

**HB**

**365/366**

**PUBLIC**

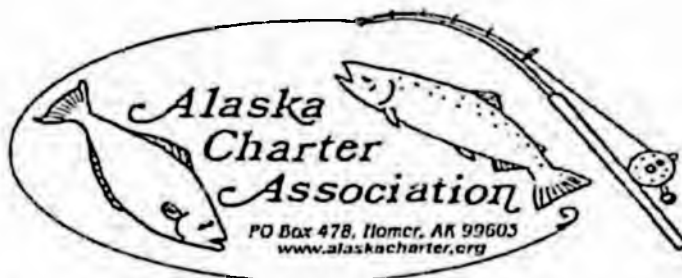
**TESTI-**

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*"To Preserve and Protect the Rights and Resources of Alaska's Sport Fishermen"*

March 26, 2006

Ms. Shar Smith  
 House Finance Committee  
 State Capital, Room 519  
 Juneau, Ak. 99801-1182

Re: Budget Support for the Ak. Division of Fish and Game

Dear Ms. Smith,

Please forward a copy of this letter to all Finance Committee members. The Alaska Charter Association supports and recognizes the need for adequate funding for the Alaska Division of Fish and Game. Fish and wildlife and their uses are important to Alaskans and to Alaska's overall economy. The economies of many of our coastal communities are dependent on healthy stocks of fish and wildlife and accurate assessments. In recent years, however, the state's financial commitment to fish and wildlife has lagged. This resulted in cuts to programs, especially in the area of stock and population assessments that are critical to sustaining yields and appropriate allocation decisions. We have also seen proven management techniques hampered due to lack of supporting data.

I believe it is time to invest in our fish and wildlife resources to assure they continue to provide the benefits Alaskans expect and rely upon. Additionally, for decades, hunters, trappers, anglers, and commercial fishermen have funded a significant portion of fish and wildlife management in Alaska. However, under our constitution, fish and wildlife are reserved to the people in common. It is only fair that everyone pay to sustain and manage these precious resources because of the significant economic and social benefits they provide for all Alaskans.

At this point, the only way to accomplish that is to appropriate more general funds for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's budget. With these thoughts in mind, I am writing to ask your support of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's FY2007 budget request. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely yours,

  
 Greg Sutter  
 President

Carter Crawford  
107 Maple 99701 452-1395 3/25/06

Representative Coghill's rationale for not supporting full funding of the \$3m Community Matching Grant is going to result in huge increases to the State's HSSS Dept. he points to the state's increases in fixed expenses for salaries and utilities without acknowledging every private and non profit has the same, and they do not have an oil windfall to cover expenses. It seems that he does not fully embrace the uniqueness of this grant; one which actually saves the state money. I have said repeatedly it should be used as a model for all state expenses. The state puts up grant money, the local community (FNSB) must match (30% in this case and for admin., accounting and legal), and the recipient receives money only based on ability to meet specific objectives and including a substantial match. Over the years I have seen the match (in volunteer time and materials) be anywhere from 2 to 10x ; averaging over 4x what they receive. And these are all services that would otherwise be required by the state, at a cost of 4x what the non-profits provides it for (lower salaries, more targeting, faster service preventing more serious problems, match). While the state complains about the rising costs of Medicare and Medicaid, here is a program treating mental and physical health of everyone from children to seniors who otherwise will be medicare and or meicaid patients.

Our legislators have repeatedly asked for suggestions on where to find money. Some very good ideas have been suggested but often overlooked. I have suggested on numerous occasions they raise the fines on certain criminal activities, especially DUI, and I see progress. But judges too often do not fully fund the fine, and never for underage drinking. Every first time offense is forgiven \$400 of the (the \$600 often leaving \$4000 on the table a week in Fairbanks alone. And worse, the repeat offenders are being forgiven \$500 of \$1000.

It is extremely frustrating to see millions going out to state departments with very little oversight and far less cost effectiveness and here sits a program that is highly ...and the most cost effective means of reducing health and social service costs, and \$13 is too much.

**LIO Fairbanks**

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**From:** foote [foote@alaska.com]  
**To:** LIO Fairbanks  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Budget Comments with Highlights  
**Attachments:**

**Sent:** Fri 3/17/2006 2:08 PM

I would like to encourage my legislators to consider two main things as they pass the current budget.

The first is to keep the Governors numbers for the Community Matching Grants. This is one of the most single important dollar coming to Fairbanks, not only for what it allows non-profits to provide to those in need, but also for how much they leverage those dollars into much more. These dollars also save us money in important but hard to measure prevention ways. Please don't reduce this amount.

Secondly, the University is an important economic engine for the entire State. The dollars discussed for UA also gets leveraged not only for those that receive the education (I provide health education to the most rural sites), but also as we write for more federal dollars. We are working with students who live and work in rural Alaska and who plan to stay there. This is critical to their economy and as they graduate they provide important services right where they live. This too saves the State money while contributing to it!

Thanks for your hard work, and remember the land, oil and gas belongs to all of us so don't let be given away to the wrong people.

Torie Foote

3-16-2006

Ted Meninski

AT&T ALASCOM COMMENTS BEFORE THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE IN SUPPORT OF SB 157

Good afternoon, my name is William Saupe and I am with the Anchorage law firm of Ashburn & Mason. I have practiced law before the RCA and its predecessor, the APUC, since 1985. I am here today on behalf of AT&T Alascom, which strongly supports SB 157.

AT&T Alascom believes that the proposed \$3 million increase in the Regulatory Cost Charge is the most reasonable means of raising the funds necessary to upgrade the RCA's computer systems. Our understanding is that the additional funds would be administered by a users' committee, made up of a broad spectrum of utility industry and public interest representatives, whose job will be to acquire and implement new and substantially improved computer systems that will allow for (1) electronic submission of all filings made at the Commission, (2) improved internal tracking of open dockets, and (3) creation of a searchable data base of all documents on file at the Commission.

From AT&T Alascom's perspective, these would all be major improvements that would greatly improve the agency's efficiency and enhance the consistency and quality of its orders. Just as important, it would save utilities substantial amounts of time, effort and money, by making filing and research easier and less time consuming.

AT&T Alascom would like to see this project undertaken as soon as possible and all at the same time, if possible. It is concerned that if it is broken down into pieces or implemented in stages, there is a risk that momentum will be lost and perhaps even a risk that the various upgrades will not be properly coordinated.

For these reasons, AT&T Alascom urges you to pass SB 157 and to insure that the RCC increase is sufficient to fund the entire project that the user committee has developed.

Thank you.

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ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-5914  
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## ALASKA ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Alaska's 18 regional Adult Basic Education (ABE) programs have been progressive over the past year:

1. Village programs in the Northwest Arctic (Kotzebue Regional Adult Education Program), on the North Slope, and in Bristol Bay have expanded services through support from the Division of Public Assistance.
2. The PLATO distance learning program has expanded to an additional five communities outside of Anchorage (Kodiak, Homer, Soldotna, Fairbanks, and Barrow). With support from Alaska Job Center Partners statewide, Nine Star Enterprises has provided the training and licenses. *Success Story:* Two youth under age 20 in Brevig Mission studied using PLATO and completed the GED and entered the Alaska Sealink Program in Ketchikan.
3. Tlingit-Haida Central Council provided extra support for regional adult education services in four communities in Southeast Alaska through SERRC's Southeast Regional Adult Education Program.
4. The Anchorage Regional Adult Education Program increased the number of locations for classes from 12 to 17 in 2005-2006.
5. In cooperation with the *Building Alaska's Workforce* plan under the Alaska Department of Labor, the Anchorage Regional Adult Education Program offered a Construction Trades Math Class during the winter quarter with 30 students enrolled.
6. The Aleutian-Pribilof program with its far flung population has 1,000 additional student hours due to the PLATO program delivery with five new graduates.
7. The Bristol Bay (Dillingham-based) Adult Education Program has shown educational gains as reported in this information sheet.
8. The number of GED graduates increased in Alaska from 1,457 in 2002 (the year the test was updated) to 1,646 in 2005.

Despite these accomplishments, there is a critical lack of infrastructure in Adult Basic Education. Full time personnel are needed in every program to sustain the demand for basic skills services. An example of that demand is the increase in GED graduates in Anchorage to 221 in the fall quarter 2005 from 154 in the fall quarter 2004.

*Adult Basic Education is a fundamental need if you want to put people in jobs. And I've made this statement and I absolutely believe it with the data I have been presented. If we could provide sufficient Adult Basic Education in the State of Alaska we would have more Alaskans filling more jobs than will be created by the simultaneous opening of ANWR and the building of the gas pipeline...It's a problem much larger than the University if we are going to put Alaskans in jobs.*

University of Alaska President Mark Hamilton  
Joint Finance Committees, Juneau, Alaska, February 3, 2005

Some of the following information was presented by the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Employment Security Division, in testimony to the House Finance Committee on Labor this year.

### The Challenge

- The National Adult Literacy Survey released on December 18, 2005 affirms the downturn in adult skills needed to qualify for entry level positions in construction trades, mining, and health care.
- From the 2000 census, the number of Alaskans without a high school diploma required for most stable jobs is 57,000 people.
- Employers are finding increasing dissatisfaction with graduating students' level of proficiency in meeting employability standards as documented by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.
- University of Alaska colleges must offer remedial courses to high school graduates that enroll in the university system.

### Adult Basic Education: A Success Story

- One measure of the Adult Basic Education Program is the number of GED graduates. Averaging the past seven years statistics, GED graduates account for more than 20% of the State of Alaska's high school graduates.
- The Adult Basic Education program is the state's single largest source of high school diplomas.

Diplomas	2005		2004		2003		2002		2001		2000		1999		1998	
High School*	7,350	82%	7,290	81%	7,366	80%	6,945	83%	6,812	71%	6,668	76%	6,826	75%	6,496	80%
GED	1,646	18%	1,661	19%	1,860	20%	1,457	17%	2,783	29%	2,071	24%	1,919	22%	1,640	20%
Total	8,996		8,951		9,226		8,408		9,595		8,739		8,745		8,136	

\*Alaska Department of Education & Early Development (<http://www.eed.state.ak.us/stats/>)  
 2005 High School Diploma Count Estimate as of 1/11/06

- All students are asked to set goals for themselves when they enter the Adult Basic Education Programs in Alaska. Below is a table showing goal completion in FY04.

	Percentage of Full-Time Students Achieving Their Goal **
Enter Employment	62.3%
Retain Employment	73.4%
Obtain a GED	79.2%
Enter Postsecondary Ed	74.2%*

\*43% of those the goal of "enter postsecondary education," enrolled in the University of Alaska

### Budget Increase Supported by Alaska Adult Education Association

A \$1 million increase in State ABE/GED funding would provide:

- An additional 76,923 hours of direct instruction.
- An estimated 21 additional teachers statewide resulting in an estimated increase of 600 GED high school graduates.

Adult Basic Education is Direct Service and reaches its target:

- In FY05, 91.7 percent of the state's general fund monies were distributed to local/regional ABE providers through grant agreements.

Fiscal Year	04	05	06	07
General Fund	1,570.5	1,558.6	1,565.0	2,571.1
Federal Funds	1,240.2	1,371.4	1,355.9	1,362.8
Total Funds	2,810.7	2,930.0	2,920.9	3,933.9
Total Hours of Instruction	158,284	159,170	161,500*	230,000**
# of GED's Issued	1,661	1,646	1,700*	2,300**

\* Estimate

\*\* Estimate based upon additional \$1,000,000 with the result being 600 additional GED graduates. The number of graduates derived is based on approximately 100 instructional hours per graduate over a three year period.

