

SB 21 &

SB 26

PUBLIC

TESTIMONY

<TARGET><BILL>SB 21</BILL><SUBJECT>SB 21 and SB 26
PUBLIC TESTIMONY</SUBJECT><COMM></COMM></TARGET>

Alaska Gov. Walker's popularity dives sharply following PFD veto, new survey shows

- Author: Nathaniel Herz
- Updated: October 7, 2016
- Published October 7, 2016

Alaska Gov. Bill Walker's honeymoon with voters has come to an abrupt end.

New data collected by pollster Ivan Moore show Walker's popularity taking a sharp dive after he vetoed half of Alaskans' Permanent Fund dividend checks in June — preserving \$650 million in savings for the cash-strapped state but enraging a slice of its electorate.

Walker's positive rating dropped from 43 percent to 32 percent in Moore's latest quarterly statewide survey of 660 registered voters, which has a 3.8 percent margin of error.

Walker's negative rating spiked to 35 percent from 23 percent over the same period — between June and September — meaning that more respondents saw the governor in a negative light than in a positive light for the first time since he was elected in 2014.

Since the start of his term, Walker and state lawmakers have been grappling with a multibillion-dollar budget deficit, with sharp budget reductions and Walker's partial PFD veto among their responses.

Walker's numbers in Moore's poll track with a popularity decline recorded in a separate survey by media company Morning Consult. That survey said the governor's approval rating dipped to 50 percent last month from 62 percent earlier this year.

The governor, in a statement sent by spokeswoman Katie Marquette, said he was focused on fixing the state's budget problem instead of his approval rating.

"Given our state is facing a \$3.2 billion deficit and has burned through nearly \$13 billion of savings in just three years, now is not the time to be focused on poll numbers," Walker's statement said. "Now is the time to be focused on finding a solution to our fiscal challenges so we can bring stability back to Alaska's economy."

Walker is in the second year of his first term and his approval rating peaked at 51 percent in the middle of last year in Moore's survey.

The same statewide poll asked registered voters about their views on the presidential and congressional elections in Alaska, as well as Alaskans' views on the state fiscal crisis and other issues. Those results will be released starting this weekend in Alaska Dispatch News.

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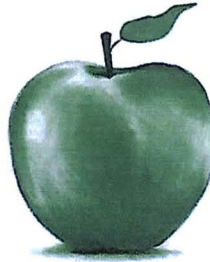
Alaska Permanent Fund

Gov. Bill Walker

About this Author

Nathaniel Herz

Nathaniel Herz covers politics and general assignments.



We will cut where there is waste, duplication and niceties we cannot afford. Initially, some of the cuts would come in the capital budget, which has ballooned in recent years. This includes for unrealistic infrastructure studies like for the small diameter pipeline.

5. What additional steps can the state take to promote construction of a natural gas pipeline from the North Slope?

Take control of development process and timeline. Gov. Parnell has put the leaseholders in the driver's seat. After 30 years of refusing to develop North Slope gas, while they advance competing projects around the world, that is unacceptable and will not succeed.

I intend to aggressively continue the project work to Kenai. I am not going to reinvent the wheel. We've started over often (El Paso, Foot Hills, YPC, AGIA and Denali), and we can no longer afford to do so.

6. The voters have chosen Senate Bill 21 or the More Alaska Production Act to generate most of the state's tax revenues. How will you determine whether this tax structure is effective? Do you think any changes should be made to the law in the upcoming legislative session?

I do not intend to offer changes to SB21. However, Alaska voters trusted SB21 proponents that promised it would result in a halt in the decline of oil production, increased jobs and investment on the North Slope remaining flat or increasing and that it would be relatively revenue neutral as compared to ACES. I will begin to monitor North Slope activity immediately to ensure those promises are kept and make that information available to the public. It is my hope those promises are kept.

7. The state's savings is being depleted. How low should the savings go before you begin to seriously discuss implementing a widespread tax, such as a sales or income tax, or reducing Permanent Fund Dividend checks to help pay for services?

I have no intention to implement a statewide tax or paying for state government by reducing Permanent Fund dividend checks. If we properly develop our natural resources and put in place a sustainable budget that should not be necessary.

8. What are your specific plans to address the serious problems of leadership, morale and accountability within the Alaska National Guard?

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE FUND

Why did Alaskans create the Fund?

During construction of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline in the 1970's, oil companies flooded state coffers with money paid for leases to explore and secure drilling rights. The Legislature spent all \$900 million of that initial lease money within a few years. Alaskans realized that they were about to receive a great deal more money from oil when the pipeline was complete. They wished to better safeguard the robust income forthcoming from the pipeline, but the state constitution did not allow for dedicated funds. So Alaskans voted in 1976 to amend the constitution to put at least 25% of the oil money into a dedicate fund: the Permanent Fund. This would save money for future generations, which would no longer have oil as a source of income. In 1976 Governor Hammond proposed a constitutional amendment to create the Fund. The 9th Alaska Legislature modified the governor's legislation and placed it as a ballot proposition in the 1976 General Election. It passed by a margin of two to one.

What is the purpose of the Permanent Fund?

The 1976 state law establishing the Permanent Fund (AS 37.13), states that the Fund was created:

- to provide a means of conserving a portion of the state's revenue from mineral resources to benefit all generations of Alaskans
- to maintain safety of principal while maximizing total return
- to be a savings device managed to allow maximum use of disposable income for purposes designated by law

How is the Fund invested?

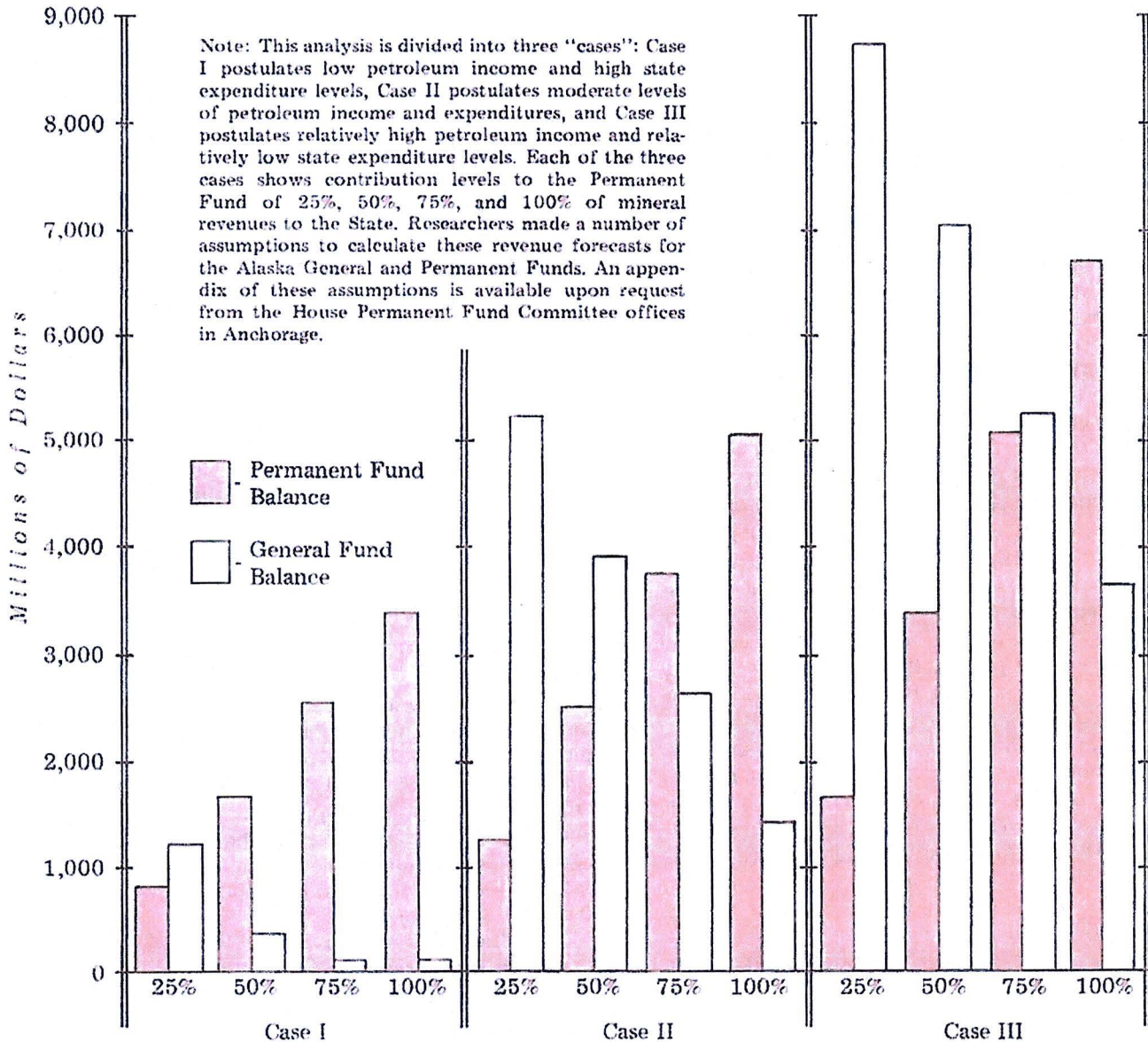
The Board's goal is to earn slightly better-than-average rates of return with slightly below-average levels of risk. To accomplish this, it adheres to statutory investing guidelines as well as the Prudent Expert Rule to manage a well-diversified portfolio. The asset allocation is now 55% stocks, 32% bonds, 10% real estate, 2% private equity and 1% absolute return.

How big is the Permanent Fund?

The Fund stood at nearly \$30 billion as of the end of the 2005 fiscal year, on June 30, 2005. Check this site's home page for the Fund's daily updated total market value. The Alaska Permanent Fund is among the 100 largest investment funds in the world. In the U.S., the Fund is larger than any endowment fund, private foundation, or union pension trust.

**For more information about the Alaska Permanent Fund go to www.apfc.org
All information provided courtesy of the Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation website.**

Figure 1
Revenue Projections through 1985



Source: State of Alaska, Legislative Affairs Agency, Research Division, July 14, 1977.

head of ferry system calls for reduced fleet

Attachment: Dennie Kay Weathers

Associated Press

JUNEAU — The head of the Alaska Marine Highway System says the ferry system's fleet needs to downsize amid a proposed \$5 million cut to operations in the next fiscal year.

Capt. Michael Neussl told the Alaska House Transportation Committee on Thursday that the ferry system only has funding for nine of its 11 ships, The Juneau Empire reported.

"The fleet size, in my estimation and opinion, needs to shrink back," he said. "We will need to divest of some vessels, and we need to start looking at that sooner, rather than later."

With the governor's current budget proposal, which includes a \$5 million cut to ferry system operations, the Marine Highway expects to reduce its service to 320 operating weeks, a level not seen since 2004.

Between 2000 and 2003, the Marine Highway offered between 291.7 and 326.6 weeks of service with just nine ships.

The ferry system counts one ferry running for one week as one operating week. If all 11 ferries are running in a given week, the system is providing 11 operating weeks.

Lawmakers on Thursday were open to Neussl's proposal and considered which ships should be sold. Rep. Matt Claman, D-Anchorage, suggested the Fairweather and Chenega

66
We can do this; it's going to be OK. You'll still be able to get from Point A to Point B.

99

— Rep. Shelley Hughes

be the first ships to go.

"Maybe we should be selling the fast ferries first," he said. Judging by their maintenance and operation cost, "it certainly seems like those should be at the top of the list."

Neussl said the first to go would likely be the ferry Taku, which has been laid up since last year and is 53 years old. The Marine Highway will not get rid of the ferry Tustumena, he said. The Tustumena is one of the few vessels able to serve Kodiak, the Alaska Peninsula and the Aleutians.

Republican Rep. Shelley Hughes of Palmer, co-chairwoman of the transportation committee, speculated that a nine-ship fleet might resemble the ferry system of a decade ago.

"Ten years ago, it wasn't quite so bad; we had a pretty good state 10 years ago," she said. "We can do this; it's going to be OK. You'll still be able to get from Point A to Point B."

Operating Plan 2016-2017

Revision Number 17.13
11/21/2016

	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	Operating Weeks
2016 Implementation of an Operating Plan is dependent upon funding from the legislature and earned revenue.												2017	
KEN	Jul 1, Fri BEL-X-GULF			Oct 5, BEL-Fri			Jan 11 O.H.		Mar 16, COI	BEL-X-GULF			42.7
COL	Jul 1, Fri BEL-Fri		Sep 26, Repairs		Nov 13, Sun Layup			Feb 4, COI	Mar 01, Overhaul	Apr 19, Wed BEL-Fri			22.9
MAT	Jul 1, Fri YPR/SGY						Jan 3, O.H.	Feb 9, YPR					46.9
MAL	Jul 01, Fri Federal CIP			Oct 3, O.H.			Jan 06, COI	Jan 11 BEL		Apr 19, Layup			14.0
TAK	Jul 01, Fri Layup												0.0
LIT	Jul 1, Fri MET Service						Jan 10, O.H.	Jan 26, MET Service					49.9
LEC	Jul 1, Fri NP					Nov 29, OH	Jan 11, COI	Jan 16, Mon NP					45.3
TUS	Jul 1, Fri SW								Mar 13, Overhaul	May 08, COI	May 14, SW		43.3
AUR	Jul 1, Fri PWS		Sep 19, O.H.		Nov 23, COI	Nov 29, NP	Jan 16, in transit	Jan 21, PWS					41.3
FWX	Jul 1, Fri LYNN		Sep 12, in transit	Sep 15, PWS 4X wk			Jan 21, In transit	Jan 28 O.H.	Mar 04, Sa: Layup		May 25 Lynn 3X Sit		34.0
CHE	Jul 01, Fri Federal CIP			Oct 06, Thu Layup									0.0

LEGEND

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FED CIP On Line Overhaul Layup COI & Drills | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BEL - Bellingham to Skagway Route YPR - Prince Rupert to Skagway Route BEL-X-Gulf Bellingham Cross Gulf SW | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PWS-Prince William Sound <u>MET - Metlakatla Service</u> NP - Northern Panhandle | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SW- Southwest YPR-X-Gulf-SW Pr. Rupert Cross Gulf Southwest NLC + SIT - Northern Lynn Canal + Sitka |
|--|--|--|---|

Note: Dates represent the first day of the period. Overhaul and refurbishment periods include vessel travel time.

