

HB 95/

HB 96

(FILE 4)

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FILE

HB 95/HB 96

**FY08
OPERATING
BUDGET**

Public Comments

Sandy Burd

From: afgcb@uaa.alaska.edu
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2007 11:48 AM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's Engineering Programs NOW

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's engineering programs are about to implode. We can't let this happen for the following reasons:

- 1) We need engineers to build the Alaska Gas Line!
 - 2) Educating our own saves employers and projects millions of dollars -- engineers who come to Alaska at a great cost do not stay -- and waste recruiting, moving, training dollars. If we are forced to hire from outside, project costs escalate.
 - 3) Engineers in local, state and federal agencies are aging and will need to be replaced -- locally educated engineers will stay!
 - 4) We have programs in Anchorage that are in their infancy and bringing a record number of students to the Anchorage campus. We need to make sure we have the 8 new faculty members needed teach classes this fall.
 - 5) We are finding creative ways of educating alaska native and rural alaska students -- this highly recognized program should be supported financially.
- Please -- do the right thing for all of Alaska! Today and in the future -- fully fund the University's request.

Sincerely,

Marka Anne Brooks 1704 Bannister Road Anchorage, AK 99508
907-272-1877

Sincerely,
Marka Brooks
1704 Bannister Rd.
Anchorage, AK 99508

United States Senate

April 12, 2007

The Honorable Bert Stedman
Co-Chair, Senate Finance Committee
State Capitol, Room 516
Juneau, Alaska, 99801

The Honorable Lyman Hoffman
Co-Chair, Senate Finance Committee
State Capitol, Room 518
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Senators Stedman and Hoffman:

I am writing to urge you to include funding for Community Health Centers (CHC) in the State's budget this session. The State of Alaska has a role to play in assuring basic primary health care access for all Alaskans. CHC's are our State's safety net providers and offer a solution of accessible and affordable health care to our rising uninsured population, including our working Alaskan families. CHC's do not turn patients away regardless of their ability to pay, and with state support CHC's can be part of the solution to providing medical homes to our growing senior population on Medicare. With the solid potential to curb Medicaid spending and reduce inappropriate emergency room use and preventable hospital stays, the investment of state dollars in CHC's is an extremely wise choice.

As you are well aware, the ability to steer federal dollars to specific projects is becoming more and more difficult. State contributions, however, are viewed very favorably by federal agencies in deciding which programs to support and in which communities. I believe having the State of Alaska demonstrate its understanding of the importance of Community Health Centers by providing a direct contribution will go a long way toward promoting these programs in Alaska and encourage the federal government to invest more CHC dollars in our state.

Thank you for your consideration of my request. Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Lisa Murkowski
United States Senator

Sandy Burd

From: ncnorum@fs.uaf.edu
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2007 2:18 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Stop the Senate UA Subcommittee from cutting the university's budget

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

Please stop the Senate UA Subcommittee from cutting the university's budget. Encourage the chair, Senator Bert Stedman, and the members, Senators Elton, Hoffman, Huggins, Olson, Thomas & Dyson, from cutting the budget below the amount necessary to cover the university's fixed costs. If the Subcommittee budget reduces the funding UA needs for its fixed costs, please encourage Finance Chair, Senator Hoffman, and other members of the full Senate Finance Committee, to restore the funds in a Finance CS.

If the university is allowed to keep the employer cost savings they generate from the PERS/TRS fixes within its budget, they can cover their fixed costs without an increase in GF. Why is this a problem?

Sincerely,
nansi c-norum
po box 58180
fairbanks, AK 99711

Sandy Burd

From: fnms1@uaf.edu
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2007 4:55 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: My life is UAF

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

I write you as a member of the UAF community in Fairbanks, Alaska. When I moved to town 7 years ago, I quickly realized that the ONLY place to work was UAF. It took me several tries before I was offered a job on campus, but it was well worth the wait and effort. UAF offers the best benefits, the best educational opportunities, and the best community I could have hoped for. In the last seven years, let me highlight the opportunities UAF has extended to me:

- ? I taught Photo lab classes ? I started a large Recreation program through Tanana Valley Campus ? I became a film-maker working with Len Kamerling ? I became a Master's degree student in Anthropology and will be graduating this Spring.
- ? I served 5 years on the UAF Staff Council and am the most recent Past-President.
- ? I taught film directing classes.
- ? I became a co-producer for an independent Hollywood film and brought UAF undergraduate students into the project for University credit.
- ? My husband completed his B.F.A and began a Master's degree in the Native Arts program. He will graduate with an MFA in Fine Arts this spring. He is the first Alaskan Native to earn a Master's Degree in Native Arts in the State! This new program has changed our lives!

This is just a very short list of what the University has given me. Equally long and extensive is what my husband and I have brought to this campus. We are educators, artists, employees, students, peers, friends, mentors, and local leaders of our respective fields.

Without the growth and development of this campus and other parts of the UA system, we can not possibly expect Alaska's best and brightest to stay. Already, I am forced to send my best students to other Universities as I understand that we can not meet their needs here. It is a shame that a State University must push its most promising from the nest.

The UA Budget is a state INVESTMENT! It keeps people like my husband and I in Alaska. We are home builders, community developers, and entrepreneurs. We vote. We support UA and urge you to meet the funding needs of this great University. May it continue to thrive and not just survive.

Yours most truly,

Maya Salganek and Da-ka-xeen Mehner

Sincerely,
Maya Salganek
760 Goldstream Rd.
Fairbanks, AK 99712

Sandy Burd

From: ffetr@uaf.edu
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2007 4:57 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Stop the Senale UA Subcommittee from cutting the university's budget

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

Please stop the Senate UA Subcommittee from cutting the university's budget. Encourage the chair, Senator Bert Stedman, and the members, Senators Elton, Hoffman, Huggins, Olson, Thomas & Dyson, from cutting the budget below the amount necessary to cover the university's fixed costs. If the Subcommittee budget reduces the funding UA needs for its fixed costs, please encourage Finance Chair Senator Hoffman, and other members of the full Senate Finance Committee, to restore the funds in a Finance CS.

If the university is allowed to keep the employer cost savings they generate from the PERS/TRS fixes within its budget, they can cover their fixed costs without an increase in GF. Why is this a problem?

Sincerely,
E. Thomas Robinson
3744 Mitchell Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99709-4635

Sandy Burd

From: kade@multimakers.com
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2007 5:19 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as important degree programs in Theatre, Music and the Arts make Alaska a better place to live; by helping enrich the lives of all those who stay in Alaska - and by developing well-rounded citizens.

Please support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Kade Mendelowitz
PO Box 81522
Fairbanks, AK 99708-1522

Sandy Burd

From: ffetr@uaf.edu
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2007 4:55 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
E. Thomas Robinson
3744 Mitchell Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99709-4635

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 6 years.

Please help individuals in the deaf community succeed in every aspect of their lives: support a Senate amendment of a \$94,000 for Interpreter Referral Services. This money will help the Deaf of Alaska in every aspect of their lives—doctor's appointments, emergency rooms, in court, and for employment.

For 16 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 steadily been on the rise. It is clearly an unmet need.

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

Over the past two years, requests for interpreters has risen 155 percent.

Last fiscal year, we filled over nearly 500 requests in Southeast alone.

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.

Another consumer, a mother of 7 children, is also using interpreter services to finish her GED so she can get a good job for her family—her strides toward this goal would not be possible without interpreter services.

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 offer a Senate amendment, adding an increment of at least \$94,000 for Interpreter Referral Services, the Special Projects Line Item in the Department of Labor budget.

Testimony read by
Pam Mueller Guy 4/10/07

April 10, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Becky Harrington. I am a resident of Juneau and I am Deaf. I am not able to attend this public hearing in person so I have asked Pam Muller-Guy to read this letter on my behalf.

When I first arrived in Juneau 10 years ago, the Deaf Community had very little resources for interpreters. We didn't have but 1 (one) qualified interpreter...the other ones were usually someone from a sign class trying to help. They did not have the ability to interpreter properly. There were problems with misunderstandings and miscommunication with this scenario that led to many complicated and unnecessary consequences for both the Deaf and the Hearing consumers.

I have personally seen the "GAP" getting smaller and smaller because of the IRL Program. They are responsible for providing interpreters to the ADA Meetings, Schools, Doctor visits, Court and other places to help bridge the gap in communication between the Deaf and Hearing Communities. This helps the Deaf become independent and be productive out in the community with confidence.

We now have more then 1 (one) qualified interpreter to accommodate the demand needed. We still have a long way to go. We need more training for interpreters, more public awareness on the use of interpreters and what works and what does not work.

When I heard that the funds for this program were in jeopardy, I could not even imagine why anyone would want to cut funds of a program that has such a SUCCESS story. We should be getting more funds to enhance the program. After all closing the GAP on communication barriers is a much better image then "exclusion"...isn't it? I ask you with a pleading heart PLEASE DO NOT send me and other Deaf back into "exclusion". Allow the expansion of the program and DO NOT CUT THE IRL FUNDS !!! Thank you for listening! Should you need further information from me you may contact me by the means below.

Becky Harrington

3410 Foster Ave #A7

Juneau Alaska 99801

1-866-327-8877 (Give the interpreter my phone number 907-523-2165)

Email: mamak1157@yahoo.com

Becky Harrington

Sandy Burd

From: john@pobox.alaska.net
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2007 1:34 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
John Lau
11201 Briggs Ct
Anchorage, AK 99516



CITY OF HOUSTON
Office of
MAYOR
DALE ADAMS

April 12, 2007

State of Alaska
State Finance Committee

RE: Revenue Sharing

Dear State Finance Committee;

This letter is in reference to the Revenue Sharing that the State Finance Committee has currently added funds to. Please for a moment consider the responsibilities to the people of Alaska when handling this money. As you are already aware the property taxes, fuel costs, utility costs to the people of Alaska has risen dramatically. Our task as local government officials is to see that our people are taken care of, that basic services are provided without the risk of future liability to them as tax payers. There are many cities among Alaska right now that are currently operating with uninsured personnel such as police, fire and city staff. The liabilities to the tax payers is phenomenal when you are working under these restrictions.

Many of the cities including our own do not partake in the PERS Program as that is not a viable cost to the people. Our employees who so desperately need the insurance do their job without the benefits that so many others in larger communities can afford to give their employees. Consider for a moment the many people who are not involved with the PERS Program and keep the Revenue Sharing for what it was originally intended for and that is basic Operating costs. For Operating costs is what the majority need to survive.

All Cities in Alaska contribute to local governments and, all should be considered when determining the use for Revenue Sharing. By keeping Revenue Sharing as an Operative cost the State Finance Committee's statement to the people for their welfare will be heard by all communities both large and small.

Thank you

Dale Adams

Mayor

Date

Sandy Burd

From: ransomdoreen@yahoo.com
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2007 1:58 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the U7 budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Doreen Ransom
2841 W. 29th Ave. #2A
Anchorage, AK 99517-1710

Sandy Burd

From: ncnorum@fs.uaf.edu
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2007 2:18 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 513
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
nansi c-norum
po box 58180
fairbanks, AK 99711

Sandy Burd

From: bhameister@iarc.uaf.edu
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2007 3:14 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund U.'s fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget.

I urge you to invest in our future -- in our great State's future -- by supporting an amendment to adequately fund the University of Alaska.

Thank you for your hard work on behalf of all Alaskans.

Sincerely,
Barbara Hameister
354 Cindy Dr.
Fairbanks, AK 99701



Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on HB 96 (Op. Budget), dated 4-11-07
Bill/Subject

- 5 pages total
- cover
- 2 page testimony
- 2 attachments

Signed Francine Harbour Francine Harbour
Testifier

NAMI Anchorage - Nat'l Alliance on Mental Illness
Representing (Optional)

831 Elm St. Apt. 434, Anch AK 99501
Address

(907) 279-1947 (home) (907) 272-0227 NAMI
Phone number

To: Senate Finance Committee
Re: **HB 96 – \$100,000 in Funding for Peer-Operated Mental Health Services**
Date: April 11, 2007

My name is Francine Harbour. I am a volunteer at the Anchorage office of NAMI--the National Alliance on Mental Illness. I am a person who has recovered from a severe mental illness with the help of peer-operated services. The AMHTA Trust Recommendations included these funds for Peer Operated Support Services in the amount of \$100,000: \$50,000 from GF/MH and \$50,000 from MHTAAR. These funds were also included in the House mental health budget under "Behavioral Health—Severely Mentally Ill." But this item was not included in the Senate bill.

On behalf of the Consumer Consortium, a fellowship of over 25 non-profits with members recovering from mental illness, we ask that these funds be included in the budget.

Peer-operated services are not provided by mental health *clinicians or institutions*, but instead by mental health *peers*—the people in the trenches, who have had the experience of recovering from mental illness and who want to help others do the same. The \$100,000 funding will enable the severely mentally ill to help each other to improve our conditions and our lives at much less cost to the public than more intensive services. Thus, this funding is also consistent with the goal of the Governor and Senate to contain costs and achieve efficiencies while providing basic supports to Alaskans such as the severely mentally ill who usually cannot provide for themselves.

The Alaska Mental Health Board and the Mental Health Trust included these funds in their recommendations for several reasons. Research has proved the *outcome* effectiveness of peer-operated services. In other words, people with mental illness do improve when helped by their peers. Peer-operated services also have *cost* effectiveness because they prevent costly hospitalization and other more intensive services. This prevention saves Medicaid dollars, for example. Peer-operated services also foster independence. This independence helps people with mental illness rely less on public services. Mental health peers also work with the local police Crisis Intervention Teams to de-escalate situations and often prevent incarceration. A smaller amount of funding for peer-operated services can save much more money down the road for more expensive services.

Two brief examples demonstrate the effectiveness of peer-operated mental health services. The first is my own story. Because my psychiatric medications as prescribed by the community mental health clinic were inadequate, I became very ill. The clinic was undergoing

budget cuts at the time and I lost my counselor. So no one was observing my rapid decline. I had no support system at that time, no adults to help me, and I was raising two sons. Finally, the worst happened, I became so ill and so desperate to get away from the symptoms of my illness that I attempted suicide and very nearly killed myself. After I was released from the hospital, I went back to the clinic and again received no significant care. The second highest risk of suicide occurs during the period right after the attempt if there is inadequate aftercare. That's what happened to me. I eventually found myself walking down A Street in Anchorage, close to the WalMart. I was waiting for bus 75 to come by because I was going to walk in front of it and finish the job. Then in a moment of clarity, I remembered that a friend had asked me to go with her to a peer-run support group meeting at NAMI. Instead of throwing myself in front of the bus that day, I made it to NAMI, and the peer volunteers there took me in, supported me and helped me get well enough to finish the job of raising my children. Today, I am alive and I have just finished providing five years of volunteer service at NAMI to help others like me; my sons are in college; and one is even serving our country as a Navy Reservist in Security Operations. In other words, the peer-provided services at NAMI worked and at very little cost to the public.

And just this week, I was contacted in my role as a NAMI peer advocate by a family on the Kenai Peninsula whose adult daughter had become highly agitated and lost the ability to sleep. As a result she had started to have hallucinations. Not knowing what to do, they contacted me for help. I called the Providence Psychiatric Emergency Services and confirmed what I already suspected. If the family could get the daughter to sleep, the hallucinations may stop and a hospitalization could be avoided. They can watch her for a few days and see if she gets better. They would only come into town to go to Providence or API if her condition doesn't improve. This peer support gave the family the information they needed immediately to make a decision about hospitalization, which will now hopefully be avoided.

The \$100,000 in funding would be a small part in helping to grow this vital movement toward cost-effective peer-operate services that reduce more expensive public services. We ask you to support this initiative and give peer support groups the opportunity to further demonstrate our cost-saving value to the community.

Attached are two informational sheets. Thank you for your consideration.

Peer Operated Behavioral Health Services: Smarter Spending. Not More Spending
Peer-Provided Behavioral Health Services Proven Effective

Tranere Harlow
4-10-07



Providence Alaska Medical Center
3760 Piper Street
P.O. Box 196604
Anchorage, AK 99519-6604

FAX COVER SHEET

DATE: April 11, 2007
ATTN: The Honorable Lyman Hoffman
COMPANY: Alaska State Senate
FAX # 907-465-4523
PHONE # 907-465-4453
FROM: Joel Gilbertson
DEPARTMENT: PROVIDENCE ADMINISTRATION
PHONE # 907-743-2784
THIS FAX CONTAINS: 3 PAGES INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET

*4/12 "enter
into public
record"
for please call
La'Donna Blake*

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Enclosed is a copy of a letter for Senator Hoffman. The original will be placed in the mail today. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Thank you
La'Donna Blake
Executive Assistant to
Joel Gilbertson

Providence | Alaska
Medical Center3200 Providence Drive
P.O. Box 196604
Anchorage, Alaska
99519 6604

Tel: 907.562.2211



April 10, 2007

The Honorable Lyman Hoffman and
The Honorable Bert Stedman
Co-Chairs, Senate Finance Committee
Alaska State Senate
State Capitol, Room 532
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Re: State Funding Support for Community
Health Centers

Dear Chairman Hoffman, Chairman Stedman, and Senate Finance Committee Members:

I am writing to express Providence's continued support for a collection of initiatives aimed at strengthening safety-net health care services in our state and, in particular, primary health care access for Medicare beneficiaries. Specifically, Providence encourages and respectfully requests your support for funding for the Alaska Family Medicine Residency program (AFMR), Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center's (ANHC) capital initiative, and the Community Health Centers' (CHC) safety-net relief package. Together, these investments will assist in stabilizing a vital public health network that works to lower the cost of care, while improve the quality of care delivered to Alaskans.

As you know, it is becoming increasingly difficult for Medicare beneficiaries to find a physician able to provide them with needed health care services. This problem is being added on to a primary and urgent care system that is struggling to meet community needs. Right now, Alaska's hospital emergency departments are becoming the provider of necessity to thousands of Alaskans. Uncompensated care and patient volume in our emergency department is at an all-time high. As you know, relying on emergency departments to meet this need leads to more fragmented and costly care.

A key strategy to improve this situation is investing in lower-cost primary care services. The AFMR program provides training in Alaska for primary care residents who overwhelmingly remain in our state to serve Alaskans. With an increased supply of primary care physicians, patients will be able to establish a medical home and have improved access to care. A state investment of \$2 million will allow the residency to maintain a class size of twelve graduates per year, for a total program size of thirty-six residents. As you know, many of these residents move to rural areas in Alaska after graduation. During their time in the residency, they provide primary care services through clinic work and rotations in rural areas including Bethel, Dillingham and Kotzebue.

The Honorable Lyman Hoffman and
The Honorable Bert Steidman
Co-Chairs, Senate Finance Committee
Alaska State Senate

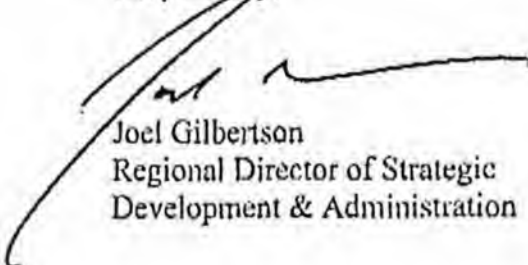
April 10, 2007
Page 2

Providence also supports capital funding for an improved ANHC and to strengthen the CHC system. A new ANHC facility is needed to meet the care needs of a growing uninsured and underinsured population. The existing center is unable to accommodate the current patient demand, and has weakened their ability to serve Medicare beneficiaries lacking other alternatives. The CHC request of \$2.3 million will provide similar value across the state. Because CHCs provide preventative care and early intervention, fewer Alaska residents will utilize expensive emergency department care.

With the number of uninsured working residents growing, Medicare beneficiaries unable to find a physician accepting new patients, and the high cost of health care in Alaska, it is important that the State support efforts to improve our primary care system. With a solid potential to curb Medicaid spending and reduce inappropriate emergency room use and preventable hospital stays, this is a wise investment in the health of Alaska's residents and economy.