*Thank you for your support!*

**For more information contact:**

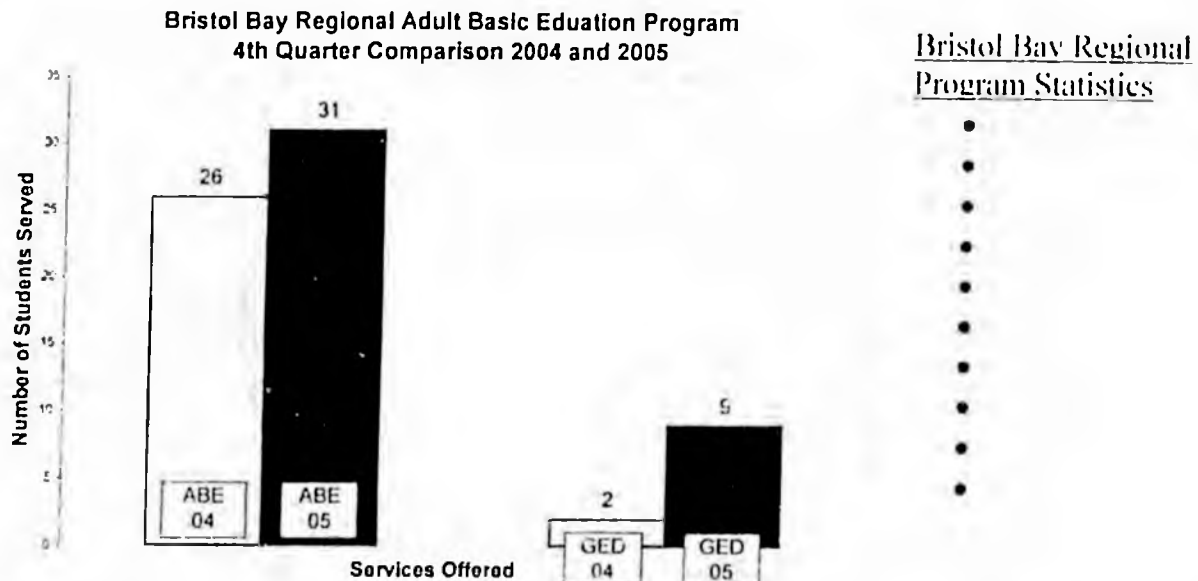
Jan Peyton, President, Alaska Adult Education Association  
c/o Kenai Peninsula College, Kachemak Bay Campus, 533 East Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska  
99603, cell phone: 299-0153 or 235-5446 (evenings), janpeyton73@alaska.net

David Alexander, AAFA Legislative Committee Chair, Nine Star Enterprises, Anchorage, 279-  
7827, davida@ninestar.com

Carin Smolin, AAFA Board Member, Southeast Regional Adult Education Programs, SERRC,  
Juneau, 586-5718, carins@serre.org

State of Alaska Adult Basic Education Website: [www.ajen.state.ak.us/abe](http://www.ajen.state.ak.us/abe)

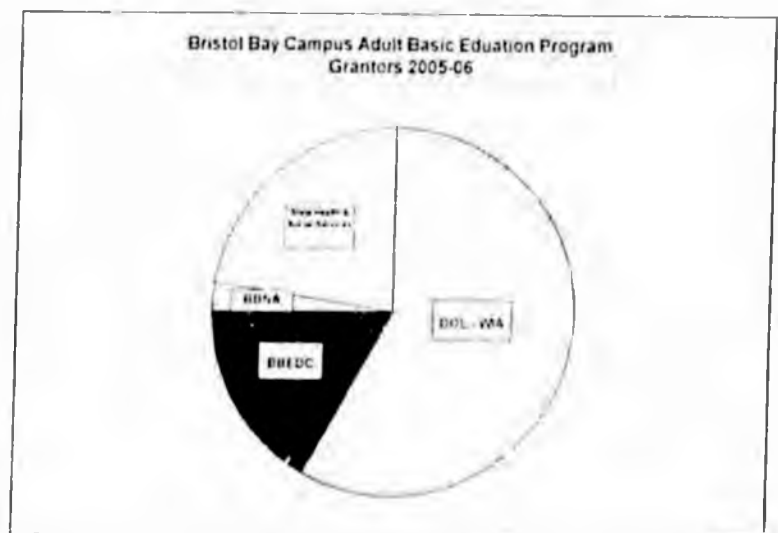
**Example of growth and improvement: Bristol Bay Adult Education**



- As of the 2000 census, 1,176 residents between the ages of 18 and 44 do not have high school diplomas.
- 74% of students served in 2005 began with a grade equivalency of 5.8.
- With a staff of 13 part-time instructors, 4 part-time GED examiners, and one full time program director, ABE/GED services extend to 32 communities spread throughout an approximately 40,000 square mile area.
- Increasing direct instruction within the 32 communities makes a significant difference. \$40,000 from Alaska State Department of Health and Social Services, Public Assistance Work Services Program received 12/05 provided funds to increase the number of part-time ABE/GED instructors from 6 to 13.

**Results:**

- 12/04 - 66 students served regionally
- 12/05 - 79 students served regionally
- 2/04 - 1 GED graduate
- 2/05 - 2 GED graduates
- 2/06 - 11 GED graduates





# Catholic Community Service

419 Sixth Street  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
(907) 463-6100  
(907) 586-9018 Fax  
www.cesjuneau.org

Child Care & Family Resources

Hospice & Home Care of Juneau

Southeast Senior Services

March 17, 2006

Testimony for the House Finance Committee  
From: Rosemary Hagevig, Executive Director

I would like to speak with you today about two major components that are not included in the most recent version of the House Health and Social Services Budget Document for FY 2007.

First, I join several other non-profit social services organizations in Alaska who are very concerned that as of this June 30<sup>th</sup>, prevention and early intervention services for high-risk young families targeting children in the 0-10 age group will not exist. The attached PHOENIX PROGRAM pilot project proposal will provide a structured effective approach toward early intervention alternatives for families. The non-profit sector in our state provides a wide array of "on the ground" grass roots services that are tailored to address the immediate needs of these children and their parents and continues to be the first line of defense that can intervene early before a case escalates to the emergent need to move a family to "open case" status at the Office of Children's Services. The non-profit providers are more flexible, able to respond in a more timely manner and are less burdened by expensive bureaucracies. The social services non-profit organizations in Alaska are critical partners with OCS. We continue to be the most efficient and economical means of delivery of effective services to families. As agencies with many years of experience in providing services to the most needy in our communities, we see this pilot program as a viable opportunity to proactively respond to families at significant risk of child abuse and neglect. We would appreciate your review of the attached copy of our proposal.

My second request is that the full Finance Committee consider re-instating the Department's request for \$500,000 for the Healthy Marriages Program. We feel that there may have been insufficient information provided at the subcommittee level for this program to be identified as the "happy couples" program. As a recipient of a small \$50,000 Healthy Marriages grant from the Department, and I can assure you that these funds have been very judiciously spent assisting CCS in funding parenting classes, financial literacy classes, parent support groups, relationship guidance for teen parents, and some support for mental health counseling for very needy families, many of whom are homeless. As is the case with all of our programs at CCS, our ultimate goal is to work with families as they strive toward self-sufficiency and security for their children, and these limited funds have become an essential tool in achieving these outcomes.



United Way Member Agency

## **THE PHOENIX PILOT PROJECT: STRENGTHENING ALASKA'S FAMILIES**

**Background:** This project is the result of a statewide effort to improve outcomes for families in Alaska that struggle with domestic violence, substance abuse, mental health issues, and other barriers to effective parenting. The Phoenix Pilot Project is the culmination of many months of planning and discussion with the Office of Children's Services, the Division of Public Assistance, and community service agencies working with families throughout the state.

The Phoenix Pilot Project seeks to strengthen and preserve Alaska's families and break the generational family cycles in families who may be at-risk for child abuse and neglect but who would otherwise not be served by existing programs. It provides wrap-around services to address multiple stressors affecting families through different levels of care. It is intended to break down silos between service providers and integrate family services.

### **PROGRAM NEEDS**

In FY2005, there were approximately 9,500 reports of harm reported to the Office of Children's Services statewide. Almost 30% of these reports (2,598) were "screened out" and not investigated. Evidence suggests that many of these calls include prenatal exposure to alcohol/drugs, homelessness, lack of medical care for children, or poor school attendance. While these families are technically screen-outs, it is clear that many of them are in need of some type of intervention to address the underlying issues.

The Phoenix Pilot Project provides support and intervention as needed to families who have been identified by:

- the Office of Children's Services
- the Division of Public Assistance
- statewide medical providers
- local community service providers

### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES: STRENGTHENING FAMILIES**

**Vision:** The Phoenix Pilot Project keeps children safe and in healthy environments by supporting parents. Services are provided by agencies that have an integrated, comprehensive family approach serving families with children of all ages.

**Target Population:** Families with children prenatal to age 10 who are at-risk of child abuse and neglect, nearing the limit on state TANF benefits, or identified by medical and community service providers.

The referral process is inclusive of:

- Screen-out referrals from OCS
- Referrals from medical and other community providers
- Division of Public Assistance (family service teams)

## **THE PHOENIX PILOT PROJECT: STRENGTHENING ALASKA'S FAMILIES**

**Service Area:** The Phoenix Pilot Project will serve the entire state of Alaska with services based out of five regional sites. Remote and isolated communities that have traditionally been neglected by early intervention programs can benefit from Tier 1 and Tier 2 services (*see Program Implementation below*) made available through the regional sites. The regions represented are listed below along with the anticipated regional site:

Region	Regional Site
Southeast	Juneau
Northern	Fairbanks
Southcentral	Kenai
Anchorage	Anchorage
Matanuska-Susitna Valley	Wasilla

**Goals:** The goals of the Phoenix Pilot Project are to:

1. Reduce risks (substance abuse, mental health, family violence) for high risk families and reduce numbers of protective service reports to OCS
2. Assist DPA in providing transitional services to TANF families
3. Reduce family stress identified by community and medical providers

**Objectives:**

- Increase parenting skills
- Improve relationship skills
- Identify and enhance natural supports
- Enrich home environment and safety
- Increase family self-sufficiency
- Improve financial literacy for high risk families

**Outcomes:** Outcomes for the project are concrete, measurable and specific. They are:

1. Formal Data Analysis at 6, 12, 18 and 24 month intervals that specifically identifies numbers of families receiving services through project agencies that are not subsequently referred to OCS for further action by child protective services - (See attached Document #1)
2. two months after contact by the Phoenix Pilot Project, 50% of families will report engagement in referral services when available
3. 60% of families will engage in home visiting services when appropriate
4. pilot project agencies will respond to 100% of referrals from OCS, DPA, medical and community providers
5. 75% of families will report improvement in issues related to referral (See attached Document #2)

**PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION:** Project services include a single point of entry with a three-tiered approach to intervention. Referral from a community partner will include a screening tool provided by the project. Based on the screen, an intake

**THE PHOENIX PILOT PROJECT:  
STRENGTHENING ALASKA'S FAMILIES**

coordinator determines the level of service required. Three levels of service exist based on the intake screening:

**Tier 1:** Phone call to family by intake coordinator. Services include:

- discussion of reason for referral from OCS/DPA
- general resource sharing and referrals to appropriate programs
- follow-up contact within two months

**Tier 2:** Phone call to family by intake coordinator followed by direct referrals to community service agencies. Services include:

- discussion of reason for referral from community partners
- targeted resource sharing
- active referrals to community agencies
- follow-up contact within two months

**Tier 3:** Phone call to family by agency intake personnel, followed by family assessment and offer of home visiting. Services include:

- discussion of reason for referral from community partners
- in-depth assessment of family stress
- goal-oriented home visits to provide support and education
- targeted resource sharing
- active referrals and collaboration with community partners
- follow-up contact within two months following final home visit

**Program Components:** The project may include any of the following components:

- Parenting curriculum/classes referral
- Financial literacy classes referral
- Relationship skill building activities
- Parent mentoring/parent support activities
- Screening for developmental delays
- Harm reduction/referrals/safety plans
- Breaking generational family cycles (risk)
- Connecting families to support/services
- Addressing substance abuse, mental health issues and domestic violence leading to child abuse and neglect

**PROGRAM EVALUATION:** All services are accountable to the program outcomes listed above. In short, each tier is accountable to specific outcome measures depending on the intensity of services:

**Tier 1:** Tier 1 services will be accountable to outcomes # 1, 2, 4, 5

**Tier 2:** Tier 2 services will be accountable to outcomes # 1, 2, 4, 5

**Tier 3:** Tier 3 services will be accountable to outcomes # 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

**THE PHOENIX PILOT PROJECT:  
STRENGTHENING ALASKA'S FAMILIES**

**BUDGET:** The Phoenix Pilot Project will serve the entire state of Alaska in the five identified regions with a budget of \$1.5 million.

**THE PHOENIX PILOT PROJECT:  
STRENGTHENING ALASKA'S FAMILIES**

Document 1

Subsequent Protective Service Reports/OCS cases opened/removal/custody

Families Referred to Agency Intake	Family	6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
	Family 1				
	Family 2				
	Family 3				
	Family 4				
	Family 5				
	Family 6				
	Family 7				
	Family 8				
	Family 9				
	Family 10				
	Family 11				
	Family 12				
	Family 13				
	Family 14				
	Family 15				
	Family 16				
	Family 17				
	Family 18				
	Family 19				
Family 20					

Early intervention success is measured by: comparing the number of children/families referred and subsequently entering active status with OCS to those children and families referred to agencies and receiving some level of intervention services as identified in this proposal and not requiring additional attention from OCS during the pilot period.