Mainline Vessels	126.5
Feeder Vessels	129.2
Southwest Vessels	84.6
Total Operating Weeks	340.3

Attachment: Dennie Kay Weathers



Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities

Alaska Marine Highway System

1-800-642-0066

Metlakatla | (ANB) | met luh kat' luh***"Salt Water Passage"***

Metlakatla is located on Annette Island, at the southern tip of the Alexander Archipelago, and only a forty five minute ferry ride from Ketchikan 8 nautical miles away. Metlakatla is a traditional Tsimshian Indian community on the federal Annette Island Reserve. They have an active economy, subsistence lifestyle and are the only Indian reservation in Alaska. The 86,000 acre island reservation and surrounding waters are locally-controlled and not subject to state jurisdiction. All management of fisheries within 3,000 nautical feet, as well as management of all wildlife species within the Reserve falls to the Metlakatla Indian Community.

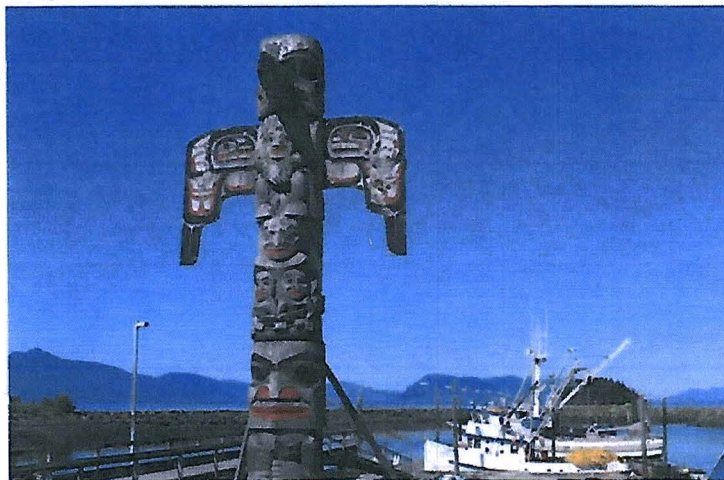
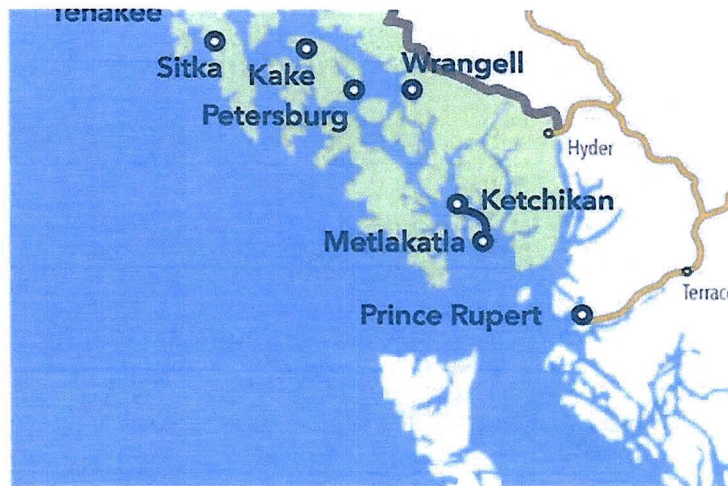


- ▶ Metlakatla means "salt water passage" and was founded by a group of Canadian Tsimshians who migrated from Prince Rupert, British Columbia.
- ▶ Although the majority of its population is Tsimshian, Metlakatla is also home to many individuals with diverse tribal affiliations such as Tlingit, Haida, Aleut, Yupik, and other Alaska Native peoples.
- ▶ The community prospered due to an abundance of natural resources and the ability to harvest salmon, halibut, cod, seaweed, clams, and waterfowl.
- ▶ Visit www.metlakatla.com for more information on available activities and accommodations.

Click on image to activate the full slideshow for Metlakatla.

Service Area

The community of Metlakatla receives service from Ketchikan twice a day, five days per week year-round. The *MV Lituya* takes 45 minutes to travel between Ketchikan and Annette Bay, located at the end of Walden Point Road which connects the community to the ferry terminal. The 14.7-mile Walden Point Road is not only a scenic drive to the community of Metlakatla but is also designated an Alaska Scenic Byway.



Trip Ideas

Below are some ideas to help you plan your trip to Alaska. Please note that availability and routing on your particular date of travel may vary from the suggested itinerary.

- ▶ Day Trip from Ketchikan to Metlakatla
- ▶ 6 Day Sampler Road Trip
- ▶ 10 Day Drive Through the Inside Passage



Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities

Alaska Marine Highway System

1-800-642-0066

Attachment: Dennie Kay Weathers

MV Lituya

MV Lituya

The *MV Lituya* is named after the Lituya Glacier, located in Glacier Bay National Park & Preserve. Lituya Bay, the glacier's namesake, was noted in 1786 by Jena-Francois de La Perouse. The vessel was designed by Coastwise Engineering of Juneau, Alaska and constructed at Conrad Shipyards in Morgan City, Louisiana in 2004. The *MV Lituya* is the smallest vessel of the fleet and exclusively provides shuttle service between Ketchikan and Metlakatla, making it the only ferry dedicated to a single route. The *MV Lituya* is the only Alaska Marine Highway vessel to feature an open car deck.



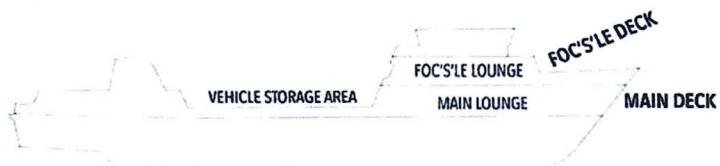
Click on image to activate the full slideshow for the MV Lituya.

Vessel Information

MV Lituya is 181 feet long and 50 feet wide, with a domestic gross tonnage of 97 and a service speed of 11.5 knots. The *MV Lituya* is designed to carry 125 passengers and has a vehicle capacity of 300 linear feet, which is equal to approximately 15 twenty-foot vehicles. View our Vessel Information Table for more statistical information.

Onboard Amenities

The interior space has a combination of reclining airline-style seats and table arrangements. Large windows provide excellent opportunities to view the passing scenery, or step outside to enjoy the fresh air. Click on the image to start a slideshow of all deck plans on the *MV Lituya*.



From: lkniemann47@gmail.com
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Subject: Please kill sb21. & sb26 These are not in the best interest of the people of Alaska. Do the right thing.
Date: Wednesday, February 08, 2017 6:01:32 PM

Thank You,

Sent from Windows Mail

From: [Alex V](#)
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Subject: Please stop SB 21 and SB 26!
Date: Wednesday, February 08, 2017 6:44:15 PM

The Permanent Fund is an emergency reserve fund. it isn't meant for government spending or government overspending. It can't be allowed to be gutted without a vote from the share holders.. namely the entire qualifying population of Alaskans.

For those of us who live in rural Alaska, we don't spend dividends on airplane tickets and snow machines like most city folk. We put the dividend into our electric bills, or wood piles or fuel tanks. The slash tactic used by Governor Walker during last year's payout made it so that instead of filling up my fuel tank in preparation for the long winter, I have been struggling to fill it 100 gallons at a time.

There is not much work where I live in the winter and that shouldn't even have to be my point. The point is we filed for the dividend in 2016 between january and march of 2016 and expected that dividend to be available in october of 2016. there was no fair warning.. no settling in period no voting block.. none of these things happened.. we woke up to news in july that our dividend would be slashed in half. it was not fair. It was not called for. It was a petty tactic from a petty governor to punish Alaskans who didn't support his income or sales tax proposals.

The people hurt most by this dividend gutting are the people who can least afford it.

Reconsider supporting dividend cutting.. otherwise voters will reconsider your continued employment in the senate.

Signed, Bela Alexander Von Tolmacy , Registered voter. Member of the Republican party.

From: [Sally](#)
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Subject: LISTEN
Date: Wednesday, February 08, 2017 11:44:59 PM

Please, listen to us, senators and representatives. Senator Dunleavy, do whatever you have to do to prevent a cap and a restructuring of our PFD! Sally Pollen, Palmer, AK

From: [Connie Fredenberg](#)
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Subject: SB21 and SB26
Date: Thursday, February 09, 2017 5:44:28 AM

SB21 and SB26 will drain our PFD, our duly earned dividend as an owner state.

Stop subsidizing the oil industry, the richest industry in the world, with our money.

We need an income tax and a proper tax on oil extraction.

Stop taking from the poorest of Alaskans to subsidize the richest.

Sincerely,

Constance Fredenberg

Palmer, AK

From: beth@bethsvalleyviews.com
To: [Sen. Cathy Giessel](#); [Senator Bert Stedman](#)
Cc: [Sen. Anna MacKinnon](#); [Sen. Click Bishop](#); [Sen. David Wilson](#); [Sen. Shelley Hughes](#); [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#); [Sen. Pete Kelly](#); [Sen Pete Micciche](#)
Subject: SB 21-PFD & SB 50-\$75 Tire Tax
Date: Thursday, February 09, 2017 9:00:28 AM

Honored Senators,

It appears to me, for some inconceivable reason, that Senators Stedman and Giessel believe in maintaining an over-bloated government for a population with vast reaches but the population of a small city. I say this for the following reasons:

- * We should never increase the expenses to the private sector during a recession; just ask noted economists Dr. Goldsmith and Nobel Laureate Dr. Vernon Smith;
- * Just as you do not give more money to someone who has no concept of the value of the monetary gift you have given them, you do not give government more money when they are over-spending and not collecting available money (oil tax audits) doing their jobs.
- * SB 21 has been introduced and rejected, in various forms, many times over the past 2 decades, please give it up, it is still a bad idea;
- * SB 50 places the burden of rutted roads on a non-existent cause, studded tires. As someone who has been serving on the MSB Transportation Advisory Board for 5 years, and someone who has been reading South Central newspapers for 26 years, I know that it is the weight of traffic and not the studs that cause the ruts. Use a higher grade and deeper depth of gravel and you will extend the life of the roads.

Thank you for your consideration of this information!

Sincerely,

bethf ;-)

Beth Fread

Associate Broker

907-354-7759

Beth@BethsValleyViews.com

Lee Realty, LLC

550 E Dunbar Dr., Suite F

Wasilla, AK 99654

"Bill and Beth take that value-added extra step in all they do!"

Call us today with your family and/or friend referrals for our extra-step professionalism.

From: [Peter Branson](#)
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Subject: Kill SB21 and SB26
Date: Thursday, February 09, 2017 9:36:48 AM

Dear Senator Dunleavy,

Please kill these regressive tax bill on Alaskan residents. I remember paying state income tax in Alaska and welcome its return, as long as the oil companies pay their fair share as well. Even under ACES Alaska was among the most profitable places in the world for oil companies, now we're literally paying the to take our oil. Cutting the PFD is one of the most regressive taxes you can do, especially in the bush.

Thank You, Peter Branson, PO Box 1259, Wrangell, AK

Sent from my iPhone

From: [J. Cassellius](#)
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Subject: STOP SB 21 and SB26 - NO PFD AND FUND CHANGE WITHOUT A PUBLIC VOTE!
Date: Thursday, February 09, 2017 9:49:00 PM

Dear Chairman, Senator Dunleavy and State Affairs Committee,
Please record my testimony AGAINST passing SB21 and SB26. You will serve the best interests of Alaskans today and for future generations by not allowing these bills to pass from your Committee. Kill these bills. It is wrong to change the PFD and Fund without a public vote.

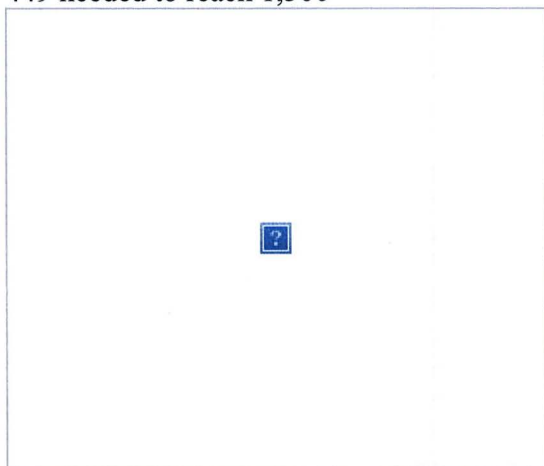
I'm a life-long Alaskan and registered voter in Eagle River, AK. My Facebook page for the group "Permanent Fund Defenders" has over 3,000 members and stands for stopping the restructure of the Fund and PFD without voter consent.

A petition I started last month opposing the plans to restructure the Fund and PFD has 1,000 signers so far. (www.change.org/p/defend-our-pfd-and-fund-now)
Below is the content of the petition. Please review it.

Thanks for doing the right thing to preserve the Owner State and Alaskans' shareholder rights. Restructure government, not the People's Fund.

Respectfully,
Juanita Cassellius
17606 N. Eagle River Lp
Eagle River, Alaska 99577

Share this petition
1,051 supporters
449 needed to reach 1,500



Tell the Legislators to save our PFD and Permanent Fund in the 2017 Session!

As the Owner State, Alaska's resource wealth belongs to all Alaskans. Governor Walker and

the Legislature are planning to restructure and spend the PFD and Fund earnings without public consent. This theft endangers the Fund and blocks the rights of Alaskans.

We have other solutions to Alaska's fiscal problems including getting a fair share for our resources, budget reform, and raising revenues in ways that Alaskans choose.

