

**SB**

**35/36**

**Testimony**

**SFIN**

**FILE**

Public  
Testimony  
(Operating Budget)

SB 35

SB 36



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Finance Committee  
Committee name  
Committee on Operating Budget, dated 4/15/03  
Bill/Subject

see attached 2 pages

APR 20 2003

Signed: John Cannon (John Cannon)  
Testifier  
Developmental Disabilities  
Representing (Optional)  
3101 Whispering Woods DR., Wasilla, AK  
Address 99654  
(907) 376-6063  
Phone number

For the record the following is a text of my testimony to the Senate Finance Committee on April 15, 2003.

Good evening Senator Green and members of the committee. My name is John Cannon, I live at 3101 Whispering Woods Dr, Wasilla. I am strongly opposed to the 2.2 million dollars in reductions to Community Developmental Disabilities Grants that were in the Governor's budget and in the operating budget recently passed by the house. These cuts are not fair, go too deep and seriously jeopardize the safety net for many Alaskans with DD. Frankly, these cuts were hastily arrived at by the new administration after a superficial review of services in our state. Some of you were in the legislature when our state closed Harborview. The significance of that event for persons with DD cannot be over stated. With the closing of Harborview, Alaska made a promise to its citizens with developmental disabilities that never again will any Alaskan, because of his or her disability, be sent away from their families, their extended families, their friends, and their home communities. The closing of Harborview meant that Alaskans with developmental disabilities were finally welcomed into the family of Alaska. It is a shameful and sad time in Alaskan history when our Governor and our House of Representatives say to citizens with DD that Alaska is going to break that promise. It is a disgrace when 1300 Alaskans who are waiting for needed services are told that the basic safety net of services will no longer be provided. In recent legislative sessions our State Senators have been the more reasonable voice of our legislature. With a brand new administration and so many new faces in our House of Representatives Alaskans with developmental disabilities are counting on the Senate's experience and reasonableness, now, more than ever before. These reductions will cause serious harm to Alaskans with DD and their families. It's up to you senators to do the right thing. Don't turn your back on this group of Alaskans. Restore the cuts to the community dd budget. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
John Cannon  
376-6063

**John & Sharon Cannon**

3101 Whispering Woods Dr.

Wasilla, AK 99654

(907) 376-6063

zeke99@pci.net

April 17, 2003

Senator Lyda Green  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

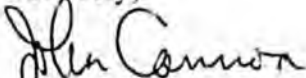
Thank you for taking time out of your incredibly busy schedule last week to return my call. I apologize for not being available when you called. The reason I wanted to speak with you is because I am gravely concerned about the current operating budget reductions to the Community Developmental Disabilities Grants. As stated in my testimony to the Senate Finance Committee on April 15<sup>th</sup> I strongly believe that these cuts will seriously compromise the safety net available to Alaskans with developmental disabilities and their families. All indications are that these cuts were arrived at by the new administration after a superficial review, if any, of the Community Developmental Disabilities services in our state.

My vocation over the last 20 years has been to support Alaskans with Developmental Disabilities to live successfully in the community. I have personally witnessed how these funds have helped hundreds of individuals/families avert crisis and avoid more expensive services such as those funded by Medicaid. The Developmental Disabilities community is willing to take its fair share of cuts however the level of cuts in the governor's budget and the operating budget approved by the House are not fair, go too deep and seriously compromise the existing safety net for many Alaskans with developmental disabilities.

Senator Green, it is critically important for you to know that the 2.2 million reductions to community developmental grants will jeopardize the health and safety of Alaskans with developmental disabilities. No where in the state is the need greater for these services than in your district. Of the 1300 Alaskans presently on the Waitlist for services at least 200 are Mat-Su residents. As Mat-Su looks to the future there may be even greater cause for concern. The Alaska Department of Labor forecasts that the population of Mat-Su will more than likely increase to 102,756 by 2018. Based on current and anticipated future need it is likely that the demand for DD services in the Mat-Su region will continue to increase substantially. Unfortunately, our community is growing at a time there is tremendous pressure to curb state spending.

On behalf of Alaskans experiencing developmental disabilities many of whom are the most vulnerable and innocent among us I ask your assistance in restoring at least 2.2 million dollars back into the Community DD grants. Even with these cuts restored if what we have been told is accurate there will still be in excess of 2 million dollars reduced from the Community DD grant BRU. Thank you for considering this most urgent request for your support. Should you have any questions related to the funding for Community Developmental Disabilities services do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

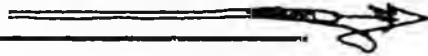
  
John Cannon



KAWERAK, INC.



P.O. BOX 948 • NOME, ALASKA 99762



TELEPHONE: (907) 443-5231 • FAX: (907) 443-~~3708~~  
4452

- SERVING THE
- VILLAGES OF:
- BREVIK MISSION
- COUNCIL
- DIOMZDE
- EMMA
- GAMBELL
- GOLOVIN
- KING ISLAND
- KOYUK
- MARYS IGLOO
- NOME
- SAVOONGA
- SHAKTOOLIK
- SHISHMAREF
- SOLOMON
- STEBBINS
- ST MICHAEL
- TELLER
- UNALAKLEET
- WALES
- WHITE MOUNTAIN

April 23, 2003

Senate Finance Committee  
 Alaska State Legislature  
 State Capital Building  
 Room 520  
 Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Honorable Co-Chairs and Senators:

Kawerak, Inc. encourages you to support Governor Murkowski's FY-03 proposed General Fund budget of \$1,024.900 for the State Subsistence Division.

Over the years, the Subsistence Division's budget has been cut to the bone. The budget simply cannot be cut any further and the Division remain effective.

Kawerak has worked with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Subsistence Division over the years to combine resources to develop subsistence data and information. Through cooperative efforts, necessary information is relayed to the department and both Boards of Fish and Game as they meet their mandates and make decisions. Any further cuts to the Subsistence Division budget calls into question, the State's ability and interest in managing resources to meet the subsistence needs of Alaskans.

Subsistence being the highest priority for fish and game use, it is only right that the division responsible for compiling subsistence data and for providing information to the State, receives adequate funding to function. Thank you for considering our comments.

Respectfully,

KAWERAK, INC.

Loretta Bullarú  
President

THE  
FOLLOWING  
DOCUMENT(S)  
ARE  
POOR  
ORIGINAL  
COPIES

# Cook Inlet Historical Society

April 14, 2003

To all Senate Finance Committee Members:

Senator Lyda Green, Co-chair (Fax: 465-3805)  
Senator Gary Wilken, Co-Chair (Fax 465-4714)  
Senator Con Bunde, Vice Chair (Fax 465-3871)  
Senator Robin Taylor (Fax 465-3922)  
Senator Ben Stevens (Fax 465-3872)  
Senator Lyman Hoffman (Fax 465-4453)  
Senator Donny Olson (Fax 465-4821)

Dear Senator:

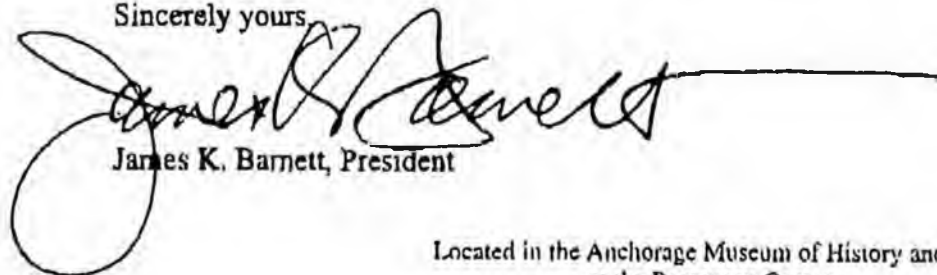
The Cook Inlet Historical Society urges you to restore funding the State Library and State Archives budgets. Restoring funds to the Alaska State Archives and State Library would ensure public access during regular business hours and provide at least a minimum service level for these organizations.

Public access to government records is a vital part of our democratic society. For example, citizens use government records to document their right to vote, apply for a permanent fund dividend, and to register for unemployment, health benefits, and other social services. State records help us understand the history of our state and nation, and they play an important role in the interpretation of our past. Open access to government records are central to maintaining a free and open society and one of state government's most fundamental and vital responsibilities.

In addition, the cuts proposed for the state library will adversely affect the historical collections and public access to the services and collections will be severely limited. Researchers traveling to Juneau to use the resources of the state library have a special financial hardship, as the hours of the historical collections that are already on reduced hours due to prior budget cuts will be further limited.

The Cook Inlet Historical Society members are asking you to restore the funds for the Alaska State Archives and State Library programs. State archives and libraries are vital government services that should be supported even in times of financial hardship. If I can provide further information to you and your staff, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,



James K. Barnett, President

Located in the Anchorage Museum of History and Art  
at the Rasmuson Center  
121 West Seventh Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3696

April 20,03

To: Frank Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee

Please restore the 2.2 million dollars you are proposing to cut from the DD base grants statewide. This drastic cut will affect a large population within our community. That funding allows families and individuals to have services that will keep families together and strengthen the family unit. Without this funding source, many families will go into crisis, costing the State of Alaska more money through Medicaid than what the DD grants originally were. Additional cuts to the Infant Learning Programs as well as vocational grants will not only isolate families and individuals, but not allow inclusion in their own communities.

Please remember that this is the most fragile population within the State of Alaska, and making these horrendous cuts will erode the limited services that are currently being offered.

Sincerely,

Betty H. Coulter  
Paul S. Coulter

Kenai

April 20,03

To: Frank Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee

Please restore the 2.2 million dollars you are proposing to cut from the DD base grants statewide. This drastic cut will affect a large population within our community. That funding allows families and individuals to have services that will keep families together and strengthen the family unit. Without this funding source, many families will go into crisis, costing the State of Alaska more money through Medicaid than what the DD grants originally were. Additional cuts to the Infant Learning Programs as well as vocational grants will not only isolate families and individuals, but inclusion in their own communities.

Please remember that this is the most fragile population within the State of Alaska, and making these horrendous cuts will erode the limited services that are currently being offered.

Sincerely,

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

April 20,03

To: Frank Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee

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Please remember that this is the most fragile population within the State of Alaska, and making these horrendous cuts will erode the limited services that are currently being offered.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Laurie Cortez". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

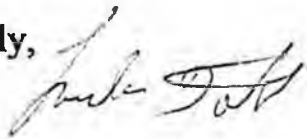
April 20,03

To: Frank Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee

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Please remember that this is the most fragile population within the State of Alaska, and making these horrendous cuts will erode the limited services that are currently being offered.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Frank M.", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

April 20,03

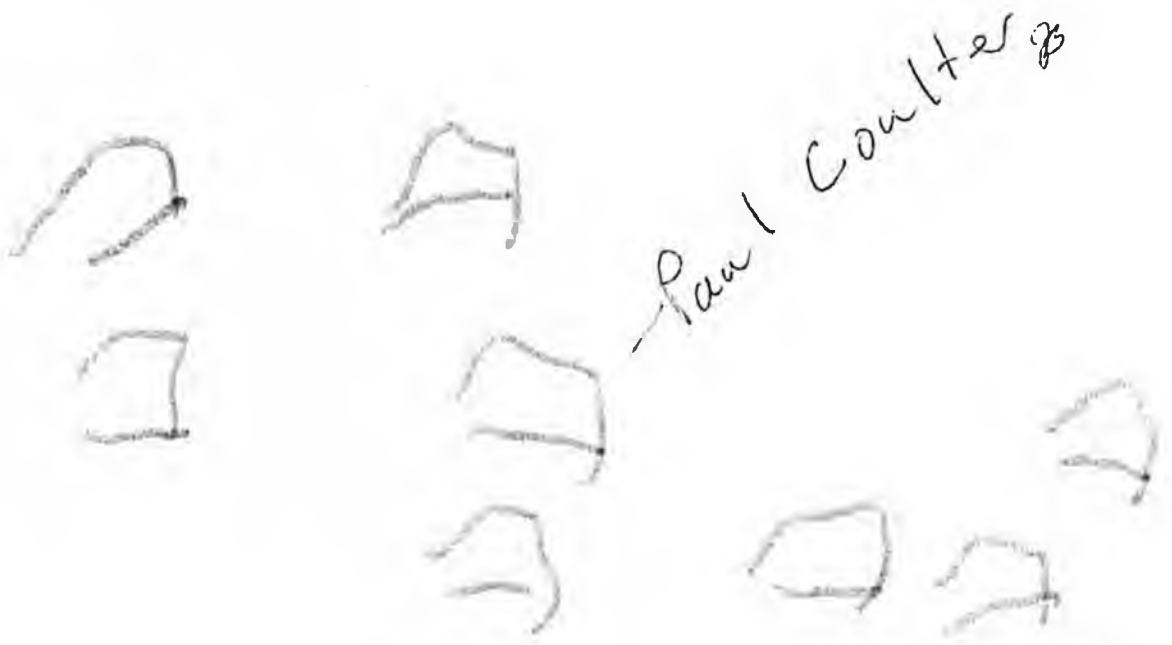
To: Frank Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee

Please restore the 2.2 million dollars you are proposing to cut from the DD base grants statewide. This drastic cut will affect a large population within our community. That funding allows families and individuals to have services that will keep families together and strengthen the family unit. Without this funding source, many families will go into crisis, costing the State of Alaska more money through Medicaid than what the DD grants originally were. Additional cuts to the Infant Learning Programs as well as vocational grants will not only isolate families and individuals, but not allow inclusion in their own communities.

Please remember that this is the most fragile population within the State of Alaska, and making these horrendous cuts will erode the limited services that are currently being offered.

Sincerely,

*Paul Coulter*

The block contains a handwritten signature "Paul Coulter" in cursive, slanted upwards to the right. Below and around the signature are several scribbled-out marks, including a large "A" shape, a square, and various other irregular lines and shapes, likely representing a stamp or a signature that has been obscured or crossed out.

4-21-03

Governor Markowski <sup>and</sup>  
The Finance Committee

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am very distressed over the Cuts you are making to our WD Clients; all handicapped people; that are unable to fight for themselves. Most of whom can not vote, so you slash them to the bone.

I have a 46 year old Downsyndrom son, severely retarded, with a congenital heart, and has started having seizures. He goes to the Vocational Center at Frontier Community Services, 3-5 hours a day 4 days a week. He really looks forward to the time spent with "the Guys". If the funds are cut, he will have to sit at home and Vegetate. That is Cruel and Unusual punishment. Can any of you understand that?

When we came to Alaska in 1959, everyone paid income tax and a school tax. We were a poor State "Before Oil". Now we are a "Rich" State, no one pays income tax, including the people that work here and take all of their money South. Should my son, Paul, be punished for this?? That is what is happening. The rich get richer, and the poor get poorer and more deprived.

I am 72 years old, we have made Alaska our home for 44 years, not because we had to, because we love it here. It is impossible to think of living any place else.

Please, Please figure out a way to generate funds, without robbing the Developmentally Disabled. and the Elderly. The ones that can least afford it.

Thank you for listening to me.

Sincerely,

Betty S. Coulter  
for Paul S. Coulter  
313 Portlock St.  
Kenai, AK 99611-6828  
907-283-4799

Governor Frank Murkowski Senate House Finance committee

To whom ever it may concern

Please do not cut the 2.2 million from the budget. Because the clients that are receiving these services they need to continue receiving service so that it can better there lives & skills they are learning to be more independent. Do not cut the 2.2 million from the budget please leave it where it is if you need to cut it from something else that needs to be ~~cut~~ worse then these services

Thank you

Kim Eby  
Soldotna, AK

# Please add to Public Testimony

The Honorable Senator Con Bunde  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK

Paul Bryner  
626 "N" Street  
Anchorage, AK 99501

17 April 2003

Dear Senator Bunde,

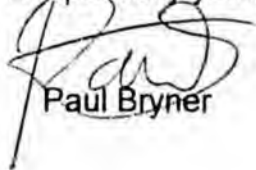
I am a teacher with the Anchorage Literacy Project. I work overtime to help teach undereducated and developmentally disabled adults who are starting to learn English from the ground level. I also help coordinate the many volunteers who give generously of their time to help strengthen our program. The Anchorage Literacy Project uses money from the Human Services Matching Grant to pay four part time staff members to coordinate almost two hundred volunteers. These two hundred volunteers in turn provide services for a thousand adult students in need. This program exemplifies the sort of volunteerism that the Governor has called for this year. If the Human Services Matching Grant is cut, as has been proposed, Alaska voters will recognize that the Senate is taking shortcuts and easy solutions, using alarmist, gloom-and-doom rhetoric to justify cuts which will do nothing but hurt our state.

Basic Literacy training is the most cost effective human service this state provides. I would urge you to review the materials I have enclosed in order to confirm that this is the case. Having a more literate adult population reduces the number of dependants on the state. It reduces the crime rate and reduces medical costs incurred by those incapable of reading simple medical instructions. No one could argue that these are not basic state needs. Through running our volunteer program, we work hard to minimize costs, to recruit, train, and support those who have an undeniable commitment to keeping this state great.

The bottom line is: if the HSMG is cut, hundreds of undereducated adults will have no alternative to illiteracy do you, personally, think this is a desirable, responsible option? Will your constituents think so?

The House Finance Committee saw fit, after an intensive review process, to restore HSMG funding in full. I hope that the Senate Committee will confirm the wisdom of this decision.

Respectfully yours,



Paul Bryner



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the (S) FIN  
committee name

committee on SB35, dated 4-15-03  
bill/subject

MY WIFE AND I NEED THIS LONGEVITY OR MEDICARE FOR  
OUR MEDICATION TOGETHER WE GET \$1200.00 PER MONTH  
ON SOCIAL SECURITY 150 LONGEVITY PLUS PERMANENT  
FUND. WHY DON'T CONGRESS AND GOVERNOR LIVE  
UP HALF OF THERE INCOME TO HELP THE STATE  
ALSO WHY ARE YOU AGAINST A STATE SALES TAX  
THEN THE TUREST WOULD HELP.

Signed: Charlie R. Michon  
Testifier Charlie R. Michon

Representing (Optional)  
279 HERNOON DR. HOMER, AK 99603

Address  
1-907-235-3935  
Phone No.

April 15, 2003

Dear Senate Finance Committee:

I am still trying to review SB 35 and understand its complexities. One of the many questions I have is the rent paid to the State of Alaska by the State of Alaska. For example, The Department of Commerce and Economics has a proposed rent budget of \$794,400. This money is to pay the State rent on State property. I don't get it. I wouldn't pay rent to my husband so he can turn it around and give it back to me to give it back to him. I believe this happens a lot. Please someone explain this procedure in the simplest way.

I would like to see another Guardian Ad Litem placed out here in the Valley to help with the increasing number of CINA cases and civil cases that the Valley's one G.A.L. is handling. If we are going to provide legal representation to children then lets see that we give them the same quality as you or I would want from an attorney representing us. If not, why bother to pretend to protect the rights of people who can't protect themselves.

If we need to trim money then we need to consider pay cuts. If my business is doing poorly, then I don't earn much money. If the State is having a hard time making ends meet then the Governor, Lt. Governor and Commissioners may need to freeze or reduce their salaries until the State has more money to pay them. If you want the people of Alaska to reduce their demands for better and more services then we need to see our leadership join us in our economic struggle.

I thank you for your time and attention with regard to this matter.

Sincerely,

Marci Schmidt  
c/o Computer Works  
901 Hermon Road, #1  
Wasilla, Alaska 99654  
907-376-0188 work  
907-357-3618 home  
907-376-9065 fax



# Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on Budget, dated 4/15/03  
Bill/Subject

*This is a copy of a letter sent to  
governor Murkowski. Would you  
please take it into consideration.  
Thank you very much.*

Signed:

*Janet Girard*

Testifier

*self*

Representing (Optional)

*1245 Scotwood Dr. Wasilla - 99654*

Address

*373-3072*

Phone number

April 8, 2003

Re: Longevity Bonus

Janet B. Girard  
1245 Scotwood Drive  
Wasilla  
Alaska 99654

Dear Governor Murkowski:

Yes Governor Murkowski, I am sure all of us eldest seniors, the ones on the longevity bonus, would be happy to lead Alaska in an effort to right Alaska's financial problems and would like to share the load--if we possibly could. But despite our age we still have the urge for self-preservation and many of us are still endeavoring to give worthwhile service to our communities and families. We are not dunderheads only to be patted on the head and be expected to willingly walk the plank to an early death. Despite being conscientious when it comes to our health care--eating correctly, exercising, including being active in the community, for those who still can, and doing all to maintain mental acuity our bodies still continue to degenerate. With this normal aging process we often need medications that are very costly and difficult to afford without help. We deserve the opportunity to fulfill our lives without having to commit suicide.

Many of us cannot qualify for Medicaid (which still is at least partly paid by the state), but yet the exorbitant cost of medicine today makes our survival questionable. Without the longevity bonus, many of us will not be able to make it. It is that vital to us.

Do you really feel that the eldest of Alaskan seniors (age 72-onward) are so unimportant and useless that you are willing to sacrifice us for the extra money Alaska needs, causing us great hardship, and in some cases great pain and needless death for lack of medication or food? Surely there must be another more humane way to scare up the bucks.

Many of our oldest seniors have been the pioneers of Alaska and have given much to the state. The already aging children of these seniors would find it hard to replace the loss of the longevity bonus to their parents. Their younger descendants would be just starting out with their own heavy expenses. What you do to us impacts the lives of many others as well.

Can't we at least end our years in a productive way as long as possible and with dignity? Please don't ask us to die sooner than we need to. We are still worthwhile citizens but most of us unfortunately are unable to bear anymore loads, no matter how much we would like to, and now we ourselves are in need of a helping hand. We have given to Alaska--now we need your help. Please don't condemn us to this catastrophe. Please keep the longevity bonus. We and our families will be eternally grateful.

Sincerely yours,

*Janet Girard*



# Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on Community Schools, dated April 15, 2003  
Bill/Subject

The Mat-Su Valley is only receiving 49,000 of this Grant Money. That keeps all schools open in the evenings for Youth Groups to bring the kids of the community. (6 days a week) Mon. thru Fri 3pm to 9pm - 4 middle schools open Saturdays from 8am to 8pm. We have approx. 800 kids in Palmer, 1200 in Wasilla Area, 300 kids in Trapper Creek - Su Valley - Talkeetna area who utilize all these school buildings. If the money is cut, the kids won't be able to use the schools during evening hours. Leaving the kids no place to go. Now we staff these sites with people to cover these events. The children are the ones to suffer if this program is cut.

Signed: Susan R. Tischer / Program Facilitator  
Testifier

Community Schools Mat-Su School District  
Representing (Optional)

3901 E. Bogard Road - Wasilla, AK 99654  
Address

(907) 376-0831 / Fax 376-7866  
Phone number Work

Attention Lyda Green  
This is your Valley!



# Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on Budget, dated 4-15-03  
Bill/Subject

see  
attached  
2 pgs on  
Longevity Bonus

Signed: Frank Girard  
Testifier

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number

## Bill History/Action Display



BILL: HB 335  
 BILL VERSION:  
 SPONSOR(S): RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR  
 CURRENT STATUS: (H) FIN

SHORT TITLE: APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUNDS  
 STATUS DATE: 01/18/02

TITLE: "An Act making appropriations for the operating and loan program expenses of state government, for certain programs, and to capitalize funds; making appropriations under art. IX, sec. 17(c), Constitution of the State of Alaska, from the constitutional budget reserve fund; and providing for an effective date."

[Full Text](#)

No Fiscal Notes Available

[Committee Action with Bill History](#)

Jrn-Date	Jrn-Page	Action
01/18/02	2003	(H) READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS
01/18/02	2003	(H) FIN
01/18/02	2003	(H) GOVERNOR'S TRANSMITTAL LETTER
01/18/02	2003	(H) REFERRED TO FINANCE

- Similar Subject Match or Exact Subject Match
- [APPROPRIATIONS](#)
  - [BUDGET](#)
  - [BUDGET RESERVE FUND](#)
  - [COURTS](#)
  - [EXECUTIVE BRANCH](#)
  - [FUNDS](#)
  - [LEGISLATURE](#)
  - [LOANS](#)
  - [PUBLIC FINANCE](#)

Bill Root:  [Display Bill Root](#) [Next Bill](#)



TO REPORT PROBLEMS WITH BASIS INQUIRY

April 3, 2003

RE: LONGEVITY BONUS

Frank L. Girard  
1245 Scotwood Drive  
Wasilla  
Alaska 99654

Dear Governor Murkowski:

We read your article in the Daily News of March 24 and your letter to me of March 25.

Many years ago, I started receiving the longevity bonus (LB) that was a godsend then and now even more so. Without it my wife and I would lose our home or starve. We are not amused by your argument that since there are 20,000 post-1996 seniors who don't get the bonus we should give up ours. "It is unfair to have two classes of senior citizens." Inequity between two classes is the rule and not an exception. Consider the difference between the vast majority of seniors and retired successful politicians. We understand that your retirement income will be in the five figures per month at tax-payers' expense. We trust that you will gladly donate a large chunk of your lavish retirement income for "education, public safety and safe transportation systems" that you state in your letter we must give up our LB for.

One could just as well argue that the 20,000 not on the LB program should be put on it to alleviate the unfairness. If we lose the LB, it will not help those currently not receiving it to any noticeable degree.

All LB receivers are now at least well into their 70s. Those seniors not on the LB program didn't enter the state early enough or didn't reach 65 soon enough. Therefore the seniors not getting the LB are younger than those receiving the LB or are recent entrants to Alaska, hardly to be considered Alaska pioneers. There is no question that the older one becomes, on average, the more one's health deteriorates. With failing health comes higher expenses of many kinds, some crushing. Therefore, this older group of seniors getting the LB are, in general, in greater need of it than the younger group not getting the LB.

We think it's appalling that to help make up state financial shortages you target the most helpless of Alaska's citizens--the 18,000 oldest and sickest of any age group. Perhaps you imagine

that their votes are of little consequence and that many of them are too senile to fight you anyway. I assure you that large numbers of us not only have all our marbles but have even larger numbers of friends and relatives who also vote and have long memories!

Are you sure, Governor Murkowski, that your fiscal policies for Alaska are not driven by the same political motives that drive your man, Bush? Among these are super tax cuts and other financial advantages for the wealthy, the special interests while help for the less fortunate is lacking.

If the state's finances are really so bad that beleaguered seniors are asked to sacrifice, then tax church property. Exempting religion from its fair share of public expense, which the rest of us must make up, violates the First Amendment, separation of church and state. Individual parishioners will not starve or lose their homes if their church is taxed. Another option is a state lottery. Why not? Many states already do this.

We are sure you are reasonable, Governor Murkowski, and that you will reconsider your determination to eliminate the LB.

Sincerely,

Please add to public testimony

The Honorable Senator Lyda Green  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK

Paul Bryner  
626 "N" Street  
Anchorage, AK 99501

RECEIVED  
APR 22 2003

17 April 2003

Dear Senator Green,

I was glad to meet with you when I came to Juneau several weeks ago.


As I stated then, I am a teacher with the Anchorage Literacy Project. I work overtime to help teach undereducated and developmentally disabled adults who are starting to learn English from the ground level. I also help coordinate the many volunteers who give generously of their time to help strengthen our program. The Anchorage Literacy Project uses money from the Human Services Matching Grant to pay four part time staff members to coordinate almost two hundred volunteers. These two hundred volunteers in turn provide services for a thousand adult students in need. This program exemplifies the sort of volunteerism that the Governor has called for this year. If the Human Services Matching Grant is cut, as has been proposed, Alaska voters will recognize that the Senate is taking shortcuts and easy solutions, using alarmist, gloom-and-doom rhetoric to justify cuts which will do nothing but hurt our state.

Basic Literacy training is the most cost effective human service this state provides. I would urge you to review the materials I have enclosed in order to confirm that this is the case. Having a more literate adult population reduces the number of dependants on the state. It reduces the crime rate and reduces medical costs incurred by those incapable of reading simple medical instructions. No one could argue that these are not basic state needs. Through running our volunteer program, we work hard to minimize costs, to recruit, train, and support those who have an undeniable commitment to keeping this state great.

The bottom line is: if the HSMG is cut, hundreds of undereducated adults will have no alternative to illiteracy do you, personally, think this is a desirable, responsible option? Will your constituents think so?

The House Finance Committee saw fit, after an intensive review process, to restore HSMG funding in full. I hope that the Senate Committe will confirm the wisdom of this decision.

Respectfully yours,

  
Paul Bryner



RECEIVED  
APR 22 2003

Anchorage  
**Literacy Project**

Legislative  
Informational  
Packet

2003

# ALP Fact Sheet FY 2003

**WHO:** Anchorage Literacy Project is a private nonprofit community based organization serving the undereducated and new English language learners for over 27 years. We have a staff of 11.1 and are governed by a Board of Directors.

**WHAT:** Mission: Changing Lives Through Literacy

Goals:

- Provide adult learners with opportunities to meet their educational goals.
- Recruit, train, certify and support volunteers to teach adults
- Recruit, train, certify and support volunteer tutor trainers
- Collaborate with other agencies to better serve the needs of adult learners
- Promote community awareness of literacy issues

**WHERE:** Main site is 1345 Rudakof; occupy 11 condo units, over 10,000 sq. ft. of office and classroom space Other sites are Fairview Recreation Center, Success By 6, Chugach Manor, Senior Citizen Center and individual homes.

**HOW:** Tutor Training Workshops – train 365 new tutors over the past 5 years

**Volunteer Program:** 153 active one-to-one tutors

4 Small Group Tutors

18 Classroom Teachers

14 Tutor trainers

189 Active Instructional Volunteers served 800 adults with 38,000 instructional hours

53 countries, predominant languages – Spanish, Korean, Laotian, Thai

**Volunteer instructors do 66% of the teaching. The remainder is done by grant funded program staff.**

**Multi-Sensory Instruction:** 239 adults taught by two staff teachers, nationally recognized program for beginning level readers

**IMPACT Family Literacy Program:** served 150 family members, parents and children with comprehensive literacy and parent education.

Average yearly number of classes offered by ALP, on and off site is 40.

**Budget:** Approximately \$500,000  
322,000 from federal, state, municipality grants  
130,000 from United Way of Anchorage 20% of total  
100,000 from contracts, fundraising, individual, group and corporate contributions

**In-kind contributions:** \$1,177,417 Labor, goods, and services

**Total Budget** \$2,169,417

United Way funds are critical to ALP's success because they are unrestricted dollars. We pay our insurance, utility bills, building maintenance and other overhead administrative costs not allowed by grant funding with United Way dollars. We couldn't do it without them.

# Anchorage Literacy Project

## Year-End Summary FY/PY 2002

<b>INDIVIDUAL PROGRAM DATA</b>					
	AHFC	IMPACT	MSI	MSI-EL	Volunteer
Basic Students	2	0	239	0	12
ESL Students	9	150	0	64	786
<b>Total Students</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>798</b>
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>668</b>	<b>8,404</b>	<b>9,655</b>	<b>1,116</b>	<b>37,961</b>

<b>HOURS</b>	
AHFC	668
IMPACT	8,404
MSI	9,655
MSI-EL	1,116
Volunteer	37,961
<b>Total Instructional Hours</b>	<b>57,804</b>

<b>STUDENTS</b>	
Basic Students	247
English Literacy Students	945
<b>Total Students*</b>	<b>1,192</b>

\* This is an unduplicated number of students served by ALP, many of the students participated in more than one of the individual programs offered.

<b>VOLUNTEERS</b>	
One-on-One Tutor	153
Small Group Tutor	4
Class Room Teacher	18
Tutor Trainer	14
<b>Total Instructional Volunteers</b>	<b>189</b>

# Anchorage Literacy Project

Program Comparison FY 1995---FY 2002

FY	VOLUNTEER PROGRAM						GRANT FUNDED PROGRAMS										Grand Total	
	TUTORING & ON-SITE CLASSES						AHFC		ATAP/JOBS		MSI		CDBG		IMPACT			
	FT	PT	BASIC	ESL	TOT HRS	TOT STUDS	HRS	STUDS	HRS	STUDS	HRS	STUDS	HRS	STUDS	HRS	FAMILY MEM	HRS	STUDS
2002	X	X	12	786	37,961	798	668	11	X	X	9,655	239	1,116	64	8,404	150	57,804	1,192
2001	366	643	250	759	21,880	1,009	634	16	X	X	8,340	243	1,589	57	8,043	115	40,486	1,440
2000	441	360	76	725	22,822	801	713	20	X	X	7,156	200	3,938	88	5,454	55	38,356	1,146
1999	423	258	124	557	22,754	681	371	25	1,028	26	5,459	99	4,891	72	NO INFO	34,503	903	
1998	393	240	116	517	20,696	633	591	43	3,366	35	2,974	56	2,760	23	NO INFO	30,387	790	
1997	390	159	155	492	18,562	549	X	X	5,696	37	976	26	X	X	NO INFO	25,479	647	
1996	396	298	X	X	22,166	694	1,177	53	5,746	51	X	X	X	X	NO INFO	29,089	789	
1995	427	319	X	X	25,274	746	1,653	46	5,279	42	X	X	X	X	NO INFO	37,969	991	

# Anchorage Literacy Project

Tutor Comparison FY 1995--FY 2002

FY	TUTORS TRAINED					TRAINERS		
	BASIC	ESL	BASIC/ESL	<del>TOTAL</del>	ACTIVE TUTORS	BASIC	ESL	TOTAL
2002	X	X	57	57	172	5	9	14
2001	X	X	94	94	204	6	8	14
2000	26	65	X	91	193	7	8	15
1999	29	26	X	55	173	6	10	16
1998	27	50	X	77	182	6	9	15
1997	28	57	X	85	152	6	9	15
1996	X	X	X	X	186	X	X	0
1995	X	X	X	X	178	X	X	0

## Anchorage Literacy Project

HSMG is one of three funding sources that support the Anchorage Literacy Project Volunteer Program.

HSMG	\$50,023	38%
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DOL/ABE	\$37,000	26%
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United Way	\$53,000	36%
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Total cost of  
Volunteer Program: \$140,000

Total ALP budget \$657,000 HSMG 7%

**ALP Volunteers provided 63%** of the total 57,804 instructional hours

**ALP Volunteers teach 66%** of the total 1,192 adults served by the agency

The cost per instructional hour for the Volunteer Program is \$3.68.

The two state grants provide 99.5% of the salaries for the volunteer coordinator, the training coordinator, the site coordinator, and the intake specialist. United Way funds cover the administrative and overhead costs to provide literacy instruction to 800 adults. The state Department of Labor/Adult Basic Education faces a 10% across the board cut in funding. It is assumed that this would decrease our grant by 10% but we do not know for sure how the ABE program administrators will apply the reductions.

Anchorage Literacy Project is a community based volunteer organization, committed to its mission of *changing lives through literacy*. The volunteer program is its volunteers and the people funded by these grants. ALP limits its service to the beginning level learner in collaboration with the other major adult education providers in the community. We refer all intermediate and advanced learners to Nine Star or the UAA Adult Learning Center. They in turn refer all beginning learners to ALP. We have done this in order to reduce the duplication of services and provide a continuum of educational opportunities for all adults.

Without funding for these critical positions, more than 800 beginning level English learners will have no place to go for instruction with the following consequences:

- Remain locked in an entry level job position
- Pose safety threats to selves and others because language is insufficient
- Be unable to communicate with their child's teacher

- Be unable to understand medical instructions or read directions for medication
- Increase the need for interpretative services in all areas
- Be subject to victimization by others - economically, physically and mentally

When adults are given the opportunity to learn English in a structured and coherent program they will:

- Develop economic self-sufficiency
- Buy a home
- Increase the local tax base
- Advance in their jobs
- Contribute their skills to strengthen the community
- Become involved in their child's education

The Board of Directors and staff have not defined how these funding losses will reshape our agency. It will be impossible to provide the services at our current level.

We would:

- Decrease the number of tutor trainings to one
- Not communicate with or support current tutors
- Limit students to one class a week, total 3 hours
- Not assess or intake new students
- Offer fewer classes with no teacher support
- Not post-test for achievement measurement
- Serve far fewer than 800 learners, 100

## Adult Basic Education Information

**Adult Basic Education (ABE)** is a program that provides students with assistance in math, reading, and writing skills. Most students who enter our programs need to complete a high school diploma and/or improve their basic skills so they can enter the workforce or postsecondary education. ABE also teaches English to the immigrant population. GED stands for General Educational Development. A GED graduate is a student who has earned a high school diploma by examination. Our adult education centers administer these exams.

Adult Basic Education is funded under Title II of the Workforce Investment Act. ABE programs have a direct connection to Alaska's workforce development.

There are 18 agencies providing regional services and programs in Alaska. Many hubs serve remote villages whenever possible. Local area contacts include:

1. Nine Star Enterprises, **Anchorage**, David Alexander, 279-7827
2. **Anchorage** Literacy Project, Polly Smith, 337-1981
3. **Aleutian-Pribilof Islands** Association, Karen Gonne-Harrell, 222-4231
4. **Alaska Department of Corrections**, Roseann Munafo, 269-7416
5. Illisagvik College, **Barrow**, Barbara Struble, 852-1742
6. University of Alaska, Kuskokwim Campus, **Bethel**, Kathy Hanson, 543-4570
7. University of Alaska, Bristol Bay Campus, **Dillingham**, Kim Govig, 842-3505
8. Adult Learning Programs of Alaska, **Fairbanks**, Traci Nero, 452-6434
9. Literacy Council of Alaska, **Fairbanks**, Mike Donaldson, 456-6212
10. University of Alaska/Kenai Peninsula College, **Homer**, Carol Swartz, 235-1656
11. Southeast Regional Resource Center, **Juneau/SE**, Carin Sinolin, 586-5718
12. University of Alaska, **Kodiak**, John Mahoney, 486-1215
13. Alaska Technical Center, **Kotzebue**, Jerry Vick, 442-3733
14. Kawerak Inc., **Nome**, Ron Huffman, 443-4468
15. Prince William Sound College, **Valdez**, Angela Corcoran, 834-1671
16. Human Resources Company, **Wasilla**, Laura Kelley, 373-5872
17. Alaska Vocational Technical Center, **Seward**, Lisa Rininger, 224-4164
18. University of Alaska/Kenai Peninsula College, **Soldotna**, Diane Taylor, 262-0328

### Facts

- **Completion of ABE programs is the record of GED graduates each year. GED graduates account for approximately 25% of the high school graduates each year. The most record breaking year was 2001, when 29% of all high school diplomas in Alaska were GEDs.**
- In FY02, 8,795 students (5,272 full-time and 3,523 part-time) received 291,526 hours of direct instruction at a total cost of \$7.66 per hour. This per hour figure includes expenditures for administrative overhead, teachers, and instructional materials. Of the full time students,
  - 42% were 25-44 years of age
  - 25% were 19-24 years of age
  - 29% were Alaska Native or American Indian
  - 67% were unemployed or not in the labor force

- **Completion of Goals:** All students are asked to identify their goals when they enter ABE programs. The following identifies the full-time students who achieved their stated goals in FY02.

- 44% Entered Employment
- 54% Retained Employment
- 54% Obtained GED
- 37% Entered Postsecondary Education

### Need for Services

- The 1990 US Census reported 53,827 adult Alaskans without a high school diploma or equivalency (GED). The 2000 US Census reported 58,070 adult Alaskans without a high school diploma; an 8% increase over 1990 levels.
- Currently, adult Alaskans without a high school diploma account for approximately 13% of the total adult Alaskan population.
- Because adult education program funding is so very low, only 10% of adults in need in Alaska are served by these programs.
- Within the 18 program grantees, there are only 54 full-time personnel. Most instruction is provided by 151 part-time staff. Often, this part-time money only pays for someone to teach 2-6 hours per week for six or seven months. Adults with low basic skills learn and progress very little with such scanty help. They are not likely to be productive, wage earning Alaskans if they do not improve their skills. ABE programs help teach job search skills along with basic skills to prepare adults for employment and further education and training.

### Program Impact of Reduction in General Fund

- For a program that pushes nearly all its money into direct instructional service, a reduction in general funds impacts the amount of direct instructional activities and GED testing services available to adult Alaskan students.
- There isn't a program in the state as cost-effective as ABE. Please reflect carefully when considering budgetary matters and adult basic education. Call up the ABE program director in your area. Ask for specific information on help provided to your constituents. Visit an ABE program if you can make the time.

Thank you for your valued assistance.

Carin Smolin, President, Alaska Adult Education Association  
Contact: SERRC-Alaska's Educational Resource Center  
210 Ferry Way, Juneau, AK 99801  
work phone: 586-5718      email: carins@serrc.org

*Alaska Adult Education Association  
A Professional Organization for Alaska's Adult Educators  
March 2003*

Talking Points:

A reduction means less students served, 10% less, and also reduction in hours that learning centers and testing centers are open.

We do a great service for so very little money. 10% reduction is equivalent to taking away two small grantees of our 18 regional programs that serve the entire state.

Most of the centers are open entry/exit with evening hours and weekends. Many are open year round.

Served \$8,795 students last fiscal year who received 291,526 hours of direct instruction at a total cost of \$7.66/hr.

There are 53,827 adults without a high school diploma in Alaska, 8% increase over 1990 census, which is 13 % of our population.

On average, 25% of high school diplomas issued in our state are GEDs.

## Closing ACS will not save the state money.

- ASC, for the past 5 years, has not required the full 5.5 Million.
  - 2002/2003 cost: 3.8 million.
  - 2001/2002 cost: 4.4 million.
- Shifting ACS' students to District/Borough schools would cause:
  - **Increased costs by 20%** to the state compared to the 80% that ACS gets.
  - **Overcrowding** (About 750 ACS students reside in the state's largest five districts, and are most likely to return to local schools.)
  - Cost to build **new schools** and to hire **new staff** when small communities suddenly have enough students who are interested in going to a local school.
  - An increase in the lack of funding already existing in small schools.
- At least 1/3 of our 200 seniors are not going to be able to graduate by the deadline.
  - ACS seniors who do not graduate by June 30<sup>th</sup> will each either cost the state another full semester of classes, or will drop out of the school system altogether.
- Warehouse rent is paid from the ACS budget. Rent for office, \$369,000, is paid to the Permanent Fund corporation. **Funds go from one state pocket to another.** ACS could, conceivably, pay for office rent out of their own budget.
- **No other correspondence school:**
  - Is fully accredited. (ACS is accredited by the same standards that brick and mortar schools are, but also meets all standards for distance learning accreditation. The other correspondence schools that are applying will only have to meet distance learning standards, one of which requires high school teachers to have 24 semester hours in their subject area. Most correspondence schools have one teacher for their entire student body, making it impossible for them to meet it.)
  - Offers dual enrollment.
  - Is mandated to enroll rural students after the student count period.
  - Has the know-how to aid special-needs children. ACS has a certified resource (special needs) teacher.
  - Has the ample teachers, or the support that ACS offers. This makes ACS the only correspondence school capable of meeting the 2005 No Child Left Behind criteria.
  - A summer school; without the ACS summer school, students without access to a brick and mortar school are denied an equal education.
  - Offers participation in as many unique programs, such as National (DC) and State (Juneau) Close-Up, Academic Decathlon, Presidential Classroom, Geography-B, Battle of the Books, and Lego League Tournament.
- These things, along with ACS's Parent Advisory Council, Library, the individual support teachers give to their students, structure of lesson plans, optional flexibility, advanced, online and traditional courses and a proven track record, **make ACS dynamic, unparalleled and absolutely unique.**
- ACS has developed **18** of the 29 online courses used by other schools in the state.
- Student from many other correspondence schools, such as IDEA and PACE enroll in ACS courses; so closing ACS will harm all Alaskan correspondence schools.

## **Top Ten Alternatives For Alyeska Students**

10. Climbing Mount McKinley and learning the Way of the Falling Leaf at the secret ninja monastery there.
9. Using reindeer gut and flattened tin cans to connect to the World-Wide Interweb.
8. Learning the traditional way in a real school building and a genuine teacher the way God intended, damnit!
7. Get a job. Them citified Juneau sissies' "education" was just make the kids uppity, anyway.
6. Keep sending out homework assignments, and start constructing pitifully complex explanations for why they keep coming back unopened.
5. Depending on location in Interior, walk towards either Fairbanks or Anchorage. if school is not in session when you arrive, then use the free time to gain valuable panhandling tips.
4. Play Van Halen's "School's Out" continuously.
3. Rock back and forth softly, staring futilely over the tundra at the world you know is out there and know just as well is now unreachable.
2. Overcome that crippling social anxiety and leave the house for the first time in years.
1. Stop expecting the state of Alaska to make the world a Socialist paradise where everyone learns for free. The only thing that's free is death, but Frank Murkowski is the one who will decide when that comes. For the moment, he is weak, but blood will make him strong. A storm is gathering in the hinterlands, and wise are those who flee it.

For the record the following is a text of my testimony to the Senate Finance Committee on April 15, 2003.

Good evening Senator Green and members of the committee. My name is John Cannon, I live at 3101 Whispering Woods Dr, Wasilla. I am strongly opposed to the 2.2 million dollars in reductions to Community Developmental Disabilities Grants that were in the Governor's budget and in the operating budget recently passed by the house. These cuts are not fair, go too deep and seriously jeopardize the safety net for many Alaskans with DD. Frankly, these cuts were hastily arrived at by the new administration after a superficial review of services in our state. Some of you were in the legislature when our state closed Harborview. The significance of that event for persons with DD cannot be over stated. With the closing of Harborview, Alaska made a promise to its citizens with developmental disabilities that never again will any Alaskan, because of his or her disability, be sent away from their families, their extended families, their friends, and their home communities. The closing of Harborview meant that Alaskans with developmental disabilities were finally welcomed into the family of Alaska. It is a shameful and sad time in Alaskan history when our Governor and our House of Representatives say to citizens with DD that Alaska is going to break that promise. It is a disgrace when 1300 Alaskans who are waiting for needed services are told that the basic safety net of services will no longer be provided. In recent legislative sessions our State Senators have been the more reasonable voice of our legislature. With a brand new administration and so many new faces in our House of Representatives Alaskans with developmental disabilities are counting on the Senate's experience and reasonableness, now, more than ever before. These reductions will cause serious harm to Alaskans with DD and their families. It's up to you senators to do the right thing. Don't turn your back on this group of Alaskans. Restore the cuts to the community dd budget. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
John Cannon  
376-6063

April 21, 2003

To: Frank Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee

Please restore the 2.2 million dollars you are proposing to cut from the DD base grant statewide. This proposed cut will affect programs that provide help for families in our community. It will cause our families to be in crisis with expenses they do not have. Families will need more money in Medicaid, which in turn will end up costing the State of Alaska more than what the DD grants originally were. Additional cuts to the Infant Learning Programs as well as Vocational grants will not only isolate families and individuals, but not allow inclusion in their own communities.