**THE PHOENIX PILOT PROJECT:  
STRENGTHENING ALASKA'S FAMILIES**

Document 2

Analysis of Services Received by Families Served Leading to Increased  
Stability/Self-Sufficiency

Family	6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
Family 1				
Family 2				
Family 3				
Family 4				
Family 5				
Family 6				
Family 7				
Family 8				
Family 9				
Family 10				
Family 11				
Family 12				
Family 13				
Family 14				
Family 15				
Family 16				
Family 17				
Family 18				
Family 19				
Family 20				

**Table S-1**  
**Summary of Estimated Beneficial and Adverse Impacts of Proposed Project Alternatives<sup>8</sup>**

Factors	Alternatives						
	No Action	2B	3	4A	4B	4C	4D
<b>Cost Factors</b>							
Initial Capital Costs (\$ million)	0	\$258	\$268	\$131	\$142	\$111	\$103
30-Year Life Cycle Costs <sup>1</sup> (\$ million)	\$267	\$352	\$375	\$495	\$482	\$326	\$313
Annual Maintenance and Operations Costs (\$millions)	\$10.2	\$9.0	\$9.2	\$16.6	\$15.5	\$11.6	\$11.3
Not Present Value <sup>2</sup> (\$ millions)	0	\$70	\$22	-\$56	-\$23	-\$57	\$3
<b>Purpose and Need Factors</b>							
Projected Summer Capacity to Skagway (vehicles per day)	71	636	408	223	227	149	203
Projected Summer Capacity to Haines (vehicles per day)	96	544	1,008	229	284	154	208
Summer Travel Time – Auke Bay to Skagway <sup>3</sup> (hours)	3.8/9.1	3.0	4.2	4.1/9.1	3.8/9.1	6.3/9.1	5.3/9.1
Summer Travel Time – Auke Bay to Haines <sup>3</sup> (hours)	3.5/7.1	2.5	2.9	3.8/7.1	3.5/7.1	6.0/7.1	5.0/7.1
Number of Ferry Round-trips/Week – Auke Bay to Skagway (Summer)	7	42	42	16	16	9	16
Number of Ferry Round-trips/Week – Auke Bay to Haines (Summer)	8	56	84	16	30	9	16
Net State Cost Over 35-Year Analysis Period (\$millions)	\$61	\$88	\$86	\$98	\$94	\$78	\$70
Net State Cost per vehicle	\$45	\$15	\$18	\$46	\$37	\$51	\$36
Total / Out-of-Pocket User Costs – Juneau/Skagway <sup>4</sup>	\$237 / \$237	\$77 / \$51	\$111 / \$85	\$261 / \$261	\$174 / \$163	\$237 / \$237	\$160 / \$149
Total / Out-of-Pocket User Costs – Juneau/Haines <sup>4</sup>	\$180 / \$180	\$60 / \$34	\$70 / \$45	\$198 / \$198	\$124 / \$113	\$180 / \$180	114 / \$103
<b>Employment and Population Impacts</b>							
<b>Juneau</b>							
New Local Employment (2038)	0	200	70	45	90	0	30
Population Increase (2038)	0	300	100	70	140	0	45
<b>Skagway</b>							
New Local Employment (2038)	0	55	0	10	15	0	0
Population Increase (2038)	0	70	0	10	20	0	0

<sup>8</sup> Initial capital costs (those costs required to design and construct the alternative) have been updated to 2007 dollars. All other costs remain in 2004 dollars as expressed in the Supplemental Draft EIS and appendices.

Association of Alaska School Boards - Elgen ReNaki Mertz - Full Circle Music - Glacier Valley Student Council - Juneau Brass & Winds - Ron Mass Family - Na

# Glacier Valley School Presents



Saturday, March 18th  
Glacier Valley Gym

8:00 - 7:00  
7:00 - 9:00

**Ballroom & Art Fundraiser**  
All proceeds will support ARTS Education at Glacier Valley School

P.E. - Lynn Wilkins - Fabric Community Inc. - Alaska State Council on the Arts - Alaska State Legislature - The National Endowment for the Arts - and the Raymond Foundation - Glacier Valley Parent Group

Opera of Ft. Collins St. - Northern Academy & Hearing Services, Inc. - The North Federal Credit Union - USAA Architects - White Pine Bank Alaska - Whitting - ATELLO - Anthea, Inc. - Star Sign Post

Debra - Jane & Jeff - James Wood (L&L) Inc. - MVA Architects - MVA Architects - Pioneer Capital & Specialty Cleaning Services - Simpson - Tidgquist - Brennan & Bergquist

Juneau schools face over \$2 million in cuts unless the Alaska State Legislature increases funding beyond the Governor's \$90 million. Estimated impacts:

\* Class sizes will increase

	Current Ave. Class Size	Projected Ave class size (06-07 school year)
K-2	22:1	25:1
3-5	25:1	26:1
6-8	30:1	31.5:1
9-12	30:1	31.8:1

\* Instructional materials for students will diminish

Examples: There has been no budget for replacing aging textbooks for at least four years. My son's High School Advanced Biology text is 15 years old. Increased costs of photocopying will put a large dent in materials purchasing power next year for each school, and further diminish purchasing power.

\* New services/programs are vulnerable

New student-centered programs - like elementary art - may be eliminated. Counseling for elementary students - previously funded with a federal grant which is ending - may be substantially curtailed, for lack of funds. Remedial tutoring to prepare students for the high school exit exam may be a thing of the past. Innovations, which have been in the works at the High School to address the terrible drop out rate, may falter.

No matter how you calculate it, Juneau will be making cuts to services and programs for students next school year *unless state funding is increased.*

Juneau citizens already contribute to the cap with local property tax dollars. Local dollars represents 43% of the Juneau school budget. In addition, there is tremendous community support for athletics, arts and student initiatives. However, there is a limit on the capacity of any community to increase or sustain this level of fundraising and financial support for its youth.

Alaska is wealthy. Alaska can afford to increase funding for schools. Scrimping and cutting and squeezing is counterproductive and DIMINISHES the quality of learning opportunities for our kids.

*Alaska's students deserve GREAT schools.*

# STATE OF ALASKA

Frank H. Murkowski, GOVERNOR

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

*Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse  
Alaska Mental Health Board*

P.O. BOX 110608  
JUNEAU, AK 99811-0608  
PHONE: (907) 465-8920  
FAX: 465-4410

March 17, 2006

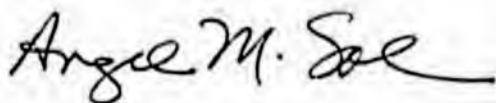
Testimony to the House Finance Committee  
HB 365/HB 366

Bring The Kids Home (BTKH) is an initiative developed by the Department of Health and Social Services and the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority to improve services and outcomes for severely emotionally disturbed Alaskan youth by keeping them at home so they can receive the help they need in their own communities while close to their own families. Outcome data from the Division of Behavioral Health shows that BTKH efforts are succeeding - the number of kids being sent to treatment facilities in the lower 48 has dropped by over 5%. This is better for the kids, for their families and for the state's Medicaid bottom line.

Governor Murkowski picked up the ball and proposed a budget package to support continued efforts to Bring and keep the Kids Home. However, the DISS Finance Subcommittee has recommended reductions that eliminate a crucial piece of the package - services for youth and their families designed to prevent out of state placement from every happening. The Governor's request for \$1.25 million to increase Community Behavioral Health Center funding will enhance the capacity of these agencies to work with families and youth at risk of being referred to expensive out-of-state or out-of-region residential care. These youth are often not eligible for Medicaid-funded services, so the Centers must currently absorb the cost of these services within their diminishing state grant funding. This funding will provide these very troubled children services in their home community to keep them at home, and, if they must be referred out to residential treatment, will provide a more effective continuity of care for transition to and discharges from that treatment.

Please maintain the BTKH momentum. We are concerned that unless you fully fund BTKH efforts the initiative will be less successful, and more kids will be sent out of state to distant and expensive residential care. Please do not jeopardize the BTKH efforts, but ensure their continuing success by reinstating \$1.25 for essential mental health services at home.

Sincerely,



Angela M. Salerno, Advocacy Coordinator  
Alaska Mental Health Board  
Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

From:004

807 3495335

03/16/2006 14:40

#018 P.003/003

## Alaska Baptist Family Services

1600 O' Malley Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99507 (907) 349-2222  
Main Line: 349-2222 Fax Line: 349-5335 Email: akfamilies@acl.net



March 16, 2006

House Finance  
Alaska State Capital  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representatives,

This letter is to support the full funding for the governor's request for the Bring The Kids Home Initiative. Bring The Kids Home (BTKH) is a plan developed by the Department of Health and Social Services and the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority to improve services and outcomes for severely emotionally disturbed Alaskan youth. Governor Murkowski has developed a budget package to support continued Bring The Kids Home efforts. Already, BTKH efforts are succeeding and more kids are being served in state. The distinct number of out-of-state (OOS) residential psychiatric treatment center (RPTC) Medicaid recipients decreased 5.1% in FY2005 - the first decrease in the OOS RPTC population since 1998. However, without full funding to adequately implement all of the BTKH strategies, we cannot expect to continue to achieve the results necessary to be successful.

The DHSS Subcommittee of the House Finance Committee has proposed cuts to the FY07 Governor's proposed budget that are critical to the success of the Bring the Kids Home (BTKH) Initiative. Full funding of this initiative will help prevent placements of over 600 Alaskan youth annually in out-of-state care and to provide services closer to their home. \$40 million dollars a year is spent on these out of state placements, often when a lower level of care (and less cost to the State) would have been more appropriate.

### Bring the Kids Home FY07

#### Operating Budget - Total Funds

Component	Short Description	Governor	Total Funds	
			HFin Subcommittee	diff
HFin DHSS Subcomm actions 2/28/06				
1	Behav Health Admin Gatekeeping functions - Regional placement Committees	290.0		-290.0
2	SED Youth BTKH Expansion - Instate services & capacity development	2,120.0	870.0	-1,250.0
3	SED Youth BTKH - data collection	50.0	50.0	
4	DJI/Protection Services Gatekeeping functions - Regional placement Committees	200.0		-200.0
5	OCS/Management Gatekeeping functions - Regional placement Committees	200.0		-200.0
6	OCS Medicaid Expand Behavioral Rehab Services (BRS)	2,500.0	2,500.0	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>5,360.0</b>	<b>3,420.0</b>	<b>-1,940.0</b>

### TOP PRIORITY AMENDMENT

#### Item 2: REINSTATE GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED SUPPORT FOR IN-STATE SERVICE CAPACITY

Within the Governor's FY07 budget BTKH budget expansion described above is \$1.25 million to increase Community Behavioral Health Center funding. This will enhance their capacity to work with families and youth at risk of being referred to expensive out-of-state or out-of-region residential care. Funding provides services in their home community to keep them at home, and if referred out to residential treatment provides more effective continuity of care for transitions to and discharges from that treatment. The youth are commonly not eligible for Medicaid-funded services at this point, so the Centers must absorb the cost of these services within their diminishing state grant funding.

### PRIORITY AMENDMENT

#### Items 1, 4, 5: REINSTATE GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED SUPPORT FOR "GATEKEEPING" FUNCTIONS IN PLACEMENT COMMITTEES

This funding provides adequate staff resources to ensure a state review of youth who are at risk for placements in expensive high levels of care, such as residential psychiatric treatment centers often outside of their home community or immediate region. DHSS is currently finalizing the best model for this gate keeping function. This funding is essential to ensure that youth are not referred to higher levels of care when lower levels of care or outpatient care in their home community would have been appropriate.

Sincerely,

Lorie Morris

Integrity

Quality

Safety

Accountability

Spirituality

From:004

807 3495335

03/16/2006 12:55

#017 P.003/003

## Alaska Baptist Family Services

1600 O'Malley Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99507 (907) 349-2222  
Main Line: 349-2222 Fax Line: 349-5335 Email: abfamilica@gcl.net



March 16, 2006

House Finance  
Alaska State Capital  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representatives,

This letter is to support the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) 2007 budget request for an 18% rate increase for Behavioral Rehabilitation Service providers. These providers have not received a rate increase since the BRS program inception in 2000 and this increase is a much needed step in the right direction. Today we are at a breaking point and I fear if small non-profits are not adequately reimbursed for the services they are providing to the state's children some providers will not survive. It is imperative that the State of Alaska properly fund and expand existing services of providers who have succeeded in caring for Alaska's children in need.