Alaska Legislators, as our elected representatives, we urge you to do everything in your power to protect the public interest for Alaska voters and Permanent Fund shareholders through the following actions. We strongly support these votes:

OPPOSE THE PFD AND FUND RESTRUCTURE: VOTE NO on Governor Walker's plan to restructure and spend from the PFD and Permanent Fund without public consent. Don't allow this! (SB 21, SB26)

SUPPORT RESTORING PFD MONEY: VOTE YES on House Bills 21 & 22, Senate Bill 1 and 2 to pay back Alaskans the \$670 million cut by the Governor in 2016. Return the Peoples' money.

SUPPORT A PUBLIC VOTE ON PFD USE: VOTE YES to pass legislation requiring a 2017 PFD Advisory Vote by the People of Alaska to decide if PFD money will be used for government spending this year. No PFD change without the Peoples' consent!

SUPPORT A CONSTITUTIONAL PFD GUARANTEE: VOTE YES on Resolution SJR1 to approve a 2018 public vote for a Constitutional Amendment to guarantee our PFD in the future. The PFD will never be safe without this.

Thanks for signing and sharing on this legislation to protect Alaskans' dividend and Fund.

This petition will be delivered to:

- Alaska Legislature
1. 4 weeks ago
Permanent Fund Defenders started this petition

Reasons for Signing

[When the PFD fund was set up the intent was to give all Alaskans a share in the wealth. It was not to give reckless politicians a stash to rob when they can't discipline themselves enough to balance the budget](#)

[Georgia Westphal, Anchor Point, AK](#)

[2 weeks ago](#)

4

Delete

[I believe the PFD & Permanent Fund belong to the people of Alaska not the government.](#)

[Marita Lawler, Sutton, AK](#)

[2 weeks ago](#)

4

Delete

[Alaskans deserve the full amount; the PFD is the ONLY income for many rural alaskans who really depend on it.](#)

[ephrim kozevnikoff, Russian Mission, AK](#)

[1 week ago](#)

4

Delete

[Join the conversation](#)

Report a policy violation

•

DEFEND Our PFD and FUND NOW

Post to Facebook

- Send a Facebook message
- [Send an email to friends](#)

From: [Annette R. Erickson](#)
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Subject: Bills 21 and 26
Date: Friday, February 10, 2017 11:36:50 AM

Please do not pass bills 21 and 26 as a voter and as a Alaska citizen I do not want my PFD to be cut and if possible I would like the remainder of it back for the 2016 dividend.

Thank you.

Annette Erickson
625-1653

Sent from my GCI smartphone

From: [holly mothershead](#)
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Subject: Be the voice of the people.
Date: Friday, February 10, 2017 11:55:14 AM

Stop Senate bills 21 and 26. Be the voice of the people.

From: [Dave Wherley](#)
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Subject: Senate Bills 21 & 26
Date: Friday, February 10, 2017 1:22:00 PM

Sir,

I find it very disheartening and frightening that the Alaska Senate continues it's attempts to seize the PFD for more funding of the government.

Leave the PFD alone and restore the money to the people! Last year the people had half of their PFD stolen to fund the bloated government. Cut the government to balance the budget FIRST, then we can discuss the PFD. Continuing to steal money from the people will only result in killing the economy of our state. Spend your earnings reserve, that is what it is for and leave the PFD in the hands of the people. They can spend their money to boost the economy from the bottom and that was the original intention, not to be stolen from the people. PUT IT TO A VOTE OF THE PEOPLE AND SEE WHAT THE CITIZENS WANT!! That is why you have your job sir, and that is why you were elected!

David S. Wherley

Sent from Windows Mail

From: [kathleen.peterson](#)
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Subject: Leave my PFD ALONE.
Date: Friday, February 10, 2017 2:20:52 PM

My name is Kathleen Peterson, I really don't appreciate that our government such as yourself is deciding to take our money and "use it for the government". We are all not as fortunate as you are. You get paid very well to do what you do. Sure you could say you earned it huh? Why don't you do something positive instead? Of course, there's so many people with mixed emotions, some think it's free money, some don't need it, some are just going with the flow. Well let me tell you as an Alaskan born resident, I feel that what you are purposing is highly offensive to myself, Alaskan's, Jay Hammond, and our future. You guys are getting paid so highly to do what is in the best interest for Alaskan's. You guys have been trying to take it for years. Bill Walker finally accomplished taking our rights away from us last year by taking our money anyway, who cares what anyone thinks right? So now that made you guys feel like oh, why not go for more? Why not take it all! Let me suggest this, you walk away from your lifestyle, your suit, your money, your nice shiny car, go stand on a corner holding a card board asking for money, anything helps. Just for a week. I bet you couldn't last a day. I couldn't, but you would then understand, this is our money you are talking about. It was never yours to take. Most Alaskan's rely on that dividend every year. It is not free money. Why don't you buy a Honda and move into an apartment, give up your money to our government just as you are expecting from all Alaskan's? You get paid highly for a reason, do your job and quit trying to steal our money. Quit trying to take an easy route, because I will make it rough. That's my money you're talking about. That really angers me. I wouldn't let you come into my house and allow you to steal it right in front of me and that is exactly what you are doing. If you had any kind of heart, you would know this is wrong. Didn't your mother teach you right? I hope so. Do what is right and actually do some real work and earn that money you're getting paid for. Quit trying to take my money. That would be in our best interest.

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: [Eagle One](#)
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Subject: PFD
Date: Friday, February 10, 2017 4:29:08 PM

Senator Dunleavy:

I encourage you to do everything in your power to insure that SB 21 and SB26 do NOT pass on the Senate floor of this state.

Citizens of this State, such as myself, are completely fed up with the exorbitant and wasteful spending of this State's government and we want the state budget brought under control and reduced so that, like any business, when income is not there, costs are cut to allow the business to continue.

The government of this State does not have the right to seize the PFD, or any portion thereof, from the citizens of this state without a public vote on the matter.

I encourage you to insure that the money that was removed from the PFD by the governor of this state be reinstated and paid back to the citizens.

Regards,

D. Alan Cruce

Palmer, Alaska

From: [rivir59@gmail.com](mailto:rivr59@gmail.com)
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Subject: Save Gov Hammonds PFD, Vote NO on 21 and 26
Date: Friday, February 10, 2017 5:14:20 PM

Hi Sen. Dunleavy, I'm emailing you to plz protect our PFD by Voting NO on Senate Bills 21 and 26. We the People would appreciate it, thank you

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Brandi Wadkins](#)
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Subject: SB 21 & 26
Date: Saturday, February 11, 2017 9:39:12 AM

Dear Sen. Dunleavy, please do not support the passage of SB 21 and 26. The people of Alaska do not support a restructuring of the PFD, nor any change in dividend payout from current law nor new taxation when substantial and necessary cuts to the budget have not been made. We need constitutional protection for our PFD.

Thank you.
Brandi Wadkins
Soldotna AK

From: [Jimig](#)
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Subject: PFD
Date: Saturday, February 11, 2017 11:05:53 AM

say NO to SB 21 and 26 to restructure the Fund and PFD

Karen L. Austin
99508

From: [tejas_dragon](#)
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Subject: NO TO SB 21/26
Date: Saturday, February 11, 2017 11:25:00 AM

NO to SB 21 and 26 to restructure to the Fund and PFD

Stop taking money from struggling Alaskans!!!
Stop illegally taking away our money!!

Balance the budget by cutting YOUR FLUFF not by taking money and food from my children's mouth!!

The PFD HELPS MY FAMILY GET THROUGH WINTER!!!

From: [Full Name](#)
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Subject: Stop the Bill
Date: Saturday, February 11, 2017 12:39:50 PM

Dear Senator,

Please stop bills SB21 and SB26 to restructure the PFD. The PFD needs to stay the way it has been in existence. The state government needs to find another way to meet the budget. Like a state lotto or legalese gambling

Sincerely
Kim Alman

From: [Jennifer Anderson](#)
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Subject: Stop SB21 and SB 22
Date: Saturday, February 11, 2017 2:22:06 PM

Dear Sir,

Using the PFD to fund government is wrong and implementing an income tax without MAJOR cutting is beyond my reasoning.

When my family income decreases, so does my budget. I am not able to simply take money from somewhere or ask for a raise. I must make tough decisions to keep my family fed, housed and clothed- everything else gets cut.

Those who have "enough", may not care what you do; but for those of us who live pay-check-to-paycheck an income tax, without or without the PFD reduction, will decrease standards of living and quite possibly push people back toward poverty. Decrease spending leads to a down economy..... a down economy leads people to leave the state.. and so on and so forth.

The job of the government is to make hard decisions- using the PFD and adding an income tax is not the hard decision, it's the quickest decision. The hard decision is cutting spending when it may be unpopular; the hard decision is ignoring lobbyist interests; the hard decision is risking losing the next election. 100% of the time, the hard decision is the right decision.

I urge you to make the hard decision; to decrease the budget and bring it back inline with the income currently generated by the state. And to let the people vote on what to do with the PFD- it is the people's money and we should decide what it does or does not get used for.

Sincerely,
Jennifer E anderson
Soldotna, Ak

From: [Becky Byrnes](#)
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Subject: PFD
Date: Saturday, February 11, 2017 5:30:51 PM

Please do not approve any bill to use any part of the PFD for government spending. I rely on the PFD to buy winter gear and meat for my household for the year! The government needs to reduce costs not spend more. I make less than 30,000 per year. My electric bill alone is almost 300 per month, due to MEA raising costs to pay for the new power plant that was supposed to SAVE consumers money! I need that money as do the majority of people I know. The legislature needs to reduce spending starting with their own pay! When you make the amount of money I do instead of the OVER INFLATED WAGES that the legislators make you would understand. There is no reason they should make 3-4 times as much as I do just because they hold public office!
There are way more people in this state that need that money than don't. Please leave the PFD alone!
From Becky's iPhone 6

From: imgoss@gci.net
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Subject: Stop the Raid on our PFD/Message from 62 year resident of Fairbanks
Date: Sunday, February 12, 2017 4:54:12 PM

I was born in the territory of Alaska in 1954. I say stop the raid of our PFD now before its too late.

Linda Morrison Goss

From: [Candace Smith](#)
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Subject: AK PFD
Date: Monday, February 13, 2017 10:24:16 AM

I am vehemently against the state legislators robbing the PFD to cushion their coffers. The PFD cannot be touched without a vote from the people, who it belongs to. Why don't you tax all those from the lower 48 who earn a living up here and take their money back to the lower 48? Why don't you give up part of your income to balance the budget? Why don't you give up some of your perks to balance the budget? Why don't you shave from the top instead of being bottom feeders?

My husband worked on the slope for years starting in '91. In '92, we moved here as a family. We have lived here since, brought up our family, and they all still live and work in-state. We've earned the right to a full PFD, and, being retired, we depend on it.

Find other ways to scavenge for funds.

Candace Smith
6860 Orchid Drive
Sacha, AK 99714

From: [Jessica wesley](#)
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Date: Monday, February 13, 2017 10:46:01 AM

Please we need our pfd for low income alaskans. It helps with foof and bills we cannot afford. I have two young children they depend on our pfd this years. Lawmakers have no right to touch our pfd.

February 15, 2017

Dear Senators & Congressmen,

Please vote against and strongly resist any legislation that includes more government raids on the Permanent Fund. (HB 115). This is bad legislation for the following reasons:

1 – A PFD tax is the worst and most unfair kind of tax – a regressive one. A progressive tax causes higher wage earners to pay a larger percentage, a flat tax causes everyone to pay the same percentage, but a regressive tax causes the poorest people to pay the highest percentage. Losing \$1000 a year might not matter much to people who make \$250,000 a year or more, but to a low income person earning less than \$40,000 a year \$1000 is a large percentage of their income. Anyone who votes for this is putting the needs of the wealthy ahead of the needs of the middle class.

2- A PFD tax is just adding fuel to the same problem. The legislature has greatly expanded the budget and Alaska spends more government money per capita than any other state. The legislature already gets 75% of the oil revenues and they have mismanaged that. Why would any reasonable person conclude they will be more responsible if we give them the other 25% of the oil revenue. This is like giving a person who has a gambling problem more money because they need it to pay bills without ever addressing their gambling addiction. It is likely just going to be used for more gambling and not help the person in the long run.

3 – A PFD tax without addressing all the tax benefits the oil companies are getting will show that the legislature is more interested in protecting the interests of the oil company lobbyists at the expense of the people of Alaska. Stand up for the voters, not the lobbyists. Make sure the oil companies are paying their share before coming to the people.

4 – A PFD tax will do nothing to address the millions if not billions of dollars that are leaving state through out of state workers in the oil, fisheries, tourism, and mining industries. Let's address that issue before taking more from the residents of Alaska who face higher costs of living while these out of state workers benefit from our resources and pay nothing for the infrastructure and management.

5 – Anyone versed in economics knows that it is the private sector that generates wealth. The public sector (government) is dependent on taxes generated by a booming private economy. Confiscating the PFD will shift would be spent in the private sector to government, thereby weakening the private economy of Alaska. The legislature is charged with helping to generate prosperity, not stifle it. In the long run using the PFD to fund government is like A fisherman selling his nets to pay for expenses on his boat. He is crippling his revenue stream to solve short term expenses and this isn't wise from an economic standpoint.

6 – Senator Dunleavy has submitted a plan to balance the budget in 2 years without taking the PFD. Please support SB1 & SB2 for Permanent Fund Restoration. Let's look for those kind of solutions before turning to a punitive tax on the people who can least afford it.

Thank you for your time,

Arne Erickson
368 Hillside Drive
Fairbanks, AK 99712
907-723-1041

February 17, 2017

Dear Senate State Affairs Committee Members:

The legislature needs to address the State budget issues this year. Nothing significant was done last year and our economic situation has continued to decline. Real compromises need to be made and legislation needs to be passed that will help resolve the State budget problems.

Tax credits for the oil companies need to be adjusted and better defined. They don't need to be totally eliminated. I support the Governor's basic plan to reduce the budget deficit. Cap the dividend, institute a State income tax, and use the earnings from the Permanent Fund. Any additional cuts to the State budget should be done carefully and selectively.

I strongly urge you to act this year and get the legislation passed. Members of the legislature need to put their political beliefs on the back burner and enact legislation that will benefit the State of Alaska.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ken Sherwood", written over the word "Sincerely,".