I ask you to please, restore the funding for our community. Without this funding these vital services will be voided and families will be torn apart.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jessica Glonek', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jessica Glonek

April 20,03

To: Frank Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee

Please restore the 2.2 million dollars you are proposing to cut from the DD base grants statewide. This drastic cut will affect a large population within our community. That funding allows families and individuals to have services that will keep families together and strengthen the family unit. Without this funding source, many families will go into crisis, costing the State of Alaska more money through Medicaid than what the DD grants originally were. Additional cuts to the Infant Learning Programs as well as vocational grants will not only isolate families and individuals, but not allow inclusion in their own communities.

Please remember that this is the most fragile population within the State of Alaska, and making these horrendous cuts will erode the limited services that are currently being offered.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Cliff Smith". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

MR. MURKOWSKI:

4-19-03

AND THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE,

I HAVE A SON WHO IS MENTALLY DELAYED AND HAS CEREBRAL PALSY. HE NOW HAS SOMEONE BESIDES FAMILY TO GO AND DO THINGS WITH HIM. THEY DO THINGS LIKE SWIMMING, BIKING, WORK OUT, AND TAKE TRIPS TO ANCHORAGE. HE IS STARTING TO BECOME HIS OWN PERSON. HE NOW HAS A BEST FRIEND.

IF YOU KEEP CUTTING THE BUDGET FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY MY HUSBAND AND I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SPEND TIME ALONE. EVERYBODY NEEDS TO SPEND TIME WITH THEIR OTHER HALF. WITHOUT THESE FUNDS IT WILL MAKE IT HARD FOR OUR FAMILY. YOU NEED TO STOP & THINK ABOUT YOUR CHILD FOLLOWING YOU FROM ROOM TO ROOM WANTING SOMETHING TO DO, BUT YOU ARE BUSY DOING THINGS TO KEEP LIFE GOING. MY HUSBAND AND I CAN NOW LEAVE OUR 34 YEAR OLD SON WITH SUPPORT STAFF KNOWING HE IS SAFE.

IF YOU KEEP CUTTING FUNDS FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES YOU WILL BE SPENDING MORE MONEY IN 6 MONTHS THAN YOU ARE NOW. I WILL PUT FAMILIES IN CRISIS, LIKE ABUSE. PEOPLE WITH NO FAMILIES WILL BE ON THE STREETS OR PRISON.

Is it alright that you keep cutting funds for the elderly and disabled?  
There are people coming up here and working on the slope or some kind of fishing job. They don't spend the money they make here, they spend it outside.

My son was born here, lives here and will probably die here. His money stays here.

Thanks You,

*Theresa Reger*

TERESA REGER

MR. MARKOWSKI  
SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

4-19-03

MY NAME IS RICHARD, I AM 24  
YEARS OLD, AND HAVE CEREBRAL PALSY. I NOW  
HAVE A BEST FRIEND TO GO AND DO THINGS WITH.  
I HAVE NEVER HAD A BEST FRIEND BEFORE.

IF YOU KEEP CUTTING FUNDS FOR THE  
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY, MY FRIEND WILL  
NOT BE ABLE TO DO THINGS WITH ME. HE  
IS PAID BY FRONTIER COMMUNITY SERVICES.  
I REALLY LIKE SPENDING TIME WITH MY FRIEND

Thank You  
Rich Reger

Richard Reger

To

I would like you  
to say no to the  
D.D Budget cuts  
because if this  
Does pass I will  
have no job or  
activity I thank  
you for your ~~past~~  
support,

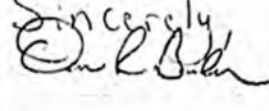
Ric Hunter

Dear members of Senate Finance Committee,

As parents of an adult child with a disability, we are very concerned about the proposed 2.2 million dollar cut to the Developmental Disability budget.

We rely heavily on the services provided for our son. Having a disability is difficult enough, but when you take away additional support, you take a major part of their life with it.

Please support our disabled children and adults and restore this 2.2 million dollars to the Developmental Disabilities budget.  
Thank you.

Sincerely,  
 Cheryl Barber  
Don & Cheryl Barber

Dear Governor Murkowski + SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

This is an appeal to you not just as our Governor, but more so as a human being who just so happens to have the power to severely impact the lives of Alaskans. Governor, consider the position you are in. I know you are not a cruel man, and would not intentionally harm anyone. But I know you have not considered your proposals adequately. If you had sir, you would not now be attempting to cut 2.2 million dollars from the developmental disability base grants. Have you heard your fellow Alaskans? We have begged you to protect our base grants. Show some mercy on those who need it most. Sir, I tell you I would much rather pay an income tax than balance the budget on the backs of the disabled. How can we even consider this feasible while pretending to live in a compassionate society? While I do not suffer a disability myself, my little sister waited for six years on "the waitlist". Your proposed cuts will make more people wait, and possibly for longer than she did. I appeal to your heart. I appeal to your common sense. Perhaps I am young and idealistic, but I thought we lived in a state that cared about its disabled citizens. Please don't prove me wrong, Governor Murkowski. Please restore the 2.2 million you have proposed to cut.

Sincerely,

Joni Haas

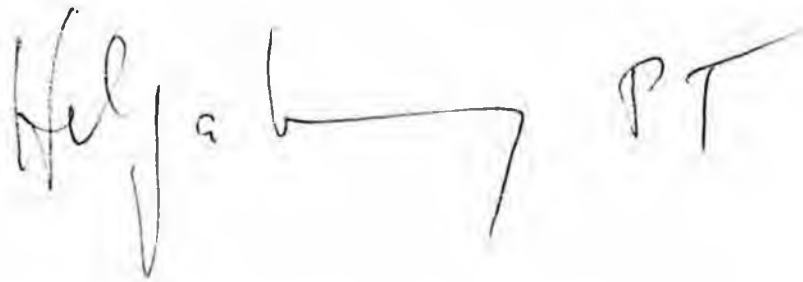
April 20,03

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Please remember that this is the most fragile population within the State of Alaska, and making these horrendous cuts will erode the limited services that are currently being offered.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kelly A. [unclear] PT". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

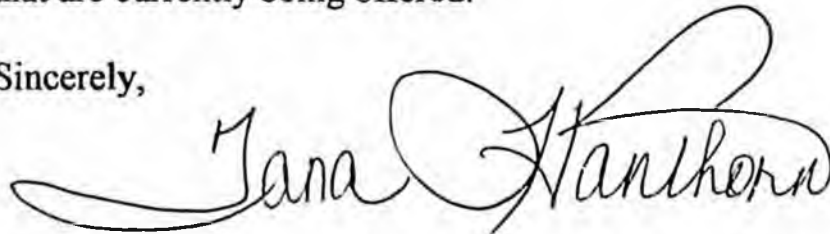
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Please remember that this is the most fragile population within the State of Alaska, and making these horrendous cuts will erode the limited services that are currently being offered.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jana Hanthorn". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

April 20,03

To: Frank Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee

Please restore the 2.2 million dollars you are proposing to cut from the DD base grants statewide. This drastic cut will affect a large population within our community. That funding allows families and individuals to have services that will keep families together and strengthen the family unit. Without this funding source, many families will go into crisis, costing the State of Alaska more money through Medicaid than what the DD grants originally were. Additional cuts to the Infant Learning Programs as well as vocational grants will not only isolate families and individuals, but not allow inclusion in their own communities.

Please remember that this is the most fragile population within the State of Alaska, and making these horrendous cuts will erode the limited services that are currently being offered.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Joanna Breen". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

April 20,03

To: Frank Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee

Please restore the 2.2 million dollars you are proposing to cut from the DD base grants statewide. This drastic cut will affect a large population within our community. That funding allows families and individuals to have services that will keep families together and strengthen the family unit. Without this funding source, many families will go into crisis, costing the State of Alaska more money through Medicaid than what the DD grants originally were. Additional cuts to the Infant Learning Programs as well as vocational grants will not only isolate families and individuals, but not allow inclusion in their own communities.

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Sincerely,

Kehd I abrigaa

April 20,03

To: Frank Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Frank Murkowski", written in a cursive style.

April 20,03

To: Frank Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee

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Sincerely,

*Susan M. Peterson*

April 20,03

To: Frank Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee

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Sincerely,

Patrick Gifford

April 20,03

To: Frank Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee

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Sincerely,

Brian Richard  
Aukerman

April 20,03

To: Frank Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee

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Sincerely,

Cindy Parker

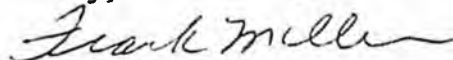
April 20,03

To: Frank Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frank Miller".

April 20,03

To: Frank Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee

Please restore the 2.2 million dollars you are proposing to cut from the DD base grants statewide. This drastic cut will affect a large population within our community. That funding allows families and individuals to have services that will keep families together and strengthen the family unit. Without this funding source, many families will go into crisis, costing the State of Alaska more money through Medicaid than what the DD grants originally were. Additional cuts to the Infant Learning Programs as well as vocational grants will not only isolate families and individuals, but not allow inclusion in their own communities.

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Sincerely,

Patricia Vinson  
Patricia Vinson

April 20,03

To: Frank Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee

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Sincerely,

*Shelley O'Guinn*  
Shelley O'Guinn  
907-262-5897

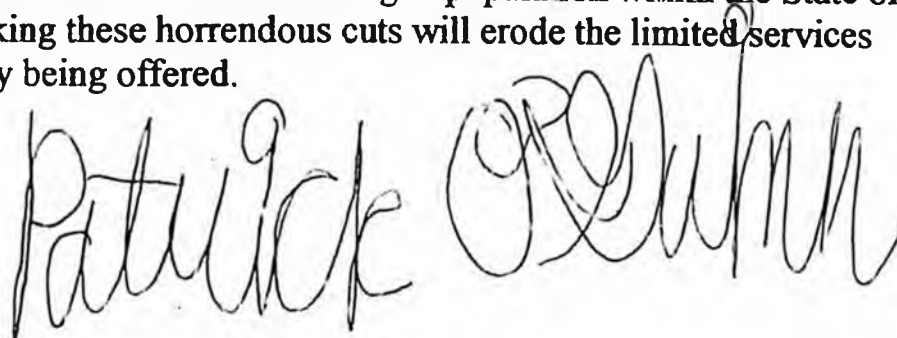
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Patrick O'Rourke". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

April 20,03

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name 'MORRIS' written in a stylized, cursive font.

April 20,03

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Sincerely,

*Norai K. Bell*

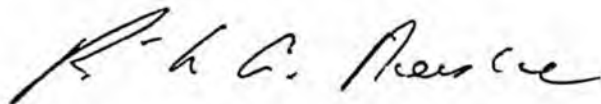
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. G. Pearce".

April 20,03

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Sincerely,

*Nancy Alonzo*

April 20,03

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Sincerely,

*Goy J. Plumridge*

Apr-21-03 10:16am From-FRONTIER COMMUNITY SERVICES

19072626964

T-221 P.01/02 F-725

April 20,03

To: Frank Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee

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Sincerely,

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

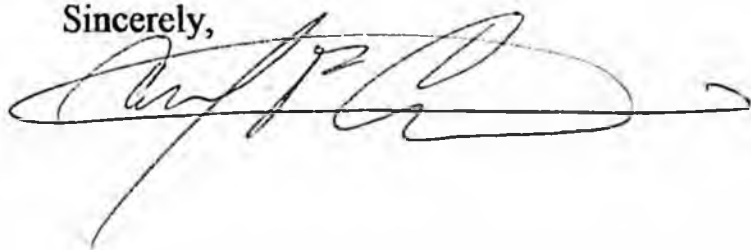
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Frank Murkowski", written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

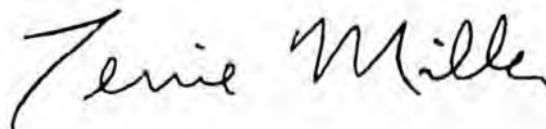
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Terrie Miller". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

April 20,03

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Sincerely,

*Carey L Edwards*

April 20,03

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Sincerely,

*Jusaw Munroque* P.T  
#56

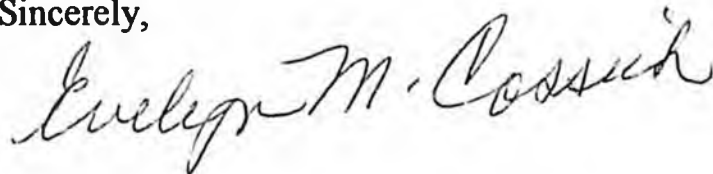
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Sincerely,

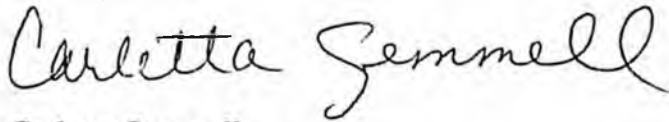
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Evelyn M. Cassick". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Evelyn M. Cassick".

April 21, 2003

Senator Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee,

Due to the many cuts that are happening in the State at this time, it seems harsh to put an even bigger cut on our handicapped community. 2.5 million dollars to these people is so much of their world. Do you realize that this would mean someone not able to have the care they needed at night or through the day, if they need to go to the restroom or if they fall or need to get something to eat. We encourage people to be able to live a normal life and yet, you see the need to take this away from them. How would you feel if you were not given a chance to live a normal life? Think about this for a moment, your freedom to go to the bathroom or ability to go to the refrigerator and get something to eat when you want. Even the ability to pick up a telephone and tell someone you love them, would be taken away. Please see the need to give back to this community of people; we all need the chance to live a normal everyday life.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carletta Gemmell". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Carletta Gemmell

April 20,03

To: Frank Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee

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Sincerely,

Margy Mullen

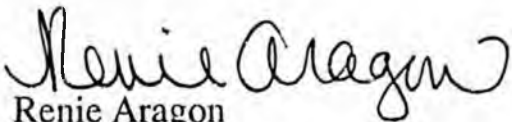
April 21, 2003

To: Mr. Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee

This letter is in reference to encourage the restoration of the 2.2 million dollars you are proposing to cut from the Developmental Disabilities base grants STATEWIDE. This terrible cut will affect a very large population within our community with drastic measures taken place. These particular funds assists families with being able to stay together and without these funds, crisis happens amongst families and then in turn costing the State of Alaska more money through Medicaid. In fact, a more drastic measure is also affected if by cutting the Medicaid budget. Additional cuts to the Infant Learning Program as well will not only isolate families and individuals, but not allow inclusion in their own homes and/or community. Without Infant Learning Programs children will not succeed in adult life without the assistance of Educator's helping these children gain skills that are appropriate for their age and in most instances, these children grow up to be independent adults who will succeed in life.

Please remember that this is the most fragile and dependent population within our State and making these drastic cuts will not only affect those that need the services but it affects the way we will have to provide those limited services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Renie Aragon". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Renie Aragon  
Soldotna

To: Frank Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee

I am writing this letter in regards to the 2.2 million dollars that is a proposed cut to the DD base grants state wide. This cut will tragically affect a section of the population who desperately needs our help. We have a moral and ethical responsibility as a civilized society to care for those who cannot care for themselves.

After working with this population for several years I agree that changes need to be made. However, this type of blanket budget cut is not in the interest of those people who need the services to survive. I believe that cuts can be made without adversely affecting this population. I would be willing to share my insight on how cuts could be made to the system that would be effective.

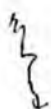
Please take the time to find where the waste is before making such a devastating cut in funding.

Sincerely,



Rev. David M. Smuin

4-21-03



April 20,03

To: Frank Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee

Please restore the 2.2 million dollars you are proposing to cut from the DD base grants statewide. This drastic cut will affect a large population within our community. That funding allows families and individuals to have services that will keep families together and strengthen the family unit. Without this funding source, many families will go into crisis, costing the State of Alaska more money through Medicaid than what the DD grants originally were. Additional cuts to the Infant Learning Programs as well as vocational grants will not only isolate families and individuals, but not allow inclusion in their own communities.

Please remember that this is the most fragile population within the State of Alaska, and making these horrendous cuts will erode the limited services that are currently being offered.

Sincerely,

*Ron W Rogers*

April 20,03

To: Frank Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee

Please restore the 2.2 million dollars you are proposing to cut from the DD base grants statewide. This drastic cut will affect a large population within our community. That funding allows families and individuals to have services that will keep families together and strengthen the family unit. Without this funding source, many families will go into crisis, costing the State of Alaska more money through Medicaid than what the DD grants originally were. Additional cuts to the Infant Learning Programs as well as vocational grants will not only isolate families and individuals, but not allow inclusion in their own communities.

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Sincerely,

*Erika Bronson*

April 21, 2003

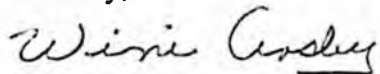
To Governor Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee:

I am very disappointed in the decisions being made in Juneau by you and the majority caucus. One of the things that I thought you stated while campaigning for office was that you would preserve basic services while developing other revenue sources. Many basic services are being cut while I see no new revenue streams developing.

Your proposed budget cuts are not going to preserve the basic services needed by people with developmental disabilities. Your budget proposes 2.2 million from Developmental Disabilities grants and \$500,000 from the Infant Learning Grants. These cuts will leave individuals/ families without the services needed to remain in their own community and out of institutional settings. The effects that these cuts could have remind me of the deinstitutionalization of people experiencing mental illness in New York in the 80s where a whole new population of homeless was created.

I urge you and the senate to restore the cuts that have been made to the grants and fund these services at current levels.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wini Crosby". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Wini Crosby  
Advocate

April 20,03

To: Frank Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee

Please restore the 2.2 million dollars you are proposing to cut from the DD base grants statewide. This drastic cut will affect a large population within our community. That funding allows families and individuals to have services that will keep families together and strengthen the family unit. Without this funding source, many families will go into crisis, costing the State of Alaska more money through Medicaid than what the DD grants originally were. Additional cuts to the Infant Learning Programs as well as vocational grants will not only isolate families and individuals, but not allow inclusion in their own communities.

Please remember that this is the most fragile population within the State of Alaska, and making these horrendous cuts will erode the limited services that are currently being offered.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian J. [unclear]". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

April 20, 2003

To: Frank Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee

The 2.2 million dollars you are proposing to cut is crucial to the quality of life of a large population of individuals in our community. The funding currently allows families and individuals to have services that keep families together and supports the family unit. With these drastic cuts, many families will be in crisis, costing the State of Alaska more money through Medicaid than what the DD grants originally were. Additional cuts to the Infant Learning Programs as well as vocational grants will not only isolate families and individuals, but not allow inclusion in their own community.

As an infant learning educator I understand and have seen how proactive steps and family support can affect a child's future. This is a fragile population and making these cuts will further erode the limited services that are currently being offered.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amanda Faulkner". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Amanda Faulkner  
Frontier Community Services  
Infant Learning Educator

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a parent who receives DD services for my child. I am seriously against any and all cut backs that will have an impact on all DD services. My child is a high needs child and the respite that my child receives has huge benefits not only for my child but also for my family. Without these services we would not be a success story!

Please **research** and **reconsider** the devastating effect that will happen when these DD services receive cut backs. Success stories will become static's of juvenile incarcerations and later adult incarcerations.

Thank you for your help and understanding to the DD services issue at hand.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Anita E. Price".

Anita E. Price

4-21-03

**April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2003**

**To Frank Murkowski and the Senate Finance  
Committee:**

**It is imperative that you not cut the proposed monies  
from the Developmentally Disabled base grants. This  
cut will wipe out entire programs for a population that  
most often cannot advocate for themselves.**

**The cuts that you are proposing will wipe out programs  
that give jobs, purpose, and dignity to a group of people  
who will otherwise be sitting with nothing to do.**

**I would much prefer my permanent fund be completely  
eliminated than see these much needed services be  
devastated.**

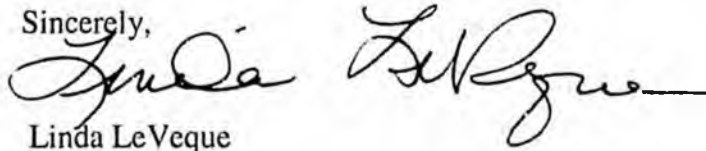
**Sincerely,  
Ginger R. Drals**

April 20, 03

To Frank Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee

I am the foster mother of a special needs child with disabilities, and I am very concerned as to the future of this child. You certainly can not be serious about cutting 2.2 million dollars from DD grants. I hope that you have taken into consideration how this funding allows children to be able to have the services that they so desperately need. It would be an inhumane act to cause the crisis situations that will occur if this funding is cut. Since when do we not pay attention to all the research about the brain and how helpful it is to intervene at as early an age as possible (which saves us money in the long run)? Please try and put yourselves into the shoes of these families and my shoes for that matter. I would not be able to supply a safe and nurturing home for this foster child, because if the funding is cut I would no longer be able to have the necessary supports in place so I can continue to work. This would end up costing more in the long run with institutionalization, not to mention the regression that would take place due to the trauma experienced by another move for this child.

Sincerely,

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

Linda LeVeque

April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2003

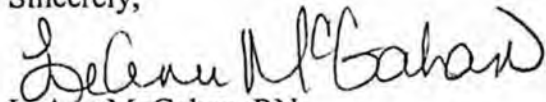
Dear: Frank Murkowski and the Senate Finance Committee,

My name is LeAnn McGahan and I am an RN in the state of Alaska. I am a Developmental Disabilities Nurse and I work with families that have children with complex medical conditions. Most of these families try to care for their children without help (financial or physical) for as long as they are able. This often times means that they are surviving on very little sleep and in "crisis" mode at this point. State funding is sometimes available to them at this point but depends on how bad the crisis is. This is where the base grant funding is imperative. Without these funds to keep families going until more funding is available, most of these children would end up in a foster care setting, which I believe would be even more taxing on the state.

I am urging you to restore the 2.2 million dollars that you are proposing to cut from the developmental Disabilities grants within our state. Why not support the families of children with disabilities so they can continue to care for the children, which they usually want to do anyways.

I understand the state budget needs revisions, I would gladly pay a state income tax or a statewide sales tax to prevent the money from being taken away from the elderly, disabled, or the education of our children.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "LeAnn McGahan".

LeAnn McGahan, RN  
Soldotna, AK

April 20, 2003

To: Frank Murkos'ci and the Senate Finance Committee

I am writing to tell you about my daughter, Katie Haas, age 21 who receives services from a program funded through the Division of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities.

Katie contracted spinal meningitis-H-Flu type at the age of 5 weeks. This devastating illness left her blind, with out speech and confined to a wheelchair. She also has an uncontrolled seizure disorder. She is fed through a G-Tube and is very limited in most areas of her life. This happened in 1981 and our family has survived over the years with respite services and the Infant Learning Program that was so vital to us when we look back over the years. We had many crisis's along the way, as is usual with families that have a disabled child. Without the services we received through the State of Alaska—our family would have fallen completely apart. I am in touch with a lot of families and individuals that experience a disability and they are usually **tired**. **Tired** from caring for their disabled child throughout the night. **Tired** from being the sole care provider. **Tired** from **not** being **ABLE** to work outside the home due to the severity of the disability. What most of these families do **NOT** need is someone making quick, **non-informed** decisions that affect what limited services they may be fortunate enough to receive.

I have never been opposed to taking our fair share of budget cuts and we certainly have along the way. But in a State that has still chosen not to enact an income tax, or a statewide sales tax, I find it repulsive that you would cut programs to education, seniors and the disabled. I was always taught that it was our responsibility to take care of those who could not take care of themselves. What were you thinking when you are making these life-changing budget cuts? Is it because your personal future with retirement benefits is bright and you would rather not think of anyone else? Have you ever tried to live on a budget of \$900.00 a month? Do you think anyone needing this type of assistance in our community can afford to purchase

services? Do you think that people that are disabled chose this life to live?  
We are all just one accident or illness away from being disabled....

We have been spoiled too long in this state and it is time to implement some different types of taxes. I will gladly pay an income tax and even a statewide sales tax.

I am strongly requesting that you restore the 2.2 million dollars that you are proposing to cut from DD grants within our state, and know that it is the right decision.

Thank you

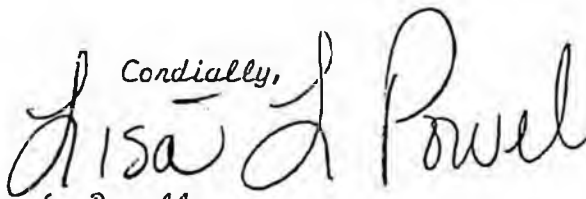
Lynnette Haas  
Soldotna

LISA L. POWELL  
35555 Spur hwy PMB 165  
Soldotna, Ak 99669

To: Frank Murkowski

Subject: Budget cuts to the mentally disabled funds

I have recently heard of the possible budget cuts for the mentally disabled fund, which may take place. There is a great need for this fund as it is. I take care of several elderly and mentally challenged people every week, most are unable to perform the standard every day tasks you and I take for granted, such as cooking, cleaning, walking, using the restroom. Without everyday assistance I fear there will be terrible consequences. Cutting back on funding would create even more problems, not only for the disabled people but for the state as well. There may very well be greater expense to the state due to patients falling down, injuring themselves. It's hard to say what will happen, I personally do not think it will be a positive change. I am writing to remind everyone of the possible outcome of such a plan. Please do reconsider before you take such a drastic measure. The mentally disabled people of Alaska thank you and I personally Thank you.

Cordially,  
  
Lisa L. Powell

STATE OF ALASKA  
THE LEGISLATURELEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY  
DIVISION OF PUBLIC SERVICES

PETERSBURG LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE

PHONE: 772-3741

FAX: 772-3779

## FAX TRANSMISSION

TO: SENATE FINANCE

FAX: 465.2184

DATE: 4/18/2003

MESSAGE:

2 PAGES TO FOLLOW THIS COVER -

THIS TESTIMONY WAS SUBMITTED  
FOR SFIN CONSIDERATION ON  
4/16. MY RESERVE DID NOT FAX  
IT TO THE COMTE, WE HOPE YOU  
CAN ENTER IT FOR THE RECORD  
AND THE CMTE'S CONSIDERATION

THANK YOU,  
Ellen Sharpsteen  
Petersburg LI0

MR CHAIRPERSONS MEMBERS  
OF THE COMMITTEE

REVENUE SHARING CUT EFFECTS

THIS IS ~~THIS~~ the wrong time for the State to cut line items within its budget that affect municipalities. Coastal communities in western and southeast Alaska are facing a severe economic downturn due to declining fish markets and loss of the timber industry. At the same time, the price of oil is up, so the State's financial position should be looking relatively good, especially compared to municipalities that are exhausting their means of acquiring operating revenue. Many cities are at, or near, their tax limits and can not locally raise sufficient revenues to continue to provide adequate, essential services to their residents.

HISTORICALLY  
HOLDING STADY ON

- Oil revenue is the people's money and in these times of economic downturn the State should be increasing revenue sharing instead of continuing the vicious cycle we are in. Our local economy is taking a tail spin. We are losing population, yet our debt obligations remain. Schools and communities have continued fixed costs, no matter how many pupils or citizens served. 6.26. 2002 from 759 We must provide the same level of police and fire protection, no matter if our population is 3,400 people, or 2,500 people.

- Revenue Sharing and Safe Community Program receipts provide needed funds for the most basic social services. Any funding decrease, let alone a 25% reduction, hurts the social well being of a community.

- Now is the time to be funding social service and public safety programs to the max. Programs such as drug and alcohol counseling, mental health services, public health nurse, fire and police protection are very necessary services, and more so when people are out of work, that must be provided in each and every community.

- The City of Petersburg has traditionally funded its social service and public safety programs well above levels provided from the state and the city will try its very best to continue to do so. However, the city currently faces a projected shortfall of \$250,000. in its upcoming FY 04 budget just to maintain existing service levels. Any further decrease in revenues will create an even greater gap.

- **State Revenue Sharing Received**

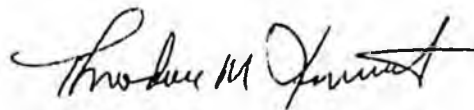
Revenue Sharing funds received from the State are restricted for use in the following categories. This fiscal year we received revenue sharing funds for:

	<u>Rec'd for FY 03</u>	<u>If cut 25%</u>
Road Maintenance	\$ 8,122.00	\$ 6,091.00
Hospital	\$37,672.00	\$ 28,254.00
Health Facilities	\$ 3,615.00	\$ 2,711.00
Non-restricted	<u>\$56,518.00</u>	<u>\$ 42,389.00</u>
Total	\$105,927.00	\$ 79,444.00

- **Safe Communities Program receipts:**

	<u>For FY 03</u>	<u>If cut 25%</u>
Total	\$81,308.00	\$ \$60,981.00

These funds are required to be used for police protection, fire protection and emergency medical services, water and sewer services not offset by user fees, or solid waste management. Petersburg has traditionally used these funds only for its police, fire and EMS services.



TED SMITH, MAYOR OF PETERSBURG  
 PO BOX 841  
 PETERSBURG, AK

**Public Comment  
Senate Finance Committee  
Concerning the Operating Budget  
Submitted Thursday, April 16, 2003  
By Donald E. Roberts Jr.  
Kodiak, Alaska**

RECEIVED  
APR 17 2003

Good evening Mr. Chairman.

My name is Don Roberts; I live in Kodiak.

I would like to thank the Republican Party leadership for allowing me to participate in their facade of democracy; Martha Stewart would be proud of what they've done with a few mirrors and a bit of smoke.

I have a few ~~of~~ ideas that might help - the first is that you do away with the entire legislative building and rent a drawer for all of your rubber stamps. (Some civic-minded person might be willing to donate closet space for such a purpose.) Party leaders could call in their underling's votes for them and legislators wouldn't have to pull away from high-level lobbyist's jaunts just to attend to the people's business.

Here's another, you could give people the public comments you want them to make and provide legislators with appropriate questions. It would at least appear that legislators were indeed interested in the public's concerns and knew something about the topic of discussion.

Here's my last, and perhaps my best, idea: keep your caucuses away from my representatives. Their job is to speak for the people of Kodiak as a whole. We do not need party approval to bring our collective voice to the rest ~~of the people~~ of Alaska.

Intervention in the people's business is subversion by definition.

###

From the Alaska State Constitution: Article 1, Section 2. Source of Government. **All political power is inherent in the people. All government originates with the people, is founded upon their will only, and is instituted solely for the good of the people as a whole.**



RECEIVED  
APR 17 2003

# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the SFIN  
committee on SB35, dated April 16, 2003.  
bill/subject committee name

I am Whit Aillaud, president of the teachers association of the Delta/Greeley School District.

Schools in Alaska are well past the point where budget cuts to education can be absorbed without a loss in service. At the same time, school employees are doing everything humanly possible to meet new education standards required by state and federal law. Cuts in education funding will result in larger classes, reduced material needed for instruction and demoralized staff.

Now is the time to step up to the plate and do what is right and fully fund education. Fully funding education means

Signed:

Testifier

Representing (Optional)

Address

Phone No.

→ see page 2



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the see page 1 for this information  
 committee on \_\_\_\_\_, dated \_\_\_\_\_  
 committee name  
 \_\_\_\_\_, dated \_\_\_\_\_  
 bill/subject

appropriating all that was budgeted in 2003 plus inflation. Teachers in Delta and across Alaska are not stupid. We know anything less means you are not interested in positive education growth, but rather, you are only interested in education as an issue for re-election.

Signed: [Signature] (Whit Aillaud)  
 Testifier  
 Delta / Greek Education Association  
 Representing (Optional)  
 P.O. BOX 1245, Delta, AK 99737  
 Address  
 (907) 895-4286  
 Phone No.

**THE  
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ORIGINAL  
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# Citizens Against Gambling Expansion

## Stop Video Poker and Slots in Alaska! Stop HB240 and SB186

RECEIVED  
APR 17 2003

To:

Governor Frank Murkowski  
Lieutenant Governor Loren Leman

Senator Con Bunde  
 Senator John Cowdery  
 Senator Betty Davis  
 Senator Fred Dye  
 Senator Jobmay Ellis  
 Senator Kim Elton  
 Senator Holms French  
 Senator Lyda Green  
 Senator Gretchen Guss  
 Senator Lyman Hoffman  
 Senator Georgiana Lincoln  
 Senator Scott Ogan  
 Senator Donny Olson  
 Senator Ralph Seckins  
 Senator Ben Stoyens  
 Senator Gary Stevens  
 Senator Robin Taylor  
 Senator Guss Theriault  
 Senator Thomas Wagner  
 Senator Gary Wilken

Representative Tom Anderton  
 Representative Brian Berkowitz  
 Representative Mike Chenaux  
 Representative Sharon Cisna  
 Representative John Coghill  
 Representative Harry Crowder  
 Representative Eric Croft  
 Representative Nancy Dahlstrom  
 Representative Hugh "Bud" Fato  
 Representative Richard Fortier  
 Representative Les Getz  
 Representative Carl Gatte  
 Representative Max Greenberg  
 Representative David Guttenberg  
 Representative John Harris  
 Representative Mike Hawker  
 Representative Cheryl Heine  
 Representative Jim Holm  
 Representative Reggie Jovic  
 Representative Mary Kapner

Representative Beth Kertula  
 Representative Vic Kohring  
 Representative Albert Kookesh  
 Representative Peter Kost  
 Representative Bob Lynn  
 Representative Beverly Masok  
 Representative Leal McGuire  
 Representative Kevin Meyer  
 Representative Carl Morgan  
 Representative Carl Moses  
 Representative Norman Rakerberg  
 Representative Ralph Sarnecki  
 Representative Paul Seaton  
 Representative Bill Stoffe  
 Representative Bruce Weybrauch  
 Representative Jim Whitaker  
 Representative Bill Williams  
 Representative Peggy Wilson  
 Representative Kelly Wolf

Mr. Larry Meyers (Gaming Unit)  
Mr. Jeff Prather (Gaming Unit)

From: Robert Rawl (Print Name)

Community: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: 244-7507

Date: April 2003

I am against Video Poker, Slot Machines and other Gaming Machines because:  
of all the negative things it brings with it,  
divorce, bankruptcy, suicide, theft, loan  
sharking. Also the lack of homework and knowledge  
exhibited by the current gaming laws leads  
as to the competency and efficiency of future  
decisions.

Robert M. Rawl  
Sign Name

CAGE  
CAGB@kpnnet.net

# Citizens Against Gambling Expansion

## Stop Video Poker and Slots in Alaska! Stop HB240 and SB186

RECEIVED  
APR 17 2003

To:

Governor Frank Murkowski  
Lieutenant Governor Loren Leman

Senator Con Bando  
 Senator John Cowdery  
 Senator Bettye Davis  
 Senator Fred Dyson  
 Senator Johnny Ellis  
 Senator Kim Etkin  
 Senator Hollis French  
 Senator Lyda Green  
 Senator Grotshen Gustafson  
 Senator Lyman Hoffmann  
 Senator Georgianna Jacobson  
 Senator Scott Ogan  
 Senator Donny Olson  
 Senator Ralph Semkins  
 Senator Ben Stevens  
 Senator Gary Stevens  
 Senator Robbin Taylor  
 Senator Gene Theriault  
 Senator Thomas Wagoner  
 Senator Gary Wilton

Representative Tom Anderson  
 Representative Ethan Berkowitz  
 Representative Mike Chensult  
 Representative Sharon Cusack  
 Representative John Coghill  
 Representative Henry Crawford  
 Representative Eric Croft  
 Representative Nancy Dahlstrom  
 Representative Hugh "Bud" Fale  
 Representative Richard Foster  
 Representative Les Gars  
 Representative Carl Gatto  
 Representative Max Gruenberg  
 Representative David Guttenberg  
 Representative John Harris  
 Representative Mike Hawker  
 Representative Cheryl Heinze  
 Representative Jim Holm  
 Representative Reggie Jouis  
 Representative Mary Kapoor

Representative Beth Kartulis  
 Representative Vic Kohring  
 Representative Albert Kookash  
 Representative Pete Kott  
 Representative Bob Lynn  
 Representative Beverly Masch  
 Representative Leslie McGuire  
 Representative Kevin Meyer  
 Representative Carl Murgan  
 Representative Carl Moser  
 Representative Norman Rakeberg  
 Representative Ralph Sermola  
 Representative Paul Sator  
 Representative Bill Stolmo  
 Representative Bruce Weybrauch  
 Representative Jim Whitaker  
 Representative Bill Williams  
 Representative Peggy Wilson  
 Representative Kelly Wolf

Mr. Larry Moyes (Gaming Unit)  
Mr. Jeff Prather (Gaming Unit)

From: Lisa Ally (Print Name)

Community: Anchorage

Phone Number: 907-677-1644

Date: April 2003

I am against Video Poker, Slot Machines and other Gaming Machines because:

These are very addictive and will cause  
community problems. Not to mention the people  
that will be affected by this. Do we really need  
the headaches is it worth it? And personally  
it will probably cost me my job

Lisa M. Ally  
 Sign Name

**CAGE**  
 CAGE@kprunet.net

# Citizens Against Gambling Expansion

## Stop Video Poker and Slots in Alaska! Stop HB240 and SB186

RECEIVED

APR 17 2003

To:

Governor Frank Murkowski  
Lieutenant Governor Loren Leman

Senator Con Bunde  
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 Senator Bettye Davis  
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 Senator Johnny Ellis  
 Senator Kim Elton  
 Senator Hollis French  
 Senator Lyda Green  
 Senator Gretchen Hansen  
 Senator Lyman Hoffmann  
 Senator Georgiana Lincoln  
 Senator Scott Ogan  
 Senator Dorey Olson  
 Senator Ralph Seelins  
 Senator Ben Stevens  
 Senator Gary Stevens  
 Senator Robin Taylor  
 Senator Gene Tharntault  
 Senator Thomas Waggoner  
 Senator Gary Wilson

Representative Tom Anderson  
 Representative Ethan Berkowitz  
 Representative Mike Chenault  
 Representative Sharon Clark  
 Representative John Coghill  
 Representative Harry Crawford  
 Representative Eric Croft  
 Representative Nancy Dahlstrom  
 Representative Hugh "Bud" Fato  
 Representative Richard Foster  
 Representative Les Gara  
 Representative Carl Gatto  
 Representative Max Grunberg  
 Representative David Gustenberg  
 Representative John Harris  
 Representative Miles Hawker  
 Representative Cheryl Heinze  
 Representative Jim Holm  
 Representative Reggie Jouis  
 Representative Mary Kapsner

Representative Beth Kertula  
 Representative Vic Kohring  
 Representative Albert Kookesh  
 Representative Pete Kou  
 Representative Bob Lynn  
 Representative Beverly Mack  
 Representative Leail McGuire  
 Representative Kevin Meyer  
 Representative Carl Morgan  
 Representative Carl Moses  
 Representative Norman Korkoberg  
 Representative Ralph Samuels  
 Representative Paul Boston  
 Representative Bill Stolten  
 Representative Bruce Weybrauch  
 Representative Jim Whitaker  
 Representative Bill Williams  
 Representative Peggy Wilson  
 Representative Kelly Wolf

Mr. Larry Meyers (Gaming Unit)  
Mr. Jeff Prather (Gaming Unit)

From: Scott McBride (Print Name)

Community: Anchorage

Phone Number: 770-5444

Date: April 2003

I am against Video Poker, Slot Machines and other Gaming Machines because:

The cost to the community is greater than the money raised

Scott J. McBride  
Sign Name

**CAGE**  
CAGE@arpunet.net



# Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on SB 35 & SB 36, dated April 15, 2003  
bill # / subject public hearing date

I was very discouraged to learn that you do not support the continued health of the University of Alaska. Surely you must realize how essential higher education is to your constituents & your communities. Major businesses, such as Kmart have been closing down. Where are these individuals able to go for retraining? The University has done an exceptional job of changing (improving) its reputation, and the increased enrollment numbers are proof positive that they are succeeding. More and more young people are choosing to remain in state, rather than take their money & that of their parents out of state to contribute to the economy elsewhere. Reward the University by supporting their budget requests.

Signed

Testifier Carrie M. Burford

Representing (optional)

PO Box 2791, Soldotna, AK. 99669

Address

(907) 262-0331

Phone number



# Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on SB 35 & SB 36, dated April 15, 2003  
bill # / subject public hearing date

Education of all Alaskans is the most important thing we can do to promote development of Alaska's economy. If Alaskans are not educated others will get the jobs and create economic growth in our state. Every Year we do not fund the Educational needs of Alaskans puts us further behind economically.

Signed:

Testifier:

Representing (optional)

Address

Phone number

P.O. Box 2629, Soldotna, Alaska

907-252-4764



# Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on SB 35 & SB 36, dated April 15, 2003  
bill # / subject public hearing date

The budget is already WAY TOO Low. Do not decrease the budget, or you risk losing students to better funded schools. Do not fall into the same hole that K-12 public education has already fallen into.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nick Berg".

Testifier

Nick Berg

Representing (optional)

266 Redwood Ct. Soldotna Alaska 99669  
Address

907 262 6064  
Phone number



# Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on SB 35 & SB 36, dated April 15, 2003  
bill # / subject public hearing date

The children of Alaska are our greatest natural resource we need to be increasing education budgets across the board at all levels K-college. This should be our number one priority, not increasing legislative pay or wasting money trying to move the capital to Anchorage. It is imperative that our children and young adults be given every opportunity to get a proper education in Alaska. That is the only way to keep them in Alaska for the benefit of all Alaskans.

Signed:

Jacqueline Blum  
Testifier

Representing (optional)

101 Walker Lane

Address

283-8197

Phone number



# Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on SB 35 & SB 36, dated April 15, 2003  
bill # / subject public hearing date

To whom it may concern,

As a full time biology student at KPC I am extremely saddened to hear that our funding could be taken from us. We are Alaska's future, please don't ignore our stories. We can't be hushed on this issue will are strong in numbers and strong in opinions.

Signed: Laura Sauermilch  
Testifier

Representing (optional)

399 Lovers Lane Soldotna AK 99669  
Address

262-8781  
Phone number



# Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on SB 35 & SB 36, dated April 15, 2003  
bill # / subject public hearing date

If our state is to have any future we need to keep our youth in this state. There are no excuses for not having an educational system where <sup>all</sup> our students pick the U.A. system as their first choice. Students choose to be educated outside then don't bother to return, why? Let's stop putting Alaska at the bottom of the education barrel, support our university system! Thank you

Signed: Lane Lewis Means  
Testifier

Representing (optional)

P O Box 1363 Kenai AK 99111  
Address

907-283-1907  
Phone number



# Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on SB 35 & SB 36, dated April 15, 2003  
bill # / subject public hearing date

To keep up our educational standards we need to increase finances for colleges not decrease them. Don't decrease UAA's budget.

Signed: DONITA L. PETER  
Testifier

Representing (optional)

37155 Hillcrest St., Soldotna AK 99669  
Address

1398-6304  
Phone number



# Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on SB 35 & SB 36, dated April 15, 2003  
bill # / subject public hearing date

Being physically isolated from the rest of the United States makes achieving a decent education hard enough. Having our funding cut will only make matters worse. Everything here is more expensive. Our budget should represent that inflation.

Signed:   
Testifier

\_\_\_\_\_  
Representing (optional)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number

## **ROSALEE T. WALKER**

1220 Glacier Ave., #208

Juneau, AK 99801

(907) 586-2873

### **TESTIMONY REGARDING THE LONGEVITY BONUS PROGRAM**

My name is Rosalee T. Walker, and I have been a resident of Juneau, Alaska for 37 years. I come to you today as a member of the Board of Directors for the Older Persons Action Group (OPAG), and as the president of the AARP Mount Juneau Chapter #865. Both of these organizations oppose the elimination of the Longevity Bonus Program.

The Senate Finance Committee's elimination of the Longevity Bonus Program is a great disappointment to all Alaskan senior citizens. Consequently, we respectfully ask that you reconsider your actions and reinstate the Longevity Bonus Program in your budget. It is our strong assertion that the Administration's proposal was put forth in haste, and, it did not provide you with vital information that would have helped you to make a more responsible decision regarding this matter.

Alaska's senior citizens are painfully aware of the current state budget concerns, and we continuously work with all levels of government to help to seek effective solutions to budgetary problems. In its haste to eliminate the Longevity Bonus Program, the Administration ignored or failed to scrutinize

some alternative strategies that could be easily implemented in order to avoid a disastrous and devastating situation for the most vulnerable portion of Alaska's population. Seniors were not included when plans were being made to eliminate the Longevity Bonus Program.

Reinstatement of the Longevity Bonus Program in this budget would give Alaskan senior citizens an opportunity to demonstrate that there are more efficient ways to address the Longevity Bonus Program, ways that will not be so abrupt, impetuous and detrimental to the elderly population. The Administration's justification for the elimination of the Longevity Bonus Program is grossly inadequate for making a decision that would be reasonable, responsible, and fair. The legislature did not get good data.

Alaskan seniors are ready, willing and able to work with the legislature, the administration and longevity bonus recipients to explore alternatives to the elimination of the Longevity Bonus Program. Please give us an opportunity! Alaskan seniors do have the power, the skills, and the desire to make things better for our State of Alaska, all we need is a chance to prove it.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

My name is Marie Darlin and I am the Capital City Task Force Coordinator for AARP in Alaska. You have a copy of my previous detailed testimony on the Longevity Bonus and you have letters from the AARP Office in opposition to legislation repealing the bonus program.

I wish to speak on the importance of the Longevity Bonus for our seniors and want to reiterate a few facts for your consideration.

The main purpose of the bonus was to keep our seniors in Alaska.

1994 phase-out legislation made a promise to seniors - no more changes!

12,000 of the 18,000 recipients are over age 75 that receive \$250. Costs decrease at 3 million or more each year.

The economic impact on the state from seniors is well over 1 billion per year - most of it spent here.

Every dollar spent turns over at least twice. Therefore, the 47.5 million the Governor's bill saves takes 95 million out of the economy.

Seniors provide volunteer hours worth approximately 60 million per year and they give at least 20 hours per month of caregiver services totaling an equivalent of 6300 full time jobs.

In 1999 6,000 seniors lived on less than \$1,000 per month (poverty level) and the bonus provided 10% of the income for single seniors.

The longevity bonus allows our seniors to remain independent contributing members of our communities and is much less expensive than caring for them with the Governor's safety nets.

PLEASE LEAVE THE LONGEVITY BONUS IN THE BUDGET!



