like my self, and Keep
This In mind when you ^{purpose} cut the much needed
STAFF and centers Throug out ALASKA,

Thank you For your Time
And Allowing me to Share
my opinion ..



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Finance committee name
 committee on Funding for Inpatient Services, dated 3/4/00
 bill/subject

I, John Nutt would ask that you not cut funding for Alcohol/Drug Treatment Centers. I am a Resident at Clitheroe Center and without the treatment I've recieved while here I would probably still be out drinking and driving possibly injuring somebody else, as I have in the past. If you take away Inpatient Funding we'll need more money to hire police officers because of an increase in alcohol/Drug related crimes. Thanks Concerned Citizen of Anchorage.

Signed: John M. H. Nutt
 Testifier
Clitheroe Inpatient Treatment Center
 Representing (Optional)
1740 Skilak Circle
 Address
337-7824
 Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

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

committee on Alco, dated 3-4-00
bill/subject

I just came down to say that I'm
a recovering alcoholic - Drug Addict
And if you take away any funding
more people are sure to die.
Out patient will not be able to
accomidate people with sever dependence
It runs in family's all over Alaska
what about our children or yours

Signed: Jim Pettit
Testifier

Representing (Optional)
6820 Cranberry st #2 Anch AK 99502
Address
907-243-6820
Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the _____ committee name
 committee on ELCO, dated 3-4-00
 bill/subject

JSD TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

THE CUTTING OF FUNDS TO DEAL WITH
 DRUG AND ALCOHOL TREATMENT IN PATIENT OR OUT
 SHOULD IF ANYTHING BE INCREASED IT IS A VALUABLE
 ASSET TO THE NOT SO FORTUNATE ALCOHOLIC OR
 DRUG ADDICT. FOR RECOVERY AND SOBRIETY
 DO NOT CUT FUNDINGS

Signed: DAVID DAVIDSON
 Testifier
TREATMENT CENTERS
 Representing (Optional)
SCOW KLATT 99515
 Address
3494610
 Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the _____ committee name
 committee on VALU, dated 3-4-00
 bill/subject

IF IT WAS NOT FOR THE FUNDS
 CLITHEROE RECEIVES I WOULD NOT
 BE ABLE TO GET TREATMENT. I HAVE
 LOST ALL AND CANNOT LIVE LIFE
 AS A PRACTICING ALCOHOLIC WITHOUT
 DIRE CONSEQUENCES TO THE COMMUNITY.
 THIS PROGRAM IS HELPING ME COPE
 WITH MY DISEASE AND BECOME A
 PRODUCTIVE PART OF SOCIETY.
 THANK YOU.

Signed: Jeff Lane
 Testifier
CLITHEROE
 Representing (Optional)

 Address

 Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the ALCO
 committee name
 committee on Drug/Alcohol Treatment dated 3-4-00
 bill/subject

IF I didn't get in to treatment
 as soon as I did, I am not sure
 I would be here today. Funding is
 very crucial for this program, to
 maintain low cost for clients and
 keep enough staff for quality
 treatment. Please consider this
when making your decision

Signed: Brent Lewellyn
 Testifier

Clithere Center Salvation Army
 Representing (Optional)

1045 Lindenberry Ct. Anch AK 99515
 Address

907 349 6072
 Phone No.

March 3, 2000

Testimony via LIO
House Finance Committee via LIO Anchorage

Ladies/Gentlemen of the Finance Committee. My name is Cynthia Toohey. I would like to thank you for spending your Saturday taking testimony and hearing me squeak.

I Speak as a Board member, of the Alaska Women's Resource Center , but more importantly I speak as a volunteer every Monday evening from 4:30 -9:00 down at the Domestic Violence section of the State court house. I am there to help victims fill out restraining orders. I see the physical as well as the mental scars from domestic abuse. And I see the children in the familys as well.

I am requesting that you return the \$335,000 dollars that the sub-committee cut from the Council on Domestic Violence .

A funding source could be from the dollars collected from new felons Perm. Fund Checks. I understand there is approx. \$ 1.8 million left.

I understand this money is looking for a new home so to speak. What better use. This request will hurt no one but will help many.

thank you



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance Committee
 committee name
 committee on Alcohol/Drug Rehabilitation, dated 3-4-00
 bill/subject

My personal plea to this Committee^{is} that you not cut funding to Alcohol/Drug Rehabilitation services. 2 and 1/2 years ago I was in desperate need of treatment services, and enlisted the help of a Anchorage Police Officer in trying to get into residential treatment. Unfortunately I did not possess money or insurance and the waiting lists for residential treatment programs was long. I was very sick and desperate for help. In December 1997 I ended up committing some crimes in the course of trying to feed my disease of addiction. Fortunately, today I can say I'm clean and sober and have been for a little more than 2 years. Sadly, the costs to the people in the State of Alaska have been greatly increased for me to get the help I need. It has taken 2 years of prison, with treatment services while there, and in the next 6 months I will go through 28 days of in-patient treatment and months of out-patient treatment, all supported by the People of Alaska through the Dept. of Corrections. I would not have committed my crimes had I had access to treatment services beforehand. This was my first involvement with the law. Please reconsider these cuts. Perhaps you can save anothers life.

Signed: Norman Matthews *Norman Matthews*

Testifier

Self

Representing (Optional)

831 B St., Anchorage, AK 99501

Address

Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the _____

committee on Daycare Assistance Funding, dated 3/4/00, committee name _____
bill/subject DA.

I am a single mother of 2 children of which I have worked my self off the system and with all the cut backs for child care it is very unreasonable and would force me to be placed on the system ^{again} and wash out everything that I worked for. We need to think about healthy families etc. I have children, it need as need to know that my children are in a healthy environment while at work. We need to allot funding see more funding for child care. I have children with medical needs of which daycare assistance sup sorry no money! Again, what about the children safety, stress. Lets provide quality, empowerment, funding. Let the governor proceed!

Signed: Sharon Delle
Testifier

Representing (Optional)
5500 College Meadows Circle
Address
907-332-5115
Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Finance Committee
 committee name
 committee on Alcohol/Tobacco, dated 3/4/00
 bill/subject

Concerning Finances, income & expenditures:

There are high taxes on alcohol & tobacco in the state. In addition, the est. \$22M in tobacco co. settlement for next year provides a significant source of income to the State. HOWEVER, expenditures for education and addiction recovery programs come nowhere near the revenue. US CDC&P suggests \$8M yearly for tobacco education. The legislature wants around \$1.4M. In addition, over \$3M is proposed to be cut for addiction recovery programs.

~~Public~~ Public safety is on almost everyone's minds. Some studies show up to 90% of crimes relate with some substance abuse. Huge expenses to society are incurred because of substance abuse. If current trends continue, state expenditures for jails, courts, prisons, victim support, mental health, etc will continue to grow rapidly.

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Please do not short change Alaska's future for short-term & limited gains by reducing the budget for tobacco, alcohol & drug programs. It would not be financially or morally expedient.

Signed: Paul Merculiet II
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)

10122 Batuka Dr ANC, AK 99507

Address

(907) 440-6677

Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the AK. Fin. Comm.
 committee name
 committee on Substance Treatment dated 3-4-00
 bill/subject

My name is Brenda Reichard, I am an Alcoholic and Addict. I am currently a resident at the Clithroae Ctr. Residential Treat. Prog. I am here to tell you that the Clithroae Ctr. Reflections Prog. has saved my life. I was a victim of Domestic Violence and had just gotten out of the E.R. for Overdose. I called the Clithroae Ctr. and told the Assessment Coun. that I needed to get in ASAP or I would die. I was in within days, I had lost my 2 children and my lomo old baby was in an Emergency Shelter. The Clithroae center Staff did everything they could to get my baby back with me. We have been in the Reflections Prog. for 90 days now and will graduate this mo. And go on to more treatment my family and I now have hope and a future. The Clithroae Ctr. Prog. cares about saving lives and keeping families together. Please do not cut back funding for

signed: Testifier Drug & Alcohol Treatment Facilities, Thank-You.