Ken Sherwood
1520 W. 12th Ave.
Anchorage, AK 99501

From: [Bobi Rinehart](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: PFD
Date: Friday, February 17, 2017 1:44:39 PM

I support restructuring of the PFD, as well as an income tax. I don't support a sales tax or taxing particular industries more than others, especially those industries that are family owned (i.e. Fishing boats).

I also support strong k-12 and higher education funding.

Thank you.

--Bobi Rinehart
16461 Saint James Cir
Anchorage, AK 99516

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Gordon Bartel](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: Senate bill 21 and 26
Date: Friday, February 17, 2017 1:50:02 PM

For every dollar of Permanent fund taken or additional taxes, there should be a corresponding \$5.00 decrease in government spending until the available funds meet the spending requirements.

Gordon Bartel
Phone 907-344-4490
Fax 907-344-4492
gbartel@bcxllc.net

From: [Larry Daniels](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Cc: [Sen. Cathy Giessel](#)
Subject: SB 21 and 26
Date: Friday, February 17, 2017 2:28:08 PM

Dear Senate,

I wish to go on record as supporting SB 26, the Governor's bill, which would create a POMV of 5.5% that will provide an annual appropriation to pay for State Government Services. It also sets a formula to pay an annual PFD.

I prefer this bill over SB 21, however, if SB 26 fails, then I support SB 21 as we must use a portion of the permanent fund support State government operations.

Larry Daniels

Girdwood Alaska

907-229-2550

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From: [Joan Brewer](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: Senate Bill 21 and Senate Bill 26 PFD use
Date: Friday, February 17, 2017 2:38:37 PM

I do not believe that the purpose of the Permanent Fund was to create a population of people expecting a handout each year. The Permanent Fund is a savings account that needs to be used wisely.

I feel it is important that a solution to our fiscal crisis includes limiting the PFD payment; paying an income tax (which would include funds from non-residents); reducing, if not eliminating, credits to the oil companies and changing the tax system for the fishing and mining industries.

If the legislature wants to reduce PFD payments, please make sure the pain is felt equally among individuals and businesses.

And sole source contracts to a buddy to collect fraudulent PFD payments is just criminal.

From: [Dori Ditmore](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: Re: Senate Bill 21 & Senate Bill 26
Date: Friday, February 17, 2017 3:24:14 PM

Dear Sirs

I understand you are about to have hearings on whether to use some of the P-Fund to pay for government. I would like to add my thoughts:

1. First of all we have not cut enough of the budget. Most of the so called "cuts" are more in the way of accounting adjustments and timing adjustments rather than actual spending reductions. We need actual spending reductions. I know that it is hard, but we need to focus on the CORE mission of the government and to pare back on everything else.
2. Second, I believe the P-Fund was set aside to help out in times when the money ran out. This is that time. It is silly to set up another government agency to collect taxes.. so we have administration of the P-Fund to pay out the earnings, and then we have an administration to collect the money back. More useless government when we should be contracting government, not expanding it.
3. Third, I am against an income tax. Instead of an income tax, the state needs to look to see what it pays for all the services it provides for unincorporated communities and it needs to charge those communities for the services. It is not right that communities that organize into cities/boroughs pay their own way for schools, etc. but places that choose not to organize get their services for free from the state.

Thank you.

Dori Ditmore



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
www.avast.com

From: [Ric Davidge](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: REF: SB21 and SB26
Date: Friday, February 17, 2017 3:25:18 PM

To the Chair and Members of the Committee:

I am opposed to both of these bills.

For two years the Dems and the media have been telling Alaskans that “we can’t cut our way out of this”

This is not true. No, not alternative facts. It is NOT TRUE. NOT TRUE.

The Dunleavy Plan now makes this very clear. Yes we have to use some of our savings, but that’s what it is there for.

But we don’t have to ‘harm’ the economy – oops forgot we are already in a recession due to oil price/income drop.

No we don’t have to harm the economy with state budget cuts, there are dozens of proven management strategies that can help reduce spending.

One I’ve testified about many times is the state goes to a 32 hour (4 days) work week.

BTW: with the imposition of Obama Care tens of thousands of small businesses went to a 32 hour work week. Most are still there.

The move to a 32 hour/4 day work week is not a layoff. It is a ‘temporary’ reduction in spending – across the board.

Employees get to choose if they are off on Monday or Friday (usually half and half) that way you keep the doors and services open.

Did you know that the bargaining unit agreements allow a 4 day work week? I know, you have to read them, but I've read all 13 of them.

A move to a 32 hour/4 day work week would reduce the cost of state government by \$500,000,000 a year – according to Leg Finance.

When income goes up you can add hours per week.

This is just one example of proven private sector management choices that can be made when facing a loss of income.

So, why can't we do things like this?

The reason is very simple. Public Sector Unions and their financial influence over Legislators. That's not what I said. It is what many in the legislature tell me.

The Dunleavy Plan is the right choice.

1. Put a real cap on state spending by fixing the formula in our constitution – Alaskans support this strongly.
2. Reduce spending by \$300M a year for three years
3. Use funds in our savings accounts
4. Keep your hands off the PFD – no reason to touch it.
5. NO NEW TAXES – cause they really don't help.

i. Since almost half of Alaskans don't pay federal income tax – why are they factored in with a state income tax? No, half of Alaskans won't pay it.

ii. Now you could put in a flat income tax that applies to all Alaskans – but again the Dems won't support that.

No sales taxes – they are don't needed and again the Dems will exempt lots of spending.

If you make it a flat sales tax and there are no exemptions for anything, but you set a ceiling on taxing only the first \$1,000, now you can generate some income

But how much will this cost for the state to manage? Some say more than half of this new income

And its not needed.

So, my testimony is simple.

No new taxes

Leave the PFD alone

Cut spending by \$300M a year for three years

Use some of our savings

And PLEASE adjust the cap on state spending in our constitution.

Ric Davidge, MPA/PM

Chairman, District 20

Chairman, Platform Committee

Alaska Republican Party

907 229 5328

From: [Ward Hurlburt](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: PFD USE
Date: Friday, February 17, 2017 5:04:36 PM

We are out of state and not convenient to the LIO.

As Alaskans since 1961 we support the use of funds from the Permanent Fund as the dominant source of funding to balance the state budget. We believe Governor Walker's action last year was reasonable and necessary.

We support continued efforts to reduce the size of the State's spending.

We would support an increase in gasoline and other fuel taxes. An increase in tobacco taxes (all forms of tobacco) could help us further our gratifying reduction in youth smoking as well as generating revenue for the state.

Our observation regarding other states without an income tax is that they tend to be more prosperous and to attract business and therefore we would be concerned about reinstating an income tax. If additional taxation is necessary a state sales tax, we believe, would be less harmful to our economy than an income tax.

Thank you

Toby and Ward Hurlburt.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Ward IV](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: Dividend and taxes
Date: Friday, February 17, 2017 5:44:00 PM

Senate Bills 21 & 26

Senators, as a citizen of Alaska since 1961, I want to go on record that our State government has been on a drunken spending spree for a long time, with oil dollars flowing in to our coffers.

I have not begrudged our employees one bit their benefits. Our fellow citizens their services delivers at the State trough.

Now that the spigot is being closed down, we need to make some TRUE cuts in spending, before we start digging into the pockets of our citizens!

Only then, once the pain has been felt by those who have most benefited from our largess, does the state have the right to reach into our pockets, and take our hard earned money, not a moment sooner.

Having been here this long, (started paying taxes in 1977) I have seen this happen multiple times. Every time before, noise of collecting an income tax is the first thing I've heard when dollars get tight. Thankfully, each time before, we've been saved by rising oil income/production. I'm not so certain this will be the case during our current predicament.

Even now I live in Anchorage, and am working my 29th year for United Airlines, currently based in Los Angeles, flying the 787. As you may know, we faced tough times, and my salary was cut in half, and I lost my pension. In large measure, due to our cuts, the airline still survives.

I'm not asking the state to do anything I haven't personally lived through already.

Please comprehend, the dollars you take out of our pockets are hard worked for, and earned! We value those dollars far more than the dollars the state has helped itself to all these years, even though the worth is the same, and technically, the ownership has been the same.

Please consider taxation with the same fear and trepidation you would have in reaching over to your seat mates' pocket, taking his or her wallet, taking their money out of that wallet, and handing the wallet back. More than likely they would swat your hand before you got very far into that process. That is what you are doing considering taxing us before any significant, painful, cuts to state spending.

Ward - Sent from my shoe-phone. Please ignore tie-poes

From: [Joseph Butcher](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: PFD
Date: Friday, February 17, 2017 11:09:20 PM

Restore the PFD. it was to be governed alone nothing more both SB 21 and SB 26 are a money grab and Walker should be held responsible as it is under his watch that the PFD is enduring this theft. The governance of the PFD is for disbursement alone and not for restructure, the Legacy of this fund is unlike any other in the Union of our great United States of America and should remain as was intended by the creator of the found anything else is a crime the calculate used to create this fund does in no way only depend on oil and the creator of the fund new that this would be a concern and the letter of what he wrote is clear, the attempt to manipulate this found for government use is a crime, it is the peoples. even with the lowest payout it is still a payout and seeing that it has been profitable is called attention Nationally the greed seen at this point is sickening and an embarrassment to our state. When no cap is placed on spending and rather rejected by the establishment and by the government at any level and yet a cap is attempted and insisted upon the accounts of other that have been favorable such as we have seen in the PFD it is unrecognizable that these meeting are even considered honorable. I insist you do the right thing and put the PFD at it's default state and do as is stated within and govern it's disbursement alone. It has been needed but withheld and with no legal ground to do so and yet the peoples recourse is lacking in justice and access to that justice.

From: [Woodrow Hull](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: testimony on stealing Alaskans PFD
Date: Friday, February 17, 2017 11:37:01 PM

leave the PFD alone start drilling for oil and natural gases as planned and mine for coal use our natural resources as promised. Stop stealing what was promised and protected in the State Constitution. Restore what was illegally stolen from the State Residents and fix the budget by cutting the fat not on the backs of the people you work for.

From: [Carol Carman](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Cc: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Subject: SB 21 & SB 26 Public Testimony
Date: Saturday, February 18, 2017 10:43:41 AM

Hello Scary Senate,

Now that the House is in the hands of the crazy democrats (and 3 muskrats), we rely on you to hold the line on fiscal sanity. Problem is that we are scared of what you are going to shove down our throats, given what you did last year... Make no mistake - we are adamantly opposed to any restructuring of the PF as in SB 21 & SB 26 or any other scary scheme you may derive.

Please do not act like democrat - just say **NO** to **SB 21** and **SB 26**.

You will be our heroes if you support Senator Dunleavy's bills to **restore** the PFD, and **cut** the size of our government to a **sustainable** level with **NO** change to the PFD, and **NO** new taxes. And guess-what? That would actually **support** the Republican Platform!

Please include this for the record with the public testimony on SB 21 & SB 26 that is happening next Tuesday, the 21st.

Bcc: Other Scared Alaskans

Carol Carman
Chair, ARP District 9E
907-746-8670 - [Facebook](#)
Secretary, Alaska Republican Assembly
[alaskara.com](#) - [Facebook](#)

From: [Mike Grace](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: Testimony on SB 21 and SB 26
Date: Saturday, February 18, 2017 11:27:39 AM

Greetings fellow citizens and legislators;

I am submitting this written testimony about SB 21 and SB 26, regarding the permanent fund and state budget controversy. As a general principle, I think it would harm the state government and the citizens it serves, if the legislature were to adopt these bills as law. Since the oil prices dramatically dropped in the recent past, and the recovery of higher prices has been slow, the state suddenly found itself in a budget crisis. As you all know this crisis comes from the fact that the state is predominately dependent upon oil and gas revenues gathered to finance the state budget. If oil prices are high then we have a booming growth in revenue, and if prices drop we have the typical bust in revenue. This trend is well known and Alaska's leadership is well aware of it.

Yet the growth of expenditure for the state government grows and is rarely, if ever, cut. The history of the legislature is to organize the budget in such a way that it does not recognize this well known trend of boom and bust in the Alaskan economy. The budget does not have a logical connection to the real economic trends of the state. Frankly, more cuts should be made, before new taxes and a looting of the perm fund should ever even be considered.

My reason for taking this position, is that if allowed to loot the perm fund, the state budget will never be restrained to rational limitations, and the same dysfunctional pattern of extravagant wasteful spending will continue. Taking from the perm fund and raising new taxes only empowers the legislature to continue in it's addiction to unhealthy spending and growth in unnecessary government services. I liken it to giving an gambling addict another loan, that we know he/she will never repay, only to repeat the same crisis again later. I predict that if you open the perm fund for state expenditure, irrational growth in spending will continue, the perm fund will be exhausted, and the state will again find itself with another budget crisis in the near future. Except by then, the state will have raised all the tax options possible, exhausting the tax payer with new burdens, and killing the perm fund by bleeding it like a leach.

At that point there will be no other option, but to simply do the painful cuts that should be done now, with the exception that such cuts will be more harmful then than now. More cuts are inevitable, reality will make itself felt sooner or later, regardless of the budgetary delusions that are presently entertained.

The legislature should form a budget based upon an average price of a barrel of crude oil at

\$40 to \$50, knowing that sometimes it will be higher and other times lower. Budget planning from year to year should not be based upon the price of oil that year, but based on a long term average. When there is surplus revenue in booming times, the revenue should be saved for leaner times, rather than spent like a gambling addict does at the casino. Further, it must create an environment in Alaska that diversifies the economy, rather than making it dependent upon the energy industry almost exclusively.

Governor Walker and those that have his budgetary outlook are simply looking for a quick fix. That quick fix is like a band aid on a broken leg, it may look like a solution but it is not. It does not address the unhealthy growth in state spending on extravagant projects that other states would never dare to attempt. As a citizen that loves this great state, and wants a bright future for my children here, I believe we need to adopt a, "tough love," policy towards the budget. We need fiscal discipline. It may hurt, but it will also make us better off in the long run.