Providers throughout the state have not been compensated at the necessary level to provide the necessary care and have maintained quality care by shifting money away from necessary administrative functions. At the same time, we have seen dramatic increases in the cost to provide care to our consumers. For example, from FY 2003 to FY 2004 Alaska Baptist Family Services (ABFS) workman's compensation rates increased 117% with the last two years also seeing increases over 50%. The rising cost of medical insurance has only been maintained by the agency cutting benefits or shifting the cost to employees. In addition, ABFS employees have not had a cost of living increase in their wages since FY 2001 because of financial constraints. Agencies, such as ABFS, cannot continue to shift money away from administrative functions or programs will suffer.

I am currently serving as Executive Director of ABFS which has a rich history of serving Alaska's children in need beginning in 1948 as an orphanage, in response to the diphtheria outbreak. For the last 30 years ABFS has served emotionally disturbed children who require residential treatment. Please help us to continue our important work as we partner with the state to serve Alaska's children by supporting the DHSS 2007 budget request to increase Behavioral Rehabilitation Services and provide a rate increase for the state's providers.

Sincerely,

Lorie Morris

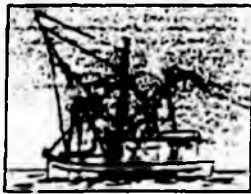
Integrity

Quality

Safety

Accountability

Spirituality



## Alaska Trollers Association

130 Seward St., No. 211  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
(907) 586-9400  
(907) 586-4473 Fax

March 17, 2006

Representative Mike Chenault, Co-Chair  
Representative Kevin Meyer, Co-Chair  
House Finance  
Alaska State Legislature  
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Representatives Chenault, Meyer, and Committee Members:

I'd like to make you aware of concerns of the Alaska Trollers Association (ATA) with regard to the short and long term state of Alaska Department of Fish and Game's (ADFG) operating budget. ATA supports general fund increases for all divisions of ADFG.

ATA represents hook and line salmon fishermen operating in Southeast Alaska. With over 2600 permit holders, the troll fleet is one of the largest in the state. The fleet is 85% resident and a large number of trollers live in rural communities.

ADFG commercial fisheries division began experiencing deep budget cuts in 1986. Since that time, increased research and management burdens have been placed on the agency, yet the general fund component of its budget has been further reduced or, at best, level funded with no account for rising costs. ADFG's inability to maintain, much less grow, its budget in the face of additional workload has reduced its ability to keep and attract staff.

Since 1986, the state has received large sums of federal money, due to the Pacific Salmon Treaty (Treaty) and a series of federal mandates to meet US Treaty goals and objectives. This money has helped to mitigate the loss of state general fund money in the Southeast Region. At this time, federal money is funding roughly half of the Southeast Region budget.

For many years, our association has expressed concern about the level of reliance the state has placed on federal money to finance management of our state's resources. Obviously, unfunded federal mandates are unacceptable and states should not be required to pay the cost of meeting commitments made by the US government. The problem is that chronic under-funding of the general fund component of the budget has forced ADFG to become increasingly reliant on federal funds to secure core staff and programs. Now that federal money is at a premium, it is not unlikely that all ADFG regions could suffer if federal monies are limited and ADFG struggles to do too much with too little.

Of significant concern this year is impending loss of essential fish and game staff through retirement or recruitment by other entities. By the end of 2006, on the precipice of crucial Pacific Salmon Commission, our region could lose up to eight people who deal with key Treaty issues. Many of them are high level fishery managers and scientists, with few qualified replacements waiting in the wings. In a state with the wealth of Alaska and significant financial

bolstering by the federal government, it is incredible that the budget has not provided the means to hire and train the amount of staff necessary to cope with the current wave of 'boomer' retirement. The loss of qualified personnel at ADFG could lead to reductions in our base of knowledge and institutional memory, more restrictive management, and reductions in our ability to negotiate beneficial Treaty agreements. Given the taxes paid by our industry, this situation could mean a direct loss of revenue for the state.

The task is on your shoulders to forge a meaningful solution to the state's budget problems and we appreciate the enormity of some aspects. However, we urge you to take action now with a long term view towards the future of management in our highly resource reliant state. If you don't, the costs could be enormous to our communities and the state.

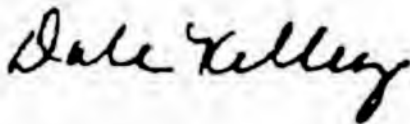
ATA is proud of ADFG and its outstanding track record of resource management. The seafood industry and most Alaskan communities depend on ADFG's continued ability to sustain healthy fisheries resources.

The seafood industry is still the second largest revenue generator for the state and its communities. Alaskan's from all walks of life benefit from healthy fish and game resources. It makes both common and economic sense to invest in ADFG.

It is our hope that you will find the means to adequately fund ADFG to ensure management, research, and development of our resources, as well as provide employment packages that attract new personnel of the high caliber we are used to working with.

If I can be of assistance on this or other matters, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Dale Kelley  
Executive Director

# STATE OF ALASKA

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

*Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse  
Alaska Mental Health Board*

*Frank H. Murkowski, GOVERNOR*

*P.O. BOX 110608  
JUNEAU, AK 99811-0608  
PHONE: (907) 465-8920  
FAX: 465-4410*

March 17, 2006

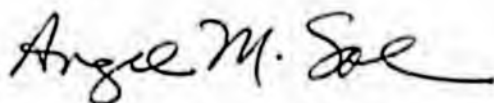
Testimony to the House Finance Committee  
HB 365/HB 366

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Governor Murkowski picked up the ball and proposed a budget package to support continued efforts to Bring and keep the Kids Home. However, the DHSS Finance Subcommittee has recommended reductions that eliminate a crucial piece of the package - services for youth and their families designed to prevent out of state placement from every happening. The Governor's request for \$1.25 million to increase Community Behavioral Health Center funding will enhance the capacity of these agencies to work with families and youth at risk of being referred to expensive out-of-state or out-of-region residential care. These youth are often not eligible for Medicaid-funded services, so the Centers must currently absorb the cost of these services within their diminishing state grant funding. This funding will provide these very troubled children services in their home community to keep them at home, and, if they must be referred out to residential treatment, will provide a more effective continuity of care for transitions to and discharges from that treatment.

Please maintain the BTKH momentum. We are concerned that unless you fully fund BTKH efforts the initiative will be less successful, and more kids will be sent out of state to distant and expensive residential care. Please do not jeopardize the BTKH efforts, but ensure their continuing success by reinstating \$1.25 for essential mental health services at home.

Sincerely,



Angela M. Salerno, Advocacy Coordinator  
Alaska Mental Health Board  
Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

# Public Opinion Message

Dillingham Legislative Information Office (LIO)  
 P O Box 829 · Dillingham, AK 99576 · Phone: 842-5319 Fax: 842-5105

This form must be completely filled out. You may phone, fax, or deliver your POM to any LIO.

**From:** Please PRINT the information below. This form must be signed by the sender.

Mr./Ms./Mrs. <b>Mr</b>	First name <b>THOMAS</b>	M.I.	Last name <b>TILDEN</b>	Jr./Sr./III
Group affiliation (if applicable)				Daytime telephone number
Mailing address <b>PO Box 786 Dillingham Alaska</b>				Zip code <b>99576</b>
Residence (street) address if different from mailing address				Zip code
Email address <b>tildentomas@yahoo.com</b>			Signature <i>[Signature]</i>	Date <b>3-18-06</b>

**To:** Put a  in the appropriate box(es).

Committees		House members		Senate members			
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<input type="checkbox"/>	Finance (fin)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chenault (cho)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kohring (koh)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Davis (dab)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Health, Ed. & Social Services (hes)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cissna (cis)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kott (kol)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dyson (dys)
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		<input type="checkbox"/>	Kapsner (kap)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wilson (wis)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wilken (wik)

**Subject:** Fill out the boxes below OR enter a Subject.

HB or SB	Bill number	and check one:	<input type="checkbox"/> Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Oppose	<input type="checkbox"/> Amend	OR enter a general Subject (LIO staff may modify):
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**Message:** Your PRINTED message cannot exceed 50 words or contain any vulgar language.

PCE	needs	MORE	funding.	when	5
energy	costs	go	up	everything	10
else	does	for.	we	live	15
in	the	richest	state	in	20
USA	and	are	forgetting	all	25
the	dams	and	power	structures	30
we	built	for	urban	Alaska	35
and	PCE	was	put	in	40
place	for	rural	ak	to	45
deal	with	energy	costs.		50

March 17, 2006

Dear Representative Jim Holm:

I am writing to request that \$750,000 in the Governor's proposed budget for the recommendations of the Ready to Read, Ready to Learn Task Force be reinstated in the budget under the Department of Education and Early Development.

Too many Alaskan children are entering the schools at kindergarten and first grade unprepared to begin reading and learning. This is an issue because kids that start school behind their peers tend to stay behind. Further, assessments done by schools statewide show that in Alaska the situation is steadily growing worse.

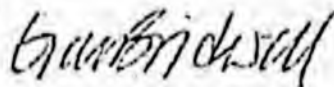
Across the nation, other states are investing in early childhood education because the age of 0-6 is a critical window of opportunity for a child when it comes to learning. Research on brain development is backed-up by long-term economic studies which show that investing in children in this age range has a much greater return than investing at any other age. One 40-year study, the Highscope Perry Preschool Study, shows that for every \$1 invested in a child during this time period, \$17 was either saved in areas such as teen pregnancy, juvenile justice, welfare and corrections or was later returned in the form of greater tax revenues from higher adult incomes, and a higher proportion of home ownership.

I urge you to keep the \$750,000 in the budget to help with projects that will improve the early reading and learning skills of Alaska's young children and benefit Alaska's future.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Gara Bridwell



March 17, 2006

Dear Representative Mike Kelly:

I am writing to request that \$750,000 in the Governor's proposed budget for the recommendations of the Ready to Read, Ready to Learn Task Force be reinstated in the budget under the Department of Education and Early Development.

Too many Alaskan children are entering the schools at Kindergarten and first grade unprepared to begin reading and learning. This is an issue because kids that start school behind their peers tend to stay behind. Further, assessments done by schools statewide show that in Alaska the situation is steadily growing worse.

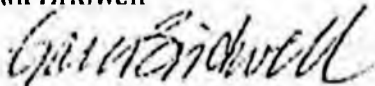
Across the nation, other states are investing in early childhood education because the age 3-6 is a critical window of opportunity for a child when it comes to learning. Research on brain development is backed-up by long-term economic studies which show that investing in children in this age range has a much greater return than investing at any other age. One 40-year study, the Highscope Perry Preschool Study, shows that for every \$1 invested in a child during this time period, \$17 was either saved in areas such as teen pregnancy, juvenile justice, welfare and corrections or was later returned in the form of greater tax revenues from higher adult incomes, and a higher proportion of home ownership.

I urge you to keep the \$750,000 in the budget to help with projects that will improve the early reading and learning skills of Alaska's young children and benefit Alaska's future.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Gara Bridwell



***The Alaska Professional Hunters Association***  
***HC 60 Box 299C Copper Center, Alaska 99573***  
***(907) 822-3755 office@alaskaprohunter.org***

March 17, 2006

Co-Chairs Chenault and Meyer, and Members of the House <sup>Finance</sup> ~~Resource~~ Committee.

My name is Bobby Fithian, I live near Lower Tonsina, Alaska. I am testifying on behalf of The Alaska Professional Hunters Association as their Executive Director regarding funding for ADF&G Wildlife Conservation Division.

I am testifying from Fairbanks where I am attending one of the many BOG meetings that I have attended over a number of years. I wish you could hear the continual beekon and cry testimonies of the people of this state that have been pleading the Board for management of our treasured wildlife resources as per our constitutional mandates. The failure to properly manage these resources represents what is probably the greatest failure of stewardship that has occurred to Alaska in our history, And once historically documented, will compare with the top conservation failures in America's history.

There probably is no other groups of people who live as close to our wildlife resources or, who have as close of a dependency on them as the true subsistence dependent people of Alaska or the professional guide whose livelihoods are dependent upon prudent stewardship.

Additionally, the wildlife populations of this state represent for many Alaskans, one of the main reasons that we reside here, whether it is for enjoyment of seeing, filming, hunting or just the knowledge that we are here today and part of this unparalleled and absolute unique place we know as Alaska.

In the worlds view, images of Alaska do not immediately conjure up views of our intellectual achievements which are world class in their own right, but of our wild places and wild things.

Committee members please hear the following and please carry this message to your fellow legislatures. There are vast areas of Alaska that have little or no

historic baseline wildlife management data because of historic lack of support for Wildlife Conservation.

What this means is, that in today's easily accessed judicial arena, without proper science, we can not effectively manage our wildlife according to our well defined mandates which were established for the best interest of our whole.