Brenda D. Reichard

Representing (Optional)

1709 S. Bragawa Cb Reflections

Address Anch. AK. 99508

Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

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

I've been working on my recovery at Clithro, and in a wonderful women's program reflections. It offers women to work through there problem and give us the tools to stay away from drugs and alcohol, and prepare us to live; a sober-clean, healthy life. There at reflections we do process group, lectures and people coming from the community to give us the knowledge & expertise.

Signed: Karen A Rodgers
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)
P. O Box 670831, Chugiak AK 99567
 Address
(907) 688-9233
 Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

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

committee on treatment centers, dated 3-4-00
bill/subject

I am Andrea Skylstad. I am currently in treatment @ Clitheroe Center- Reflections. Thx for allowing me to testify for myself & my children. I am here in treatment to deal w/ drug abuse, DV and sexual assault. I am from CSV where Sound Alternatives was able to recommend me to Clitheroe. If funding is cut for these centers it will keep the kids & these parents out on the street. I am learning to cope w/ these issues live put before you. I will be able to stop the cycle of abuse in my family, will the rest of humanity get this help if you cut funding I consider myself ~~to~~ fortunate. Please lets stop the cycle of drug abuse, Domestic Violence, and sexual abuse. Please keep funding for these treatment centers, if not for you maybe for your children who might face these death issues.

Thank you

Signed: Andrea d. Skylstad
Testifier

Treatment Centers - Clitheroe Center
Representing (Optional)

Anchorage AK
Address

342-1439
Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Alkeda, Inc. committee name
 committee on Substance Abuse , dated _____
Mental Health , dated _____
Prevention bill/subject

Hello,
 My name is Nenta Soltau and myself
 & my family (4 kids) are survivors of the trauma
 and substance abuse & alcohol addiction. My
 self in recovery 4 years today, cannot
 express my deepest fears and concerns over
 the budget cuts in the areas where drug
 prevention, Domestic Violence and Education
 are prevalent.

I went through treatment at Alkeda Inc a
 non profit organization I was in residential
 treat for 24 months, there were times when
 I was in active use, I'd pray that organizations
 such as Alkeda Inc would not generate enough money
 to remain open, therefore I would not have treatment
 as an option. Today 4 years clean and sober
 I pray that the "Devils" that remain in active use
 don't have to face my nightmare come true. (Treatment
 unavailable
 DO TO LACK
 OF FUNDS)

Signed: Nenta Soltau
 Testifier
Alaska Drug Prevention Council
 Representing (Optional)
749 Fisher Anch Alaska 99518
 Address
907 563-7491
 Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance Committee
 committee name
 committee on House Bill 321 / Budget cuts, dated 3-4-00
 bill/subject

- My name is Katie Henning. I am a consumer representative of AKeela, Alaska Women's Resource Center, and South Central Foundation, Dena A Coy.
- I used to smoke crack cocaine. I was very addicted and in lots of trouble with the law. I was in and out of treatment and jail for about 4 years. Then when I was 4 months pregnant, I went to treatment at Dena A Coy (DAC). DAC was a safe place for me to put into action all the treatment information I had previously learned.
- I am a success story. My 6 year old daughter has never seen me use.
- I have been employed with Alaska North Addictions Recovery Center at the Ernie Turner Center for 5 years. For myself and many others, I know that treatment works.
- Without treatment, I truly believe that I would not be testifying today - I would be high, in jail, or dead.
- Because of my own treatment experience, I believe that if this bill is approved, you will be doing a lot more than cutting a budget. If approved, many chances for a productive life will be cut as well. Please, restore funding, restore the opportunity to live!

Signed: Katie M. Henning
 Testifier
AKeela, AWRC, Dena A Coy (Consumer)
 Representing (Optional)
P.O. Box 141542 Anchorage AK 99514
 Address
(907) 279-8273
 Phone No.

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

ADVISORY BOARD ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE

TONY KNOWLES, GOVERNOR

P.O. BOX 110808
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-0808
PHONE: (907) 465-8920
FAX: (907) 465-4410
TOLL FREE: 1-800-420-8820

March 4, 2000

Co-Chairs Rep. Mulder and Therriault
House Finance Committee
Alaska State Legislature
Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska

Chairs Mulder, Therriault, and Finance Committee Members:

On behalf of the Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse I strongly encourage you to restore full funding to the Division of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse. The vast majority of testimony you received this date from Alaskan residents statewide is consistent with the position of the Advisory Board. You have heard about the extent to which alcohol is a major factor in the major areas of health and safety in this state. The personal accounts which residents feel compelled to relate to the Committee to stress the importance of full funding for alcohol drug programs are touching. The untold stories are heartbreaking.

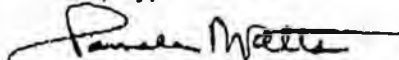
It is our understanding that House Finance is recommending a \$1.5 million dollar cut to the Division budget. This would be a 12% cut to the grant component of this budget and would have a devastating impact on programs statewide. This cut to the General Fund would result in an additional loss of over \$700.0 in federal funding for FY 02 and \$750 in FY 03. This loss of funding would necessarily result since our state would be unable to meet the federal matching fund requirement.

We have heard the Finance Committee refer to a plan to restore some funding to the Division of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse by using \$500. from the new FAS/FAE federal grant. We believe that these funds cannot be transferred to alcohol and drug abuse grants because of federal restrictions on the use of these designated funds.

References made in earlier Finance Committee meetings to possible funding support from the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority to fill the budget gap may be a possibility, however the Advisory Board is concerned that the backfilling of state General Fund shortages is not the statutory role of the Trust. Overall, the reductions in General Fund and federal monies could result in over \$3 million loss of funding by FY 03 to the Division of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse. Such a cut would severely impair substance abuse treatment service delivery in Alaska.

Again, the Advisory Board encourages you to reconsider cuts to the Division of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, consider alternative strategies including alcohol taxation legislation currently in committees, and support full-funding for the Division.

Sincerely,



Pamela Watts
Executive Director

To: the State of Alaska House Finance
Committee

Re: HB 313

From: Burton W. Hawiland Jr.

- former client of MASS
- Had nowhere else to turn
- could not stay sober on my own
- At that time it was the only means available to me to support for my desire to stay sober

If it was not there, I'm not sure that I'd be sober
~~In my past,~~ ^{ALWAYS} ~~the~~ ~~state~~ ~~of~~ ~~AK~~ ~~in~~ ~~many~~ ~~different~~

- Law enforcement
- Court costs
- State Prisons
- Children taken by DKYS
 - pay for food, clothes, care
- Teens put into detention institutions w/ associated costs

many millions \$'s to do all this

One ^{drunk} person can cost the state many thousands of \$
 "sober" not only stops costing the state, but starts being
 a benefit by helping others to stay sober, "pay in" and
 consuming goods, it's a sort of domino effect
 years ago at ANAC.

I did ^{some} informal cost evaluations and found that the amount of \$

that's being proposed for cut is about what it cost

one fairly cheap alley program. The most obvious ^{would be}

less food and ^{less ability to pay} bills paid, resulting in fewer clients ^{some of}

those ^{clients} would have stayed sober. Instead, they'll ^{be} ^{to} use
^{ALCOHOL} ^{drug}, hurting themselves and their family children and families (and comm.)
 cost the state and communities many millions of \$ ^{to} ^{men-}

tion from the dramatic social and personal trauma for them ^{anyone}

they contact.