If Governor Walker continues in this path he has chosen, I will be voting for another candidate for the office. And I will do likewise for legislators that also continue in this excessive and extravagant spending. I have seen first hand the excesses in state spending. Those of us who work in the private sector can not borrow for our expense and expect others to pay the debt. We are disgusted with the state's addictive habit of incurring debts through general obligation bonds, with we, the private sector tax payers, as the collateral. Such a scenario is like a gambler who gets to use other peoples' credit cards at the casino, but doesn't have to pay the credit card bill.

I could site examples of this, but only one is necessary to make my point. Near Nenana where I reside millions of dollars were spent to make a bridge across the Nenana river for access to energy development and some agricultural land. If I am correct, I believe the total expenditure to date is around 13 million dollars. It was budgeted to be sufficient to build the bridge, but now that the money is all spent, the bridge is still unfinished. This was funded partly by state bonds and state grants. To a tax payer, paying 13 million dollars for a bridge that will never be finished, and was never genuinely needed is excessive and wasteful. This is only one example among many.

Yet the legislature and Governor have the shameless nerve to suggest new taxes and raiding the perm fund. If the state leadership is determined to steal the perm fund from future generations, then I demand a return to property owners possession of their mineral rights. I own more than one property and the state retains all mineral rights, allegedly under the pretense that the perm fund payout is compensation for this. Give me my unrestrained mineral rights and you can have the perm fund.

Everyone that I know is angry about this dysfunctional tendency to solve problems by creating

new ones. The state leadership needs to prove by substantial action that it will live within the boundaries of its means, before any consideration of new revenue sources. Generally Alaskans are tired of this juvenile handling of the public treasury. It's time for Alaska to grow up like other states have.

Thank you for lending me your attention and hearing. From Mike Grace of the Nenana area.

From: [Katherine Hicks](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: SB 21 & SB 26
Date: Saturday, February 18, 2017 12:16:40 PM

I am shocked that you are even considering these bills. I truly believe that you are introducing these bills knowing that either of them will eventually lead to the destruction of the Permanent Fund.

If you would go to <http://www.missioncriticalalaska.com/> look under budget, you can see how little you have actually cut from the overspending that occurred during the "Glory Days". Notice that the Designated General Fund has grown by over \$23 million dollars in 2017 alone.

I do not think it is appropriate for us to be taxed while the State continues to spend. I would recommend that you cut the operating budget and the designated funds that you have.

How do you think your constituents feel when we here our Governor announcing the opening of offices in Texas and Japan (at enormous expense) yet you want to take our Permanent Fund? This LNG fiasco is getting old. It seems we've wasted enough money on this "Pipe Dream".

I urge you to take the advice of Senator Mike Dunleavy and stop raiding the Permanent Fund. I have included a link to his 6/26/16 letter to ADN:
<https://www.adn.com/commentary/article/alaska-must-cut-state-spending-800-million-get-sustainable-budget/2016/03/15/>

I am fairly confident that the next thing you have in mind is to implement a tax on us. We don't need taxes until you quit recklessly spending.

Katherine Hicks
Anchorage

From: [Naomi Norback](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: SB21 and SB26
Date: Saturday, February 18, 2017 12:27:29 PM
Attachments: [ATT00001.txt](#)

I am pasting a picture of a page in Jay Hammond's book, "Bush Rat Governor" please read the chapter where he talks about the establishment of the PFD. I am totally against the legislature changing what was set up by Jay Hammond! Leave the permanent fund alone. I am willing to pay my fair share for state services, but would choose a state income tax. That way we could catch some of what is flowing out of our state by people who are here just to make money. This should never have been taken out in the first place.

out of cash, invaded. Annual earnings from this account would be divided in half: fifty percent would be dispersed in cash dividends to all Alaskans, in the form of one share of dividend-paying "stock" for each year of residency since statehood.

I'd considered providing health or unemployment insurance instead of cash dividends. Others suggested subsidized loans. Since absolute equity was a necessary objective, however, I preferred to let each Alaskan — not the politicians — decide how he or she should spend some of the resource wealth each owned.

Children's dividends would be held in an interest-bearing account until age eighteen. Persons moving out of Alaska would relinquish their "stockholder" shares.

Legislative reception for Alaska, Inc. was not cordial. The proposal was referred to a multitude of committees for interment.

Fortunately, a few lawmakers shared my concern that, unless something was done to sweep some of our coming oil wealth off the legislative smorgasbord, all would be consumed by programs the state couldn't possibly sustain when our one-time wealth declined.

Had it not been for the substantial efforts of a few legislators like Clem Tillion, Oral Freeman, Hugh Malone, Clark Gruening (Ernest Gruening's grandson), Terry Gardiner and a few others, Alaska would surely have followed suit. After much debate, these visionaries persuaded their colleagues to pass legislation creating an investment account. Unfortunately, it bore little resemblance to Alaska, Inc.

Rather than creating an invasion-proof account by an amendment to the Alaska Constitution, the legislature's investment account was statutory and could be tapped any time at legislative whim. Instead of depositing half of all resource lease, bonuses and royalties, deposits were halved again, to twenty-five percent. Also lopped off was any reference to severance taxes — a tax paid for 'severing' a resource from its owner — which accounts for almost half of Alaska's oil income. Legislative pruning reduced the contributions I had proposed by almost 75 percent!

In light of these mutilations I was not surprised to find also scissored out any reference to dividends or to "Alaska, Inc." In place was the misnomer, "The Alaska Permanent Fund."

"Permanent?" Only until a subsequent legislature decided otherwise. Nothing but a constitutional amendment could keep politicians from breaching the public's investment account. Anything less was an invitation to raid. Consequently, I reluctantly vetoed Alaska's first Permanent Fund. In my veto message I reiterated my concerns and insisted the issue be put to the electorate as a constitutional amendment.

The legislature grumbled but complied, and the 1976 general election saw Alaskans vote overwhelmingly to create a far more nearly PERMANENT Fund. While fund earnings can be spent as the legislature chooses, the fund itself is protected against political onslaught unless a statewide vote decides otherwise.

From: [Sandi Williams](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: SB's 21 & 26
Date: Saturday, February 18, 2017 1:05:04 PM

I do not support either of these bills. I am very much interested in the implementation of Governor Hammond's 50/50 Plan. The government's portion would be to fund ESSENTIAL government services. I recommend all of you watch this slide presentation: <https://www.slideshare.net/mobile/bgkeithley/implementing-governor-hammonds-5050-plan-fairbanks-budget-blitz-2162016>. What's intended to be done in these two bills will hurt the state and it's people forever more. The state government must seriously consider privatization (or outsourcing) non-essential services in order to bridge the gap. They have not done so yet. In fact, they seem adamant that they will not do so. That is a shameful act of selfish government power. It must stop. In addition to privatizing a good portion of non-essential services, I suggest you also look to cutting frivolous administrative positions. In many departments you have become top heavy. Though this would not be an issue should those departments be privatized.

Thank you for watching the attached slide show and considering my suggestions.

Sandi Williams
Wasilla, Alaska

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Christine Klein](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#); [Sen. Cathy Giessel](#); [Rep. Jennifer Johnston](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#)
Cc: [Christine Klein](#)
Subject: PF and budget comments
Date: Saturday, February 18, 2017 1:31:06 PM

Good Afternoon

I'm taking time to write and express my support in using the AK permanent fund to balance the budget. Our state's deficit is far bigger than the entire operating budget, so reducing or even simply cutting our entire government (including legislature), would not solve this problem. A solution can only be accomplished using our existing fund sources; as well as, new funds to pay for what "we use" and is provided in our state. We need you to develop a balanced sustainable state budget through costs to everyone, this session

Please consider all options of revenue to pay for the core services that our AK constitution guarantees. There are really no remaining choices other than requiring all AK citizens', all of us left remaining here in AK to start paying for our own way. We need a comprehensive sustainable fiscal plan or face losing more jobs, businesses, and population to help share this burden. The solution needs to be **fair, consistent, and have cost impact across our entire socioeconomic strata of Alaska** - all businesses, all resource sectors, every citizen, out of state workers', non-resident permit holders', property owners of for-profit AND non-profit organizations, and seasonal visitors'. All other US states' and their citizens' pay the cost of their state government and the services they use and benefit from, and most states have a lot fewer savings tucked away. At this time everything should be on the table for open consideration to develop a balanced budget solution this session.

I support using our AK permanent funds and a wide mixture of measures to fund AK's constitutionally mandated services. Good luck to each of you, all our legislators', and Governor as you work together to address this deficit and create a long term fiscal plan.
Thank you for your time.

Christine Klein

Christine Klein
ADK Alaska, Professional Services
12201 Graiff St
Anchorage, AK 99507
(907) 351-9585

From: [Jessica Wesley](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: HandsoffPfd
Date: Saturday, February 18, 2017 3:49:55 PM

Hello my name is Jessica Wesley. I am a single mom of two. I disagree with you greedy legislature. Keep your hands off the pfd. Low income need that money to pay bills, rent, buy food, heat our homes for the winter. Make more cuts to government. Reduce the size of your salaries. People are already struggling financially just to feed their families. Put the people first not your greed.

From: [Joan Bundtzen](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: Permanent fund
Date: Saturday, February 18, 2017 4:58:03 PM

If you are trying to balance the budget using the permanent fund, PLEASE DO! It makes no sense to me to have a huge bureaucracy to distribute money and then tax it away with another huge bureaucracy. There should be no permanent fund distribution until the budget is balanced.

Joan Bundtzen--a voter.

From: jahalaska15@yahoo.com
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: No Income Tax or Restructuring of the Permanent Fund
Date: Sunday, February 19, 2017 10:57:15 AM

We do not need an income tax or restructuring of the Permanent Fund.

The school administration and schools are too top heavy with personnel as well as receiving high salaries. There use to be a principal, VP and some secretaries who were able to manage the day to day business and did it efficiently. Put some of the administrators back into the classrooms with less huge salaries. Also start teaching the children the basics again. We have failed to educate our children properly and put more money into the system which is not working. More money does not make our children any smarter.

Also some state employees are getting salaries that are outragous and not performing their jobs.

Don't tax Alaskans who are already paying higher prices because they live in Alaska.

Thank you.

Jim & Annette Harpster
PO Box 2846
Palmer, Alaska 99645
907-746-1740

From: [Susan Olsen](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: SB 21 and SB 26 written testimony
Date: Sunday, February 19, 2017 4:07:03 PM

I am unable to testify in person on SB 21 and SB 26 so submit this written testimony. My name is Susan Olsen and I live in Anchorage.

I thank you for this opportunity to weigh in on Alaska's very critical fiscal crisis which must be resolved this session. The Senate blocked all meaningful legislation during last year's session which went on and on and on without producing anything on this issue. I would hope this hearing on Senator Stedman's and the Governor's bills would initiate a process whereby the House, Senate and Governor can enact a sustainable legislative compromise this session.

I would urge support for SB 26 due to its comprehensive nature which not only establishes POMV for the Permanent Fund, but establishes a formula for inflation proofing, allows for a lesser draw in the event Alaska receives more than \$1.2 billion in mineral royalties and oil and gas production taxes and calls for a review of all elements in SB 26 in three years. Should the bill not work, then the legislature can review and revise in three years. That time period would I believe allow sufficient time to determine if the withdrawal amount is sustainable both for the PF's corpus and the dividend program.

In my opinion, SB 21 merely establishes a formula which guarantees a minimum amount for a dividend. I do not believe our budget crisis can be resolved only by dealing with the amount of the dividend; the issue is how to pay for the state's operating budget. Action by the legislature must establish what amount can be taken annually from the PF's earning reserves for the general fund before "victory" can be declared. SB 21 is inadequate for the job.

From: [Eva](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: Support Senate Bill 21 Over Senate Bill 26
Date: Sunday, February 19, 2017 8:18:40 PM

I support the governor's version of a change to the Permanent Fund.

However, I like the House Representatives bill proposing a state income tax over both of the senate bills.

We cannot cut our way or count on the permanent fund to get out of this fiscal mess. We need more income.

Yvette Miller

Senate District N

From: C
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: Income tax/balanced budget/PFD
Date: Monday, February 20, 2017 10:13:43 AM

Do not reduce or eliminate the PFD.

The best way to balance the budget would be to first look at all of the government funded jobs and reduce them. Many management positions could be discarded, some secretary positions, and anyone dealing with unnecessary regulation enforcement.

We need teachers, we do not need people working on paperwork. Get rid of the behind the scenes people, get rid of the union bloat, get rid of the unnecessary regulations. Let the teachers just teach.

Second, reduce all state government salaries so that the MAXIMUM salary is right at the average Alaskan income. This will not only reduce the state budget enormously, but it will give the Alaskan government the proper incentive. If the life of the average Alaskan improves, then your life will too.

Third, stop any and all new state funded projects (building new roads, building new buildings, etc.). Let us deal with what we have now.

Alaska is a VERY expensive place to live. If you make it more difficult to live here, by adding income tax, or state tax, or reducing the PFD, many people will leave.

Christina Partridge

From: [Andrew Brewer](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: Written Testimony for SB's 21 and 26
Date: Monday, February 20, 2017 12:40:56 AM
Attachments: [Testimony on SB 21 and 26.docx](#)

To: Chair of the Senate State Affairs Committee

Re: Senate Bills 21 and 26

With HB 115 being fast tracked thru the House, it is interesting to see how the Senate will respond to the Budget Challenge vis- a- vis the use of Permanent Fund Earnings.

These two Bills are called “restructures” in terms of how the payout is calculated from the Fund, and both of them change the critical word “transfer” to “appropriate”. In that sense they are similar. There are those who find those two changes sufficient to sink both of these Bills in Committee. Exposing the Dividend to the gubernatorial veto has already been shown to be a very bad idea.

Beyond that, the similarities end. SB 21 is the only one that has any merit. It proposes a 50/50 split of a 4.5% of market value distribution. With 2.25% going to the Dividend first, that would yield a payout of \$1600-\$1700 per recipient, and \$1.1-1.2 Billion available for the General Fund. And SB 21 makes provision for the other half to be distributed to the Dividend, if circumstances allow. Inflation proofing is supposedly taken care of in the choice of a 4.5% annual distribution.