Marie Darlin - AARP



JUNEAU

230 South Franklin #206  
Juneau, AK 99801  
(907) 586-1627  
FAX (907) 586-1066

MEMBER OF THE  
NATIONAL  
ASSOCIATION OF  
PROTECTION &  
ADVOCACY  
SYSTEMS



RF

March 24, 2003

By Hand Delivery

Representative Kevin Meyer  
Chair, Labor Subcommittee  
House Finance Committee  
Alaska State Capitol, Room 513  
Juneau, Alaska

Representative Mike Hawker  
Chair, H&SS Subcommittee  
House Finance Committee  
Alaska State Capitol, Room 434  
Juneau, Alaska

Re: **Labor Budget**  
**H&SS Budget**  
**Grants for Independent Living Centers**

Dear Representatives Meyer and Hawker:

I am writing to urge reconsideration of the proposal to eliminate \$619,000 in state grants for funding that helps support Independent Living Centers in Alaska. This is a great step backward for the state. The ILCs in Alaska educate Alaskans with disabilities on how to live independently and avoid institutionalization. I know this from direct experience. Not more than a month ago, a 54-year old woman with severe arthritis – and I mean so severe that this woman had not left her apartment in months – was able to receive an in-home visit from an independent living specialist from SAIL on how to convert her home so that she could continue to live independently. Her only other alternative is a nursing home, her resources and income make her ineligible for a Medicaid waiver. If she goes to a nursing home, her income and resources will be exhausted, until she will be financially eligible for Medicaid. This is a scenario sadly followed by many; this is one reason why 85% of all nursing home residents ultimately have their nursing home costs paid by Medicaid.

It makes no sense to cut a valuable, essential program like the services that Alaska's Independent Living Centers provide. It is tantamount to saying: "support institutionalization of Alaskans, because Medicaid will pay for it, but don't support Independent Living Centers, because Medicaid won't." I think there has been a lost sense of priority.

We urge that the State funding for ILC centers – money which the State more than recoups in reductions to its Medicaid budget in avoided nursing home care – be placed in the H&SS budget instead. From within that budget, the Department of Health and Social Services will be able to monitor and capitalize on the efforts of ILCs to minimize institutionalization and maximize independence of Alaskans with disabilities.

Very truly yours,

Robert B. Briggs, staff attorney

Cc:  
Members, Labor Subcommittee of House Finance Committee  
Members, H&SS Subcommittee of House Finance Committee  
Joan O'Keefe, SAIL

Sam would you submit this email form in case I don't make it, please?

**Subject: Sam would you submit this email form in case I don't make it, please?**

**Date:** Wed, 16 Apr 2003 10:28:50 -0800

**From:** Doris Robbins <d Robbins@gci.net>

**To:** Sam Trivette <samtriv@gci.net>

TESTIMONY BEFORE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

April 16, 2003

My original focus was to remind you that the Longevity Bonus in it's final settled-for-the-last-time form, was a promise that should be kept for seniors who pioneered this state. Let it finish dying out as the seniors age. It won't take long!

But what really gets to me is the total irresponsibility of cutting funding for infant learning programs and independent living centers. I figured through common sense you would restore that funding when you saw that it saves the State money.

If you aren't familiar with infant learning, it does miracles with babies who have this short window of time to make it to be able to regain some of the skills that normal babies have and it totally changes

the outcome of their lives forever! It can't be postponed. I have seen the result of this program, and it truly is a miracle work! It isn't that much money and it is mostly for qualified people to make home visits to direct mothers who do most of the work.

And I'm sure you realize that independent living centers allow people who use to be in institutions to become productive people. Both of these programs actually save money in the long run! Just the fact that it lets them feel human causes them to improve their abilities.

It got to me so much that I had to stop watching last night. I just can't understand what the governor thinks he is accomplishing! All I can figure is that he must have already retired but just hasn't quit yet.

He won't be there when the backlash against the majority party comes. He is not looking to get re-elected like the rest of the legislature so it's no bother to him.

I've already said how wrong I think it is to go back on your word and discontinue the Longevity Bonus when the people are so dependent on it. The budget is full of wrong things, education funding from Kindergarten through college is another one.

I think most people know "you can't get something for nothing" and are willing to pay tax.

Doris Robbins  
PO Box 21011  
Juneau, AK 99802  
(907)364-3267

April 15, 2003

W) 807-742-4322 (F) 907-742-4175

TO: SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
FROM: LARRY WIGET, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
SUBJECT: THE IMPORTANCE OF PUPIL TRANSPORTATION FUNDING



**"To educate Alaska's children, they first must get safely to school. Consistent, safe and efficient transportation is vital to the education process. For years, the state has reimbursed school districts the cost of transporting students.**

Districts decide how to provide that transportation. This year, 48 of the 53 school districts are expected to receive reimbursement for pupil transportation.

School districts providing student transportation now receive equal funding. Before 1998, not all districts were reimbursed for pupil transportation at the same rate. Anchorage, for example, was reimbursed at a lower rate. In 1998, Senator Dave Donley successfully sponsored a revision to reimburse all schools equally. Thanks to that amendment, all districts are now treated the same when receiving funds for transporting students.

**Pupil transportation is not cheap, but it is essential. Money for transporting students frees up funds for the classroom. If the state did not fully fund these costs, districts would be forced to use classroom dollars to pay for getting students safely to school."**

**-Source: Verbatim: Spring 2002 Education Report  
Alaska State Senate Finance Committee**

April 15, 2003

W) 907-742-4322 (F) 907-742-4175

TO: SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
FROM: LARRY WIGET, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
SUBJECT: FULL FUNDING FOR K-12 EDUCATION

Senator Green, members of the Finance committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony this evening on the need for full funding for K-12 education.

Due to a prior commitment, Carol Comeau, Superintendent of the Anchorage School District, is unable to be here this evening to express to you directly her concerns about the governor's proposed budget and its impact on the Anchorage School District

It is the superintendent's belief, and the belief of all of us within the Anchorage School District, that the cuts to the education budget proposed by the governor "would absolutely devastate what we've been trying to do with student achievement."

The governor's proposed budget would result in a reduction of almost \$11 million in funding to the Anchorage School District. If implemented, Anchorage will lose \$3.4 million in Learning Opportunity Grants, about \$3.4 million for pupil transportation, \$3 million for bond debt reimbursement, \$150,000 for community schools, and approximately \$775,000 for tuition for wards of the court.

As others who have testified before you have surely stated, full funding doesn't just mean funding the foundation formula. Full funding means fully funding all components of the education budget.

In the words of our superintendent,

**"Education is the ticket out of poverty. It's the ticket to a successful work force. It's the ticket to safe and healthy families where children are stable and strong. A lot of these cuts are going to hurt the kids and the families who can afford it the least. We want to raise the level of achievement for all kids."**

Please support full and increased funding of education to ensure a quality education for our students and students across Alaska.

Thank you!

# Cook Inlet Historical Society

April 14, 2003

To all Senate Finance Committee Members:

Senator Lyda Green, Co-chair (Fax: 465-3805)  
Senator Gary Wilken, Co-Chair (Fax 465-4714)  
Senator Con Bunde, Vice Chair (Fax 465-3871)  
Senator Robin Taylor (Fax 465-3922)  
Senator Ben Stevens (Fax 465-3872)  
Senator Lyman Hoffman (Fax 465-4453)  
Senator Donny Olson (Fax 465-4821)

Dear Senator:

The Cook Inlet Historical Society urges you to restore funding the State Library and State Archives budgets. Restoring funds to the Alaska State Archives and State Library would ensure public access during regular business hours and provide at least a minimum service level for these organizations.

Public access to government records is a vital part of our democratic society. For example, citizens use government records to document their right to vote, apply for a permanent fund dividend, and to register for unemployment, health benefits, and other social services. State records help us understand the history of our state and nation, and they play an important role in the interpretation of our past. Open access to government records are central to maintaining a free and open society and one of state government's most fundamental and vital responsibilities.

In addition, the cuts proposed for the state library will adversely affect the historical collections and public access to the services and collections will be severely limited. Researchers traveling to Juneau to use the resources of the state library have a special financial hardship, as the hours of the historical collections that are already on reduced hours due to prior budget cuts will be further limited.

The Cook Inlet Historical Society members are asking you to restore the funds for the Alaska State Archives and State Library programs. State archives and libraries are vital government services that should be supported even in times of financial hardship. If I can provide further information to you and your staff, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,



James K. Barnett, President

Located in the Anchorage Museum of History and Art  
at the Rasmuson Center  
121 West Seventh Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3696

TO:

**Bob Durst****SENATE FINANCE SECRETARY · 907·465·2187**

**From:** Bob Durst  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 09, 2003 11:58 PM  
**To:** 'Representative\_Kevin\_Meyer@legis.state.ak.us'  
**Subject:** HB 165 Retain Funding for Community Schools

Senate Finance Committee,

I believe it is important to look at how we "invest" our State's financial resources in program evaluation vs. looking at savings or cuts.

In our work session today, the Commonwealth North "Workforce Development Task Force" identified 1. Education and 2. Healthy Communities as two major factors relating to the development of a qualified workforce to fill jobs in Alaska by Alaskans. Community Schools is a cost effective program that is helping to achieve these goals and more.

Our Architectural firm did a major renovation at Creekside Park Elementary School in East Anchorage. When we first saw the old school it was boarded up with plywood and covered with graffiti. The Park next door was in sad disrepair and a haven for undesirables. A "crack" house was reportedly across the street from the school. We designed the renovation for the building and painted a picture as to what the school could be as a "center" of community. The Principal took us seriously and charged the Community Schools Coordinator to make the vision a reality.

This past summer, the first "Spirit of Muldoon" celebration was held at Creekside Park culminating a rebirth of the Elementary School and Park. The old hockey rink that the District Maintenance would take down had been repaired and painted by the local "Gateway" Rotary Club. The rink will be resurfaced to support use in the summer for a game played on roller blades. Artwork created by an Artist in the Schools grant gives a bright band of color around the freshly painted boards around the rink. A new shelter is under construction in the park along with irrigation for two new youth soccer fields. An exercise trail for disabled youth is being constructed as a pathway in the woods. A new Little League field has been constructed and the big baseball field with 300 ft fences has been rejuvenated. 150 people showed up last Spring for a Day of Caring to clean, grub and put a shine back on Creekside Park. All of these projects including a Master Plan for Creekside Elementary and Park was coordinated by Creekside Community Schools which was recognized and received the "Good Neighbor" award at the Heart of Anchorage ceremonies last year.

Today the "crack" house has been purchased and renovated by one of the teachers at the school. This is more than a K-8 school that shuts down at 3pm...there are educational and recreational programs for students after school, and in the evening Community Schools offers a wide range of classes for adults in the community. The school no longer shuts down in the summer...it has become a center for youth and adult programs throughout the year.

To maximize utilization of our community's major capital cost facilities, we need an active Community Schools Program to transform these expensive facilities into "Lifelong Learning, Recreation and Community Centers. We need this "funded" staffing to coordinate the writing and administration of grants, coordinate community volunteers, and coordinate public use of our "public" facilities.

This facility is a "model" for the "investment" of State funding in terms of its local impact on education and creation of a healthy community.

I am not a person that usually takes the time to write on issues but the loss of this funding will create a major negative impact on our communities.. Community Schools is a positive investment for our future.

Bob Durst

## MEETING THE CHALLENGE

## FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Senator Gary Wilken	FROM: Anna Sappah Meeting the Challenge Campaign Board President
COMPANY: Alaska State Legislature Senate Finance Committee	DATE: 4/16/03
FAX NUMBER: 1-907-465-4714	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: 2
PHONE NUMBER: 1-800-451-5501	SENDER'S PHONE NUMBER: 907-277-8796
RE: Substance abuse budget issues	SENDER'S FAXNUMBER: 907-258-7175

URGENT     FOR REVIEW     PLEASE COMMENT     PLEASE REPLY     PLEASE RECYCLE

## NOTES/COMMENTS:

My name is Anna Sappah. I am a recovering addict from Anchorage. I am a member and Board President of the Meeting the Challenge Campaign. We are recovering addicts and alcoholics who have benefited from participating in treatment for substance abuse problems. I was an active addict from the age of 12 until I was 33. I am Alaska Native. I am the 3<sup>rd</sup> generation of addict/alcoholics in my family. My last drug of choice was heroin. I completed treatment in April 1995. I celebrated 8 years clean on April 2<sup>nd</sup> of this year. Before treatment I was a drain on my community and its resources. The money spent in terms of welfare I collected, Medicaid, court costs, domestic violence, child welfare issues, food banks support, etc... is mind-boggling. I am now a productive member of society. I am employed full time. I am co-owner of a guide service on the Kenai. I am able to parent my own children without state assistance. I am now of service to my community rather than a detriment to it. This is all possible because I had the opportunity to participate in, and complete drug treatment. I learned life skills and resources to help me learn how to live clean. I had never been able to achieve prolonged abstinence on my own prior to treatment.

I encourage you to please not make any further cuts to the substance abuse treatment budget. The short-term savings of these cuts are negligible in comparison to the rising cost of incarceration, courts, welfare, child abuse issues, medical costs etc... In these uncertain financial times it seems to me that shortsighted short-term savings are irresponsible.

There is money coming in from the alcohol tax that was passed last year. In 2002, the establishment of the Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Treatment and Prevention Fund offered a "gentleman's agreement" to put revenues from the alcohol tax toward treating and preventing substance abuse. . The Governor's FY 04 budget, proposes to use only a small portion of this revenue to increase prevention and treatment programs. The bulk of the fund, approximately \$13.5 million, supplants general funds. With the cuts to treatment in prisons (Corrections budget) and the \$1.6 million in reductions to treatment programs from increasing their local match requirement (SB124), the governor's strategy fails to take advantage of the opportunity provided by the creation of the fund. To supplant the general funds that were in place is morally wrong.

I met with several of you personally when I was in Juneau last month. I hope that you will please consider what I have said and believe that treatment does work. Even if people relapse after treatment, a seed gets planted. With the high rate of alcohol and drug problems in this state we can not continue to ignore the problem or hope that people will just quit on their own without treatment. If we don't provide treatment to those incarcerated we will continue to incarcerate them over and over at a much higher cost than treating them. If we do not provide services in the villages we will see the cycle of abuse continue to unravel the very fiber of the lives of our native youth until the entire native culture is obliterated.

Thank You for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Anna K. Sappah





# Chugach Consumers

P.O. Box 101822 • ANCHORAGE, AK 99510-1822  
e-mail: [execdir@chugachconsumers.org](mailto:execdir@chugachconsumers.org) • website: [www.chugachconsumers.org](http://www.chugachconsumers.org)

April 15, 2003

## Senate Finance Committee Testimony (SB35, HB75) SOUTHERN INTERTIE FUNDING

I am the chairman of Chugach Consumers, a grassroots group of fiscally concerned Chugach Electric ratepayers. I also was on the Chugach Electric board (5/94 to 4/2000) and was board president (5/95 to 4/97). I was also on the Alaska Rural Electric Cooperative Association (ARECA) Board of Directors, Executive Committee, 1995-98. I have maintained an active interest in electric utility affairs since leaving the board (but entirely in a non-paid public interest capacity).

Chugach Consumers urges the legislature to support Governor Murkowski's action that returned \$27 million in accrued interest on the Southern Intertie to the general fund.

However, we are very concerned that Sec. 18(c) of HB75 passed by the House returns that money to the Railbelt Energy Fund rather than leaving it in the general fund. We urge the Senate to drop this provision or replace it with a clarification that the money remains in the general fund.

The Southern Intertie has long been known to be uneconomic and would have been abandoned years ago were it not for the deplorable suppression by Chugach management (for the whole project EIS process) of the major, credible, decisional document<sup>1</sup> on the economic benefits of the Southern Intertie.

My Anchorage Daily News OpEd and attached editorial recounts this history.

The Southern Intertie pays only 50 cents in public benefits for every dollar of cost and that is from old cost estimates. It is expected to yield an even lower benefit-cost ratio when updated or actual construction costs are known.

Chugach Consumers congratulates the Governor for his action on the interest money that stops public funds from being wasted in this time of fiscal need. Chugach Consumers encourages the legislature and AIDEA to recover the rest of the \$40 million Southern Intertie grant principal as well. This would make a total of \$67 million available from this dubious project.

**Chugach Consumers**  
Senate Finance Committee Testimony (SB35, HB75)  
**SOUTHERN INTERTIE FUNDING – 4/15/03**

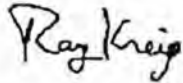
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Page 2

If this money is reclaimed, Chugach Consumers believes it is crucial that it go into the general fund or be reappropriated to benefit South Central Alaska for utility or general government/school debt reduction (as opposed to being used for another new spending program).

Sincerely,

CHUGACH CONSUMERS



[SIGNED AND TRANSMITTED ELECTRONICALLY]

Ray Kreig, Chairman  
(907) 276-2025 fax (907) 258-9614 home (907) 243-8951

For more information please see:

<http://www.chugachconsumers.org/si.htm>

especially the background briefing:

<http://www.chugachconsumers.org/Lib/Int/Briefing.htm>

ENDNOTE

1. Samuelson, R., Hattis, S., 1998, **Ratepayer Impacts of Proposed Transmission Projects Final Report**; DFI-Aeronomics, 75 p. [marked "Client Confidential"]. NOTE: Released by vote of Chugach Board on 11/20/02, first available 12/6/02.

B-6 Friday, January 24, 2003 www.adn.com



# Anchorage

Michael J. Sexton **Patr**  
President & Publisher Senior Vn

Founded in 1946  
Fuller A. Cowell, Publisher, 1993-1999 Kathie  
Gerald E. Grilly, Publisher, 1984-1993 Lawrie

## OUR VIEW

# Southern intertie

### Good reason to question this Railbelt energy project

In 1993, the Alaska Legislature set aside \$46.8 million for building a second high-voltage power line between Anchorage and the Kenai Peninsula.

Some important things have changed in the 10 years since then. Alaska's state government finances have deteriorated, and easy spending money has disappeared. Lawmakers routinely balance the state budget by drawing at least half a billion dollars each year from a dwindling savings account.

Another noteworthy change is that doubts have recently come to light about the economic viability of the proposed power line. A 1998 utility company study that was kept secret for four years concluded the southern intertie would produce barely 50 cents' worth of benefit for every dollar spent.

*A 1998 utility company study that was kept secret for four years concluded the southern intertie would produce barely 50 cents' worth of benefit for every dollar spent.*

Together the shortage of state money and new doubts about the project's payoff suggest the Legislature might find higher and better uses for that \$46.8 million.

Some advocates of the southern intertie reject that notion. They claim the money is locked up tight — \$46.8 million plus interest — and there is no point in

reconsidering the matter. The intertie money was the final part of a political deal that triggered a splurge of spending on energy projects and subsidies starting in the early 1980s. Anchorage and the southern Railbelt would be denied their fair share of state-funded energy goodies, intertie advocates say. If this final project is not built.

The project's defenders say a deal's a deal, even if it means throwing good money after bad. The day when Alaska could get away with such a cavalier approach to spending money is long past.

But for purposes of argument, let's accept the basic framework of this supposedly unbreakable deal. Let's grant that regional equity requires the money to be spent to benefit the southern Railbelt. Let's grant that it has to be spent to supply cheaper energy. Let's even grant that it has to be spent on a particular type of energy, namely electricity. Granting all that, it is still not clear that the southern intertie is the best way to do it.

The money could be used to retire debt at the region's electrical utilities. It could be used to upgrade and repair the existing high-voltage power line between the Kenai Peninsula and Anchorage. It could be used to install a centralized power dispatching system, to ensure that the most efficient mix of Railbelt power plants is used to meet electricity demand as it fluctuates during the day and during the year.

The new Anchorage-Kenai intertie should, at minimum, have to prove that it is a better investment than those options. That will require an independent, rigorous look at the intertie's costs and benefits and how they compare with the alternatives.

# Intertie II

### Is \$23 million of interest money legally available?

During debate over the proposed electrical intertie between Anchorage and Kenai, an interesting question has come to light. Just exactly how much state money is available for the project?

The state agency handling the project, Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority, says the available funding is about \$70 million. That's the original \$46.8 million that the Legislature set aside in 1993 plus another \$23 million or so in interest.

There's just one problem with that claim. The 1993 legislation that set aside \$46.8 million (SB 126) imposed certain conditions. One condition requires utilities involved with the project to agree in advance that they will pay all costs of the intertie over and above \$46.8 million. No legislation passed since then has repealed that requirement.

It appears that state law is clear: Only \$46.8 million of the appropriation is available to pay for the intertie. (Unless, of course, state lawyers can come up with a convincing theory that explains why the law on the books doesn't mean what it says.)

*The more utilities have to pay for the Anchorage-Kenai intertie, the less likely they are to pursue it.*

This question is the kind that could make or break the \$100 million project. The intertie is an economically questionable investment that, even in the most optimistic analysis, produces minimal gain to Railbelt ratepayers. The more utilities have to pay for the Anchorage-Kenai intertie, the less likely they are to pursue it. In fact, project supporters are asking the Legislature to spend another \$30 million on it.

The powers that be in the Legislature and the Murkowski administration have shown no inclination to question the assumption that interest money is legally available for the southern intertie. But as critics of the project note, the legality of spending the interest money is one more important question facing an already questionable project.



# Anchorage Daily News

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President & Publisher

Patrick Dougherty  
Senior Vice President & Editor

Steve Lindbeck  
Associate Editor

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Gerald E. Gibby, Publisher, 1994-1993

Katherine Fanning, Editor and Publisher, 1971-1983  
Lawrence Fanning, Editor and Publisher, 1967-1971

# OPINION

MORE INFO:  
[www.chugachconsumers.org/sl](http://www.chugachconsumers.org/sl)

## POINTCOUNTERPOINT Anchorage-Kenai intertie?

### Intertie promises to provide affordable power to Railbelt

ERIC P. YOULD, *Alaska Rural Electric Cooperative Association*

**A** project to benefit Alaska and Alaskans for the next 50 years is moving forward, thanks to the vision and efforts of legislators and electric utilities.

The Southern Intertie, an important new link in the Railbelt electric grid, recently passed a major milestone with the completion of comprehensive environmental reviews. After a thorough and public environmental impact statement process, three federal agencies last fall issued records of a decision identifying a route along the Kenai bluff of Cook Inlet and under the mouth of Turnagain Arm as the preferred path for the new transmission line.

The intertie will be a new transmission line between Nikiski and Anchorage that will improve the reliability of the Railbelt power grid. However, its most important function will be to help move power throughout the region from where it's most economical to make it to where customers need it. All six of the electric utilities that serve customers in the Railbelt are participating in the project. All six are not-for-profit utilities working on behalf of their customers. The current estimated cost of the line is \$100 million. Approximately \$70 million of the project will be paid by a state grant made by the Legislature in 1993 from the Railbelt Energy Fund — set up in 1986 to invest in projects that benefit Alaskans throughout the state's most populous region.

With the EIS complete, attention now

turns to design and construction. If work proceeds on schedule, Alaskans may be taking home paychecks from construction by 2004 and the new line could be in service by 2006 or 2007. That might seem a ways off, but it's just around the corner when you consider the need for this project that has been in the planning since the early 1980s.

Infrastructure is vital to Alaska's current and future health and economy. A strong interconnected Railbelt electric system that allows power to be made economically in one area and moved efficiently to another helps ensure that individual Alaskans and the businesses that employ them have reliable, affordable electric service. The Southern Intertie will do just that.

Critical infrastructure is often ignored or taken for granted until something goes wrong or existing facilities are overwhelmed by demand. That's why it's so important to plan. The fact you can flip a switch today and have the lights come on doesn't just mean someone did something special today. It happens because Alaskans decades ago had the foresight to put an electric grid in place to make it happen. It is our collective responsibility to provide the same benefit to our children and other people who are the future of this great state.

■ Eric P. Yould is executive director of Alaska Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

### Southern Intertie's benefits likely not worth the cost

RAY KREIG, *former Chugach Electric board member*

**C**learly the Southern Intertie has some benefits. The question is whether they are worth the cost. Are there better uses for \$125 million in public and ratepayer funds? History indicates that cost overruns are highly likely, totally at ratepayer expense.

Currently, power is on 99.975 percent of the time. How much is it worth to gain a part of that remaining 0.025 percent (two hours a year)? Utility boards, legislators and the public have no way of judging without fair, impartial and unbiased project economic advice from independent experts.

Of great concern should be a history of deceptive manipulation of intertie benefit claims by utility managers. When I was Chugach board president in 1996, we received misleading benefit-cost advice from management on the northern intertie (between Healy and Fairbanks). If Chugach had participated in that project, it would have cost our ratepayers \$600,000 a year.

We then insisted on a very detailed and comprehensive study of the benefits and cost of the Southern Intertie. We retained Decision Focus Inc. because it had performed several studies on intertie economics for the state. DFI found only \$58 million in benefits. Chugach management kept that February 1996 study secret from the public.

Meanwhile, unbeknown to the board, Chugach management supervised the same

consultant's preparation of another report issued for public consumption in March 1998. It conveniently claimed \$143 million in benefits — enough to show the \$125 million intertie cost to be barely justified. That was the only benefit information provided by Chugach to regulators and the public during the 1996-2002 environmental impact statement process.

Same consultant, two vastly different benefit numbers. What gives? In DFI's own words: "We believe our comprehensive approach (in the February 1998 study) is much more accurate."

In 1990, the state utility consumer advocate, Alan Mitchell, also found the Southern Intertie benefits to be only \$61 million to \$63 million. There is no independent third party that has found the benefits of the Southern Intertie anywhere near the \$125 million cost of this project.

Considering the deterioration that has occurred in Alaska's financial condition since the original appropriation in 1993, Southcentral utility boards and local governments should look very hard at the intertie and ask the Legislature to reappropriate the \$70 million in state funds pledged to the project. The money would better be left Southcentral Alaskans if used to reduce utility or municipal and school debt by \$500 per household.

■ Ray Kreig is a former president of Chugach Electric Association and served on the executive committee of Alaska Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Laurie Thomas  
Alaska Infant Learning  
Program Association

## PUBLIC TESTIMONY

### Consequences of Senate Finance Committees Cuts and Intent Language:

- The result of this reduction is that statewide, 5% of children who experience developmental delays, or are at risk for them, may go without essential services.
- The proposed \$250,000 funding reduction represents a 5% decrease in State grant funding for Infant Learning Programs
- National studies have shown that for every \$1 spent on early detection and intervention \$4 is saved on the long-term delivery of treatment and support services such as special education.

The intent language proposed by the senate finance committee suggests that families who can afford to pay for services. This is already the case. We bill families for services and many struggle to pay. **If families are asked to pay more, or more families are asked to pay** they could be making choices between buying groceries and seeking medical attention *OR* paying for Infant Learning services. A majority of families would choose not to access services.

Since FY02 State grant funding for Infant Learning Programs has been reduced by 16%-- It does not make good fiscal sense to cut funding that will reduce future costs. It's like choosing to use a credit card over paying with cash---You end up paying considerably more in the long run!

Legislative Information Office  
50 Front Street -203  
5:45-6:30

FAX TO: 907 465 2187

Eva Lyn M. Casey  
8480 Jewel Lake Rd.  
Anchorage, AK 99502  
907 243 8530 tel.

March 16, 2003

Senate Finance Committee  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK

Re: FY 2004 Budget  
& Longevity Bonus Program

Dear Senators:

With all the calls upon your time and interest by so many worthy programs on behalf of education at all levels, independent living for the disabled and early intervention to improve future life for the very young. I still must ask you not to take away the one safety net that allows those of us who are among the oldest--and often in many ways neediest--Alaskans keep some independence and dignity.

Several letters have been written and forwarded by FAX to your committee since the surprise given to us in the March Budgetary address. I can only hope that the messages given to you in and earlier to the House have received a reading.

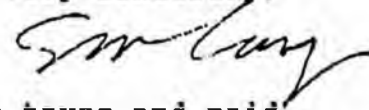
3/11 +  
3/24

The reason almost none of the many seniors who are able and willing to appear in Juneau and at lio's have not had an opportunity to testify in the present round of public testimony is unknown to me. It is however quite frightening.

There are many people like. Circumstances and physical/medical problems present us from making personal appeals that the monthly checks that are a major part of our income not come to an abrupt end at the end of June.

We are not seeking to formally pauperize ourselves nor to join welfare case loads. Please do not forget us.

Very sincerely,



PS: Like many I favor personal income taxes and paid federal... or over 50 years

Please review testimony on Longevity  
before House Finance Comm, Budget & Accounting

**TO:** The Senate Finance Committee  
**FROM:** Susan J. Sciabbarrasi, Supt. of Wrangell Public Schools  
**DATE:** April 16, 2003  
**RE:** Educational Budget Cuts

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

A major portion of the Wrangell's lobbying this year pertained to educational issues because education is very important to our community. We are asking for **full funding of education**. That includes all portions including Learning Opportunity Grants (LOGs), pupil transportation, debt reimbursement, and community schools. In addition to those specifically mentioned in the budget, we are asking for **adequate and equitable funding overall in education** to compensate for prior flat funding. Public Education is being asked to "broaden their belts" by constantly increasing state and federal unfunded mandates (particularly NCLB act).

The City of Wrangell has long supported education. We impose a city level tax rate at 7 percent that is the highest in the nation. Therefore, Wrangell has been "tightening our belts" and increasing our taxes for years in order to adequately fund education to the cap. Our test scores have indicated that we have spent wisely because 84-87% of our students scored proficient or advanced on each section the 2002 High School Qualifying Exam. The community of Wrangell provides approximately one-third of the school budget but they will not be able to continue at that rate with additional cuts to the city budget. Wrangell Public Schools is cutting between \$700-\$900 thousand from our school staff and programs for next year. We are reducing the certified teaching positions by 29% thereby increasing our pupil teacher ratio and eliminating many elective classes that have proven to enrich the quality of the student's education.

Education was a major campaign issue and one of the top priorities for the governor as well as many legislators. It's difficult for me to believe that you would not uphold those promises of just a few months ago and take away our children's educational resources. In education we ask "Is it Good for Kids", if it's 'Good for Kids', who are our future, then it's the right thing to do to adequately and equitably **fully fund education**.

Thank you,

FAX TO: 907 465 7187

Eva Lyn M. Casey  
8480 Jewel Lake Rd.  
Anchorage, AK 99502  
907 243 8530 tel.

March 16, 2003

*corrected  
at 11:40*

Senate Finance Committee  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK

Re: FY 2004 Budget  
& Longevity Bonus Program

Dear Senators:

With all the calls upon your time and interest by so many worthy programs on behalf of education at all levels, independent living for the disabled and early intervention to improve future life for the very young. I still must ask you not to take away the one safety net that allows those of us who are among the oldest--and often in many ways neediest--Alaskans keep some independence and dignity.

Several letters have been written and forwarded by FAX to your committee since the surprise given to us in the March Budgetary address. I can only hope that these messages given to you ~~in~~ and earlier to the House have received a reading.

*3/11 &  
3/24  
and  
3/28/03*

The reason almost none of the many seniors who are able and willing to appear in Juneau and at ~~US~~'s have not had an opportunity to testify in the present round of public testimony is unknown to me. It is however quite frightening.

There are many people like ~~me~~. Circumstances and physical/medical problems present us from making personal appeals that the monthly checks that are a major part of our income not come to an abrupt end at the end of June.

We are not seeking to formally pauperize ourselves nor to join welfare case loads. Please do not forget us.

Very sincerely,

*Eva Lyn Casey*

PS: Like many I favor personal income taxes and paid federal... or over 50 years

*Please review testimony on Longevity  
before House Finance Comm. Budget Rescission*

FAX TO: 907 465 2187

Eva Lyn M. Casey  
8480 Jewel Lake Rd.  
Anchorage, AK 99502  
tel. 907 243 8530  
March 13, 2003

Senate Finance Committee  
Juneau, Alaska

Yes on HB 11  
No on SB 117/HB 158

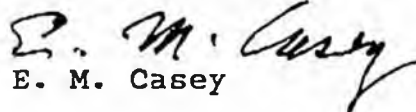
Dear senators:

The exchange between members of the House Special Committee on Ways and Means, in particular Representative Norman Rokoberg, and Revenue Commissioner Corbus that was part of the meeting held April 11th was convincing. HB 11 is a reasonable step. Its productive of funds in FY 2004 to help offset some of the drastic cuts proposed now and can be part of a plan over the next months to create a broader, less volatile source of revenue for the state.

Please don't eliminate any of the present economic engines that put cash into local economies, this includes monthly checks which make it possible for many of us over 71 to stay in our beloved Alaska and spend our incomes, whatever their sources, here.

If you have any doubts about the value of the Longvity Bonus program payments to seniors and to Alaska, please view the K200 video tapes of extensive testimony before the Senate State Affairs Committee. It is not just from recipients.

cc: House Special Committee on Ways and Means  
Subcommittees on Revenue, House and Senate  
Very sincerely,

  
E. M. Casey

FAX TO: (907) 465 4156  
(907) 465 3452  
(907) 465 2935  
(907) 465 3532

Eva Lyn M. Casey  
8480 Jewel Lake Rd. #2  
Anchorage, AK 99502

Re: Aleyska Central School

Karen Rehfeld, Acting Commissioner and  
Director of Educational Support Services  
Department of Education  
801 West 10th St, Suite 200  
Juneau, AK 99801-1894

Dear Commissioner Rehfeld:

This letter is written by one of the many Alaska voters who had not heard of ACS until it became so threatened in the present Legislative Session. It is my hope that you are able to use the influence of your department, even though it is so beset with funding problems at all levels of education, to delay the execution of this unique and valuable Alaska educational asset.

The testimony of articulate and enthusiastic students and their parents in support of continuing their education with ACS has been most impressive and has caused me to learn more about the school.

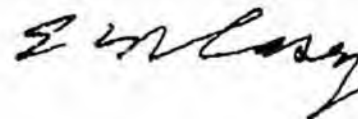
By defeating the Governor's bill, funding ACS at its money-saving rate of expense for fiscal year 2004, time could be gained to seek another sponsoring organization or charter status and relieve the Department of Education of the responsibility as would appear to be the only reason for the bill before the Legislature.

At present this is the only correspondence school whose graduates find their credits are accepted by universities nationwide; with courses taught by well-degreed teachers who have written the lesson plans and who are available to their students by telephone for individual help with lesson work; with school work graded by the instructors, not by parents; able to follow students being educated by mail when they move about the state, including seasonal moves for subsistence reasons. Comparable services are not offered by any of the other private or district programs which may consider ACS competition for students or dollars.

I have no personal or familial interest in the questions raised other than respecting and valuing good education for students at all levels.

Very sincerely yours,

cc: ACS  
Governor Frank Murkowski





Rhonda M. Stuart  
P.O. Box 273  
Haines, Alaska 99827  
907-766-2352 (voice)  
907-766-2352 (msg and fax)

rstuart@aptalaska.net  
rstuart@server.hbsd.net

Dear Legislator:

Education is receiving "lip service" from everyone - but true support is not evident. As long as legislators believe that they are "fully funding" education simply because they are providing funding according to a formula that is sorely outdated, education will never be truly fully funded.

I grew up in Alaska. When I was a student it was obvious that education was valued. Education was near the top of the state budget in allocation. Now it is near the bottom. The funding formula has not been updated to account for inflation or growing expenses for so many years that it would be laughable if it wasn't such a serious matter. Four years ago, I returned to Alaska for three reasons: to care for my disabled mother, to offer my talents as a teacher to the students of my home town so I can give back to the community and state that I love, and to return to the state that I have always loved.

I am a library teacher that can proudly put my library program up against any program and know that I am providing my students with a first class program that offers them many opportunities that will help them tremendously in their future. Studies show that a teaching library program raises reading scores. A teaching library program must be headed by a teacher that is also trained as a librarian. Students are taught vital skills that include information access, research skills, and search strategies. Students also have a specialist to turn to that reads and knows children's literature, someone that loves reading and children and knows how to help them develop a love of reading that will change their lives and make them lifelong readers. The teaching library program provides classroom teachers with much needed support: opportunities to team teach cross-curricular projects, a specialist to recommend books and watch for titles that work well with the curriculum, etc. The teaching library program also allows teachers to concentrate on core subjects while the library teacher covers many aspects of the curriculum that is tested on the state tests. This raises the level of education provided in both the library and in the classroom.

Now I am one of many teachers that is wondering, "Why do I teach?" Why do I keep working 50-60+ hours/ week for wages that are so low that I have not been able to afford the masters degree that I desperately want? In our district we have lost several teachers in each of the last 3 years. We are all stretched so thin that we can not keep our heads above water but we put in more and more extra hours to provide the best education for our students despite the fact that we now have more classes to prep for, fewer aides to help us, and we are now forced to do the lunch duties and duties before and after school. We are lucky to get 15-20 minutes to eat lunch and the extra things that we have done to help students (specialized study sessions and teacher tutoring after school, competitive reading programs, etc.) are no longer possible. This year we face additional cuts of 6 teachers.

In this day of technology and information access, both of the specialists that provide this training (library and computers) have been cut or forced into teaching core classes. If there is truly to be "No Child Left Behind" every school should have a specialist to teach these skills so there is a program in place that continually builds on the foundation of skills that is established so skills are expanded upon each year and students are given opportunity to reach great heights of success in these classes and in their core classes. Not only will our students be without these important classes, but we are struggling to find some miracle that will make it possible for the few remaining staff members to provide adequate supervision during lunches, etc. **We can no longer strive for excellence - we must strive to survive and settle for mediocre.**

All of this is happening while passing the high stake tests are becoming required for graduation and the "No Child Left Behind" requirements are looming. How can you expect teachers to prepare students for these tests and prepare to meet the new requirements in "No Child Left Behind" that doesn't recognize much of our training and experience? How can you expect teachers to do all of these things while they are being "kicked in the teeth" on a constant basis? Teaching is a calling. Most good teachers teach because it is who they are - they are dedicated to providing students with an excellent education. Teaching is central in our being. Now many of us are being forced to find some other way to make a living and let go of our calling. We will be forced to watch our programs fall apart and see our students suffer as a result.

When I was a child I was proud to be an Alaskan and I knew that the education that I received was second to none. I was well prepared for college and excelled in college. As a class valedictorian, people told me that it was a waste for me to go into education. They insisted that I should be going into medicine or law. My heart was in education. I wanted to provide children with an excellent education.

I am no longer proud to be an Alaskan. I struggle against the urge to wish that I had never returned to discover what had happened to education here. I am forced to look for whatever job I can find and feel like I am "stuck" here. I feel like I am letting the kids down but have no power to do otherwise.

Please throw out the crazy notion that education is "fully funded" with the current formula. Create a formula that will allow for the passage of time that it was neglected and then find a way to make sure that the formula adjusts for inflation. Show the students, parents and teachers in Alaska that you do care about education and that "lip service" is no longer acceptable.

Sincerely,



Rhonda M. Stuart

STATE OF ALASKA  
THE LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY  
DIVISION OF PUBLIC SERVICES

PETERSBURG LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE

PHONE: 772-3741

FAX: 772-3779

FAX TRANSMISSION

TO: SENATE FINANCE

FAX: 465-2187

DATE: 4-16-2003

MESSAGE:

Laurie Bergen's written testimony

From SFIN MEETING # 7346

**Hello, my name is Laurie Bergren from Petersburg. I am the mother of 2 amazing daughters ages 9 and 12, I am also the newest member of our school district's board.**

**I would like to briefly outline to you what the current level of funding for our schools means to Petersburg.**

**We are cutting 10% of our certified teachers. That leaves the remaining teachers stretched pretty thin trying to cover all the classes we are required to offer, not to mention the classes we would like to offer. We have been mandated to have "highly qualified teachers" in every classroom, however, this becomes increasingly difficult without the funds to keep the teachers we have.**

**We are cutting 15% of our non-certified staff or classroom aides. With the mandates in the NCLB Act sometimes an extra hour or two of aide time can mean the difference between showing adequate yearly progress or not.**

**Although we are trying desperately to maintain high standards for our students, our ability to provide meaningful classes is being eroded. Our high school day will drop from 7 class periods to 6 next year. Students will not have the variety and breadth necessary for the same quality educational experience.**

**We will no longer have full time librarians or counselors. I am not sure how to run a school that is supposed to prepare students for responsible citizenship and a continued life of learning without these very important people. Somehow, I guess we will have to find a way.**

**We have nothing budgeted for technology for next year. Now more than ever our students need to be fluent in the use of technology if they want to have a chance of making it out in the world.**

**We are not replacing textbooks that are older than the children reading them. I guess we can rationalize that they are getting an historical perspective when they read about the Soviet Union or advances in medicine that are already outdated.**

**We have cut the talented and gifted program, the bilingual program, the curriculum specialist, teaching supplies, general supplies and activities.**

**We still don't have a balanced budget.**

**Our operating expenses are skyrocketing. Next year even though we have cut staff the cost to maintain the existing staff has risen. Teachers salaries go up, and our mandatory contributions to the retirement system, workmans comp, and health insurance will cost us an additional \$80,000 next year.**

**We started the year with fuel costing \$1.15/gal, we are currently paying \$1.52/gal. It doesn't matter how many students or teachers are in the building we still have to heat it. We are estimating approximately 50% increases to our property and liability insurance. That money could have funded one more teacher.**

**Being the new member of the board, I learn new things at every meeting. Last night during a budget work session I learned a new term "maintenance of effort". We cannot show a decrease in funding to special education because we are required by law to show**

**a "maintenance of effort". This means we are mandated to provide services at the same level or more than last year. I believe that the citizens of Alaska have mandated a "maintenance of effort" when they elected everyone in Juneau that said they support education. It is time that education in Alaska truly gets adequate attention and money.**

STATE OF ALASKA  
THE LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY  
DIVISION OF PUBLIC SERVICES

PETERSBURG LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE

PHONE: 772-3741

FAX: 772-3779

FAX TRANSMISSION

TO: SFIN

FAX: 465-2187

DATE: 4/16/03

MESSAGE:

April 16, 2003

My name is Suzanne Fuqua. I am the parent of two daughters, ages 9 and 12. I am extremely concerned at the proposed cuts to education. I feel there are many shortcomings in what is not offered now, at existing levels of funding, and can't imagine what else we will have to do without if further cuts are made.

We should settle for no less than we are currently offering our students. If the proposed cuts are made, we will not be able to maintain what we have. I think we need to INCREASE our budgets. Our K-12 schools have children lose out with the cutback of TAG programs, NO music and art teachers, less and less aids, and outdated equipment and supplies. Community schools need to function well and serve the many people who wish or need to further their education. The University system needs to offer enough to keep students in the state and attract students from out of the state.

Our children are our future. We hear it said all the time, because it is true. A country and state as rich as ours needs to take care of its citizens. All our children should be able to go to school and receive a rich education, not a barely adequate education, but a rich, and full, and developed education. More of our tax dollars should go to making sure this happens across our nation. In Alaska, maybe we need some tax dollars. I would be happy to pay taxes if I knew the money would go to helping the children and people who need the assistance and services.

I say no more cuts to education. Show us you are FOR our children, our education, our future.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Fuqua  
Box 633  
Petersburg, AK 99833

TRANSACTION REPORT

APR--16-2003 WED 07:50 PM

FOR: SENATE\_FINANCE\_SECRETARY 907 465 2187

SEND (M)

DATE	START	RECEIVER	PAGES	TIME	NOTE	M#
APR-16	07:49 PM	5865674	0	**' **"	BUSY	03

ATTENTION!

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE:

I WATCH A LONG LINE OF FOLKS  
THAT CAME BEFORE THIS BOB BY AND  
VOICING THEIR OWN PERSONAL BEST INTERESTS ON TV,  
IS THE ONLY WAY TO GO. "WE NEED THE  
MONEY MORE, BECAUSE" OF THIS OR THAT -

PLEASE DON'T CUT my FUNDING.

NOW WITH THE FACT THAT ALL THESE FOLKS  
ON THE 'DOLE' HAVE NO PROBLEM PAYING  
A LITTLE TAXES SO THEY STILL KEEP THEIR  
PAYCHECK COMING EVERY WEEK PROVES MY  
POINT IS THAT THESE FINE AND HIGHLY EDUCATED  
FOLKS NEED TO WORK IN REAL WORLD OF 'PRIVATE  
SECTOR'. YOU HAVE SOME TOUGH CHOICES - GOOD LUCK.

THESE A DIFFICULT DECISION I'M MAKING IS TO SAY  
SORRY - I ALREADY PAID MY TAXES TO EDUCATION  
IN ANCHORAGE, SCHOOL TAXES TO THE TUNE OF \$1800 -  
WHICH IS WHERE MY PFD CHECK IS ALREADY GOING.  
SO I SAY MAKE THE CUTS - NO ON INCOME TAX.  
LET THEM GO - SOUTH - THEY ARE GOING TO LEAVE WHEN THEY GET WHAT  
WILLIAM REINER / ANCHORAGE - 99502 / THEY NEED ANYWAY.  
4-16-03 - 2130



**LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY  
LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE**  
210 LAKE STREET, SITKA, AK 99835  
Phone: 747-6276 Fax: 747-5807  
Email: sitka\_lio@legis.state.ak.us

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**DATE: April 16, 2003**

**TO: Senate Finance Committee**

**FAX: 465-2187**

**3 pages, including cover sheet**

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**FROM: Jerry Kainulainen, SAIL**

**MESSAGE: for State Operating Budget written testimony. Thank you**

**Testimony April 16, 2003**  
**Senate Finance Committee**  
**State Operating Budget**

Good evening to you. My name is Jerry Kainulainen. I am an Independent Living Specialist for Southeast Alaska Independent Living and a member of the Governor's Committee on Employment and Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities. Thank you for this opportunity to speak with you about the value of independent living centers in Alaska. Independent Living centers assist persons with disabilities to live active productive lives in their communities. This statement is the major message in the mission statements of independent living centers across the nation, and is the basis of the Independent Living philosophy. Assistance to persons with disabilities is accomplished by providing information, advocacy, independent living skills training, peer support and services that allow persons with disabilities to live outside of institutions and move toward independence and employment. It is a very cost effective program when you look at the amount of money that is saved by persons with disabilities living in the community versus their living in a nursing home. Four Independent Living Centers across the state last year served 1805 persons with significant disabilities. 43 of those persons were living in nursing homes and wanted to get out of them. These persons were helped to make the transition from nursing homes to their own homes in their own communities. Depending on the city, nursing home care costs can range up to \$130,000 per person per year. Community based services are about one third of that.

It is estimated that if the \$619,000 state funds are not reinstated, two independent living centers in the state would have to close and the other two centers would have to drastically reduce services. The impact would be that 17 fewer Alaskans would be moved out of nursing homes at an estimated cost to the state of \$1.5 million dollars, and that 49 more Alaskans would have to go into nursing home situations at a cost of \$4.4 million dollars.