If anything, funding for addictions treatment should ^{increased}

The benefits of one sober person more than make ^{financially}
 cost of helping him or her to sober up. ^{including} ^{financially}
 the benefits of many people sobering up ⁱⁿ ^{man} ^{of} ^{AK} ^{of} ^{AK} ^{of} ^{AK}



CHANGING TIDES COUNSELING SERVICES

*201 North Nordic, Suites 204, 205
P.O. BOX 1066, Petersburg, Alaska 99833
Phone: (907) 772-3552, Fax: (907) 772-3580
e-mail: changing@alaska.net
home page: <http://www.alaska.net/~changing/>*

March 4th, 2000

Dear Representative,

I am writing to you concerning the planned cuts to the budget of the Division of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse. Cuts of the magnitude would be detrimental to alcohol and other drug programs across the state. Those of us in small rural treatment programs would be some of those who would be hit the hardest. It is essential that we continue with programs which have proven to reduce the negative effects of alcohol and other drugs on our communities.

Our programs have had no increase in funding in several years. We have been able to make our programs more and more efficient, and our outcomes have improved. But we are at rock bottom now. Cuts of this magnitude would cripple our efforts.

Some, point to the federal SIG or FAS grants to make up for the budget cuts. These monies are strictly earmarked for special programs, and cannot be used for programs in general. Furthermore, cuts to the base could result in loss of federal block grant dollars which require "maintenance of effort". My agency receives none of the SIG or FAS dollars, as do many other programs around our state. Cuts to the budget would be felt severely by those of us in rural Alaska.

Please reconsider the effects of the proposed cuts. I would be willing to speak with you at any time about our services, programs, or outcomes. I will be in Juneau March 6-10 and will contact you in person at that time.

Sincerely,

Larry King CAC II, NCAC I, CCS

To Whom It May Concern,

3/3/00

I am in Clitheroe in treatment and it has helped me tremendously. I've worked on situations that I hid from my past that I kept inside and didn't deal with. I am finally learning about what my addictions are and how to deal with them.

There are strict rules here and it's all on a schedule to show us as users when we get out in our own we can survive, with our habits. This program is the best program I've been into and everyone here cares so much on what happens to us.

This program is so important so we can have the tools and knowledge and teach it to our children so they don't follow the same path that I did and maybe someday down the road this cycle of abuse will stop somewhere.

I've seen people in the past finish a rehab program and stay clean. It makes the society a much better place if we realize our wrongs and deal with our faults.

I pray sincerely that these treatment centers stay around. Everyone needs help in a addition that we aren't able to control, and we stay clean.

and sober and are able to live a
clean and great life. If I didn't
come into treatment, I would of
probably lost my life. I want to be
able to get my kids and live great.

Sincerely Yours
James D. Rodgers

3400

As an alcoholic I'm asking you not to make any cuts in alcohol & drug treatment program. I've been through the treatment program and am now in the work program. If cuts are made there probably won't be no work program. Here in the Nona region we have an epidemic with alcoholism. Earlier in my life living with denial I thought I didn't need to go through treatment. Now I'm here asking you again please you must not make cuts. 3 months in the program, we have lost 3 people due to alcohol. Can you put a price on a persons life? Please think about it when you decide to make cuts?

Thank You
Robert J. J. J.

As you know we had talk many hours on Alcohol and Drugs.

Programs need to enforce Native Culture in their programs, not just place in words for grants.

28 day programs only serve as education and what is called Spin-dry.

Programs need to be located outside the city limits away from distraction.

Clients need to be able to exercise their rights in use of Native Culture in their treatment.

AA is free and continue to heal people in their search to stay clean

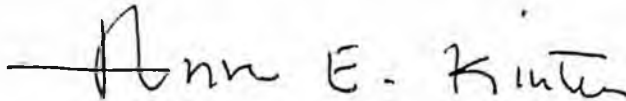
Please support Native programs designed by Native people - Not some modle from Denver, h.A. ect Thank You
Kenny Gardner

Representative Gene Therriault
Representative Eldon Mulder

PLEASE DO NOT CUT THE ALCOHOL AND DRUG FUNDS. Alcoholism and other Drug abuse is recognized as Alaska's Number one public health problem, directly or indirectly. To reduce access to treatment is to subvert public health This failure will cause increased state, municipal and personal expense across the board to say nothing of increased human misery, child and adult alike.

I have 22 years experience in various aspects of the substance abuse field and I know how vital and effective treatment can be . For most alcoholics, if the intake stops, a functioning individual emerges. How can we deny someone that opportunity!

Sincerely,



Anne E. Kinter
17345 Glacier Hwy.
Juneau, AK 99801
789-4807

Feb. 29, 2000



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the

Finance Committee
committee name

committee on #312 Alcohol/Alcoholism, dated March 4th, 2000
bill/subject

Good afternoon my name is Crystal Cottle and I'm here today representing Nuguns Ranch Rehabilitation Center of Wasilla, AK.

AS a recovering alcoholic myself and a concerned citizen of the state of Alaska I am here to testify to the Finance Committee regarding the proposed cuts in government appropriations against drug and alcohol rehabilitation in the state of Alaska.

Alcoholism is leading other states in the devastation to families and communities as a whole. We cannot afford to cut programs that reach out to people who still suffer and will surely die without your continued support towards this growing problem.

Please do not be penny wise and pearl clutch. These cuts will only result in a higher cost in law enforcement, and incarceration and an overall deterioration of quality of life for citizens of Alaska. Thank you.

Signed: _____

Testifier

Nuguns Ranch

Representing (Optional)

Address

Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance Committee
 on domestic violence committee name
 committee on funding for the courts and Sexual assault
 bill/subject , dated March 4, 2000

My name is Jacqueline I am now staying at the SAFV shelter in Sitka. It is the second time I've been here. I came here this time because where I was staying everyone was drinking and I wanted to be someplace safe to have my baby. My baby is now 11 days old and I'm thankful SAFV was available to us. Now I want to find an apartment for my baby and myself. It is important for communities like Sitka to have domestic violence programs.

Signed: Jacqueline M. Leboe
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)
Box 16122 Sitka Alaska 99835
 Address
907-747-6986
 Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

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

I am a mother, voter and a child care provider. We have had a horrible week here in the Mat-Su Valley. The families we serve received notice that their child care assistance will be cut March 31st. I estimate that this affects ~~75~~ 50% of the families we serve. Unfortunately, for the other 50% of the families - we may not be able to serve them either because many of our staff are having their own child care eliminated.

Not fully funding such a basic program that allows low to moderate income families ~~to~~ to continue to work, does not make ^{economic} ~~economic~~ sense. These families will end up back on the welfare rolls—receiving more assistance than they currently do. Let's look at a budget of a mother making \$10/hr and working full-time with three children: Housing \$700, Food \$300, utilities \$150 Gas \$100, medical ins. \$200, car insurance \$75, phone \$35. total expenses w/out child care \$1,560. Monthly income roughly \$1,700. Where do you think she could find \$1,200 to pay for child care? We urge you to allow families to continue to work.

Signed: Rebecca W. Williams
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)

240 Irene St. Palmer AK 99645

Address

745-7189

Phone No.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

225 Cordova Street, Anchorage, AK 99501
(907) 277-2554 • Fax (907) 272-7370

FAX

To: Legislative Information Office

From: Catholic Social Services

Fax No. 269-0229

Pages (Including Cover Sheet): 2

Phone: 269-0111

Date: 3/3/00

Re: Testimony on HB 343 – recommended budget cuts by the House of Representatives

Testimony follows

Adoption
Beyond Shelter
Brother Francis Shelter/Kodiak
Special Needs Respite
Immigration & Refugee Services



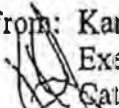
Clare House
McAuley Manor
St. Francis House
Brother Francis Shelter/Anchorage
Pregnancy Support Services

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

225 Cordova Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907) 277-2554 phone • (907) 272-7370 fax • css@sinbad.net email

March 3, 2000

To: Anchorage Legislators
House of Representatives

From:  Karleen Jackson
Executive Director
Catholic Social Services

Sub: Child Care Budget Cuts
Testimony on HB 343

I am writing on behalf of the families, and especially the children, of Alaska to express the concerns that Catholic Social Services has about the recommended cuts for child care assistance for families coming off welfare and entering the workforce. For many families, subsidized childcare is single most important factor that enables parents to move from welfare to work.