This year’s PFD payout would have been matched by 50% of a 5.25 POMV distribution. So the 4.5% is about \$300 less at the current valuation of the Fund. That’s one shortfall. Second, the fixed 4.5% distribution does not take into account market fluctuations, like the current formula does. It relies on a consistency that may or may not be there. Further “inflation proofing” may change as well based on whatever the current conditions are. Why not have language that inflation proofs the Fund based on its actual performance and needs due to inflation ? Thus the fixed 4.5% rate falls short again.

Can SB21 be amended to address the concerns brought above ? Perhaps, but why go to the effort of gutting the core of the Bill which is the 4.5% distribution ? A 50/50 split of the current distribution would have provided \$1.4 Billion to the General Fund and that same amount to the Dividend. The CEO of the APFC has stated that 80% of the investments are already inflation proofed. Inflation proofing can occur on an “as needed” basis.

I therefore conclude that while SB 21 has some merit, it is still exposed to the gubernatorial veto and lacks the flexibility of the current formula. I would encourage the Senate to modify the existing formula to limit the amount available for appropriation from the Earnings Reserve Account in any year, and add language that “dedicates” the payout to the People’s Dividend, thus protecting it from the Governor’s veto.

Andrew W. Brewer

From: [Mark Parmelee](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: Fwd: SB 21 and SB 26 - Yes to establishing a POMV use of the Permanent Fund
Date: Monday, February 20, 2017 1:33:08 PM

Subject: SB 21 and SB 26 - Yes to establishing a POMV use of the Permanent Fund
To: senate.state.affairs@akleg.gov
Cc: "Sen. Cathy Giessel" <Sen.Cathy.Giessel@akleg.gov>, representative.Jennifer.Johnston@akleg.gov

Senate State Affairs Committee,

I understand you have a hearing tomorrow on two bills that discuss POMV changes to the Permanent Fund, PF. I want you to move out of your committee either of the bills as part of the solution of getting Alaska state's budget in order. Tapping the PF and developing other revenue sources is necessary to get Alaska out of the recession it is falling into. Uncertainty for another year will not help Alaska and Alaskans. I have a new college grad daughter working outside because in recent Anchorage interviews she has been told firms are not hiring.

I leave it to you to decide which bill should be moved out of your committee. In my looking at the one page summaries I prefer SB 26 over SB 21.

The PF was set aside for use when needed. The PF is needed now in one form or another for government operations. We cannot cut our way out of the Alaska's budget problem. A POVM use of the PF is a smart move at this time. Please act before the state reserves are expended and the recession gets worse.

Sincerely,

Mark Parmelee

18630 Snowy Plover Circle

Anchorage, AK 99516

From: [Vernon Osborn](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: Senate Bill 26
Date: Monday, February 20, 2017 2:38:11 PM
Importance: High

As soon as AK State Government gets into the PFD, they will not stop until it is depleted!

This is a fact, the AK State Gov. will spend every dollar just as the pissed away the 600 some million when the pipeline started producing in the 80's.

In the first year, and the second year wasn't any better.

Give the State a set amount to assist with government, get the capital relocated (when the funds were there), this will save Juneau millions!

The People deserve their PFD that the Gov. Walker stole while session was out.

Use homeless Native Tribe money to pay for "Their People" street people's cost for sheltering, legal affairs, and hospital attention.

The Anchorage residence should not be required to pay their bills!

I am a disabled Vet, and no one pays my way and yes I could have used the rest of "My Family" PFD.

I earned my way and medical care by serving our State and Nation.

Vernon Osborn

MSgt. Retired

(907) 227-0101

From: [merrill briggs](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: PFD
Date: Monday, February 20, 2017 3:05:10 PM

To those who are in favor of keeping the PFD "sacred" and untouchable from the hands of would-be legislators, PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE do all within your power to see that this is indeed protected now and in the future!!!

We fully depend upon this fund to assist us in the increased cost of living that is required for those of us who live in Alaska. We will need to leave Alaska if this fund is taken from us.

PLEASE PRESERVE AND PROTECT IT FOR OUR FUTURE!

Thank You!

Merrill & Janet Briggs

From: [Barry Santana](#)
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Cc: [Sen. David Wilson](#); [Rep. Mark Neuman](#)
Subject: Budget Cuts and SB21(2017) and SB 26
Date: Sunday, February 19, 2017 5:21:18 PM

Senator Dunleavy,

Although I tuned-in late to the discussion on SB21 and SB26, I believe I got the gist of the discussion from listening to the later presentations and discussion online. I also downloaded documents that were available including several emails you posted from Angela Rodell and Randy Hoffbeck, as well as opposition emails to you from constituents.

I am in support of smaller government than we have now, as you are and many of your constituents. The problem I see is that for 20 or more years, the Alaska governing bodies (Legislature and Administration) have been spending money like drunken sailors on small and mega projects, a behemoth government bureaucracy and tax credits and a favorable tax credit system to some of the richest companies on the planet. We are paying for that now with the residual of enormous health care and retirement payouts for government workers which will be with us until they die. That doesn't mean we should not cut what we can, but we can't default on retirement obligations and tax credits owed while we are governed by the rule of law and have a huge savings account in the Permanent Fund.

To date I have seen no bills that actually propose line item cuts, or even across the board cuts, on the order of 75% of state spending required to get close to a balanced budget without using more out of our savings account. I do not want to see any more billions of dollars drained from the CBR like has been the status quo the last 3 years. In fact, I have seen the legislature's budget for the last 2 years remain upwards of \$70 million with no double digit percentage cuts! I have told my Representative Mark Neuman, that I could agree to a state government organization chart based on one from 1981 and staff levels for that organization increased proportionally for population with salaries increased for inflation. His response was to cut regulations to save money. He didn't really think my proposal for "right-sizing" government would fly. I admit there would be a lot of work for government administrators and then there all those nasty oil tax credits and government retiree's pensions and health care to deal with. And a few people would leave the state. But we would have government of a size before we became addicted to oil revenue.

On the other hand, there have been some reasonable approaches to breaching use of the PF earnings reserve using a POMV draw that I can support if the PF is protected. Here is what I sent to Senator Stedman on SB21(2017):

"Thank you for proposing SB21. I am ready to allow use of a reasonable portion of the Earnings Reserve to fund both the PFD and essential government services. I think your bill is the least complex of any that I have seen. I also believe that your characterization of the bill as a starting point with other bills providing additional revenue as "bolt-on" additions is a simple way to go.

I have the following comments that I would like you to consider to strengthen the bill:

- I would prefer the bill be stated as **"contingent upon" passage** of other revenue producing bills.

- I strongly feel that **modification of the oil & gas tax and tax credit structure needs to be one revenue source** before any removal of the Earning Reserves for funding Govt. Services or restructuring the PFD. The minimum tax on a barrel of oil should be raised to 6% of the gross wellhead value of Alaska oil determined by an independent market. All oil should be taxed; the term "new oil" should be removed from the tax code until Alaska has its fiscal house in order. There should be no tax credits allowed until we have our fiscal house in order. If tax credits return later, they should be scrutinized, and limited to insure they will provide a reasonable economic return to the state within 3 years after start of production. To summarize: **if Alaska oil is uneconomic to produce, we should leave it in the ground, period.**
- I strongly believe that the **PF should be inflation-proofed annually from any POMV draw** for either PFD or Govt. Services use. **As I understand it, SB21(2017) rescinds inflation-proofing of the PF.** I find that the Alaska Permanent Fund Corp. considers the difference between between PF real return and total return to be the cost of inflation. The latest rolling 10-year return bar graphs show a value of about 1.5% for inflation. (http://www.apfc.org/_amiReportsArchive/2016_09_AR.pdf, page 9) Earlier rates have been as high as 3%. This value needs to be reviewed annually, but I think taking 1.5% out of your proposed 4.5% draw is appropriate at this time. I know there are arguments for assuming the PF returns will provide inflation proofing, but Angela Rodell has indicated by email to Senator Dunleavy in answer to a request he sent her after the hearing on SB21 and SB26, that this is not true. AS 37.13.120(a) does not necessarily make it so. It must be understood that there will be years of negative return, maybe several years in a row. Annual inflation-proofing is the only logical solution.
- I would like to see any bill regarding a POMV withdrawal Constitutionalized. It appeared that both you and Senator Dunleavy agreed with that in the hearing. I believe this would go a long way in providing credibility to any bill that looks like the Legislature or Administration is going to take money for Govt. Services, of PFD restructuring for that matter.

I believe you have presented a strong, simple bill to help get our fiscal mess untangled. Thank you."

I think SB26 might also be OK with the same qualifiers I have made, but I find the Governor's proposal much to complicated for my liking. I also like HB115 with similar qualifiers including a 50/50 split between PFD and Govt. Services. I could even handle the income tax proposal incorporated in HB115 if it included a minimum tax of at least \$50 for each person who files a federal return or gets a PFD check. It is a simple tax bill that could give everyone skin in the game; out-of-state workers, welfare recipients, kids, everyone...no discrimination.

I just really don't want you guys to piss away our savings account, so the state can file bankruptcy so we can pass the bill on to the Federal Govt. and the retired government workers get 10 cents on the dollar. I'm hoping you can find those budget cuts to go along with HB115 or SB21 to save us.

Barry Santana
Wasilla, Alaska

From: and.czk@gmail.com
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: SB 26
Date: Monday, February 20, 2017 9:58:39 PM

Governor Walker you should be ashamed of yourself for stooping so low to even consider further fleecing and raping the very taxpayer who supports a lot of this so called government especially since you already took 50% of the permanent fund as another form of tax to support your already top heavy bureaucracy which never seems to get or have enough to spend. You have plenty of areas to cut the budget without further cutting the throats of the hardworking taxpayers who are the very backbone of your budget spending. I know we don't pay a so called state tax but we do pay federal tax and many hidden taxes that go directly to our state government as well. It doesn't take a genius to spend money but it does take discipline to save and look ahead into the future and plan for adverse conditions and down turns. You can start by not calculating your phony budget with unrealistic income. Rather come in on the low side with your projected income and if you happen to have more then expected start your own governmental permanent fund to spend on your rainy day shortfall. You can also start cutting deeper on every department of the government instead of allotting them an unrealistic budget for today's economy and making it mandatory that they spend every penny of it and beg for more or risk taking a budget cut in the future. That's an incentive program alright but it's incentive is leading us in the exact wrong direction. Be a leader and cut spending and government even though you will hear complaining from various groups but stand up and take it like the man you should be and represent the people of the state and not the government, special interest groups or other cronyism that's going on in the state government as well as every government that exists today from the smallest city government to the federal government or even international government. You may say the government can't save since its against the law. Make laws that change that or are you just along for the ride and to get what's in it for you. Outlaw lobbyist and he who has the most money wins. This country is formed on a republic not a democracy that goes with the flow of the most money. Take a look at the web page that shows the millions of dollars paid to lobbyists by all the complaining companies who are taxed too much and governmental agencies which are funded by taxpayer dollars and tell me there isn't enough money to plentifully fund the important things to keep this state running. No instead you use the methodology of trying to hurt the people first by cutting road maintenance because that's your big leverage point too show them how cut to the bone you are. You haven't even given yourself a raiser burn yet alone a cut. Leave the permanent fund alone and show the people that you're really trying to bring government spending under control and then maybe the people will rally around you, but the direction you're headed shows no good faith effort on your part at all. We already have proof positive what happens when government gets their hand into the cookie jar. Just look at the social security system. Not one dime of that was ever paid in by any governmental agency but yet government repeatedly raped it and the people in the process and they still continually need more and on top of it all put this nation in debt \$20 trillion plus conservatively. Sounds like a den of thieves to me. So more money isn't the answer. Controlled spending is and that should be your top priority and not further fleecing the people. Look at the school budget. Another broken governmental agency which is never satisfied yet returns the taxpayer with some of the lowest learning performance ever recorded. More money isn't the answer again. I get taxed by the borough for the failing school system. I get taxed by the federal government for the failed school system. What ever happened to no double taxation yet alone with no representation. Every time I turn around I'm getting some additional form of tax added on my back and it rarely decreases and it causes further hardship when it takes up my additional time to combat things like this senate bill which will only increase my burden if not confronted. Yet I have never even sent my children to public school. What a fair system. I must say it wouldn't be nearly as bad if it was producing some good fruit but it's minimal at best. The list can go on and on but hopefully even you can get the point by now. You use our tax dollars against us to support your whole legal staff so you can have these fancy lawyerese laden senate bills written to try and make it extremely hard to understand and so discourage and intimidate the taxpayer from responding due to lack of understanding and the inability to hire lawyers to refute the government which has unlimited taxpayer funds which are used in a way not appropriate with the intent of taxes to further take advantage of the people. Sounds like a story of David and Goliath. Well shame on you for taking advantage of these hardworking people who are struggling as well yet don't allow themselves to go further in debt to supposedly get ahead in life. No they bite the bullet and make due with what they have and say no to the things they can't afford. Yes they sacrifice so you likewise need to do the same and live within your means and furthermore treat this money that isn't yours to just piss away with utmost respect when it comes to spending it since hardworking people sacrifice to give so their money can be used wisely and show some kind of recognizably profitable return as well. That will encourage the people and build them up which is also your job as governor and

leader of this great state. To sum it all up government needs to diminish and get much smaller as the economy diminishes instead of continually growing and outgrowing the rest of the means to support it. Think ahead a ways and figure out who will support the government when it grows to the point that there are no more nongovernmental people paying taxes. It's called the law of diminishing returns and it just doesn't work.

Keep looking up... Even though they're making it tough. God is the only answer!

Andy Cizek
33060 Baylor st
Soldotna, ak. 99669
9072521704

From: [John Beebee](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: SB21 vs SB26
Date: Monday, February 20, 2017 10:57:12 AM

My instant impression is that SB21(2017) is disastrously named, because it conjures up memories of the disastrous SB21(2014) that gave away too much of Alaska's petroleum revenues to the oil industry.