**Independent Living centers are cost effective programs. The figures speak for themselves:  
\$619,000 or \$5.9 million. I urge you to fully reinstate the \$619,000 to the Independent Living  
program.**

**Thank you.**

**Jerry Kainulainen, Independent Living Specialist  
Southeast Alaska Independent Living**

**Governor's Committee on Employment and Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities**

**Testimony before the Senate Finance Committee (2 minute limit)  
April 15, 2003  
Stephen Cathers, Superintendent  
Valdez City School District  
SB35 The Governor's Budget**

My name is Steve Cathers. I am the Superintendent of Valdez City Schools. Thank-you for taking my testimony. As an educator, I hope to make a few general comments regarding the impact of budget cuts to education.

First of all, I appreciate the Governor's effort to contain state spending. If there is waste, it should be eliminated.

Education is not in the category of waste. My 22 years in Alaska education which includes extreme rural, large district, and mid-size municipality districts allow me to say with certainty that education in Alaska has been trimmed to the bone. A recent poll of superintendents from around the state revealed that virtually every district is cutting staff and core academic programs. Valdez, often thought of as a well-off district, has been cutting staff for two years and will probably cut four more positions this year.

The governor has provided strong leadership in promoting No Child Left Behind for Alaska. That lofty and correct goal for our children must be adequately funded. My request is that all cuts to education be restored, and that the base allocation be increased to allow for us to leave no children behind. The base allocation in the formula should probably be at \$4500 to provide adequacy that will make Alaska an educational role model among states.

SB35 includes cuts to education in various forms including Learning Opportunity Grants, Pupil Transportation, DEED, and School Debt Reimbursement. Make no mistake, every dollar cut from schools reduces classroom services to children. A cut to pupil transportation in Valdez where we have just begun a five year bus contract, will result in years of larger classes, less electives, less individualized instruction and remediation, fewer and poorer instructional materials, and less training for staff.

Most of us voted for this administration hoping for increased economic growth in the state. Economic growth industries in Alaska require skill sets developed in K-12 education. A work force of tradesmen with strong basic skills and good work habits will be the backbone of Alaska resource development. The alternative will be the current trend in the oil industry of importing commuter employees from the lower 48, who export our profits.

K-12 education is, by any measure, a sound investment. Children who are educated and productive citizens are key to our globally preeminent society. Cutting education in an inflationary economy means someone is paying the price. For several years, the staff of our schools has paid the price and are now increasingly difficult to recruit. Now I am afraid we have come to the point where it is the children paying the price. They will pay for our lack of adequate commitment to their future.

Please keep the campaign promises of education being a top priority for Alaska.



217 Second Street, Suite 200 ■ Juneau, Alaska 99801 ■ Tel (907)586-1325, Fax (907)-463-5480

To: Senate Finance Committee

From: Alaska Municipal League

Date: April 16, 2003

Re: Written background testimony on the state budget – **Survey of local economic crises and consideration of the economic impact of state budget cuts.**

Right now, many communities are at a critical economic crossroads. A great many communities are facing severe local economic hardships due to **depressed resource economies** and local impacts from national economic fluctuations. (See attached survey of community economic conditions.)

When local economies are stressed, jobs are lost and people leave. (For example, according to survey data, **Wrangell** has lost 22% of its population since 1994, and **Kodiak** has recently lost 400 local jobs and five processors. Even **Wasilla**, which is the fastest growing area of the state, reports flattening sales tax revenue which “will not allow the City of Wasilla to meet the demands placed on it by the population growth.”) A smaller number of taxpayers are left to deal with fixed costs such as school bonds, utilities, and basic infrastructure maintenance.

**State reductions to programs like revenue sharing, school bond debt reimbursement, school operations funding**, etc. have a further dampening impact on local economic recovery as communities struggle to keep local taxes affordable while maintaining services critical to residents and businesses.

The Alaska Municipal League and the Alaska Conference of Mayors **share your goal** of a balanced budget for Alaska. In fact, this has been AML and the Mayor’s top legislative priority for the past five years. However, municipal leaders and state officials must work together to ensure that state actions do not hinder local economic recovery.

AML/Alaska Conference of Mayors  
**2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey**

The double hit of State cuts to municipal revenue sharing and new unfunded state mandates, on top of severe local economic downturns would devastate many local economies and communities

**Summary of Current Fiscal Conditions already facing municipalities:**

- **Moderate to severe local job and population loss** that reduce local revenue generating capacity;
- **Fewer people to pay fixed operating costs** of schools, utilities, bonds, etc.
- **Steeply increasing operating costs** for oil and other commodities/services;
- **Severe increases** in general liability and property and health **insurance**, and State provided **retirement** plans;
- **Loss of investment earnings**, and
- **State and federal unfunded mandates.**

**AML and Alaska Conference of Mayors**  
**2003 Fiscal Conditions Survey**

The survey was faxed 2/25/03 and responses have been received from 59 cities and boroughs. The responses indicate **that most cities and boroughs are currently experiencing a deepening economic crises** and a growing need for stable state assistance to rebuild a sustainable economy. Clearly, **deep state cuts to municipal programs and increased state unfunded mandates will accelerate the economic decline and hinder the recovery of many communities.**

**Municipality**

**Economy**

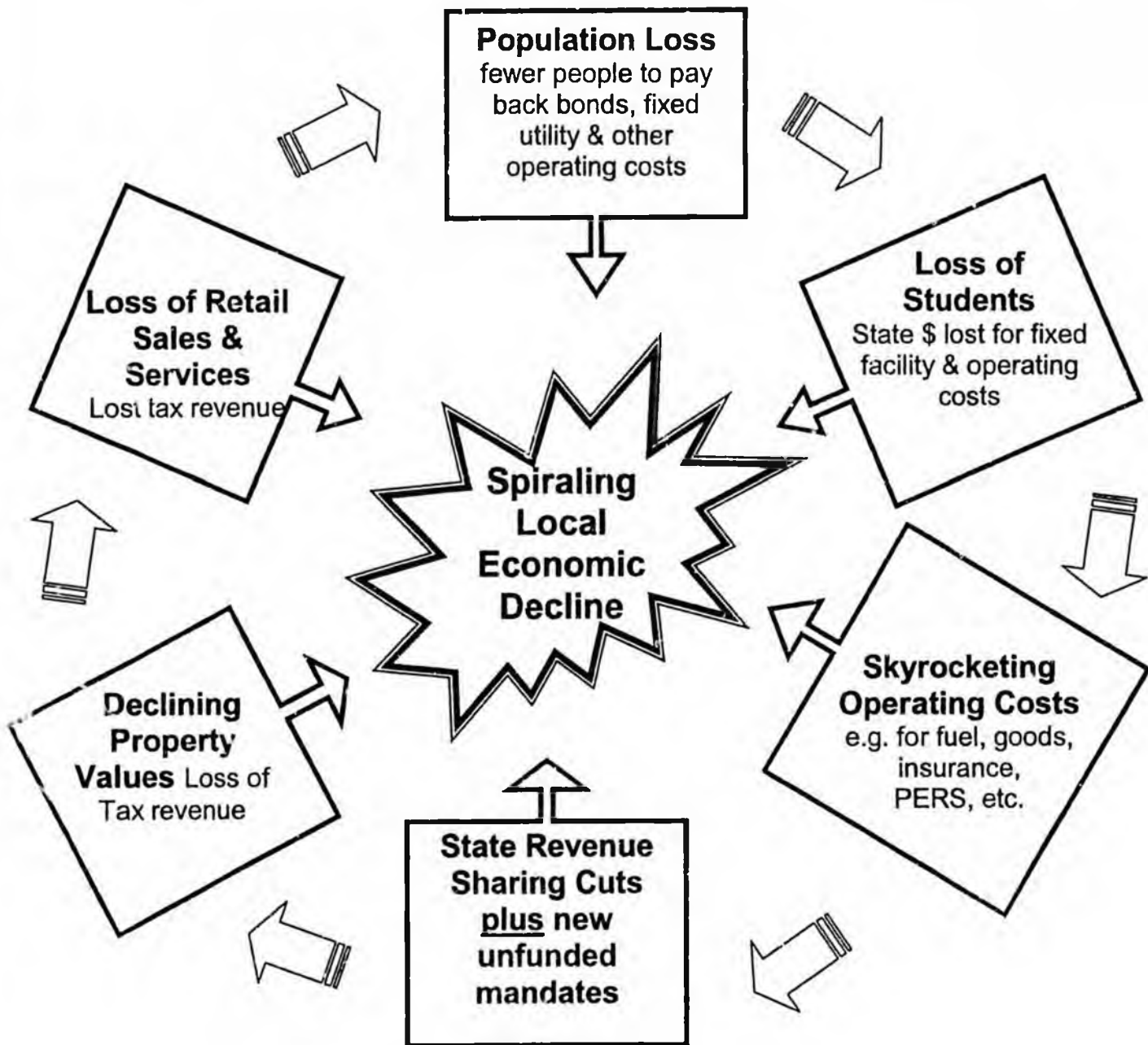
**Municipal Budget**

1. Haines Borough	drastic tourism, fishing, timber loss	families leaving, lost 30% of students, costs up
2. Denali Borough	tourism down, Usibelli Mine large layoffs	loss in accommodation tax
3. Lake & Pen. Bor	raw fish tax loss escalating, population loss	state revenue sharing cuts, staff cuts, some schools closed
4. Ketchikan Bor.	Loss of Ward Cove Packing, Ketchikan Pulp, EC Phillips, Gateway Forest Products, SE Construction	
5. Kodiak Isl Bor	over 400 jobs lost due to fishing downturn ,	lost 5 local processors. Borough & Schools down \$2.2 million next FY
6. Juneau Bor	revenue growth less than inflation	projecting significant shortfall this year, serious if revenue sharing cut
7. Sitka Bor	"economy is flat" population down	school shortfall due to loss of students
8. Mat-Su Borough	economy ok	\$1.3 million school budget shortfall and cuts to revenue sharing
9. NW Arctic Bor	zinc prices down + loss of local jobs	Gov budget cuts Borough \$1million more/villages lose \$73,000
10. Saxman	loss of community hall hurt revenues	"cut expenses to barebones & cut 2 positions... Please No more cuts"
11. Kenai	fishing downturn, loss of Kmart/other jobs	Kmart closure \$800K tax loss, tapping reserves too much
12. Seward	closure coal facility; less tourism, decline	shortfall due to insurance, fuel, declining economy, state cuts
13. Homer	loss of students in school district	55 teachers cut, loss of school programs
14. Kodiak	fishing downturn, over regulation	fishing tax is 60% of revenue, serious decline
15. Wasilla	loss of sales and sales tax	can't meet infrastructure needs of tremendous population growth
16. Selawik	"community has hit rock bottom"	"may have to go without police protection/other essential services."
17. Wrangell	so far, job loss 30%, population loss 22%	14% deficit in General Fund, already have highest sales tax in state.
18. Quinhagak	low fish prices	cuts in police, water, sewer
19. Cordova	fishing downturn	state revenue sharing cuts, low fish revenue, low earnings
20. Skagway	population loss	school funding loss due to declining enrollment
21. False Pass	fishing downturn & lost processor	Shortfall over \$60,000 this year.
22. Teller	construction projects	city "services at all time low"
23. Shageluk	economy ok	school shortfall
24. Nunapituk	fishing downturn, lack of jobs	school dist. \$4 million shortfall; minimum wage requires pay increases
25. Kotzebue	economy ok	community jail loss of \$328K, revenue sharing cuts

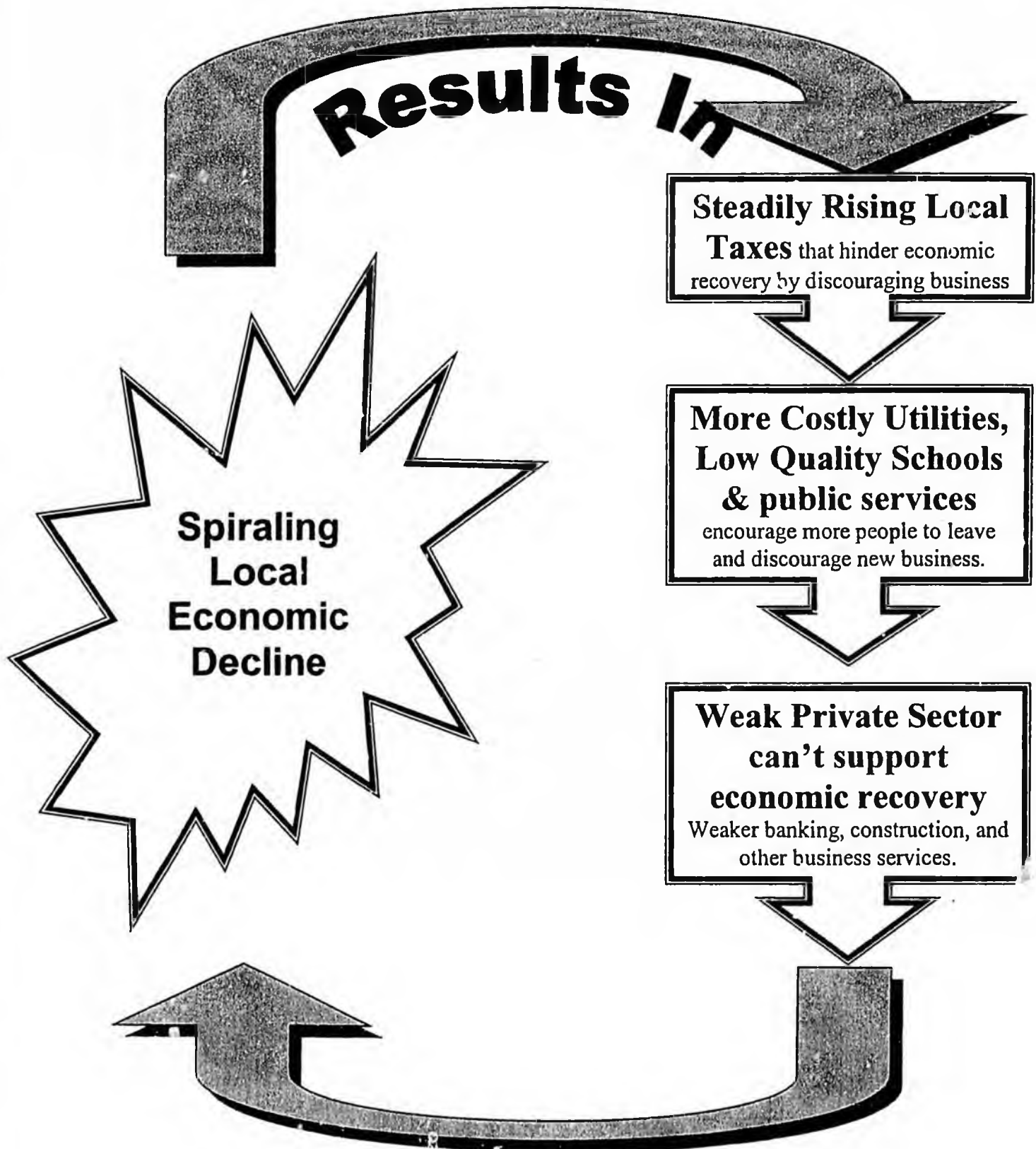
26. Port Lions	fishing & timber job loss, population loss	historic revenue sharing cuts, loss of "fire-police-clinics & roads"
27. Toksook Bay	fish disaster, so depend on revenue sharing	eliminate some employees and city services
28. Nuiqsut	downturn	lost 20 municipal jobs in last 3 years
29. Petersburg	local economic downturn	lower tax revenues
30. Alakanuk	fishing loss; unemployment at crises high"	"lower tax revenue, unpaid bills to city"
31. Savoonga	economy ok	
32. New Stuyahok	Bristol Bay fishery decline	budget shortfall
33. Houston	revenue sharing loss "serious impact"	budget shortfall if revenue sharing decreased
34. North Pole	need diversification	insurance and operating costs exceed revenue
35. Kasaan	Ward Cove and timber bankruptcy	population loss, loss of school
36. Kake	loss of timber and fishing jobs	federal funding loss, loss of students
37. Koyukuk	"state funding is a vital resource"	city staff paid by revenue sharing
38. Kaktovik	declining oil production	loss of school and municipal funding and jobs
39. Deering	economy ok	
40. Ouzinkie	fishing downturn	city and school cutbacks
41. Pilot Point	fishing downturn	lost fish tax revenue needed to fund budget
42. St. Mary's	dependent grants to complete budget	state reduces funding and services
43. Aleknagik	fishing downturn, 36 permit holders in city	"people unable to pay bills with the city"
44. Hoonah	fishing and timber downturn	loss of tax revenue, population - "maintenance and safety issues"
45. Angoon	fishing downturn	more state/federal unfunded mandates
46. Larson Bay	cannery closed, state asst. diminishing	budget shortfall due to lower fish tax, less PCE, higher fuel costs
47. Emmonak	fishery disaster "no one seems to listen"	cut employees, unpaid utility bills up, can't cut revenue sharing
48. Brevig Mission	"caribou ran off local reindeer herds"	shortfall because we are "shouldering more responsibility"
49. Delta Junction	economy ok	no shortfall
50. Ruby	losing population, costs up	revenue sharing critical, may "lose school and ...population"
51. Cold Bay	fishing downturn and higher oil prices	loss of fish taxes and state grants, need \$100K to replace water well
52. Atkasuk	"cuts jeopardize ...service and leadership"	school district budget cuts
53. Coffman Cove	timber downturn, high energy costs	50% of spending this year was reserves
54. Fort Yukon	economic downturn	teacher cuts, "rural communities cannot survive (big state) cuts"
55. Nome	"flat or nominal growth"	school district chronically underfunded
56. Unalakleet	oil costs "devastating impact," insurance up	66% this year, lower sales tax revenues
57. Huslia	costs of services keep going up	state cuts so "we the people suffer the consequences."
58. Port Alexander	"families here balance, no matter how precariously"	city operates on volunteerism, school shortfall.
59. Bethel	"at a cross-road that could go either way"	current shortfall \$467K, could go to \$700K next year w/no state cuts.

# Spiraling Local Economic Decline

in Many Communities Caused by Job Loss, Skyrocketing Operating Costs, and Accelerating Decline in State Shared Revenues with Communities and Local Taxpayers



## How Spiraling Local Economies Hinder Economic Recovery



TO: HAINES

FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801

Tel (907) 588-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly**

**& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**

From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Vince Hansen Title Interim Borough Manager

Name of Municipality Haines Borough

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. Drastically reduced tourism revenue due to lack of cruise ship visits this year. Reduced fisheries revenue. Downturn in resource development. Reduced to extent that jobs with family sustaining wages are no longer available and many families have left or are leaving the community.
2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. Reasons as listed above. 30% reduction in students over last two years with corresponding impact on schools. Municipal sales tax revenues are down, but costs are up (insurance, fuel, etc.). Also facing dramatic reduction in fish tax and port revenues.

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**

**Thank You!**



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**  
From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Dave Talavico Title Mayor

Name of Municipality Denali Borough

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No \_\_\_ Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. Fall in tourism numbers -

Local employer, Usibelli Coal Mine, lost a contract and had a large layoff

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No \_\_\_ Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

Fall in tourism affects our overnight accommodation tax.

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**  
**Thank You!**

FEB. 25. 2003 12:38PM ALASKA MUNI LEAGUE  
TO: LAKE & PENINSULA BOR

NO. 4645 P. 1/1  
FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**  
From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Lake and Peninsula Borough Title Jeff Currier  
P.O. Box 495  
Name of Municipality King Salmon, Alaska 99613 Borough Mgr.

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No Yes If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

DECLINE IN RAW FISH TAX REVENUES + RE: SOCKEYE SALMON  
STATE FISHERIES TAXES  
LOSS OF APPROX 1.5 million annually for past 5 yrs

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No Yes If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

Reduced STATE FUNDING, Reduced LOCAL FUNDING  
STUDENT POPULATION DOWN, STAFF CUTS + SOME  
Schools closed due to STUDENT NUMBERS

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**  
**Thank You!**

FEB-25-2003 TUE 02:23 PM  
FEB. 25. 2003 12:30PM

KGB  
ALASKA MUNI LEAGUE  
TO: KETCHIKAN GATEWAY

19072476625

P. 01  
NO. 4645 P. 1/1  
FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801

Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

Mayor  
Assembly  
Al Hall - FIN  
Mgr  
Clerk

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**  
From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Alvin E. Hall Title Finance Director

Name of Municipality Ketchikan Gateway Borough

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. Borough has lost several million to large companies from Plant closings + Chapter II Filings. KPC, Ward. core packing, E.C Phillips, Southern Construction Gateway Forest Products, Inc.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. Borough is unable to fund the school district at the capex at the requested levels from the school district. Cause major downturn in economic structure of community + less students.

Please I TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP  
Thank You!

**Betty Svensson**

---

**From:** Pat Carlson [pcarlson@kib.co.kodiak.ak.us]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 25, 2003 1:36 PM  
**To:** betty@akml.org  
**Subject:** RE: Rev sharing alert

Hi Betty and Kevin, this is quick and dirty so let me know if you need more. Thanks Pat Carlson

To: Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk  
From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
Date: February 24, 2003

Re: 2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Pat Carlson Title Manager

Name of Municipality Kodiak Island Borough

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

The area has lost over 400 jobs due to fishery declines, school enrollment is down and 5 of our local processors have gone out of business just in the last two years.

For example only 60% of the salmon fleet fished this year, they


caught more fish than the prior year and yet they were paid 66% less.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

Next years borough budget is short by .6 million at this time and the preliminary KIBSD budget is

down in excess of 1.6 million.

Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP  
Thank You!



**CITY/BOROUGH OF JUNEAU**  
**ALASKA'S CAPITAL CITY**

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**

From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent: John MacKinnon

Title: Interim City Manager

Name of Municipality: City and Borough of Juneau

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent.

For the past 6 years our community has been on the edge of an economic down turn. Between 1997 and 1998 there has been a significant decline in the per capita income in our community. Between calendar 1993 and 1997 (4 years) our gross business activity expanded at nearly 8% per annum. Between calendar 1997 and 2001 (4 years) our gross business sales growth has averaged just over 1% per annum. This dramatic growth decline, to less than the inflation rate, has placed a significant economic burden on our community. The City and Borough of Juneau, working with the Juneau Economic Development Council and other local business groups, has worked diligently to try and find ways to stimulate economic development. While we have seen significant growth in some sectors such as tourism, the economic value added by this seasonal industry has not offset the economic losses in other year round areas.

It is extremely important for the continued well being our community that we not experience any additional negative economic impacts. Material reductions in year round jobs could spell the difference between economic stability and an economic recession.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent.

This year we are projecting a fairly significant budgetary shortfall. This is due to no material growth in our property assessments and sales tax revenues combined with the increased cost of providing services. Flat economic growth combined with increases in delivering public service, have resulted in continuous pressure to reduce spending levels. This has made it difficult to maintain acceptable levels of critical public service. Each year the Assembly has been forced to make trade-off decisions between basic public service (Streets, Parks and Rec., Libraries, etc), public safety (Police and Fire) and/or educational.

This year the School District and Police Department are requesting significant increases in funding. While our departments have implemented operational efficiencies, they still need some funding increases just to maintain service levels. For example, the cost of heating fuel has risen more than 20% in just the past two months. Unless the Assembly chooses to increase the mill levy (noting we are within 1.6 mills of a 12-mill levy cap) it is likely we will need to reduce service levels. This reduction assumes that the State maintains the FY04 State Shared Revenue and Safe Communities Program at the FY03 funding levels and no cost of living increases are granted for our employees.

If the SSR and Safe Communities programs are eliminated we will be looking at very serious budgetary shortfall. Material reductions in state support will likely result in both service level declines and property tax increases. Service reductions significant enough to absorb the loss in State revenues would no doubt be considered unacceptable. To fully absorb a SSR and Safe Communities reduction it is likely we would need to take significant reductions in funding for both public safety and education.

---

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**  
**Thank You!**

FEB. 25. 2003 12:42PM ALASKA MUNI LEAGUE  
TO: MAT-SU BOR

NO. 4645 P. 1/1  
FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

**RECEIVED**  
FEB 25 2003  
MATANUSKA SUSITNA BOROUGH  
ADMINISTRATION/PERSONNEL

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**  
From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent John Duff Title Borough Manager

Name of Municipality Matanuska - Susitna Borough

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No X Yes     If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No     Yes X If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

\$ 1.3M due to state's cost allocation formula for schools

\$? Removal cuts to Revenue Sharing / State Communities

\$? Potential failure to adequately fund State Citizens and Veteran tax exemptions.

Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP  
Thank You!

TO: SITKA BOR

FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**  
From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey

Name of Respondent City & Borough of Sitka Title City Administrator

Name of Municipality SITKA

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No Yes If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. NOT EXACTLY - BUT OUR ECONOMY

IS CERTAINLY FLAT COMMERCIAL EUSE USE IS  
DOWN; SCHOOL POPULATION IS DOWN

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No Yes If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. Reduction

in student population

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**  
**Thank You!**

FEB. 25. 2003 12:52PM

ALASKA MUNI LEAGUE

TO: NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOR

FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801

Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk

From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2003

Re: 2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Roswelle L. Schaeffer Title Mayor

Name of Municipality Northwest Arctic Borough

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. Our region depends heavily on

government jobs and the Red Dog Mine. Both  
areas show a downturn in appropriation  
and mine prices.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. Maybe if

budget cuts by governor are supported by the  
legislature is anticipated a loss of  
more than \$1 million dollars for NWABSD  
and \$73,000 for villages.

Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP  
Thank You!

FROM :

FAX NO. :

Mar. 04 2003 03:53PM P1

TO: SAXMAN



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801

Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk  
From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
Date: February 24, 2003

Re: 2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts new in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent NORA DeWitt Title City Clerk

Name of Municipality City of Saxman

1 Is your community facing an economic downturn? No Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. loss of our Saxman Community Hall

has put a severe impact on our opportunity for revenue. The project was started and

needs additional funds to be completed. The required matching funds has put a tremendous

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this <sup>stain on</sup> coming year? No Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. our expenses,

As stated above. We have had to cut expenses to bare bones and eliminate 2 positions with the city.

PLEASE No more cuts.

Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP

Thank You!

Member of the National League of Cities and the National Association of Counties

C: Mayor Dan Williams



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**

From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **200's Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent LARRY SEYMENS Title Finance Dir.

Name of Municipality City of Kenai

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. Due primarily to KMAV

Closing. However sales were declining prior to this announcement. Agrum layoffs, generally poor commercial fishing, and overall uncertainty contribute.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

All of the above will have negative impact on budget. Costs of services is increasing especially due to health care, PERS & general inflation. Revenue is declining - Interest rate is lowest in 40 years. Sales tax is crashing due to KMAV.

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**

**Thank You!**



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
 Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
 & Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**

From: **Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director**

Date: **February 24, 2003**

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey – Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Linda L. Snow Title Mayor

Name of Municipality Kenai

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. K-mart closure represents \$800K

sales tax loss to the General Fund @ 40+ jobs out of the community; reductions of jobs in fishing and oil industries.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. see

above re: K-mart. In addition, we have seen huge reductions in interest earnings, and our fund balance is topped more than desirable.

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP  
 Thank You!**

TO: SEWARD

FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801

Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

RECEIVED

FEB 25 2003

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

To: Mayor and Council/Assembly & Manager/Finance Director/Clerk  
From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
Date: February 24, 2003

Re: 2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent KRISTIN ERCHINGER Title ACTING CITY MANAGER

Name of Municipality CITY OF SEWARD

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

please see attached

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

please see attached

Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP  
Thank You!

**City of Seward - Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey**  
**Page Two**

**Is your community facing an economic downturn?**

Seward has seen a decline in the economy over the past two years, especially during the winter months. A number of local businesses are closing during the winter season, which has had an adverse impact on local jobs and has resulted in reduced taxable sales and reduced sales tax revenues. The threatened closure of the coal export facility will have an impact on year-round jobs and a negative impact on the export of Alaska's natural resources. Rising fuel costs and the poor condition of portions of the Seward Highway are causing some cruise ships to consider moving their operations outside of Seward, which will have a serious impact on the summer economy of Seward, in terms of jobs, taxable sales, and spinoff business.

**Is your municipal government anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? If Yes, please discuss the cause and extent**

The City of Seward has requested an increase in the local sales tax rate from 3% to 4% to address this year's budget shortfall of approximately \$1.5 million. The sales tax will generate approximately half of the \$1.5 million shortfall, with the remaining shortfall addressed through cost cutting measures. The 1% sales tax increase is being challenged by a referendum vote to be held on April 8. The budget shortfall is the result of a combination of substantial cuts to State funding, fixed cost increases which the City cannot avoid (such as fuel and insurance), and the overall condition of the economy which has resulted in a considerable decline in annual investment income, as well as a leveling off of revenue growth.

Since 1991, State reductions in revenue sharing and safe communities funding amount to a loss of 0.51% of a local sales tax, or 1.77 mills of property tax. Annual increases in insurance costs over the last 3 years alone, amount to 0.78% of a local sales tax, or 2.7 mills of property tax. The loss of interest earnings amounts to 0.27% of local sales tax or 1 mill of property tax.

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**

From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey – Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Mary L. Calhoun Title City Clerk

Name of Municipality City of Homer

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No\_\_ Yes\_\_ If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No\_\_ Yes X If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. School district cut of 55 teachers, classroom activities, particularly spanish

Resolution 03-30 attached.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**  
**Thank You!**

**CITY OF HOMER  
HOMER, ALASKA**

LADD

**RESOLUTION 03-30**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA, ENCOURAGING THE STATE OF ALASKA TO PROPERLY SUPPORT THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT THROUGH CHANGING THE STATE FOUNDATION FORMULA TO MORE FAIRLY REFLECT THE PENINSULA'S UNIQUE GEOGRAPHY, CULTURAL NEEDS, AND RESULTING IN KENAI PENINSULA STUDENTS HAVING THE SAME OPPORTUNITY AS OTHER ALASKA STUDENTS TO MEET CONTENT AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska has adopted content and performance standards that represent what Alaskans want students to know and be able to do as a result of their public schooling, and

WHEREAS, standards adopted in December, 1995 have shifted educational emphasis from what goes into our education system to what comes out of it, and

WHEREAS, the opportunity for a student to successfully achieve an Alaska educational standard is dependent upon his or her time and energy dedicated toward learning as well as support from family, educators, community, the Kenai Peninsula Borough, and the State of Alaska, and

WHEREAS, students within the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District, including all public students in the Homer area are placed at a distinct disadvantage due to an unfair State of Alaska foundation formula used to calculate the distribution of funds to schools throughout the Kenai Peninsula, and

WHEREAS, Peninsula schools are costly to operate, staff, and maintain due to the Kenai Peninsula Borough's unique geography encompassing remote locations and schools accessible only by water or air, and

WHEREAS, the cost differential within the State of Alaska educational foundation formula only slightly recognizes this difference from Anchorage at a ratio of 1.004, and

WHEREAS, projected revenue based upon the 1.004 ratio provides about 39.8 million from the State and limits the Borough's local share to about 31.1 million, and

Page Two  
Resolution 03-30  
City of Homer

WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District has a FY 04 budget shortfall of 2.9 million after laying off 52 teachers across the district, raising the teacher/pupil ration by three in every grade over third grade, and staffing reductions will negatively impact curriculum offerings such as the reduction of Spanish at Homer High School, and

WHEREAS, the loss of the Spanish program at Homer High School is in direct conflict with the State of Alaska content standard stating that, "a student should be able to communicated in two or more languages, one of which is English," and

WHEREAS, "a student should possess the language skills and cultural knowledge necessary to participate successfully in multilingual communities and the international market place," and

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF HOMER RESOLVES THAT:

1. The City of Homer supports recent legislative fact finding in the American Institutes for Research report advancing the position that the educational foundation formula cost ratio for the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District be changed from 1.004 to 1.03, and
2. This resolution in support of a changed educational foundation formula as identified by the American Institutes for Research be adopted to provide relief to public education and approximately a 1.4 million dollar increase to the KPBSD's state portion and about a \$300,000 increase to the local effort portion, and
3. The City of Homer initiate dialog with Homer High School/ Kenai Peninsula Borough School District, UAA – Kachemak Bay Branch, Kachemak City. Anchor Point, and local nonprofit organizations to explore other alternatives to maintaining curriculum at Homer High School should this legislature not take the necessary and basic measures necessary to insure equal funding for education on the Kenai Peninsula, and
4. The City of Homer encourages other Kenai Peninsula Borough communities to enact similar resolutions of support of education and to submit approved resolutions to the Legislature for consideration.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE HOMER CITY COUNCIL this 24th day of February, 2003.

CITY OF HOMER

*Jack Cushing*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jack Cushing, Mayor

ATTEST:

*Mary L. Calhoun*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary L. Calhoun, City Clerk  
Fiscal Impact: Not identified.



To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**

From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent LINDA FLEED Title CITY MANAGER

Name of Municipality CITY OF KODIAK

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

THE CAUSE IS THE CRISIS IN THE FISHING INDUSTRY!

INCLUDING: LACK OF ACCESS TO THE RESOURCE (REGULATORY

ENVIRONMENTAL LIMITATIONS); LACK OF MARKETS + LOW PRICES (PREDOMINANTLY SALMON); CHANGING NATURE OF THE INDUSTRY.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

DUE TO DIFFICULTIES IN THE FISHING INDUSTRY

OUR SALES TAX REVENUES ARE DOWN. THESE

REVENUES MAKE UP APPROX. 60% OF OUR MUNICIPAL FUND REVENUES.

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**

**Thank You!**

NO. 4645  
FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**  
From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Municipality Wasilla

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No \_\_\_ Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

(see attached)

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No \_\_\_ Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

(see attached)

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**  
**Thank You!**



# CITY OF WASILLA

290 East Herning Avenue • Wasilla • Alaska • 99654-7091  
• Telephone 907-373-9070 • Fax 907-373-9085

---

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn. YES  
Explanation: The downturn in collections of sales tax in Fiscal Year 2003 indicates that economic downturn that is affecting the lower 48 and Alaska is affecting the City of Wasilla's economy.
2. Is your municipal government or School district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? YES  
Explanations: The City of Wasilla has experience tremendous population growth over the past two years (15%). This growth has placed substantial demands on the City of Wasilla in the areas of public safety, utilities and infrastructure demands. The growth in sales tax has nearly flatten out this year so that the City of Wasilla's revenue will not allow the City of Wasilla to meet the demands placed on it by the population growth. The budget snortfall wil great affect the ability of the City of Wasilla to invest in infrastructure needed (road, water and sewer) and its ability to meet the public safcty concerns of its citizens.



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**  
From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey – Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Roger Clark Title Administrator

Name of Municipality City of Selawik

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No \_\_\_ Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent Our <sup>city</sup> community has hit rock bottom and there seems to be no relief in the horizon. The cuts that the Governor is proposing will have a critical impact on the very basic services we are meagerly providing. We may have to go without Police Protection, and other essential services.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No \_\_\_ Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

Our municipal government & school district are expecting to receive cuts in funding and lower the effectiveness of the services we provide. The Governor's cuts will have a very negative impact in the lives of the people living in rural areas.

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**  
**Thank You!**

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly**  
**& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**  
 From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
 Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey – Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are “on the table” for cuts now in the Governor’s budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Robert S. Prunella Title City Manager

Name of Municipality Wrangell

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. See Attached

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

See Attached  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**  
**Thank You!**

**2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey**

1. Wrangell's economy has been in a downward spiral since 1994 when Alaska Pulp Corp. closed its doors. At that time, the community lost, not only its latest direct employer -- 250 jobs, but also all associated support service jobs. The community's payroll earnings have dropped over 30% which translates to 10-12 million dollars. Our population, since 1995, has declined approximately 22%. The community is continuing to see business closures, lost revenues, and family departures. The loss of the timber industry, Silver Bays' bankruptcy, and the uncertainties of the seafood industry will have further negative implications for Wrangell.
2. A. FY04 School budget begins with a \$736,000 deficit and does not take into account these certified/tenured staff are being paid from grant funds (Title I, Title V, Quality Schools, Comprehensive School Reform). This deficit is due to a decline in student enrollment (below 425) resulting in decreasing from a 3-school to 2-school site and anticipated increased insurance costs.

To meet this deficit, the district will be reducing programs and staff by nine (9) certified teaching positions plus one middle school principal/teacher from the FY03 certified staff of 34. That is a reduction of 26.4% of the certified staff. There are also reductions in classified staff, travel, student supplies, and equipment.

B. In the City of Wrangell's draft 2003-2004 budget we show a deficit budget of \$548,000 in the General Fund, which represents 14% of the total General Fund Budget. This is equivalent to 5.65 mills. We have had big increases to costs for Insurance (110%), Group Health (14%), our PERS rate (71%), and fuel prices. At the same time our sawmill is filing a Chapter 11 bankruptcy owing the city over \$165,000 and may not open for some time. In addition, our second largest non-government employer, Wrangell Seafood's is trying to reorganize so they can continue to operate. Wrangell has a 10 mill property tax rate and the largest sales tax rate in the state at 7%. Any additional reductions in State funding will drastically add to the dilemma of maintaining existing services without tax increases. Our utilities (Water, Sewer, Sanitation, and Electricity) are also struggling. Wrangell recently has constructed both a Water Treatment Plant and a Wastewater Treatment Plant to comply with current regulations. Unfortunately, our population is declining because of lack of jobs and that fixed cost is now spread over fewer people, which drives up the cost per person. We also have the problem of people without jobs that can not pay their utility bills.

FEB. 25. 2003 3:13PM ALASKA MUNI LEAGUE

NO. 4645 P. 1/1

TO: QUINHAGAK

FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99901

Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**

From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey – Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Grace L. Hill Title Mayor

Name of Municipality City of Quinhagak

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. Fish prices are low Village

jobs are scarce especially in the winter.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

Water and Sewer, and police are short of funds every year.

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**

Thank You!

*we got this fax today*

*FEB 27, 2003*

*It was in my Box*

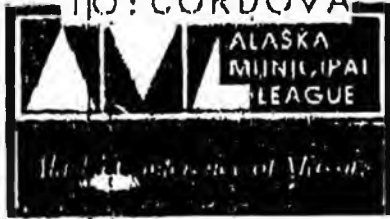
FEB. 25. 2003 1:30PM

ALASKA MUNI LEAGUE

NO. 4645 P. 1/1

FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

TO: CORDOVA



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801

Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: Mayor and Council/Assembly

& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk

From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2003

Re: 2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Scott A. Hahn Title City Manager

Name of Municipality City of Cordova

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No Yes If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. Facing downturn, state revenue sharing, lower interest payments on revenue

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No Yes If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. See above! Estimate maybe 3% shortfall

Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP  
Thank You!

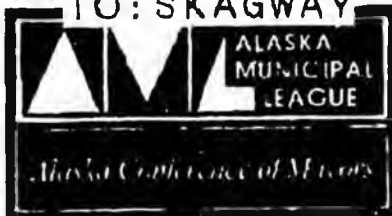
FEB. 25. 2003 4:55PM

ALASKA MUNI LEAGUE

NO. 4645 P. 1/1

FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

TO: SKAGWAY



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
 Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
 & Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**

From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent BOB WARD Title CITY MANAGER

Name of Municipality SKAGWAY

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No    Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. OUR COMMUNITY IS EXPERIENCING INCREASINGLY

SEASONAL - YEAR ROUND EMPLOYMENT AND POPULATION  
ARE DECREASING

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No    Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. THE SCHOOL

IS FACING DECLINING ENROLLMENT. THE RESULTING DECREASE  
IN STATE FUNDING RESULTS IN A BUDGET GAP THAT MUST  
BE MET THROUGH MUNICIPAL FUNDING SOURCES. ADDITIONALLY,  
THIS WILL GET DIFFERENTIAL STUDY MAY IMPACT STATE FUNDING AS WELL.

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**

**Thank You!**

FEB. 25. 2003 1:46PM ALASKA MUNI LEAGUE

NO. 4645 P. 1/1

TO: FALSE PASS

FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801

Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly**  
**& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**  
 From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
 Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent John Nickels Title Mayor/City Administrator

Name of Municipality City of False Pass

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. Our community historically relied on

the salmon industry for jobs + community tax base. Since the value of salmon has dropped, people are having a hard time earning a living, and the City has far less revenue to operate.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. As the value

of Salmon declined, a small processor started up that helped generate revenue to the City. They have closed, so those revenues are gone now as well. Impact in 2003 is more than \$103,000 lost revenue. Budget shortfall expected to exceed \$60,000 at end of Fiscal year.

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**

Thank You!

See attached 2 pg. memo



# City of False Pass

P.O. Box 50 • False Pass, Alaska 99583-0050  
Telephone (907) 548-2319 • Fax (907) 548-2214

**Date:** February 12, 2003

**To:** Bering Pacific Seafood Board of Directors

**From:** John Nickels, Mayor

**Subject:** Impacts of BPS closure to False Pass

The closure of Bering Pacific Seafood has had a very significant impact on the community of False Pass, particularly in revenues received by the City. The following figures represent annual losses of revenue that until recently have come to the City from BPS activities. To put this loss of revenue into perspective, the City expects to finish this fiscal year with expenditures totaling approximately \$519,500 and income totaling \$456,400, resulting in a \$63,000 deficit, which will be covered with reserves. This is after significant cuts have already been made to our budget, and next fiscal year will probably require reduction in the services and benefits provided, and perhaps an increase in some rates to avoid a similar deficit.

**Electric Utility.** Sales of electric power have averaged \$5,218 per month, or approximately \$62,000 per year. Approximately \$23,000 of this revenue would pay for fuel, leaving a \$39,000 loss of revenue to the City. \$39,000

**Water Utility.** The commercial rate for water is \$400 per month, or \$4,800 per year. This is adjusted using the residential rate now being paid by BPS 4,632

**Landfill.** The commercial rate for use of the landfill is \$400 per month while operating, and \$100 per month when temporarily closed. Eight months operating and four months closed would total \$3,900. This is adjusted using the residential rate now being paid. 3,840

**Wharfage.** Revenue from BPS freight and product crossing the City dock over the last year. 20,047

**Moorage.** Assuming the Dipper is in False Pass only four months in 2003, eight months of the 2003 fee will not be realized. 8,517

**Fish Tax (local).** For the last four quarters, BPS paid \$18,760 collected from fishermen selling raw fish to the processor. 18,760

<b>State Fish Tax.</b> Estimated using above sales volume. Does not include State Shared Fisheries Tax that would result from these fish sales.	7,035
<b>Sales Tax.</b> Based on the estimated reduction in local store sales and fuel purchased by BPS.	1,680
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$103,511</b>

There are numerous other impacts to our community resulting from the closure of BPS. The Tribal Council will no longer receive rent from their warehouse, and will have to find other uses, or renters for the building. At least two individuals will have to find other renters for their houses. One has been shut down and winterized for lack of a tenant, and the other is rented, but at a reduced rate. One local family that depended on BPS for employment has left the community because of the closure. The nearest market for cod fishermen is now King Cove. The availability of marine freight and air transportation service that increased because of BPS has returned to former levels. The expertise of BPS engineering staff to help residents troubleshoot problems with boat engines, generators, refrigeration and other equipment will no longer be available.

It is understandable that as BPS reconfigures to a shore based operation that the business will be far different than what it has been. Revenues received by the City from a "new" BPS may well not look like the above list, but clearly there will be economic benefit that our community desperately needs. The point I would like to impress on BPS board members is that the City of False Pass has lost a large portion of its normal operating revenues as the value of wild salmon has declined. Bering Pacific Seafood has been filling that gap, but no longer is. It is imperative that economic development takes place soon to avoid problems maintaining the viability of our community. While it is important to plan future BPS development carefully, for our community time is critical.

FEB. 25, 2003 3:44PM

ALASKA MUNI LEAGUE

NO. 4615 P. 1/1  
FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel (907) 586-1925 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**  
From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Ken Hughes Title Mayor

Name of Municipality Teller

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent.

We have a new school, clinic, and head start to build this summer.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent.

Unlike some others, we plan to spend only what we have. Services provided by the city however are at an all time low.

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**  
Thank You!

TO: SHAGELUK

FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**  
From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

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Name of Respondent Maranda Burkett Title City Clerk

Name of Municipality Shageluk

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. School

District - Tolitnaq Area School District.  
They spend too much money when they  
don't need to. Don't know specifics -  
call 524-3599.

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**  
**Thank You!**

12/16/2001 00:04 19075275127

ROBERTNICK

PAGE 01

FEB. 25. 2003 2:56PM ALASKA MUNI LEAGUE

NO. 4645 P. 1/1

TO: NUNAPITCHUK

FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801

Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: Mayor and Council/Assembly

&amp; Manager/Finance Director/Clerk

From: svr Ritchie, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2003

Re: 2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impact on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crisis already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Robert, Nick Title MayorName of Municipality Nunapitchuk

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No Yes ✓ If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. 1) lack of commercial fisheries, - lack of disaster assistance for fuel and electricity and sanitation. 2) rising cost of goods and services, 3) reduction in revenue sharing and municipal assistance, 4) no tax base 5) lack of jobs, except for school, stores & local projects, 6) locally 2 major projects nearing completion.
2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No Yes ✓ If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. Municipal, 1) maintenance and upgrade needs of city equipment & facilities, 2) need to raise salaries due to increase in minimum wage, 3) cost-sharing with tribal government → tribal funds will see major reduction in coming FY.

School district → about a 4 million deficit will be shared by local school. Potential reduction in Para-professional staff due  
 Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP due new Education Laws  
 Thank You!

FEB. 25. 2003 2:23PM ALASKA MUNI LEAGUE

NO. 4645 P. 1/1

FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

TO: KOTZEBUE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akmli.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly**  
& **Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**

From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Herman T. Reich, Sr. Title City Manager

Name of Municipality City of Kotzebue

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. Our Regional Jail is actually a facility supported by the residents of Kotzebue with our

contract with the State Corrections of \$589,506.00 per year and expenses projected at \$918,169.00 will have a loss of (\$328,663.00). With the talk

of eliminating the revenue sharing and the non-support of the Borough, the impact falls on the tax paying residents of Kotzebue.

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**

**Thank You!**

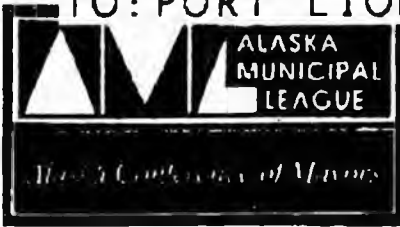
FEB. 25. 2003 3:12PM

ALASKA MUNI LEAGUE

NO. 4645 P. 1/1

TO: PORT LIONS

FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801

Tel (907) 586-1326 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk

From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2003

Re: 2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Evelyn Mellon Title Mayor

Name of Municipality City of Port Lions

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. The majority of our citizens worked as fishermen and for the timber industry, on Afognak Island. Both fishing and timber are on the down side, therefore our economic base is low. People have been moving out of the community to find work in the larger municipalities.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. our Budget will be cut this year due to fewer land sales, they were helping to make up the shortfall of our past cuts in Revenue Sharing and Self Communities Funding. Without State assistance our Fire - Police - Clinic / Roads Departments will suffer tremendously.

Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP  
Thank You!

TO: TOKSOOK BAY



217 Second Street, Suite 200 - Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayer and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**  
From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Fela Lincoln Title Mayor

Name of Municipality City of Toksook Bay

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. When commercial fishing turned disaster

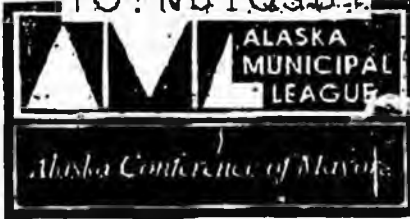
our municipality has to depend on revenue sharing and other programs to support our city service such as water & sewer, animal control, landfill, refuse collectors and etc.... If there are cuts or elimination on state programs it will cripple our community.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

We are seriously considering about eliminating some employees and reducing or eliminating some city services.

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP  
Thank You!**

TO: NUIQSUT



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk

From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
Date: February 24, 2003

Re: 2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Rosemary Ahtuanguwah Title Mayor

Name of Municipality City of Nuiqsut

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. The community has multiple jobs as the mainstay of employment. We have lost 20 jobs in the last 2-3 yrs. This downturn is related to the decreased spending through oil dev. and the loss of revenues.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. The NSB has needs of \$2-3 million more this yr which equates to loss of jobs for the village. The village has essentially no other economic revenue said the corp which is in its infancy to oil dev on corp lands & the huge task that involves.

Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP  
Thank You!

TO: PETERSBURG

FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801

Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5460 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**  
From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent JEAN MACK Title FINANCE DIRECTOR

Name of Municipality CITY OF PETERSBURG

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. At the present we are experience a slight decrease in sales tax collections, transient room tax, and property tax.

This will effect the revenue projects for the coming year

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

As a result of the above there will be a decrease in the funds

available for budgeting.

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**  
**Thank You!**



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801

Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**

From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey – Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Gwen Emel Title City Administrator

Name of Municipality City of Alakanuk

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No Yes X If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. Lack of commercial fishing has been devastating for our community. The City government relies on taxes, water/sewer income and building and equipment rentals. With no income coming into the community everyone suffers.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No Yes X If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. With unemployment at a crises high residents cannot afford to buy locally, therefore lower tax revenues, & unpaid bills to the city government.

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**  
**Thank You!**

Member of the National League of Cities and the National Association of Counties

TO: SAVOONGA



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel (907) 596-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**  
From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Iana Kaur Title Clerk

Name of Municipality City of Savoonga

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**  
**Thank You!**

FEB. 25. 2003 4:46PM ALASKA MUNI LEAGUE  
TO: NEW STUYAHOK

NO. 4645 P. 1/1  
FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**

From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey – Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Chuck Peterson Title Mayor

Name of Municipality City of New Stuyahok

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. Due to the Bristol Bay Fisheries

Declining, local economy is needed here in New Stuyahok to create jobs for local fishermen & residents

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. The City of

New Stuyahok is in need of heavy equipment to maintain roadways. Funding to keep up with doing repair on heavy equipment - equipment to old.

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP  
Thank You!**

FEB 25 2003 2:01PM

ALASKA MUNI LEAGUE

NO. 4645 P. 01

FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**

From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent DALE ADAMS Title MAYOR

Name of Municipality CITY OF HOUSTON

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No Yes If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

We are a very small city with limited revenue. If the state were to decrease or eliminate our revenue sharing it would have a serious financial impact on our city as we just barely make it with what we receive.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No Yes If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, if our portion of revenue sharing is decreased or eliminated

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP  
Thank You!**

FEB. 25. 2003 4:46PM ALASKA MUNI LEAGUE  
TO: NEW STUYAHOK

NO. 4645 P. 1/1  
FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly**  
& **Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**  
From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Chuck Peterson Title Mayor

Name of Municipality City of New Stuyahok

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. Due to the Bristol Bay Fisheries

Declining, Local economy is needed here in  
New Stuyahok to create jobs for local fishermen  
+ residents

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. The City of

New Stuyahok is in need of heavy equipment to  
maintain road ways. Funding to keep up with doing  
repairson heavy equipment ~~parts~~ - equipment to  
old.

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**  
**Thank You!**

TO: NORTH POLE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801

Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: Mayor and Council/Assembly & Manager/Finance Director/Clerk

From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2003

Re: 2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Jeff Jacobson Title Mayor

Name of Municipality City of North Pole

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No Yes X if yes, please discuss the cause and extent

Possibly - Economic tax base needs to be diversified.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No Yes X If yes, please discuss the cause and extent

Insurance costs and operational expenses are exceeding projected revenues. Employees may have to be laid off & services curtailed if revenues are not increased somehow. Property taxes were raised 2 years ago to close fiscal gap.

Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP Thank You!

TO: KASAAAN



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801

Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk

From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2003

Re: 2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Michael S. Queen Title Administrator

Name of Municipality City of Kasaaan

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. WORLD WIDE HAS SHUT DOWN AND THE LARGEST

TIMBER CONCERN ON THE ISLAND HAS FILED FOR BANKRUPTCY. OUTMIGRATION

DUKE 40 JOBS LOSS CATASTROPHICALLY AFFECTS OUR COMMUNITY AND

ALL OF PEOPLE OF WALES ISLAND.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

DUKE TO OUTMIGRATION, THE KASAAAN SCHOOL FALLS BELOW THE

MINIMUM PUPIL CENSUS REQUIREMENTS AND OUR SCHOOLCHILDREN

WILL HAVE TO BE BUSSED 25 MILES ONE WAY DAILY OVER A ONE LANE

IMPROVED LOGGING ROAD TO SCHOOL IN THORNE BAY.

Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP

Thank You!

FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**

From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey – Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent DELBERT KADAKE Title CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Name of Municipality CITY OF KAKE

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. DUE TO LIMITED LOGGING, BAD PRICING OF FISH, LIMITED AMOUNT OF GRANTS FOR STATE AND FEDERAL FUNDING TO PROVIDE JOBS, HIGH COST OF LIVING EXPENSES.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

Forest Receipts are expected to be approximately \$20,000 less than FY'03 due to a drop in enrollment. At this time, we have heard rumors of a further enrollment drop in FY'04, but we won't know until  
**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**  
October 2003.  
Thank You!

FEB. 25. 2003 2:26PM

ALASKA MUNI LEAGUE

NO. 4645 P. 1/1

FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

TO: KOYUKUK



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk

From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2003

Re: 2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Vera C. Hestenkof Title City Administrator

Name of Municipality City of Koyukuk

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No Yes If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. State funding is a

vital resource for the City of Koyukuk.  
It provides funding for Employer wages, grants  
and the PCE program.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No Yes If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. IF the

State makes cuts for Revenue Sharing program,  
the City Staff wages are covered by  
the State Revenue Sharing program. Please do  
not jeopardize our jobs.

Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP

Thank You!

FEB. 25. 2003 2:08PM ALASKA MUNI LEAGUE

NO. 4645 P. 1/1

FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

TO: KAKTOVIK



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801

Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: Mayor and Council/Assembly

& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk

From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2003

Re: 2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent LON SENSALLA Title MAYOR

Name of Municipality CITY OF KAKTOVIK

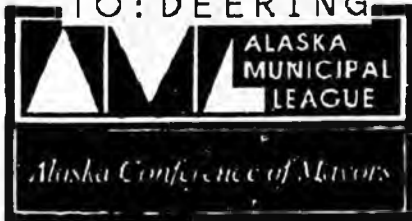
1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent.

TAX Dollars from Prudhoe are declining and the North Slope Borough's budget is in decline which affects all North Slope communities.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent.

The North Slope Borough has been and will continue to cut 5 to 6 million from its budget for the next 5 to 6 years. The school district is cutting approximately 1 million per year during that time.

Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP  
Thank You!



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**  
From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey – Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are “on the table” for cuts now in the Governor’s budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Ben Moto Title Clerk

Name of Municipality City of Deering

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**  
**Thank You!**

FROM : CITY OF OUZINKIE  
FEB. 24. 2003 2:09PM

PHONE NO. : 907 680 2223

Feb. 28 2003 02:44PM P1  
FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**  
From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Dave Campfield Title Vice-Mayor

Name of Municipality City of Ouzinkie

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

The Major Cause for a Downturn  
is the fishing industry problems.  
Ouzinkie is a fishing village.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

Both the city and the School are  
facing cut backs. Each year the City has  
to use reserves.

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**  
**Thank You!**



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**  
From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent City of Pilot Point / Dennis Griechen Title Mayor

Name of Municipality City of Pilot Point

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. Due to the decline in the commercial fishing pricing as well as the returning stocks, the City has seen a steady decline in revenue.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. As mentioned above, the City's budget was comprised of a 3% sales tax off of the fish catch in our bay. Without the fish tax monies, we need other revenues to help complete our budgets.

Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP  
Thank You!

TO: SAINT MARY S

FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**  
From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent WATSON SMITH Title CITY MANAGER  
Name of Municipality ST. MARYS

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. We are dependent upon grant funding - both directly to us as well as for neighboring villages who buy gravel from us. I must supplement our general fund activities with \$50,000 per year to maintain minimal services.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. I am always facing a shortfall. As the state reduces funding and services I have to provide more services locally with less money.

Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP  
Thank You!

TO: ALEKNAGIK



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**

From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey – Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Patricia Heyano Title City Administrator

Name of Municipality City of Aleknagik

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

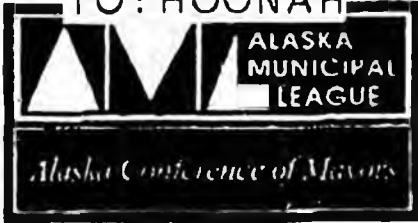
The commercial fishing industry has been hit hard by poor salmon returns and reduced demand for salmon due to farmed fish. Bristol Bay has had 5 disaster years out of the past 6. Approximately 36 permit holders in Aleknagik.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

The City offers services, such as heavy equipment services, boat hauling, barge service, septic pumping services, and snow removal. People are unable to pay their bills with the City. Approximately \$36,000 outstanding in Accounts Receivable at the City.

Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP

Thank You!



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**

From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey – Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Alf R. (Windy) Skaflestad Title Mayor

Name of Municipality City of Hoonah, Alaska

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

SEE ATTACHMENT

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

SEE ATTACHMENT

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**  
**Thank You!**

1. Hoonah is small Tlingit Village which has primarily relied on the seasonal industries of timber and fishing. As you are aware, both of these industries have taken a severe downturn. We are struggling to obtain what benefits are available from them, plus searching for other economic possibilities. Commercial businesses are required to pay approximately 37 cent per kilowatt hour, a big detriment to encourage more and new business to broaden our economic base.

2. With the closure of Glacier Bay, the reduction in timber and fishing the City has experienced losses in both fish tax and sales tax. The decrease of timber and fishing also causes a drop in student enrollment which lowers funds. Additional, what funds the City has managed to set aside to assist us through this difficult period has been severely effected, by a low return on those investments, particularly after the September 11<sup>th</sup> crisis. During all this the cost of living continues to increase, affecting the City's expense budget as we continue with operation maintenance and safety issues.

# CITY OF ANGOON

PO. BOX 189 • ANGOON, ALASKA 99820 • (907) 788-3653 • FAX: (907) 788-3821

To: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director

From: Walter Jack, Mayor *WJ*  
City of Angoon

Date: February 25, 2003

Re: 2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey

Name of Respondent: Walter Jack

Title: Mayor

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No\_\_ Yes x If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. Angoon lacks an economic base, therefore, cannot offer any job opportunities to community members. Although fishing has been the historic economic base for years, that area is experiencing a decline due to the low prices and lack of market. A domestic market could be a part of the solution, with community-based sales in all local stores through-out Alaska.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No\_\_ Yes x If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. We seem to be getting more unfunded mandates on facilities owned and operated by municipalities, ie., water and sewer plants with a more stringent regulation, which means more monitoring. Homeland security, more hours for departments with-out the necessary funding. Whether a police department or VPSO program, I recommended to establish an endowment fund.

TO: LARSEN BAY

FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**  
From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Allen Panamaroff Sr. Title Mayor

Name of Municipality City of Larsen Bay

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. Municipal funds from state diminishing, Cannery not operating, Higher price for fuel and groceries. All these play a major role in how the municipality conducts services to the community.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. Lack of Raw Fish Tax to the community, Cut down on PGE, Higher price on fuel and other commodities

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**  
**Thank You!**



To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**

From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2003

DATE 2-28-2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent MARTIN B MOORE Title MANAGER

Name of Municipality City of Emmonak

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

If I explain Fishery disaster to one in the State Govt seems to Listen - I know community municipalities are impacted Lacking commercial fishing

Disasters 1999-2000-2001 and 2002 9 million less dollars for each year for individuals plus the unaccounted fish

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_ Processor losses in millions of \$\$\$.

The City is revisiting its budget and plans of employment reduction is at hand. Community Rejected Sale Tax increases

3 to 5% unpaid w/s bills \$65,000 Cable TV\* 21,000

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP - It is not feasible Thank You!** For the State to eliminate revenue sharing it will cost the State more at the end.

Member of the National League of Cities and the National Association of Counties

Martin B Moore

In-behalf the Community Council Members -

TO: BREVIG MISSION

FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801

Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**

From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey – Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Brian Crockett Title Mayor - City of Brevig Mission

Name of Municipality City of Brevig Mission

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. The caribou have run out with

major portions of the local reindeer herds. The water & sewer project is almost done. We are already taxing at a 3% sales tax rate.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. We are

expecting a short fall because we are shouldering more responsibilities. and we also are trying to compete with local entities for qualified personnel.

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP  
Thank You!**

TO: DELTA JUNCTION



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801

Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**

From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts new in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Patricia White Title City Clerk

Name of Municipality City of Delta Junction

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Is your municipal government ~~anticipating~~ anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**  
**Thank You!**

FEB. 25. 2003 3:14PM

ALASKA MUNI LEAGUE

NO. 4645 P. 1/1

TO: RUBY

FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801

Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**  
From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Lucy Williamson Title City Clerk/Treas

Name of Municipality City of Ruby

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. There is no revenue generation that would support a city. State assistance is critical to providing basic municipal services at a minimal level.

School losing population, all basic services are increasing in costs (insurance, fuel, etc).

*See below.*

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. Increases

in basic insurance for the City, increased fuel costs,

increased transportation costs, etc all lend to larger expenditures,

less revenue. School (YKSD) has serious financial challenges, and

as student population decreases (students going to charter school, etc) Ruby faces the possibility of losing its school and ultimately its population.

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**

**Thank You!**

FEB 25 2003 11:47 AM

ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

NO. 4545

FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel (907) 588-1325 • Fax (907) 483-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly**  
& **Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**  
From: **Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director**  
Date: **February 24, 2003**

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Harold L. Ivanoff Title Administrator/Clerk

Name of Municipality City of Atkasuk

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. However, any cuts will jeopardize the efficiency of any local government to a community both in service and leadership.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

The NSB SCHOOL DISTRICT has been cutting its budget for the past three years due to the NSB governments directives.

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**  
**Thank You!**

FROM : CITY OF COLD BAY ALASKA

FAX NO. : 9075322671

Mar. 02 2003 01:16PM P1

FEB. 25 2003 1:29PM

ALASKA MUNI LEAGUE

NO. 4645 P. 1/1

FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801

Tel (907) 585-1325 • Fax (907) 483-5480 • www.akmil.org

To: Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk  
From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
Date: February 24, 2003

Re: 2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent John T. Maxwell Title MAYOR

Name of Municipality Cold Bay

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. FUEL PRICES KEEP INCREASING,  
this RAISES THE CITY'S UTILITIES, CURRENTLY \$80,000<sup>00</sup>  
A YEAR. Reduction in Fish taxes and state grants puts  
higher cost on our residents, WATER + SEWER IS OUR  
MAIN LOCAL INCOME.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. Potential  
\$ 100,000<sup>00</sup> replacement water well.

Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP  
Thank You!

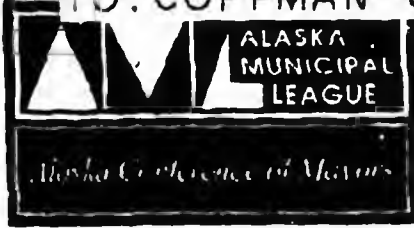
FROM : RIGGIN SHACK

FEB. 25. 2003 1:28PM

ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE PHONE NO. : 907 329 2260

Mar. 03 2003 04:06PM P1  
FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

TO: COFFMAN COVE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801

Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**  
From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent John Willis Title Treasurer

Name of Municipality Coffman Cove

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. Lack of year round / decent wage jobs due to timber industry declines. Difficult to attract new industry/business to area due to high cost of development & operating cost - i.e. electricity / internet / freight

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. INCREASES !!  
operating expenses - insurance, utilities, employee related cost. Difficult to keep projects moving forward & within budget due to slow, cumbersome & over regulated permitting process - / extent - we've been tapping our land sales reserve acct to meet operating expenses

Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP earlier each year -  
Thank You! Last FY was March - this FY was late Jan.



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel (907) 586-1926 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**

From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Fannie Carroll Title City Manager

Name of Municipality Fort Yukon, City of

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent.

Our community is rural, we are in the later phases of a water/sewer system... this must not be cut at this stage as we would not be able to complete this program without assistance. Also, for further building concerning transportation here is detrimental to our cost of living.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent.

It appears that our local, Regional - Yukon Flats School District is facing cuts of 543,469., which means 3 teachers will not be returning, classes are going to have to be combined with multiple levels. Our cost of fuel is x2 of urban areas, to keep up high standards, rural communities cannot

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**

Thank You!

Survive with such cuts.

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**  
 From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
 Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent: ~~RL~~ RL ROMENESKO Title CITY MGR.

Name of Municipality CITY OF NOME

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  - If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. NOME HAS EXPERIENCED FLAT OR  
NOMINAL GROWTH OVER PAST 5 YRS. WE EXPECT  
THIS ZERO GROWTH TO CONTINUE.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL DISTRICT IS CHRONICALLY UNDERFUNDED & WILL  
BE SERIOUSLY IMPACTED (NEGATIVELY) IF "DISTRICT  
COST FACTOR STUDY" IMPLEMENTED.

Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP

Thank You!



## CITY OF UNALAKLEET

BOX 28  
UNALAKLEET, ALASKA  
99834  
(907) 624-3531  
FAX (907) 624-3130

March 4, 2003

The Honorable Donald C. Olson  
Alaska State Senate  
State Capitol  
Room 510  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

RE: Revenue Sharing/Safe Communities Funding

Dear Senator Olson,

As the time nears for Governor Murkowski to unveil his proposed FY04 operating budget, stories of reduced funding to municipalities have begun to circulate naturally causing concern to the communities within the State and in your region including Unalakleet.

With the spot market of oil prices just out of sight, our community and all who are so dependent upon bulk fuel shipments, this item alone will have a devastating impact upon our FY04 Budget. In fact, Yukon Fuel is hesitant in providing the City of Unalakleet with a quote so we can submit our annual bulk fuel revolving loan fund application. Just this single item will have a major impact upon the City from reduced heating consumption which in turn results in lower sales tax revenues which in turn results in less operating revenue for police, streets, library and building maintenance.

Last year our insurance costs went up 66% and premiums are scheduled for another 10% to 20% increase again this year. The cost of providing insurance other than Workers Compensation is making communities to think twice of carrying any coverage at all. In fact, the philosophy is that if the water plant or electric plant is destroyed by fire, an emergency exists and the State will build a new one for us. The same holds true in differing maintenance until it is inoperable and an emergency exists.

We struggle to provide our citizens with the basics within the limited resources available. The continued erosion of State Shared Revenues has caused the City Council to reflect upon hard choices of what is important in maintaining the quality of life in our community within a limited income. We have been diligent in collecting utility payments with over 60% paying in full every month. Collection of sales tax, alcohol tax and bed tax is current with all the vendors. Yet we live hand to mouth.

With the large increase in operating costs looming in our FY04 Budget, we can ill afford any reduction in State Shared revenues. Current State mandated requirements such as having two (2) certified water plant operators for wages and fringe benefits alone results in nearly 10% of the total operating budget. Without the operators, we are in non-compliance.

When the issue of reducing or eliminating State Shared Revenues is discussed or even voted upon, consideration of the long-term impact upon the local communities should be paramount in the deliberations. Municipalities have taken more than their fair share of reduced revenues in the past ten to fifteen years and we continue to be the "fall guy" when it comes to reducing State spending.

The City of Unalakleet asks that you seriously look upon the impact of reduced State Shared revenues to the communities within your election district, but the entire State as well.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Ivanoff", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Henry Ivanoff, Sr.  
Mayor

FEB. 25. 2003 2:04PM

Huslia City  
ALASKA MUNI LEAGUE

907 629 2224

NO. 4645 P. 1/1

P. 1

TO: HUSLIA

FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
 Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
 & Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**  
 From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
 Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey – Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Elsie Vent Title City Administrator  
 Name of Municipality Huslia

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

with costs of services going up it is tough to keep up with the state cutting back on revenues.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

Every year there is a cut back from the state <sup>in revenues</sup> so the people suffer the consequences.

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**  
**Thank You!**

TO: PORT ALEXANDER



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Tel (907) 598-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**

From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of abomination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent DAVID WALLER Title MAYOR

Name of Municipality PORT ALEXANDER

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

FAIRLY NORMAL - NOT A LOT OF SURPLUS  
BUT FAMILIES HERE BALANCE / NO  
MATTER HOW PRECARIOUSLY.

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No  Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

THE MUNICIPALITY WILL BE OK NO MATTER  
HOW TIGHT THE BELT. WE OPERATE ON A LOT  
OF VOLUNTEERISM. THE SCHOOL WILL PROBABLY  
BE SHORT BUT THERE ARE ALWAYS BAKE SALES.

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**

**Thank You!**



# CITY OF BETHEL

P.O. Box 388 Bethel, Alaska 99559  
907-543-2297  
FAX # 543-4171

Alaska Municipal League  
Kevin Ritchie  
217 Second Street, Suite 200  
Juneau, AK. 99801

Dear Mr. Ritchie,

In response to your 2003 Municipal Fiscal Condition Survey, please see below. Our community fiscal picture is moving from gray to black due to the unknowns (war with Iraq, state/federal funding, oil prices, etc.). It will be a wild ride and until the community gets around some corners, we will not know the direction Bethel's community is heading. However, a silver lining (jobs) is coming over the horizon which will help develop the community within eighteen months to two years with the building of the Yuut Elitnaurviat-People's Learning Center, Inc. The City of Bethel has already been hammered with deficit spending (need City water/sewer rate increases, developing new City revenue streams, etc.).

1. Bethel's community is at a cross-road that could go either way. On one hand, the community will incur growth and development due to the recently approved City Ordinance #02-33 authorizing the disposal of a donated 10.3 acre parcel to build the Yuut Elitnaurviat-People's Learning Center, Inc. Some major businesses have donated money and time as well. This will create jobs within eighteen months to two years. On the other hand, if war with Iraq comes about, this could hurt our community. Approximately fifty percent of jobs are state and federal funded. Possible cut backs from the state and federal government could have a major impact with people losing their jobs.
2. City budget shortfall of \$467,000 has already happened as of February 2003 (fiscal year end is June 2003). This trend could increase up to ~\$700,000. The City requires additional revenue for the Water, Sewer and Sanitation fund. Over the past five years revenue has slowly declined. The latest rate increase was in April 2001 for an adjustment of 20 percent. The rate increase had no effect in slowing the losses. An additional rate analysis will be reviewed this year. Also, the City is reviewing additional revenue streams, such as, a City owned liquor store, increase in sales tax or establishment of a property tax.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Strahan", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert B. Strahan

FEB. 25. 2003 1:16PM

ALASKA MUNI LEAGUE

NO. 4645 P. 1/1

FROM: AK MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

TO: BETHEL



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801

Tel (907) 586-1325 • Fax (907) 463-5480 • www.akml.org

To: **Mayor and Council/Assembly  
& Manager/Finance Director/Clerk**  
From: Kevin Ritchie, Executive Director  
Date: February 24, 2003

Re: **2003 Municipal Fiscal Conditions Survey - Please return ASAP**

Municipal revenue sharing and other programs to support municipalities are "on the table" for cuts now in the Governor's budget. Cuts could rise to the level of elimination that would have serious financial impacts on every community in the state. Such cuts could be especially devastating to local governments and economies on top of the fiscal crises already facing many communities. Therefore, AML would like to present the Governor with information on the fiscal conditions of municipalities. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

Name of Respondent Robert B. Strahan Title Finance Director

Name of Municipality City of Bethel

1. Is your community facing an economic downturn? No \_\_\_ Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

See letter

2. Is your municipal government or school district anticipating a budget shortfall this coming year? No \_\_\_ Yes  If yes, please discuss the cause and extent. \_\_\_\_\_

See letter

**Please FAX TO AML at 907-463-5480 ASAP**  
**Thank You!**

Please add to public testimony

The Honorable Senator Gary Wilken  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK

Paul Bryner  
626 "N" Street  
Anchorage, AK 99501

17 April 2003

Dear Senator Wilken,

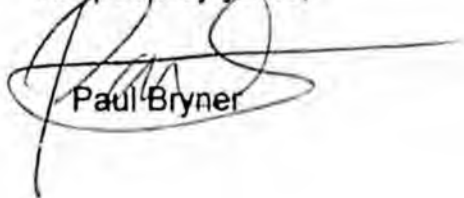
I am a teacher with the Anchorage Literacy Project. I work overtime to help teach undereducated and developmentally disabled adults who are starting to learn English from the ground level. I also help coordinate the many volunteers who give generously of their time to help strengthen our program. The Anchorage Literacy Project uses money from the Human Services Matching Grant to pay four part time staff members to coordinate almost two hundred volunteers. These two hundred volunteers in turn provide services for a thousand adult students in need. This program exemplifies the sort of volunteerism that the Governor has called for this year. If the Human Services Matching Grant is cut, as has been proposed, Alaska voters will recognize that the Senate is taking shortcuts and easy solutions, using alarmist, gloom-and-doom rhetoric to justify cuts which will do nothing but hurt our state.

Basic Literacy training is the most cost effective human service this state provides. I would urge you to review the materials I have enclosed in order to confirm that this is the case. Having a more literate adult population reduces the number of dependants on the state. It reduces the crime rate and reduces medical costs incurred by those incapable of reading simple medical instructions. No one could argue that these are not basic state needs. Through running our volunteer program, we work hard to minimize costs, to recruit, train, and support those who have an undeniable commitment to keeping this state great.

The bottom line is: if the HSMG is cut, hundreds of undereducated adults will have no alternative to illiteracy do you, personally, think this is a desirable, responsible option? Will your constituents think so?

The House Finance Committee saw fit, after an intensive review process, to restore HSMG funding in full. I hope that the Senate Committee will confirm the wisdom of this decision.

Respectfully yours,

  
Paul Bryner



Anchorage

# Literacy Project

Legislative  
Informational  
Packet

2003

# ALP Fact Sheet

## FY 2003

**WHO:** Anchorage Literacy Project is a private nonprofit community based organization serving the undereducated and new English language learners for over 27 years. We have a staff of 11.1 and are governed by a Board of Directors.

**WHAT:** Mission: Changing Lives Through Literacy

Goals:

- Provide adult learners with opportunities to meet their educational goals.
- Recruit, train, certify and support volunteers to teach adults.
- Recruit, train, certify and support volunteer tutor trainers.
- Collaborate with other agencies to better serve the needs of adult learners.
- Promote community awareness of literacy issues.

**WHERE:** Main site is 1345 Rudakof; occupy 11 condo units, over 10,000 sq. ft. of office and classroom space. Other sites are Fairview Recreation Center, Success By 6, Chugach Manor, Senior Citizen Center and individual homes.

**HOW:** Tutor Training Workshops – train 365 new tutors over the past 5 years

**Volunteer Program:** 153 active one-to-one tutors

4 Small Group Tutors

18 Classroom Teachers

14 Tutor trainers

189 Active Instructional Volunteers served 800 adults with 38,000 instructional hours

53 countries, predominant languages – Spanish, Korean, Laotian, Thai

**Volunteer instructors do 66% of the teaching. The remainder is done by grant funded program staff.**

**Multi-Sensory Instruction:** 239 adults taught by two staff teachers, nationally recognized program for beginning level readers

**IMPACT Family Literacy Program:** served 150 family members, parents and children with comprehensive literacy and parent education.

Average yearly number of classes offered by ALP, on and off site is 40.

**Budget:** Approximately \$500,000  
322,000 from federal, state, municipality grants  
130,000 from United Way of Anchorage 20% of total  
100,000 from contracts, fundraising, individual, group and corporate contributions

**In-kind contributions:** \$1,177,417 Labor, goods, and services

**Total Budget** \$2,169,417

United Way funds are critical to ALP's success because they are unrestricted dollars. We pay our insurance, utility bills, building maintenance and other overhead administrative costs not allowed by grant funding with United Way dollars. We couldn't do it without them.

# Anchorage Literacy Project

## Year-End Summary FY/PY 2002

<b>INDIVIDUAL PROGRAM DATA</b>					
	AHFC	IMPACT	MSI	MSI-EL	Volunteer
Basic Students	2	0	239	0	12
ESL Students	9	150	0	64	786
<b>Total Students</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>798</b>
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>668</b>	<b>8,404</b>	<b>9,655</b>	<b>1,116</b>	<b>37,961</b>

<b>HOURS</b>	
AHFC	668
IMPACT	8,404
MSI	9,655
MSI-EL	1,116
Volunteer	37,961
<b>Total Instructional Hours</b>	<b>57,804</b>

<b>STUDENTS</b>	
Basic Students	247
English Literacy Students	945
<b>Total Students*</b>	<b>1,192</b>

\* This is an unduplicated number of students served by ALP, many of the students participated in more than one of the individual programs offered.

<b>VOLUNTEERS</b>	
One-on-One Tutor	153
Small Group Tutor	4
Class Room Teacher	18
Tutor Trainer	14
<b>Total Instructional Volunteers</b>	<b>189</b>

# Anchorage Literacy Project

Program Comparison FY 1995---FY 2002

FY	VOLUNTEER PROGRAM						GRANT FUNDED PROGRAMS										Grand Total	
	TUTORING & ON-SITE CLASSES						AHFC		ATAP/JOBS		MSI		CDBG		IMPACT			
	FT	PT	BASIC	ESL	TOT HRS	TOT STUDS	HRS	STUDS	HRS	STUDS	HRS	STUDS	HRS	STUDS	HRS	FAMILY MEM	HRS	STUDS
2002	X	X	12	786	37,961	798	668	11	X	X	9,655	239	1,116	64	8,404	150	57,804	1,192
2001	366	643	250	759	21,880	1,009	634	16	X	X	8,340	243	1,589	57	8,043	115	40,486	1,440
2000	441	360	76	725	22,822	801	713	20	X	X	7,156	200	3,938	88	5,454	55	38,356	1,146
1999	423	258	124	557	22,754	681	371	25	1,028	26	5,459	99	4,891	72	NO INFO		34,503	903
1998	393	240	116	517	20,696	633	591	43	3,366	35	2,974	56	2,760	23	NO INFO		30,387	790
1997	390	159	155	492	18,562	549	X	X	5,696	37	976	26	X	X	NO INFO		25,479	647
1996	396	298	X	X	22,166	694	1,177	53	5,746	51	X	X	X	X	NO INFO		29,089	789
1995	427	319	X	X	25,274	746	1,653	46	5,379	42	X	X	X	X	NO INFO		37,969	991

# Anchorage Literacy Project

Tutor Comparison FY 1995--FY 2002

FY	TUTORS TRAINED					TRAINERS		
	BASIC	ESL	BASIC/ESL	TOTAL	ACTIVE TUTORS	BASIC	ESL	TOTAL
2002	X	X	57	57	172	5	9	14
2001	X	X	94	94	204	6	8	14
2000	26	65	X	91	193	7	8	15
1999	29	26	X	55	173	6	10	16
1998	27	50	X	77	182	6	9	15
1997	28	57	X	85	152	6	9	15
1996	X	X	X	X	186	X	X	0
1995	X	X	X	X	178	X	X	0

## Anchorage Literacy Project

HSMG is one of three funding sources that support the Anchorage Literacy Project Volunteer Program.

HSMG	\$50,023	38%
DOL/ABE	\$37,000	26%
United Way	\$53,000	36%
Total cost of Volunteer Program	\$140,000	
Total ALP budget	\$657,000	HSMG 7%

**ALP Volunteers provided 63%** of the total 57,804 instructional hours

**ALP Volunteers teach 66%** of the total 1,192 adults served by the agency

The cost per instructional hour for the Volunteer Program is \$3.68.

The two state grants provide 99.5% of the salaries for the volunteer coordinator, the training coordinator, the site coordinator, and the intake specialist. United Way funds cover the administrative and overhead costs to provide literacy instruction to 800 adults. The state Department of Labor/Adult Basic Education faces a 10% across the board cut in funding. It is assumed that this would decrease our grant by 10% but we do not know for sure how the ABE program administrators will apply the reductions.

Anchorage Literacy Project is a community based volunteer organization, committed to its mission of *changing lives through literacy*. The volunteer program is its volunteers and the people funded by these grants. ALP limits its service to the beginning level learner in collaboration with the other major adult education providers in the community. We refer all intermediate and advanced learners to Nine Star or the UAA Adult Learning Center. They in turn refer all beginning learners to ALP. We have done this in order to reduce the duplication of services and provide a continuum of educational opportunities for all adults.

Without funding for these critical positions, more than 800 beginning level English learners will have no place to go for instruction with the following consequences:

- Remain locked in an entry level job position
- Pose safety threats to selves and others if English language is insufficient
- Be unable to communicate with their child's teacher

- Be unable to understand medical instructions or read directions for medication
- Increase the need for interpretative services in all areas
- Be subject to victimization by others - economically, physically and mentally

When adults are given the opportunity to learn English in a structured and coherent program they will:

- Develop economic self-sufficiency
- Buy a home
- Increase the local tax base
- Advance in their jobs
- Contribute their skills to strengthen the community
- Become involved in their child's education

The Board of Directors and staff have not defined how these funding losses will reshape our agency. It will be impossible to provide the services at our current level.

We would:

- Decrease the number of tutor trainings to one
- Not communicate with or support current tutors
- Limit students to one class a week, total 3 hours
- Not assess or intake new students
- Offer fewer classes with no teacher support
- Not post-test for achievement measurement
- Serve far fewer than 800 learners, 10%

## Adult Basic Education Information

**Adult Basic Education (ABE)** is a program that provides students with assistance in math, reading, and writing skills. Most students who enter our programs need to complete a high school diploma and/or improve their basic skills so they can enter the workforce or postsecondary education. ABE also teaches English to the immigrant population. GED stands for General Educational Development. A GED graduate is a student who has earned a high school diploma by examination. Our adult education centers administer these exams.

Adult Basic Education is funded under Title II of the Workforce Investment Act. ABE programs have a direct connection to Alaska's workforce development.

There are **18** agencies providing regional services and programs in Alaska. Many hubs serve remote villages whenever possible. Local area contacts include:

1. Nine Star Enterprises, **Anchorage**, David Alexander, 279-7827
2. **Anchorage** Literacy Project, Polly Smith, 337-1981
3. **Aleutian-Pribilof Islands** Association, Karen Gonne-Harrell, 222-4231
4. **Alaska Department of Corrections**, Roseann Munafo, 269-7416
5. Illisagvik College, **Barrow**, Barbara Struble, 852-1742
6. University of Alaska, Kuskokwim Campus, **Bethel**, Kathy Hanson, 543-4570
7. University of Alaska, Bristol Bay Campus, **Dillingham**, Kim Govig, 842-3505
8. Adult Learning Programs of Alaska, **Fairbanks**, Traci Nero, 452-6434
9. Literacy Council of Alaska, **Fairbanks**, Mike Donaldson, 456-6212
10. University of Alaska/Kenai Peninsula College, **Homer**, Carol Swartz, 235-1656
11. Southeast Regional Resource Center, **Juneau/SE**, Carin Smolin, 586-5718
12. University of Alaska, **Kodiak**, John Mahoney, 486-1215
13. Alaska Technical Center, **Kotzebue**, Jerry Vick, 442-3733
14. Kawerak Inc., **Nome**, Ron Huffman, 443-4468
15. Prince William Sound College, **Valdez**, Angela Corcoran, 834-1671
16. Human Resources Company, **Wasilla**, Laura Kelley, 373-5872
17. Alaska Vocational Technical Center, **Seward**, Lisa Rininger, 224-4164
18. University of Alaska/Kenai Peninsula College, **Soldotna**, Diane Taylor, 262-0328

### Facts

- The measure of ABE programs is the record of GED graduates each year. GED graduates account for approximately 25% of the high school graduates each year. The most record breaking year was 2001, when 29% of all high school diplomas in Alaska were GEDs.
- In FY02, 8,795 students (5,272 full-time and 3,523 part-time) received 291,526 hours of direct instruction at a total cost of \$7.66 per hour. This per hour figure includes expenditures for administrative overhead, teachers, and instructional materials. Of the full time students,
  - 42% were 25-44 years of age
  - 25% were 19-24 years of age
  - 29% were Alaska Native or American Indian
  - 67% were unemployed or not in the labor force

- **Attainment of Goals:** All students are asked to identify their goals when they enter ABE programs. The following identifies the full-time students who achieved their stated goals in 2002:

- 44% Entered Employment
- 54% Retained Employment
- 54% Obtained GED
- 37% Entered Postsecondary Education

### Need for Services

- The 1990 US Census reported 53,827 adult Alaskans without a high school diploma or equivalency (GED). The 2000 US Census reported 58,070 adult Alaskans without a high school diploma, an 8% increase over 1990 levels.
- Currently, adult Alaskans without a high school diploma account for approximately 13% of the total adult Alaskan population.
- Because adult education program funding is so very low, only 10% of adults in need in Alaska are served by these programs.
- Within the 18 program grantees, there are only 54 full-time personnel. Most instruction is provided by 151 part-time staff. Often, this part-time money only pays for someone to teach 2-6 hours per week for six or seven months. Adults with low basic skills learn and progress very little with such scanty help. They are not likely to be productive, wage earning Alaskans if they do not improve their skills. ABE programs help teach job search skills along with basic skills to prepare adults for employment and further education and training.

### Program Impact of Reduction in General Fund

- For a program that pushes nearly all its money into direct instructional service, a reduction in general funds impacts the amount of direct instructional activities and GED testing services available to adult Alaskan students.
- **Don't let the program in the state as cost-effective as ABE. Please reflect carefully when considering budgetary matters and adult basic education. Call up the ABE program director in your area. Ask for specific information on help provided to your constituents. Visit an ABE program if you can make the time.**

Thank you for your valued assistance.

Carin Smolin, President, Alaska Adult Education Association  
Contact: SERRC-Alaska's Educational Resource Center  
210 Ferry Way, Juneau, AK 99801  
work phone: 586-5718 email: carins@serrc.org

*Alaska Adult Education Association  
A Professional Organization for Alaska's Adult Educators  
March 2003*

Talking Points:

A reduction means less students served, 10% less, and also reduction in hours that learning centers and testing centers are open.

We do a great service for so very little money. 10% reduction is equivalent to taking away two small grantees of our 18 regional programs that serve the entire state.

Most of the centers are open entry/exit with evening hours and weekends. Many are open year round.

Served 8,795 students last fiscal year who received 291,526 hours of direct instruction at a total cost of \$7.66/hr.

There are 53,827 adults without a high school diploma in Alaska, 8% increase over 1990 census, which is 13 % of our population.

On average, 25% of high school diplomas issued in our state are GEDs.



April 15, 2003

Anchorage, Alaska

To the Members of the Senate Committee,

Please accept this written correspondence as part of the record for my testimony on the DHSS section of the State of Alaska FY '04 operating budget.

Our community association is alarmed at the depth and intensity of cuts to our base grant. If what we are told comes to fruition, the effects of the attached budgetary reductions dramatically eliminate critical services; significantly reduce core service plans; and eradicate any semblance of a safety net left in urban and rural Alaska.

We are justifiably proud of our long history of quality and excellence in service delivery in developmental disabilities. With the closure of all public and private institutions, community is all that we have left for thousands of our families who experience disabilities. Such reductions jeopardize the very foundations of our system and are a sure scenario for disaster in the very near future.

We ask your assistance in restoring at least 2.2 million dollars back into our base grants. Even with that level of restoration, if what we are told is accurate, there would still be in excess of two million dollars reduced from that BRU.

We are willing to take our fair share of cuts in such ambiguous fiscal times, but the amount of reductions now planned will serve no purpose but to injure and severely compromise the quality of life of so many of our most vulnerable and innocent citizens.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our most urgent plea for a reasonable restoration in the very heart of our Alaskan service delivery system for families and individuals who experience disabilities.

Respectfully,

Stephen P. Lesko

**President:**

*Alaska Association on  
Developmental Disabilities*

**The Developmental Disabilities Community Grant BRU  
And Infant Learning Program**

- Recently, we have been informed of the following reductions in the community DD base grant:  
(\$1,200,000 reduction)--- from "unexpended" grant funds.  
(\$1,000,000 reduction)--- from non-direct community supports.

TOTAL reductions— \$2,200,000 reduction

*(This effectively eliminates any safety net available to community programs across rural and urban Alaska; offers no funding to any crisis/emergency situation that may occur during the new fiscal year; and eliminates critical components of our service delivery system that have effectively been in place for over a decade.)*

- At a teleconference on 4/11/03, we were then informed of other reductions and/or alterations in the base grant structure:

(\$2,000,000+ reduction)--- \$450 reduced from every CORE services plan. The remainder to come from reductions to providers in the base grant BRU.

*(This severely reduces minimal services under CORE jeopardizing families and establishes realistic scenarios for crisis; the remainder of cuts, coupled with the above mentioned 2.2 million dollar reduction, reflects OVER a 20% decrease to our base grants; this, in turn, eliminates all flexibility to address emergencies and eradicates our community safety net.)*

- Approximately 45 individuals now funded through the base grant would be re-financed through Medicaid Waivers, effective July 1, 2003. This amount, over \$1,500,000 is already subtracted from the base grants

*(Unless there are dramatic changes in the waiver system, it is impossible to process this transition before July 1st. Without a doubt, many agencies will NOT be able to maintain a sufficient cash flow to continue business.)*

- For a majority of providers, millions of dollars are being transferred to hospitals for payment to agencies under the Pro-Share concept. This is effective in the fourth and final quarter of the current fiscal year.

*(Already 4<sup>th</sup> quarter payments are late and may not be received until the end of April exacerbating an already untenable cash flow situation.)*

- There is a likelihood of a Code-F in Medicaid Waiver billing before the end of FY'03.

*(A code-f stands for "out of money, will reimburse early next fiscal year. Coupled with the refinanc. e strategy, Pro-share payments, customary cash flow concerns under the waiver, this is a true disaster scenario for community programs. Aligned to severe budgetary reductions, this is a plan that will culminate in the elimination of significant lifelines for our families and does place our community agencies in a direct collision path with the inability to continue to operate.)*

- \$250,000 has been eliminated from the BRU of our Infant Learning programs.

*(This reduction further restrains assisting young children, age: 0-3, from receiving critical early intervention that reduces the long term costs in the future. If anything, more children should be served under this funding stream as an investment in both our children who experience disabilities, AND, in the best interests of fiscal accountability.)*



FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR  
State of Alaska

**GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL EDUCATION**

P.O. Box 240249 • Anchorage, Alaska 99524-0249 • Phone: 907-269-8990 • Fax: 907-269-8995 • Toll Free 800-709-8990

Tuesday, April 15, 2003

The Honorable Senator Lyda Green,  
The Honorable Senator Gary Wilken,  
Senate Finance Committee  
State Capitol, Room 516  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senate Finance Committee

On behalf of the Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education, I am requesting that the Senate Finance Committee restore \$250,000 to the Early Intervention/Infant Learning Program (EI/ILP) and \$2,158,300 to Developmental Disabilities (DD) community grants. Both of these programs provide essential services to Alaska residents and reduce costs over the long run. A small amount of money at the right time contains costs, forestalls crisis and/or prevents or reduces the need for more comprehensive services.

Alaska receives federal funding specifically to provide Part C early intervention services to children under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, which requires that all children potentially eligible for part C services be provided screening, assessment and evaluation services for the purpose of determining Part C eligibility. Part C law also lists those functions that must be carried out at public expense and for which parents may not be billed; these include core services (assessment and case management), child find activities, family service coordination, Individual Family Service Plan development and the implementation of procedural safeguards. These services must be maintained to remain compliant with federal law and Alaska statute.

Currently, 75 percent of all children enrolled in EI/ILP services qualify under Part C. The remaining 25 percent of enrolled children experience developmental delays of 15 to 49% and are at risk of delays. Part C funds and the majority of state general funds support the delivery of those required Part C services to children and families. A reduction of \$250,000 means that approximately 60 infants and toddlers who experience developmental delays of 15 percent to 49 percent or who are at risk for delays will lose needed services.

Alaska has implemented a fee-for-service policy for those services that can be billed to third party payers and families; these services include physical, occupational and speech/language therapy. Additionally, a mechanism is being developed to use Medicaid

funds to support the cost of early intervention services provided to Medicaid-eligible children (screening, special instruction and family service coordination) that are not reimbursable by other third party payers; 59 percent of all children enrolled in EI/ILP on December 31, 2002 qualified for Medicaid. Payment for other services by families who have "sufficient means" would require development and implementation of a fee schedule and guidance for its use.

The Governor's proposed budget reduces DD community grants by approximately \$2.2 million. These cuts to base grants fall into two distinct categories: 1) "reduction of underutilized grants" and 2) "elimination of non-habilitative grants."

\$1.2 million of DD community grants that have not been spent will be transferred to Medicaid to offset costs of Home and Community Based Waiver Services. The State of Alaska has not had a good system in place to regularly review and re-allocate unspent funds to communities with large numbers of people on the Wait List. This has resulted in people waiting longer to get needed services. The vast majority of these funds are used for low-cost services, which help contain Medicaid costs and ensure that Medicaid is a payer of last resort as required by federal law.