It should be evident that the investment of subsidized child care will not only save millions of state dollars in future years, but also produces families who are able to contribute to their communities and neighborhoods in ways they could not if they remained on welfare.

Those currently receiving childcare assistance are often referred to as the "working poor". Before subsidized child care, many families struggled to find a way to enter the work force because they did not earn enough to pay for child care over and above basic living expenses. We have a responsibility to reduce rather than increase obstacles for those trying to productively contribute to our society.

Last year Catholic Social Services provided services to nearly 25,000 individuals, including low-income families, families dealing with homelessness and poverty, adoptive families and refugees. On behalf of those we serve, I urge you to reconsider suggested cuts to subsidized child care and instead, invest in the future of Alaska by investing in Alaska's children and families.

Adoption
Beyond Shelter
Special Needs Respite
Brother Francis Shelter/Kodiak
Immigration & Refugee Services



A United Way Agency

Clare House
McAuley Manor
St. Francis House
Brother Francis Shelter/Anchorage
Pregnancy Support Services

No. 0252 P. 2

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICE

MAR. 3. 2000 4:20PM

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

VIOLENCE

TESTIMONY ON HB 312

From Wanda D. Katinszky, RN
Community Volunteer and Legal Advocate for Alaska Women's Resource Center
2931 Legacy Drive
Anchorage Alaska 99516

My concern with this bill has to do with the cuts proposed to the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. Thank you for this opportunity to speak with you about my experiences working with the Alaska Women's Resource Center here in Anchorage, and with victims of domestic violence. As a trained legal advocate, I volunteer my time to assist women and men in preparing required forms to obtain emergency protective orders. I also assist clients of the Alaska Women's Resource Center to prepare for their six-month protective order hearing, at which I accompany them. I observe first hand the needs of Alaskans in having strong prevention and assistance programs for domestic violence and sexual assault.

Victims are always relieved when I approach them and tell them I can help them with the paperwork, and answer their questions. At the time I see victims, they are often confused, at the height of their fear, feeling helpless, and not able to think rationally. My job is to help them determine what their immediate needs are, help convey these needs to the judge or magistrate if the victim is unable to, and discuss an immediate safety plan to help protect them from the perpetrator. Most victims I encounter are surprised to know this program exists, and are so grateful for my assistance. I have had one victim tell me if I hadn't been able to accompany her for the six-month protective order hearing, she would not have shown at court, due to her fear of the perpetrator.

In order to have an active and effective legal advocacy program, funding must continue. Legal advocates are volunteers, and many advocates must be trained to provide the numbers required to provide ongoing services. To prepare me for my role, the staff of the Alaska Women's Resource Center spent numerous hours in preparation, and provided 36 hours of didactics training. While the costs to provide this training are not known to me, they must be considered when decisions are made to cut total funding.

Because I witness first hand the positive assistance provided to victims, and strongly believe in the mission of these programs, I urge you to restore full funding to the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, and help us to stop the cycle of violence.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the _____

committee name

committee on _____, dated 03-04-00

bill/subject

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen of the House Finance committee. My name is Bridgett Barrett and I am speaking here today to oppose cutting funds from the Council on Domestic Violence and sexual assault. I volunteer as an advocate for the WRC in support for women who have experienced domestic violence. Please do not jeopardize the existence of many of the Councils programs that provide services for men, women, and children who are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and incest. I pray that you continue to address this public health problem. Thank you very much.

Signed: Bridgett Barrett

Testifier

WRC

Representing (Optional)

PO BOX 202834 ANCH AK 99520-2834

Address

503-3379

Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Health Finance
 committee name
Funding for the Council for
 committee on Domestic Violence & Sexual Abuse dated 03-04-2000
 bill/subject

My name is Shaa Naat K'i' or Mary J. Miller and I was born in Sitka, Alaska. I am from a matriarch culture where women and children are placed first when it comes to the survival of our culture. For years shelters for women and children have been sending messages against physical violence and sexual assaults by the state and public continuing to operate with monies generously allocated by the state and public donations. Right now I am praying the state will continue to send their message of support to women and children by increasing the monies rather than decreasing it. Join me in saying "Dei Awi" which translated to English means ENOUGH!! - enough already to physical violence & sexual assaults. Dei Awi-de! Denal' Cheech! -

Signed: Mary J. Miller
 Testifier

Representing (Optional)
P.O. Box 1543 - Sitka, AK 99835
 Address
(907) 747-6368
 Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

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

committee on HB 312, dated 3-4-00
bill/subject

I AM A SERGEANT WITH THE SITKA POLICE DEPT. I'VE BEEN WITH THE DEPT. FOR 16 YRS. DURING THAT TIME SAFV (SITKANS AGAINST FAMILY VIOLENCE) HAS BEEN AN IMMENSE HELP FOR THE POLICE IN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASES. THEY HAVE HELPED US WITH THE INVESTIGATIVE PHASE, HELPING TO TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS OF INJURIES, SUPPORTING THE VICTIM & OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS WITH THE INTERVIEWS & TESTIFYING IN COURT. SAFV ALSO ALLOWS A SAFE PLACE FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, AS WELL AS THE CHILDREN, TO GO DURING THIS VERY EMOTIONAL & STRESSFUL TIME. I FEEL ANY CUT IN FUNDING WOULD BE NOT ONLY DEVASTATING TO THE VICTIMS & FAMILY, BUT TO THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE. I ASK THAT SAFV, & ANY OTHER PROGRAMS OF THIS NATURE, BE FULLY FUNDED. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME & CONSIDERATION.

Signed: Donald R. Williams
Testifier

Representing (Optional)
304 LAKE ST. SITKA, AK. 99835
 Address
747-3245
 Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

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

committee on HB312 HB313, dated 3-4-2000
bill/subject

I offer my support for continued funding + increased funding for the women's shelter (SAFV) here in Sitka. I have recently been hired by Sitka Prevention + Treatment Services to coordinate the VISION program, an intervention program for batterers. I have found the present staff + services to be of the highest quality. My program depends on the SAFV staff to provide safety checks + monitoring of victim safety while we are working with the perpetrator. They already are maxed out and less funding would create burn-out level work, which we can't afford. Already, we are trying to expand services offered to address domestic violence in Sitka. We need more, not less, staff services available for community education + awareness of these problems. I urge funding remain available to create the kind of support we all need to confront the complexities of this social problem.

Signed: Don A. Blum
Testifier

VISION PROGRAM of Sitka Prevention + Treatment Services
Representing (Optional)

10-B Maksoutoff St. Sitka, AK 99835
Address

747-0693
Phone No.



Police Department
10-25-99

Dear Sirs:

Advocates for Victims of Violence have provided badly needed shelter space for homeless individuals in the Valdez area. With the loss of support from other agencies we have few resources to provide for those less fortunate. Women and children in need have found aid with AVV for temporary housing and food until a more permanent solution can be found.

The AVV staff provides professional assistance to all agencies in the Valdez area and is a valuable partner in our service provider network.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph K. Michaud".

Joseph K. Michaud
Chief of Police
Valdez Police Department
P.O. Box 307
Valdez, Alaska 99686
(907)835-4560



Alaska State Legislature

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

committee on CDVSA Budget . dated 3-4-00
Bill/Subject

Advocates for Victims of Violence shelter was there for me when I was battered woman with no home to return to. They provided food, shelter, counseling & support to me & encouraged me to seek the services of other local & state agencies.

Since leaving the shelter, I have returned for both group & individual counseling, legal advocacy services & volunteer projects. Also, I have brought my child to visit with the Children's Advocate & to assist me with various volunteer efforts.

AVV has been an incredible support through many emotional crisis. BEING new in a small town was extremely difficult. With their assistance & encouragement, my self-esteem & worth has improved greatly. To say they have always been there for me would not be an exaggeration. With their assistance I was able to obtain legal assistance to get visitation with my daughter. I WAS ABLE TO HAVE SHELTER, food & support at a time when I truly NEEDED IT.