Thank you for your consideration, and for all you do each day in service to Alaska.

Respectfully,



Joel Gilbertson
Regional Director of Strategic
Development & Administration

JSG:lb

cc: Members of the Senate Finance Committee:
The Honorable Charlie Huggins
The Honorable Kim Elton
The Honorable Donny Olson
The Honorable Joe Thomas
The Honorable Fred Dyson

Sandy Burd

From: fndmb2@uaf.edu
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2007 7:50 AM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA. Alaska's future is dependent upon quality workers and the best education possible will provide that. By putting the university system in a shortfall we are saying that education isn't that important. Please fund the University of Alaska, it is where great minds are cultivated.

Sincerely,
Deselee Baker
1423 Lacey St
Fairbanks, AK 99701

Sandy Burd

From: Elena [rendezvous@kpunet.net]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 4:15 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: DOL amendment

Dear Senator Hoffman,

Would you please offer your support along with Senator Thomas of Fairbanks in amending the DOL budget to permanently include 100,000 dollars to the Independent Living budget-this increase would better serve the YK Delta and other underserved areas of the State, with increased Outreach with independent living services.

Independent living services benefit persons w/disabilities access information & referral, benefits counseling, peer support, skills development, and also includes access to recreation activities.

For more info about Independent Living Centers go to www.sailinc.org which can link you to other centers and the State Independent Living Council that serve most areas of the State.

Thank you for your consideration.

Elena Rath
Executive Director
Rendezvous Senior Day Services, Inc.
2441 First Avenue
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901
907-247-1961
907-247-1963 fax
rendezvous@kpunet.net

Rendezvous Senior Day Services, Inc. is committed to a safe, healthy and caring environment that provides for the well being for seniors and adults with disabilities.

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April 11, 2007

The Honorable Governor Sarah Palin
State of Alaska
P. O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Dear Governor Palin:

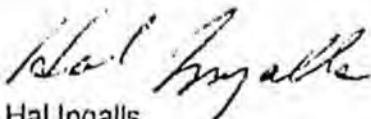
As a property owner at the Deshka Landing Outdoor Recreation Site, I would like to express my opposition to the proposed construction of the State boat launch facility at Willow Creek State Recreation Area.

There are at least three private launch facilities within seven road miles of this proposed new launch and the Deshka Landing is one of them. As a member of the Deshka Landing Outdoor Association, I, along with the other members, have contributed our personal funds to establish and maintain this facility which is open to the general public to use year round. I do not think it is appropriate for the State to be in competition with the private sector. The State already operates the Susitna Landing which is about seven river miles from this proposed new site. Several State agencies, including DNR and Parks and Recreation have stated their opposition to this site as being unsafe for a launch facility.

THE STATE DOES NOT NEED TO BE IN ANY MORE BUSINESSES!!

I would be happy to discuss this with you, if you desire.

Sincerely,



Hal Ingalls
6780 Laudon Circle
Anchorage, AK 99502
907-440-2289

cc: Lieutenant Governor Parnell
All Senators
All Representatives

Sandy Burd

From: Sam Shields [sshields@cityofbethel.net] - *Handwritten signature*
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 12:56 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Cc: 'Agatha John-Shields'; 'Allen Joseph'; traveling_brenda@yahoo.com; milksmail@aol.com; sshields@cityofbethel.net; sshieldsjr@aol.com; 'Monica Leinberger'; 'Sharon John'; 'Jim Chaliak'; 'Nels Alexie'
Subject: Charter Schools Funding - Thank You

Afternoon Sen. Hoffman,

I serve as the co-chair of the Academic Policy Committee Board for the Ayaprun Elitnaurvik Yup'ik Immersion School in Bethel. On behalf of the students, parents, staff and the APC Board, I say "QUYANA / THANK YOU" "for your support for the \$200,000 funding that was placed into the base education budget for the charter schools through out Alaska.

Ayaprun Elitnaurvik Yup'ik Immersion School has been a charter school for over eight years and for the first since being chartered, our student count dropped below 150 students. Because of this drop in numbers, our school funding for next year was decreased nearly \$85,000. We would have lost not only some of the certified teachers but also some of the classified teachers and staff, if it was not for the \$84,000 we were awarded from the charter school grant.

Last year our charter school is one of the few schools in the Lower Kuskokwim School District that made AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) under the NCLB (no child left behind) act of 2001. Our School has been recognized locally, nationally and internationally for our academic and cultural achievements. Our LKSD district office has tracked the student that has graduated from our school and is now in our High School. The data they received showed that most of the students that graduated from our school grade point average were above those students in the high school students that did not attend the Ayaprun Elitnaurvik Yup'ik Immersion. It should also be noted that most of our graduates has already past the State of Alaska High School Graduation Qualification test (HSGQ), and our other former graduates is has to pass only one or two of the HSGQ test to pass. We can not deny the data and the data shows that charter schools works!

There are many other accomplishments that our students and staff have achieved and yet due circumstances mostly beyond our control our student numbers dropped below 150. Although are projecting our student numbers to be well above the 150 mark if it do not reach the 150 mark the \$200,000 that was placed in the Education Operating Budget that will be essential to not only for the survival of Ayaprun Elitnaurvik Yup'ik Immersion School but also but will be essential for survival of other charter schools throughout Alaska.

Again I say, on behalf of students, parents and staff of not only Ayaprun Elitnaurvik Yup'ik Immersion School but also all of the charter schools throughout Alaska, a big "QUYANA / THANK YOU" to you for your support of all of the charter schools through out Alaska.

For the children,



Sam Shields
 Ayaprun Elitnaurvik Yup'ik Immersion School
 Co-Chair Academic Policy Committee, Bethel, Alaska

Sandy Burd

From: Eric Evon [eevon@avcphousing.org]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 5:02 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Charter School Funding

Sen Hoffman,

I am writing to urge you and your associates to continue and support Charter School funding. I worked at Ayaprun Elitnaurvik for a period of two years. This school is special and should continue to stay open, forever in my opinion. This school is re-educating our Yupik people. Anyone who is Yupik has the right to be proud of this school. Please continue your support of Charter School Funding. I am 26 years old, the younger generation after mine had already lost the culture and language. Help support the preservation of your culture and heritage, please.

Eric Evon
Occupancy Specialist
AVCP Regional Housing Authority
P.O. Box 767
Bethel, Ak 99559
eevon@avcphousing.org
1.800.478.4687 Toll Free
1.907.543.1344 Direct
1.907.543.4020 Fax

Sandy Burd

From: Peter Tuluk [nauliaran@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 11:37 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: House Bill 95

Senator Hoffman, My name is Peter Tuluk from Chevak and I am also on the AVCP Executive Board. I am also a member of the Alaska Legal Service Corporation Board representing AVCP Board for the past two years. Recently the subcommittee on Commerce, Economic Development and including a \$300,000.00 for Alaska Legal Service Corporation was supported. As you know most families in the villages are of low income families especially in Y-K Delta Villages. As a Alaska Legal Service Corporation Board member I support ALSC mission to provide better legal services to villages we serve.

Your support and passage of the \$300,000.00 appropriation to ALSC will be most beneficial to village people we serve throughout Alaska. Thank you. Peter

Food fight? Enjoy some healthy debate
in the Yahoo! Answers Food & Drink Q&A

Sandy Burd

From: M. Lynn Crane [usafv@d@arctic.net]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 5:04 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Bert Stedman; Sen. Charlie Huggins; Sen. Donny Olson; Sen. Joe Thomas; Sen. Fred Dyson
Subject: Alaska Community Health Center Funding

TO: Alaska Senate Finance Committee:

I am writing to urge you fund Alaska's Community Health Centers (CHCs). These vital centers are essential to the health and well-being of Alaskans, especially rural Alaskans. As the director of a small domestic violence shelter in Unalaska, I can tell you that many of our clients and their children would not have access to any health care at all were it not for our local community health center.

It makes no sense that Alaska does not fund these programs. The availability of affordable health care within one's own community results in lower total health care costs for us all. Alaska needs to join the 36 other states who provide funding to CHCs within their communities.

Thank you.

M. Lynn Crane

Executive Director

Unalaskans Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence (USAFV)

PO Box 36 Unalaska AK 99685

ph (907) 581-3310 or (907) 581-1500 fx (907) 581-4568

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Sandy Burd

From: Alice Ruby, Mayor [mayor@dillinghamak.us]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 2:49 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Dillingham City Schools

Greetings Senator Hoffman:

Thanks so much for your efforts this session. I have plans to travel to Juneau in the next couple of weeks and hope that you will be able to chat with us. I know that you will be very busy as the session draws closer to the end.

I am writing because I had the opportunity to visit with Kay Andrew, a municipal representative from our neighbor to the north (Aleknagik). She suggested that I communicate with you because you expressed some concern about an appropriation for Dillingham Schools. I wasn't real sure what particular project she was describing but I'm very glad that our school is among the projects for which funding is being considered.

Of course as you know we've been struggling to address issues with the school facility for over a year now. We're in tandem with the school board and hope to be able to address issues this year and in the future too.

I am happy to provide any information that I can. Is there something in particular that we need to do or information that we need to provide?

Alice J Ruby, Mayor
City of Dillingham

Sandy Burd

From: Robert Clark [rclark@bbahc.org]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 2:52 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Cc: Rose Heyano; Regan Mattingly; Marilyn Kasmar
Subject: FW: Community Health Center support

Lyman, I thought I had sent this to you earlier but with the hearing coming up at 3:30 today that Rose Heyano from my organization will be attending I noted I forgot you from the list I sent. Much of the State has and rely's on CHC's. In your District alone we have several centers between BBAHC, YKHC, APIA, and EAT, SCF, Bristol Bay Borough. Please fund the CHC request.
Robert Clark

From: Robert Clark
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2007 4:38 PM
To: 'Senator_Donny_Olson@legis.state.ak.us'
Cc: 'Rep. Bryce Edgmon'; 'Regan Mattingly'; Darrel Richardson
Subject: Community Health Center support

As a Board member of the Alaska Primary Health Care Association and in my capacity as President /CEO of the Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation, as well as the Chair of the Statewide Association of Tribal Health Directors', I urge you and your colleagues to put forth a budget amendment for \$2.3 million in state support for Community Health Centers in Alaska. In our part of the state we have four(4) Community Health Centers (sub regional or mid level clinics) and are applying for another HRSA grant to work in conjunction with our Hospital as we serve a lot of poor "non-bens". Any help the state can provide would be much appreciated.
Thank you. Robert J. Clark, President/CEO, BBAHC.

Sandy Burd

From: Gladys M. Askoak [gaskoak@bbahc.org]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 8:55 AM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Bert Stedman; Sen. Charlie Huggins; Sen. Kim Elton; Sen. Donny Olson; Sen. Joe Thomas; Sen. Fred Dyson
Subject: FW: Community Health Center support

From: Robert Clark
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2007 4:38 PM
To: 'Senator_Donny_Olson@legis.state.ak.us'
Cc: 'Rep. Bryce Edgmon'; 'Regan Mattingly'; Darrel Richardson
Subject: Community Health Center support

As a Board member of the Alaska Primary Health Care Association and in my capacity as President /CEO of the Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation, as well as the Chair of the Statewide Association of Tribal Health Directors', I urge you and your colleagues to put forth a budget amendment for \$2.3 million in state support for Community Health Centers in Alaska. In our part of the state we have four(4) Community Health Centers (sub regional or mid level clinics) and are applying for another HRSA grant to work in conjunction with our Hospital as we serve a lot of poor "non-bens". Any help the state can provide would be much appreciated. Thank you. Robert J. Clark, President/CEO, BBAHC.

Sandy Burd

From: John Davies [jdavies@alaska.net]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 9:47 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: UA vote today

Senator Hoffman,

Please support UA amendment by Joe Thomas today (Thursday) it is important to cover fixed costs as house intended to and to support the WAMI and other health initiatives.

Thanks,

John Davies

Sandy Burd

From: ech2123@hotmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 10:59 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

The University is the intellectual center of our state and community. It trains our current and future citizens. It is an important resource to our community. A strong university is necessary to maintain a stable well trained professional work force.

Our state founders knew this and believed in fully funding the university. They left prime land for the university to draw on. It would have no problem today if politicians would have honored this wisdom. Now they are left with parcels of land that require them to deforest and deface beautiful areas of our state to pay their bills.

I find underfunding the university short sighted and ill advised. We need to look to our future.

Sincerely, Elayne Hunter 1640 Crescent Dr.
Anchorage

Sincerely,
Elayne Hunter
1640 Crescent Dr.
Anchorage, AK 99524

Sandy Burd

From: elderfrey@gci.net
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 10:02 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

As a graduate of UAA whose daughter will be going there in the fall, I'm very concerned about state funding for UAA. In order to even maintain current services, fixed costs must be fully funded. UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Please support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Shonti Elder
3101 Danny's Ave.
Wasilla, AK 99654

Sandy Burd

From: clinh@pobox.alaska.net
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 9:00 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Jean Kollantai
P.O. Box 91377
Anchorage, AK 99509

Sandy Burd

From: Fat Kouris [pkouris@accessalaska.org]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 5:04 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Bert Stedman; Sen. Charlie Huggins; Sen. Kim Elton; Sen. Donny Olson; Sen. Joe Thomas; Sen. Fred Dyson
Subject: Budget Amendment for Funding of Community Health Centers

Dear Finance Committee Members:

I cannot stress enough the importance of Community Health Centers to the health and welfare of many Alaskans....over 80,000 individuals. The health service is not free, with a sliding fee scale, but allows access to medical care for many Alaskans, including working Alaskans with no insurance, those with no or very low income, and elderly Alaskans on Medicare. It is well known that most private physicians in Alaska DO NOT accept Medicare, and CHC's are the only option for many elders. If these folks seek medical services at the Emergency Rooms across the State, medical costs will rise for all of us.

CHS's provide a safety net while saving Alaska Medicaid dollars and they are cost effective.

Remember if you, or someone you care about, is OVER 65, CHC's may well be the only option for medical care.

It is imperative for Alaska to provide funding for the CHC's.....\$2.3 million is a bargain when compared to the service provided to Alaska's citizens (as compared to Hawaii's provision of \$19 million in funding for their CHC's, it's a steal!!)

Thank you in advance for your consideration and I hope that you will do the RIGHT thing by supporting CHC funding.

Respectfully,

Patricia Kouris
631 E. 22nd Avenue, Apt B4
Anchorage, AK 99503
1-907-274-2534

Pat Kouris

Sandy Burd

From: Linda Kiggins [lkiggins@accessalaska.org]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 4:53 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Increase in State Independent Living Funding

Alaska's Centers for Independent Living (CILs)

FY08 Budget Talking Points

Centers for Independent Living are requesting the following two budget items:

1. A permanent increase of \$100,000 in State Independent Living funding.
 - a. CILs continue to serve more people each year while funding has remained relatively flat over the past decade. 112% more disabled and senior Alaskans have been served in the past three years – 3,200 persons in 2006 alone.
 - b. Costs to provide these preventive services that keep people out of expensive institutions are rising, stretching and even breaking Alaska's CIL budgets.
 - c. CILs are only 9% State funded. Alaska's CILs leverage State dollars, and are extremely resourceful, cost-effective agencies providing necessary services on behalf of the State of Alaska.

2. A \$94,000 increase to support *interpreter referral services* for Alaskans who are deaf and hard-of-hearing.
 - a. This program allows deaf and hard of hearing Alaskans whose primary language is American Sign Language, to access medical and legal services, the justice system and employment and training.
 - b. The program has been flat-funded for over 17 years, while the deaf population is growing in areas like the Kenai Peninsula, where no interpreter program currently exists.
 - c. Agencies have been subsidizing the operations of this service for years, while serving more people every year.

Sandy Burd

From: kasiatim [kasiatim@gci.net]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 5:05 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: UA funding

Dear Senator Hoffman,

I believe it is very important to fund the University of Alaska system so that it can expand in health care and other educational fields important to Alaskans.

I believe we have a much better chance of keeping out bright young men and women in Alaska if the University system offers them more options in these vital areas.

Please consider using your position to help expand the UA system. This would truly be an investment which will pay off in the future both for students and the state.

Sincerely,

Tim Spengler
Juneau

Sandy Burd

From: James Atti [James_Atti@bethel.uaf.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 3:51 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: SB 106

I would like to support SB 106 to fund Community Health Clinics.
Our Bethel Family Clinic is an option from the Hospital for our health and medical center.
My family of six are seen at the clinic for our basic medical needs.
The Bethel Family Clinic should have some financial assistance to better serve the community and expand on our needs. Bethel has seen growth in the past years and medical needs have grown.
I support the Bethel Family Clinic and being an insured employee, I would like the best health services the clinic can provide in this region.
Thank-you your support,

James Atti
P.O. Box 2714
Bethel, Alaska 99559

Sandy Burd

From: Marilyn Kasmar [MarilynK@alaskapca.org]
 Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 4:17 PM
 To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
 Subject: Testimony for State Funding for Alaska's Community Health Centers

4/11/07

Greetings.

My name is Marilyn Kasmar and I am the Executive Director of the Alaska Primary Care Association. We have as members all of Alaska's community health centers and a number of other safety net providers and supporting organizations. I am speaking in support of \$2.3 million dollars in state funding for community health centers in Alaska.

You know by now that 24 Community Health Center organizations- both tribal and non-tribal- provide access to health care (medical, dental and behavioral health) for over 80,000 Alaskans of all ethnic backgrounds and social situations at 115 sites around the state. This is 1/8 of the state's population. You know the program has received the highest possible rating from the OMB on the expectmore.gov website. You've heard that Alaska is one of only 14 states that doesn't provide any direct funding for CHCs. You've been asked by Senators Murkowski and Stevens to step up to the plate. You know these sites see anyone, even if they have no insurance or money- they are truly an oasis for people of any age- including the elderly- to turn to in time of need. And by now, you know that CHCs are well-run, efficient health care homes.

You've also heard some of the ways that CHCs save Alaska money. For example-

- CHCs save Medicaid 30% in annual spending per beneficiary- \$10.3 million annually. State funding for primary care could increase these savings. A 20% increase in number of CHC Medicaid patients could potentially save Alaska \$2 million
- Alaska spends \$32 million annually on unnecessary ER visits. With state funding support, CHCs can divert inappropriate ER visits, that should be seen in a primary care setting, to CHCs. 2000 unnecessary ER visits in Alaska redirected to CHCs could potentially save \$1.3 million. 4000 unnecessary ER visits redirected to CHCs could potentially save \$2.6 million

These sites need your help.

- Operational costs at CHCs in Alaska have risen over 10% per year in the past 4 years
- Federal funding has remained static
- A number of communities have do not yet have centers, but federal funding for new starts in Alaska has dried up
- There's so much more these sites could do, with more funding

4/11/2007

You've heard from a number of people in tourism education, social services and other industries and programs. I must point out that a great number of the people who work in these industries do not have health insurance benefits. Community health centers provide services that help Alaskans to get and stay healthy and remain productive. Your support of the CHCs will help them to provide quality health care services to the workforce of these other industries in the 115 communities that they serve.

Community Health Centers and the Alaskans who need and use them, need and deserve your support. Please fund the \$2.3 million dollar request for Alaska's Community Health Centers.

Thank you.