Nonetheless, I prefer SB21(2017) to SB26(2017). The latter ties dividends to mineral royalties. The effect would be to enlist the public and public money in support of mineral extraction and development projects that can't be developed economically without it.

John Beebee
9571 Midden Way
Anchorage, AK 99507

WRITTEN TESTIMONEY FOR;

COMMITTEE: SENATE STATE AFFAIRS;

Chair, Senator Mike Dunleavy & all Committee Members

BILL: SB 21 & 26

SPONSER: Senator Stedman & Gov. Walker

DATE & TIME: 02/21/2017 @ 5:00 PM

My name is DENNY KAY WEATHERS, I live on Hawkins Island in Prince William Sound. For the record I **STRONGLY OPPOSE** both SB 21 & 26 as written. Senator Stedman & Gov. Walker are both wrong. PLEASE kill both these bills.

I believe Gov. Walker was wrong when he vetoed half of Alaskans' Permanent Fund dividend checks last June instead of reducing government as he had promised during his campaign. After listening to the public testimony last session regarding Gov. Walker's decision to raid the PFD it seems like an overwhelmingly majority of voters felt the same way. My thoughts were confirmed on October 7, 2016 when it was reported by pollster Ivan Moore in an article titled; "Alaska Gov. Walker's popularity dives sharply following PFD veto, new survey shows" (see **copy**). With that said; I also believe the Senate was wrong for not taking legislative measures to try to stop the Governor's veto within the proper timeframe.

I do not know how many of you keep old documents like I do; but I just pulled up a copy of the October 11, 2014 article "Bill Walker answers questions about the issues in 2014 election for Alaska governor" and question 7 asked "The state's savings is being depleted. How low should the savings go before you begin to seriously discuss implementing a widespread tax, such as a sales or income tax, or reducing Permanent Fund Dividend checks to help pay for services? Bill Walker's response: "I **have no intention to implement a statewide tax or paying for state government by reducing Permanent Fund dividend checks.** If we properly develop our natural resources and put in place a sustainable budget that should not be necessary." (see **copy**). Apparently Gov. Walker forgot what he said or just plain lied to get votes.

As for Why Alaskans created the PFD; during construction of the Pipeline in the 1970's oil companies' flooded the state coffers with \$900 million and the Legislature spent it all within a few years. Alaskans knew they had to do something to safeguard the robust income forthcoming from the pipeline. Alaskans voted in 1976 to amend the constitution to put at least 25% of the oil money into a dedicated fund. The constitutional amendment was designed to keep the government from spending the oil wealth recklessly. (see **copy**). Alaska does not need any new taxes nor do we need to surrender the PFD. What is needed to stop the shortfall is to **CUT GOVERNMENT** and stop the **OVERSPENDING**.

There are many places that government could be cut, here is just one;

The Alaska Marine Highway System has said in an Associated Press article that the fleet size of 11 ferries needs to downsize (see copy). The ferry with the most operating weeks (49.9) according to the Operating plan (see copy) is the MV Lituya which exclusively provides shuttle service twice a day, five days per week year-round between Ketchikan and **Metlakatla** only 8 nautical miles. Metlakatla is a federal Indian Reservation **OUTSIDE** the **Alaska state jurisdiction**. Annette Island is federal with NO Alaska State Jurisdiction and the Alaska State ferry is homeported there. The DOT website states that this is the only ferry dedicated to a single route (see all 3 copies). WHY ARE ALASKANS PAYING FOR Metlakatla's "exclusively" "dedicated" ferry service? It is time to pull that service, Alaskans should not have to pay for an exclusive ferry system for a non-Alaskan Community. The State of Alaska could offer to sell the MV Lituya to Metlakatla or the federal Government first before listing openly for sale. if they would like to purchase the MV Lituya fine if not sale it. Vancouver, BC likes that style.

Thank you for your time. Any questions call me at 907-253-3745 or email me at alaskanortherngirl@gmail.com

DENNY KAY WEATHERS
c/o PO Box 1791
Cordova, Alaska

WRITTEN TESTIMONEY FOR;

COMMITTEE: Senate Affairs Committee

CHAIR: Senate Affairs Chair & all Committee Members

BILLS: SB 21 & 26

SPONSER: Senator Stedman

DATE & TIME: 02/21/2017 @5:00

My name is ERIC WEATHERS, I live on Hawkins Island in Prince William Sound. For the record I **oppose both** SB 21 & 26.

The people (the real working class) these two bills are trying steal the money from are already living under the poverty level. Cut the government, we cannot afford you. Thieves should be in prison not in the state house.

ERIC J WEATHERS

c/o PO Box 1791

Cordova, Alaska

Juanita Cassellius
17606 N. Eagle River Lp., Eagle River, AK, 99577
jcassellius@gmail.com

Feb 21, 2017

To Senate State Affairs Committee,

NO to SB21! NO SB26! Please kill these bills. Now.

Alaskans do not support these POMVs and PFD cuts.

Without a vote of the people there must be no change to the PFD and Fund!

"A CUT IN THE PFD WOULD BE BY FAR THE COSTLIEST MEASURE FOR ALASKA FAMILIES," says a recent study out this month from researchers at UAA's ISER (attached to email) on the effect of a PFD cut on families and children compared with other new revenue options. ISER results say, "Households with children would pay about 2.5 times more per person than those without children, for every \$100 million of revenue raised. A big reason is that children receive PFDs—so PFDs make up a bigger share of income for households with children." **PFD CUT = UNFAIR TAX!**
DO NOT USE PERMANENT FUND EARNINGS WITHOUT GIVING ALASKANS A VOTE FOR A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO GUARANTEE THE PFD.

Here is a petition (below) with over 1,300 signatures which rejects restructuring the PFD and Fund without public consent and supports a PFD guarantee in the Alaska Constitution.

Thanks for making the right decisions on a budget plan with public consent,
Juanita Cassellius

Attached: Petition at www.change.org/defend-our-pfd-and-fund-now

1,302 supporters

Petitioning Alaska Legislature

DEFEND Our PFD and Fund NOW

Tell the Legislators to save our PFD and Permanent Fund in the 2017 Session!

As the Owner State, Alaska's resource wealth belongs to all Alaskans. Governor Walker and the Legislature are planning to restructure and spend the PFD and Fund earnings without public consent. This theft endangers the Fund and blocks the rights of Alaskans.

We have other solutions to Alaska's fiscal problems including getting a fair share for our resources, budget reform, and raising revenues in ways that Alaskans choose.

Alaska Legislators, as our elected representatives, we urge you to do everything in your power to protect the public interest for Alaska voters and Permanent Fund shareholders through the following actions. We strongly support these votes:

OPPOSE THE PFD AND FUND RESTRUCTURE: VOTE NO on Governor Walker's plan (SB21 and SB26) to restructure and spend from the PFD and Permanent Fund without public consent. Don't allow this!

SUPPORT RESTORING PFD MONEY: VOTE YES on House Bills 21 & 22, Senate Bill 1 and 2 to pay back Alaskans the \$670 million cut by the Governor in 2016. Return the Peoples' money.

SUPPORT A PUBLIC VOTE ON PFD USE: VOTE YES to pass legislation requiring a 2017 PFD Advisory Vote by the People of Alaska to decide if PFD money will be used for government spending this year. No PFD change without the Peoples' consent!

SUPPORT A CONSTITUTIONAL PFD GUARANTEE: VOTE YES on Resolution SJR1 to approve a 2018 public vote for a Constitutional Amendment to guarantee our PFD in the future. The PFD will never be safe without this.

From: [Karen Perry](#)
Subject: URGENT: SB21 and SB26
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 12:53:07 AM

To Senate State Affairs Committee members:

I am vehemently opposed to both SB21 and SB26.

I do not like the idea of changing the formula for calculating PFDs which will lead to lower PFD amounts. ISER has already stated how taking the PFD out of local economies is detrimental not only for business, but also will push many more Alaskans over the poverty line.

I would prefer to see both these Bills held while we wait for some specific language on Senator Dunleavy's budget proposals.

I am asking for you to MAINTAIN an objection on both of these bills, along with a **roll call vote** and a **NO vote** on both of these Bills.

Please send me a written reply to this email.

Sincerely,
a very concerned citizen,
Karen Perry

From: [Annette R. Erickson](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: Stop bills 21 and 26
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 9:27:56 AM

I live in unalakleet Alaska and I do not want you to pass SB 21 and 26.

Annette erickson
907-625-1653

Sent from my GCI smartphone

From: [Kay Keller](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: Alaska State Budget
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 9:16:16 AM

We would like to understand why the legislatures are not focused on reducing the budget more. The bills that are being introduced are focusing on restructuring the PFD and an income tax. Alaska is heading for a recession with all the layoffs and the legislatures are causing more financial burden to the people of Alaska at a time that most people can't afford it and potentially could be one of those that are laid off. The end result will be even more of a recession and people leaving the State to find jobs in the lower 48. It is something that all of us are looking into as the costs continue to rise in Alaska. Please focus on reducing the state budget first.

We also don't understand why the legislatures continue to allow the Walker Administration spend millions on the LNG pipeline project when the State can't afford the cost or the risk. Why is there not more over site on this project? Very disappointing to hear that they just spent \$50,000 on the Iditarod for trying to convince buyers to sign on to purchase the gas. Boy, I would welcome the opportunity for a free trip to Alaska, who wouldn't? This has to be stopped, we can't afford this project.

We support your efforts to do the right things for the State of Alaska.

Regards,

Kay & Scott Keller

From: [Tina Allen](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: PFD
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 9:26:27 AM

Keep your money hungry fingers off the PFD!

You have money your not willing to break into! Pull out your pockets, look under the couch cushions, and under the car mats! Look to reduce not abuse the system. Find your money somewhere else! And not from taxes either! I'll turn my property back into the State from where Im buying it from, DNR.

SO GO SOMEWHERE ELSE FOR THE MONEY & CUT BACK ON SPENDING!

Tina

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [reese blasky](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 9:28:09 AM

I think that the pfd's should not be touched and that last years gets restored I know for me I am a single mom that's disabled I use mine and my daughters Pfd to pay for things she needs and to help my 73 year old grandma pay her bills and what money I have left I I help my mom and I pay for small repairs on my car and do to last years Pfd cut I was unable to get my daughter what she needs I was unable to get some of my bills payed or get my car repaired due to the cut my grandma fell behind on her bills so I say no more taking from the pfd's and restore last years find the money some where else

From: [Chad Omar](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: Public Testimony SB21 & SB26
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 10:03:34 AM

Good morning Senate State Affairs,

My name is Chad Samskar, I'm a Nikiski resident and wanted to comment on the proposed changes with SB21 & SB26.

First, I'd like to say that legislature needs to trim the budget so it is manageable without raiding the Permanent Fund. Luxurious spending on non-critical projects should be postponed until a later time, and only critically essential services should be funded at this time. A sales tax should be implemented before raiding the Permanent Fund or implementing an income tax, and if the Permanent Fund does get tapped into it should be a matter voted on by the people. If an income tax were to be instated as well, I'd like to see non-residents taxed at a higher percentage than Alaska residents.

In my opinion the steps needed to correct this mess is; realigning the budget so essential services are covered, eliminate wasteful spending on projects and luxuries, encourage new income sources and quit strangling industries with regulations, incorporate a sales tax, possibly incorporate a temporary income tax, and give Alaskan's the opportunity to vote on using the Permanent Fund.

Several times in the past the people of Alaska have voted to move the capital to a more centralized location. Due to legislature failing to see this thru the end, I would propose this be up for discussion again so that the majority of Alaskans can have drivable access to the capital and the majority of tax payers will only be covering travel expenses for the remote representatives as needed, video conferencing can also suffice in todays society for most meetings. These costs may seem extreme up front, but will result in drastic savings long term.

I would also encourage more effort in developing Alaska's resources and reducing the stringent regulations that cripple many of these industries that can generate revenue and create many jobs.

On SB21: I strongly encourage legislature oppose this bill, as the existing laws in place work fine and this system is not broken, it's the government lacking oversight for many years. The existing 21% over a 5-year period average is better for the people, than the "generally acceptable accounting principles" mentioned in the proposed changes of SB21. I also do not support the commissioner "appropriated" of funds, as these funds should remain automatically transferred as previously written.

On SB26: I strongly encourage legislature oppose this bill, as the existing laws in place also work fine and this system is not broken, once again it's the government lacking oversight for many years. Changing the mineral rights from 50% to 25% as proposed in SB26 changes, will shift more funding to the government and less money to the people of this state. I also do not support the corporation determining the "Net" income of the fund, nor do I support replacing the existing "21% over a 5-year period" with "generally acceptable accounting principles" as mentioned in SB26.

As I stated above, the Permanent Fund is not a broken system and it has worked for many years for the people of this state and does not require change, the change required is due to government negligence which needs to be corrected. Thank you for your time, and please vote against both of these bills; SB21 & SB26 when you get a chance.

Sincerely,
Chad Samskar
Nikiski, AK

From: [Beau Obrigewitch](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Cc: [Sen. Cathy Giessel](#); [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Subject: No on SB 26, SB 21, HB 115: We Have a Spending Problem, not a Revenue Problem
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 11:10:37 AM

Good afternoon Senate State Affairs Committee,

I chose to send this email to this Committee in addition to Senators Giessel and Dunleavy in the hopes it will be seen by a larger audience.

I am an Alaskan not by birth right, but by choice. I have been in this great state for 11 years. I did not move up here for the “free money” (a term which I despise, because it simply is not) lure of the Permanent Fund Dividend. Actually, I did not move up here for the limitless opportunities to explore the wild, live a semi-subsistence lifestyle, or to take a chance that this is the place I could make my mark, to live, prosper, give back, and generally enjoy life. I did not move up here for those, but those are the reasons I chose to stay. I didn’t receive my first Dividend until 2009, because I wanted to make sure I fully intended to stay and make Alaska my home before applying.

Today Alaska is facing a financial crisis. There are two paths forward: 1) Call it a revenue problem and remedy that by instituting new revenue streams to fund the current size and scope of State government or 2) Call it a spending problem and remedy that by trimming government’s size and scope to a level that fits within revenue streams currently available.