Approximately 25% of people on the Wait List who are eligible for DD services are not eligible for Medicaid Home and Community Based Waiver Services because they don't 1) meet income guidelines, 2) have a diagnosis of mental retardation, autism, cerebral palsy, epilepsy or related conditions and/or 3) need services once provided in institutions like Harborview Developmental Center. If these funds are transferred to Medicaid, individuals not eligible for the Waiver will have even less access to services and face discrimination based on funding eligibility.

The vast majority (79%) of persons on the Wait List are under age 22 and live at home with their parents; if these funds are used to increase supports in the family's home with the flexibility to use them in ways unique to the family, the Wait List can be reduced at less cost to the State. General fund and Medicaid costs accelerate if families are no longer able to care for their family member with a developmental disability at home.

Almost \$1.0 million of DD base grants will be reduced or eliminated because they are seen as having the least impact on maintaining programs that provide direct services to individuals and families. Although these services are not tied to specific individuals, they meet the needs of individuals and families who are waiting for services and help contain costs. Many of the programs fill gaps while individuals wait for services; for example, over the past 8 years, the Family Resource Project has provided ongoing long-term support to link over 643 families on the Wait List to generic services and faith-based services. Another program, Special Olympics has offered weekly sports programs that reduce or eliminate the need for respite services.

Initially the Department of Health and Human Services indicated there would be no reductions to the services currently being received by individuals and families. On Friday April the 11<sup>th</sup>, the department announced there would be a reduction of \$450.00 to

each Core Plan. As families only receive up to \$3000.00 annually in services to meet a broad array of needs, this cut represents 15% reductions and will create a hard ship for many individuals and families.

While some programs *may* be able to supplant grant funds with other funding mechanisms, it takes time to secure alternate sources of revenues. A one-year "hold harmless" period is needed to secure alternate funds and determine the mix of direct services and indirect supports that are required elements of any cost-effective system.

Thanks for providing me with the opportunity to provide input. Please feel free to contact the Council's Executive Director, Millie Ryan or me at 269-8990 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arthur L. Walters". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Arthur L. Walters, Chair



# Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on Operating Budget, dated 4/15/03  
Bill/Subject

see attached 2 pages

Signed: John Cannon (JOHN CANNON)  
Testifier

Developmental Disabilities  
Representing (Optional)

3101 Whispering Woods DR., WASILLA, AK  
Address 99654

(907) 376-6063  
Phone number

For the record the following is a text of my testimony to the Senate Finance Committee on April 15, 2003.

Good evening Senator Green and members of the committee. My name is John Cannon, I live at 3101 Whispering Woods Dr, Wasilla. I am strongly opposed to the 2.2 million dollars in reductions to Community Developmental Disabilities Grants that were in the Governor's budget and in the operating budget recently passed by the house. These cuts are not fair, go too deep and seriously jeopardize the safety net for many Alaskans with DD. Frankly, these cuts were hastily arrived at by the new administration after a superficial review of services in our state. Some of you were in the legislature when our state closed Harborview. The significance of that event for persons with DD cannot be overstated. With the closing of Harborview, Alaska made a promise to its citizens with developmental disabilities that never again will any Alaskan, because of his or her disability, be sent away from their families, their extended families, their friends, and their home communities. The closing of Harborview meant that Alaskans with developmental disabilities were finally welcomed into the family of Alaska. It is a shameful and sad time in Alaskan history when our Governor and our House of Representatives say to citizens with DD that Alaska is going to break that promise. It is a disgrace when 1300 Alaskans who are waiting for needed services are told that the basic safety net of services will no longer be provided. In recent legislative sessions our State Senators have been the more reasonable voice of our legislature. With a brand new administration and so many new faces in our House of Representatives Alaskans with developmental disabilities are counting on the Senate's experience and reasonableness, now, more than ever before. These reductions will cause serious harm to Alaskans with DD and their families. It's up to you senators to do the right thing. Don't turn your back on this group of Alaskans. Restore the cuts to the community dd budget. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
John Cannon  
376-6063

**John & Sharon Cannon**

3101 Whispering Woods Dr.

Wasilla, AK 99654

(907) 376-6063

zeke99@gci.net

April 17, 2003

Senator Lyda Green  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

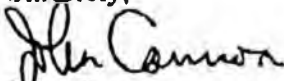
Thank you for taking time out of your incredibly busy schedule last week to return my call. I apologize for not being available when you called. The reason I wanted to speak with you is because I am gravely concerned about the current operating budget reductions to the Community Developmental Disabilities Grants. As stated in my testimony to the Senate Finance Committee on April 15<sup>th</sup> I strongly believe that these cuts will seriously compromise the safety net available to Alaskans with developmental disabilities and their families. All indications are that these cuts were arrived at by the new administration after a superficial review, if any, of the Community Developmental Disabilities services in our state.

My vocation over the last 20 years has been to support Alaskans with Developmental Disabilities to live successfully in the community. I have personally witnessed how these funds have helped hundreds of individuals/families avert crisis and avoid more expensive services such as those funded by Medicaid. The Developmental Disabilities community is willing to take its fair share of cuts however the level of cuts in the governor's budget and the operating budget approved by the House are not fair, go too deep and seriously compromise the existing safety net for many Alaskans with developmental disabilities.

Senator Green, it is critically important for you to know that the 2.2 million reductions to community developmental grants will jeopardize the health and safety of Alaskans with developmental disabilities. No where in the state is the need greater for these services than in your district. Of the 1300 Alaskans presently on the Waitlist for services at least 200 are Mat-Su residents. As Mat-Su looks to the future there may be even greater cause for concern. The Alaska Department of Labor forecasts that the population of Mat-Su will more than likely increase to 102,756 by 2018. Based on current and anticipated future need it is likely that the demand for DD services in the Mat-Su region will continue to increase substantially. Unfortunately, our community is growing at a time there is tremendous pressure to curb state spending.

On behalf of Alaskans experiencing developmental disabilities many of whom are the most vulnerable and innocent among us I ask your assistance in restoring at least 2.2 million dollars back into the Community DD grants. Even with these cuts restored if what we have been told is accurate there will still be in excess of 2 million dollars reduced from the Community DD grant BRU. Thank you for considering this most urgent request for your support. Should you have any questions related to the funding for Community Developmental Disabilities services do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

  
John Cannon

Senator Green - members of the France Committee —

I'm here to speak in support of Rabbit Creek Community School in Anchorage. This program operates through the Anchorage School District. It is the largest in the district, housing a School Age Child Care program, a preschool for 3 and 4 year olds, a Spanish language program at Huffman Elementary, an extensive youth/adult evening class program and a large variety of community activities for families. This program enhances student achievement in K-12 through tutorials in math, reading and writing; all of which helps the school district to meet the mandates of "No Child Left Behind." This community school also offers recreational opportunities - yes, the too often quoted use of the gym - but these opportunities are a small portion of the services offered.

I challenge every legislator to truly understand the broad scope of programs offered through community schools state wide. I also urge this legislature to maintain the \$150,000 for community schools which the Governor cut from his budget. Please restore financial support <sup>for</sup> community schools. I don't want Alaskan legislators known for "leaving children behind."

Linda Wetherby

Wetherby - Linda@asdk12.org

South Anchorage resident - Senator Con Bunde

Rep Hawker

## **Testimony of Alan Mitchell before the Senate Finance Committee**

April 15, 2003

Work Phone: 868-5659, Home Phone: 338-0963

Address: 11400 Mountain Lake Drive, Anchorage, AK 99516

Hello, my name is Alan Mitchell, and I am here to oppose any state funding of the Southern Intertie project, a duplicate power line between Anchorage and the Kenai Peninsula. Your committee appears to support this position, as you have taken the \$27 million of interest earned on a prior Southern Intertie state grant and appropriated it to the Alaska Debt Retirement Fund. I commend you for that decision and encourage you to resist the House's desire to use the interest to further subsidize the Southern Intertie project.

There are two reasons why it is bad idea for the state to subsidize the Southern Intertie project. First, the project is not cost-effective. The credible cost-benefit studies of the project show that the project only delivers 50 cents of benefit for every \$1 of cost. With the cost overruns that are likely to occur, this ratio worsens. Given the size of this project, this represents a net loss to our economy of \$70 million or more.

Second, even if this project were cost-effective, there is no need for the state government to fund the project. The Railbelt electric utilities are capable of financing and building the project without state assistance. State grants only serve to distort the utilities' normal capital planning process.

In times of a state fiscal crunch, there are far better uses for the \$27 million of interest and the \$40 million of unspent money from the original Southern Intertie grant. Funding education and paying off school and municipal debt are certainly better uses for the money. I encourage you to stay the course and redirect Southern Intertie money into more appropriate government services.

Thank you for considering my testimony.



# Chugach Consumers

P.O. Box 101822 • ANCHORAGE, AK 99510-1822  
e-mail: [execdir@chugachconsumers.org](mailto:execdir@chugachconsumers.org) • website: [www.chugachconsumers.org](http://www.chugachconsumers.org)

April 15, 2003

## Senate Finance Committee Testimony (SB35, HB75) SOUTHERN INTERTIE FUNDING

I am the chairman of Chugach Consumers, a grassroots group of fiscally concerned Chugach Electric ratepayers. I also was on the Chugach Electric board (5/94 to 4/2000) and was board president (5/95 to 4/97). I was also on the Alaska Rural Electric Cooperative Association (ARECA) Board of Directors, Executive Committee, 1995-98. I have maintained an active interest in electric utility affairs since leaving the board (but entirely in a non-paid public interest capacity).

Chugach Consumers urges the legislature to support Governor Murkowski's action that returned \$27 million in accrued interest on the Southern Intertie to the general fund.

However, we are very concerned that Sec. 18(c) of HB75 passed by the House returns that money to the Railbelt Energy Fund rather than leaving it in the general fund. We urge the Senate to drop this provision or replace it with a clarification that the money remains in the general fund.

The Southern Intertie has long been known to be uneconomic and would have been abandoned years ago were it not for the deplorable suppression by Chugach management (for the whole project EIS process) of the major, credible, decisional document<sup>1</sup> on the economic benefits of the Southern Intertie.

My Anchorage Daily News OpEd and attached editorial recounts this history.

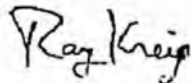
The Southern Intertie pays only 50 cents in public benefits for every dollar of cost and that is from old cost estimates. It is expected to yield an even lower benefit-cost ratio when updated or actual construction costs are known.

Chugach Consumers congratulates the Governor for his action on the interest money that stops public funds from being wasted in this time of fiscal need. Chugach Consumers encourages the legislature and AIDEA to recover the rest of the \$40 million Southern Intertie grant principal as well. This would make a total of \$67 million available from this dubious project.

If this money is reclaimed, Chugach Consumers believes it is crucial that it go into the general fund or be reappropriated to benefit South Central Alaska for utility or general government/school debt reduction (as opposed to being used for another new spending program).

Sincerely,

CHUGACH CONSUMERS



[SIGNED AND TRANSMITTED ELECTRONICALLY]

Ray Kreig, Chairman

(907) 276-2025 fax (907) 258-9614 home (907) 243-8951

For more information please see:

<http://www.chugachconsumers.org/si.htm>

especially the background briefing:

<http://www.chugachconsumers.org/Lib/Int/Briefing.htm>

ENDNOTE

1. Samuelson, R., Hass, S., 1998, **Ratepayer Impacts of Proposed Transmission Projects Final Report**; DFI-Aeronomics, 75 p. [marked "Client Confidential"]. NOTE: Released by vote of Chugach Board on 11/20/02, first available 12/6/02.



# Anchorage

Michael J. Sexton **Patr**  
President & Publisher Senior Vi

Founded in 1946  
Fuller A. Cowell, Publisher, 1993-1999 **Kathe**  
Gerald E. Grilly, Publisher, 1984-1993 **Lawre**

## OUR VIEW

# Southern intertie

*Good reason to question  
this Railbelt energy project*

In 1993, the Alaska Legislature set aside \$46.8 million for building a second high-voltage power line between Anchorage and the Kenai Peninsula.

Some important things have changed in the 10 years since then. Alaska's state government finances have deteriorated, and easy spending money has disappeared. Lawmakers routinely balance the state budget by drawing at least half a billion dollars each year from a dwindling savings account.

Another noteworthy change is that doubts have recently come to light about the economic viability of the proposed power line. A 1998 utility company study that was kept secret for four years concluded the southern intertie would produce barely 50 cents' worth of benefit for every dollar spent.

*A 1998 utility  
company study that  
was kept secret for  
four years concluded  
the southern intertie  
would produce  
barely 50 cents'  
worth of benefit for  
every dollar spent.*

reconsidering the matter. The intertie money was the final part of a political deal that triggered a splurge of spending on energy projects and subsidies starting in the early 1980s. Anchorage and the southern Railbelt would be denied their fair share of state-funded energy goodies, intertie advocates say, if this final project is not built.

The project's defenders say a deal's a deal, even if it means throwing good money after bad. The day when Alaska could get away with such a cavalier approach to spending money is long past.

But for purposes of argument, let's accept the basic framework of this supposedly unbreakable deal. Let's grant that regional equity requires the money to be spent to benefit the southern Railbelt. Let's grant that it has to be spent to supply cheaper energy. Let's even grant that it has to be spent on a particular type of energy, namely electricity. Granting all that, it is still not clear that the southern intertie is the best way to do it.

The money could be used to retire debt at the region's electrical utilities. It could be used to upgrade and repair the existing high-voltage power line between the Kenai Peninsula and Anchorage. It could be used to install a centralized power dispatching system, to ensure that the most efficient mix of Railbelt power plants is used to meet electricity demand as it fluctuates during the day and during the year.

The new Anchorage-Kenai intertie should, at minimum, have to prove that it is a better investment than those options. That will require an independent, rigorous look at the intertie's costs and benefits and how they compare with the alternatives.

# Intertie II

*Is \$23 million of interest  
money legally available?*

During debate over the proposed electrical intertie between Anchorage and Kenai, an interesting question has come to light. Just exactly how much state money is available for the project?

The state agency handling the project, Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority, says the available funding is about \$70 million. That's the original \$46.8 million that the Legislature set aside in 1993 plus another \$23 million or so in interest.

There's just one problem with that claim. The 1993 legislation that set aside \$46.8 million (SB 126) imposed certain conditions. One condition requires utilities involved with the project to agree in advance that they will pay all costs of the intertie over and above \$46.8 million. No legislation passed since then has repealed that requirement.

It appears that state law is clear: Only \$46.8 million of the appropriation is available to pay for the intertie. (Unless, of course, state lawyers can come up with a convincing theory that explains why the law on the books doesn't mean what it says.)

*The more utilities  
have to pay for the  
Anchorage-Kenai  
intertie, the less  
likely they are to  
pursue it.*

This question is the kind that could make or break the \$100 million project. The intertie is an economically questionable investment that, even in the most optimistic analysis, produces minimal gain to Railbelt ratepayers. The more utilities have to pay for the Anchorage-Kenai intertie, the less likely they are to pursue it. In fact, project supporters are asking the Legislature to spend another \$30 million on it.

The powers that be in the Legislature and the Murkowski administration have shown no inclination to question the assumption that interest money is legally available for the southern intertie. But as critics of the project note, the legality of spending the interest money is one more important question facing an already questionable project.



# Anchorage Daily News

**Michael J. Sexton**  
President & Publisher

**Patrick Dougherty**  
Senior Vice President & Editor

**Steve Lindbeck**  
Associate Editor

Founded in 1946 by Norman C. Brown

Fuller A. Cowell, Publisher, 1993-1999 Katherine Fanning, Editor and Publisher, 1971-1983  
Gerald E. Grilly, Publisher, 1984-1993 Lawrence Fanning, Editor and Publisher, 1967-1971

# OPINION

MORE INFO:  
[www.chugachconsumers.org/si](http://www.chugachconsumers.org/si)



## POINTCOUNTERPOINT Anchorage-Kenai intertie?

### Intertie promises to provide affordable power to Railbelt

ERIC P. YOULD, *Alaska Rural Electric Cooperative Association*

**A** project to benefit Alaska and Alaskans for the next 50 years is moving forward, thanks to the vision and efforts of legislators and electric utilities.

The Southern Intertie, an important new link in the Railbelt electric grid, recently passed a major milestone with the completion of comprehensive environmental reviews. After a thorough and public environmental impact statement process, three federal agencies last fall issued records of a decision identifying a route along the Kenai bluff of Cook Inlet and under the mouth of Turnagain Arm as the preferred path for the new transmission line.

The intertie will be a new transmission line between Nikiski and Anchorage that will improve the reliability of the Railbelt power grid. However, its most important function will be to help move power throughout the region from where it's most economical to make it to where customers need it. All six of the electric utilities that serve customers in the Railbelt are participating in the project. All six are not-for-profit utilities working on behalf of their customers. The current estimated cost of the line is \$100 million. Approximately \$70 million of the project will be paid by a state grant made by the Legislature in 1993 from the Railbelt Energy Fund — set up in 1986 to invest in projects that benefit Alaskans throughout the state's most populous region.

With the EIS completed, attention now

turns to design and construction. If work proceeds on schedule, Alaskans may be taking home paychecks from construction by 2004 and the new line could be in service by 2006 or 2007. That might seem a ways off, but it's just around the corner when you consider the need for this project that has been in the planning since the early 1980s.

Infrastructure is vital to Alaska's current and future health and economy. A strong interconnected Railbelt electric system that allows power to be made economically in one area and moved efficiently to another helps ensure that individual Alaskans and the businesses that employ them have reliable, affordable electric service. The Southern Intertie will do just that.

Critical infrastructure is often ignored or taken for granted until something goes wrong or existing facilities are overwhelmed by demand. That's why it's so important to plan. The fact you can flip a switch today and have the lights come on doesn't just mean someone did something special today. It happens because Alaskans decades ago had the foresight to put an electric grid in place to make it happen. It is our collective responsibility to provide the same benefit to our children and other people who are the future of this great state.

■ Eric P. Yould is executive director of Alaska Rural Electric Cooperative Association.



### Southern Intertie's benefits likely not worth the cost

RAY KREIG, *former Chugach Electric board member*

**C**learly the Southern Intertie has some benefits: The question is whether they are worth the cost. Are there better uses for \$125 million in public and ratepayer funds? History indicates that cost overruns are highly likely, totally at ratepayer expense.

Currently, power is on 99.975 percent of the time. How much is it worth to gain a part of that remaining 0.025 percent (two hours a year)? Utility boards, legislators and the public have no way of judging without fair, impartial and unbiased project economic advice from independent experts.

Of great concern should be a history of deceptive manipulation of intertie benefit claims by utility managers. When I was Chugach board president in 1996, we received misleading benefit-cost advice from management on the northern intertie (between Healy and Fairbanks). If Chugach had participated in that project, it would have cost our ratepayers \$600,000 a year.

We then insisted on a very detailed and comprehensive study of the benefits and cost of the Southern Intertie. We retained Decision Focus Inc. because it had performed several studies on intertie economics for the state. DFI found only \$58 million in benefits. Chugach management kept that February 1998 study secret from the public.

Meanwhile, unbeknown to the board, Chugach management supervised the same

consultant's preparation of another report issued for public consumption in March 1998. It conveniently claimed \$143 million in benefits — enough to show the \$125 million intertie cost to be barely justified. That was the only benefit information provided by Chugach to regulators and the public during the 1998-2002 environmental impact statement process.

Same consultant, two vastly different benefit numbers. What gives? In DFI's own words: "We believe our comprehensive approach (in the February 1998 study) is much more accurate."

In 1990, the state utility consumer advocate, Alan Mitchell, also found the Southern Intertie benefits to be only \$51 million to \$63 million. There is no independent third party that has found the benefits of the Southern Intertie anywhere near the \$125 million cost of this project.

Considering the deterioration that has occurred in Alaska's financial condition since the original appropriation in 1993, Southcentral utility boards and local governments should look very hard at the intertie and ask the Legislature to reappropriate the \$70 million in state funds pledged to the project. The money would better benefit Southcentral Alaskans if used to reduce utility or municipal and school debt by \$500 per household.

■ Ray Kreig is a former president of Chugach Electric Association and served on the executive committee of Alaska Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Dear Senator Green:

I am a board member for Four Valleys Community School in Girdwood and have been for almost every year since 1981. The community school is virtually used in one way or another by almost everyone in our community. It is the cement that holds the Girdwood population together. Through the years I have taught preschool classes, science classes for elementary and junior high ,coached XC running and track, organized and run Science Olympiad, organized and directed a summer science camp for 11 years, etc. I am not unusual , many many people give their time and talents through the community school to make Girdwood a better place.

**Please do not cut funding to the community schools.**

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

Sherry Dugan  
783-2716  
Girdwood resident since 1978

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APR 16 2003

L10. Fairbanks: #56-3346

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APR 16 2003

10 April 2003

Members of the Legislative Assembly  
State of Alaska

Reference: Constituent Recommendations for Legislative Action

Dear Alaskan Legislators:

Please take a few minutes to consider the following suggestions from the undersigned Alaskan voter:

I. REVENUE ENHANCEMENT/RETENTION PROPOSALS:

- A. Revive state income tax and
- B. State sales tax for all purchases excepting essentials. Try to look beyond voter dislike of these essential taxes and do your job to properly fund state governmental operations. The voters know when you act out of principle -- and also when you simply accede to voter antipathy.
- C. "Means-test" for Permanent Fund eligibility, then restrict dividend payments to those proving earnings at or below poverty line and let the rest of us forgo this lovely monetary treat until we can afford to pay ourselves such unearned and unnecessary bonuses.
- D. Assuming you can't/won't fight for an income tax or/and sales tax, please do something about a schools support tax of some kind for all state residents. (I live in Delta Jct., so pay nothing toward our schools, policing, fire protection, etc., etc. Lucky I, eh? But this is obviously unfair to all who are attached to organized boroughs/municipalities and subject to property taxes.)
- E. Do support state gasoline tax increase. I would also recommend incremental gross vehicle weight registration and licensing fees increase.
- F. Save a few million dollars of PFD distributions by creating a law to sever automatically and immediately all eligibility for PFD for any person convicted of DUI or of committing any other criminal act under influence of controlled substance.

II. INCREASE M&O FUNDING FOR DOTPF

- A. Please give serious consideration to adding substantial budgetary funding to Dept. of Transp. & PF, with the new funds dedicated to M & O work on all state roads. (Some of us have been begging for years and decades for help from DOT for "orphaned" state roads built to DOT standards, but never accepted for maintenance, due to insufficient legislative M & O funding.) I would further submit that the frustrating hodge-podge of road maintenance responsibilities (state, boroughs, municipalities, Native villages, Service Districts, etc.) should be resolved and replaced by state DOTPF, the real professionals of our transportation system. There are really not so many miles of "orphaned" state/borough/Native roads out

there as would make this supplemental funding proposal unmanageable to you legislators.

### III. REVENUE NEUTRAL

- A. Please consider a prohibition of multiple automotive headlights (beyond the standard two) illuminated against oncoming vehicles on our roads. Wiring such additional lights through the low-beam circuits would stop the vulgar, painfully bright onslaught of candlepower by thoughtless drivers. (Professional drivers, such as commercial truckers, State Troopers, etc., never use multiple headlights against oncoming drivers.)
- B. Pro-saving, pro-family/education suggestion:  
Let's consider "subsidizing" private sector savings by offering tax-deferral on PFD payments deposited to a dedicated education or retirement account in commercial bank. Surely federal Treasury people could cooperate in this worthy plan. And should we cry great tears over PFD money losses to snow-machine and booze purveyors under such a modest plan? You/we might commit all PFDs issued to minors to dedicated education saving accounts.

### IV. OTHER

With ANWR center stage just now, I would suggest trying another tack with legal guidance from Constitutional Law specialists. Question: What Article of the federal Constitution supports federal retention of "state" land after statehood for purposes other than national defense and the obviously necessary disposal interval for such lands as are to be sold into private ownership? Preservation of special lands, a federal idea that gained general support in the late 19th Century, obviously conflicts with the prevailing national compact on land-ownership during the preceding 90+ years. Yellowstone Natl. Park was created prior to Wyoming statehood, as were most of the "national interest" retained areas of Alaska. Yosemite N.P., however, was created as federal park well after California statehood. How did we, the non-California people acquire title to the 1,300 square miles of what had been a California State Park? Purchase, I suppose. Now we have virtually empty shell states, such as Nevada and Alaska, that own but a small part of the gross acreage nominally shown for those two states. Is this situation not essentially an uncompensated federal taking? In order to correct this obvious inequity, we really should revisit the Alaska Statehood Act with serious intention to force our "federal" selves to properly compensate our "state" selves for this taking of public interest land. One might suggest that all states harboring federal inholdings be given title to the subject lands, perhaps subject to state payment of fair market value less full credit for federal use of the land over the intervening years of federal hegemony, with guarantees that federal interests be assured via long-term leases. "National interests" then become fungible and subject to periodic review. Should the 30,000 square miles of ANWR bear a lease fee of, say \$10/ac./year, payable by us, the people, to us, the State of Alaska, this might well compel us to

**Senate Finance Committee Testimony  
Human Services Community Matching Grant HB 75**

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APR 16 2003

My name is Denise Daniello and I reside at 3844 Ullrbahn Road, Fairbanks, AK 99709. I am testifying in support of full funding for the Human Services Community Matching Grant. I am also the executive director of the North Star Council on Aging, Senior Center.

The Human Services Community Matching Grant provides funding to social safety net agencies that distribute food to the poor, provide legal services for low-income persons, care for the dying, and deliver Meals on Wheels to homebound seniors. Each HSCMG agency provides a unique and unduplicated service for the community, collaborating with other programs to enhance social services. Approximately 31,000 people in the Borough have received services from agencies funded by this Block grant. That number amounts to roughly one-third of all Borough residents.

The North Star Council on Aging is a recipient of the Human Services Community Matching Grant. We use this grant to provide funding for the Meals on Wheels program, delivering hot nutritious meals to 150 homebound persons of the Fairbanks North Star Borough targeting at-risk elders who are frail, disabled, and financially in need. NSCoA is the only agency in the Borough providing the Meals on Wheels service. Of those individuals receiving Meals on Wheels, 95% are physically or mentally impaired; 66% are low-income earning less than \$1,000 monthly; and 69% are both medically incapacitated and financially distressed.

We travel more than 150 miles each day delivering meals to seniors who live within the city limits and those who reside outside the city core. For many, the Meals on Wheels service is a lifeline that provides the one and only meal of the day. One in eight Fairbanks seniors (persons 60 years and older) live below poverty level, too poor to buy healthy food, and too frail to shop and cook for themselves.

The Meals on Wheels program benefits two distinct categories of recipients - the frail elderly in long-term need of support, and those in need of short-term intervention recovering from an illness. Without access to proper nutrition, an elder's status can deteriorate rapidly resulting in hospitalization that can be unnecessarily costly in both human and financial terms. The full price of a home delivered meal is \$10.34 per day as compared to \$850 per day at Fairbanks Memorial Hospital.

The Human Services Community Matching Grant helps us to leverage more than \$300,000 of outside dollars for our nutrition program and over \$21,000 in in-kind assistance from 14 MOW program volunteers. Last year, we prepared and served almost 80,000 meals for Fairbanks seniors. The loss of this grant means that 13 homebound seniors will lose their Meals on Wheels service.

The Human Services Community Matching Grant is a sound, long-term community investment we support. Thank you.

*Denise Daniello*  
4/15/03

We, who have signed our names below, support full funding for the Alaska Longevity Bonus and the Human Services Community Marching Grant programs. They help Alaskan seniors to remain independent and live at home. Please do not cut these important programs from the legislative budget.

Thank You.

Last Name	First Name	Mailing Address	City	State	Zip Code	Signature
HUBER	FRANCO	1636 STACIA	FAIRBANKS	AK	99701	FRANCO HUBER
FAIRBANKS	KEVIN	3250 ADAMS	FAIRBANKS	AK	99701	KEVIN FAIRBANKS
SHOCKLEY	ROSE	455-3700 304th Fairbanks	FAIRBANKS	AK	99701	ROSE SHOCKLEY
BLADY	GLADICE	1501 BUTTERCUP ST	FAIRBANKS	AK	99701	GLADICE BLADY
WEINER	RAITH	330 3rd Ave	FAIRBANKS	AK	99701	RAITH WEINER
STARCKEL	HAROLD	666-1144 AK. unit 104	FAIRBANKS	AK	99701	HAROLD STARCKEL
YOUNG	MARIE	1420 MOORE ST	FAIRBANKS	AK	99701	MARIE YOUNG
BARFORTH	NETTE	315 FARWELL AVE FAIRBANKS	FAIRBANKS	AK	99701	NETTE BARFORTH
HEINTZ	ROSE	292 NARROW VIEW LN	FAIRBANKS	AK	99702	ROSE HEINTZ
MEASE	J.W.	665-10th Ave	FAIRBANKS	AK	99701	J.W. MEASE
LAIBANKS		2604 Kuskokwim	LAIBANKS	AK	99709	
LAIBANKS		2604 Kuskokwim	LAIBANKS	AK	99709	
PO. Box		70346	FAIRBANKS	AK	99707	
MEASE	J.W.	1680 KIANA ST	FAIRBANKS	AK	99709	J.W. MEASE
PO Box		30001	FAIRBANKS	AK	99708	
PO Box		60203	FAIRBANKS	AK	99706	
WATER		1015 DALY ST	FAIRBANKS	AK	99709	
570		KENTZHE DR.	FAIRBANKS	AK	99709	
275		WALDEN DR.	FAIRBANKS	AK	99709	
70 BOX		70455	FAIRBANKS	AK	99707	
BREMER	CLIFF	P.O. Box 80865	FAIRBANKS	AK	99708	CLIFF BREMER

We who have signed our names below, support full funding for the Alaska Longevity Bonus and the Human Services Community Matching Grant programs. They help Alaskan seniors to remain independent and live at home. Please do not cut these important programs from the legislative budget.

Thank You.

Last Name	First Name	Mailing Address	City	State	Zip Code	Signature
Bolma	Ruth	P.O. Box 50-155	Fairbanks	Alaska	99708	Ruth B. Bolma
Thomas	Melissa	1606 Heritage Rd.	Fairbanks	AK	99709	Melissa Thomas
Ferguson	Katherine	1829 Jack St.	Fairbanks	AK	99709	Katherine Ferguson
Yankovic	Marie	1420 Noble St.	Fairbanks	AK	99701	Marie Yankovic
GAMBA	MARTIN	1436 LATHROP	Fairbanks	AK	99701	Martin Gamba
Hoffman	Marianne	708 Remy St.	Fairbanks	AK	99701	Marianne Hoffman
Wilson	JOAN L.	629 Gingko	Fairbanks	AK	99709	Joan L. Wilson
CHILLEN	Jeanne	1721 UNIVERSITY AVE.	Fairbanks	AK	99709	Jeanne Chillen
Roth	Martha	666-11th APT. C-21	Fairbanks	AK	99701	Martha Roth
Walsh	Margaret	P.O. Box 80304	Fairbanks	AK	99708	Margaret Walsh
Walker	Margaret	1731 Univ. Blvd	Fairbanks	AK	99709-4944	Margaret Walker
DeLo	Debra	6755 Old Rich Hwy	Salekpa	AK	99774	Debra DeLo

**Testimony given on behalf of the Alaska Historical Society by President Candy Waugaman.**

**The proposed \$255,000 decrease in funding for the Alaska State Library, one of the most user-friendly agencies of our State and one that exists to serve the public and preserve Alaskan history, is a sorry sign of the times and the priorities our elected officials choose to give government.**

RECEIVED  
APR 16 2003

**I'm sure that everyone taking part in this testimony today has used a library, grown up with a library nearby, and taken their own children to use such a facility. Children know what a library is by the time or before they know about apple pie and baseball...and everyone enjoys the library! There is not another agency in the State of Alaska that can brag such recognition, and few other agencies that are ever happily used by people during their lifetime.**

**Standing in line to get my license from Motor Vehicles, being summoned for jury duty, fined by DEC, or involved with the AG's office are all unpleasant experiences with State agencies. The library is one of the few saving graces of government and many of the various programs offered by the Alaska State Library that are accessible state-wide will be lost with the proposed budget cuts.**

**Most significant to a collector such as myself will be the curtailment of preservation programs of our historical collection, a collection that affords our grandchildren the opportunity to view how we lived and how the times were in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries in Alaska.**

**The budget cuts will also result in reduced hours at the library for walk-in use and inquiries through other means, and reduction in staff to maintain web access to the Alaska State Library collections and services. In addition, the cuts to the archives budget will result in limited public access to historic records, as well as limiting your access to research proposed actions being taken by the legislature and other branches of state government.**

**Budget cuts will eliminate SLED, our Alaska information web site. This is a programs used by researchers statewide, and is of particular importance to students and the universities and community colleges throughout Alaska.**

**The Alaska State Library has suffered through legislative budget cuts over the last decade because of lack of support by our elected officials of this essential part of state government that cannot be self-sustaining. Like the Governor's Office and the Legislature itself, some departments just can't pay their own way, but are necessary. I would put the library at the top of that list!**

**Hb . 4 has provided amendments that fund approximately ½ the cuts to this year's budget, and would provide for basic services from these state operated facilities. In addition, a minimal amount of funding reinstated to the Alaska State Archives would provide for that agency to remain open full time.**

**I would hope that those of you given the opportunity to support protection of your past would happily do so by, at the very minimum, reinstating funding to the degree proposed by the house for operations in our Alaska State Museums, Alaska State Library and our Historical Collections.**

**Thank you for your time.**



# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Fot!  
462  
2157

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Finance Committee **RECEIVED**  
 Committee on SB 35 - Budget Committee Name Dated 4-15-03 **APR 16 2003**  
Bill / Subject

Tiber Reibman - Arctic Alliance for People (network of over 40 human service providers in Interior Alaska)  
 The strength of any society, community, or state can be measured by its capacity to care for its needy and its willingness to support and educate its children. That capacity is the support structure of our state and without it we are a far less desirable place to start a business or raise a family.  
 I ask you tonight to strengthen our state by fully restoring the funding for the HSS Community Matching Block Grant. This program provides an efficient, cost effective mechanism for Fairbanks and Anchorage to fund programs that provide a safety net for Alaska that saves the state millions of dollars in terms of the costs of incarceration, public assistance and institutionalization. This is results-based funding at its finest. In Fairbanks alone an average of 31,000 people per year receive services from the programs funded by the matching grant.  
~~These programs also have a million dollars worth of services. The matching grant is the biggest bargain in the state of Alaska.~~

SIGNED: Tiber Reibman On March 27<sup>th</sup> the Borough Assembly unanimously passed a resolution requesting that these funds be restored at the FY02 level of \$1,700,000. The Community Matching Grant is the biggest bargain in the State of Alaska. Please restore these funds and keep intact this critical

Safety net for our state.  
 Tiber S Reibman Arctic Alliance PO Box 438 Ester AK 99725 458-0423

FAX: 465-2157



# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Finance Committee  
 Committee on Statistical Budget Teleconference Committee Name  
 Dated 4-15-03  
 Bill / Subject

RECEIVED  
APR 16 2003

Thank you for this opportunity. Having just visited Uman last week, see the undaunting task before you.

The proposed reduction in funds for the Family Preservation/Family Support grants along with the cuts over the last three years will adversely affect a great many across Alaska. In Fairbanks, it affects RCPC, Fairbanks Counseling & Adoption & SNA Family Focus Program.

I must emphasize these are not just one time reductions. These reductions have continued over the last 3 years in the northern region, totalling over \$96,000 per year & \$160,000 over 2 years.

I currently manage the Family Focus emergency shelter under those grants. It is the only 24 hour emergency facility for children in the interior. A 24 hour facility includes personnel, facility costs of over \$100,000; Safety has already been compromised at the shelter.

SIGNED:

Don Hagan  
Testifier

Fairbanks Native Association Family Focus  
Representing

1307 Windfallway, Fairbanks AK 99707  
Address / Phone Number

465-2187

RECEIVED  
APR 16 2003

Good afternoon, my name is Derek Miller and I'm a student at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. I also am the Student Regent on the UA Board of Regents. I was born and raised in Fairbanks, Alaska and I'm a lifelong Alaskan. I was educated at Weller Elementary, Tenara Middle School and Lathrop High School. I plan on graduating from UAF next month.

I'm here testifying on behalf of not only the University but K-12 Education as you all know is an essential part of the health of this state, never more so than today. Years ago you asked for accountability from the University and you've got it. We have retained more Alaskan high schoolers in the past five years than ever before. We've trained Alaskans in the various growing industries in the state and we've diversified the states sources of revenue. Furthermore, the success of K-12 has increasingly depended on the success of the University as we train the teachers then train your kids.

The state of Alaska is embarking on a new frontier and we've gotten this far in large part because of the contributions of the University. I was just talking with Chancellor Marshall Lind of UAF yesterday and he mentioned to me that applications for the UA scholars program have increased by 60% over where we were at this time last year. Young people are beginning to recognize the caliber of this institution. Please do not impede this progress and fund Education K thru University fully. "I wish you good luck in your difficult deliberations."

-DEREK MILLER



# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

RECEIVED  
APR 16 2003

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Finance

Committee on HB 75 (U of A: K-12) Committee Name Dated 04.15.03

Bill / Subject

Thank you for leading Alaska through these budget deliberations.

Budget cuts aren't easy as it seems the state has been paying for ongoing expenses with one-time revenue sources.

On a small scale, grant programs such as the Learning Opportunity Grants or AST Funds have been funding ongoing and essential education needs.

On a large scale, the State of Alaska has been using its short-term cash reserves to shore up what it considers essential and ongoing services.

Now those grants are being cut. The CBR is being drawn down. WE NEED TO REPLACE THOSE FUNDS WITH GENERAL FUNDS.

In particular, replace education funds (K-U of A) with revenue generated from a state income tax. This will go a long way in DIVERSIFYING STATE REVENUE. Alaska deserves fully-funded education buffered from the crazy swings of oil prices.

Please review "THE WAY WE TAX" at [www.governing.com](http://www.governing.com). ~~AK~~

SIGNED:

MARTA MUELLER

Testifier

UAF Alumna,

Representing

516 Auklet Place Fairbanks AK 99709

Address / Phone Number

Fax 465-2187



# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

RECEIVED  
APR 16 2003

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Finance  
Committee Name  
Committee on Tobacco Prevention & Control Dated 4/15/03  
Bill / Subject

On behalf of myself and all those who enjoy breathing. I am encouraging you to fully fund the Tobacco Prevention and Control.

CDC's Best Practice recommends Alaska spend \$16.5 million to combat the needless deaths from tobacco use. At a minimum CDC believes we need to spend \$8.1 million. This is only 1/8 of the Tobacco Tax & Tobacco Settlement Money.

The legislature has already taken 80% of the Settlement Money for other projects. We are just now turning the corner on Public Awareness of the Toxic Poisons of Tobacco Smoke -

We need consistent funding over the Long Term! I encourage the committee to live up to The Legislative Commitment made 2 years ago: To fund Tobacco Prevention and Control at least 20% of the Tobacco Settlement Funds.

This is important! This is about health, life, and Integrity!

SIGNED:

Diann M. Darnall  
Testifier

Self - Those who enjoy breathing  
Representing

P.O. Box 81189 Fairbanks, 99708 479-0952  
Address / Phone Number

15 April 2003

RECEIVED  
APR 16 2003

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to urge you to:

1. Support full funding for education (from K-12 through the University). Education is not a "frill." It is essential to the future of Alaska.
  2. Stop the move of the Division of Habitat from the Department of Fish and Game to the Department of Natural Resources. The reasons published by the past five Commissioners of the Department of Fish and Game argued effectively for retaining the Division as it is now. The argument for the move was weak and depended on personal gripes from individuals to the Governor.
  3. Retain full funding for revenue sharing to local governments. They depend on these funds to provide vital services, losing them will increase your property taxes.
  4. Alaska's population has increased by about 80,000 people in the past decade; that is the same as the population of the Fairbanks North Star Borough. This growth, combined with inflation, obviously put more burdens on Alaska's state government. But during this time, the Legislature made no effort to raise the needed revenue. Instead, it simply continued cutting the budget. It's like expecting a growing teen-ager to live in the clothes of a five-year old.
- The budget has already been cut too much for too long. This is NOT the time to consider additional budget cuts!
5. Raise revenue by reinstating our state income tax. It is easier to administer and will raise twice as much as the gaggle of taxes proposed by the governor. The rate is set as a simple percentage of the amount actually paid to the federal IRS. This rate was 14% when our income tax was repealed in 1980; the rate can be easily modified as needs change. Reinstating our state income tax is essential; putting it off won't help.
  6. Of the governor's proposed taxes, the only ones that makes sense are the increases in motor vehicle fuel tax and vehicle registration. Alaska is far below all the rest of the states in both of these taxes.

I hope you can understand the need to raise revenue.

Sincerely,  
Carl S. Benson  
1551 Farmers Loop  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

Senators: Thank you for the opportunity for testimony

APRIL 15, 2003

Preserve funds for independent living

copy  
Nurse →

Jo Pedersen / Fairbanks, Alaska  
ACCESS (consumer)

Diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis at age 32, in 1991. ( 11 years ago )

RECEIVED  
APR 16 2003

Worked at UAF as an Adjunct Instructor for the past five years...

I am one of many Alaskans with A disability who would like to continue to work.

With the Help of the Wonderful Agency ACCESS Alaska, they have helped by supplying equipment as well as transportation & housing assistance for out of town medical care.

For instance Last week I was in Anchorage. Acces Alaska made it feasible for me to keep an appointment with my Cardiologist, at The Alaska HeartCenter, for Angioplasty.

... Warming the bed for the Governor ... who arrived two days later...

I am HERE tonight ... I hope the governor is feeling well!

I Implore you to continue Funding these wonderful Agencies.

I am a registered voter.

119 N. Cushman St. Suite 101  
Fairbanks, AK 99701  
Phone: 907-452-4448  
Fax: 907-456-3346

**Fairbanks Legislative  
Information Office**

# Fax

**To:** Senator Lyda Green, Co-Chair

**From:** Fairbanks LIO

Senate Finance Committee

**Fax:** 465-3805

**Date:** 4/15/2003

**Phone:** 465-2187

**Pages:** 18

**Re:** Written Testimony SB 35

**CC:**

**Urgent**

**For The Record**

**Please Comment**

**Please Reply**

**•Comments** Written testimony for SB 35, teleconferenced on 4/15/04. The originals will be pouched to the committee co-chair.

Fran/Fbx LIO



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Finance Committee  
Committee Name

Committee on HB 158 Longevity Bonus dated April 15, 2003  
Bill/Subject

**URGENTI URGENTI URGENTI**

**We greatly oppose Governor Murkowski's action to eliminate the Longevity Bonus in HB 158, and companion measure in the Senate under Senate Bill 117.**

**As long-time residents the elimination of the Longevity Bonus will pose a hardship to our continued living in Alaska, since our investment earnings have declined while our health care costs have increased. We also feel the Longevity Bonus was a promise and to eliminate it now would be unfair and unjust.**

**Alaska has been our home for over 45 years, and we urge you and your committee to protect this program on our behalf and for all seniors in Alaska who now receive monies under this program. Surely Governor Murkowski can find a better source than the Longevity Bonus to reduce funds.**

**Alfred and Virginia Augestad  
1439 Virginia Court  
Anchorage, AK 99501**

Signed

Testifier

Representing (Optional)

1439 Virginia Court

Address

Anchorage AK 99501

Phone Number

(907) 272-0380

TO: SENATOR WILKEN

FROM: DEBBIE

DATE: APRIL 16, 2003

RE:

---

I CANNOT QUOTE YOU DOLLARS AND CENTS THAT WILL MAKE YOU SEE THE FINANCIAL GAIN OF NOT CUTTING FUNDING FOR ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS ACCESS ALASKA. BUT I CAN QUOTE YOU SOME SENSE: THERE CAN BE NO MORE VIRTUOUS VOCATION FOR A HUMAN BEING, A HUMANE BEING THAN ADVOCACY

THANKS,

DEBBIE CONNER  
ACCESS ALASKA

AUTOMATIC COVER SHEET

DATE : APR-16-2003 09:03 AM

TO :

FAX #: 19074652187

FROM : ACCESS ALASKA

FAX #: 907374092552

2 PAGES WERE SENT

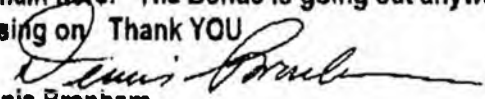
(INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET)

Alaska State Legislature  
Fax 907 465 2187

April; 16, 03

Testimony:: To Committtee on Longivlty Bonus

I have resided in Alaska since April 1941 and I am in favor of the Longivlty Bonus. The Bonus is part of the reason that I am able to stay in Alaska. All of my income including the Bonus is spent here and will continue as long as I remain here. The Bonus is going out anyway due to us older Alaskans passing on. Thank YOU

  
Dennis Branham  
P O Box 190184  
Anchorage Ak. 99519

*FAX 907 243 4907*



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Finance  
 Committee Name  
 Committee on SB 117 - Longevity Bonus dated 4-15-03  
 Bill/Subject

Senators -

I strongly oppose Senate Bill 117. Killing the Longevity Bonus program will force many seniors into more expensive welfare programs or they may be forced to leave their homes and/or the state. If you want us to tighten our belts to help the states economy try a graduated income tax that would fairly spread the pain to all levels and generations.

Signed Albert A Dennis  
 Testifier Albert A DENNIS  
 Representing (Optional)  
 Address 1227 W 12th Ave - Anchorage 99501  
 Phone Number (907) 258-0133



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Finance  
Committee Name

Committee on SB 117 - Longevity Bonus dated 4-15-03  
Bill/Subject

Senators:

I am opposed to Senate Bill 117 - proposing the closing out of payment for Longevity Bonus. These payments not only keep many seniors independent, but are funds vital to the economy, particularly of many small communities.

On all fairness, you need to look at a graduated income tax as the best way to solve the State's financial crisis, not taking away income from old people and the education of our children.

Signed Elizabeth M Dennis

Teasler Elizabeth M. DENNIS

Representing (Optional)

Address 1227 W 12<sup>th</sup> Ave - Anchorage 99501

Phone Number: (907) 258-0133

Vickie & Richard Horodyski  
1035 Ballaine Rd.  
Fairbanks, AK 99709  
Phone: (907) 479-6584 Fax: (907) 457-6584  
Email: horodysk@ptialaska.net

FAX  
COVER SHEET

DATE: 4/15/03  
TO: Senate Finance Committee  
FROM: Vickie Horodyski  
RE: Public Testimony Given During  
Teleconference  
PAGES: 2 (including cover)

COMMENTS: Thank you for allowing  
me to present my  
opinion.