I cannot begin to express my gratitude for what they have done & encouraged me to do for myself

Sincerely Melanie Durham

Signed: Melanie Durham

Testifier

Advocates for Victims of Violence

Representing (Optional)

P.O 524 Valdez AK

Address

Phone No



Alaska State Legislature

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

committee on HB 312 - Operating Budget, dated March 4, 2000
bill/subject

My name is Janet Almasuk, Executive Director at Bering Sea Women's Group in Nome, a shelter for battered women and children. I believe we are doing a good job with decreasing funds and an increasing need for victims of family and domestic violence. We did not receive full funding last year and are having to cut half a staff position, plus I don't know where we will get the needed funding after a harsh long cold winter for needed repairs for hazards cited by a recent visit from the State Fire Marshall. We are at present the only place in town that offers shelters to victims of violence and the homelessness that results. I am asking you to fully fund the supplemental requests for Fire Prevention & Inspections, and the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

Signed: Janet Almasuk, Executive Director

Testifier

Bering Sea Women's Group

Representing (Optional)

PO Box 1596, Nome, AK 99762 email: bswg@nome.net

Address

(907) 443-5492

Phone No.

I don't know what I would have done without the help, support, and shelter that Safe has provided for my 4 year old son, my 22 month old son, and myself. I am a victim of domestic violence, and was hurt really bad. A advocate picked me up from the airport (I had no money) and drove me to the hospital, there she stayed with me through my pain and fears. We spent all day at the hospital, I was very scared, the advocate was there for me with understanding and knowledge, I couldn't get a connecting flight back to Egegik. She brought me to Safe and there I was given comfort, understanding, and a safe place to stay. There I meet a lot of the safe staff, they talked with me with loving hearts and understanding. They showed a lot of knowledge of what I am going through. They lead me to all the resource's I needed, I have ~~no~~ no family or friends in Alaska but I didn't feel so alone and scared with the caring, understanding, and guidance they showed me. Without the courage they have instilled in

me I would be right back in the
abuse I was living in for 3 years.
I am learning a lot in the support
groups they provide. With what
they have helped bring out in me,
I will soon be in my own home
with my boys, and there we will
be safe. I'm close to finding a
permenant job, I'm feeling stronger
within myself and now know I
can make it all on my own with
my boys. Thanks to all the people
at Safe.

Robin E. Irelan

P.O. Box 1222

DILLINGHAM, AK 99576

907-842-1087

ATTN.: House Finance Committee
Department of Public Safety

I am Lisa Greenleaf.

I was widowed on January 21, 1998. I have 1 son, 10 years old at the time; he is now 12 years old.

In March, 1999. I left my son with his Grandmother to seek work, + rebuild our life in Juneau in Alaska.

I was raped, the 2nd day I was in Juneau. An advocate from H.W.A.R.E. came to the hospital and assisted me.

After a month, the impact of this event crumbled me, + I went to A.W.A.R.E. for help, + stayed in shelter for 3 days. ^{then} I tried to go + put my life together;

I met a man + became involved on April 12, and began camping with him. Within a matter of weeks, I received my first black eye from assault from this man. Less than 2 weeks later, he threatened to bury me alive in a 6 ft. deep hole he had already dug. I was beaten, + thrown by my hair to the ground repeatedly over several hours, + refused shelter. I layed on the ground until dawn, + fortunate to be able to, walked over a mile to the police station where I began vomiting from trauma. The police took me to the hospital where I was met again by an advocate from H.W.A.R.E. - The back of my right hip + flank was deeply hematomaed, there were several other bruises on my person, the hair had been ripped out of the right side, ~~from my head~~ + the hole in my head was unstitchable.

It bled for several days + oozed for weeks after I had bleeding + complications to my female organs that affected me over several months.

I spent the next 3 days in Shelter at N.W.A.R.E. beginning physical recovery.

It was described to me later that during that time my eyes had the look of a feral animal, cornered, + in terror.

I returned to the relationship, deeply involved emotionally, + over the course of 4 months, the physical, emotional, + psychological abuse escalated at a terrifying rate.

During that time I sustained several physical injuries, + developed frightening health complications, including -

- deeply bruised ribs from an elbow blow

- a nearly dislocated shoulder

- I was kicked and beaten in my bed by another man while my "partner" looked on

- I was struck - Isolated

~~was sexually~~ - sexually abused

- verbally abused

Had no access to medical help + a chronic

bronchial condition turned to borderline pneumonia

- The emotional tortures were terrifying, and deeply impactful

- After being abandoned, in frail health and without food for 3 days, with bear in the area, I crawled off the mountain I had been living on, and sought help at the A.W.A.R.E. shelter.

During the next 3 months, I lived in Shelter.

A.W.A.R.E. assisted me in attaining counselling, provided education about Domestic Violence, support, safety, and assisted me in applying for + getting work - a 5 week internship at Perseverance Theatre. The Shelter staff helped me access medical care. They referred me to TLC + WRCC in Kenai, and helped me transfer to TLC where I am living now.

TLC + WRCC have helped me find + continue counselling, provided transportation, + access to community services, including voc rehab, helped me through my grief from losing my husband, provided further education, (and) taught me tools for recovery, + are helping me rebuild my life with health. Where I live is a safe and nurturing environment where I am becoming able to reach goals for rebuilding my life, and will be able to have my son with me again when the school year closes this summer.

I am grateful for these services and as a survivor of Domestic Violence, am glad to be, blessedly, alive.

Lisa Greenleaf
(907) 283-4638

TUNDRA WOMEN'S COALITION

WORKING TOGETHER TOWARD A BRIGHTER FUTURE



March 1, 2000

Tundra Women's Coalition
PO Box 1537
Bethel, AK 99559

To Whom It May Concern:

Please review the attached letters in support of shelter funding. We plan to periodically send letters to help educate legislators on the services we provide and the important role shelters play in our communities. We are encouraging you to continue to provide necessary funding to domestic violence and sexual assault programs across the state. We also want to provide you with a glimpse of how the currently allocated funding benefits our organization and, ultimately, the people our organization serves.

Tundra Women's Coalition is a domestic violence/sexual assault program in Bethel that provides residential and outreach services to victims. Our organization also offers community education, rural outreach, legal advocacy, children's services, and teen advocacy services.

We would be happy to answer any questions you may have. Thank you for your time.

Michelle DeWitt & Mary Jones

Michelle DeWitt

Mary Jones

TWC Legal Advocacy Dept.

February 28th, 2000

To Whom it May Concern,

Hello. My name is Cheryl Thompson. I am currently employed at Yundra Women's Coalition located in Bethel. My position as the Children's Program Coordinator helps to provide essential supportive services to the children of our community and those in the Y-K region that come into the shelter. Your support in funding is vital in continuing these services our shelter has to offer for our children, who^{are} our future.

Thank You,
Cheryl Thompson
Box 1383
Bethel AK
99559

I came to TWC with my 3 children because

- I needed a safe place to go. I've stayed here for one month, which gave me time to get my self/^{and my children} back together emotionally & phically, with the help of the staff & advocates who were openly very helpfull & concerned about our welfare. With there help I've learned that I am my own boss and don't have to be in an abusive relationship to be someone, My children are safe because of TWC and the programs they offer, which I will continue to have them in when we move out. TWC has helped me build my life back up again, ~~and~~ if it wasn't for TWC I probably would of ~~been~~ still ~~in~~ an abusive environment, ~~and I would~~ ~~have~~ ~~been~~ ~~in~~ ~~an~~ ~~abusive~~ ~~environment~~ ~~and~~ ~~I~~ ~~would~~ ~~not~~ ~~be~~ ~~able~~ ~~to~~ ~~find~~ ~~a~~ ~~job~~ ~~and~~ ~~live~~ ~~in~~ ~~a~~ ~~safe~~ ~~place~~ ~~to~~ ~~live~~ ~~and~~ ~~legally~~ ~~clear~~ ~~alot~~ ~~of~~ ~~my~~ ~~legal~~ ~~problems~~ ~~and~~ ~~one~~ ~~continuing~~ ~~to~~ ~~do~~ ~~so~~. TWC is the one agency that is needed desperately for women - children of D.U. It is good to know there's someone out there to get help from.