Marilyn W. Kasmar, RNC, MBA
Executive Director
Alaska Primary Care Association

907-929-2725 ph 907-929-2734 fax
907-227-4104 cell IM Name:alaskamarilyn@hotmail.com

903 W Northern Lights Blvd, Suite 200
Anchorage, AK 99503
www.alaskapca.org

"Uncompromising in the pursuit of access to primary care for all Alaskans"

April 9, 2007

TO: ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

I came to Alaska over 30 years ago and was so enamored by what I saw that I never left. I have worked as a pilot for most of my time in Alaska so I have been privileged to see a lot more of our state than the average Alaskan. I have lived and worked on the North Slope and would far prefer to see ANWR remain undeveloped so I resent the state funding lobbying efforts to open ANWR. By the same token I think it is extremely short sighted for the state to reduce funding for tourism marketing. I enjoy sharing the beauty of our state with visitors and appreciate the fact that they are a "renewable resource". Without exception, the people I fly are in awe of so much of what we tend to take for granted. They share stories and photos with family and friends which only attracts more business, all of which has minimal impact on our environment. I strongly urge you to use some of the funds from the cruise ship head tax to market Alaska far and wide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Post", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Bill Post
Box 271
Talkeetna AK 99676

April 9, 2007

My family (wife and 5 children) have been supported by tourism for the last 10 years. I strongly support the State of Alaska re-investing in Alaska's future by providing money for a strong marketing campaign aimed at bringing visitors to Alaska.

Thank you,

Todd Condon
(907)733-2218

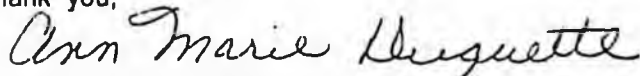
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd Condon". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "T".

April 8, 2007

Living on the East coast most of my adult life, I never thought I would be living in Alaska. Back in 1990 my dad and I took a vacation to Alaska and enjoyed all the tourist attractions which included a flight to McKinley. I was so impressed with the beauty of Alaska that I ended up moving here and working at Mt. McKinley Base camp for 10 years. That gave me a great opportunity to meet people from all over the world.

In my opinion Alaska is one of the most beautiful places in the world and we need to get this message out. This is a win-win situation. Tourists spread the word and the state will benefit from all the money the tourists spend.

Thank you,

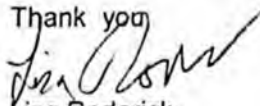
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anne Marie Duquette". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and phone number.

Anne Marie Duquette "Base Camp Annie"
(907)733-5505

April 8, 2007

I have watched Talkeetna grow into a thriving healthy community. This has been due to tourism. I am in strong support of the State contributing towards a healthy marketing budget to draw visitors to our state where they spend their money and create jobs. Tourism is competitive and Alaska needs to be heard to be seen.

Thank you



Lisa Roderick
(907)733-4263

April 9, 2007

I support the State of Alaska budgeting money for the marketing of Alaska tourism. I see this as a smart move for the State. Tourism brings dollars and jobs to all levels of business in Alaska, including the state.

Thank you,

Daniel Doty
(907)733-2272

Handwritten signature of Daniel Doty in cursive script.

FAX

Date April 11, 2007

Number of pages including cover sheet 2

TO: *Senate Finance
Committee*

FROM: *City of Kwethluk
General Delivery
Kwethluk, Alaska 99621*

Phone

Phone (907) 757-6022

Fax Phone (907)465-2187

Fax Phone (907) 757-6497

CC: *Kwethluk City Council
File*

REMARKS: Urgent For your review Reply ASAP Please Comment

Good Luck in making this important decision, my trust and faith in your ability to make the right decision for the community residents of the State of Alaska, is placed by virtue to your belief in the system you have chosen to uphold by your oath of office.

CITY OF KWETHLUK
PO BOX 50
KWETHLUK, ALASKA 99621
(907) 757-6022 PH (907) 7757-6497 FAX

Senate Finance Committee;

April 11, 2007

CC: Mr. David Epchook – Mayor
Kwethluk City Councilmembers

Honorable Members of the Senate Finance Committee;

The community members and all rural area constituents have placed their trust and your promises during election time to have their votes cast to you and now the rural residents and the Kwethluk City Council on behalf of its community members urge each of you to keep the Revenue Sharing in the State Operating Budget.

Alaska is the richest state in the U.S. and should not keep cutting basic services to its residents.

In the past the Kwethluk City Council had to suffer through Administration closures and laying off the Village Police Officers due to local budget constraints.

Life, safety and the welfare of our community members were put on jeopardy, due to the State of Alaska turning its back on the rural native residents.

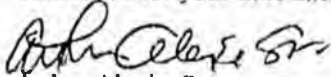
Look at the year and tell me that I am not a second class resident. we are the population that suffers the most when the Great State of Alaska decides through its elected Legislative and Senate governing body to put basic services needs in harms way.

Liabilities increase when the State of Alaska decides to remove necessity needs to its residents, more revenue is used when self made disaster is placed on our citizens, which in the long run is not healthy for the State of the Union.

We are continuing to struggle today as we did 50 years ago and much more due to evident cost of living increase every year, living isn't getting easier, however the Revenue Sharing to municipalities is very helpful to us because it assists our operating budget costs.

Doi for now,

Thank you for your time and help in our time of need.



Arthur Alexic, Sr.
City Manager
City of Kwethluk

Date: April 11, 2007
To: Legislative Office *JK*
From: Gil Gutierrez *JK*
Subject: Closure of Department of Labor Glennallen Job Service Office

We object to the closure of the Glennallen Job Service Office for the following reasons:

The Copper River Valley is bounded by the Alaska and Talkeetna Mountain Ranges and the Denali Borough to the north, Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge, Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve and Canada to the east. Thompson Pass in the Chugach Range to the south, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough to the west. This vast region includes the Wrangell-St. Elias Mountains, which has nine of the 16 highest mountain peaks in North America. The Copper River, one of the major rivers on the continent, has its headwaters at the base of the Wrangell Mountains and dissects the region, flowing 250 miles to the Gulf of Alaska near Cordova.

In the 2000 census, the region has a population of 3,120, up from 2,569 in 1990. The major population centers include Glennallen, Copper Center, and Kenny Lake, communities situated near the junctions of major highways, or with access to recreational resources. There are also the major shopping and service centers of the area. Each of these communities has approximately 500 persons in their loosely defined boundaries.

The only State Office that can be used to serve this population for Job search, employment assistance, and resume writing is in the Job service Office. However, the office does other things such as being the single point of contact for employers from throughout the state and for construction, mining, oil and tourism companies.

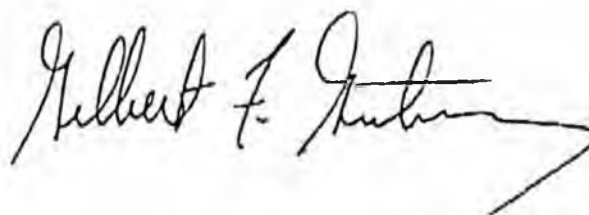
Copper River Native association has a Vocational- Educational program that is presently implementing training programs for high school students and career counseling. Underemployed due to lack of skills and unemployed residents of this area. The programs that we are implementing will lead to certification and employment in the areas mentioned above.

We do need a window to the employers that are actively recruiting and this window is provided by the Job Service. When you shut this office down our residents will be forced to drive to Valdez or Anchorage at an expense they may not be able to afford.

We do not have the access to computers that people in Anchorage or Valdez has. We live in the midst of distressed communities as defined by the Department of Commerce. Many households do not have computers for Job searching or employment information needed to get a job.

The Job Service Office is a lifeline into the State website open to the public of this area. To shut it down is to discriminate and treat this area differently by denying service to the population of this area.

We categorically oppose closure of the Glennallen Job Service Office.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gilbert F. Johnson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned centrally on the page.

April 11, 2007

Testimony of Robert Wilkinson
on Behalf of Keeping Open
Glennallen Employment Service Office
CSHB 95 State Operating Budget

- I am Robert A. Wilkinson and I am the Chief Executive Officer of Copper Valley Electric Association which serves a large geographic area in Eastern Interior, mostly along the Glenn and Richardson Highways.
- The purpose of my testimony is to request that the proposed elimination of the Glennallen Employment Center be restored to the FY08 Operating Budget.
- This one person office performs many vital services to more than a dozen communities in the unorganized Borough.
- Justifying the closure of this important office based upon providing services over the internet makes little sense. In this large rural area where seasonal and subsistence lifestyles are common in the unemployed workforce, and where a majority of residents do not own computers never mind have internet access capable of running the State's Alex-Sys, the elimination of the Employment Center will result in increased costs to the Region's Employers for job recruiting and will make the process of looking for work frustrating and more difficult.
- With respect to my organization, the elimination of the Employment Center will increase our costs while at the same time make future employment searches more difficult.
- I urge the Committee to restore funding for the Glennallen Employment Center to the FY08 Operating Budget for this important public service.
- Thank you for listening to my testimony.

ALL ALASKA

PEDIATRIC
PARTNERSHIP

3RD MEDICAL GROUP * ALASKA NATIVE CHILDREN'S CENTER * ALASKA REGIONAL HOSPITAL
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AT PROVIDENCE * FAIRBANKS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
MAT-SU REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
CENTRAL PENINSULA HOSPITAL * NORTH STAR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEM

April 11, 2007

RE: Funding for Community Health Centers

Senate Finance Committee
Co-Chairs Senator Lyman Hoffman and Senator Bert Steadman
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Senators:

Please invest \$2.3 million in the health care of our children and families.

The 115 Community Health Center (CHC) delivery sites in Alaska are in need of \$2.3 million to offset the high costs of providing access to primary care to over 80,000 Alaskan patients, many who are uninsured or underinsured. CHCs provide a medical home for many children, the place where they receive immunizations, school physicals and regular care. The CHCs have sliding fee scales to foster responsibility but do not turn patients away. CHCs are extremely cost-effective; save state Medicaid dollars and lower high cost emergency room visits.

Please introduce an amendment for \$2.3 million to invest in Alaskans.

AAPP is a unique public private partnership committed to all Alaskan children since 1995 that creates safe places to grow working relationships to move positive decisions forward. We bring institutional perspectives to exchange ideas and develop collaborative approaches to enhance, not diminish Alaska's pediatric services.

PO Box 230567 ANCHORAGE, AK 99523 VOICE: 907-580-3180 FAX: 907-580-2435 www.a2p2.com

Our current areas of focus include expansion of behavioral health services, increasing pediatric sub-specialty providers and sharing institutional best practices. We promote medical homes and access for children as we know that investing in regular preventive care for children gives them an excellent foundation to be successful students, productive workers and involved citizens.

If I can provide additional information, please contact me at mary.grisco@elmendorf.af.mil.

Sincerely,

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

Mary Grisco, MPA
Executive Director

ALL ALASKA

PEDIATRIC
PARTNERSHIP

3RD MEDICAL GROUP * ALASKA NATIVE CHILDREN'S CENTER * ALASKA REGIONAL HOSPITAL
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AT PROVIDENCE * FAIRBANKS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
MAT-SU REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
CENTRAL PENINSULA HOSPITAL * NORTH STAR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEM

Via fax

April 10, 2007

RE: HB 95 & HB 96
Senate Finance Committee
Co-Chairs Senator Lyman Hoffman and Senator Bert Steadman
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Senators:

We appreciate this opportunity to provide our brief comments regarding funding for services and programs important for kids.

We support

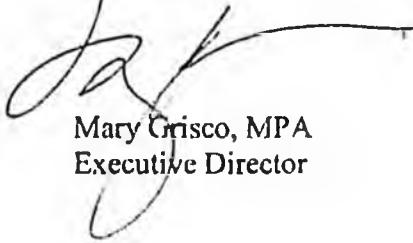
- *Behavioral health grants for \$3.2 million;
- *Bring The Kids Home community/school services for \$1.7 million;
- *Continued investing in Infant Learning Program for \$300,000;
- *Continuing the diagnostic team work for FASD for \$696,800;
- *Keeping behavioral health clinicians at McLaughlin and Fairbanks Youth Facilities for \$273,100;
- *Adding \$500,000. for autism diagnostic services.

AAPP is a unique public private partnership committed to all Alaskan children since 1995 that creates safe places to grow working relationships to move positive decisions forward. We bring institutional perspectives to exchange ideas and develop collaborative approaches to enhance, not diminish Alaska's pediatric services. Our current areas of focus include expansion of behavioral health services, increasing pediatric sub-specialty providers and sharing institutional best practices.

PO Box 230567 ANCHORAGE, AK 99523 VOICE: 907-580-3180 FAX: 907-580-2435 www.a2p2.com

If I can provide additional information, please contact me at
mary.grisco@elmendorf.af.mil.

Sincerely,

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

Mary Crisco, MPA
Executive Director

Sandy Burd

From: Doug Bowen [fourreds@xyz.net]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 12:15 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Bert Stedman; Sen. Donny Olson; Sen. Joe Thomas; Sen. Fred Dyson
Subject: small charter school funding

Dear Senators

My name is Janet Bowen and I am a parent of both a current student and graduate of Fireweed Academy here in Homer Alaska. I am also the Administrative Specialist/Outreach Coordinator for Fireweed.

I understand Senator Huggins, with support from Senator Elton recently put \$200,000 for small charters schools into the base education budget. This would be great for the small schools to know that funding would automatically come up every year rather than have to be requested every year. While the amount of money to each school that shares it is not huge-it is crucial to each school. Fireweed Academy uses it to fund our one and only aide position.

I strongly support of this addition of this money and hope it remains in the budget as your negotiations and discussions continue in the Senate Finance Committee and Conference Committee. With the ongoing concerns regarding education funding and the already inequitable funding for small charter school, this money remains critical to our children's education.

Thank you so much for your support

Janet Bowen
PO Box 1642
Homer Alaska

Sandy Burd

From: robert_b@akexec.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 2:05 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

This week the Senate Finance Committee is adding amendments to the university's budget. As it stands, the House and Senate have not funded the university at a level that will even cover its fixed costs. This is particularly disturbing because university fixed costs as well as extra money for engineering, nurses, dental hygienists and construction managers could all be covered with savings in the university's budget. Unfortunately, the Senate took the savings and left the university with a net shortfall against fixed costs of \$3.6 million. Common sense says this situation is not realistic. Please support UA for the benefit of all Alaskans.

Sincerely,
Robert Bulmer
821 N Street
Suite 204
Anchorage, AK 99501

Sandy Burd

From: Dianne Milke [fndlm5@uaf.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 3:10 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Word of Thanks

Attachments: fndlm5.vcf



fndlm5.vcf (403 B)

On behalf of Chancellor Steve Jones, I am forwarding the following:

Dear Senator Hoffman,

As you finalize your recommendations for the FY08 operating budget, I urge you to fully support the Board of Regents' request. I appreciate the fact that fixed costs are covered, but want to emphasize the importance of fully covering the retirement cost increases as well. UA has also requested funding for programs in high demand job areas at UAF, especially in dental hygiene and community health aides, both impacting the rural areas of the state. Your support is very much appreciated and necessary to fulfill our mission as the state's university.

Again, thank you for recognizing the critical role that your university system plays in assuring our state's future economic and social prosperity.

Steve Jones

Sandy Burd

From: David Modde [DavidM@EATribes.net]

Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 3:35 PM

To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman

Subject: CHC

Community Health Centers are not only a cost effective method of medical care delivery, it is the only primary care for nearly 80,000 individuals, both native and non-native. Without additional funding, these services will not be able to be delivered efficiently or effectively.

Please work to include funding for CHC's in the budget.

Thank you, David Modde

Sandy Burd

From: bbolson@kodiak.alaska.edu
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 3:39 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, such as PRS/TRS increases and cost of living salary adjustments, increased utilities costs, as well as high demand degree and certificate programs in Welding, Nursing Assistants, Nursing, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Please support Sen. Thomas's amendment to adequately fund UA.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Barbara Bolson
117 Benny Benson Drive
Kodiak, AK 99615

Page 1



Alaska State Legislature

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Please enter into the record my testimony to the _____

 Committee name
 Committee on HB 95-- 2008 OPERATING BUDGET
 _____, dated APRIL 11, 2007

 Bill/Subject

It is my understanding that through the subcommittee on Commerce, Community and Economic Development, an appropriation of \$300,000 has been included for the Alaska Legal Services Corporation. I want to testify today in support of that appropriation, and to thank those responsible for its inclusion in the budget. The ALSC is a critical component in our legal system, providing resources for lower income families and individuals across the State to educate themselves about the law and to obtain legal representation in civil cases involving a range of issues, including family law, residential landlord-tenant disputes, consumer law and probate cases. As a private attorney working in the Mat-Su Valley, I see the strong need for these services growing exponentially with the increasing population here. When I spoke with ALSC representative Erick Cordero a couple years ago about the potential for staffing an ALSC office here in Palmer or Wasilla, he was optimistic, but that was before the State cut its funding of Legal Services from \$1.2 million to \$0 for the next two years. I frankly can't fathom how this vital organization was cut from the budget. The need for legal representation in civil cases is paramount because pro se litigants are often at a loss to understand their rights and the rights of others under applicable laws in the first place, have no where to go to receive some modicum of legal education in the applicable area, and do not know the rules of civil procedure even if they manage to pursue or defend their rights or interests in court. This, in turn, puts even greater burdens on our judges and staff to evaluate and manage such cases. I am sure Senator Huggins and others there are already aware of the need for family law assistance here in the Valley. But in my practice here as a plaintiff's attorney, I am seeing more and more problems in other areas too such as consumer fraud, unreasonable denials by health insurers, and violations of the Uniform Residential Landlord-Tenant Act, as well as more and more inquiries about . . .

Signed:

Christopher Canterbury
 Testifier CHRISTOPHER CANTERBURY

Representing (Optional)

816 SOUTH COBB STREET; PALMER, AK 99645

Address

(907) 376-8185

Phone number

Page 2



Alaska State Legislature

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Please enter into the record my testimony in the _____

Committee name

HB 95-- 2008 OPERATING BUDGET

Committee on _____

dated. APRIL 11, 2007

Bill/Subject

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

probate matters, such as drafting wills or appointing conservators for the aging population. Indeed, instead of cutting funding for ALSC, I believe we need to increase funding. I strongly support doing whatever it takes to see ALSC staff a local office in Mat-Su. Right now, I know ALSC is able to conduct clinics about once every two months here in Palmer to educate citizens on child custody and divorce issues. I know they are able to do twice as many in Anchorage, as well as additional clinics such as landlord-tenant clinics. Many of the local citizens who need that education and legal representation cannot drive to Anchorage for those services. It is not enough for the State to finally add resources for the long-suffering situation at the Palmer courthouse. I am pleased to see recognition of the strong need for these related support services at ALSC. I urge the legislature to continue attempts to further the pursuit of fairness and justice for the State's citizens by approving the proffered appropriation to ALSC.

Signed.

Testifier CHRISTOPHER CANTERBURY

Representing (Optional)

816 SOUTH COBB STREET; PALMER, AK 99645

Address

907-376-8185

Phone number

HB95

April 11, 2007

Please keep our Job centers open!

I have been a client of Delta Job center for three years now; I have found the needs and one on one assistance that are helpful to me to for job searching. Being I and many other people don't have access to a computer or not familiar with computers.

It would be a massive loss if were not to have our Job Centers.

Thank You

Angela Juleff

Subject: HB 95

To Whom It May Concern:

I wish to provide information relevant to HB 95. I understand this bill in its present form would remove funding from the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development resulting in the closure of the local Job Center in Delta Junction.

I am an education counselor who provides career planning services at Fort Greely, Alaska. I work for Chugach Alutiiq, Joint Venture, an Alaskan corporation providing contract services to the US Army. Previous to this job I was employed at the Delta Job Center, 2005 C Street, Delta Junction, during the period 2002-2003.

I am speaking for neither my employer nor the government, but rather as a resident of this small rural community in Alaska's interior.

In my opinion, closing the Delta Job Center could result in fewer local Alaskan residents applying for the many jobs that have opened in this area since the Fort Greely build-up and our community's recent economic rebound.

I suspect more jobs will go to out-of-state applicants if the assistance of the job office is no longer available. One hundred miles to Fairbanks is simply too far for many job-seekers to travel looking for work in their own communities and access to this base is restricted. The availability of an employment security specialist and the office's half dozen common-user computers with internet access will also be a great loss to this community.