## TESTIMONY C /EN 4-15-03

Vickie Horodyski

1035 Ballaine Rd., Fairbanks, AK 99709

Phone: 479-6584

Email: [horodvsk@otialaska.net](mailto:horodvsk@otialaska.net)

I coordinate our local FAS/FAE Parent Support Group.  
I am on the FACES FAS Diagnostic Team in Fairbanks.

My husband & I received our Foster Care License approximately 14 years ago. 10 years ago we adopted 9 yr old girl. As a result of that adoption and what she has taught us, we now have a specialized license for a therapeutic foster home for children prenatally exposed to alcohol.

Without appropriate interventions and support individuals can develop secondary disabilities. A few of those disabilities are:

- Chronic Unemployment
- Homelessness
- Social Problems
- Mental Illness
- Criminal Acts
- Poverty
- Early Pregnancy
- Alcoholism & Other Addictions

We have seen all of these disabilities occur in the individuals who did not have family or other supports to guide them. Many who experience prenatal exposure to alcohol will never be able to "successfully" live in "total independence". They are a very vulnerable population who need and deserve to be protected. They did not create their disability, but they do have to live with it. The quality of their life is dependent on others to provide them with the support that they need from an early age and for many throughout their adult life. With such supports they can become productive, responsible adults.

If you are not willing to financially support the programs and services that they require, then you need to be prepared for the costly expenses that will result. You will need to put great expense into institutions, hospitals, homeless shelters, and prisons.



# Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on Budget, dated 4/15/03  
Bill/Subject

*This is a copy of a letter sent to  
governor Murkowski. Would you  
please take it into consideration.  
Thank you very much.*

Signed: Janet Girard

Testifier  
self

Representing (Optional)  
1245 Scotwood Dr. Wasilla - 99654  
Address

373-3072  
Phone number

April 8, 2003

Re: Longevity Bonus

Janet B. Girard  
1245 Scotwood Drive  
Wasilla  
Alaska 99654

Dear Governor Murkowski:

Yes Governor Murkowski, I am sure all of us eldest seniors, the ones on the longevity bonus, would be happy to lead Alaska in an effort to right Alaska's financial problems and would like to share the load--if we possibly could. But despite our age we still have the urge for self-preservation and many of us are still endeavoring to give worthwhile service to our communities and families. We are not dunderheads only to be patted on the head and be expected to willingly walk the plank to an early death. Despite being conscientious when it comes to our health care--eating correctly, exercising, including being active in the community, for those who still can, and doing all to maintain mental acuity our bodies still continue to degenerate. With this normal aging process we often need medications that are very costly and difficult to afford without help. We deserve the opportunity to fulfill our lives without having to commit suicide.

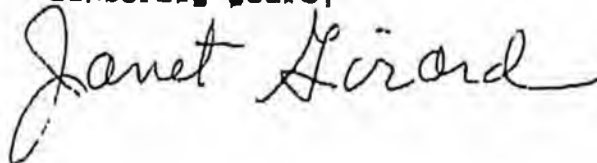
Many of us cannot qualify for Medicaid (which still is at least partly paid by the state), but yet the exorbitant cost of medicine today makes our survival questionable. Without the longevity bonus, many of us will not be able to make it. It is that vital to us.

Do you really feel that the eldest of Alaskan seniors (age 72-onward) are so unimportant and useless that you are willing to sacrifice us for the extra money Alaska needs, causing us great hardship, and in some cases great pain and needless death for lack of medication or food? Surely there must be another more humane way to scare up the bucks.

Many of our oldest seniors have been the pioneers of Alaska and have given much to the state. The already aging children of these seniors would find it hard to replace the loss of the longevity bonus to their parents. Their younger descendants would be just starting out with their own heavy expenses. What you do to us impacts the lives of many others as well.

Can't we at least end our years in a productive way as long as possible and with dignity? Please don't ask us to die sooner than we need to. We are still worthwhile citizens but most of us unfortunately are unable to bear anymore loads, no matter how much we would like to, and now we ourselves are in need of a helping hand. We have given to Alaska--now we need your help. Please don't condemn us to this catastrophe. Please keep the longevity bonus. We and our families will be eternally grateful.

Sincerely yours,



April 15, 2003

Dear Senate Finance Committee:

I am still trying to review SB 35 and understand its complexities. One of the many questions I have is the rent paid to the State of Alaska by the State of Alaska. For example, The Department of Commerce and Economics has a proposed rent budget of \$794,400. This money is to pay the State rent on State property. I don't get it. I wouldn't pay rent to my husband so he can turn it around and give it back to me to give it back to him. I believe this happens a lot. Please someone explain this procedure in the simplest way.

I would like to see another Guardian Ad Litem placed out here in the Valley to help with the increasing number of CINA cases and civil cases that the Valley's one G.A.L. is handling. If we are going to provide legal representation to children then lets see that we give them the same quality as you or I would want from an attorney representing us. If not, why bother to pretend to protect the rights of people who can't protect themselves.

If we need to trim money then we need to consider pay cuts. If my business is doing poorly, then I don't earn much money. If the State is having a hard time making ends meet then the Governor, Lt. Governor and Commissioners may need to freeze or reduce their salaries until the State has more money to pay them. If you want the people of Alaska to reduce their demands for better and more services then we need to see our leadership join us in our economic struggle.

I thank you for your time and attention with regard to this matter.

Sincerely,

Marci Schmidt  
c/o Computer Works  
901 Hermon Road, #1  
Wasilla, Alaska 99654  
907-376-0188 work  
907-357-3618 home  
907-376-9065 fax

**Subject: Senate Finance to Take Public Comment on the Budget**

**Date: Mon, 14 Apr 2003 22:15:57 -0900**

**From: leewilson@gci.net**

**To: Con Bunde <Senator\_Con\_Bunde@Legis.state.ak.us>**

Lee Wilson  
9621 Hillside Drive  
Anchorage, AK 99507-6010  
907-346-3669  
leewilson@gci.net  
4/14/2003  
Senate Budget Subcommittee Closeouts

I am unable to make the call in on Tuesday  
Please accept my comments courtesy of Senator Con  
Bundy.

Governor Murkowski was elected on a pro-  
education campaign among other promises. Cuts to the  
foundation program, transportation and library  
operations are unacceptable. We are asking the  
schools to do more than ever with more accountability  
than ever yet they continue to perform well by any  
measure. These cuts undermine education achievement  
and begin a decline to less than excellent schooling.

The University of Alaska is just regaining its  
footing. Public confidence is just returning. Cuts  
now will undermine program and progress.

The Habitat division must remain with fish  
and Game. The governor clearly does not understand  
that Fish and Game has the best long range look at  
how development affects habitat and how bes

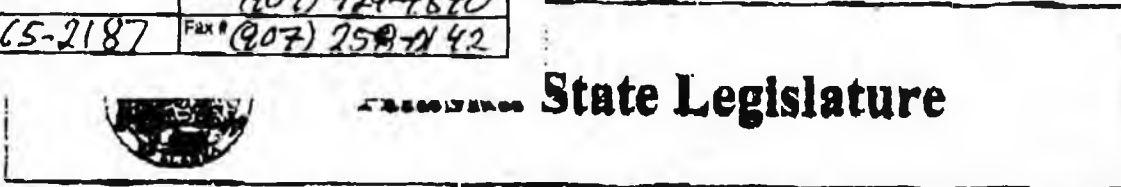
t to  
mitigate damage. Murkowski told us a lot of mis-  
truth about his proposal. I smell a skunk, it reeks  
of outright forestry favoritism . The director of  
DNR came from where?

Close the state chemistry lab in Juneau?  
Doesn't that just tie the hands of environmental  
enforcement?

Safe communities are the heart of democratic  
society. How can a cut of \$4,193.9 be good for my  
family and our neighbors?

How can \$511.7 be subtracted from Motor Vehicles  
without a fee increase to maintain current level of  
service?

Post-It* Fax Note	7671	Date	4/15/03	# of pages	3
To	SENATE FINANCE (COMM)	From	Elliott Dennis		
Co./Dept	State Legislation	Co.			
Phone #		Phone #	(907) 929-4890		
Fax #	(907) 465-2187	Fax #	(907) 258-1142		



Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Finance  
 Committee Name  
 Committee on SB 117 Longevity  
HB 158 BONUS, dated 4/15/03  
 Bill/Subject

Committee Members - Robert Service wrote that "a promise made, is a debt unpaid, and the trail has its own steam code". The Longevity Bonus was implemented by the Legislature to encourage "Old Timers" to stay in ALASKA as they aged. My parents have made ALASKA home since 1957; they are "Old Timers". The longevity bonus program helps them live in their state. Abolition of that program will be a broken promise - a debt unpaid. Abolition of that program will make their life more difficult. So, don't abolish the program.

In stead, screw up some courage and fix the states fiscal crisis permanently. Implement a state income tax which makes everyone who is earning money pay a fair share. At least a state income tax would be used hard - not in Washin.

Signed Elliott Dennis | I paid \$40,000 to the feds in 2002,  
 Testifier | A few more thousand won't add much D.C. /  
 Representing (Optional) | Pain, and it  
 Address 1610 W 10TH AVE | will be for my 900th cent.  
ANCHORAGE, AK 99501  
 Phone Number (907) 929-4890



# Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on SB 35 & SB 36, dated April 15, 2003  
bill #/subject public hearing date

I am concerned with the constant election rhetoric during campaign season that states .... Yes.... let's fully fund education.... I believe it needs to be done ..... Kids are our future, etc. Yet, when push comes to shove education continues to take a back seat to everything. Please create a lottery, take my dividend or tax my income.

Signed: John W. Wenzley  
Testifier

Parent

Representing (optional)

580 Rance Court Kenai, AK 99611  
Address

907-283-6091

Phone number



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the

Senate Finance Committee  
committee name

Committee on

SB35 + SB34  
bill # / subject

, dated

April 15, 2003

Dear Legislatures, I am writing concerning cuts in the University of AK funding. I believe the AK UNIV. system is a wonderful system. My husband got his Masters degree at UAF and I myself have taken many classes there. Now my daughter is a High School Senior who is in the top 10% of her graduating class. As a result she has received the AK Scholars Award. Our family is delighted and honored to receive this gift. I truly believe it is important that you continue programs such as these. We have a Great University and we need great people to attend them. If the money to support the UNIV. system is not there we will definitely lose students. College kids want to experience outstanding education opportunities please don't discourage educators from wanting to teach at our University because we can't offer them adequate wages. Thank you.

Signed:

Nora King  
Testifier

parent former UAF student  
Representing (optional)

4903B Daniels UAF  
Address

776-3436  
Phone number



# Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on SB 35 & SB 36, dated April 15, 2003  
bill # / subject public hearing date

The University of Alaska has made great strides toward the development of programs in high demand employment areas. Alaskans need to have the opportunity to be ~~then~~ trained in these fields, in Alaska. If people are going to remain in Alaska & provide needed services to Alaskans the funding for the University of Alaska needs to be maintained.

I am more than willing to pay <sup>state income</sup> taxes to ensure that Alaskans may be educated and trained for the future. Education of Alaskans at all levels must be a priority for the future our state.

Signed: Krista Timlin  
Testifier

Kenai Peninsula College  
Representing (optional)

P.O. Box 3477, Kenai, AK 99611  
Address

907-283-7972  
Phone number



# Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on Community Schools dated April 15, 2003  
Bill/Subject

The Mat-Su Valley is only receiving 49,000 of this Grant Money. That keeps all schools open in the evenings for Youth Groups to bring the kids of the community. (6 days a week) Mon. thru Fri 3pm to 9pm - 4 middle schools open Saturdays from 8am to 8pm. We have approx. 800 kids in Palmer, 1200 in Wasilla Area, 300 kids in Trapper Creek - Su Valley - Talkeetna area who utilize all these school buildings. If the money is cut, the kids won't be able to use the schools during evening hours. Leaving the kids no place to go. Now we staff these sites with people to cover these events. The children are the ones to suffer if this program is cut.

Signed: Susan R. Fischer / Community Schools Program Facilitator  
Testifier

Community Schools Mat-Su School District  
Representing (Optional)

3901 E. Bogard Road - Wasilla, AK 99654  
Address

(907) 376-0831 / Fax 376-7866  
Phone number Work

Attention Lyda Green  
This is your Valley!



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the (S) FIN committee name

committee on SB35 , dated 4-15-03 bill/subject

MY WIFE AND I NEED THIS LONGEVITY OR MEDICARE FOR OUR MEDICATION TOGETHER WE GET \$1200.00 PER MONTH ON SOCIAL SECURITY 150 LONGEVITY PLUS PERMANENT FUND. WHY DON'T CONGRESS AND GOVERNOR GIVE UP HALF OF THEIR INCOME TO HELP THE STATE ALSO WHY ARE YOU AGAINST A STATE SALES TAX THEN THE TUREST WOULD HELP.

Signed: Charlie R. Michon  
Testifier Charlie R. Michon

Representing (Optional)  
279 HERNDON DR. HOMER, AK 99603

Address  
1-907-235-3935  
Phone No.

Post-it® Fax Note	7671	Date	4-15	# of pages	1
To	S (FIN)	From	HOMER LIO		
Co./Dept.		Co.			
Phone #		Phone #			
Fax #	465-3805	Fax #			

907-465-2187



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Finance  
Committee Name

Committee on Longevity Bonus, dated April 15, 2003  
Bill/Subject

Many cities and states encourage older people to retire in their communities. They don't require schools and other servuces. Their retirement funds are spent locally. Longevity payments encourage eldves to remain in Alaska near their children and grandchildren.

Robert E. Renkcert - Alaska 1943

Mildred W. Renkert - Alaska 1945

Signed Robert E. Renkcert Mildred W. Renkert  
Testifier

Representing (Optional)

Address 1225 S ST. ANCHORAGE, AK. 99501-4231

Phone Number 907-277-0354

April 15, 2003

To: Alaska Senate Finance Committee  
Re: \$30 million cuts to Education

Please do not cut our state education budget. Here is how your choices are affecting one of your school districts.

**Copper River School Districts Budget Concerns**

2002-03 budget	\$5,820,895.00.
03-04 salary and benefit increases & 35% insurance and utility costs)	+ \$374,983.00
Amount needed to continue present programs	\$6,195,878.00.

Reduction need to reach projected 03-04 budget	<u>-\$307,614.00</u>	
District projected preliminary budget (reflects a gain of \$80.00 per student and a loss of 58 correspondence students)		\$5,888,264.00

Senate Proposed reductions:		
20% of bussing to be paid by district	-	\$812,000.00
removal of funding formula increase	-	<u>\$112,000.00</u>
Senate Projected 03-04 budget for CRSD		\$5,594,264.00

Total budget cuts	\$601,614.00
School sites	7-8


(can't consolidate -buildings already full and bus rides would be too long)

Students on Sites	2002-03 /540 students	03-04/539 students
Correspondence	2002-03/180	03-04/121

**Copper River School District needs to make \$601,614.00 in budget cuts, a 10% budget decrease, while our school population remains the same. Go Figure!**

When was the funding formula last increased? Every year it costs more to educate our children, every year that formula needs to go up. How are we supposed to pay our present bills that keep going up, new transportation bills, higher retirement bills, emergency communication bills.....and no additional money in our check book and the same number of mouths at the table?

Extremely Concerned

  
Julie Knutson  
Mother of four (ages 5,7,9 and 12)  
Kenny Lake  
Copper River School District

PS A don't tell me we need a borough to help fund our schools. There is a pipeline that runs through our district. You're making money off that pipeline. You should be giving us a share of that money. Or we could become a borough and take it all.



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Finance Committee  
Committee Name 907-465-2187

Committee on Longevity Bonus, dated 4-15-03  
Bill/Subject

Please accept my letter dated 4/8/03 to Governor Murkowski as testimony on behalf of my father William Margeson and myself: there are not adequate "safety net" programs for Seniors - shortly my father will be without medical services, as the letter illustrates.

Signed Marty Margeson

Testifier my dad - William Margeson

Representing (Optional) 1401 West 13<sup>th</sup> Ave Anchorage AK 99501

Address 907-278-9275

Phone Number



1401 West 13th Ave., Anchorage, AK99501  
Web: [www.anchorage-downtown.com](http://www.anchorage-downtown.com)

**MARTY MARGESON**  
Margeson Real Estate  
Anchorage Downtown Bed & Breakfast  
At "Raspberry Meadows"  
907-278-9275; Fax: 907-278-9282  
Email: [asweethome@eci.net](mailto:asweethome@eci.net)

April 8, 2003

Governor Frank Murkowski  
P.O. Box 110001  
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Re: Without the Longevity Bonus, Pioneer Home Vet Needs "Safety Net Program"

Dear Governor Murkowski:

My 89-year-old father, a decorated World War II naval officer, is destitute and needs funds so he can receive continued medical care and services which are necessary for his health, and pain alleviation. He chose not to apply for the longevity bonus because he did not believe in government handouts. He frugally saved and believed his \$300,000 savings would fund his retirement. Now my dad has paid the Anchorage Pioneer Home (APH) his savings, and has no money left to pay for care and services that the home no longer provides – promised services which are necessary for his health, services which are needed to alleviate pain. I received your mailing entitled "Safety Net Programs Supporting Senior Citizens", but I do not find any programs to assist his needs.

Since my dad's admissions to APH in 9/97 rates have tripled at the Pioneer Homes, making APH twice as expensive as most Anchorage assisted living homes. However, with fee increases the Homes continue to redefine and cut services, and pass more expense on to the residents. For example, under new regulation all handicapped ADRD/Comprehensive residents must provide a traveling companion in order to ride APH's handicapped bus to their medical appointments. Under the stipend program my dad is only allowed \$100 per month to cover his needs; I must supplement this since this is not enough. He cannot pay the \$25+ charge for a companion. I do not see how I can, with a documented back injury, be his companion and push his chair and carry my baby at the same time. As a single mom, I cannot pay this additional cost. If APH has enough staff to transport residents for shopping events or the State Fair, why are they lacking staff for important medical transportation? Why are only the handicapped Pioneer Home residents forced to pay this additional expense/get family assistance to supplement short staffing? Where are the funds in your safety net programs to pay for this?

My father is physically handicapped and mentally challenged with dementia. Prior to admission, we were told APH was the premier assisted living dementia facility, which would provide individualized physical therapy and medical care to meet my dad's needs, and that he could age in place without having to move to a nursing home. Now, in an email dated 2/25/02 Bill O'Connor, Administrator states that because APH is an assisted living home it does "not provide intensive medical services, such as skilled PT or rehabilitative PT to residents. Such skilled health care can be provided off premises, as is the case for Mr. Margeson with Providence Outpatient Physical Therapy". However, without transportation, my dad cannot attend physical therapy off premises. Furthermore, if my dad were receiving adequate exercise/ daily range of motion he would not need rehabilitative physical therapy (HCFA says becoming immobile is an indication of neglect). Because the Home does not provide the promised services, my twice daily visits are spent massaging my dad's painful hand contractures, providing range of motion exercises, providing standing therapy, providing hydration, providing activity/exercise such as ball tossing, and feeding him; there is little time to simply relax and be his daughter. The Home continues to hire administrators, and cut the direct care CNA staff. With diminished services, free access to medical transportation is crucial.

My dad needs funding to pay for the administration of his nutritional supplements – a service promised in writing prior to admission, but no longer provided. This service is provided by other assisted living homes, nursing homes, and the hospital, when doctored ordered, which is the case with my father. I have hired a health care provider at a nominal amount to provide this service. A small portion of my dad's \$2000 social

security benefit would cover the cost, but the Pioneer Homes will allow him to use these funds for medical expenses. There is a grant program available to residents on the stipend, but my dad has been repeatedly denied funding. The Permanent Fund, which is his "safety net", has been spent to pay for this service; his 2003 Permanent Fund is also spent, and he is destitute with no funds to pay for the service. By statute, a resident is allowed to choose his medical care and provider. My dad, son of Welsh-English immigrants, has taken nutritional supplements all of his life. At my dad's Care Conference 9/14/01, APH administration took away the administration of these supplements, which they had administered since 1997, claiming that Nursing Board Minutes dated Dec. 1998 precluded them from providing that service. Long-term Care Ombudsman J.R. Richards, Esq. termed this taking away of services (administering nutritional supplements, and transportation to Outpatient PT) retaliation for the Violation the Pioneer Home received on 8/21/01. I believe this was the Home's first Violation; my handicapped father, who cannot talk/push a call button/summon help, was left painfully restrained on a portable commode for one hour, as documented by video.

APH has pressured my dad's physician to cancel the order for his nutritional supplements, which she has refused to do because of the health benefits to my dad. Where, in your Safety Net Programs are there funds to pay his health care provider for continued service?

My father, an All-American soccer player, suffers pain from past injuries – for years the orthoped successfully prescribed use of APH's whirlpool/Jacuzzi for pain management. Without this service, my dad's brow is furrowed in pain, and he sleeps fitfully. APH's recent remodel replaced the whirlpool with expensive hi-tech sonic skin scaler tubs, which do not provide whirlpool pain management benefits. Without medical transportation, I have been unable to determine if my dad should find an off-premise Jacuzzi, seek massage therapy, or take pain medication, which the doctor is reluctant to prescribe because of possible interactions with other medications. Cost of additional medications/services will increase stipend debt for the Pioneer Homes. Replacing the sonic skin scaler tub with the whirlpool is a cost-effective kinder Eden-like way of treating our Seniors. Are there funds available in your Safety Net for my dad's pain management Jacuzzi?

Budget cutting is necessary, but not at the expense of care for our Seniors. Hiring more administrators and cutting direct care/providing insufficient direct care staff is not the way we should treat Alaskans. Trimming the budget should mean prioritizing services – certainly, a resident should not be denied medical care. How we treat our elders defines the type of care we will receive in our old age. My dad is a proud Veteran – I hope your Safety Net Programs can provide immediate assistance and save him from the embarrassment of seeking funds through church or VFW fundraisers to pay for his medical needs: medical transportation, administration of nutritional supplements, and pain management whirlpool/Jacuzzi therapy. I appreciate your time and look forward to a response from you regarding these issues.

CC: Loren Leman, Lt. Governor

Senator Hollis French

Senator Eric Croft

Senator Lyda Green

Senator Gary Wilkens

Senator Fred Dyson

Senator Gretchen Guess

Representative Ethan Berkowitz

Representative Les Gara

Representative Con Bunde

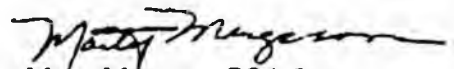
Representative Max Gruenberg

Commissioner Craig Campbell, Dept Military & Veteran Affairs

Ron Cowan, Office of the Long-term Care Ombudsman

CARING

Sincerely,



Marty Margeson, POA for  
Ret. Lt Commander William Margeson



# Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on SB 35 & SB 36, dated April 15, 2003  
bill # / subject public hearing date

To Whom It May Concern:

We here at the FCS vocational department feel that you fully don't understand the importance of DD funding. Without this funding DD consumers will be denied their links to the community. We will not be able to assist them in finding employment that will help them to be an active and contributing member of the community. Please reconsider your decision.

Signed: JOANNA BROWN, BEVERLY SAVAGE, PATRICK GIFFORD, FRANK MILLER  
Testifier SUSAN PETERSON, CHUCK DAVIS

Self  
Representing (optional)

43335 K-Beach Rd #36 Soldotna, AK 99669  
Address

Phone number



# Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on SB 35 & SB 36, dated April 15, 2003  
bill # / subject public hearing date

As a consumer with a disability,  
I depend on the DD funding. Without  
the funding I will be home alone, Bored  
and lonely. the program helps me  
stay busy + keeps me safe.  
These funds help me learn <sup>living</sup> ~~domestic~~  
skills & the opportunity to interact in the  
community

Michelle Davidson  
Rich Peger  
Molly Joseph  
Rager Donohall  
(RANDALL)

43335 K-Beach Rd #36 Soldotna, AK 99669  
Address

Phone number



# Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on SB 35 & SB 36, dated April 15, 2003  
bill # / subject public hearing date

Dear Senator \_\_\_\_\_

It is said that one knows where a country/state is on the evolutionary scale by the way it treats its unique people, i.e., the elderly, persons with disabilities, etc. The DD budget helps people live with dignity; do not take this away!

Sincerely,

Ginger Drais

Care Coordinator

Frontier Community Services

Signed:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Testifier

\_\_\_\_\_  
Self

\_\_\_\_\_  
Representing (optional)

\_\_\_\_\_  
43335 K-Beach Rd #36 Soldotna, AK 99669

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number



# Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on SB 35 & SB 36, dated April 15, 2003  
bill # / subject public hearing date

Dear Senator,

Please restore the \$1,200,000.00 to the Developmental Disability Grant Funds as they provide critical services to the disabled population of our state. Any changes need to be increases not decreases as the funds already fall short of the need.

Karen Stroh  
Care Coordinator for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities

Signed:

Testifier

Self

Representing (optional)

43335 K-Beach Rd #36 Soldotna, AK 99669

Address

Phone number



# Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on SB 35 & SB 36, dated April 15, 2003  
bill # / subject public hearing date

To whom it may concern,

As a care coordinator of DD folks, I see the difference DD services makes in their lives. Many of the people I serve have NO family. With out funding for staff, they would be in crisis after crisis, some institutionalized, and many would be abused and taken advantage of in the community.

Joyce Williams  
Care Coordinator/Activity Coordinator

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Self  
Representing (optional)

\_\_\_\_\_  
43335 K-Beach Rd #36 Soldotna, AK 99669  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number



# Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on SB 35 & SB 36, dated April 15, 2003  
bill # / subject public hearing date

I have a daughter with a severe disability. Without DD funding through the St. of Alaska. our family would NOT be together today. Please restore the 2.2 million dollars back to the DD general grant. The amount that is currently there is NOT enough for people with developmental disabilities.

Thank you,  
Lynnette Haas

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

Testifier

Self

Representing (optional)

43335 K-Beach Rd #36 Soldotna, AK 99669

Address

Phone number



# Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on SB 35 & SB 36, dated April 15, 2003  
bill # / subject public hearing date

April 9, 2003

Dear Senator,

I am writing about a vital need for developmental disability programs in our communities. I genuinely have seen what a difference these programs make. Please, support restoring the Developmental Disability (DD) General Fund Base Grant. Without this funding, families will be torn apart and faced with expenses they already do not have.

Sincerely,

Jessica Glonek  
Community Supports Program Assistant

Signed:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Testifier

\_\_\_\_\_  
Self

\_\_\_\_\_  
Representing (optional)

43335 K-Beach Rd #36 Soldotna, AK 99669  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number



# Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on SB 35 & SB 36, dated April 15, 2003  
bill # / subject public hearing date

I have had the opportunity to work with children that have significant developmental delays. Medicaid and other resources will be used as a "side stitch" to accommodate those specific needs if the DD budget is cut. It is our children that are being affected and they are our future. Please help us today!!!!

*Jane Aragon*

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

Testifier

Self

Representing (optional)

43335 K-Beach Rd #36 Soldotna, AK 99669

Address

Phone number



# Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on SB 35 & SB 36, dated April 15, 2003  
bill # / subject public hearing date

As the parent of a child with multiple developmental disabilities, I know first hand the necessity for services. Such services help families stay together and function as other families do. Please restore the \$2.2 million in DD funding to help families who will be in crisis without the services these funds provide!!  
Cindy Deming

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Self  
Representing (optional)

43335 K-Beach Rd #36 Soldotna, AK 99669  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number



# Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on SB 35 & SB 36, dated April 15, 2003  
bill # / subject public hearing date

Please send the following POM to the list of Senators attached:

I urge you to restore the \$1,200,000 of underutilized funds to the Developmental Disability (DD) General Fund Base Grant budget line. Community Services are a cost effective way to provide the services necessary to keep families/individuals out of crisis without assessing more expensive Medicaid funded services. Wini Crosby

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

Testifier

Self

Representing (optional)

43335 K-Beach Rd #36 Soldotna, AK 99669

Address

Phone number



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the

Senate Finance Committee  
committee name

Committee on

SB 35 & SB 36

bill # / subject

, dated

April 15, 2003

please dont take out  
spending away it would cause  
problems like my meds housing  
staff I would be on the street  
lose everything or go in a group home  
with I dont want to do think about  
it ok or I will die <sup>and</sup> sick please  
dont mess up my life ok thank-you  
for the help in the past

43335 K-Beach Rd #36

Soldotna, AK 99669

Address

Cindy P. Kukner



# Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on SB 35 & SB 36, dated April 15, 2003  
bill # / subject public hearing date

*Please, restore the funding  
because if you dont, I will not  
have any actives, and be in  
a group home setting if suck of  
and would not have a ~~job~~  
job.  
Thank you for your support  
in the past.*

*Ric Hunter*

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

Testifier

Self

Representing (optional)

4335 K-Beach Rd #36 Soldotna, AK 99669

Address

Phone number

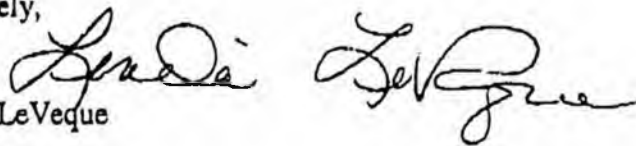
Linda LeVeque  
197 W. Corral St.  
Soldotna, AK 99669  
907-262-5675  
April 9, 2003

To Whom it Concern:

I am currently a foster mother for a boy with disabilities. It is because of the DD funding that I am able to provide a therapeutic home and supply him with the services he so desperately needs. It is because of this that he is now developing peer relations and inclusion could be part of his future. If this funding is removed I know for certain that I would be negatively affected, and that it then would affect the environment that my foster son has become so accustomed to. Please do not destroy what we have labored so hard to achieve these past two years.

Sincerely,

Linda LeVeque



**Subject: Senate Finance Committee Hearing**

**Date: Mon, 14 Apr 2003 19:25:31 -0600**

**From: "roguszka" <roguszka@myexcel.com>**

**To: <Senator\_Con\_Bunde@Legis.state.ak.us>**

I would like you to forward my comments on the fiscal gap issue to the Senate Finance Committee for its April 15-16 hearing. My comments are in my letter to you of March 15, 2003 as to my thoughts for a significant solution. You kindly responded to me via letter of April 1, 2003. That four page proposal, if applied to everyone using Alaska for whatever reason including corporations, would generate in excess of \$237,500.000 annually.

Eugene G. Roguszka  
4400 O'Malley Rd.,  
Anchorage, AK 99507

(Bunde)  
C

**Senator Con Bunde  
Alaska State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182**

**Senator Bunde:**

**In response to your e-mail of March 11, 2003 requesting my thoughts as to the best solution to Alaska's fiscal gap, I propose the adoption of an "Alaska Universal User Fee". Within the criteria of my proposal, that fee could generate at least \$237,500,000 annually.**

- 1. The fee would apply to every person using Alaska for what ever reason, i.e., living here as a resident or non-resident, visiting as a tourist, entering and spending some time as a salesman, contractor (including all contractor personnel), consultant, working as an off-shore or on-shore fisherman, out-of-state oil field worker—just to name a handful of typical users.**
- 2. The fee would effectively be a monthly fee.**
- 3. The fee would be voluntary for the first 48 hours of an arrival in Alaska. It could be voluntary for the 11th and 12th months of a consecutive period related to a calendar year. For all other time, the fee would be mandatory and due.**
- 4. As a condition of adopting the "Alaska Universal User Fee", both the Permanent Fund Distribution Program and the Longevity Bonus Program would continue, basically in accord with present practices.**
- 5. Fees due could be deducted from the Permanent Fund Dividend, through payroll deduction, as a surcharge on airplane tickets, and as a payment at a port of entry of a vehicle or boat. Some users might be difficult to reach such as "outside" fishermen of the Bering Sea; however, I believe, these people could be reached via fish landings.**
- 6. Duplication must be avoided. Accordingly, a receipt would be issued to a recipient of a PFD check (if the fee was deducted therein) to avoid a**

payroll deduction covering the same calendar period. A decal, or similar device, would be issued to a motorhome/car visitor upon entering Alaska to avoid a citation by a law enforcement officer.

7. With the "Alaska Universal User Fee" in place, some other proposals might not be necessary, i.e., annual school tax, state wildlife conservation pass, the seasonal sales tax, and discontinuation of the Longevity Bonus Program---that program will phase itself out soon enough if one carefully reads the obituary pages.

8. The "Alaska Universal User Fee" might be in the range of \$15 to \$25 per month.

Some basic statistics should be noted:

- o The population of Alaska in the year 2002 was 643,786; this was a healthy increase from 633,630 in the year 2001. The increase was 1.6%.
- o The number of paid PFD applicants was 587,518 in 2002 vs. 581,509 in 2001. This was an increase of only 1.0%
- o The number of non-resident workers was 67,963 in 2001; resident workers were 301,881 which does not include federal employees and the self employed---some of whom probably were paid the PFD.
- o The number of visitors (arrivals to Alaska) between October 2001 and September 2002 was well over 1,500,000 people; this does not include resident arrivals.

Based on a user fee of, say, \$25 per month, the revenue generated annually would be:

- |                                                      |               |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| o PFD applicants 587, 518 @ \$250 each               | \$146,900,000 |
| o Residents (non-PFD recipients) 56,268 @ \$250 each | \$14,100,000  |

o Non-resident workers who work full time, say 50% of 67,963 @ \$250 each	\$ 8,500,000
o Non-resident workers who work less than full time, say 50% of 67,963 @ \$25 per month for 6 month average	\$ 5,100,000
o Visitors of 1,500,000, say, 10% for 2 months @ \$25	\$ 7,500,000
o Visitors of 1,500,000, say, 90% for 1 month @ \$25	\$33,800,000
o Sub-Total	\$215,900,000
o It is not unrealistic to add a contingency of 10% to cover growth in 2003 and to expect identification of additional users not herein noted. Further refine- ment of data by more intimately knowledgeable people within the government may add even more. Add 10% of \$215,900,000	\$ 21,600,000
o Total	\$237,500,000

At a rate of \$20, the revenue generated would be \$190,000,000; at a rate of \$15, the annual revenue would be \$142,500,000. Each \$1.00

would generate \$9,500,000.

This illustrates my view that we individually and collectively have an obligation to support reasonable levels and sizes of state services. In my earlier letter to you, I expressed opposition to elimination of the Longevity Bonus Program now because that would have placed a major share of the financial burden on a very small increment of the population.

The above approach is one of fairness and equality in sharing the cost without an excessive burden to each of us. No one person or group is singled out for special treatment.

I am available to discuss this proposal further.

Sincerely,



Eugene G. Roguszka

4400 O'Malley Road

Anchorage, Alaska 99507-6524

Phone 907-346-1024; Fax 907-346-1074

E-Mail: [roguszka@myexcel.com](mailto:roguszka@myexcel.com)

March 15, 2003

**Subject: Re: Legislative Update - Senate Finance to Take Public Comment on the Budget**

**Date:** Sun, 13 Apr 2003 13:34:45 -0700 (PDT)

**From:** doug hill <deeryard2001@yahoo.com>

**To:** Con Bunde <Senator\_Con\_Bunde@Legis.state.ak.us>

Senator Bunde,

Thank you for the updates that you send to us, your constituents.

It seems that the ruling class in Juneau erroneously believes that we have to dismantle (HB 191, EO 107) the ability to protect the very things that make Alaska rich - our lakes, streams, rivers, wetlands, riparian zones, etc. in order to cut state spending. I would gladly relinquish my PFD and pay taxes in order to maintain the quality of Alaska's habitat. You can't have fish and wildlife without habitat. Don't you treat your home and your yard like some of the poor resource extraction companies and contractors treat the country in the vicinity of their projects. When are folks going to stand up and treat the country with some respect.

I will support responsible development and responsible politicians. I grew up in a Republican family and have voted undeclared as an adult. I have voted for whom I felt was the best candidate (Republican and Democrat). But, after witnessing the fiasco with regard to EO 107 and HB 191/SB 143 I plan to do all I can to assist any party other than the Republican party in the future. EO 107 and HB 191/SB 143 are just two examples of situations where there WAS NO LEGITIMATE OR INTELLIGENT CASE, YET THE VAST MAJORITY OF REPUBLICANS WERE NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO THINK FOR THEMSELVES - THEY LOCK STEPPED TO THE MURKOWSKI BEAT IN SPITE OF PUBLIC SENTIMENT. Until a Republican can show me they are working for the state and not special interests, I will join the growing ranks of anti-republicans.

It is time to dissolve the two party system. I am tired of Democrat and Republican partisan politics.

Thank you for your time and efforts,  
Doug Hill  
Constituent

Con\_Bunde@Legis.state.ak.us wrote:

Dear Neighbors,

Budget reductions are difficult because they have real impacts on some Alaskans. That is frustrating after twenty years of not having to address that reality. However, it's my considered opinion that if we do not address the reductions and the revenues necessary to fill our fiscal gap, Alaska's economy will experience a drastic downturn that will have a negative impact on business, state services, and all citizens alike.

That's the long way to say that while no one likes it when a program they use and/or value is cut, and no one likes the prospect of new taxes or fees, most of us recognize that if the State continues to spend more money than it has, we'll be in deep financial trouble that will require very deep cuts to core services plus higher taxes than are currently proposed. Plus, perhaps, even the loss of our PFDs.

The House has passed their version of the Governor's budget proposal to the Senate, which

**Subject: Re: Legislative Update - Senate Finance to Take Public Comment on the Budget**

**Date:** Sun, 13 Apr 2003 16:22:36 -0800

**From:** M&J Coulombe <coulombe@gci.net>

**To:** Con Bunde <Senator\_Con\_Bunde@Legis.state.ak.us>

Con - CUT CUT CUT!!! Cut the Longevity Bonus and anything else we can possibly do!! Support the Governor's proposals!

----- Original Message -----

From: Con Bunde

To: Legislative Update

Sent: Friday, April 11, 2003 5:11 PM

Subject: Legislative Update - Senate Finance to Take Public Comment on the Budget

Dear Neighbors,

Budget reductions are difficult because they have real impacts on some Alaskans. That is frustrating after twenty years of not having to address that reality. However, it's my considered opinion that if we do not address the reductions and the revenues necessary to fill our fiscal gap, Alaska's economy will experience a drastic downturn that will have a negative impact on business, state services, and all citizens alike.

That's the long way to say that while no one likes it when a program they use and/or value is cut, and no one likes the prospect of new taxes or fees, most of us recognize that if the State continues to spend more money than it has, we'll be in deep financial trouble that will require very deep cuts to core services plus higher taxes than are currently proposed. Plus, perhaps, even the loss of our PFDs.

The House has passed their version of the Governor's budget proposal to the Senate, which has also been considering their version in various subcommittees. **The Senate Finance Committee will be taking public comment on their proposed budget from around the state April 15-16. Anchorage residents will be able to comment via teleconference on April 15th between 8:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. at the Anchorage Legislative Information Office, 716 W. 4th Avenue.**

While you have doubtless read about the more controversial budget proposals in the newspaper, I encourage you to review the Senate Finance Subcommittees' Close-out Reports for yourself at <http://www.legfin.state.ak.us/> and take the time to offer your comments to the full committee. You can do so during the public comment teleconference. If you cannot get to the teleconference, but would like to comment, please contact me, preferably in writing by fax or e-mail, and I will be happy to forward your comments to the committee for the record.

Con

*All addresses are "blind" for your privacy. A strict "no spam" policy is observed. If you don't wish to receive "Legislative Update," just let me know. If you know a friend or neighbor who has not received "Legislative Update" but would like to be included, I will be glad to include them (if they contact me). Your replies, comments, questions, and/or suggestions are welcome. Constituent comments on legislation and policy issues may be tabulated, shared with other legislators, or quoted in speeches. Names, however, will be kept private.*

**Subject: RE: Legislative Update - Senate Finance to Take Public Comment on the Budget**

**Date:** Mon, 14 Apr 2003 12:45:03 -0500

**From:** "Townsend, Monte A" <TownseMA@BP.com>

**To:** "Con Bunde" <Senator\_Con\_Bunde@Legis.state.ak.us>

Con,

Just a quick note in response. And I am your neighbor - physically, as our property joins each other on Goldenview.

Please maintain your stance on reducing spending, even though it means cuts to services. I favor user fees, substantial ones if necessary. Then we can more appropriately make the decision of how much we want to pay for. I do not agree with monies going into a general fund to then be distributed.

The suggested reduction by the governor is good. Please support. Personally I would even push harder on trying to take out expenses this year.

A little good news. Compared to many other States our budget is much better off!

Thanks for working hard.

Monte Townsend

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Con Bunde [mailto:Senator\_Con\_Bunde@Legis.state.ak.us]

**Sent:** Friday, April 11, 2003 5:12 PM

**To:** Legislative Update

**Subject:** Legislative Update - Senate Finance to Take Public Comment on the Budget

Dear Neighbors,

Budget reductions are difficult because they have real impacts on some Alaskans. That is frustrating after twenty years of not having to address that reality. However, it's my considered opinion that if we do not address the reductions and the revenues necessary to fill our fiscal gap, Alaska's economy will experience a drastic downturn that will have a negative impact on business, state services, and all citizens alike.

That's the long way to say that while no one likes it when a program they use and/or value is cut, and no one likes the prospect of new taxes or fees, most of us recognize that if the State continues to spend more money than it has, we'll be in deep financial trouble that will require very deep cuts to core services plus higher taxes than are currently proposed. Plus, perhaps, even the loss of our PFDs.

The House has passed their version of the Governor's budget proposal to the Senate, which has also been considering their version in various subcommittees. **The Senate Finance Committee will be taking public comment on their proposed budget from around the state April 15-16. Anchorage residents will be able to comment via teleconference on April 15th between 8:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. at the Anchorage Legislative Information Office, 716 W. 4th Avenue.**

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**Subject: RE: Legislative Update - Senate Finance to Take Public Comment on the Budget**

**Date:** Mon, 14 Apr 2003 11:07:58 -0800

**From:** "Carman, John" <JCarman@homestatemtg.com>

**To:** 'Con Bunde' <Senator\_Con\_Bunde@Legis.state.ak.us>

Thank you for the information. Please pass my comments on to the committee. As O'Riley would say I will try to be Pithy when I Opine.

I have lived in Alaska since 1971 - I am in the banking industry and have seen many booms and busts. I agree with you completely that an adjustment should be made in smaller amounts earlier rather than large drastic amounts later. I also firmly believe that the purpose of the permanent fund was to fund government. The only way you can justify taxing one group of Alaskans while you are paying out "excess" money to another group is if you believe the purpose of government is to redistribute income. In that case you also need to move to a socialist country - but you better move quick because they are all failing rapidly. No argument of 'Fairness' makes any sense - why is it more fair to tax a working, contributing, Alaskan that has lived here for many years rather than take part of a pfd from a 10 year old that moved here from Los Angeles last year ?

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Con Bunde [mailto:Senator\_Con\_Bunde@Legis.state.ak.us]

**Sent:** April 11, 2003 5:12 PM

**To:** Legislative Update

**Subject:** Legislative Update - Senate Finance to Take Public Comment on the Budget

Dear Neighbors,

Budget reductions are difficult because they have real impacts on some Alaskans. That is frustrating after twenty years of not having to address that reality. However, it's my considered opinion that if we do not address the reductions and the revenues necessary to fill our fiscal gap, Alaska's economy will experience a drastic downturn that will have a negative impact on business, state services, and all citizens alike.

That's the long way to say that while no one likes it when a program they use and/or value is cut, and no one likes the prospect of new taxes or fees, most of us recognize that if the State continues to spend more money than it has, we'll be in deep financial trouble that will require very deep cuts to core services plus higher taxes than are currently proposed. Plus, perhaps, even the loss of our PFDs.

The House has passed their version of the Governor's budget proposal to the Senate, which has also been considering their version in various subcommittees. **The Senate Finance Committee will be taking public comment on their proposed budget from around the state April 15-16. Anchorage residents will be able to comment via teleconference on April 15th between 8:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. at the Anchorage Legislative Information Office, 716 W. 4th Avenue.**

While you have doubtless read about the more controversial budget proposals in the newspaper, I encourage you to review the Senate Finance Subcommittees' Close-out Reports for yourself at <http://www.legfin.state.ak.us/> and take the time to offer your comments to the full committee. You can do so during the public comment teleconference. If you cannot get to the teleconference, but would like to comment, please contact me, preferably in writing by fax or e-mail, and I will be happy to forward your comments to the committee for the record.

Con

**Subject: Re: Legislative Update - Senate Finance to Take Public Comment on the Budget**

**Date:** Sun, 13 Apr 2003 08:58:12 -0800

**From:** Dianne Holmes <dianeh@corecom.net>

**To:** Con Bunde <Senator\_Con\_Bunde@Legis.state.ak.us>

Con,

I have looked at part of the Close-out reports and while they are of course very confusing to the average citizen, I have some questions:

Regarding the fire suppression funds--it appears there is a lot of new funding especially for 'preparedness.' What will those funds actually be used for?

Also I see in the Ed budget that the funding for "ward of the state" has been eliminated which will affect the larger cities such as Anchorage. I assume that DFYS is still responsible for child abuse and neglect, so I would assume that funding would still be needed for those children who become wards of the state. I am not sure what funding DFYS has for such needs or why the Ed budget has/had this program, but I would think DFYS can't do their job without means to deal with 'wards.' What does this mean?

I did not see anything about Community Schools in the budget but may have missed it. You know that CS gives the whole state the biggest bang for the buck and probably should be under mental health. Sometimes such low cost programs are the only healthy social outlet that families have. New-to-the-state families & those where English is not their first language may use CS as their only social outlet for becoming familiar with a strange climate. Anything that can be done to help volunteers carry out this critical program should be encouraged as we all benefit in the end with a healthier society. The program should not be deleted from the statutes (like was planned, I believe) and some, even minor, funding should be given to help keep this program alive so that it can be revived more fully when our next Prudhoe comes in.

Dianne Holmes

**Subject: Re: Legislative Update - Senate Finance to Take Public Comment on the Budget**

**Date:** Sun, 13 Apr 2003 08:20:04 -0800

**From:** Steve Henslee <shenslee@juno.com>

**To:** Senator\_Con\_Bunde@Legis.state.ak.us

Con,

I agree with your recent e-mail and I agree the PFD will go away, but not now. The legislature has shown no fiscal responsibility to date and their only solution has been to find more money. With this mind set, the permanent fund will not be permanent for long. You say we have not had to deal with reality. Allowing access to the permanent fund prior to real fiscal decisions being made and before someone stands up to take leadership in the legislature (this does not include Pete Kott), access to the permanent fund will only continue the dream world. If you think we have problems now, what will it look like when there is no permanent fund?

I fully support the governor's budget, please support it in Juneau. I know it's tough, but now is the opportunity to lead.