In every meeting that the B O G has held over the past fifteen years there has been very hard allocation decisions made that have taken away food from our subsistence dependent peoples, hunting opportunities for resident and non-resident hunters and ways of life for many Alaskans. Worse yet, they have developed and pitted user group against user group, race against race, and unfortunately, Alaskan against Alaskan. No other failure of stewardship in our history has done more to socially damage Alaska than our inability to effectively manage our wildlife.

Who is to blame for this? We are, every one of us that has allowed for us to become divided on this issue and have not taken significant steps forward to fix it.

Our Department of Fish and Game and the BOC Game process represents the most democratic process in the world for wildlife conservation and you have great people working for Alaska in this arena. The failure has been ours for not providing the support they need to do what their job requires.

We can find failure in every arena if we dig hard enough and look hard enough but let me tell you, in this situation, any internal failure that has occurred is small in comparison to the needs and support that this division really needs.

I work regularly with Commissioner Campbell, Directors Robus and Titus and they are great leaders with nearly incomparable challenges.

This is not a department or people problem, this is a support problem. Let me give you one of many comparable examples. The McGrath Area ADF&G office is charged to manage our wildlife in a geographical area that is nearly as large as the State of Washington and includes 16 communities. This area is only one of Alaska's many bountiful ecosystems that harbors diverse wildlife populations that if placed in any other state would have over a dozen staff biologists.

Much of this area is currently being managed for Intensive Management which is a much higher cost practice than regular management practices. We have not had a resident biologist for this area for most of 06 and just recently one biologist was placed in this area.

All of this region has a significant world class subsistence, resident and non-resident hunting history as well as eco-tour and sport fishing opportunities. Large portions of this area have little or no base line background biological data to proactively manage the wildlife population, *and well never* have without significant additional support.

Last night I met with a resident from a small village in the central Kuskokwim who came to this B O G meeting to try to stop proposals that would take away subsistence food for his constituents. He lost, he has to go home and explain to the people why they will not have much opportunity to hunt this fall. They automatically think that the reason for their loss is because of all the other user groups who are also seeking allocation of declining populations.

They do not see as easily as you or I that the loss is a result of our Wildlife Conservation objectives not being met. I can also tell you that he was considering never returning home. I know of a number of great and historic Alaskans that have given up their way of life and left Alaska over this failure. All of these instances occur in areas where historically, these habitats supported high level densities of moose sheep and caribou which are nearly void of these resources currently.

We vitally need long term proactive management to be effective with developing and maintaining sustainable high level population densities that provide for the best interest of the whole.

This appropriation you have before you represents only a vital stop gab appropriation to help with a number of very serious needs. We urge you to not only approve it but to help Alaska turn together to develop provisions for long term comprehensive support for our wildlife management mandates.

Respectfully,  
Thank You,

Testimony to the House Finance Committee  
March 17, 2006

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today. My name is Cheryl Keepers; I work for the Fairbanks North Star Borough, as staff to Health & Social Services Commission and in the administration of the Human Services Community Matching Grants.

State funds for this grant have decreased dramatically since FY02, dropping from \$1.7M to \$1.0M in FY04. In FY05 the Matanuska Susitna borough became eligible for funds, and the state budget was adjusted to \$1.235M to hold other participants harmless. We are currently operating with 41% fewer dollars than we had in FY02.

The impact of these funds is substantial. Combined with other dollars and in-kind donations, non-profit agencies provided food to 32,000 hungry people; supported 110 terminally ill patients and 300 loved ones; enriched life for 700 children with adult attention and support; and much more in FY 05.

To accomplish this, agencies leverage the grant dollars with other funds, project income and in-kind donations. In FY 05, the return on investment for state dollars was 19 to 1: for every state dollar, 19 more leveraged.

Projects funded with these dollars also save the state money, through prevention and cost-effective programs. Two examples:

- If Hospice care reduces hospital use by only 10 days, the savings exceed \$2 million.
- With an in-kind budget of 31%, North Star Youth Court provides juvenile services at a fraction of the cost.

The amount of the increment would, when distributed among the eligible communities and matched with the required 30% local contribution, allow us to meet essential human service needs documented in the FY06 allocation process.

As you know, our Mayor and Assembly support the increment, and I urge your support as well. Again, thank you.

**Fairbanks North  
Star Borough  
Health & Social  
Services  
Commission**



**Grant Funds Were Distributed to  
Seven Non-profit Agencies**

**FY  
2005**

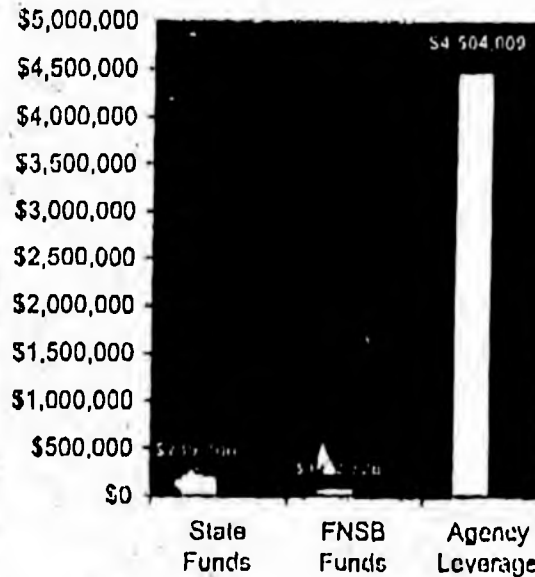
- Alaska Legal Services Corporation
- Big Brothers / Big Sisters
- Fairbanks Community Food Bank
- Hospice of the Tanana Valley
- Interior Community Health Center
- North Star Council on Aging
- North Star Youth Court

Revised

The agencies used state funds to leverage 19 times that amount in the value of services to the community

**19**  
→

**FUNDING LEVERAGE**



**Highlights of Services Provided**

- Distributed 841,523 pounds of food to 32,403 hungry people using 20,653 volunteer hours
- 163 homebound seniors received 59,006 hot meals delivered to their home
- 314 people were provided bereavement services after the death of a loved one and 110 terminally ill patients were provided with patient care services
- 306 Individuals received legal advice and referrals for housing, family law, health, and income maintenance problems
- 703 children spent time with their Big Brother / Big Sister, enriching their lives with adult attention and support; over 77% showed improvement in school performance; 69% showed improvement in his/her attitude about school; 78% reported improvement with relationships with adults
- 65 youth were referred to youth court, diverting work from the formal juvenile justice system; youth defendants contributed 909 hours of community service
- 1,537 people were provided with primary healthcare

\*Revised - funding includes the HSCMG and supplemental funds from the DHSS



## Fairbanks North Star Borough

Financial Services  
Health & Social Services Commission

520 Fifth Ave. PO Box 71267 Fairbanks, Alaska 99707-1267 (907) 459-1474 FAX (907) 459-1280

### MEMORANDUM

To: Interior Delegation  
From: Cheryl Keepers, for the H&SS Commission  
Date: March 13, 2006 *CK*  
Subject: Savings to State

Applicants for FY2007 Human Services Community Matching Grant funds were asked to describe how their project leverages funds in terms of savings to the State. The following are excerpts from proposals recently received:

\*In 2005, the Interior Community Health Center saved the Medicaid program \$1,892,110.

\*With an In-kind budget of 31%, North Star Youth Court provides juvenile services for Fairbanks and the State at a fraction of the cost.

\*Based on the number of at-risk youth serviced by Big Brothers Big Sisters and the juvenile arrest rate in the Fairbanks area, 17 more youngsters would have been arrested if they had not received services. The cost to the State to incarcerate one minor is \$98,257 per year.

\*The cost per patient in the Hospice program is about \$23 per day. Many Hospice patients are on the Medicaid program. If Hospice care reduced the use of:

- assisted living by 30 days, the savings would be about \$700,000;
- skilled medical care by 20 days, the savings would be about \$1M;
- hospital care by 10 days, the savings would be over \$2M.

\*North Star Council on Aging Meals on Wheels: by preventing the use of more intensive services for 5% of clients served (10), MOW generates savings of over \$1.2M.

Other applicants describe savings that are not as easily quantified. Savings come primarily through preventative services that avoid higher state costs at a later time, or by providing services that would cost more if provided by the State.

Thank you for your continued support.

cc: Mayor Whitaker  
Health & Social Services Commission

**The North Star Council on Aging, Senior Center  
Meals on Wheels Senior Nutrition Project  
FY 2007 Human Services Community Matching Grant Program**

**Part H- Leveraging State Savings**

It is difficult to quantify the total savings generated by this project. The State of Alaska receives federal funding to coordinate and fund this project statewide. The Senior Nutrition Program utilizes a proactive prevention approach to defer the cost of other more costly care services such as Medicaid Choice Waiver In-Home Care Services, Assisted Living Care, and Hospitalization. Authorization to receive Choice Waiver services takes a period of two-six months, making this an unfeasible alternative for many consumers who are temporarily incapacitated. Utilizing the figures listed in Chart F-1 (Page F-1), and conservatively estimating that 10 program recipients (5%) do not need more intensive forms of care, it is reasonable to estimate that the program generates over 1.2 million dollars in savings to the State of Alaska.

**HOSPICE OF THE TANANA VALLEY**  
**706 THIRD AVENUE**  
**FAIRBANKS, AK 99701**  
**474-0311**

## II. Leveraging State Savings.

Without the availability of the services and support of Hospice staff and volunteers, many patients with terminal illnesses and their families would be required to use the facilities of assisted living homes, the Denali Center or the Fairbanks Memorial Hospital, especially in the days or weeks immediately preceding the patient's death. In other cases, when a need exists but the patient's condition is not yet critical enough, insurer limitations or lack of coverage can result in the patient and family going without any assistance if Hospice volunteer services were not available.

In 2005, 99 patients were served by Hospice with an average length of stay in the program of 93 days for a total of 9,207 patient days. Using 2005 Hospice expenses of \$213,700, the cost per patient per day was about \$23. The average daily cost for room and care at an assisted living home is about \$257, at Denali Center about \$460, and at Fairbanks Memorial Hospital about \$2,400.

If Hospice care helped reduced the number of days the average Hospice patient spent in assisted living by 30 days, the cost savings would be about \$700,000. If Hospice care helped reduced by the number of days the average patient spent in skilled medical care at Denali Center by 20 days, the cost savings would be about \$1 million. If Hospice care helped reduced by the number of days the average patient spent in Fairbanks Memorial Hospital by 10 days, the cost savings would be about \$2.4 million.

Hospice bereavement clients indicated they would not have received any bereavement support had Hospice services been unavailable. Research supports the rationale that stress and trauma from unresolved grief results in illness, lost work, substance abuse, relationship, and parent-child difficulties (dysfunction). Offering bereavement support lessens the demands for other Human Services, thereby resulting in long-term cost savings to the family, community and to the state.

The requested grant of \$50,000 supports less than 30% of Hospice's personnel costs including benefits and payroll expenses. If the State of Alaska were to directly provide the same services as were delivered by Hospice in 2006, the cost just for the equivalent personnel (not considering other operational costs) is estimated as follows:

<b>Executive Director</b>	<b>\$75,962</b>
<i>AK Social Worker Level IV, \$36.52/hr Full-time</i>	
<b>Patient Care Coordinator</b>	<b>\$53,305</b>
<i>AK Social Worker Level III, \$34.17/hr ¾ Time</i>	
<b>Volunteer Coordinator</b>	<b>\$46,644</b>
<i>AK Social Worker Level II, \$29.90/hr ¾ Time</i>	
<b>Bereavement Coordinator</b>	<b>\$62,189</b>
<i>AK Social Worker Level III, \$34.17/hr ¾ Time</i>	
<b>Office Manager</b>	<b>\$40,466</b>
<i>AK Admin Support Specialist, \$25.91/hr ¾ Time</i>	

<b>Patient Care/Bereavement Volunteers</b>	
<i>Certified Nurses Aide II, \$19.77/hr (2,192 hrs in 2005)</i>	\$43,336
<b>Office Volunteers</b>	
<i>AK Adm'n Assltant, \$22.52/hr (1560 hrs in 2005)</i>	\$35,131
<b>Professional Service Volunteers</b>	
<i>Doctors, nurses, accountants, counselors, board &amp; committee, \$60/hr (-1,868 hrs in 2005)</i>	\$292,080
<b>Total Direct Cost for State Personnel</b>	\$649,113
<b>Less Grant Request to Hospice</b>	<u>(\$50,000)</u>
<b>Total Savings to the State of Alaska</b>	<u>\$599,113</u>

## **North Star Youth Court**

**800 Cushman St. Suite 101 • PO BOX 82147 • Fairbanks, AK • (907) 457-6792**

### **H. LEVERAGING STATE SAVINGS**

North Star Youth Court is preventing the need for State services, empowering youth and the community to provide more effective services, and ultimately reducing the number of youth and adults that burden the Alaska Department of Corrections. NSYC accepts from 10-25% of the Fairbanks' jurisdiction misdemeanor referrals, and now reports a greater number of cases with the Minor Consuming Alcohol referrals from the District Court. Each case is saving the State the need to assign a Juvenile Probation Officer at the minimum. This is not to mention the reduction of repeat offenders that results in future savings of perhaps the Attorney General's Office and the Superior Court for adjudication of a more serious offense. A reduction of repeat youth MCA offenders could ultimately cut costs to the State in the areas of alcohol related vehicle fatalities, arrests, and substance addiction. With a budget comprise of 31% in-kind, NSYC provides juvenile and youth services for the Fairbanks community and the State of Alaska at a fraction of the amount that it would cost either.



**BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS**  
Greater Fairbanks Area

*Where Little Moments make  
Big Magic in Children's Lives*

## **H. Leveraging State Savings**

### **How has this project leveraged funds in terms of savings to the State?**

By matching at-risk kids with positive adult role-models, Big Brothers Big Sisters prevents such behaviors as delinquency, drug and alcohol abuse, teenage pregnancy, and failure at school. The costs of the alternatives to prevention are staggering. Institutional drug rehabilitation costs over \$500 a day. Incarceration of a minor costs \$98,257 per year. The cost of one full time caseworker, providing services to over 50 matched and 30 unmatched at-risk children for a full year is less than 1/2 the cost of incarcerating a single juvenile. BBBS served nearly 600 at-risk youth in matches in 2005. Based on the number of school-aged children in the Borough and the total number of youth arrests, we estimate the juvenile arrest rate to be about 3%. If we apply that arrest rate to the nearly 600 kids served by Big Brothers Big Sisters, we can conservatively estimate that 17 youngsters would have been arrested if they hadn't received our services. If even only two had gone on to be incarcerated, the cost to the State would have been **\$196,514**. This is a very conservative estimate, as the population we serve has higher risk factors than the general population from which we are calculating the arrest rate. Based on the percentage of our 2005 Community Matching Block Grant that represents State dollars, that's a 461% return on investment.

In 2005 over 60,000 hours of companionship, mentoring and friendship were provided by our volunteer Big Brothers and Big Sisters to the children with whom they were matched. When compared to the cost of professional counseling services (much of which could potentially be medicaid billable) at a rate of anywhere from \$60 to \$200 per hour, this represents a savings of between **\$3,600,000 to \$12,000,000**.

The Health and Human Services Community Matching Block Grant provides critical funding that allows the agency to sustain and grow our core programs. The success of these programs has allowed us to bring in additional grant monies for program expansion totaling well over **\$780,000**. A conservative estimate of the value of in-kind contributions and volunteer time is over **\$1 million**.

## Interior AIDS Association PROJECT SPECIAL DELIVERY

### II. Leveraging State Savings

The state did not contribute funds to PSD in FY 2005, therefore savings to the state are truly a bonus. If the Community Matching Grant is funded, the state's small investment of match to the Borough funds will yield even greater savings, by improving health care monitoring – which will undoubtedly save state dollars by decreasing Medicaid expenses for pregnant or seriously ill consumers.

#### Cost of Treatment:

PSD's Annual Cost in FY 2005 Per Client Year was \$7,773. Consumers with low-income and no insurance pay ¼ of this cost. Medicaid and insurance typically reimburse for about half the actual cost of treatment. In FY 2005, consumers paid 46% of the treatment costs in cash or through their benefits. This reduced the unreimbursed cost to \$4,353 per year for each consumer -- the amount which is supported by grants from the government.

#### Cost of NOT having treatment available

- Cost of incarceration for one year: \$41,245 (Fairbanks Correctional Center, 12/04).
- Police Department time and expense to pursue and arrest addicts for drug dealing, drug possession, burglary, shoplifting, etc.: not tracked.
- Emergency Room admissions – 41% of PSD consumers reported accessing emergency services 1-6 times in the 6 months prior to starting treatment. After treatment intake, 38% had accessed the ER in the prior six months, and those who did went less often – not drug-related.
- \$2.5 million in illegal drug sales in Fairbanks. A consumer survey (see page 77) indicates that the average amount spent for drugs prior to treatment was \$280 per day. In order to support this expense, many also sold drugs-increasing crime and the potential for violence.
- 70% of consumers have minor children, who had to cope with the drug use and drug seeking behavior of their parent(s) prior to treatment.

Methadone maintenance treatment reduces the frequency of injecting and needle sharing behaviors. Methadone treatment is an important point of contact with service providers and offers opportunities to teach drug users harm reduction techniques such as how to prevent HIV/AIDS, hepatitis, and other health problems that endanger drug users and their communities. PSD participants have gone back to work, gone back to school, resumed taking care of their children, saved their marriages, and much more. When asked at intake, why they want to enter treatment, the most common response is, "I want my life back." Many are well on their way to achieving this goal.

Methadone treatment reduces criminal behavior.<sup>5</sup> Drug-related arrests decline because methadone treatment participants reduce or stop buying and using illegal drugs. Arrests for predatory crimes decrease because participants no longer need to finance costly heroin habits.

Treatment allows many to stabilize their lives and obtain legitimate employment

<sup>5</sup> (Hollard, R.L., Kaelin, J.V., Crabtree, S.G. *Treatment Outcome Prospective Study*, NIDA Research Monograph 51, 1984. and Hall, J.C. Ross, A. *The Effectiveness of Methadone Treatment*, Springer-Verlag, 1991.)



# Interior Community Health Center

*Quality health care accessible to all*

1606 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
Fairbanks, AK 99701

## II. Leveraging State Savings

ICHC leverages funds from this grant in terms of savings to the state in that the 1,838 individuals served by this grant make a cost/patient of approximately \$122 per person. This means that for an input of \$50,000 the state receives over \$224,225 worth of services.

The February 3, 2006 APCA *Update* reported that in, "1994 Stanford University found that 10% of an emergency room visits are for non-urgent conditions that could be treated in a primary care setting." They reported that researchers estimated that each unnecessary ER visit was equal to a potential \$650 in savings. FMH ER provided approximately 27,000 visits in 2005, which according to the Stanford University research means that 2,700 of those visits were unnecessary ER visits. At an estimated cost of \$650 per visit, \$1.755 million could be saved if those individuals sought services at a primary care facility. The savings are even more notable when Alaska's high cost of health care is considered.

The APCA *Update* also reported that the Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured reported that the Alaska Medicaid program's "average total Medicaid spending for each Medicaid patient was \$5,568." The *Update* also reported that, "health centers save the Medicaid program more than 30% in annual spending per beneficiary due to reduced specialty care referrals and fewer hospital admissions." According to ICHC's calendar year 2005 UDS data, ICHC served 1,133 Medicaid patients. The average total Medicaid spending per Medicaid patients of \$5,568 multiplied by 30% in savings equals \$1,670 in annual saving per health center Medicaid patient. \$1,670 multiplied by ICHC's 1,133 Medicaid patients equals \$1,892,110 in total annual Medicaid Savings.

All calculations and considerations show that a \$50,000 grant can be leveraged to millions of dollars of services for Alaska's residents.



## Fairbanks Counseling and Adoption

912 Barnette Street  
P.O. Box 71544  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99707  
(907) 456-4729 - Telephone  
(907) 456-4623 - Fax

E-mail: [fca@fcaalaska.org](mailto:fca@fcaalaska.org)  
Website: <http://www.fcaalaska.org>

**Leveraging State Savings:** This project is cost effective for the Fairbanks North Star Borough and the state. The overall goal of this project is to work in partnership with Ft. Wainwright Mental Health Services to promptly address issues of child abuse and neglect, family violence, alcohol and substance use and mental health and emotional issues as they develop and provide prevention and services. The purpose is to address these issues swiftly so that more serious problems will not develop. The ultimate goal is to provide services that will promote individual health and overall family functioning, well-being and stability.

The benefits to the community and state for providing these services are: decreased child abuse and family violence situations; decreased law enforcement involvement; a decrease in the involvement of the Office of Children's Services; decreased unemployment and lack of productivity resulting from family violence, alcohol and substance use and combat stress related issues. The cost to the borough per military family is \$53, with the overall project cost being . . . This is less than the standard cost for one hour of professional counseling, which is \$125. Further, this project encourages military soldiers and families to use community mental health service providers and the costs associated with this should be mostly covered by Tricare or similar coverage.

**RESOURCE CENTER FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN**

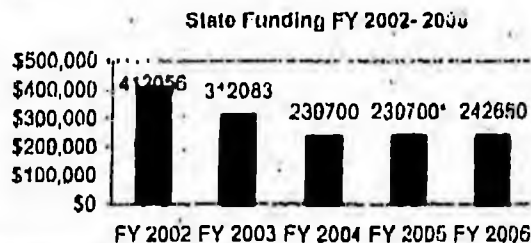
1401 Kellum Street  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701  
907-456-2866  
Fax 907-451-8125

**LEVERAGING STATE SAVINGS**

This project reduces secondary disabilities in children affected by prenatal alcohol exposure. Due to the supports and services provided by the Care Continuum, fewer of these children will end up in the juvenile justice system. More of them will graduate from school and will move into employment as adults. Additionally, there will be fewer days of productivity lost due to parents leaving work to deal with behavioral issues. All of these impacts result in a cost savings to the state of Alaska.

## State Funding Decreased 41% Since FY 2002.

The community lost the potential to generate \$459,466, \$769,652, \$1,287,480, \$1,887,899 and \$2,166,736 of other funds, project income and in-kind contributions in FY02-03-04-05-06 respectively, due to insufficient state funding.



Alaska Legal Services Corp.	Provide legal assistance to low-income families (those with incomes below 125% of poverty level) in civil cases such as housing, income, public assistance benefits, health care and family law.	\$50,000	\$60,650
Big Brothers Big Sisters	Match children in need of additional adult attention with adult volunteers	\$50,000	\$1,382,150
Fairbanks Community Food Bank	Collect local surplus food and give it to people who need it, through agencies who are trained to identify and respond to these needs.	\$50,000	\$2,220,000
Interior Community Health Center with Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center	Provide preventative & primary health care services on a sliding fee schedule to low & moderate income people. (Funding request is for \$50,000 but only \$35,419 is available.)	\$36,364	\$112,200
North Star Youth Court	Operate community based juvenile justice diversion and victim/offender mediation program.	\$50,000	\$105,110
Resource Center for Parents and Children with Alaska Center for Children and Adults	Provide a comprehensive, coordinated, and sustainable effort to intervene in the lives of children, ages 0-5 who have been prenatally exposed to alcohol	\$99,000	\$15,720
Arrest Card Passed Through to Funded Agencies	DNSS has placed controversial audit requirements, which exceed the State Single Audit standards, on these grants that directly reduces available dollars for program delivery.	\$560	

Boys & Girls Club of the Tanana Valley	Confront Alaska's high youth suicide numbers by increasing youth protective factors (recognize warning signs, intervene and offer appropriate referrals to trained professionals as needed).	\$48,000	\$70,000
The Bread Line	Provide food and support to people in need. Serve nutritious hot breakfast and lunches and provide sock lunches through Steno Soup Cafe. Operate ainery-based day labor program.	\$50,000	\$431,510
Fairbanks Native Association	Provide food boxes to households and low income families and individuals, including local elders.	\$49,875	\$270,160
Hospice of the Tanana Valley	Provide Palliative Care Services and support to terminally ill people and their loved ones. Provide Bereavement Services, education, information and training on issues relating to death and dying, grief and loss.	\$50,000	\$330,030
Interior AOD Association	Provide a comprehensive multidisciplinary treatment program and harm reduction services for opioid drug use and their community.	\$30,000	\$203,520
Interior Community Health Center with Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center	Provide preventative & primary health care services on a sliding fee schedule to low & moderate income people. (Funding request is for \$50,000 but only \$30,231 is likely to be funded)	\$14,647	\$1,800
Clarence Center with Food Bank, Love Life, Life's Counseling Center	Provide resources to overcome poverty, literacy issues, basic mental health issues and economic needs of low-income families.	\$69,091	\$175,230
North Star Council on Aging	Deliver hot healthy meals as well as social contact and daily monitoring of their personal welfare to household elders living within the FNSB, to include frozen meal service on weekends.	\$20,000	\$209,540
Salvation Army	Provide secondary and tertiary preventative dental care services to non-native adults living at 100% of the poverty level.	\$50,000	\$164,720

\* Revenue - funding includes the HSCMG and supplemental funds from the DHSS



**RESOURCE CENTER FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN**

1401 KELLUM STREET  
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701  
PHONE (907) 456-2866 FAX (907) 451-8125  
rcpc@rcpcfairbanks.org

To: ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~

- Co-Chairs: Rep. Meyer  
Rep. Chenault
- Vice-Chair: Rep. Stoltze
- Members: Rep. Foster  
Rep. Flawker  
Rep. Holm  
Rep. Kelly  
Rep. Weyhrauch  
Rep. Kertulla  
Rep. Joule  
Rep. Moses

*Coleen Turner*

From: Coleen Turner, E.D.  
Resource Center for Parents and Children

Date: March 18, 2006

Subject: Alaska's Children

Attached please find information regarding the Phoenix Pilot Project. I met with several of you while visiting Juneau during the week of March 6<sup>th</sup>. I am asking that you consider funding the Project in the fy07 budget.