TUNDRA WOMEN'S COALITION

P.O. Box 1537; Bethel, AK 99559

(907) 543-3455

February 22, 2000

To whom it may concern:

Hello! My name is Patrick Charlie, Administrator for the Tundra Women's Coalition (TWC) located in Bethel, Alaska. Statistics show that the Yukon-Kuskokwim (Y-K) Delta has one of the highest rates of domestic violence in the nation. TWC has provided shelter and counseling for many victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. The continuing support and funding by the Legislature is vital to victims in the Y-K Delta. So PLEASE continue to fund our shelter.

Sincerely,



Patrick M. Charlie
Administrative Assistant

Fax

To: Rep. Eldon Mulder
Of: House Finance Committee
Fax: 907-465-3518
Pages: 1, including this cover sheet.
Date: March 3, 2000

I would like to encourage you not to reduce budget expenditures for the five social service categories under consideration, including alcohol and drug abuse grants, service to chronically mentally ill, domestic violence, childcare assistance, and inmate health care. These are all grant monies that give us a great return, in terms of community stability and safety. I am a clinical social worker, and have spent most of my adult working life in Alaska in professional service to the above identified populations. I know for a fact that social services play a very important part in community safety, integral with our needs for such important institutions as police and the criminal justice system. I would appreciate it if you would communicate this importance to your colleagues in the legislature. Thank you very much.

From the desk of...

Michael J. Corliss
Community Support Program Coordinator
Islands Counseling Services
907-747-8994
Fax: 907-747-6801

March 2, 2000

To: Eldon Mulder F: 907-465-3518
From: Susanne Nelson F: 907-243-6988
Re: Cuts in Alcohol and Drug Treatment Funds

I am very concerned about plans to cut \$1.5 million out of the budget (resulting in loss of corresponding Federal match).

I have several friends who have received help in state funded programs and are now doing very well. Without treatment they would have cost Alaska a lot of money. It is not a good idea to cut treatment funds.

The abuse of alcohol and drugs is one of the biggest costs to Alaska—the figures must be staggering when you figure the cost to the prison system, health and welfare, police and public safety, etc. With alcohol abuse out of control in Alaska, this is not the time to cut down on the number of people who can get help.

The human cost is even more painful: suicides, boat accidents, drownings, child abuse, domestic violence, car accidents, hit and runs.....the list goes on and on.

I hope we can count on you to use your wise judgment to restore funding.

Susanne Nelson

Founded in 1865
By William Booth
Paul A. Rader
General
David Edwards
Territorial Commander
Terry Griffin
Divisional Commander

The Salvation Army

CLITHEROE CENTER

1709 S. Bragaw, Suite B
Anchorage, Alaska 99508

OUTPATIENT

Telephone: (907) 276-2898 • Fax: (907) 279-8526

RESIDENTIAL

Telephone: (907) 243-1181 • Fax: (907) 248-7483

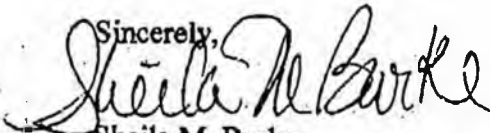


March 2, 2000

Dear Representative Mulder:

Why is there a compelling need to reduce drug and alcohol treatment monies when oil revenue has risen steadily for over a year?

If we fail to provide substance abuse treatment we will pay far more dealing with the problems created by untreated substance abuse.

Sincerely,

Sheila M. Burke,
Administrator

LABOR +

WORKFORCE

DEV.



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Finance
 Committee on Operating Budget Committee Name Dated 3/4/00
Bill / Subject

PLEASE

Support contracts negotiated in "Good Faith." ~~the~~ The employees of the State ARE hard working. They ARE members of the community that ~~put~~ give back to their community in many different ways. They ARE raising their families here so HAVE A vested interest here. If you expect us to continue you, as our elected officials need to continue to SUPPORT us.

Respect the working families of Alaska. ~~at~~ Now a days it takes 2 ^{WORKING} on a household to support a family. ~~work~~

SIGNED:

Wicki Spear Shipley
 Testifier

Myself & All State Employees
 Representing

1225 Joyce Dr, Fairbanks AK 99701
 Address / Phone Number

Dear Legislators:

I am a state worker and as was recently delighted by the contract settlement between our employee association and the state. However, recent statements in the news media suggest that the legislature may not fund the new contract. I would like to take a moment of your time to make a few points about this year's budget.

- I am a Spill Responder for the ADEC and I ensure you that my income is significantly less than my counterparts in industry and the federal government. I work for the DEC because I believe in the mission. However, I have a family to support and there is a limit to the cuts that I can bear.
- The wage and benefit increases are not really a raise; they just help us to hold the line. The lack of these increases will result in a loss of real income.
- If the State of Alaska is to maintain a quality workforce it must provide fair compensation.
- The state budget should not be balanced on the back of the state workers.

Please support the new state employee's contracts.

Greg Light
3600 Mink Lane
Fairbanks, Alaska
490-2829

I fully support our recently approved contract for ASEA employees. This contract took a lot of hard work and dedication, we didn't ask for much, and we are happy with what we did get. Our own cost of living keeps going up, I just got my property tax assessments and know that, without any improvements to my home, because the assessments went up, so will the property taxes. We all know what fuel prices are doing at the pump, etc. etc. etc. with our costs of living. I really don't think we are asking too much to just get our contract funded and let us all settle down and get back to work, knowing that our employment is secure for at least a few more years. It has been quite a while since we received our small cost-of-living allowance. I've been in longevity for 5 years, so my wages have been frozen for white some time. So, in short, just fund the contract, quit playing political games, and let's get on with the business at hand.

Sue Whitney

Members of the Committee:

I urge you to fund the labor agreement as negotiated between the Administration and the Alaska State Employees Association, General Government Unit employees. This is a fair agreement and needs to be supported.

Those of us employees who are in the lower income levels find extremely difficult to manage as costs increase but wages do not.

Thank you for your consideration

Velda Haskell

Velda Haskell



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Please enter into the record my testimony to the H. Finance
Committee Name
 Committee on Operating Budget Dated 3/4/00
Bill/Subject

Please do not allow the people of Alaska to continue to expect the employees of the state of Alaska to do more for less while they pay no taxes to support state government. At some point - now - the people should pay for what they get - or get no more. Budgets for state employees have been cut enough. It's time for all to pay for government.

SIGNED: Martha Murphy = government
 Testifier

3845 Ullr-bahn Rd. Fairbanks AK 99709
 Representing

479-3890
 Address / Phone Number



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Finance
 Committee on Operating Budget Dated 3-3-00
Committee Name
Bill / Subject

The work and services provided by Alaska's state employees are too often misunderstood and under appreciated.

For the past decade, these dedicated workers have been asked, (and it is important to note they have done so) to step up to the plate and do more with less in response to Alaska's budget planning problems.

Ten years later a budget plan to address the needs of Alaska's working families has not been accomplished and state employees are expected to again make sacrifices,

Unfortunately, many state employees cannot afford to do this & still keep up with the needs of their own families. It's time we recognize what these employees do everyday for Alaska

SIGNED:

Fully fund the contracts negotiated
 Testifier in good faith,

Kelly E. Brown - AFSCME #52
 Representing

315 Barnette St #104, Fairbanks AK 99701
 Address / Phone Number

Dear Legislators:

I am a state worker and as was recently delighted by the contract settlement between our employeo association and the state. However, recent statements in the news media suggest that the legislature may not fund the new contract. I would like to take a moment of your time to make a few points about this year's budget.