Steve Henslee

**Subject: Re: Legislative Update - Senate Finance to Take Public Comment on the Budget**

**Date:** Fri, 11 Apr 2003 20:04:20 -0800 (Alaskan Standard Time)

**From:** "FINKLE" <finkle@arctic.net>

**To:** <Senator\_Con\_Bunde@Legis.state.ak.us>

Dear Senator Bunde,

When the surplus is gone, it's gone. When the special programs of reward are out of money, then they too are gone. That will eventually include the PFD which I personally feel should be applied to the infra structure of Alaska. I guess the question is, will the political climate use PFD wisely or bring the "pork" back to their constituents without the greater interest of Alaska at heart? I think the public thinks the legislature is not capable of the greater good when local interests pull off resources needed for state wide benefit.

There are no free rides. If people want improvements and a social structure supportive of their life style, then taxes are required to provide that elevated level of living (i.e. roads, education, harbors and trade)

I don't think paying the bills has much to do with developing new economic opportunities. However, if you don't pay the bills then you've got a debt which has a negative impact on every aspect of living in the state. Paying the bills has everything to do with the maintenance of the state, its programs and its ability to give our citizens what they have come to expect as a given without paying the "fiddler." Something has to give. It's time to pay the fiddler. I am not familiar with the detailed aspects of the Governor's budget proposal. Regardless, if the public has to chip in to maintain our level of maintenance and operation, then so be it.

Rod Finkle

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Con Bunde

**Date:** Friday, April 11, 2003 17:15:27

**To:** Legislative Update

**Subject:** Legislative Update - Senate Finance to Take Public Comment on the Budget

Dear Neighbors,

Budget reductions are difficult because they have real impacts on some Alaskans. That is frustrating after twenty years of not having to address that reality. However, it's my considered opinion that if we do not address the reductions and the revenues necessary to fill our fiscal gap, Alaska's economy will experience a drastic downturn that will have a negative impact on business, state services, and all citizens alike.

That's the long way to say that while no one likes it when a program they use and/or value is cut, and no one likes the prospect of new taxes or fees, most of us recognize that if the State continues to spend more money than it has, we'll be in deep financial trouble that will require very deep cuts to core services plus higher taxes than are currently proposed. Plus, perhaps, even the loss of our PFDs.

The House has passed their version of the Governor's budget proposal to the Senate, which has also been considering their version in various subcommittees. **The Senate Finance Committee will be taking public comment on their proposed budget from around the state April 15-16. Anchorage residents**

**Subject: Response to Legislative Update**

**Date:** Mon, 14 Apr 2003 21:50:25 -0800

**From:** "Jenny Redick & Regan Sarwas" <jnr@alaska.net>

**To:** "Con Bunde" <Senator\_Con\_Bunde@Legis.state.ak.us>

Hi Con:

Thanks for the great job keeping your constituents informed. We appreciate it.

Regarding the budget reductions, we find it incredible that the Republican legislature is unable to end a welfare program for wealthy older Alaskans while simultaneously cutting funding for the care and education of our young.

Given our limited resources, why are we reducing our investment in the most vulnerable portion of our population (the segment of the population that will return that investment in the future), while maintaining our expenditures on the members of our community that, as a whole, are already well provided for?

The answer to that question is blatantly obvious to voters. Legislators are pandering to those with the most political clout even if they have the least need. It is distressing to us that thoughtful, responsible leadership in this area is so lacking. What kind of message is this sending about our priorities? What kind of future are we helping to build for our community?

We know that budget cuts are necessary at this time. We hope that you will be a voice of reason during this process.

Sincerely,  
Regan Sarwas and Jenny Redick

**Subject: Re: Legislative Update - Senate Finance to Take Public Comment on the Budget**

**Date:** Fri, 11 Apr 2003 17:19:24 -0800

**From:** Gary Miller <gary.miller@alaska.com>

**To:** Con Bunde <Senator\_Con\_Bunde@Legis.state.ak.us>

We agree, it's time to get real, start with an income tax, reduce pfd and use balance toward necessary state expenses. We cannot just cut our way to insanity which the current direction. We are more than willing to pay more taxes!

Gary and Susan Miller

**From:** Con Bunde <Senator\_Con\_Bunde@Legis.state.ak.us>

**Organization:** Alaska State Legislature

**Date:** Fri, 11 Apr 2003 17:11:38 -0800

**To:** Legislative Update <lsncbun+legupdate@legis.state.ak.us>

**Subject:** Legislative Update - Senate Finance to Take Public Comment on the Budget

Dear Neighbors,

Budget reductions are difficult because they have real impacts on some Alaskans. That is frustrating after twenty years of not having to address that reality. However, it's my considered opinion that if we do not address the reductions and the revenues necessary to fill our fiscal gap, Alaska's economy will experience a drastic downturn that will have a negative impact on business, state services, and all citizens alike.

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While you have doubtless read about the more controversial

**Subject: Senate Finance to Take Public Comment on the Budget**

**Date: Mon, 14 Apr 2003 22:15:57 -0900**

**From: leewilson@gci.net**

**To: Con Bunde <Senator\_Con\_Bunde@Legis.state.ak.us>**

Lee Wilson  
9621 Hillside Drive  
Anchorage, AK 99507-6010  
907-346-3669  
leewilson@gci.net  
4/14/2003  
Senate Budget Subcommittee Closeouts

I am unable to make the call in on Tuesday  
Please accept my comments courtesy of Senator Con  
Bundy.

Governor Murkowski was elected on a pro-  
education campaign among other promises. Cuts to the  
foundation program, transportation and library  
operations are unacceptable. We are asking the  
schools to do more than ever with more accountability  
than ever yet they continue to perform well by any  
measure. These cuts undermine education achievement  
and begin a decline to less than excellent schooling.

The University of Alaska is just regaining its  
footing. Public confidence is just returning. Cuts  
now will undermine program and progress.

The Habitat division must remain with fish  
and Game. The governor clearly does not understand  
that Fish and Game has the best long range look at  
how development affects habitat and how bes

t to  
mitigate damage. Murkowski told us a lot of mis-  
truth about his proposal. I smell a skunk, it reeks  
of outright forestry favoritism. The director of  
DNR came from where?

Close the state chemistry lab in Juneau?  
Doesn't that just tie the hands of environmental  
enforcement?

Safe communities are the heart of democratic  
society. How can a cut of \$4,193.9 be good for my  
family and our neighbors?

How can \$511.7 be subtracted from Motor Vehicles  
without a fee increase to maintain current level of  
service?

# Cook Inlet Historical Society

April 14, 2003

To all Senate Finance Committee Members:

Senator Lyda Green, Co-chair (Fax: 465-3805)  
Senator Gary Wilken, Co-Chair (Fax 465-4714)  
Senator Con Bunde, Vice Chair (Fax 465-3871)  
Senator Robin Taylor (Fax 465-3922)  
Senator Ben Stevens (Fax 465-3872)  
Senator Lyman Hoffman (Fax 465-4453)  
Senator Donny Olson (Fax 465-4821)

Dear Senator:

The Cook Inlet Historical Society urges you to restore funding the State Library and State Archives budgets. Restoring funds to the Alaska State Archives and State Library would ensure public access during regular business hours and provide at least a minimum service level for these organizations.

Public access to government records is a vital part of our democratic society. For example, citizens use government records to document their right to vote, apply for a permanent fund dividend, and to register for unemployment, health benefits, and other social services. State records help us understand the history of our state and nation, and they play an important role in the interpretation of our past. Open access to government records are central to maintaining a free and open society and one of state government's most fundamental and vital responsibilities.

In addition, the cuts proposed for the state library will adversely affect the historical collections and public access to the services and collections will be severely limited. Researchers traveling to Juneau to use the resources of the state library have a special financial hardship, as the hours of the historical collections that are already on reduced hours due to prior budget cuts will be further limited.

The Cook Inlet Historical Society members are asking you to restore the funds for the Alaska State Archives and State Library programs. State archives and libraries are vital government services that should be supported even in times of financial hardship. If I can provide further information to you and your staff, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,



James K. Barnett, President

Located in the Anchorage Museum of History and Art  
at the Rasmuson Center

121 West Seventh Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3696

distributed by Sen. Bunde



# Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the \_\_\_Senate Finance Committee  
(committee name)

committee on \_\_Budget/PFD/CBR\_\_ dated \_\_\_\_\_.

I'm a Board Member of Alaska Voters Organization. My name is Laurie Churchill. I am very concerned with the large amount of money which has raided from our Constitutional Budget Reserve. This CBR was only meant to be a rainy day account. Its supposed to be repaid. Alaska's economy is depending on you to vote NO for any spending that is not constitutionally mandated. We have schools that may have to close. I have never seen more people moving out of state as there are this spring. We are losing a large population of people this year. Gasoline prices are outrageous!!! Jobs are scarce. Enacting new taxes is the last thing these people of Alaska need. Our Representatives need to stop spending our tax money on anything outside of the Constitutionally mandated requirements. The deficit spending needs to stop. If these special interest legislation bills are not being passed and the deficit spending was under control, then our State would not have any need for new taxes. Stop wasting our tax money on bills that only help lobbyists and some select few with their own special interests. The people of Alaska elected you. Stop trying to get into our PFD!

Laurie Churchill  
PO Box 7043  
Nikiski, AK 99635

776-3499

# Cook Inlet Historical Society

April 14, 2003

To all Senate Finance Committee Members:

Senator Lyda Green, Co-chair (Fax: 465-3805)

Senator Gary Wilken, Co-Chair (Fax 465-4714)

Senator Con Bunde, Vice Chair (Fax 465-3871)

Senator Robin Taylor (Fax 465-3922)

Senator Ben Stevens (Fax 465-3872)

Senator Lyman Hoffman (Fax 465-4453)

Senator Donny Olson (Fax 465-4821)

Dear Senator:

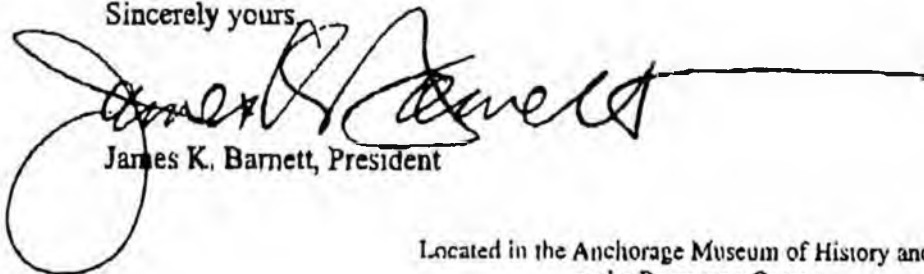
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The Cook Inlet Historical Society members are asking you to restore the funds for the Alaska State Archives and State Library programs. State archives and libraries are vital government services that should be supported even in times of financial hardship. If I can provide further information to you and your staff, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,



James K. Barnett, President

Located in the Anchorage Museum of History and Art  
at the Rasmuson Center  
121 West Seventh Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3696

RECEIVED

MAR 24 2003

**PLEASE ADD TO PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

Paul Brynner  
626 "N" Street  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
277-7967 / 337-1981

20 March 2003

Dear Senator Green:

**It has come to my attention that the Governor's proposed budget includes a cut of 10% to the Department of Labor's Adult Basic Education funding, as well as the elimination of the Human Services Matching Grant (HSMG).** Both of these cuts would impede valuable services to the state, such as those provided by the Anchorage Literacy Project. If these cuts take effect, there will be an alarming increase in Alaska residents who lack the basic literacy skills to support themselves. This will be a significant burden to the economy and health of the state.

I have included a series of letters written by students of the Anchorage Literacy Project; all of these students have a substantial investment in our continued services. I hope that you will review these letters carefully and also review the case I'm presenting in this letter for restoration of HSMG and ABE funding to the budget. I hope that you act as soon as possible to champion the interests of Alaska as served by programs like the Anchorage Literacy Project.

The Anchorage Literacy Project is taking an active role in creating an adult-basic-education infrastructure for the entire state.

- The Anchorage Literacy Project is Alaska's only teacher-training program certified in the Laubach method, the most comprehensive method for imparting basic reading and writing skills to adult learners.
- The Anchorage Literacy Project regularly trains instructors from programs serving communities around the state, including Homer, Valdez, Glenallen, Nome, Bethel, and Kodiak.
- The Anchorage Literacy Project leads staff development workshops at the annual Professional Development Conference, attended by trainers from around the state of Alaska.

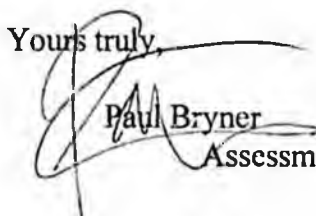
- The Anchorage Literacy Project provides training and consultation which helps literacy programs statewide meet the rigorous federal standards of assessment and reporting for Adult Basic Education.

**These services are all made possible by ABE funding and the HSMG grant.** These services cannot be duplicated by any organization currently working in the state. **If these services are cut, the rate of functional illiteracy in Alaska will rise.** This will have severe consequences. The functionally illiterate are much more likely to become dependents of the state. The functionally illiterate are easily victimized, and are extremely vulnerable to accidents and medical problems due to an inability to read signs and simple instructions. Children of the functionally illiterate face severe disadvantages learning basic skills. It is difficult for the functionally illiterate to enter the workforce; therefore, any increase in functional illiteracy will result in an increased crime rate. When the functionally illiterate do enter the workforce, they represent a great burden to corporations' productivity and profit, demanding more staff supervision and causing more workplace accidents than functionally literate employees.

The monies the Anchorage Literacy Project receives from ABE funding and the HSMG support four part-time staff positions. These staff positions support a program of 189 volunteers who generate \$1,177,417 in in-kind labor, goods, and services annually, instructing a total of 800 students a year. These students gain literacy skills which enable entrance to Alaska's workforce. The Anchorage Literacy Project serves students other programs cannot, including students who start with absolutely no literacy skills and students who require home tutoring. Anchorage Literacy Project students who have met their goals have gone on to employment in all of Alaska's major industries, including resource development, transportation, tourism, medicine, and education. This represents a great value to the state of Alaska, and I think you'll find it is money well spent.

There are alternatives to cutting ABE funding and the HSMG. These include a slight increase to the proposed head tax, or use of the money from felons' PFD. I hope that you will recognize the value of the work that the Anchorage Literacy Project and other programs carries out, and that you will do everything possible to champion restoration of this valuable funding. Please feel free to contact me with any response or questions.

Yours truly,



Paul Bryner

Assessment Specialist, Anchorage Literacy Project

# Anchorage Literacy Project

## Student Letters

Please admit all to public  
testimony

Cheri Hung  
2806 Brittany Drive  
Anchorage, AK 9904

Dear Representative Anderson:

My name is Cheri Hung. I came from Taiwan. I came to Anchorage four months ago. I live with my aunt.

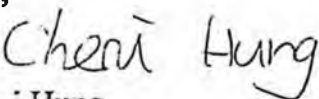
The teachers and staff of Anchorage Literacy Project always teach and work hard for every student. They are quite dedicated. It's important that there is a organization to help people who come to the new place - Alaska. It's even more important to teach people how to support themselves.

English literacy is the basic job skill. If we couldn't study in ALP in the future, we couldn't expect to have a job one day. It will be a problem that some people don't have a job. More expansion, more alcohol problems . . . problems we won't figure out without an organization like ALP.

So I think ALP is a very important organization to me and society. Today I receive the care of ALP, tomorrow I would like to be a volunteer. Because I really appreciate ALP and Alaska's government.

Please don't cut HSMG and Adult Basic Education spending. It's important to me.

Yours truly,

  
Cheri Hung

Young Suk Park  
1703 Northwestern  
Anchorage 99508

Dear Senator Guess:

I am Young Suk Park.  
I'm from South Korea.  
I've been live in Anchorage during 8 months.  
Anchorage is good for me.  
At first I didn't speak English.  
My friend introduce in Anchorage Literacy Project.  
So I am studying at ALP.  
ALP help me many things.  
If I can speak English I'll get a job.  
I'm proud of ALP the staff and volunteer.  
I come in here every day.  
Studying here has expanded my views of the world.  
And I understand USA now.  
I want to meet many friends at here.  
I'll hope ALP is forever . . . .

Sincerely,

  
Young Suk

Dear Senator Ellis :

My name is Lin-Lung Chung . I come

from Taiwan . I come to <sup>the</sup> Anchorage

~~since~~ since 2001 May for my company

(China Air Line) send <sup>me</sup> to the Anchorage  
branch ~~branch~~ . I'm Anchorage literacy project's

student . .

- Studying here has expanded my views of the world .
- It helps us getting better for jobs .
- It's important for understand American culture .

So please don't cut the HSMG and ABE  
spending

Sincerely  
Regards

RGDS - Lin-Lung Chung

yours truly

MAR-11-2003

My address is 1040 W 27th AVE Anchorage. APT #417

Dear Representative Heinze

Hello, I'm Katya Rizzo. I'm a little student  
the Anchorage Literacy Project. I've been  
a student for two months and know need your  
help. please don't cut the Anchorage Literacy  
Project Budget because the project helps  
many students the different country  
don't close your eyes, you have a power and solu-  
tions. It opens new horizons  
It help people like me prepare for jobs  
and something more important help us  
for understanding American culture.  
Learn two language is believe in the future.  
don't forget this <sup>words</sup> and open your mind and  
your heart, nothing is impossible.  
God bless you.

Katya

1327 W 27<sup>th</sup>  
(907) 646178

Apt 302

Dear Senator Ellis:

I'm Hsien-Ju Hsieh. I come from Taiwan. I came to Alaska in summer of 2001. I have been learning English for one year. I enjoy learning at Anchorage Literacy Project. Because those teachers are very dedicated. Please don't cut the HSMG and ABE spending. I want to know more American culture through learning English.

Sincerely

Hsien-Ju, Hsieh. Mar. 11. 03

(040 W. 27th Ave # 417)

Anchorage A.K.

Dear Senator French,

My name is Daning, I'm studying at Anchorage Literacy Project. I've been a student for one year.

The advantages of studying at A.L.P are first, The ALP helps beginning students. second it's important for understanding American culture. third studying here has expanded my view of the world, and I guess lots of positive things ALP can help someone like me.

Excuse me if I say: Please, don't cut the HSME and ABE, because they're very helpfull right now and the future.

Sincerely,

Daning I

Student of ALP  
1345 Rudakov Cir.  
Anchorage, AK

March 12,2003

Dear Senator Guess,

I am from China and I have been living in Anchorage, Alaska for ten years. When I first came here, my English knowledge only consisted of a few words, hello and goodbye... Then I joined the Anchorage Literacy Project English classes and began learning English. When I was pregnant, they sent a volunteer tutor to my home. They helped me learn how to make appointments with the doctor and I learned how to drive plus they helped me with many other things. Many years passed, and after my children went to school, I started taking the Anchorage Literacy Project English class again. I wanted to learn more about American culture and history. I am appreciative of those people who helped me in this land.

I believe many people are like me and really need help. Please do not cut the HSMG and adult basic education spending it opens new horizons.

Literacy brings diverse people together.

Sincerely, Qian W. Scott

*Qian W Scott*  
3120 Lockwood Circle  
Anchorage AK 99504

March 11, 200

Dear Seni<sup>n</sup> Davis,

my name is  
shin-heia Smith I am a  
student at the Anchorage  
literacy project, I am very  
concerned about the human  
services matching Grant, If  
they cut the budget we wont  
have teachers to teach us,  
my goal is to get a better job  
please don't cut this grant.

Sincerely

shin-heia Smith

3554 Newcomb Dr.  
Anchorage AK 99508

Dear Senator Ellisi

This letter is to beg you to please not cut the funds for the Anchorage Literacy Project. This program is so useful and important to many students. It teaches students how to read and write English and it also helps student to prepare for jobs or advance in their current job.

It would be so disappointing to see this program cut do to funds not being provided to support it. Once again, the Anchorage Literacy Project really needs the funds and many students need the Anchorage Literacy Project. So please, keep this project and the funds going, and thank so much.

Sincerely yours,

Michael P. Purb

1621 Alpen Horn  
Anchorage, AK 99507

Dear Senator Davis:

The Anchorage Literacy Project is a good program. It helps many students learn English, prepare for jobs, and teach their children. There's nowhere else in Anchorage for beginning literacy and adult basic students to go. It is an important part of the state.

Please don't cut the Human Services Matching Grant. Please don't cut Adult Basic Education funding. The Anchorage Literacy Project needs those funds, and the students need the Anchorage Literacy Project.

Sincerely yours,



1816 LAURA CR.

Anchorage AK 99508

332-3555

I believe it should  
be kept open for the  
people that want  
and ~~to the school~~  
really need to -  
succeed in my  
Education

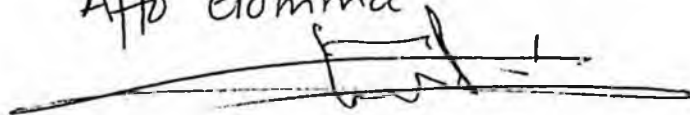
Dear Sir or Madam;

The Anchorage Literacy Project is a good program. It helps many students learn English, prepare for jobs, and teach their children. There's nowhere else in Anchorage for beginning literacy and adult basic students to go. It is an important part of the state.

Please don't cut the Human Services Matching Grant. Please don't cut Adult Basic Education funding. The Anchorage Literacy Project needs those funds, and the students need the Anchorage Literacy Project.

Sincerely yours,

Affo Gomma

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Affo Gomma', written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

P.S. I have been taking classes at Adult Literacy Project to help improve my English. It has helped me in a way ESL classes have not, here we focus on the fundamentals which give a very good base to continue building on. Please continue supporting this program.


3-12-03

Dear Sirs + Madams,

The Anchorage Literacy Project is a good program. It helps many students learn English, prepare for jobs, and teach their children. There's nowhere else in Anchorage for beginning literacy and adult basic students to go. It is an important part of the state.

Please don't cut the Human Services Matching Grant. Please don't cut Adult Basic Education funding. The Anchorage Literacy Project needs those funds, and the students need the Anchorage Literacy Project.

Sincerely yours,

Sophia Gomma   
-concerned voter-

Education is the key to success for our community, there are those who have not had the chance of support to be educated in their youth. We have a responsibility to all residence of Anchorage to continue educating the whole population and not exclude certain groups. Anchorage Literacy Project serves an important service + fills a <sup>needed</sup> gap - to our community + must have the continued funds in order to continue with their very important and worthwhile work.

March 11 - 2003

Dear Senator Dyson:

I am a student at the Anchorage Literacy Project. My name is mi suk I am from South Korea and I am full Korean. Before I came to Anchorage I could not write in English very well. I'd always have trouble spelling and have trouble reading. But when I came here and found this school it was a dream come true. I found I could learn English better. Please do not cut the Human Services Matching Grant. If you do thousands like me will lose an opportunity to learn English.

Sincerely

mi Suk Duggers

18412 Man-o-War  
Eagle River, AK 99577

March 11-2003

Dear Senator Cowdery:

My name is Lina Pounds. I am a student at the Anchorage Literacy Project. Please do not cut the Human Service Matching Grant. I like to attend the Anchorage Literacy Project because its help me to get my education and to pursue my nursing career.

Sincerely,  
Lina Pounds

8010 Queen St. Apt #4  
Anchorage, AK 99518

March 11, 2003

Dear Senator Davis:

My name is Ousmane Ponn

I am a student at the Anchorage  
Literacy Project. Please do not cut  
the Human Services Matching Grant.  
I like to attend the Anchorage  
Literacy Project because  
I like to have my G-E-D  
to get a better job.

Please we need this at school

Dear Senator Guess:

March 11 2003

My name is sue I am a student at the Anchorage Literacy Project I am very concerned about the Human Services matching grant if they cut the budget we won't have teachers to teach us my goal is to help my grand children p.s please

don't cut this grant thank you

sincerely sue Inask.

March 11, 2003

Dear Senator Stevens:

My name is Yunchony Short

I am a student at the Anchorage  
Literacy Project.

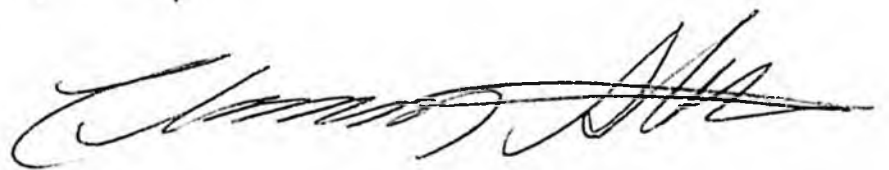
Please do not cut the Human Services  
Matching Grant for this school.

I do want to attend the  
Anchorage Literacy Project.

because they do teach us their possible.

and all the teachers not take a their brake.

I think this is very important to keep  
this school stays open.



Dear Senator Ellis:

March 11-200

my name is Ki Jeffers

I am a student at the Anchorage  
Literacy project I am very

concerned about the Human  
services matching grant IF

they out the budget we won't  
have teachers to teach us

my goal is to get a better job

please don't cut this grant

sincerely

Ki Jeffers

March 11, 2003  
1800 Bonnister Rd  
Anchorage, Ak 99508

Dear Senator Ellis,

My name is Ida Johnson.  
I am a student at the Anchorage  
Literacy Project. Please do not cut the  
Human Services Matching Grant.  
I like attending the Anchorage  
Literacy Project because it help  
me to unstand documents better.

Sincerely

Ida Johnson

Dear Senator Guess:

My name is Irene Sadowski

I am a student at the Anchorage Literacy Project.  
Please do not cut the Human Services Matching Grant.  
I like to attend the Anchorage Literacy Project because  
it helps me write and read better

Sincerely

Irene Sadowski

March 11, 2003

Dear: Senator Guess,

My name is yupa yeanying. I am a student at the Anchorage Literacy project. I am very concerned about the Human Services Matching Grant. If they cut the budget we won't have teachers to teach us and we will lose our class. I am from a different country and My English is terrible but when I come to class right now I can read, speak and write ~~better~~. better

I know myself what I want to do in the future. I want to go to college and have a good job.

Please don't cut this grant.

Sincerely yours,  
yupa yeanying

March 11, 2003

Dear Senator Cowdery,

My name is Erlinda M. Ancheta

I am a student at the Anchorage Literacy Projects. Please do not cut the Human Services Matching Grant. I like to attend the Anchorage Literacy Project because it helps me to read better, understand in the wordings and it helps me to get my GED.

Thank you,  


March 11, 2003

Dear Senator Davis,

My name is Thom Khounsavath. I am a

student at the Anchorage Literacy Project.

I am very concerned about the Human

Services Matching Grant. If they cut

the budget we won't have teachers

to teach us.

My goal is to have a better life and

get a better job, that I can help to

support my family. Please don't cut  
that grant.

Sincerely  
Thank you.

Thom Khounsavath

Dear Senator French

My name is Raymond Nelson. I am a student at the Anchorage  
~~the~~ Literacy Project. I am very concerned about the Human  
Services Matching Grant. If they cut the budget we  
won't have teachers to teach us.

My goal is to go to college and get a degree  
in geology and Astrophysics.  
Please don't cut this grant.

Sincerely,  
Raymond Nelson

Dear Senator Guess, March 11, 2003.

My name is Soon JA BOYKE I am a  
Student at the Anchorage Literacy Project

I am very concerned about the Human  
Services Matching Grant IF they cut  
the budget we won't have teach us

My goal is how to read. English and

wrighten, a letter to, so please help

us, please don't cut this grant.

think you sincerely soon ja

Dear

The Anchorage Literacy Project is a good program. It helps many students learn English, prepare for jobs, and teach their children. There's nowhere else in Anchorage for beginning literacy and adult basic students to go. It is an important part of the state.

Please don't cut the Human Services Matching Grant. Please don't cut Adult Basic Education funding. The Anchorage Literacy Project needs those funds, and the students need the Anchorage Literacy Project.

Sincerely yours, *Shirley Chin Hubbard*

*401 - A Fischer Ave.  
Anchorage, AK 99518*

Please add to  
public testimony      Representatives

The Honorable Max Grwenberg

I am oak.

I am here in this country 33 years

All that time . I didnt know how  
to read and write.

But this A.L.P teach me in English  
read and write.

A.L.P is good for other people  
like me.

I hope this place be continuely open.

Please help us.

Dear Sir you have wonderful day,

Thank you for your time,

Cap Lambert  
4433 San Ernesto  
Anchorage, AK 99508

Please add to public testimony.

THE HONORABLE RALPH SAMUELS REPRESENTATIVE  
STATE OF ALASKA.

Dear Representative Samuels,

I am TRINH, TRINH UYEN from Viet Nam

I need to study English at The Anchorage Literacy Project. That school is a good program. English is very important for me. I need job, I need to understand English and teach my children, so I need The Anchorage Literacy Project.

Please, don't cut A Basic Education funding. Please, don't cut the Human Services Matching Grant.

Sincerely Yours



TRINH TRINH  
4602 Newhaver Loop  
Anchorage, AK 99507

Please add to public testimony

The Honorable Max Gruenberg  
Representative, state of Alaska.

Dear Representative Gruenberg.

I am Umavasee Muephothong from Thailand. I need to study English at the Anchorage Literacy Project. That school is good Program English is very important for me. I need job I need to talk and understand English

I want to conversations with the people. So I need the Anchorage Literacy Project. Please don't cut the Human service Matching Grant. Please don't cut Adult Basic Education funding

Respectfully yours.

U. Muephothong  
6100 Canrose Dr  
Anchorage, AK 99504

Please add to public testimony.

Dear Laila Mc Greire

I'm Jeong Han from Korea  
ten month ago.

I need learning english  
english important for me

The Anchorage Literacy project  
in a good prog.

please don't cut the Human  
Services Matching Grant.

please again, don't cut adult  
basic education funding.

thank you.

Sincerely

Jeong Han  
22116 Revere Cir  
Anch, AK 99515

Add to public testimony  
March 12 2003

Dear Alaska

Please Support the English Classes  
I need to study English, I take classes  
at the Anchorage Literacy Project

Raquel Sosa  
704 Spenard Rd  
Anch, AK 99504

March 12 2003

Dear ALASKA

~~Dear Alaska~~

I need to study English

please support the English Classes

I take classes at the Anchorage Literacy project

M. Fernanda Gallegos S.

3704 Spenard Rd

Anch, AK 99504

March 12 2003

Add to public testimony

Dear Alaska

Need To Study English

Take classes at Anchorage Literacy project

Please Support the English classes

Fernando Gallegos

~~Fernando Gallegos~~

3704 Spearhead Rd.

Anch, AK 99504

Daniel Gonzalez

2112 Arctic Blvd.

Anchorage, AK. 99503.

The Anchorage Literacy project is a good school. This project helped me to improve myself. I learn English as a second language. There is nowhere else in Anchorage for beginning literacy and adult basic students to go.

Please don't cut the H. S. Grant or Grant or the Adult Literacy funding.

Daniel Gonzalez

Please add to public testimony

mead

Manus2 Zych  
1580 Russian Jack #23  
Anchorage AK 9950  
03-13-2003

The Anchorage Literacy Project is a good school. This project helps me to learn English as a second language. There is now here else in Anchorage for beginning literacy and adult basic students to go.

Please don't cut the H.S.M. Grant or the Adult Basic Education funding

Sincerely,

Manus2 Zych

Please add to public testimony

Carmenza Velasco-Hamilton  
7921 Canal St  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502  
March 13 - 2003

The Anchorage Literacy Project is a good school. This project helps me to learn English as a second language. There is nowhere else in Anchorage for beginning literacy and adult basic students to go.

Please don't cut the H.S.M. Grant or the Adult Basic Education Funding.

Sincerely,

Carmenza Velasco-Hamilton

Please add to public testimony

Luis Ortiz  
205 Darley #1  
Anchorage, AK 995

3/13/2003

The Anchorage Literacy Project is a  
good School.

this project helps me to learn English  
as a Second Language there is nowhere  
else in Anchorage for beginning literacy  
and adult basic students to go.

Please don't cut the H.S.M. Grant  
on the Adult  
Basic Education funding.

Sincerely Luis Ortiz

Please add to public testimony

♥♥  
Katarzyna Zych  
1580 Russian Blvd Dr # 23  
Anchorage AK 99508  
03-13-2003

The Anchorage Literacy Project is a good place.  
This project helps me to learn English as  
a second language. There is nowhere else  
in Anchorage for beginning literacy and adult  
basic students to go.

Please don't cut the H.S.M. Grant or the Adult  
Basic Education funding.

Sincerely,

Katarzyna Zych

Please add to public testimony

Please add to  
Public testimony

03/13/03

Pero Kovacevic  
6346 E 32nd Ave  
Anchorage  
AK 99504

The Anchorage Literacy Project is a good school.  
This school helps me to learn English as a second language.

There is nowhere else in Anchorage for beginning literacy and  
adult basic students to go.

Please don't cut the H.S.M. Grant or the Adult  
Basic Education funding.

Sincerely,

Pero Kovacevic

♥♥ Please add to  
Public testimony

CLAUDIA S. ZELAYA.  
320 MCDERREY ST OPT B  
ANCHORAGE AK 99508

the Anchorage Literacy Project. Is a good school.  
this project helps me to learn English as a  
second language.  
there is nowhere else in Anchorage for beginning  
literacy and adult basic students to go.

please don't cut the H.S.M. Grant or the  
Adult Basic Education funding.

Sincerely,

CLAUDIA S. ZELAYA.

♥♥ Please add to public testimony

Name: Tai He Kim


Address: 4745 PIPER ST UNIT 7  
ANCHORAGE AK 99507

The Anchorage Literacy project is a very good school. I am learning English at A.L.P. There is nowhere else in Anchorage for beginning literacy and adult basic students to go.

please, please don't cut the H.S.M.E. program or that Adult

Basic Education funding

Sincerely

Tai He Kim 

♥♥ Please add to  
Public testimony

Maho Flathau  
6646 Desiree loop.  
Anchorage, AK 99507

The Anchorage Literacy Project is a good school.

I am Learning English at A.L.P.

There is nowhere else in Anchorage for  
beginning Literacy students to go.

Please don't cut the H.S.M. (program or  
the Adult Basic Education funding).

Sincerely,

Maho Flathau

♥♥

Please add to public  
testimony

Penney Sipharath

701 S Klevin SPC 1A

Anchorage A.K 99508

The Anchorage Literacy Project is a good school

I am learning English at A.L.P.

There is nowhere else in Anchorage for  
beginning Literacy and adult basic students

To go

Please don't cut the H.S.M.G Program  
on the Adult Basic Education funding

Sincerely

penney Sipharath.

FRANCISCO MIXAN  
5800 LAKE OTIS PKWY APT 130  
ANCHORAGE AK 99507

THE ANCHORAGE LITERACY PROJECT IS A  
GOOD SCHOOL.

I AM LEARNING ENGLISH AT A.L.P.

THERE IS NOWHERE ELSE IN ANCHORAGE  
FOR BEGINNING ENGLISH LITERACY

PLEASE DON'T CUT THE H.S.M.G.  
PROGRAM OR THE ADULT BASIC  
EDUCATION FUNDING.

SINCERELY

FRANCISCO MIXAN.

Tamara Evans  
1065 W, 20<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Anchorage, AK 99503

Please add to  
public testimony

The Anchorage Literacy Project is a  
good school.  
I am learning English at A.L.P.  
There is nowhere else in Anchorage  
for beginning literacy students to go

Please don't cut the H.S.M.G.  
program or the Adult  
Basic Education funding

Sincerely,  
Tamara  
Evans  
3.13.03

Chueai Davis  
Y61 NOSTMANST  
Anchorage,  
AK 99504

The Anchorage Literacy project is a good

I am learning English at A-L-P

There is nowhere else in Anchorage for beginning  
literacy

and adult basic students to go

Please don't cut the H-S-M.G program  
or the Adult Basic Education funding

Sincerely

Please add to public testimony

Please add to  
public testimony

Rukhsana

1110 Daberr. Rd SP NO 1  
ANCHORAGE AK 99508

(907) 332-6621

The Anchorage Literacy Project is a good school -  
I am learning English at A.L.P.  
There is nowhere else in Anchorage for beginning Literacy  
and adult basic students to go.

Please don't cut the H.S.M.G. Program or the Adult  
Basic Education funding.

Sincerely,

Rukhsana Tariq

♥♥

Please add  
to public  
testimony

Name IN YONG CHUNG  
Address APT 304  
905 RICHARDSON  
VISTA RD  
ANCHORAGE, AK  
99501

The Anchorage Literacy project is a good school.

I am learning English at A.L.P.

There is nowhere else in Anchorage for beginning  
literacy and adult basic students to go.

please don't cut the H.S.M.G. program or  
the Adult Basic Education funding.

Sincerely,

IN YONG CHUNG

Please add  
to public testimony

JWONA ZAJTZ  
9122 DEWBERRY STR.  
ANCHORAGE, AK 99502

The Anchorage Literacy Project is a good school.

I am learning English at A.L.P.

There is nowhere else in Anchorage for beginning literacy  
and adult basic students to go.

Please don't cut the H.S. M.G. program or the Adult  
Basic Education funding.

Sincerely,

Jwona Zajtz

Name Maria Luisa Garcia  
Address 7601 Greenview Dr  
Anchorage Alaska 99507

♥♥

The Anchorage Literacy Project is a good school  
I am learning English at A.L.P.  
There is nowhere else in Anchorage for beginning Literacy  
and adult basic students to go

Please don't cut the H.S.M.G. program or the adult  
Basic Education funding.

sincerely,

Maria Luisa Garcia

Please add to public testimony

Jung sin AmBERGER

6920 ROYAL COURT  
ANCHORAGE AK 99502

The Anchorage Literacy project is a good school  
I am learning English at A.L.P.

There is nowhere else in Anchorage for beginning Literacy  
and adult basic students to go.

Please don't cut the H.S.M.G. program  
or the Adult Basic Education funding,  
sincerely.

Jung sin Amberger,

Please add to public testimony

born 9,12-58 LUCIA PIAZZA

3430 MCKENZIE DR

Please add  
to public testimony

ANCHORAGE AK 99511  
telefon 248-6428

The Anchorage Literacy project is a  
good school.

I am Learning English at A.L.P.

There is nowhere else in Anchorage  
for beginning Literacy  
and adult basic students to go.

Please don't cut the H.S.M.G. program  
on the Adult

Basic Education funding.

Sincerely,

- Lucia Piazza

Chong Flack  
4510 Wright St #27  
Anchorage, AK 99507

The Anchorage Literacy Project is a good school.

I am Learning English at A.L.P.

There is nowhere else in Anchorage for beginning literacy  
and adult basic students to go.

Please don't cut the H.S.M.G. program or the Adult.

Basic Education funding

Sincerely

Chong Flack

Please add to public testimony

Dear Senator Gretchen Guest Dear Representative \_\_\_\_\_:

The Anchorage Literacy Project is a good program. It helps many students learn English, prepare for jobs, and teach their children. There's nowhere else in Anchorage for beginning literacy and adult basic students to go. It is an important part of the state.

Please don't cut the Human Services Matching Grant. Please don't cut Adult Basic Education funding. The Anchorage Literacy Project needs those funds, and the students need the Anchorage Literacy Project.

Sincerely yours,

*Luz Pany Villanarín*

*Please add to public testimony*

Dear Senator Gretchen Guess / Dear Representative \_\_\_\_\_:

The Anchorage Literacy Project is a good program. It helps many students learn English, prepare for jobs, and teach their children. There's nowhere else in Anchorage for beginning literacy and adult basic students to go. It is an important part of the state.

Please don't cut the Human Services Matching Grant. Please don't cut Adult Basic Education funding. The Anchorage Literacy Project needs those funds, and the students need the Anchorage Literacy Project.

Sincerely yours,

*Luz Dany Villamarin*

*Please add to public testimony*

Dear Senator French / Dear Representative Croft :

The Anchorage Literacy Project is a good program. It helps many students learn English, prepare for jobs, and teach their children. There's nowhere else in Anchorage for beginning literacy and adult basic students to go. It is an important part of the state.

Please don't cut the Human Services Matching Grant. Please don't cut Adult Basic Education funding. The Anchorage Literacy Project needs those funds, and the students need the Anchorage Literacy Project.

Sincerely yours,

It helps my job speakin English.  
I need to learn English  
It's very important for me.  
It's for my family and for my education

Jose' Castillo

Please add to public testimony

Dear Senator Guess / Dear Representative Anderson

The Anchorage Literacy Project is a good program. It helps many students learn English, prepare for jobs, and teach their children. There's nowhere else in Anchorage for beginning literacy and adult basic students to go. It is an important part of the state.

Please don't cut the Human Services Matching Grant. Please don't cut Adult Basic Education funding. The Anchorage Literacy Project needs those funds, and the students need the Anchorage Literacy Project.

Sincerely yours,

I need to learn English  
It's very important for me  
It helps my job

It's for my family

It's for my education

My children go to school in Anchorage.

*Ernestina Rodriguez*

Please Add to public  
Testimony

Dear Senator Ellis / Dear Representative Heinze :

The Anchorage Literacy Project is a good program. It helps many students learn English, prepare for jobs, and teach their children. There's nowhere else in Anchorage for beginning literacy and adult basic students to go. It is an important part of the state.

Please don't cut the Human Services Matching Grant. Please don't cut Adult Basic Education funding. The Anchorage Literacy Project needs those funds, and the students need the Anchorage Literacy Project.

Sincerely yours,

DUSANKA DEVIĆ

It helps my job

I need to learn English

It's very important for me.

It's for my family

It's for my education.

Please add to Public  
Testimony

Dear Senator Davis / Dear Representative Cissna:

The Anchorage Literacy Project is a good program. It helps many students learn English, prepare for jobs, and teach their children. There's nowhere else in Anchorage for beginning literacy and adult basic students to go. It is an important part of the state.

Please don't cut the Human Services Matching Grant. Please don't cut Adult Basic Education funding. The Anchorage Literacy Project needs those funds, and the students need the Anchorage Literacy Project.

Sincerely yours,

Eduardo Gomez

I live in Anchorage.

I need to speak English.

It's very important for me.

It's for my family and for my education.

Please Add to Public Testimony

Dear Senator ~~JOHNNY E~~ / Dear Representative HELZE :

The Anchorage Literacy Project is a good program. It helps many students learn English, prepare for jobs, and teach their children. There's nowhere else in Anchorage for beginning literacy and adult basic students to go. It is an important part of the state.

Please don't cut the Human Services Matching Grant. Please don't cut Adult Basic Education funding. The Anchorage Literacy Project needs those funds, and the students need the Anchorage Literacy Project.

Sincerely yours,  
ROSA McCLELLAN.

THANKS.

I NEED TO LEARN ENGLISH  
IT'S VERY IMPORTANT FOR ME  
MY CHILDREN GO TO SCHOOL IN ANCHORAGE  
I NEED TO TALK TO MY CHILDREN'S TEACHERS.  
IT'S FOR MY FAMILY  
IT'S FOR MY EDUCATION.  
IT HELPS MY JOB.

Please add to Public  
-JIMMY

Dear Senator Hollis French / Dear Representative Ethan Berkowitz:

The Anchorage Literacy Project is a good program. It helps many students learn English, prepare for jobs, and teach their children. There's nowhere else in Anchorage for beginning literacy and adult basic students to go. It is an important part of the state.

Please don't cut the Human Services Matching Grant. Please don't cut Adult Basic Education funding. The Anchorage Literacy Project needs those funds, and the students need the Anchorage Literacy Project.

Sincerely yours,

Clifford Gerkhart  
Volunteer Instructor

Dear sirs - I volunteer my time to ALP because I know the benefit it brings to Anchorage & Alaska as a whole. ALP is an investment, not an expense. Don't cut our funding!

CG

Please add to  
D.L.I. to L.I.M.A.V.

Sidthisak Kaybouathone  
134 Schodde St  
Anchorage, AK 99508

The Anchorage Literacy Project is a good school.  
This project help me to learn English as a  
second language. There is nowhere else in  
Anchorage for beginning literacy and adult basic  
students to go

Please don't cut the Human Service  
Matching Grant or Adult Basic Education  
funding

Sincerely,

Sidthisak Kaybouathone

Please add to public testimony.

Add to public testimony March 12 2003

Dear Alaska,

Please support the English classes  
My children go to school in Anchorage

I WORK at WAL-MART  
I need to study English.

I take classes at the Anchorage  
Literacy Project

Bozana Koyac̆ević

March 12 2003 Add to public  
testimony  
Dear Alaska

Please support the English  
CLASSES

I take classes at the  
Anchorage Literacy Project.

Beata Cwik

Bosana Kova cetic  
6346 E 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave  
Anch, AK 99504



Carlsbad Caverns National Park, NM

USA 2002 ♻️

Benta Cwick  
PO Box 93517  
Anch, AK 99517



Carlsbad Caverns National Park, NM

USA 2002 ♻️

Dear Alaska

March 12-2003  
Add to public testimony

Please Support the English classes

I take classes at the Anchorage  
Literacy Project

MARIBEL SÁNCHEZ

March 12 2003  
Dear Alaska. Add to public testimony

Please support the English classes.

I take classes at the Anchorage  
Literacy Project.

My children go to in Anchorage

Thank you.

~~March~~ March 12 2003

Dear Alaska Add to public testimony

Please support the English classes  
I need to study English for help  
my family and job

I take classes at the Anchorage  
Literacy Project.

" Thank you " Lorenzo de Jesus Flores

Maribel Sanchez  
803 Latouche #1033  
Anch, AK 99501



Carlsbad Caverns National Park, NM

© USPS 2012

M. Rodriguez  
c/o Anchorage Literacy Project  
1346 Rudakov Cir, Suite 104  
Anch, AK 99508



Carlsbad Caverns National Park, NM

The Hon. Rep. Max Govenberg  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

© USPS 2012

From  
Lorenzo De Jesus Flores  
4650 Reda Dr  
Anch, AK 99508



Carlsbad Caverns National Park, NM

© USPS 2012

Dear Alaska

March, 12, 2003

Please support the English classes.

Please add to public testimony

- My children go to school in Anchorage

- I work at Wal-Mart

- I need to study English

- I take classes at the Anchorage

Literacy Project CEO KOVACEVIC

HAU TO PUBLIC TESTIMONY MARCH 12 2003

Dear Alaska

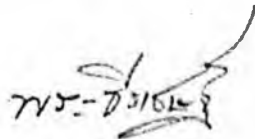
I need to study English.

I take classes at the Anchorage Literacy

Project

Please support the English classes.

Thank you



TEERACHET

Dear Alaska

March 12 2003

I need to study English.

Add to public testimony

Please support the English classes.

Thank you

chatchada

Cedo Kovacovic  
6346 E 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave  
Anch, AK 99504



Carlsbad Caverns National Park, NM

Tecovachet Chet Nganyam  
2309 "D" Street  
Anchorage, AK 99503



Carlsbad Caverns National Park, NM



Carlsbad Caverns National Park, NM