During the course of my duties in career planning I have referred many clients to the local Job Center and I believe its closure would have a detrimental effect on the local economy.

//original signed//
Bruce Grossmann
Education Counselor

1535 Healy Court
Delta Junction, Alaska 99737
(907) 895-1910

*Delta Community Library
Box 229 2291 Deborah Street
Delta Junction, Alaska 99737
907.895.4102*

April 11, 2007

Re: HB 95 Operating Budget

To: Senate Finance Committee, Fax 907-465-2187

Dear Committee Members:

This testimony is in support of the Alaska Job Center Network, in particular of the Center in Delta Junction.

This outstanding service needs to be maintained so both our long time and newest residents can continue to have access to the latest information on statewide employment opportunities.

I often refer job seekers to our local Center because of limited Internet access here in the library. I have found the staff to be knowledgeable and helpful to applicants, and the quality of service and dedication is extraordinary. We simply do not have the space or the staff to provide the level of service of a Job Center.

I encourage you to reconsider any budget cuts to this vital program. Having a Job Center in Delta Junction not only increases the positive profile of our community, but promotes a positive image of the State of Alaska for its constituents as well.

Sincerely,

Joyce McCombs

Joyce McCombs, Director
Delta Community Library



City of Delta Junction

P.O. Box 229, Delta Junction, Alaska 99737
Ph 907-895-4656 Fax 907-895-4375
www.ci.delta-junction.ak.us
city@ci.delta-junction.ak.us

Welcome to the Friendly Frontier

April 11, 2007

Comment on HB95

via fax#907-465-2187

(The Delta LIO is closed all this week)

The City of Delta Junction would request that HB95 be amended to include continued funding for the operation of the Delta Job Center for at least 2 days a week.

There are over 4,000 persons residing within 30 miles of the Delta Job Center and with the economic activity generated by the Missile Defense at Fort Greely, Range construction by US Army Alaska, the Pogo Gold Mine and others, there is a continuing need for workers in the Delta area.

Closing the current office would greatly disadvantage local Delta workers in finding local employment.

Many Deltans are not computer experts and need both extended access to internet connected computers to find and apply for jobs and need help and advice from trained Job Center staff.

Sincerely,

Peter S. Hallgren
Administrator

Donna Johnson
Financial Officer

Linda Burdick
Administrative Asst.

Joe DeWitt
City Attorney

Lamar Collins
City Councilman



Alaska State Legislature

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

Committee on Budget 08 dated 4/11/07
Bill/Subject

Please maintain funding for Alaska legal services. They help alot of children in Alaska. They are necessary for low income parents who are trying to secure custody of their children.

Funding should be increased for this agency so there could be more attorney's to help low income Alaskans with Civil matters, such as Alaskan Native and Claims, child custody, Domestic Violence, etc.

Signed: Nancy L. et. / Chief Paul B Theodore
Testifier

Representing (Optional)

PO Box 521612
Address

232-1387
Phone number

HB95

FIELDS HOUSE LTD

PO BOX 1013

DELTA JUNCTION AK 99737-1013

907-895-1950

11 APRIL 2007

PER HB95:

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter to ask that the Alaska State Dept of Labor's Job Service located in Delta Junction NOT be closed.

I have utilized this office on numerous occasions and have hired out of this office twice. I have never used the Fairbanks or Tok office, and when needed, have hired locally by word of mouth.

I am the President of the DELTA REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, and economically, I feel this is not a smart move on the state's part at this present time.

The office is needed, and closing this particular office now, when the missile base is not completed, is an immature move which will not benefit either Delta or Tok. Many people I talk to have never utilized the Tok office, and would rather drive to Fairbanks to use the office up there.

Keep it open 3 days a week if you have to, but by no means close it for good.

Thank you very much.

Cordially,

Stephen L Fields
Fields House LTD
Owner



Catholic
Social Services

Refugee Assistance Program

3710 East 20th Avenue • Anchorage, Alaska 99508 • (907) 276-5590 • fax: (907) 279-5539
email: catholicsocialservices@cssalaska.org • www.cssalaska.org

April 11, 2007

To The Attention of Senate Finance Committee:

Our Office of Refugee Assistance and Immigration Services heard a tragic news,
"Possible closing of Delta Job Center."

Key elements of RAIS / CSS are to welcome the strangers by empowering all refugees,
immigrants, and displaced persons to share in the freedom, justice, and quality of our
society.

The primary goal is to promote employment and self-sufficiency by providing a bridge
for clients from former life experience to the new skills required for success in the United
States.

This is where Delta Job Center plays a huge role in helping our community.

Delta Job Center does a great job with helping clients do their résumés, write letters to
employers, explain how to use computer, search for employment on web, explain what
skills are needed for specific positions, and the list just goes on.

With out this service in Delta we will be stuck in a mud hole, if there is any sympathy
toward our community, please don't be too haste to close the Delta Job Center.

We strongly believe that the committee can find a way-out of this crisis and Delta Job
Center will be able to continue providing quality service to our community.

Sincerely, staff of RAIS / CSS

Vera Gorban

Svetlana Kravets

Yelena Berezhkov

V. Gorban
Svetlana Kravets
Yelena Berezhkov



Sandy Burd

From: ffsdk@uaf.edu
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 11:30 AM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Sonja Koukel
3032 Vintage Blvd. Ste. 104
Juneau, AK 99801

Sandy Burd

From: ASJET11@uaa.alaska.edu
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 11:47 AM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget.

Support an amendment to adequately fund UA and make UA accountable for funds. Any private educational business must be accountable. I've watched inefficiencies year after year without lessons learned.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
joan tovsen
PO Box 242211
Anchorage, AK 99524

DELTA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



April 11, 2007

RE: HB-95

The Delta Chamber of Commerce opposes the closing of the rural job centers, particularly, Delta Junction Job Center. With all the construction taking place at Ft. Greely and the surrounding area, Delta needs the services the local job center offers.

Many citizens of Delta Junction do not have computers, telephone or internet service and many do not know how to use computers. While the Delta Community Library has internet access and public computers, they are in such demand that sometimes the wait to use them is far longer than anyone should be expected to wait. The mobile job centers do not provide the consistent services that local job centers provide.

The citizens of Delta Junction deserve the services of a local job center and the chamber strongly opposes the closing of the much-needed Delta Job Center.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brenda Peterson".

Brenda Peterson
Executive Director

Sandy Burd

From: jeane@gci.net
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 6:27 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Jeane Breinig
4910 Hartman Circle
Anchorage, AK 99507

Sandy Burd

From: george.riley@acsalaska.net
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 6:41 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Roberta Taylor
PO Box 64
Ester, AK 99725

Sandy Burd

From: windysea@xyz.net
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 7:15 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Kimberly Cooney Donohue
PO Box 3694
Homer, AK 99603-3694

Sandy Burd

From: mkhughes@acsalaska.net
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 7:22 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Mary Hughes
1592 Coffey Ln
Anchorage, AK 99501-4977

Sandy Burd

From: snowyowl_alaska@yahoo.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 7:27 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Janet Sperber
6207 Laurel St.
Anchorage, AK 99507

Sandy Burd

From: aeker@thealaskaclub.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 7:44 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Andrew Eker
1592 Coffey Lane
Anchorage, AK 99501

Sandy Burd

From: pspbw@uaa.alaska.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 7:53 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Penelope Wingo
PO Bx 299003
Wasilla, AK 99629

Sandy Burd

From: sharon.hall@uaf.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 9:28 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
sharon hall
2323 meadow lane
juneau, AK 99801

Sandy Burd

From: tsirc2@uas.alaska.edu
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 3:15 AM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

UA is a wonderful establishment, and currently the primary options for Alaska residents to attend in-State education and training programs. Adequate funding for the University of Alaska is essential to the future of Alaskan education. Don't shortchange this institution. It would be like shooting yourself in the foot.

Sincerely,
Tara Connolly Prosser
1260 A. Millar St.
Ketchikan, AK 99901

Sandy Burd

From: rabbage@acsalaska.net
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 7:59 AM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Geri Rabbage
438 Sundew Lane
Fairbanks, AK 99712

Sandy Burd

From: Sherry McWhorter [sherry_mcwhorter@usw.salvationarmy.org]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 7:31 AM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Senate budget priority items

Sherry McWhorter
6140 Prosperity Drive
Anchorage, AK 99504-3267

April 11, 2007

The Honorable Lyman F. Hoffman
Alaska Senate
Alaska State Senate
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Hoffman:

Please fund the following priority budget items. These funds are needed to sustain current levels of human services or to deal with the growing needs of the elderly, disabled, families and communities in Alaska.

Services for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders. Maintain \$125,000. People with Alzheimer's disease as their primary diagnosis are not eligible for Medicaid. These funds provide support for them and their caretaker families.

Keep the Elders Home. Add \$1.25 million. These funds will provide a package of home and community-based services designed to keep the elderly in their homes and out of expensive nursing home care.

Sincerely,

Sherry McWhorter
339-3433

This message has been verified by CapwizXC as authentic and sent by this individual.
Authentication ID: [KQG46Ux6]

Sandy Burd

From: Sherry McWhorter [sherry_mcwhorter@usw.salvationarmy.org]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 7:29 AM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Budget -- health and social services

Sherry McWhorter
6140 Prosperity Drive
Anchorage, AK 99504-3267

April 11, 2007

The Honorable Lyman F. Hoffman
Alaska Senate
Alaska State Senate
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Hoffman:

Please support funding for substance abuse treatment services across Alaska at at least the same level as last year. Please do NOT reduce funding for substance abuse treatment.

Behavioral Health Grants for Treatment and Prevention Services -- Maintain \$3.2 million. Behavioral Health Grants fund mental health and substance abuse prevention and treatment services. These funds will continue the current level of service.

Detox Services for Anchorage. Add \$300,000. These funds are needed to strengthen the substance abuse continuum of care and provide alternatives to the inappropriate use of API.

Sincerely,

Sherry McWhorter
339-3433

This message has been verified by CapwizXC as authentic and sent by this individual.
Authentication ID: {e8205PVB}

Sandy Burd

From: Bowen Katya [kbowen@bhs1.org]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 5:13 AM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: UAA Budget Proposal

Dear Senator Hoffman:

I am a graduate of UAA (1989). Although I no longer live in Alaska, I have a nephew who does and who currently attends UAA. I can attest that my education at UAA has been a rock upon which I have built a good career, and a good life.

Having lived in Alaska, and being a health professional, I cannot emphasize strongly enough the need for expansion of the health sciences programs. Unlike those of us in the lower 48, Alaska needs a strong core of health science professionals, since recruitment from the lower 48 is such a difficult proposition. Alaska is a proud state—it shouldn't have to be dependent on the good will of the lower 48 to have first-class health care professionals. The best way to ensure this is to have strong programs to educate the health care professionals of tomorrow. The WWAMI program expansion at the Anchorage Campus, the Nursing Core Expansion at the Anchorage Campus, the Community Health Aide Program at the College of Rural Alaska, and the Dental Program at the Tanana Valley Campus need all the support that we can give them.

Please support the UAA budget proposal. It is vital to Alaska's future.

Sincerely,
Katya L. Bowen, M.S. CCC-SLP
UAA 1989

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Sandy Burd

From: Anna Sappah [annasappah@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 10:24 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Budget priorities for vulnerable Alaskans

Anna Sappah
1711 Logan Street
Anchorage, AK 99508-3239

April 11, 2007

The Honorable Lyman F. Hoffman
Alaska Senate
Alaska State Senate
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Hoffman:

Please fund the following priority budget items. These funds are needed to sustain current levels of human services or to deal with the growing needs of the elderly, disabled, families and communities in Alaska.

Behavioral Health Grants for Treatment and Prevention Services. Maintain \$3.2 million. Behavioral Health Grants fund mental health and substance abuse prevention and treatment services. These funds will continue the current level of service.

Detox Services for Anchorage. Add \$300,000. These funds are needed to strengthen the substance abuse continuum of care and provide alternatives to the inappropriate use of API.

Detox Services for Fairbanks. Add \$500,000. These funds are needed to operate a new enhanced detox facility being developed through a community partnership.

FASD Program. Maintain \$696,800. These funds will replace expiring federal funds and will ensure continuation of the work of the FASD Diagnostic Teams and other educational efforts.

As a person in recovery from addiction to heroin and other drugs, I cannot stress to you enough the need for available appropriate treatment services for those who suffer the disease of addiction. I was able to undergo quality treatment in Anchorage 12 years ago. I have been clean ever since.

I am now an asset in my community rather than a drain on its resources. My children have been able to grow up with a mother who modeled responsible behavior. They will hopefully be the first generation in my family to be out of the cycle of addiction.

Please give other families the same chance. Help people get help.

You can make a positive difference that will have a long term effect in Alaska.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Anna Sappah
(907) 277-8796

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Authentication ID: {luvksSQ4}

Sandy Burd

From: Jessica Podruchny [jessica_podruchny@jsd.k12.ak.us]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 8:30 AM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Interpreter Referral Line

I am writing to you in regard to the Interpreter Referral Line in Juneau. Both Fairbanks and Anchorage have this service for the deaf as well. Interpreter Referral Line allows the deaf client to arrange interpreting services for their appointments ahead of time. This allows interpreters to arrange their schedules appropriately, as well as assure that the deaf client will have quality services. The interpreter will not only be skilled, but professional.

I lived in North Dakota briefly and I can tell you from the experience of my friends that IRL is a major convenience. In ND there is no IRL. The deaf client must contact an interpreter through relay to see if she will be available. If she is not, then there is a chain of interpreters that must be contacted to see who is available. It is completely unorganized and the deaf person cannot be sure who will be providing their services.

IRL fills the need for organization. One person is the point man to be contacted and contact interpreters to find the right person to provide the services needed.

Jessica Podruchny
Deaf Education Interpreter
Riverbend Elementary

Sandy Burd

From: fssmg4@uaf.edu
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 8:41 AM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA. Funding the University at a level that allows for operation pays back big in the long run, education is important and Alaska's youth need it.

Sincerely,
Skye Greer
PO Box 751016
Fairbanks, AK 99775-1016

Sandy Burd

From: Sharron Lobaugh [lobaugh@gci.net]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 8:45 AM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Budget items for women, children, seniors and the disabled

Sharron Lobaugh
3340 Fritz Cove
JUNEAU, AK 99801-8507

April 11, 2007

The Honorable Lyman F. Hoffman
Alaska Senate
Alaska State Senate
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Hoffman:

Please fund the following priority budget items. These funds are needed to sustain current levels of human services or to deal with the growing needs of the elderly, disabled, families and communities in Alaska.

Behavioral Health Grants for Treatment and Prevention Services. Maintain \$3.2 million. Behavioral Health Grants fund mental health and substance abuse prevention and treatment services. These funds will continue the current level of service.

Bring the Kids Home (BTKH) Community Services and Training. Maintain \$1.7 million. This funding will train staff, license new services and develop school-based BTKH services.

Expand Adult Protective Services. Maintain \$213,900. These funds will expand our ability to respond to reports of harm to vulnerable adults.

Behavioral Health Clinicians for McLaughlin Youth Center and Fairbanks Youth Facility. Maintain \$273,100. These positions will provide crucial mental health and substance abuse treatment to children in juvenile detention.

Peer-Operated Services. Add \$100,000. Consumer-operated programs such as drop-in centers, outreach programs and businesses are a growing part of the behavioral health consumer movement in Alaska and have been proven effective. These funds provide a foundation for state supported, community-based services run by consumers.

Sincerely,

Sharron Lobaugh

This message has been verified by CapwizXC as authentic and sent by this individual.
Authentication ID: [73zgxwj8]

Sandy Burd

From: David Rice [drice@nwarctic.org]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 8:50 AM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: UAF Budget Shortfall

As a resident of NW Alaska I'm concerned that the UAF operating and priority programs budgets are not being fully funded. I hope that you can realize how important higher education is for all Alaskans, especially those in rural Alaska who are most affected by budget shortfalls.

Although I do not work for UAF, but I do work in education. I know first hand how educational programs can improve lives.

I would urge you to support the full funding of the UAF budget. Thank you.

David Rice
(907)442-3733
Kotzebue, AK

Sandy Burd

From: sndcw@email.alaska.edu
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 8:23 AM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA. The way to a strong economy is through a skilled workforce. UA can provide that training, but it needs the funding to compete with the institutions outside. If UA does not offer competitive wages to its faculty and staff they will go somewhere that will and Alaska will suffer from the loss. Please fund UA and keep the students in Alaska by providing quality education.

Sincerely,
Dawn Wall
4772 Glasgow #1
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Sandy Burd

From: tarraq@hotmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 8:24 AM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

TO: Senate Subcommittee on the University

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Lawrence Kaplan
PO Box 82003
Fairbanks, AK 99708

Sandy Burd

From: andml1@uaa.alaska.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 4:14 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Dian Lo Dolce
PO Box 67-1428
Chugiak, AK 99567

Sandy Burd

From: roberta.stell@uas.alaska.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 4:21 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Roberta Stell
17025 Glacier Hwy
Juneau, AK 99801

Sandy Burd

From: cjearp@acsalaska.net
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 4:22 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Support Funding of UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

The University of Alaska is one of the most important and profitable investments for the State of Alaska.

With the leadership of President Hamilton and the commitment of past legislative funding, UA has made incredible strides in improving its existing programs and providing new programs that are desperately needed across the state.

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget.

Please support an amendment to adequately fund UA. Thank you kindly for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Cathy Earp
PO Box 72436
Fairbanks, AK 99707-2436

Sandy Burd

From: johnriley@acsalaska.net
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 4:33 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Please fund UA's budget

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

Please fund UA's fixed costs. There is no vision for the future if we cut the programs that produce the workers in our highest demand degree professions such as Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management. All these programs can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Please support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
John Riley
6411 Italy Circle
Anchorage, AK 99516

Sandy Burd

From: Tara Smith [tsmith@chhcare.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 3:32 PM
To: Sen. Lyda Green; Sen. Johnny Ellis; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Bert Stedman; Sen. Charlie Huggins; Sen. Kim Elton; Sen. Donny Olson; Sen. Joe Thomas; Sen. Fred Dyson
Subject: Please read, request to increase PCA Medicaid Rates
Attachments: PCA Rateincrease letter.doc

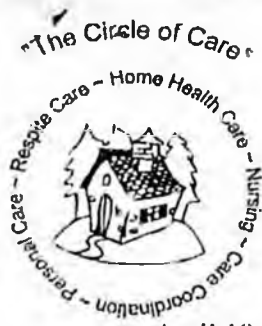
Greetings,

Please kindly read my letter and take into full consideration.
The future of Alaska's senior citizens is very important.

Thank you,

Tara Smith, ILS Director
Cornerstone Home Health
(907)586-6838
tsmith@chhcare.com

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CORNERSTONE HOME HEALTH

5636 Glacier Highway, Ste. 100 Juneau, AK 99801 Phone: (907) 586-6838 Fax: (907) 586-8114

April 10, 2007

To: Majority Senate Leaders : Lyda Green, Johnny Ellis
Senate Finance Committee Members: Lyman Hoffman, Bert Stedman, Charlie Huggins, Kim Elton,
Donny Olson, Joe Thomas, Fred Dyson

Subject: Keep PCA a sustainable service - Request for increase in PCA Medicaid Rates

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to request Legislative Support For Annual Rate Readjustments, so that PCA Providers never go another 10 years without any rate increase to keep up with increasing business and compliance costs. While PCA rates were frozen from 1998 through the present, Alaska Medicaid paid hospitals and nursing homes with automatic and annual index-based rate increases every year since 1999, averaging over 3% per annum.