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Sue Whitney

3/3/00

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I urge you to fund the labor agreement as negotiated between the Administration and the Alaska State Employees Association, General Government Unit employees. This is a fair agreement and needs to be supported.

Those of us employees who are in the lower income levels find extremely difficult to manage as costs increase but wages do not.

Thank you for your consideration

Veldta Haskell

Veldta Haskell



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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Committee Name
 Committee on Operating Budget Dated 3/4/00
Bill/Subject

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SIGNED:

Martha Murphy
Testifier

3845 Ullrbaan Rd. Fairbanks AK 99709

Representing

479-3890

Address / Phone Number



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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 Committee on Operating Budget Dated 3-3-00
Committee Name
Bill / Subject

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 Testifier in good faith,

Kelly E. Brown - AFSCME #52
 Representing

315 Barnetts St #104, Fairbanks AK 99701
 Address / Phone Number



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Finance
 Committee on Operating Budget Committee Name
Bill / Subject Dated 3/4/00

PLEASE

Support contracts negotiated in "Good Faith." ~~the~~ the employees of the State are hard working. They are members of the community that ~~put~~ give back to their community in many different ways. They are raising their families here so have a vested interest here. If you expect us to continue you, as our elected officials need to continue to **SUPPORT US.**

Respect the working families of Alaska. ~~the~~ Now a days it takes 2 ^{WORKING} on a household to support a family. ~~the~~

SIGNED:

Wicki Spence Shipley
 Testifier

Myself & All State Employees
 Representing

1225 Joyce Dr, Fairbanks AK 99701
 Address / Phone Number

TO: Rep. Eldon Mulder
Co-Chair
House Finance Committee
Fax (907) 465- 6813

From: Barbara Karl
2400 East 16th Ave.
Anchorage, AK 99508
(907) 279-5229

Date: March 6, 2000

Re: Operating Budget

I was unable to stay and wait to testify on Saturday but I did want to pass on a few comments to you. I would appreciate it if you would make my comments available to the entire committee.

I am the Central Area (Anchorage) representative of the Executive Board of ASEA/AFSCME Local 52. As I am sure you are aware, Local 52 is the union that represents a very large number of the state workers. Through collective bargaining and finally mediation, our negotiating team worked long and hard to achieve a tentative agreement for a contract that the team thought our membership would ratify. We are in the process of taking a ratification vote now.

If you will remember, last October, our union took a very successful strike authorization where our membership voted overwhelmingly to authorize the Executive Board to call for a strike if negotiations reached impasse and did not produce a contract or if the Legislature denied funding for a negotiated contract.

It is my sincere wish that the Legislature will provide funding for the tentative agreements/contracts that have been reached by all the unions representing state government workers. Although I cannot speak for the other unions, I do believe that our membership will ratify our tentative agreement. I also believe that, if such a contract is not funded, Local 52 will go on strike. I deeply hope we don't have to.

I have worked for the state for nearly 10 years. I am dedicated to doing a good job and serving the public well as a state employee. But I have watched my income decline in buying power, as my wages have not kept up with the cost of living over the years. As do most of the state workers I know, I work hard and want to stay in public service. I believe we deserve decent wages for a job well done.

I voted "no" in the October election, not because I am against tapping earnings of the Permanent Fund but because I disagreed with the wording on the ballot and because I believe an income tax should be reinstated. I believe that through a variety of methods to increase revenues the Legislature can provide a budget that not only funds these labor contracts but also provides the other services that the residents of this state justly deserve.

Please pass out a budget that funds the contracts and does not include the cuts to public broadcasting and the many other agencies that have been targeted.

PUBLIC
SAFETY

Kotlik City Council

P.O. Box 20268

KOTLIK, ALASKA 99620-0268

(907) 899-4313

FAX (907) 899-4826

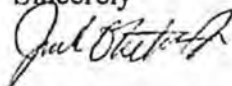
March 2, 2000

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the City of Kotlik we the governing body would like to know why the Effective State Troopers are **always** getting transferred out of the St.Mary's station? Right now we have a new State Trooper that doesn't know anyone here in the village or the situations that we have here the people are going through. We are having a tough time in trying to keep our village police officers in a working status, because we have a lot of turnovers because most of the people here in the village are related in one-way or another.

We the people in bush Alaska would like for the legislator to reconsider cutting the State Trooper program. It is very hard in the villages to get a State Trooper when we have an emergency. The only time when a State Trooper comes to a village is when there is a life-threatening situation, or when the weather is good out here in the bush. We the people in Lower Yukon area would like for a State Trooper Stationed at Emmonak or Kotlik so they would serve in this area. We are always the last village to get service by the State, Federal and other organization that service our village.

Sincerely



Jack Okitkun Jr.
City Manager

REVENUE

REVENUE

Kotlik City Council

P.O. Box 20268

KOTLIK, ALASKA 99620-0268

(907) 899-4313

FAX (907) 899-4826

To Whom It May Concern,

We here at the city of Kotlik would like for you to reconsider the cutting of the revenue sharing to the villages. As you know the rate of inflation is going up every year, and the cost of living in the villages is very high. I personally think the cuts you should make are your unnecessary travels to the lower forty-eight. You do not need to travel to the lower forty-eight to help the villages. We all know that there is the Internet service that you can use.

We the people of the State of Alaska voted you into the position and you should be working for the villages and not for yourselves. I myself am very disappointed that you would consider cutting off the life that we depend on and running the villages that we work in. Most of the people who work for the cities have families that we need to support, and have bills that we acquire while living here in the villages.

Most of the people here in the villages are under the poverty level, if you think that the people are rich you are totally wrong!! The dividends that we get here in the villages are some help for all the bills that we acquire. If you are thinking to stop that too it will not be a wise idea, most of the people I get in contact with are not in favor with the \$25000 one-time deal. We know that, if that happens the help we get from the State will stop.

Sincerely

Jack Okitkun Jr.
City Manager

My name is Laura Rideout and I am the mayor of the rural community of Port Alexander. I am concerned at the thought of any further cuts in Revenue Sharing. Further cuts will be devastating to our rural community. Our city budget is comprised of our local sales and bed tax, shared fisheries tax, safe communities money and State Revenue Sharing.

Our City budget maintains and funds our city water system and city boardwalk. The City employs 2 city clerks, 2 certified water operators, and a janitor and maintenance laborers. The City funds our community hall, library, local art's council, a collage scholarship fund, emergency services and a fire and Health Dept.

Without the State's Revenue Sharing, it could mean the loss of economic stability, viability and services of our municipality.

Teleconference
Finance Comm

Village Safe Water is recommending the Legislature to approve Port Alexander's grant for our Water System Upgrade Project. This project will bring us into compliance with the mandated Surface Water Treatment Rule and will give all residents and transients in our community safe, potable water. I urge you to please do what you can to have this grant approved.

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Finance Comm

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Thank-you for your time
Laura Rideout

3/4-00
HB 312. House Finance

UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY

DANA ULVI

RD. Box 27

EAGLE, AK.

49738

GOOD MORNING: MY NAME IS DANA ULVI, AND AS A LONG TIME RESIDENT OF EAGLE I WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF FUNDING FOR THE TAYLOR HIGHWAY. I WOULD STRONGLY URGE THE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE TO AMEND SB 250 TO INCLUDE THE APPROPRIATION OF SUPPLEMENTAL MONIES FOR THE CRITICAL PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE OF THIS HIGHWAY.

THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DETERMINED LONG AGO THAT THE COST OF MAINTAINING THIS HIGHWAY YEAR ROUND COULD NOT BE JUSTIFIED. IT THEREFORE ADOPTED THE PRESENT SCHEDULE BEGINNING MARCH 15TH AND ENDING OCTOBER 15TH, WHILE THIS SCHEDULE HAS NOT CHANGED FOR MANY, MANY, YEARS TRAFFIC HAS INCREASED DRAMATICALLY.