I am also asking you to reconsider adding the Healthy Marriage Initiative money back into the Health and Social Services budget. For the past two years these projects have been funded by TANF bonus money. Our agency has effectively provided the following to Interior Alaskans:

- Classes in financial literacy
- Classes in parenting
- Classes in relationships
- Collaborations have been formed with
  - University of Alaska – participants can receive university credit
  - Hope Counseling
  - Several private Licensed Clinical Social Workers
  - Nutrition specialist
  - Local private fitness business

Pre and post surveys are given to all participants and we have found the majority show a marked improvement in their relationship. As we all know a healthy relationship/marriage provides a healthy foundation for Alaska's families.

A Chapter of Prevent Child Abuse - America  
and  
A Member Agency of United Way of the Tanana Valley

## THE PHOENIX PILOT PROJECT: STRENGTHENING ALASKA'S FAMILIES

**Background:** This project is the result of a statewide effort to improve outcomes for families in Alaska that struggle with domestic violence, substance abuse, mental health issues, and other barriers to effective parenting. The Phoenix Pilot Project is the culmination of many months of planning and discussion with the Office of Children's Services, the Division of Public Assistance, and community service agencies working with families throughout the state.

The Phoenix Pilot Project seeks to strengthen and preserve Alaska's families and break the generational family cycles in families who may be at-risk for child abuse and neglect but who would otherwise not be served by existing programs. It provides wrap-around services to address multiple stressors affecting families through different levels of care. It is intended to break down silos between service providers and integrate family services.

### PROGRAM NEEDS

In FY2005, approximately 9,500 Protective Service Reports were made to the Office of Children's Services statewide. Almost 30% of these reports (2,598) were "screened out" and not investigated. Evidence suggests that many of these calls include prenatal exposure to alcohol/drugs, homelessness, lack of medical care for children, or poor school attendance. While these families are technically screen-outs, it is clear that many of them are in need of some type of intervention to address the underlying issues.

The Phoenix Pilot Project provides support and intervention as needed to families who have been identified by:

- the Office of Children's Services
- the Division of Public Assistance
- statewide medical providers
- local community service providers

### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES: STRENGTHENING FAMILIES

**Mission:** The Phoenix Pilot Project keeps children safe and in healthy environments by supporting parents. Services are provided by agencies that have an integrated, comprehensive family approach serving families with children of all ages.

**Target Population:** Families with children prenatal to age 10 who are at-risk of child abuse and neglect, nearing the limit on state TANF benefits, or identified by medical and community service providers.

The referral process is inclusive of:

- Screen-out referrals from OCS
- Referrals from medical and other community providers
- Division of Public Assistance (family service teams)

### THE PHOENIX PILOT PROJECT: STRENGTHENING ALASKA'S FAMILIES

**Service Area:** The Phoenix Pilot Project will serve the entire state of Alaska with services based out of five regional sites. Remote and isolated communities that have traditionally been neglected by early intervention programs can benefit from Tier 1 and Tier 2 services (see *Program Implementation below*) made available through the regional sites. The regions represented are listed below along with the anticipated regional site:

Region	Regional Site
Southeast	Juneau
Northern	Fairbanks
Southcentral	Kenai
Anchorage	Anchorage
Matanuska-Susitna Valley	Wasilla

**Goals:** The goals of the Phoenix Pilot Project are to:

1. Reduce risks (substance abuse, mental health, family violence) for high risk families and reduce numbers of protective service reports to OCS
2. Assist DPA in providing transitional services to TANF families
3. Reduce family stress identified by community and medical providers

**Objectives:**

- Increase parenting skills
- Improve relationship skills
- Identify and enhance natural supports
- Enrich home environment and safety
- Increase family self-sufficiency
- Improve financial literacy for high risk families

**Outcomes:** Outcomes for the project are concrete, measurable and specific. They are:

1. Formal Data Analysis at 6, 12, 18, and 24 month intervals that specifically identifies numbers of families receiving services through project agencies that are not subsequently referred to OCS for further action by child protective services (See attached Document #1)
2. two months after contact by the Phoenix Pilot Project, 50% of families will report engagement in referral services when available
3. 60% of families will engage in home visiting services when appropriate
4. pilot project agencies will respond to 100% of referrals from OCS, DPA, medical and community providers
5. 75% of families will report improvement in issues related to referral (See attached Document #2)

**PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION:** Project services include a single point of entry with a three-tiered approach to intervention. Referral from a community partner will include a screening tool provided by the project. Based on the screen, an intake

### THE PHOENIX PILOT PROJECT: STRENGTHENING ALASKA'S FAMILIES

coordinator determines the level of service required. Three levels of service exist based on the intake screening:

**Tier 1:** Phone call to family by intake coordinator. Services include:

- discussion of reason for referral from OCS/DPA
- general resource sharing and referrals to appropriate programs
- follow-up contact within two months

**Tier 2:** Phone call to family by intake coordinator followed by direct referrals to community service agencies. Services include:

- discussion of reason for referral from community partners
- targeted resource sharing
- active referrals to community agencies
- follow-up contact within two months

**Tier 3:** Phone call to family by agency intake personnel, followed by family assessment and offer of limited home visiting. Services include:

- discussion of reason for referral from community partners
- in-depth assessment of family stress
- goal-oriented home visits to provide support and education
- targeted resource sharing
- active referrals and collaboration with community partners
- follow-up contact within two months following final home visit

**Program Components:** The project may include any of the following components:

- Parenting curriculum/classes referral
- Financial literacy classes referral
- Relationship skill building activities
- Parent mentoring/parent support activities
- Screening for developmental delays
- Harm reduction/referrals/safety plans
- Breaking generational family cycles (risk)
- Connecting families to support/services
- Addressing substance abuse, mental health issues and domestic violence leading to child abuse and neglect

**PROGRAM EVALUATION:** All services are accountable to the program outcomes listed above. In short, each tier is accountable to specific outcome measures depending on the intensity of services:

**Tier 1:** Tier 1 services will be accountable to outcomes # 1, 2, 4, 5

**Tier 2:** Tier 2 services will be accountable to outcomes # 1, 2, 4, 5

**Tier 3:** Tier 3 services will be accountable to outcomes # 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

**THE PHOENIX PILOT PROJECT:  
STRENGTHENING ALASKA'S FAMILIES**

**BUDGET:** The Phoenix Pilot Project will serve the entire state of Alaska in the five identified regions with a budget of \$1.5 million.

**THE PHOENIX PILOT PROJECT:  
STRENGTHENING ALASKA'S FAMILIES**

Document 1

Subsequent Protective Services Reports/OCS cases opened/removal/custody

	Family	6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
Families Referred to Agency Intake	Family 1				
	Family 2				
	Family 3				
	Family 4				
	Family 5				
	Family 6				
	Family 7				
	Family 8				
	Family 9				
	Family 10				
	Family 11				
	Family 12				
	Family 13				
	Family 14				
	Family 16				
	Family 17				
	Family 18				
	Family 19				
	Family 20				

Early intervention success is measured by comparing the number of children/families referred and subsequently entering active status with OCS to those children and families referred to agencies and receiving some level of intervention services as identified in this proposal and not requiring additional attention from OCS during the pilot period.

**THE PHOENIX PILOT PROJECT:  
STRENGTHENING ALASKA'S FAMILIES**

Document 2

**Analysis of Services Received by Families Served Leading to Increased  
Stability/Self Sufficiency**

Family	6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
Family 1				
Family 2				
Family 3				
Family 4				
Family 5				
Family 6				
Family 7				
Family 8				
Family 9				
Family 10				
Family 11				
Family 12				
Family 13				
Family 14				
Family 16				
Family 17				
Family 18				
Family 19				
Family 20				

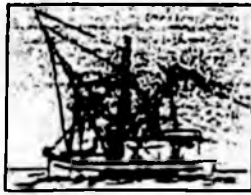
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**From:** CookHarryF@cs.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2006 1:19 PM  
**To:** Rep. Jay Ramras  
**Subject:** state mentor program

For the past two years Ladd has been the lucky recipient of a state mentor teacher. This mentor has worked with my Title 1 Facilitator. My facilitator teaches reading to 28 young struggling readers, works with kindergartners who need additional language activities to get them ready for first grade, work with remedial math students and trains our six math tutors who work with struggling intermediate level students who are behind in math. All of these support activities are working to make sure Ladd school meets the Adequate Yearly Progress for NCLB.

The mentor has been critical to getting my newly graduated from college teacher in a well established routine. The mentor gives this teacher valuable feedback on her lessons and how to plan more effectively. The mentor helps this teacher interpret data for improving instruction. The mentor provides additional resources for the teacher to use. I have a first hand look at how tremendously successful the state teacher mentor program has been and urge you to restore the funding to keep it in place.

]Jay, thanks for listening.  
Kathie Cook, Principal of Ladd Elementary.



## Alaska Trollers Association

130 Seward St., No. 211  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
(907) 586-9400  
(907) 586-4473 Fax

March 17, 2006

Representative Mike Chenault, Co-Chair  
Representative Kevin Meyer, Co-Chair  
House Finance  
Alaska State Legislature  
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Representatives Chenault, Meyer, and Committee Members:

I'd like to make you aware of concerns of the Alaska Trollers Association (ATA) with regard to the short and long term state of Alaska Department of Fish and Game's (ADFG) operating budget. ATA supports general fund increases for all divisions of ADFG.

ATA represents hook and line salmon fishermen operating in Southeast Alaska. With over 2600 permit holders, the troll fleet is one of the largest in the state. The fleet is 85% resident and a large number of trollers live in rural communities.

ADFG commercial fisheries division began experiencing deep budget cuts in 1986. Since that time, increased research and management burdens have been placed on the agency, yet the general fund component of its budget has been further reduced or, at best, level funded with no account for rising costs. ADFG's inability to maintain, much less grow, its budget in the face of additional workload has reduced its ability to keep and attract staff.

Since 1986, the state has received large sums of federal money, due to the Pacific Salmon Treaty (Treaty) and a series of federal mandates to meet US Treaty goals and objectives. This money has helped to mitigate the loss of state general fund money in the Southeast Region. At this time, federal money is funding roughly half of the Southeast Region budget.

For many years, our association has expressed concern about the level of reliance the state has placed on federal money to finance management of our state's resources. Obviously, unfunded federal mandates are unacceptable and states should not be required to pay the cost of meeting commitments made by the US government. The problem is that chronic under-funding of the general fund component of the budget has forced ADFG to become increasingly reliant on federal funds to secure core staff and programs. Now that federal money is at a premium, it is not unlikely that all ADFG regions could suffer if federal monies are limited and ADFG struggles to do too much with too little.

Of significant concern this year is impending loss of essential fish and game staff through retirement or recruitment by other entities. By the end of 2006, on the precipice of crucial Pacific Salmon Commission, our region could lose up to eight people who deal with key Treaty issues. Many of them are high level fishery managers and scientists, with few qualified replacements waiting in the wings. In a state with the wealth of Alaska and significant financial

bolstering by the federal government, it is incredible that the budget has not provided the means to hire and train the amount of staff necessary to cope with the current wave of 'boomer' retirement. The loss of qualified personnel at ADFG could lead to reductions in our base of knowledge and institutional memory, more restrictive management, and reductions in our ability to negotiate beneficial Treaty agreements. Given the taxes paid by our industry, this situation could mean a direct loss of revenue for the state.

The task is on your shoulders to forge a meaningful solution to the state's budget problems and we appreciate the enormity of some aspects. However, we urge you to take action now with a long term view towards the future of management in our highly resource reliant state. If you don't, the costs could be enormous to our communities and the state.

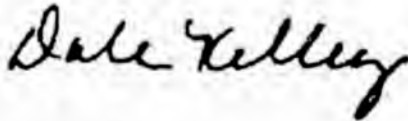
ATA is proud of ADFG and its outstanding track record of resource management. The seafood industry and most Alaskan communities depend on ADFG's continued ability to sustain healthy fisheries resources.