As our population ages and chooses to remain in Alaska, the need for in-home support services will grow as well. PCA services are often the first line of defense, after familial and community support, for seniors who require hands-on assistance to remain in their own homes. With the assistance of a PCA, seniors are able to meet their basic health needs often preventing the need for more costly medical intervention or out-of-home placement. PCA services have effectively reduced the amount of time an individual may need to spend in very costly nursing homes at the end of his or her life; however, there is a cost to the provision of PCA services as well.

I am also asking you to please consider an adjustment to the PCA rate in the FY2008 Operating Budget. Medicaid has not allowed a single payment increase in PCA rates since 1998. We are seeking a 2.5% per annum equivalent, with a raise from the 1998 rate of \$21 per hour to \$26.88 for FY2008.

The cost of providing PCA services, as with all goods and services, continues to rise annually, including workers' compensation insurance for this high-risk category of workers. In order to maintain provider participation, reimbursement rates need to keep pace with health care costs.

Please help keep Personal Care Assistance a sustainable service.

Thank you,

Tara Smith
Independent Living Services Director

Sandy Burd

From: Leslie Basham [lbasham@chhcare.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 4:38 PM
To: Sen. Lyda Green; Sen. Johnny Ellis; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Bert Stedman; Sen. Charlie Huggins; Sen. Kim Elton; Sen. Donny Olson; Sen. Joe Thomas; Sen. Fred Dyson
Subject: Subject: Please read, request to increase PCA Medicaid Rates
Attachments: CHH Letter to increase PCA Rates.doc

Greetings,

Please kindly read my letter and take into full consideration.
The future of Alaska's Senior Citizens is very important.

Thank you,

Leslie Dean-Basham
Care Coordination
Cornerstone Home Health
(907) 586-6838
fax: (907) 586-8114
lbasham@chhcare.com

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CORNERSTONE HOME HEALTH

5636 Glacier Hwy. Suite 100 Juneau, AK 99801 Phone: (907) 586-6838 Fax: (907) 586-8114

April 10, 2007

To: Majority Senate Leaders : Lyda Green, Johnny Ellis
Senate Finance Committee Members: Lyman Hoffman, Bert Stedman, Charlie Huggins, Kim Elton, Donny Olson, Joe Thomas, Fred Dyson

Subject: Keep PCA a sustainable service - Request for increase in PCA Medicaid Rates

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The cost of providing PCA services, as with all goods and services, continues to rise annually, including workers' compensation insurance for this high-risk category of workers. In order to maintain provider participation, reimbursement rates need to keep pace with health care costs.

Please help keep Personal Care Assistance a sustainable service.

Thank you,

Leslie Dean-Basham
Care Coordinator working with Older Alaskans and Adults with Physical Disabilities

Sandy Burd

From: kbear104@yahoo.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 5:18 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Howard Morse
1342 Medfra
Anchorage, AK 99501

Sandy Burd

From: jbowden@acsalaska.net
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 5:32 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Earlina Bowden
2360 Inclination Drive
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Sandy Burd

From: Teresa Ransom [transom@chhcare.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 4:27 PM
To: Sen. Lyda Green; Sen. Johnny Ellis; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Bert Stedman; Sen. Charlie Huggins; Sen. Kim Elton; Sen. Donny Olson; Sen. Joe Thomas; Sen. Fred Dyson
Subject: PCA Rate Increase letter
Attachments: PCA Rate Increase letter.doc

Please find my attached letter in regards to PCA Rate increases. This is an issue that affects many Alaskans and the quality of care that they are able to receive in their homes.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Thank you.

Teresa Ransom-Stimpfle
Care Coordinator
Cornerstone Home Health
5636 Glacier Hwy, Suite 100
Juneau, AK 99801
(907) 586-6838
fax (907) 586-8114



CORNERSTONE HOME HEALTH

5636 Glacier Highway, Ste. 100 Juneau, AK 99801 Phone: (907) 586-6838 Fax: (907) 586-8114

April 10, 2007

To: Majority Senate Leaders: Lyda Green, Johnny Ellis
Senate Finance Committee Members: Lyman Hoffman, Bert Stedman, Charlie Huggins, Kim Elton,
Donny Olson, Joe Thomas, Fred Dyson

Subject: Keep PCA a sustainable service - Request for increase in PCA Medicaid Rates

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to request Legislative Support for Annual Rate Readjustments, so that PCA Providers never go another 10 years without any rate increase to keep up with increasing business and compliance costs. While PCA rates were frozen from 1998 through the present, Alaska Medicaid paid hospitals and nursing homes with automatic and annual index-based rate increases every year since 1999, averaging over 3% per annum.

As our population ages and chooses to remain in Alaska, the need for in-home support services will grow as well. PCA services are often the first line of defense, after familial and community support, for seniors who require hands-on assistance to remain in their own homes. With the assistance of a PCA, seniors are able to meet their basic health needs often preventing the need for more costly medical intervention or out-of-home placement. PCA services have effectively reduced the amount of time an individual may need to spend in very costly nursing homes at the end of his or her life; however, there is a cost to the provision of PCA services as well.

I am also asking you to please consider an adjustment to the PCA rate in the FY2008 Operating Budget. Medicaid has not allowed a single payment increase in PCA rates since 1998. We are seeking a 2.5% per annum equivalent, with a raise from the 1998 rate of \$21 per hour to \$26.88 for FY2008.

The cost of providing PCA services, as with all goods and services, continues to rise annually, including workers' compensation insurance for this high-risk category of workers. In order to maintain provider participation, reimbursement rates need to keep pace with health care costs.

Please help keep Personal Care Assistance a sustainable service.

Thank you.

Teresa Ransom-Stimpfle
Care Coordinator

Alaska Primary Care Association

"...uncompromising in the pursuit of access to primary care for all Alaskans."



Honorable Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Capitol Room 518
Juneau, Alaska 99801

April 10, 2007

Re: Budget Amendment Request: State Funding for Community Health Centers

Dear Co-Chairman Hoffman,

On behalf of the 24 Community Health Centers (CHCs) throughout the state, their 115 clinic delivery sites, and the 80,000 patients they treat, Alaska Primary Care Association respectfully requests a budget amendment of \$2.3 million in funding to strengthen and expand CHCs

With your rural representation, the fact that 6 CHC organizations and 22 clinic sites are located in your district, and your awareness of health care access needs in our state, we are confident that you will realize the importance of state funding support for CHCs. As you may recall, Alaska is 1 of only 14 states not yet stepping up to support this cost-efficient health care model. (As a point of comparison, Hawaii CHCs see a similar number of patients and the State of Hawaii provides \$19 million in funding.) You may also recall that CHCs received the highest rating possible by the Federal Office of Management and Budget; in fact CHCs received a score that put them in the top 10 of all programs (including non-health care related) for efficiency and quality.

You would be interested to know that the Alaska Primary Care Association has received very positive responses in both Chambers in regard to state funding support for Community Health Centers (CHCs) as it has worked to educate legislators and staff in all 60 offices. We have also been assured that the Governor would support and not veto CHC funding if it is added to the budget. There is clearly an elevated understanding of the need for state support, the savings the state would realize by strengthening and expanding CHCs, and the vital role the CHCs fill in serving Alaskans.

With a wise state investment of \$2.3 million in CHCs, the projected state Medicaid savings would potentially be \$2 million and the savings through reduced emergency room visits over \$2.5 million. CHC Medicaid patients save Medicaid 30% as compared to Medicaid patients who use other providers. The projected savings described above would be accomplished by redirecting 4000 Medicaid patients to establish CHCs as their medical homes and redirecting 4000 inappropriate ER visits to CHCs.

With the number of uninsured residents growing and the high cost of health care in Alaska, it is important that the State take advantage of this economical opportunity this year to help address the problem.

Respectfully,

Shelley S. Hughes
Government Affairs Director

Alaska Primary Care Association
903 W Northern Lights Blvd, Suite 200
Anchorage, AK 99503

ph. 907-929-2722
fx. 907-929-2734
www.alaskapca.org

Alaska Primary Care Association

903 W. Northern Lights Blvd, Ste 200

Anchorage, AK 99503

(907) 279-2722

www.alaskapca.org

alaskapca@alaskapca.org



Alaska Primary Care Association Board of Directors

RESOLUTION 2007-01

State Funding for Community Health Centers

WHEREAS roughly 86,000 Alaskans live below the Alaska poverty threshold¹; and

WHEREAS the State of Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) estimates 19 percent or 122,000 Alaskans are uninsured; and

WHEREAS in 2005, Alaska's Community Health Centers provided care to 80,000 patients—an increase of more than 10,000 patients since 2004²; and

WHEREAS Community Health Centers are committed to serving and providing quality health care to uninsured and under-insured Alaskans and to offering primary care to all Alaskans, regardless of a person's ability to pay; and

WHEREAS many of the Community Health Centers are the sole providers of health care in their communities and the provision of health care to community residents is necessary for maintaining sustainable communities in regard to the economy, the delivery of education, and other fundamental systems; and

WHEREAS a growing number of Alaskans are being added to the Medicare roster as Alaska's population ages, while at the same time private providers are increasingly denying health care services to Medicare recipients; and

WHEREAS Community Health Centers do not withhold health care services from Medicare patients and can provide primary care services to the seniors in Alaska; and

WHEREAS Alaska is one of fourteen states that does not provide any direct financial assistance to Community Health Centers³; and

WHEREAS Hawaii's Community Health Centers treat 85,000 patients annually and receive \$19 million in direct state support while Alaska's Community Health Centers treat nearly 80,000 patients annually and receive no direct state support³; and

Alaska Primary Care Association

"...uncompromising in the pursuit of access to primary care for all Alaskans."



WHEREAS other states provide direct support in a range from \$200,000 to over \$40 million and even economically depressed states, such as Mississippi which provides \$3.5 million in state funding, have recognized the value and wise investment of the Community Health Center program³; and

WHEREAS the revenue acquired by the sliding fee scale system used by Community Health Centers assists but does not meet the shortfall; and

WHEREAS Community Health Centers have encountered rising operational costs, including rising energy prices, increasing insurance rates, and higher health benefit premiums; and

WHEREAS the 1% rescission in the Federal Deficit Reduction Act applied to Community Health Center funding for FY 2006; and

WHEREAS Community Health Centers have effectively and efficiently played a central role in the health care safety-net by providing quality and cost-effective health care at a savings to the Medicaid program; and

WHEREAS patients who use Community Health Centers as their medical home as opposed to using other providers save Medicaid programs in various states from 22% to 33%⁴; and

WHEREAS Alaska annually spends \$32 million⁵ on inappropriate emergency room use, and the strengthening of Alaska's Community Health Centers through state support would assist in reducing this inappropriate usage; and

WHEREAS Community Health Centers will continue to be in demand to meet the growing need for health care in Alaska; and

WHEREAS the communities in Alaska that have applied for New Access Point funding from the federal government to open Community Health Centers in order to provide primary care to their residents are not expected to receive such funds; and

WHEREAS state support would allot some funds to assist new clinics which would increase the likelihood that these clinics would acquire federal funding in the future; and

WHEREAS increasing operational costs, reductions in federal funding, rising Medicaid costs to the State of Alaska, reduced access to care for Medicare patients in Alaska, high rates of inappropriate emergency room use, and some primary care clinics unable to secure federal funding, coupled with the current lack of state funding support for Community Health Centers would have a detrimental effect on access to health care for many Alaskans; and

Alaska Primary Care Association

"...uncompromising in the pursuit of access to primary care for all Alaskans."



WHEREAS supplemental funding by the State of Alaska in support of Community Health Centers is consistent with the constitutional mandate outlined in Article VII of the Alaska Constitution that states that the legislature is to "provide for the promotion and protection of public health" and "provide for public welfare";

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Primary Care Association supports partial funding by the state to supplement federal funding support of Community Health Centers in order to maintain the health care safety net and provide access to health care for uninsured and under-served Alaskans.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall be the position of the Alaska Primary Care Association until it is withdrawn or modified by a subsequent resolution.

SUBMITTED BY:

Regan Mattingly, State Affairs Coordinator
Shelley S. Hughes, Government Affairs Director
Marilyn Kasmar, Executive Director

DONE AND DATED this fifth (5th) day of March, in the year 2007.

SIGNED BY

Sonia Handforth-Kome, APCA Board President

¹ Alaska's poverty threshold is 125% of the national poverty threshold, reflecting the higher cost of housing, fuel, and other goods and service (DIHS)

² 2004 and 2005 Alaska UDS rollup report

³ State Policy Report #13. Cohen, McKinney, and Pears. November 2006. *National Association of Community Health Centers*.

⁴ Health Services Utilization and Costs to Medicaid of AFDC Recipients [in various states] Served and Not Served by Community Health Centers. Duggar BC, et al. *Center for Health Policy Studies*. 1994.

⁵ A Sketch of Community Health Centers, 2006 Chart Book. All figures, unless otherwise noted, come from NACHC, 2006. Based on Bureau of Primary Health Care, HRSA, DIHS, 2006 Uniform Data System. For more information, email research@nache.com.

Alaska Primary Care Association

"...uncompromising in the pursuit of access to primary care for all Alaskans."



2006-2007 Alaska Primary Care Association Board of Directors

OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AND ADDRESSES	PHONE	FAX	EMAIL
Sonia Handforth-Kome, Board President Executive Director Iliulik Family and Health Services P.O. Box 144 Unalaska, AK 99685	907.581.1202	907.581.2331	skome@ihs.org
Stan Steadman, Board Vice President Executive Director Central Peninsula Health Center 170 E. Corral Street, Suite 1 Soldotna, AK 99669	907.335.2022	907.262.2365	steadman@cpbc-medical.org
Cheryl Kilgore, Board Secretary Executive Director Interior Community Health Center 1606 23 rd Avenue Fairbanks, AK 99701	907. 907-458-1558	907-458-1591	cheryl.kilgore@icbc.org
Cindy Baldwin-Kitka, Board Treasurer HRSA Manager & Business Specialist South East Alaska Regional Health Consortium 222 Tongass Drive Sitka, AK 99835	907 966 8717	907 966 8785	cindy.kitka@searhc.org
Karen O'Neill, MD, FACEP, Clinical Affairs Chair Medical Director Norton Sound Health Corporation P.O. Box 1501 Nome, AK 99762	907.443.3404	907.443.3610	oneill@nshcorp.org
Robert Clark Executive Director Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation P.O. Box 130 Dillingham, AK 99576	907 842 5201	907 842 9409	r.clark@bbahe.org
Beckie Noble, MS, ANP SVTHC Director Seldovia Village Tribe Health Center 880 East End Road Homer, AK 9960	907 226 2308	907 226 2230	bnoble@svtc.org
Andre Hines CEO Cross Road Medical Center PO Box 5 Glennallen, AK 99588	907 822 3203	907 822 5805	ahines@crossroadmc.org
Joe Klejka MD Medical Director Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation P.O. Box 287 Bethel, AK 99559	907 543 6028	907 543 6006	joe_klejka@ykhc.org
Tony Lazebny Purchasing/Facilities Director Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center 903 W. Northern Lights Blvd., Suite 218 Anchorage, AK 99520	907 792 6515	907 792 6555	tonyl@aznhc.org
Mary Loeb, MD Sunshine Community Health Center PO Box 787 Talkeetna, AK 99676	907 733 2273	907 733 1735	mloeb@sunshinexhcc.org

Alaska Primary Care Association
903 W Northern Lights Blvd, Suite 200
Anchorage, AK 99503

ph. 907-929-2722
fx. 907-929-2734
www.alaskapca.org



Alaska Academy of Physician Assistants

4450 Cordova Street, Suite 110, Anchorage, AK 99503

Phone: (800) 478-8684, In Anchorage: (907) 646-0588 Fax: (907) 562-8641

Email: info@akapa.org Website: www.akapa.org

April 5, 2007

To: Alaska State Legislature

On behalf of the Alaskan Academy of Physician Assistants, I wish to state our strong support of the Alaska Primary Care Association regarding their request for 2.3 million dollars in funding for Alaska's Community Health Centers.

Community Health Centers offer vital health care services throughout Alaska in settings both rural and urban, and provide health care to Alaskans both insured and uninsured, regardless of their ability to pay for these services. These facilities not only provide the only health care options available to many of our states residents, they ease the burden placed on already overcrowded (and often overwhelmed) emergency departments. In a time when access to health care is becoming more limited, Community Health Centers are often the only source available to patients on Medicaid or Medicare.

Recent decreases in Federal funding, combined with increases in operating costs and an ever-increasing patient load, have prompted the Alaska Primary Care Association to request \$2.3 million in state funding to support these essential facilities. Please consider this comparison: Hawaii's Community Health Center's receive \$19 million in direct state funding, and Alaska's Community Health Center's receive \$0 in direct state funding. Hawaii's annual patient visits are 85,000, and Alaska's are 80,000. Requesting \$2.3 million in State funding is a reasonable request that should be considered as an investment in the health and welfare of the citizens of our state.

Supporting your Community Health Centers is supporting your constituents, your friends, your neighbors, and all other Alaskans who place their trust and their health in the hands of staff and providers at these clinics.

It's the right thing to do.

Sincerely,

Ashley Marquardt, PA-C
President, Alaska Academy of Physician Assistants•

VISIT OUR WEBSITE @ AKAPA.ORG

The purpose of this Academy is to render loyal and honest service to the medical profession and to the public, to develop and enforce continuing educational programs for the Physician Assistant and the Academy membership, to promote the Physician Assistant concept through education of professional and lay people, and to promote similar interest in the student societies.

Dear Senator Olson,

When I was a commercial fisherwoman in Kodiak 25 years ago at age 19, I could not afford health insurance for my family. I gave birth to my daughter who has Cystic Fibrosis. No one provided free or reduced health care services to us. We weren't poor enough to be eligible for Medicaid, because we made just enough to pay our monthly bills. There were months when I had to decide to buy medications for my daughter, or to pay our electric bill (we ate in [candlelight]). It took us 15 years to pay off our medical expenses from her birth and the problems associated with her disease. I know what that feels like, and that is why I run the Kodiak Community Health Center.

Many fishermen and their families have had really bad seasons this year and they have no money to pay for much needed medical services. I know several families who had less than 8 days of fishing income the entire year. How can a family pay for health insurance coverage, not to mention food, shelter and clothing? The Kodiak Community Health Center would like to have your support on the \$2.3 million in state support for Community Health Centers in Alaska. We are going into our third year of our clinic, and have become an integral delivery site for health care needs in our rural community. We already see 800 patients a month in our small community. People cannot afford to pay \$350 round trip fares to see a provider when they are on our sliding scale. Please consider supporting this important endeavor.

Brenda Friend
Director & Past Real Life Non-Insured Kodiak Fisherwoman with
Uninsurable Children

Above email message was written by Brenda Friend, Executive Director, Kodiak Community Health Center on March 27, 2007 with the subject title "Kodiak Community."

I am the CEO of a Community Health center in Wasilla. We need your help by putting forward a budget amendment for \$2.3 to support our health centers. Today we had a Board Quality Improvement meeting where we presented data regarding the people we served in 2006. 50% of those people served were self pay which means that they do not have insurance or services covered by Medicaid. Most of these people are charged a nominal fee of \$10 or \$20 per visit based on a discounted fee schedule. It is often assumed that these are non-working individuals. This morning I saw a report that indicated that 80% of working individuals in the US do not have insurance. That is why it is so very important to help community health centers stay available to Alaskans.
Thank you for your support.

Maryalice Larson, CEO
Mat-Su Health Services, Inc.
1363 West Spruce Ave.
Wasilla, AK 99654
907-376-2411
mlarson@matsuhealth.org

Above email message was written to Senator Dorothy Olson on March 26, 2007 with subject title "Appropriation for Community Health Centers."