MY 7 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE AS A MEMBER OF THE CREW MAINTAINING THIS HIGHWAY TELLS ME THAT FURTHER CUTS TO THIS MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE WILL RESULT IN EXTENSIVE ROAD DAMAGE, REQUIRING NEW CULVERTS, THOUSANDS OF CUBIC YARDS OF MATERIAL, AND UNTOLD OVERTIME WORK HOURS FOR PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT. CREWS ON THE TAYLOR HIGHWAY ARE EQUIPPED FOR PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE NOT ROAD CONSTRUCTION.

TO BEGIN MAINTENANCE ON THE 1ST OF JUNE FACED WITH MAJOR RECONSTRUCTION IS COUNTERPRODUCTIVE. THIS IS WHEN WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS ARE IMPOSED ON OUR HIGHWAYS IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE THE DAMAGE DONE BY HEAVY VEHICLES ON SOFT ROADS

HAVING ALLOWED THIS HIGHWAY TO MELT OUT
WILL SURELY EXAGGERATE THIS PROBLEM AND
LEAVE MANY SECTIONS IMPASSABLE TO THE
VERY EQUIPMENT NECESSARY TO ITS REPAIR.

FRANKLY FOR THE SECOND YEAR I'M GETTING
TIRED OF FEELING DEFENSIVE ABOUT AN OBVIOUSLY,
COST EFFICIENT, TIME PROVEN, BARE BONES, ESSENTIAL
SERVICE. WOULDN'T OUR LEGISLATORS TIME BE
BETTER SPENT BRAINSTORMING NEW REVENUE
PROPOSALS RATHER THAN CUTTING ESSENTIAL
SERVICES TO RURAL ALASKANS?

THANKYOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY
TO VOICE MY OPINION.

kilo. My name is Jeanne Totenberg. Thankyou for this minute of your time.

For 47 years of economic boom & bust the Taylor Highway has consistently remained a priority of legislators committed to connecting Alaskans & building Alaska.

Im wondering what this body is suddenly thinking...

We all welcome responsible budget cuts, but irresponsible cuts, like this, cuts that threaten a legislated & agency-driven disaster aren't good policy & reflect upon you poorly.

and to be honest, with all due respect to this committee, im really getting tired of spending yet another February & March engaging in the time & energy consuming process of convincing you that letting a secondary state highway essentially "break up" after 8 months of snow ice & overflow have accumulated, isnt going to save money!

Rivers can be left to break up because they melt & eventually flow
Roadbeds left to break up turn to mud & wash away.

● What is it about this distinction that is so difficult to grasp?

So here we sit spending precious legislative session days discussing such nonsense when we should all be proactively working towards building revenue.

Alaskans know you can't get something for nothing.
This body's attempt, however, to bring this state to its knees with its offer of nothing for nothing is an insulting excuse for government.

Please propose an amendment to the supplemental budget to include monies to maintain the Taylor mid-March thru mid-October.

thankyou,
Jeanne Totenberg

Hello,

My name is Jan Parish. I want to express my concerns about letting the Taylor Hwy. melt open this spring. There are many reasons why this is a poor plan, but I will address two that affect me personally.

Many people living in Eagle are on limited or fixed incomes. It was financially not within our reach to add an extra 2-3 months worth of supplies last winter because they said the road would not be open in a timely matter this spring. It is also a hardship to have to have supplies flown in.

Our tourist season will be severely affected, and may mean a greater increase in people who may find themselves forced to apply for public assistance such as food stamps this winter due to a cut of income. Our tourist season is very short and having our lifeline to the rest of the state ^{threatened} is grossly unfair. The division between urban and rural areas continue to grow because of issues like this. Thank you,

Jan Parish

House Finance-Operating Budget 3/04/00

My name is Kenneth D. Smith. I have lived in Alaska 60 years. During the summer I spend about 5 months in the Wrangell Mountains near McCarthy. The remainder of the year I live in Anchorage.

Two years ago, Senator Murkowski spoke to the Legislature. He suggested one of the top priorities of the Legislature should be to improve the McCarthy Road.

I am in complete agreement with the Senator on this recommendation.

Although I support increased exploitation of Alaska's natural resources, reality tells me almost total reliance on resources is not going to cut it. If we are going to make ends meet and avoid living beyond our means we must aggressively look toward other forms of economic diversification.

Like it or not, increased visitation to our state appears to be the most logical, immediate, and reachable method to achieve this.

In order to exploit the economies of industrial tourism we must create a broader range of visitor attractions. Yellowstone National Park presently receives more visitors than does the entire State of Alaska.

Access to our unique and scenic areas is paramount. We need additional roads.

Unfortunately, establishing and constructing new roads compounds the fiscal problem by adding additional maintenance burdens for the Alaska Dept. of Transportation and Public Facilities.

BUT, the McCarthy Road is an existing road and it can open up one of the most magnificent and impressive mountain wilderness areas in the world.

All we have to do is fund a moderate amount of maintenance on it.

Industry will do the rest.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to testify.

Kenneth D. Smith 1131 Westbury Dr. Anchorage, Alaska 99503 Phone 562-4924

*Pictured is the original
Eagle City Hall,
still currently in use.*



*Eagle is the oldest
incorporated city in
Interior Alaska.
(January 8, 1901)*



CITY OF EAGLE - BOX 100 - EAGLE, ALASKA 99738



3-4-2000

It just breaks my heart to see Alaskans having to beg for the want of a few thousand dollars to open a road so they can make living. Over the past twenty-five years I've seen millions of dollars wasted, stolen and given away for worthless projects all over this great State. Now you'd think with falling revenues, our leaders would unite to maintain at least our basic roads and services to all it's communities and rid the State of any further expansion, waste, and pay raises until at least these basic services are met. But no! I still see more give away programs from this States legislature cross my desk every week. Projects that only help politics as usual to continue. Please fund basic services first. Quit trying to be all things to all constituents. We don't need bigger and better. Were Alaskan's, we want thrifty, honest people to look out for all of our State.

Jerry R. Nelson, Mayor of Eagle

To: All members of the State House and Senate Finance and Health, Education and SS Committees

From: Carter (Sally to some) Crawford, Member Chamber University Committee

2/28 Page 1 of 2

YOU HAVE HEARD THE NEED

NOW FIND THE MONEY

UA EDUCATION IS AN INVESTMENT THAT PAYS DIVIDENDS TO ALASKA PERMANENTLY!

Thank you any and all efforts to find this investment

Reaume is convinced Alaska can't establish a significant high-tech industry without a strong university system. He noted national software and pharmaceutical firms located in

Boston and Ann Arbor, Mich., home to major universities.

The University of Alaska system could be the best bet for the future, Reaume said, but would need increased investment since "as an institution it's been crippled," he said.

Other universities, like the University of California Los Angeles and the University of Rochester in New York, have beefed up their programs, he said.

In Alaska it would first require building and student housing repairs, followed by pumping up two or three departments with leading professors, perhaps in mining sciences, arctic engineering and biotechnology, he said.

Payout from the change could take several years but could attract more students and opportunities, he added.

"I think it's worth investigating," Goldsmith said. "If we don't put money in the university system we do a disservice to the next generation."

Page 2: Crawford to Finance and Education

I am no student of the budget so it is difficult for me to know where to find the \$16.9 million. I know you can.

I certainly support the 60 day session idea, and I was one of the few who voted to cap the PFD. However in my neighborhood the reason was simply greed. No one wanted to give up even a little to get a long-term payout. I really do not think they understood it.

I also support the new Higher Education Tax-Deferred Account, but want more provisions in it to restrict its use outside Alaska.

If it is illegal to require the money be spent only in the state, can we put a penalty on its withdrawal for out of state use prior to age 59 ½?

For the record, the \$25,000 payout is not the solution. I agree with every objection. However I have not seen anyone mention the impact this would have on local retailers. Without this infusion every Oct., many businesses that rely on the PFD to jump-start the important 4th quarter sales would suffer enormously.

Thank you for "listening."