The seafood industry is still the second largest revenue generator for the state and its communities. Alaskan's from all walks of life benefit from healthy fish and game resources. It makes both common and economic sense to invest in ADFG.

It is our hope that you will find the means to adequately fund ADFG to ensure management, research, and development of our resources, as well as provide employment packages that attract new personnel of the high caliber we are used to working with.

If I can be of assistance on this or other matters, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Dale Kelley  
Executive Director

Hello and thank you for the opportunity to speak.

My name is Pam Mueller Guy and I have been the Deaf Services Coordinator at Southeast Alaska Independent Living (SAIL) for the past 5 years.

Please help people in the deaf community succeed in every part of their lives: Support the Labor subcommittee recommendation of an increase in the Independent Living Line item of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000). This money will help the Deaf of Alaska and youth with disabilities transition to employment and post secondary education.

For 15 years, the providers of the Interpreter Referral services in Alaska have seen no increase in funding.

While our funding has stayed the same, the demand for interpreters has been on the rise. It is clearly an unmet need.

10 years ago, SAIL filled 99 sign language interpreter requests.

Over the past two years, requests for interpreters has risen 60 percent.

By the end of this fiscal year, we expect to have filled over 300 requests.

It is so important for a person who is deaf to have good, qualified interpreters to help them succeed.

For example, a consumer we serve was diagnosed with meningitis and became deaf at the age of seven. Last month he successfully completed a three-week training sponsored by the Plumbers and Pipe Fitters. He is well on his way to fulfill his dream—to become a union plumber, like his father before him. His success would not be possible without the assistance of a qualified sign language interpreter.

I am also a model of that success. As a full time employee, a mother of two grown boys and a current student at the University of Alaska, I do not know where I would be without the service of qualified interpreters and a good interpreter referral agency in town. My world and my success would probably be very different without this important support.

Please support the Labor Subcommittee recommendation of a \$200,000 increment for Independent Living Services.

Juneau schools face over \$2 million in cuts unless the Alaska State Legislature increases funding beyond the Governor's \$90 million. Estimated impacts:

\* Class sizes will increase

	Current Ave. Class Size	Projected Ave class size (06-07 school year)
K-2	22:1	25:1
3-5	25:1	26:1
6-8	30:1	31.5:1
9-12	30:1	31.8:1

\* Instructional materials for students will diminish

Examples: There has been no budget for replacing aging textbooks for at least four years. My son's High School Advanced Biology text is 15 years old. Increased costs of photocopying will put a large dent in materials purchasing power next year for each school, and further diminish purchasing power.

\* New services/programs are vulnerable

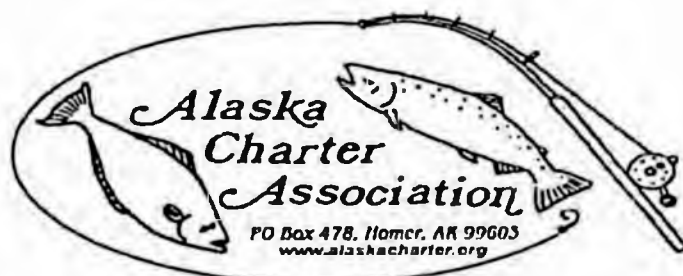
New student-centered programs - like elementary art - may be eliminated. Counseling for elementary students - previously funded with a federal grant which is ending - may be substantially curtailed, for lack of funds. Remedial tutoring to prepare students for the high school exit exam may be a thing of the past. Innovations, which have been in the works at the High School to address the terrible drop out rate, may falter.

No matter how you calculate it, Juneau will be making cuts to services and programs for students next school year *unless state funding is increased.*

Juneau citizens already contribute to the cap with local property tax dollars. Local dollars represents 43% of the Juneau school budget. In addition, there is tremendous community support for athletics, arts and student initiatives. However, there is a limit on the capacity of any community to increase or sustain this level of fundraising and financial support for its youth.

Alaska is wealthy. Alaska can afford to increase funding for schools. Scrimping and cutting and squeezing is counterproductive and DIMINISHES the quality of learning opportunities for our kids.

*Alaska's students deserve GREAT schools.*



*"To Preserve and Protect the Rights and Resources of Alaska's Sport Fishermen"*

March 26, 2006

Ms. Shar Smith  
House Finance Committee  
State Capital, Room 519  
Juneau, Ak. 99801-1182

Re: Budget Support for the Ak. Division of Fish and Game

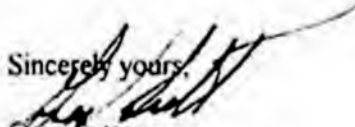
Dear Ms. Smith,

Please forward a copy of this letter to all Finance Committee members. The Alaska Charter Association supports and recognizes the need for adequate funding for the Alaska Division of Fish and Game. Fish and wildlife and their uses are important to Alaskans and to Alaska's overall economy. The economies of many of our coastal communities are dependent on healthy stocks of fish and wildlife and accurate assessments. In recent years, however, the state's financial commitment to fish and wildlife has lagged. This resulted in cuts to programs, especially in the area of stock and population assessments that are critical to sustaining yields and appropriate allocation decisions. We have also seen proven management techniques hampered due to lack of supporting data.

I believe it is time to invest in our fish and wildlife resources to assure they continue to provide the benefits Alaskans expect and rely upon. Additionally, for decades, hunters, trappers, anglers, and commercial fishermen have funded a significant portion of fish and wildlife management in Alaska. However, under our constitution, fish and wildlife are reserved to the people in common. It is only fair that everyone pay to sustain and manage these precious resources because of the significant economic and social benefits they provide for all Alaskans.

At this point, the only way to accomplish that is to appropriate more general funds for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's budget. With these thoughts in mind, I am writing to ask your support of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's FY2007 budget request. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely yours,

  
Greg Sutter  
President

Carter Crawford  
107 Maple 99701 452-1395 3/25/06

Representative Coghill's rationale for not supporting full funding of the \$3m Community Matching Grant is going to result in huge increases to the State's HSSS Dept. he points to the state's increases in fixed expenses for salaries and utilities without acknowledging every private and non profit has the same, and they do not have an oil windfall to cover expenses. It seems that he does not fully embrace the uniqueness of this grant; one which actually saves the state money. I have said repeatedly it should be used as a model for all state expenses. The state puts up grant money, the local community (FNSB) must match (30% in this case and for admin., accounting and legal), and the recipient receives money only based on ability to meet specific objectives and including a substantial match. Over the years I have seen the match (in volunteer time and materials) be anywhere from 2 to 10x ; ' averaging over 4x what they receive. And these are all services that would otherwise be required by the state, at a cost of 4x what the non-profits provides it for (lower salaries, more targeting, faster service preventing more serious problems, match). While the state complains about the rising costs of Medicare and Medicaid, here is a program treating mental and physical health of everyone from children to seniors who otherwise will be medicare and or meicaid patients.

Our legislators have repeatedly asked for suggestions on where to find money. Some very good ideas have been suggested but often overlooked. I have suggested on numerous occasions they raise the fines on certain criminal activities, especially DUI, and I see progress. But judges too often do not fully fund the fine, and never for underage drinking. Every first time offense is forgiven \$400 of the (the \$600 often leaving \$4000 on the table a week in Fairbanks alone. And worse, the repeat offenders are being forgiven \$500 of \$1000.

It is extremely frustrating to see millions going out to state departments with very little oversight and far less cost effectiveness and here sits a program that is highly ...and the most cost effective means of reducing health and social service costs, and \$43 is too much.

**LIO Fairbanks**

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**From:** foote [foote@alaska.com] **Sent:** Fri 3/17/2006 2:08 PM  
**To:** LIO Fairbanks  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Budget Comments with Highlights  
**Attachments:**

I would like to encourage my legislators to consider two main things as they pass the current budget.

The first is to keep the Governors numbers for the Community Matching Grants. This is one of the most single important dollar coming to Fairbanks, not only for what it allows non-profits to provide to those in need, but also for how much they leverage those dollars into much more. These dollars also save us money in important but hard to measure prevention ways. Please don't reduce this amount.

Secondly, the University is an important economic engine for the entire State. The dollars discussed for UA also gets leveraged not only for those that receive the education (I provide health education to the most rural sites), but also as we write for more federal dollars. We are working with students who live and work in rural Alaska and who plan to stay there. This is critical to their economy and as they graduate they provide important services right where they live. This too saves the State money while contributing to it!

Thanks for your hard work, and remember the land, oil and gas belongs to all of us so don't let be given away to the wrong people.  
Torie Foote

3-16-2006  
Ted Mendrski

1  
2 **AT&T ALASCOM COMMENTS BEFORE THE**  
3 **HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE IN SUPPORT OF SB 157**

4 Good afternoon, my name is William Saupe and I am with the Anchorage law  
5 firm of Ashburn & Mason. I have practiced law before the RCA and its predecessor,  
6 the APUC, since 1985. I am here today on behalf of AT&T Alascom, which strongly  
7 supports SB 157.

8 AT&T Alascom believes that the proposed \$3 million increase in the Regulatory  
9 Cost Charge is the most reasonable means of raising the funds necessary to upgrade the  
10 RCA's computer systems. Our understanding is that the additional funds would be  
11 administered by a users' committee, made up of a broad spectrum of utility industry and  
12 public interest representatives, whose job will be to acquire and implement new and  
13 substantially improved computer systems that will allow for (1) electronic submission  
14 of all filings made at the Commission, (2) improved internal tracking of open dockets,  
15 and (3) creation of a searchable data base of all documents on file at the Commission.

16 From AT&T Alascom's perspective, these would all be major improvements that  
17 would greatly improve the agency's efficiency and enhance the consistency and quality  
18 of its orders. Just as important, it would save utilities substantial amounts of time, effort  
19 and money, by making filing and research easier and less time consuming.

20 AT&T Alascom would like to see this project undertaken as soon as possible and  
21 all at the same time, if possible. It is concerned that if it is broken down into pieces or  
22 implemented in stages, there is a risk that momentum will be lost and perhaps even a  
risk that the various upgrades will not be properly coordinated.

For these reasons, AT&T Alascom urges you to pass SB 157 and to insure that  
the RCC increase is sufficient to fund the entire project that the user committee has  
developed.

Thank you.

ASHBURN & MASON  
LAW FIRM  
1150 WEST SIXTH AVENUE, SUITE 100  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-5914  
TEL: 907.276.4331 FAX: 907.277.8235

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# Boards Support

ADF&G - Section of

- About Boards
- | Board of Fisheries
- | Board of Game
- | Advisory Committees
- | Joint Board

## Board of Game

- Board Members
- Member Addresses
- Resumes/Bios
- Meeting Photos
- Former Members
- Become a member

### Member Addresses

Alaska Board of Game Members

Member Address	Position	Term Expires
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- Meeting Information
- Meeting Calendar
- Long-Term Cycle
- Agenda, Roadmap
- Proposal Book
- Agenda Change Requests
- Call for Proposals
- Legal Notices
- Dept. Comments
- Future Call for Proposals
- Future Schedule
- Joint Boards Page
- BOG Committees

<b>Mike Fleagle</b> 3821 W. 67th Ave. Anchorage, Alaska 99502-2014	Chair	03/01/2007
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<b>Ron Somerville</b> 4506 Robbie Road Juneau, Alaska 99802	Vice-Chair	03/01/2008
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<b>Ben Grussendorf</b> 1221 Halibut Point Road Sitka, AK 99835		03/01/2007
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<b>Sharon McLeod-Everette</b> PO Box 81213 Fairbanks, AK 99708		03/01/2006
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<b>Ted Spraker</b> 49230 Victoria Ave. Soldotna, Alaska 99689		03/01/2008
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<b>Cliff Judkins</b> PO Box 874124 Wasilla, Alaska 99687		03/01/2006
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<b>Carl M. Morgan, Jr.</b> P.O. Box 243 Aniak, Alaska 99557		03/01/2008
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To print a copy of the Board of Game Roster, click here. (\*PDF)

- Meeting Summaries
- Summary of Actions
- Regulations, Policies & Info
- Link to Regulations
- Policies and Findings
- Frequently Used Policies

### Board of Game Forms

- Proposal Form
- AGR Form
- Petition the Board

(\*PDF) This document is a PDF. To open this document you must download the free software, Adobe Acrobat Reader.

Alaska Board of Game members may also be reached at:

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME  
Boards Support Section  
P.O. Box 25526  
Juneau, AK 99802-5526  
(907) 465-4110  
(907) 465-6094 FAX

Quick Pick:

Go to....

Go!

Game New



Members Somer Spraker and Jud

Front page

Board of Game Announces Public of Supplemental Proposals for Meeting