Mindy Rowland

From: Shelley Hughes [ShelleyH@alaskapca.org]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 5:25 PM
To: Mindy Rowland
Subject: for Senate Finance Committee FW: Funding For Community Health Centers

From: Susan W. Cox [mailto:scox@camaclinic.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 8:34 AM
To: Senator Lyman; Senator Bert; Senator Charlie; Senator Kim; Senator Donny; Senator Joe; Senator Fred
Cc: Regan Mattingly
Subject: Funding For Community Health Centers

Senators,

Alaska is one of only fourteen states in our nation that does not provide funding for Community Health Centers (CHC). There are 115 Community Health Centers delivering care in Alaska. Many are located in remote areas and are the only source of health care for thousands of Alaskans. Those 115 sites are in desperate need of \$2.3 million to offset the high costs of providing primary care to over 60,000 Alaskans. We need your help and your vote NOW to let the Legislature know that the State of Alaska should invest in these critically important safety-net providers to ensure health care access for all Alaskans. Since the House's budget is finished and does NOT include Community Health Center funding – the amendment must be added in Senate Finance.

As the Executive Director of one of these remote community health care facilities I know the care we provide to Bristol Bay and that the area would be without a physician if we were not here. We have the only physician on site between Anchorage and Dutch Harbor. That is over six hundred air miles. We see everything from family practice matters such as colds, flu symptoms, monitoring chronic conditions such as high blood pressure, diabetes, OB-GYN to Level I traumas such as amputations, crush injuries, bear attacks, hypothermia, heart attacks, strokes, head injuries. We take our own x-rays, make our own casts and reduce any fracture that does not require surgery. We keep patients alive for the four to five hours it takes to get medevacs to us. We are the family physician to hundreds of people in Bristol Bay as well as the all important commercial and tourist fishing and hunting industries. We also provide the medical care for tourists who go to Brooks to see the bears. As long as people want to live, work and visit in this area they need medical care. **We are that medical care.**

Help us continue to provide care. As is the case everywhere the cost of medical care is rising to unprecedented heights. Being in a remote location increases that cost considerably. A few weeks ago I ordered oxygen. The oxygen cost \$35.65. The hazmat charge to get it to us was \$365.83. Supplies cost us anywhere from 40% to 70% more than they do in Anchorage because of the remote location. Hiring staff is very difficult because we have to pay extremely high wages plus provide housing, transportation and excellent benefit packages to attract them. It becomes a bidding war to get the best. Not everyone will work in a remote location. Add to that the fact that a high degree of knowledge, experience and skill is needed to be able to deal with everything that we treat. A newcomer just out of school cannot do this job. The best applicants are sort after by all of us, and we are in competition with Prudhoe Bay and other mega corporations for these individuals. I don't have the vast resources that the oil companies have. Does that mean that the people of Bristol Bay should have to settle for least than the best when they need health care? I sincerely hope your answer to that question is no.

Lack of quality health care affects all of us sooner or later. If the people in remote locations can't get quality care now their health issues will worsen and eventually cost more money, often at tax payer expense. So, you have the power to help us keep Community Health Centers adequately funded and operational now or you can do nothing, wait for us to run out of funds and close and then you can deal with the fallout. The choice is yours. I hope you make the right judgment call. The future health of thousands of Alaskans depends on you. Act appropriately. What would you pay for good health care for your lives? Don't the uninsured, the low income, the underinsured, the uninsured working families and underserved remote areas and populations deserve good health care, too?

Susan Cox

4/10/2007

Executive Director
Camai Community Health Center
P.O. Box 211
Naknek, Alaska 99633 - 0211
(907)246-6155 Phone
(907)246-6158 Fax
e-mail: director@camaiclinic.com

Quotes from: Alaska's Congressional Delegation
to the Alaska State Legislature
Urging State Funding Support for Community Health Centers

"In this period of decreasing federal funding, federal agencies look for community and state support as a key factor in determining allocation of funding for projects. This is particularly true for health care. Alaska is one of only 14 states that does not provide financial support for community health centers. Without state funding, these centers face an uncertain future."
Senator Ted Stevens - March 19, 2007

"One specific aspect of the legislation (Physician Shortage Elimination Act) will be to bolster the cornerstone of health care in rural Alaska - - the community health center. Through grants, community health centers will be able to increase their ability to recruit physicians and improve their critical primary care services. I commit to rural Alaska that I will do all I can to at a federal level to improve funding for community health centers. And, I ask the state of Alaska to make that same pledge of support at a state level."
Senator Lisa Murkowski - February 22, 2007

Submitted by
AK Primary Care Assoc

2007 Campaign for PCA Reform

The Honorable Sarah Palin
Governor, State of Alaska
P.O. Box
Juneau, AK 99811

March 9, 2007

Dear Governor Palin:

The Longevity Bonus was not the only promise to seniors broken by the last Administration.

As discussed below, Governor Hickel put Alaska ahead of the nation in commitment to helping seniors and people with disabilities to live out their lives at home. However, the last Administration "broke" that promised vision, in order to meet their budget goals. We urgently need you to correct this serious inequity in Alaska's funding of Medicaid services for people with disabilities and frail seniors. Please consider that under a 1999 Alaska statute, Medicaid payment rates for hospitals and nursing homes are "re-based" every four years to catch up with rising costs, and on in-between years their rates are automatically inflation-proofed by the percent of increase in a national cost data study. Then please consider the contrast: providers of the "home care" Medicaid services--designed during Governor Hickel's term as alternatives to prevent costly care in nursing homes and hospitals, have had their Medicaid rates frozen in Alaska regulation since 1998 and 2004 respectively. The necessary partnership between the State and local provider agencies of home care to seniors has been forgotten.

We're talking about Medicaid home care services such as Personal Care Attendant (PCA) and Home and Community-based waiver services. We, the Campaign for PCA Reform, started in 2004, an effort of the three Alaska-based companies signing below. Although we have been struggling under frozen Medicaid rates for up to a decade, the Campaign first worked to address the issue of lack of adequate State control over the growing Personal Care Attendant program in DH&SS. Through active advocacy with both the Administration and the Legislature, the Campaign put forward early versions of 2005 Legislative Intent Language that encouraged the Department to better harness the growth in PCA utilization. The Campaign continues to provide leadership to the statewide PCA industry. We now work closely with the Department to better govern and maintain operational integrity of this vitally important service for Alaskan elders and individuals who experience disabilities.

Alternative services that allow consumers to remain in their own homes can trace their roots to less than 40 years ago, whereas nursing homes have been part of the service delivery system for elders and individuals with physical disabilities since the early 19th century. To prevent the building of millions more nursing home beds, and to support families struggling with long term care, the long term care system in America is actively working to "re-balance" the system.

Alaska's long-term care system successfully started its re-balancing work in the early 1990's under Governor Hickel, making Alaska a national leader as our state made a dramatic shift from providing the majority of care in institutional settings to serving many more Alaskans in home and community based settings. However, as the "aging of Alaska" trend has fully arrived on our doorsteps, the last decade's successes in Alaska's long term care system will falter and fail unless positive regulation and increased funding allocations keep up--keep the promise.

Governor Murkowski's administration created temporary "savings" in the Medicaid budget for Alaska by unilateral regulatory and budgetary imposition of "cost containment" strategies. Many of these strategies were accomplished by shifting the burden of rising business costs onto home and community services for elderly and disabled Alaskans.

ReadyCare

Center for Community

Access Alaska

2007 Campaign for PCA Reform

One of the first cost containment strategies was to discard a three-year study on fair compensation to the local agencies that provide in-home care known as "personal care assistance," or PCA. In early 2004, Commissioner Gilbertson rejected the recommendation of a UAA study group that the Alaska PCA payment rate of \$21 per hour, last set in 1998, be raised to at least \$26 per hour in 2004. He also rejected recommendations to give rates a regional differential for Alaska's most rural areas. Commissioner Gilbertson left PCA rates frozen at their 1998 rate of \$21 per hour, inclusive of all costs: wages to the direct service worker (average @ \$13.50 hour), workers compensation insurance, benefits, supervision costs, travel between clients' homes, rising energy costs, and overhead.

PCA Medicaid rates in Alaska remain frozen in DH&SS regulation at \$21 an hour, the same since 1998. Meantime, we agencies--who are businesses, whether for or not-for profit--are struggling to survive and continue to provide quality care to over 4000 Alaskans; frail elders trying to live out their lives at home, disabled adults trying to cope with chronic disease or disability, and medically complex small children needing intensive hands-on care to stay out of institutions. All of these clients, if left without PCA care, would likely quickly move to hospitals, assisted living homes, Pioneers' Homes, group homes, or nursing homes, in many cases away from their home community where their care would cost Alaska's Medicaid system dramatically more.

PCA and Medicaid home care waiver services are often the first line of defense, needed to augment family and community support, for seniors who require hands-on assistance to remain in their own homes. With the assistance of a PCA, seniors are able to meet their basic health needs often preventing the need for more costly medical intervention or out-of-home placement. PCA services have effectively reduced the amount of time an individual may need to spend in very costly nursing homes at the end of his or her life; however, there is a cost to the provision of PCA services as well.

The Medicaid inequity between institutional care and home-based care continues in the current proposed budget. The proposed FY08 budget contains an increment for rate increases to hospitals and nursing homes. The Department of Health & Social Services appears to be continuing the Murkowski strategy, to refuse to enact new regulations to "unfreeze" the 1998 PCA rates, which would require a budget increment.

For nine of the ten years that PCA rates have been frozen in Alaska, our state has paid hospitals and nursing homes with automatic and annual index-based rate increases, averaging over 3% per annum--over 34% in automatic increases since 1999, plus whatever cost-based rate increases were found reasonable. PCA has been given no opportunity to deal with our increased costs of doing business and providing care.

Many of the PCA provider agencies also provide Medicaid home care "waiver" services--to about 2000 more Alaskans who, in addition to the 4000 PCA clients, would otherwise be crowding for a Medicaid-paid admission to Alaska's 650 nursing home beds or our 450 Pioneers' Home beds. Medicaid home care waiver rates are also frozen in regulations at DH&SS, and the department has proposed regulations out for public comment that will officially continue this rate freeze through FY08. By the end of FY08, waiver home care service rates will have been officially frozen for a minimum of four years to as much as 14 years, depending on the category of service. This is a short sample list of the vital Medicaid waiver services being crippled by these continuing rate freezes: home delivered meals, adult day care services, respite breaks for caregivers, essential chores, and assisted living care.

Alaska's PCA program has experienced a large utilization growth in the last four years, in keeping with the dramatic "aging" of Alaska. Regulations implemented in April, 2006 brought control and structure to this vital program. Several recent studies indicate that we will continue to see a large growth in our senior and disabled populations over the next 20 years. People want to remain in their own homes, in villages and urban settings alike, for as long as possible. Home-based services are less costly to the system as a whole and keep Alaskan families together.

2007 Campaign for PCA Reform

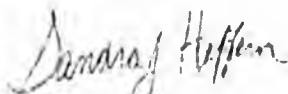
Budgetary policy should be applied equitably across all providers of Medicaid services. Otherwise, it sends an odd public policy message: that the State prefers institutions over home care that helps our families cope with the years of daily long term care of home bound people. Home-based services such as PCA and waiver services are components in the continuum of long-term care as are institutions; however, institutions are the most costly while being the least desirable to consumers.

Governor Palin, during your campaign you pledged that state payments for Medicaid that had not been adjusted for years would merit your Administration's early attention. We hope that you will adapt your FY08 budget strategy for Alaska's Medicaid budget to make room at the table for ALL Medicaid providers--because we are the hands that serve ALL Alaskans in need.

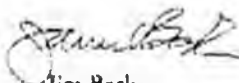
The DH&SS budget for FY08 projects a \$16.5 million "savings" in the PCA program through better administration and control of the PCA program. We would ask that you consider re-directing this \$16.5 million to a modest rate increase to PCA providers for FY08--approximately 12% to 15% (compare to 34% for nursing homes since 1999). The Medicaid waiver services are also crying out for rate relief this budget year. We also hope that you will charge your Administration with the task of quickly developing an forward-looking equitable rate structure across all Medicaid providers.

Governor, we all support your mandate to live within our state's means. We believe that the fair and true costs of the services Alaska purchases need to be factored into this budget policy, including the Medicaid services we as a state choose to purchase.

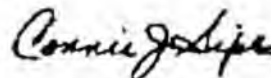
Thank you for your time and consideration.



Sandra Heffern
CEO
ReadyCare Alaska
907-258-3498



Jim Beck
Executive Director
Access Alaska
907-248-1777



Connie J. Sipe
Executive Director
Center for Community
907-747-6960

cc: Commissioner Karleen Jackson
All Members, Alaska Legislature



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the (S)FIN
COMMITTEE NAME
 committee on HB95 / HB96, dated 4-10-07
BILL/SUBJECT TODAY'S DATE

My name is Bob Moore. I am an educator in the Homer area with over 38 years of service to area students in our ^{best} ~~best~~ schools. I have also worked with the Kachemak Bay Branch of UAA as an Advisory Board member and as an adult instructor.

My testimony is a request of legislative support of the UAA system but especially in the area of fixed costs. New programs are a major issue without ~~the~~ fixed costs being maintained and funded. This action will not only benefit Homer - but the entire state.

Support of education - from primary levels through the university system - results in lasting positive benefits for all of Alaska.

Thank you for your support.

signed: Bob Moore

Moore

ALASKAN STUDENTS (ALL AGES) AND SELF
 P.O. Box 4192 - Homer AK 99603-4192
 (907) 235-7432

April 10, 2007

Mr. Chairman & Senators of the Finance Committee,

My Name is Ted Smith and I am the Mayor of Petersburg. I am testifying today for Revenue Sharing.

As Communities have taken on more and more responsibility from the State, such as, Senior Citizens' Tax Exemption and other unfunded mandates, along with State underfunding for deferred maintenance on roads and especially harbors, I hope you will keep in mind as a Municipality our ability to keep up with rising costs of these mandates and education is limited and we are asking you to reintroduce a much needed influx to all Communities in the line item of Revenue Sharing.

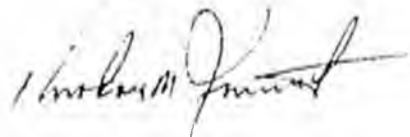
Revenue Sharing is an operating cost and should be kept in the Operating Budget.

PERS & TERS are a separate item and should not be considered Revenue Sharing to Communities, but a separate item to be resolved by the State legislature.

We, as Communities need Revenue Sharing to continue basic services and possibly in some Communities some tax relief.

At least in the short term this will not happen in Petersburg, but it will allow us to hold the line on our Sales Tax and Property Tax.

Thank you for your time and the many hours of work you have done and will continue to do on our behalf.





Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the (S)FIN
COMMITTEE NAME
 committee on HB995 / HB96, dated 4-10-07
BILL / SUBJECT TODAY'S DATE

My name is Diane Bergman. I have lived in Alaska for 37 years. I now live in Homer, Alaska. I am a co-owner of Homer Ocean Charters and Otter Cove Resort. Tourism is our livelihood, without a strong tourism industry our business would not exist. Increased funding from the state to support tourism is critical. Core marketing funding of \$1.8M and \$1.5 million in independent marketing efforts will directly benefit the state and the businesses that depend upon tourism. please approve this funding as part of the budget.

Diane Bergman

Signed Diane Bergman
TESTIFY (Print Name)
Homer Ocean Charters
TESTIFY (Print Name)
PO Box 3992 noc@xyz.net
ADDRESS
907-235-6312
PHONE



Wrangell Convention and Visitor Bureau
P.O. Box 1350
Wrangell, AK 99929

www.wrangell.com
wrangell@wrangell.com
800-367-9745

April 10, 2007

Senator Bert Stedman
Senator Lynnann Hoffman
Co chairs Senate Finance Committee

Re: Budget Hearings: funding for ATIA and Tourism Marketing

Dear Senators:

Due to the delay in Committee hearing times today, I was not able to be present during the hearing portion when Wrangell was to speak, but I would like to provide written testimony.

The City of Wrangell is investing in tourism within the community in an effort to help diversify our economy after the loss of so many wood processing jobs and continued domino affect of a declining economy. We have undertaken construction of a convention center, a dock extension and a downtown revitalization plan. Tourism, along with seafood processing are key components to our current economy.

The Wrangell Convention and Visitor Bureau has been a member of ATIA for many years. The CVB has a budget of approximately \$25,000 derived from our Transient Tax Fund. We believe it is very important to participate in the ATIA program and leverage our minimal marketing dollars by participating in the cooperative efforts of ATIA for advertising, tradeshow and fam trips. The CVB encourages funding of the Core Tourism marketing program as well as additional funding for the Independent traveler... currently our primary source of tourism revenue. The CVB also encourages the modification to the matching formula.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carol Rushmore".

Carol Rushmore
Wrangell Convention and Visitor Bureau



Cornerstone Home Health Facsimile
5636 Glacier Hwy, Suite 100 Juneau, AK 99801
Phone: (907) 586-6838
Fax: (907) 586-8114

Date: 4/10/2007

To: Lyman Hoffman

Fax #: 907-465-4523

From: Corrine Rago, RN, Administrator

Page(s): 3 Including Cover

Urgent For Review Please Comment Please Reply

Notes/Comments:
Please see attached letter.

Thank you and have a nice day.

The documents in this facsimile transmission may contain confidential health information that is privileged and legally protected from disclosure by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). This information is intended only for the use of the individual or entity named above. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that reading, disseminating, disclosing, distributing, copying, acting upon or otherwise using the information contained in this facsimile is strictly prohibited. If you have received this information in error, please notify the sender immediately at (907) 586-6838 and destroy the facsimile.

FAXED
04/10/07



CORNERSTONE HOME HEALTH

5838 Glacier Hwy. Suite 100 Juneau, AK 99801 Phone: (907) 586-6838 Fax: (907) 586-8114

April 6, 2007

Lyman Hoffman
State Capitol, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Hoffman,

As the Administrator of Cornerstone Home Health I have had the privilege directing my agency in the provision of much needed community based care for over ten years in Southeast Alaska. Cornerstone provides a variety of care options from traditional "Skilled Medicare" visits, Home and Community Waiver services and Personal Care Services (PCA).

Currently, we employ over 180 residents of Southeast Alaska and are serving 160 consumers. We began providing PCA services as a "Pilot Project" in 1999. Our program like others in the State has experienced tremendous growth; especially once the Consumer Directed PCA program became an option. This program allowed consumers in outlying communities to receive care that was not available in the Agency Based model of service delivery.

Since our expertise was in the traditional "Skilled" Medicare model when we developed our PCA program, the oversights we set in place mirror that model and level of accountability. Our nurses provide training and support for the PCA staff and are able to direct appropriate interventions as needed. We have tracked outcomes for our PCA clients, including exacerbations in their condition and hospital admissions. A significant percentage of our PCA consumers have reduced hospitalization rates of 15% - 25% when compared to their hospitalization and emergency room visits prior to participation in the PCA program; this provides significant savings to our State.

Unfortunately, our Personal Care Program, along with others is in financial jeopardy. Our costs have risen; over 35% in direct payroll costs, 36% in health insurance, and 24% in administrative oversight. Yet there has been no increase in PCA reimbursement since the program was initiated in 1998. We are still providing these much needed services for \$21 an hour. We run a fiscally responsible program, however last year we lost money. I ask for your consideration in approving a rate increase to the PCA program. We are requesting a rate increase of \$5.88 per hour; this would reflect a 2.5% rate annual increase which is less than the automatic rate increases of other Medicaid services. Cornerstone supports the findings and the recommendations outlined in the 2007 Campaign for PCA Reform.

The PCA Provider Association has been diligently working on issues that affect this much needed program. We have appreciated the opportunity to partner with the State in meeting the health and functional needs of Alaskans. We are pleased to able to provide meaningful health related career choices to residents of our region. We hope the State, Legislator, Senate and Governor's Office are able to

address this issue in order to preserve the PCA program as a viable, cost efficient service that helps insure Alaskan can receive the support they need to remain safely independent in the home and community of their choice.

Sincerely,



Corrine Rago, RN
Administrator
Cornerstone Home Health



City and Borough of Sitka

100 Lincoln Street • Sitka, Alaska 99835

SENATE FINANCE 4-10-07

SITKA Municipal Administration's comments

REVENUE SHARING IS IMPORTANT TO SITKA BECAUSE:

- (1) STATE REVENUES BELONG TO STATE CITIZENS. SITKA IS OUTSIDE THE MAINSTREAM "OIL ECONOMY" AND RECEIVES ONLY INDIRECT BENEFITS
- (2) REVENUE SHARING SUPPORTS BASIC COMMUNITY SERVICES ROADS, POLICE, FIRE, YOUTH, SENIORS.
- (3) REVENUE SHARING SHOULD BE AN OPERATIONAL COST AS LOSS OF CITY PROVIDED SERVICES WILL FINALLY FALL TO STATE.
- (4) STATE APPROVED EXEMPTIONS ARE NOT REIMBURSED TO CITIES: SITKA SENIOR & DISABLED VETERAN PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION COSTS \$400,000/yr + 6% GAINS. IF EXEMPTION LIMIT INCREASES TO \$250,000 PER HOUSEHOLD COST TO CITY WILL BE \$650,000/yr.
- (5) SITKA RS HISTORY

97	\$ 825,842
98	715,870
99	702,105
00	446,877
01	411,800
02	425,527
03	424,585
04	212,986
05	0
06	0
2007	\$ 331,028

John Stein
747-1808

Sandy Burd

From: publisher@akbizmag.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 3:46 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Vern McCorkle
1905 E.37 Av
501 W. NLB
Anchorage, AK 99508 &pa_address% 24

Sandy Burd

From: afdm2@uaa.alaska.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 3:52 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Deborah Mole
15815 Alta Court
Anchorage, AK 99516

Sandy Burd

From: fsstm3@uaf.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 4:04 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Please Help Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

Education is the key to a successful economy and happy people.

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Please support an amendment to adequately fund UA. Thanks.

Sincerely,
Seth Miller
UAF Campus
Fairbanks, AK 46540

Sandy Burd

From: Glennette Christian [g.christian@skagway.org]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 4:06 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: CHC Funding

Senator Hoffman:

Please approve the \$2.3 million dollars for CHC(s) in Alaska. I am from Skagway and we have not been able to get funding on the federal level to be a CHC. The money set aside for the CHC(s) would help us clinics that have not been approved for federal funding with \$600,000.00 set aside for assist us until federal funding would be available. We see about 1,000 people with over 5,000 encounters in a years time. We have over 10,000 people hit our streets on any given spring or summer day. We have a high non-insured base especially from our summer work staff, therefore we have a huge fall out of non-payment. Please consider adding this to the budget or the capital budget to help us get through another year.

Sincerely,
Glennette Christian
Dahl Memorial Clinic
Administrator

Sandy Burd

From: fsmks2@uaf.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 4:06 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Megan Sullivan
P.O. Box 752866
Fairbanks, AK 99775

Sandy Burd

From: kccummins@gci.net
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 3:17 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

Dear Legislative Contingent:

I have been around the University (UAJ-UAS) for the past twenty-plus years. I have lobbied the legislature in years past, written letters and even gave testimony as part of my duties as not only a Classified Employee, but as President of our Classified Association. How is this different from 20 years ago? Same story - University fights to stay alive - some of the same people in charge our our destiny.

I guess I could also be considered a 'fixed' cost because I have no plans in leaving any time soon. I love my job, but more importantly I love WHO I work FOR...the students, our (Alaska's) future.

If the University is not fully funded to offset the rising costs and allowed grow with new, bigger, better programs, Alaska will suffer dramatically with more and more of the Brain Drain already affecting our State.

Interesting quote from Art Chance in an ad in the Juneau Empire regarding wages a few nights ago. Something like..."You pay peanuts you get monkeys and even the monkeys are not interested in working for peanuts anymore with the high cost of living and the weather." We know working at UA is not going to make the employees rich. It is the experience of working with and molding the young minds of our future that is enriching. However, that does not pay our fuel, electric, travel in and out, and food bills. Cutting or eliminating programs will decrease enrollments, cut positions, and soon have nothing left but a shell of what used to be a great place of higher education - alive with youth, energy, ideas, dedication, and commitment to our State. Where else could you go to a college is such a land of beauty?

How can we believe that either blatantly cutting UA's budget or keeping it 'as is' (which would be the same as a severe cut with higher 'fixed' costs) would not devasate OUR University?

The next step would be to put up For Sale signs on all the UA campuses: For Sale: One Used University-Inquire Within" and forward all calls to our elected officials and have them explain why the University is not a top priority for Alaska's future.

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Please PLEASE support an amendment to adequately fund UA! It is in ALL our best interests!

Sincerely,
Karen Cummins
4436 Columbia Blvd
Juneau, AK 99801

Sandy Burd

From: Ann E Park [ann_park@eed.state.ak.us]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 2:36 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Senate Bill 95 & 96

Senator Hoffman

I hope you realized how important it is to keep the funding for the interpreter referral line. The funding is to help train interpreters and to bring in people from out of state to train us to improve our skills. We are all counting on your support to help us keep the funding coming in. If we don't have the funding to keep our interpreters here to help us then how will we get help? We need our interpreters to help us understand what is going on in this community and what is going on at the Legislators and so forth.

Please for our sake in our community and the state please help. We are counting on you folks to support this bill as we support you for your help.

Thank you for all you have done for our community and state.

Ann Park

Admin. Clerk II and part time interpreter for our community.

Sandy Burd

From: Carol Barrett [shakshak@horizonsatellite.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 2:59 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Budget items for women, children, seniors and the disabled

Carol Barrett
PO Box 902
Anchor Point, AK 99556-0902

April 10, 2007

The Honorable Lyman F. Hoffman
Alaska Senate
Alaska State Senate
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Hoffman:

Behavioral Health Grants for Treatment and Prevention Services. Maintain \$3.2 million. Behavioral Health Grants fund mental health and substance abuse prevention and treatment services. These funds will continue the current level of service.

Bring the Kids Home (BTKH) Community Services and Training. Maintain \$1.7 million. This funding will train staff, license new services and develop school-based BTKH services.

Detox Services for Anchorage. Add \$300,000. These funds are needed to strengthen the substance abuse continuum of care and provide alternatives to the inappropriate use of API

Detox Services for Fairbanks. Add \$500,000. These funds are needed to operate a new enhanced detox facility being developed through a community partnership

FASD Program. Maintain \$696,800. These funds will replace expiring federal funds and will ensure continuation of the work of the FASD Diagnostic Teams and other educational efforts.

Expand Infant Learning Program. Maintain \$300,000. Infant learning programs provide assessment and early intervention for children with developmental delays. Early intervention saves money by reducing the need for lifelong treatment programs.

Expand Adult Protective Services. Maintain \$213,900. These funds will expand our ability to respond to reports of harm to vulnerable adults.

Services for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders. Maintain \$125,000. People with Alzheimer's disease as their primary diagnosis are not eligible for Medicaid. These funds provide support for them and their caretaker families.

Behavioral Health Clinicians for McLaughlin Youth Center and Fairbanks Youth Facility. Maintain \$273,100. These positions will provide crucial mental health and substance abuse treatment to children in juvenile detention.

Anchorage Crisis Respite. Add \$350,000. These funds will increase beds at the Crisis Recovery Center from 8 to 12 and provide a much needed alternative to API for those in need of crisis rather than long-term treatment.

Peer-Operated Services. Add \$100,000. Consumer-operated programs such as drop-in centers, outreach programs and businesses are a growing part of the behavioral health consumer movement in Alaska and have been proven effective. These funds provide a foundation for state supported, community-based services run by consumers.

Autism Diagnosis. Add \$507,000. These funds will provide foundation screening and diagnostic services for this currently underserved population.

Keep the Elders Home. Add \$1.25 million. These funds will provide a package of home and community-based services designed to keep the elderly in their homes and out of expensive nursing home care.

Sincerely,

Carol Barrett
907-235-4193

This message has been verified by CapwizXC as authentic and sent by this individual.
Authentication ID: [nttjSVK3]

Sandy Burd

From: manickles@alaska.net
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 3:04 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Mary Ann Nickles
215 Dunbar Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99701-3660

Sandy Burd

From: fnbja@uaf.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 3:09 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

I am a physician working at the UAF student health clinic. I attended UAF as an undergraduate and went through the WAMI program in the early '90's. I realize how important it is to have strong health education programs in order to keep our Alaskan students here for both education and employment.

Sincerely,
Betty Aldrich
825 Canterbury Dr.
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Sandy Burd

From: rncdw@uaf.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 3:09 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Crystal Wilson
Tok Center
PO Box 464
Tok, AK 99780-0464

April 10, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Becky Harrington. I am a resident of Juneau and I am Deaf. I am not able to attend this public hearing in person so I have asked Pam Muller-Guy to read this letter on my behalf.

When I first arrived in Juneau 10 years ago, the Deaf Community had very little resources for interpreters. We didn't have but 1 (one) qualified interpreter...the other ones were usually someone from a sign class trying to help. They did not have the ability to interpret properly. There were problems with misunderstandings and miscommunication with this scenario that led to many complicated and unnecessary consequences for both the Deaf and the Hearing consumers.

I have personally seen the "GAP" getting smaller and smaller because of the IRL Program. They are responsible for providing interpreters to the ADA Meetings, Schools, Doctor visits, Court and other places to help bridge the gap in communication between the Deaf and Hearing Communities. This helps the Deaf become independent and be productive out in the community with confidence.

We now have more then 1 (one) qualified interpreter to accommodate the demand needed. We still have a long way to go. We need more training for interpreters, more public awareness on the use of interpreters and what works and what does not work.

When I heard that the funds for this program were in jeopardy, I could not even imagine why anyone would want to cut funds of a program that has such a SUCCESS story. We should be getting more funds to enhance the program. After all closing the GAP on communication barriers is a much better image then "exclusion"...isn't it? I ask you with a pleading heart PLEASE DO NOT send me and other Deaf back into "exclusion". Allow the expansion of the program and DO NOT CUT THE IRL FUNDS !!! Thank you for listening! Should you need further information from me you may contact me by the means below.

Becky Harrington
3410 Foster Ave #A7
Juneau Alaska 99801



1-866-327-8877 (Give the interpreter my phone number 907-523-2165)
Email: mamak1157@yahoo.com

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 6 years.

Please help individuals in the deaf community succeed in every aspect of their lives: support a Senate amendment of a \$94,000 for Interpreter Referral Services. This money will help the Deaf of Alaska in every aspect of their lives—doctor's appointments, emergency rooms, in court, and for employment.

For 16 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 steadily been on the rise. It is clearly an unmet need.

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

Over the past two years, requests for interpreters has risen 155 percent.

Last fiscal year, we filled over nearly 500 requests in Southeast alone.

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.

Another consumer, a mother of 7 children, is also using interpreter services to finish her GED so she can get a good job for her family—her strides toward this goal would not be possible without interpreter services.

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 offer a Senate amendment, adding an increment of at least \$94,000 for Interpreter Referral Services, the Special Projects Line Item in the Department of Labor budget.



ADOPTED AUGUST 1972

CITY OF WRANGELL, ALASKA

INCORPORATED JUNE 15, 1803

BOX 531, 99929

(907) 874-2381

FAX: (907) 874-3952

April 10, 2007

To: Senate Finance Committee
 Attn: Co-Chairman Senator Bert Stedman
 Co-Chairman Senator Lyman Hoffman

From: City of Wrangell
 Jeff Jabusch, Finance Director

Subject: Testimony in support of Revenue Sharing

- ❖ Wrangell is down to just supporting basic services such as police, fire, roads, and schools that are needed in a small community.
- ❖ Wrangell's Sales Tax is at 7% and our property tax is at 12 mills and likely will be 12.75 in 2007.
- ❖ The state property tax exemption for seniors and disabled vets once was reimbursed by the state at 100%, now it is nothing. In the mid 1980's, Wrangell's Population was approximately 2800 and we had less then 100 seniors claiming the property exemption. In 2007, Wrangell's population is 1911 and we had 157 seniors claim property tax exemptions. This is having a huge affect on our ability to raise revenues through property taxes needed to balance our current budget. Wages, benefits, including PERS, health insurance and other expenses continue to go up, but our property taxable property does not. In fact, our taxable property will be less in 2007 than 2006 because of increased seniors claiming the exemption that is no longer reimbursed by the state. If the amount of the senior exemption was 100% reimbursed today with a reasonable PERS fix, Wrangell would not have a budget crisis
- ❖ Currently, the city operates a jail and we receive funding from the state which falls short of the actual cost to operate the jail. This is not an essential city function, but a state function. This too is under funded.
- ❖ The City of Wrangell is currently supporting our school at the maximum amount allowed because of shortfalls in education funding for our school so our students can have a basic education.
- ❖ Even if there is a PERS fix which allows the cities to pay the same amount they are paying this year, for Wrangell that is still approximately a 100% increase over what we have averaged over the last 10 years.

- ❖ Without some help from the state, Wrangell will likely have to reduce or eliminate some combination of the following: reduce Library staff and hours, close our swimming pool completely or part of the year, reduce road maintenance and snow removal, reduce police and jail services, reduce some combination of wages, benefits or employees overall, reduce funding to the schools, reduce maintenance on parks and cemeteries, and reduce or eliminate many other smaller functions the city now does.
- ❖ Over the last 7 years, Wrangell has done many things and spent millions of dollars to help make businesses in the tourism, timber and fishing industries be successful. We believe that we have a chance in turning our economy around slowly over the next several years because of this. We need state operating help to keep all of our current essential services in place to be able to make this progress. With a 7% Sales Tax rate and a 12.75 mill rate and supporting our schools at the maximum, we feel Wrangell is doing our part and our citizens are taxed to their limit within our existing economy. We understand that many of the state programs that did exist such as the senior tax reimbursement, municipal assistance and others are probably gone for ever, but revenue sharing was a stable commitment by the state for years. It made the difference for many of the small towns in Alaska, including Wrangell, to maintain basic services. **We encourage you to reinstate this program to help preserve basic services in Wrangell and other Alaskan communities.** Thank you.

Alaska Primary Care Association

"...uncompromising in the pursuit of access to primary care for all Alaskans."



What Could Alaska Expect in Return For Investing \$2.3 Million in Community Health Centers (CHCs)?

- **Estimated Medicaid Savings of \$2 Million**
- **Reduced ER Visits for Estimated Savings of \$2.6 Million**
- **Increased Workforce Retention**
- **Reduced Recruitment Costs**
- **Improved Health Outcomes for Alaskans**

Estimated Medicaid Savings of \$2 Million

- **CHCs save Medicaid 30% in annual spending per beneficiary**
Medicaid patients seen at CHC's compared to Medicaid patients seen elsewhere:
 - Lowest total health care costs
 - Lowest cost per ambulatory visit
 - Lowest rate of hospital inpatient days
 - Lowest inpatient care costs
- **CHCs already save State Medicaid \$10.3 million annually**
 - 18,051 CHC Medicaid patients in Alaska in 2005 (13.4% of all Medicaid patients)
 - \$1,015 average annual cost of CHC Medicaid patients in Alaska
 - \$4,547 statewide average annual cost of Medicaid patients
 - \$1,364 in annual savings per CHC Medicaid patient (based on 30% savings)
 - \$24.6 million annual Medicaid savings (1,364 x 18,051 patients)
 - \$10.3 million in State Medicaid savings (\$24.6 million x 42%)
- **A 10% increase in number of CHC Medicaid patients could potentially save Alaska \$1 million**
1800 additional CHC Medicaid patients = \$1 million State savings
- **A 20% increase in number of CHC Medicaid patients could potentially save Alaska \$2 million**
3600 additional CHC Medicaid patients = \$2 million State savings
- **A 30% increase in number of CHC Medicaid patients could potentially save Alaska \$3 million**
5400 additional CHC Medicaid patients = \$3 million State savings
- **With sustainable funding, Alaskan CHCs can continue to increase the number of patients and encounters.**
From 2004 to 2005, CHC patients increased 13.8% from 68,598 to 78,077 patients. We can only expect to see this substantial increase in patients if there is stable and sustainable funding for the CHCs.

Alaska Primary Care Association

"...uncompromising in the pursuit of access to primary care for all Alaskans."



Reduced ER Visits for Estimated Savings of \$2.6 Million

- \$15.9 million spent in Alaska on unnecessary E.R. visits
 - 24,409 unnecessary ER visits in Alaska
 - \$650 = potential savings per unnecessary visit if treated in primary care setting
 - 2000 unnecessary ER visits redirected to CHCs could potentially save \$1.3 million
 - 4000 unnecessary ER visits redirected to CHCs could potentially save \$2.6 million
 - 8000 unnecessary ER visits redirected to CHCs could potentially save \$5.2 million
- In 2004, the 634,180 people who live in Alaska made an average of 244,090 hospital emergency room visits. A 1994 Stanford University study reported that 10% of all emergency room visits are for non-urgent conditions that could be treated in a primary care setting, such as a health center or physician's office. Researchers estimated that between \$5 billion and \$7 billion would have been saved nationally if the needed care had been provided in a more appropriate setting – this equates to a potential \$650 in savings per unnecessary ER visit. The following estimates show that a combination of increased health center use and reduced utilization in emergency room care at Alaska hospitals could save \$15.9 million annually:
 - $244,090 \text{ ER visits} \times 10\% = 24,409 \text{ unnecessary ER visits}$
 $24,409 \times \$650 = \$15.9 \text{ million in unnecessary care costs}$

Increased Workforce Retention

Reduced Recruitment Costs

Improved Health Outcomes for Alaskans

- In 2005, CHCs had a total of 849 employees across the state. Increasing funding to CHCs would enable health centers to have a better ability to retain employees. The cost of retaining employees continues to rise, particularly considering the shortage of physicians in Alaska. Increasing retention of medical and dental professionals will reduce recruitment and locum tenens costs; this savings can be shifted to patient care, increasing access to primary care and improving health outcomes for Alaskans.

Estimates are based on statistical and other data from the Alaska UDS Roll-up, National Association of Community Health Centers, www.nachc.com/research, and other national studies. This data is offered by Alaska Primary Care Association for illustrative purposes only and is not intended to warrant or guarantee general or specific cost savings or particular results. For a complete list of data references and research studies reviewed by Alaska Primary Care Association for the purposes of this document, please contact Shelley Hughes at Shelley@alaskapca.org.

Sandy Burd

From: walter majoros [walterm@jys.org]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 10:26 AM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Senate budget priority Items

walter majoros
PO Box 32839
Juneau, AK 99803-2839

April 10, 2007

The Honorable Lyman F. Hoffman
Alaska Senate
Alaska State Senate
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Hoffman:

Please fund the following priority budget items. These funds are needed to sustain current levels of human services or to deal with the growing needs of children, adults, families, and communities in Alaska.

Behavioral Health Grants for Treatment and Prevention Services. Maintain \$3.2 million. Behavioral Health Grants fund mental health and substance abuse prevention and treatment services. These funds will continue the current level of service.

Bring the Kids Home (BTKH) Community Services and Training. Maintain \$1.7 million. This funding will train staff, license new services and develop school-based BTKH services.

Detox Services for Anchorage. Add \$300,000. These funds are needed to strengthen the substance abuse continuum of care and provide alternatives to the inappropriate use of API.

Detox Services for Fairbanks. Add \$500,000. These funds are needed to operate a new enhanced detox facility being developed through a community partnership.

FASD Program. Maintain \$696,800. These funds will replace expiring federal funds and will ensure continuation of the work of the FASD Diagnostic Teams and other educational efforts.

Behavioral Health Clinicians for McLaughlin Youth Center and Fairbanks Youth Facility. Maintain \$273,100. These positions will provide crucial mental health and substance abuse treatment to children in juvenile detention.

Peer-Operated Services. Add \$100,000. Consumer-operated programs such as drop-in centers, outreach programs and businesses are a growing part of the behavioral health consumer movement in Alaska and have been proven effective. These funds provide a foundation for state supported, community-based services run by consumers.

Anchorage Crisis Respite. Add \$350,000. These funds will increase beds at the Crisis Recovery Center from 8 to 12 and provide a much needed alternative to API for those in need of crisis rather than long-term treatment.

Sincerely,

walter majoros
796-4131

This message has been verified by CapwizXC as authentic and sent by this individual.

Sandy Burd

From: Nina Allen [nallen@spbhs.org]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 10:21 AM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Budget priorities for vulnerable Alaskans

Nina Allen
3948 Ben Walters Lane
Homer, AK 99603-7708

April 10, 2007

The Honorable Lyman F. Hoffman
Alaska Senate
Alaska State Senate
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Hoffman:

Please fund the following priority budget items. These funds are needed to sustain current levels of human services or to deal with the growing needs of the elderly, disabled, families and communities in Alaska.

Behavioral Health Grants for Treatment and Prevention Services. Maintain \$3.2 million. Behavioral Health Grants fund mental health and substance abuse prevention and treatment services. These funds will continue the current level of service.

Expand Infant Learning Program. Maintain \$300,000. Infant learning programs provide assessment and early intervention for children with developmental delays. Early intervention saves money by reducing the need for lifelong treatment programs.

FASD Program. Maintain \$696,800. These funds will replace expiring federal funds and will ensure continuation of the work of the FASD Diagnostic Teams and other educational efforts.

Expand Adult Protective Services. Maintain \$213,900. These funds will expand our ability to respond to reports of harm to vulnerable adults.

Services for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders. Maintain \$125,000. People with Alzheimer's disease as their primary diagnosis are not eligible for Medicaid. These funds provide support for them and their caretaker families.

Sincerely,

Nina Allen
907-235-9229

This message has been verified by CapwizXC as authentic and sent by this individual.
Authentication ID: [YOH79Jb7]

Sandy Burd

From: Luke Hopkins [lukethopkins@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 7:45 AM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Bert Stedman
Subject: Public Testimony CSHB 95

Senate Finance Co-Chair Senators Hoffman and Stedman,

Thank you for this opportunity to make comment on the CS for the operating budget. I am not able to make the public hearing period today to present my comments.

I am Luke Hopkins, Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly member, and a board member of the Alaska Municipal League.

I request the full committee maintain the funding for the Health and Social Service Community Matching grants that was approved by the SF HESS subcommittee. These funds, along with our local match, provide an established method of distributing services to our community, leverage additional funding for much needed social services and have a very thorough, open review process for tracking the grant expenditures.

Municipal revenue sharing is very important to all our municipalities, allowing for community needs to be met as determined at the local level. I request the Finance Committee provide revenue sharing funds in the operating budget as requested by the Governor.

Another important need in our communities statewide is work force development as we prepare our students and other citizens to meet the increased demand for highly skilled jobs. Reduced funding in the University requested operating budget will limit programs that are being developed to make our work force ready to fill the jobs the statewide economy is creating. I request the committee amend the CS to fund this need.

Thank you for this time to provide committee members with my comments. If there are any further questions, I can be reached on my cell phone 347-0066 or by this email address.

Luke Hopkins
FNSB Assembly member

Don't be flakey. Get Yahoo! Mail for Mobile and always stay connected to friends.

Sandy Burd

From: anwlm@uaa.alaska.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 2:28 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Wayne Morrison
2019 Tasha Drive
Anchorage, AK 99502

Sandy Burd

From: kpurcell@acsalaska.net
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 2:10 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Stop the Senate UA Subcommittee from cutting the university's budget

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

Please stop the Senate UA Subcommittee from cutting the university's budget. Encourage the chair, Senator Bert Stedman, and the members, Senators Elton, Hoffman, Huggins, Olson, Thomas & Dyson, from cutting the budget below the amount necessary to cover the university's fixed costs. If the Subcommittee budget reduces the funding UA needs for its fixed costs, please encourage Finance Chair, Senator Hoffman, and other members of the full Senate Finance Committee, to restore the funds in a Finance CS.

If the university is allowed to keep the employer cost savings they generate from the PERS/TRS fixes within its budget, they can cover their fixed costs without an increase in GF. Why is this a problem?

Sincerely,
Kevin Purcell
315 Bias Dr
Fairbanks, AK 99712-2504

Sandy Burd

From: kpurcell@acsalaska.net
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 2:09 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Kevin Purcell
315 Bias Dr
Fairbanks, AK 99712-2504

Sandy Burd

From: fnlah3@uaf.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 2:01 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Larry Hausmann
Yukon Koyukuk Center
PO Box 369
Galena, AK 99741-0369

Sandy Burd

From: kmdolan@alaska.net
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 2:00 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

As an alumna of the University of Alaska Fairbanks, I am dismayed to hear that the legislature and governor of Alaska would put forth a budget that doesn't even cover the fixed costs of the university. UA is a vital part of the future of our state by offering our kids a good education at a reasonable cost in areas that are in very high demand in our state.

Fixed costs are just that, fixed. They have to be paid and the money has to come from somewhere. If the state will not help UA cover those costs, the money will be taken out of much needed classroom space, top quality professors and researchers, and other critical areas. We can't expect to maintain an exceptional and award winning university without funding it adequately.

Please keep the future of Alaska strong and fully fund UA.

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Please support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Kellie Dolan
1909 Kittiwake Dr. Apt. A
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Sandy Burd

From: afbh@uaa.alaska.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:50 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

I am writing to you as a faculty member at UAA, concerned about making responsible and fiscally conservative decisions. The entire UA system, and UAA in particular are working hard at making the best use of the state appropriated funds. I urge you to encourage the University's efforts to save money and to better use existing funds.

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA. In addition to meeting our needs today, this will continue to encourage UA to find new ways to save money in the future.

Sincerely,
Bogdan Hoanca
3211 Providence Dr, Room BEB 307J
Computer and Information Systems
Anchorage, AK 99508

Sandy Burd

From: fnakt@uaf.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:48 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Stop the Senate UA Subcommittee from cutting the university's budget

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

Please stop the Senate UA Subcommittee from cutting the university's budget. Encourage the chair, Senator Bert Stedman, and the members, Senators Elton, Hoffman, Huggins, Olson, Thomas & Dyson, from cutting the budget below the amount necessary to cover the university's fixed costs. If the Subcommittee budget reduces the funding UA needs for its fixed costs, please encourage Finance Chair, Senator Hoffman, and other members of the full Senate Finance Committee, to restore the funds in a Finance CS.

If the university is allowed to keep the employer cost savings they generate from the PERS/TRS fixes within its budget, they can cover their fixed costs without an increase in GF. Why is this a problem?

Sincerely,
Amelia Topkok
4783 Drake Street
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Sandy Burd

From: fnakt@uaf.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:47 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA. All of the University degree programs are in high need, especially to those that may not have other access to higher education. This is especially true to those that choose to stay home in the rural Alaskan villages, and want to support their own community, and STILL take distance education classes to continue their higher education. Please support the University's goal in helping people in their dreams and becoming more educated.

Thank you for your sincere support.

Amelia K. Topkok

Sincerely,
Amelia Topkok
4783 Drake Street
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Sandy Burd

From: anpgb2@uaa.alaska.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:45 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Pat Borjon
8211 Stratton Cir
Anchorage, AK 99507

Sandy Burd

From: ffjmb1@uaf.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:41 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,

James Bicigo 2011 Southern Avenue Fairbanks AK 99709

Sincerely,
James Bicigo
Dept. of Music
Box 755660 UAF
Fairbanks, AK 99775-5660

Sandy Burd

From: andlh1@uaa.alaska.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:39 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
D'Arcy Hutchings
4105 Garfield St #5
Anchorage, AK 99503

Sandy Burd

From: mmc@mtaonline.net
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:38 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Mary Curry
5181 Outrigger Dr.
Wasilla, AK 99687

Sandy Burd

From: anjem@uaa.alaska.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:37 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

Please support an amendment to adequately fund UA especially the basic fixed costs. My granddaughter is pursuing a degree in Nursing, and is doing very well. I believe oil and gas industry is critical to our state as is construction. Therefore, I would like to see programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management supported. They can be paid for with savings in the UA budget.

Sincerely,
J Merry
7706 Linda Lane
Anchorage, AK 99518

Sandy Burd

From: aftjh@uaa.alaska.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:37 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Tim Hinterberger
7021 East Tree Court
Anchorage, AK 99507

Sandy Burd

From: rfdlm@uaf.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:36 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Deborah McLean-Nelson
Bristol Bay Campus
PO Box 1070
Dillingham, AK 99576-1070

Sandy Burd

From: anko@uaa.alaska.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:32 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
KaLynn Coffey
3721 W. 79th Ave
Anchorage, AK 99502

Sandy Burd

From: yukonville@hotmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:28 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Laurii Woodruff
PO Box 10626
Fairbanks, AK 99710

Sandy Burd

From: katherine.spangler@uas.alaska.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:26 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

Dear Fred

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

We can't afford to let the university down.
K

Sincerely,
Katy Spangler
10207 Chain of Rock
Eagle River, AK 99577

Sandy Burd

From: dora_gropp@chugachelectric.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:25 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA. If we do not fund these programs, our students will leave the State and seek education elsewhere. Once they leave, only a few come back. We need engineers, we need a university that our high school students can afford to attend!

Sincerely,
Dora Gropp
6728 Dimond Blvd.
Anchorage, AK 99502

Sandy Burd

From: afbch@uaa.alaska.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:23 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Stop the Senate UA Subcommittee from cutting the university's budget

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

Please reconsider contemplated Senate UA Subcommittee action to cut the university's budget. There is positive momentum at the university right now. Students are coming in greater numbers, and income is increasing. Please retain funding in the amount necessary to cover the university's fixed costs. Any university needs support from the public or from private endowments. UA is doing good things for the young people of the state, and for many mid-career students who are changing in response to changing economic conditions.

If the university is allowed to keep the employer cost savings they generate from the PERS/TRS fixes within its budget, they can cover their fixed costs without an increase in GF. Why is this a problem?

Sincerely,
Bonny Headley
919 David Place
Anchorage, AK 99501

Sandy Burd

From: sarah.strickling@uas.alaska.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:23 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Alaska needs higher education. Alaska needs education period.
Alaska ranks at the very bottom for education in the nation.
Investing in education is essential. Don't let us down, help Alaska reach its goal to be educated!

Sincerely,
J. Sarah Strickling
2438 3rd Ave.
Ketchikan, AK 99901

Sandy Burd

From: tsijk@uas.alaska.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:23 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

I am currently a college student - which perhaps is my bias. I find it difficult to understand why money is being cut for the very institutions that produce Alaskan leaders and which bring people from around the Nation and world to remote Alaska.

To cut funding towards education in my mind, is a statement to us, to the public - their are more important things then education. A percept of value and principal in every society around the world, and state and national legislation continues to hack away at its needed funding - presumably without clear need or reason.

Convince me that education is not important, and I may agree with the cutting of funding. If you fail to convince me, then you've committed two faults - lied to me and undercut a valuable asset to society - Education.

Sincerely,
Forest Kvasnikoff
PO Box 210811
Juneau, AK 99821

Sandy Burd

From: ffvab@uaf.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:21 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Valerie Barber
Box 6410
Sitka, AK 99835

Sandy Burd

From: jandsitka@gmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:21 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Linda Johnston
1211 Georgeson Loop
Sitka, AK 99835

Sandy Burd

From: ansmh3@uaa.alaska.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:19 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA

Sincerely,
Steven Halcomb
8850 Pioneer Dr.
Anchorage, AK 99504

Sandy Burd

From: afbch@uaa.alaska.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:15 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Bonny Headley
919 David Place
Anchorage, AK 99501

Sandy Burd

From: jekrebs@mac.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:14 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Stop the Senate UA Subcommittee from cutting the university's budget

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

Please stop the Senate UA Subcommittee from cutting the university's budget. Encourage the chair, Senator Bert Stedman, and the members, Senators Elton, Hoffman, Huggins, Olson, Thomas & Dyson, from cutting the budget below the amount necessary to cover the university's fixed costs. If the Subcommittee budget reduces the funding UA needs for its fixed costs, please encourage Finance Chair, Senator Hoffman, and other members of the full Senate Finance Committee, to restore the funds in a Finance CS.

If the university is allowed to keep the employer cost savings they generate from the PERS/TRS fixes within its budget, they can cover their fixed costs without an increase in GF. Why is this a problem?

Sincerely,
Jocelyn Krebs
5039 Randi Ct
Eagle River, AK 99577

Sandy Burd

From: jekrebs@mac.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:14 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, WWAMI, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Jocelyn Krebs
5039 Randi Ct
Eagle River, AK 99577

Sandy Burd

From: fnhec@uaf.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:14 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. I strong request that you support an amendment to adequately fund UA. Not doing so will only short change the students attending our higher educational institutions across this great state.

Sincerely,
Helen Connor
PO Box 82551
Fairbanks, AK 99708

Sandy Burd

From: ASBBY@uaa.alaska.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:14 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Brian Yanity
1046 W. 26th Ave.
Apt. #210
Anchorage, AK 99503

Sandy Burd

From: snljh@email.alaska.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:13 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Linda Hall
1909 Kittiwake Dr #A
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Sandy Burd

From: pdenny@asf.alaska.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:10 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
Patrick Denny
1804 Caribou Way
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Sandy Burd

From: axab@uaa.alaska.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:09 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Support to fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

Please Support an amendment to adequately fund UA. UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget.

Sincerely,
Amber Brubaker
2980 Drake Dr.
Anchorage, AK 99508

Sandy Burd

From: afdpe@uaa.alaska.edu
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 1:08 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA. We need your help. UAA is already under funded compared to schools in the lower 48. Please help!

Sincerely,
David Edgecombe, Ph.D
3404 Vassar Dr.
Anchorage, AK 99508, AK 99508

Sandy Burd

From: rrobinso@alaska.net
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2007 6:58 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Fund UA's fixed costs

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

UA's fixed costs, as well as high demand degree programs in Engineering, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and Construction Management can be paid for with savings in the UA budget. Support an amendment to adequately fund UA.

Sincerely,
E. Tom Robinson
3744 Mitchell Ave.
Fairbanks, AK 99709 4635

Sandy Burd

From: rrobinso@alaska.net
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2007 7:00 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Stop the Senate UA Subcommittee from cutting the university's budget

Senator Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, MS 3100, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Hoffman,

Please stop the Senate UA Subcommittee from cutting the university's budget. Encourage the chair, Senator Bert Stedman, and the members, Senators Elton, Hoffman, Huggins, Olson, Thomas & Dyson, from cutting the budget below the amount necessary to cover the university's fixed costs. If the Subcommittee budget reduces the funding UA needs for its fixed costs, please encourage Finance Chair, Senator Hoffman, and other members of the full Senate Finance Committee, to restore the funds in a Finance CS.

If the university is allowed to keep the employer cost savings they generate from the PERS/TRS fixes within its budget, they can cover their fixed costs without an increase in GF. Why is this a problem?

Sincerely,
E. Tom Robinson
3744 Mitchell Ave.
Fairbanks, AK 99709 4635

Sandy Burd

From: Sharon John [shmkjohn@unicom-alaska.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2007 8:59 PM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Cc: Sen. Donny Olson; Sen. Kim Elton; Sen. Joe Thomas; agatha_john-shields@lksd.org
Subject: support for small charter school funding

I am a member of the Ayaprun Elitnaurvik Academic Policy Committee, the mother of 2 students at the school, a former teacher, and a registered voter in Bethel. I strongly support the \$200,000 adjustment in the Education budget for small charter schools. This past year, our school's enrollment fell below 150 for many reasons, including the war in Iraq and deployment of National Guard troops. If the supplemental funds for small charter schools had not been available, we would have had to cut 1 or 2 teachers, and several teacher aide positions for the 2007-08 school year. Since we received approximately \$80,000 from the special funding for small charter schools, we will have a stable program next year.

I am very proud of our school, since our students learn in both Yup'ik and English, gaining a strong foundation during their elementary years. Parents and staff of other small charter schools are equally dedicated to their programs, and we appreciate your support of alternative education programs - especially for Alaska Native children.

Thank you.

Sharon D. John
4202 R W Way
P O Box 2716
Bethel AK 99559

Sandy Burd

From: Bob Swope [bswope@bbahc.org]
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2007 9:13 AM
To: Sen. Lyman Hoffman
Subject: Support for University Finance

Good morning, Senator Hoffman! As your constituent in district "S" (yes, we are registered Democrats also), we thank you in your position of financial leadership for supporting the **full funding necessary** for the University of Alaska's current and expansion budget needs. As our rural senator, who grew up in Bethel, you know first-hand how important it is for our children to have the opportunity to succeed in higher education, and remain within Alaska.

My family has been involved with, and provided scholarship support, for many years to our university system. Our youngest daughter, Jill, and I are the only father-daughter graduates of the UAA School of Nursing (BSNSc). Jill is also earned a bachelor's in journalism from UAF 10 years' previously. My wife Sharon, Jill and I have supported a scholarship for health education students. As a school administrator for many years in rural Alaska, Sharon has first-hand experience in encouraging kids to excel and go on to Alaska higher education.

My UAA nursing education has enabled me to serve our Yup'ik elders here in the Bristol Bay region. I currently manage a Federal grant for improving geriatric services to our village elders, as well as coordinate the Elder & Palliative Care department here at Kakanak Hospital. Our hospital corporation directly benefits from the Alaska nurses and family physicians who have graduated from our State's programs.

Quyena, Lyman, for your support and advocacy of the funding necessary to continue this pattern of educational growth and development.

Bob Swope, RN, BSNSc, MDiv
Sharon W. Swope, PhD
Jill Swope Fletcher, RN, CEN, BSNSc

POB 582, Dillingham, AK 99576
Tel: 907.842.4941

Alaska State Public Opinion Message System:

Sen Lyman Hoffman's office

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Messages

Constituent/Non-Constituent	Saved/ Not Saved
Helen Gregorio of Togiak (37) wrote the following message On 4/12/2007 at 12:47 about <i>Budget</i>	

Message:

Please amend the budget to include \$2.3 million for the 115 Community Health Centers in Alaska who provide health services for underinsured/uninsured Alaska residents. CHC's are cost effective & save state Medicaid dollars while providing much needed health services to Alaska residents no matter who they are. Thank you.

Message was delivered by Pom

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Contact Info:

Helen Gregorio
PO Box 211
Togiak AK, 99678

Alaska State Public Opinion Message System:

Sen Lyman Hoffman's office

Filter applied is:

Messages About

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Messages

Constituent/Non-Constituent

Saved/ Not Saved

Robyn Chaney of Dillingham (37) wrote the following message On 4/12/2007 at 12:25 about *Education*

Message:

Forward-funding education makes sense. I support the use of state revenues to forward fund education.

Message was delivered by Pom

[View Case](#)

[Delete case](#)

Contact Info:

Robyn Chaney

Po Box 25

Dillingham AK, 99576-0025

Work:907-842-1253

Email:thechaney@starband.net

Alaska State Public Opinion Message System:

Sen Lyman Hoffman's office

Filter applied is:

Messages About

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Messages

Constituent/Non-Constituent

Saved/ Not Saved

[Helen Gregorio](#) of Togiak (37) wrote the following message On 4/12/2007 at 12:38 about *Budget*

Message:

Please amend the budget to include \$2.3 million for the 115 Community Health Centers in Alaska who provide health services for underinsured/uninsured Alaska residents. CHC's are cost effective & save state Medicaid dollars while providing much needed health services to Alaska residents no matter who they are. Thank you.

Message was delivered by Pom

[View Case](#) [Delete case](#)

Contact Info:

Helen Gregorio
PO Box 211
Togiak AK, 99678