To call our current crisis a revenue problem is inherently dishonest. When I moved up here in 2005, the Operating Budget was a little more than ½ of the budget enacted in 2017. The economy was strong, there was an explosion in housing, the State offered essential services at levels that kept everyone safe, protected the rights of businesses to grow and prosper, provided for the education of our children, and ensured the poorest among us received the care and attention they needed. In 2008, with many parts of the country experiencing nearly complete financial implosion, our statewide economy sustained, holding flat. Of course, 2008 also brought us unprecedented oil prices. Thanks to the coupling of this with the regressive and punitive ACES Oil Tax, the State’s coffers were stuffed with so much cash no one could have imagined we could be facing such a problem as we do today, only a handful of years removed from those wild windfall heydays. And so we spent. And we spent wildly, nearly doubling the State Operating budget by FY 14, not to mention an exceptionally robust Capital Budget. It’s understandable. It’s human nature to “spend it while you’ve got it”. But now, with revenues from oil equal to or below the oil revenues in 2005, 2006, and 2007, we are looking at what can too easily be distorted to be a revenue problem. Understand this: we are not facing a revenue problem, we are facing a spending problem.

Once the financial crisis is correctly identified as a spending problem, we can start to do the hard work required to bring spending back in line with revenue. You don’t have the luxury of simply stating “We’ve cut the budget 44%”, as many in State Government have proudly proclaimed recently. No, you did not cut the budget by 44%, you simply chose to spend the minimum required on the Capital Budget, mostly to maintain the Federal Match. This is not a discussion on the merits of the Capital Budget and infrastructure spending, however. This is a discussion on the disingenuous, but more likely outrightly deceptive, claim that spending has been reduced 44%. The part of the budget that matters, the annual Operating Budget, that’s the one that has not been reduced, or has been reduced only a few percent since the price of oil collapsed 2 years ago. Through more smoke and mirrors and deceit, the term Unrestricted General Fund (UGF) is happily tossed out to Alaskans, as if that’s the “Budget”. I am not a budget wonk, and I don’t have the time to become one. But through cursory glances at the true and total budget, presented by those that have taken a deep dive into the budget, there is much more complexity, along with financial shell games, that make up the totality of the budget, than just the UGF.

Now that the problem has been correctly identified as a spending problem, and not a revenue problem, we can cut to the chase. Many people across the State have committed a great deal of time and effort to address the spending problem. In 2016, United for Liberty presented a balanced, sustainable Operating Budget to the legislature, and to most any legislator that would take a copy. The UFL budget is balanced at \$40 oil. This year, at the onset of the 30th Legislature, Senator Mike Dunleavy submitted a plan that has already been vetted through the Legislative Finance Office and the Permanent Fund Corporation that proves the State Operating Budget can be reduced \$1.1 Billion over the next 4 fiscal years. At the same time we continue to offer essential State services, and our savings accounts will be replenished. Since Senator Dunleavy’s plan correctly identifies our financial crisis as a spending problem, not a revenue problem, it includes no new revenue (taxes), and the People’s Dividend will be protected now and into the future, as it is currently calculated. To my knowledge, this remains a plan, with no bill yet put forth. Other work has been generated and presented to the Legislature regarding the use of Permanent Fund

Earnings to fund State government while still paying full Dividends, ie: from Alaskans for Sustainable Budgets. The director of the Permanent Fund Corporation is on public record stating that the inflation proofing we've historically reinvested in the Permanent Fund Corpus is no longer necessary due to the built-in inflation proofing in the Fund's investments. Use these ideas as your starting point.

The Permanent Fund, the Earnings Reserve Account, and the Permanent Fund Dividend. Wow, \$55 Billion just sitting there, wanting, waiting, needing to spent. Unimaginable in its magnitude. Unimaginable in its persuasion. Unimaginable that when oil first started flowing through TAPS 40 years ago the Fund balance was \$0.00. What is very imaginable, however, is the very reason the Permanent Fund exists at all. After vaporizing the \$900 Million windfall from the original Prudhoe Bay lease sales in just a few short years, some in the state had the foresight to protect and preserve the future revenue, making it off limits from the ever-reaching hands of State Government Largess. The idea of the Permanent Fund is eclipsed by the concept of the Permanent Fund Dividend. The Dividend is often maligned as a "Socialist Payment" by those intent on eliminating the annual disbursement to the people, its rightful owners, preferring to maintain it under Government control and distribution. The Dividend is a Socialist Payment only in as much as it the Royalty payment due to the landowners from which the oil is produced, and in the case of Alaska, the landowners are every legal resident of the State of Alaska. There is no government ownership, the land is owned in the collective. State government only manages the land, and corresponding revenue, on behalf of the citizens. The Permanent Fund, and its Dividend as currently calculated, must be preserved into perpetuity for the benefit of all future Alaskans.

Which brings me to my close. There are no "Protect the Permanent Fund" proposals on the table that reduce State spending while protecting BOTH the Permanent Fund and the Dividend. Most all proposals from this year, and last, put forth by the Governor, the Senate, and the House, sought primarily to provide a modicum of protection to the Permanent Fund itself, while providing little to no protection to the Dividend beyond some pre-determined timeline, after which the Dividend was provided as a "may issue" line item in the State Operating Budget. It is not now, nor can it be in the future, a line item in the State Operating Budget. The Dividend is a "shall issue" disbursement already vested in State Statute. If we are to have a serious discussion regarding use of the Permanent Fund Earnings Reserve Account (ERA), we must begin with Governor Hammond's original idea that the ERA must first pay 50% to the citizens in the form of the Dividend, and then the other 50% may be used to fund essential government services. It is under this essential idea from which the proposals noted above are drawn. It is under this essential idea that the State can continue to function and provide constitutionally mandated services, ensure a full and fair Dividend is paid to every eligible Alaskan each and every year, and ensure that there are no new or additional taxes levied against everyday Alaskans.

While I am encouraged by the release of SJR 2 on the Constitutional Spending Limit, SB 26, SB 21, and HB 115 primarily focus on our current fiscal crisis in the wrong direction, by misidentifying it as a revenue problem. For the reasons described above defining this as a spending problem, I encourage you to oppose these (and any other user-fee or tax) bills on their merit. Turn from identifying new taxes, and instead focus on reducing spending.

Thank you,
Beau Obrigewitch
Indian, AK

From: [Kent Kohlhase](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: Public Testimony SB21
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 1:08:33 PM

I am writing to express my opposition to formula changes to the PFD and instituting an income tax on Alaskans at this time.

It is imperative that state spending be brought under control. Once state government has access to income tax revenues and Permanent Fund earnings, the impetus to further reduce the size and cost of state government will be gone.

It is telling that the Chamber of Commerce and coalitions of businesses are supporting taxes and reducing the PFD. They, too, see that increased access to the Permanent Fund for operation of state government will mean increased spending benefitting their business interests.

Please, fulfill your responsibilities as public servants. Apply pressure through appropriations to reduce state spending. Use the CBR to balance the budget, and adopt an approach to moderate the size of government over the next 2-3 years. When you can demonstrate that has been done, I and many others would then support a renewed discussion about revenue, and use of Permanent Fund earnings.

Thank you.

Kent Kohlhase
907-440-6907
Anchorage

Sent from my iPad

From: [German Baquero](#)
To: [Christa McDonald](#)
Subject: Public Testimony for SB 21 & SB 26
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 1:09:24 PM

To the Members of the Senate State Affairs Committee,

I am sending this to encourage you to object and reject both Senate Bill 21 and Senate Bill 26. At this time, considering any Permanent Fund restructuring is inappropriate. Any restructure to the Permanent Fund without addressing further state spending issues will negate any just reason to appropriate from the Fund. The legislature must tackle spending reductions, specifically in administrative costs in both education and health & social services. When appropriate reductions are made in those departments to leave state spending sustainable, I as a state citizen would be more amenable to supporting fund restructuring, but not before. Utilizing funds from a proverbial "raid" to compensate for unsustainable spending is simply imprudent, and as Senators I urge you to deliberate among yourselves to discover what it is you should only be funding as a state government.

Once again, I call upon you not to entertain either of these pieces of legislation until after spending reductions have been agreed upon. As members of a Senate, you are encouraged to take your time and thoughtfully consider all options until your deepest curiosities about these questions are satisfied. Thank you for your service and best of luck in your endeavors.

Kindly,

German Baquero

From: [Bill Goodwin](#)
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#); [Sen. David Wilson](#); [Sen. Cathy Giessel](#); [Sen. John Coghill](#); [Sen. Dennis Egan](#)
Subject: SB 21 - Testimony for 02-21-2017
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 1:21:19 PM
Importance: High

Greetings All,

I say "NO!" to SB21.

This bill not only justifies a PFD grab for this fiscal year, but proposes a repeated grab into the indefinite future. This is not creative, responsible, or a professional move by those who have been elected to legislate for Alaskans.

This legislation punishes Alaskans of ALL ages, now and in the future. This bill is not disguised in any way, shape, or form it is a blatant, long-term raid on the PFD and should not have ever been proposed. The arguments and reasoning for several legislators to support this bill are flat, at best.

Alaskans are looking for creative solutions for state fiscal management. For some legislators, it seems the word 'management' is being ignored and the word 'responsible' seems non-existent. Proposals and solutions have been presented from the public have been totally ignored by the supporters of this legislation.

***** Alaskans have yet to hear any valid or plausible explanation as to WHY THE PEOPLE'S PROPOSALS WON'T WORK!!!!!! *****

The Alaska Legislature needs to regroup and LISTEN to the people, not the lobbyists and politicians who pander with questionable motives.

I REPEAT ... "NO!" to SB21.

Sincerely & respectfully,

William John Goodwin Jr. & Family
401 S. Jerome Dr.

Wasilla, AK 99654

H: 907.373.1274

From: [Boyd Morgenthaler](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: SB 21 (2017)
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 1:27:11 PM

I support SB 21 as described in Senator Stedman's Sponsor Statement.

The essential elements that should be retained in any event are:

- 1) Establish a maximum annual draw based on a percent of market value (POMV). In my opinion 4.5% is aggressive; I believe that a truly sustainable rate would be closer to 3%. Either way, the important step is to move to a POMV approach.

- 2) Establish the minimum annual dividend for residents to be no less than 50% of the total annual draw.

Boyd Morgenthaler
1180 Shore Drive
Anchorage AK 99515

907-349-6523

From: [Boyd Morgenthaler](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: SB-26 (2017)
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 1:27:13 PM

I oppose SB 26 as described in Governor Walker's January 17, 2017 letter for the following reasons:

- A. A POMV draw of 5.25% is not sustainable. Morningstar investments did a study several years ago that demonstrated that an annual draw of 3.3% might be sustainable, but even that is questionable. World and National economics do not sustain the idea of a perpetual bull market in stocks and bonds, so the concept of a high POMV draw is not prudent.
- B. The Governor's plan allows that the legislature "may appropriate" a dividend for residents. The personal PFD should not be an option. Whenever there is a withdrawal from the permanent fund a major portion of the draw should accrue to the residents.

I agree with the POMV concept in general and support the following key elements:

- 1) Establish a maximum annual draw based on a percent of market value (POMV).

- 2) Establish the minimum annual dividend for residents to be no less than 50% of the total annual POMV draw.

Boyd Morgenthaler
1180 Shore Drive
Anchorage AK 99515

907-349-6523

From: [jon.eric.thompson](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: SB21 and SB 26
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 1:29:45 PM

My family and I disapprove of the state stealing our pfd's. They were set up for us to use in the Alaskan economy as we saw fit, not leeched away by imprudent spending government politicians. More should never be wasted during a boom, but saved and stored for a rainy day. If Government wants to be over-bloated that's their problem, it shouldn't be allowed to spend the people's money, PFD's without a people's vote. Hand's off our dividends, unless we give you permission. Most Alaskans look forward to receiving as much as the PFD has to offer. Now we have politicians raping the account. That sucks for all except the rich, which most politicians are. Leave our money alone.

Thanks

Jon Eric Thompson Family +

From: [Ellen Leisner](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: SB 21 & SB 26
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 1:33:56 PM

Senate State Affairs Committee:

I am opposed to any restructuring of the PFD as in SB 21 & SB 26.

Senator Dunleavy has introduced a plan to cut the state budget over three years to a sustainable level with NO taxes or restructuring of the PFD.

I support Senator Dunleavy's bills to restore the PFD, and request that you vote NO to SB 21 and SB 26.

Please support Senator Dunleavy's bills to restore the PFD, and cut the size of our government to a sustainable level with **NO** change to the PFD, and **NO** new taxes.

Please include this for the record with the public testimony on SB 21 & SB 26

Sincerely,

Ellen Leisner

Palmer, Alaska resident

ellyleis@mtaonline.net

From: [Bill Goodwin](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: SB21 & SB26
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 1:47:01 PM
Importance: High

Greetings,

I say "NO!" to SB21 & SB26.

These bills not only justify a PFD grab for this fiscal year, but proposes a repeated grab into the indefinite future. This is not creative, responsible, or a professional move by those who have been elected to legislate for Alaskans.

This legislation punishes Alaskans of ALL ages, now and in the future. These bills are not disguised in any way, shape, or form They are a blatant, long-term raid on the PFD and should not have ever been proposed. The arguments and reasoning for several legislators to support this bill are flat, at best.

Alaskans are looking for creative solutions for state fiscal management. For some legislators, it seems the word 'management' is being ignored and the word 'responsible' seems non-existent. Proposals and solutions have been presented from the public have been totally ignored by the supporters of this legislation.

*** Alaskans have yet to hear any valid or plausible explanation as to WHY THE PEOPLE'S PROPOSALS WON'T WORK!!!!!! ***

The Alaska Legislature needs to regroup and LISTEN to the people, not the lobbyists and politicians who pander with questionable motives.

I REPEAT ... "NO!" to SB21 & SB26.

Sincerely & respectfully,

William John Goodwin Jr. & Family
401 S. Jerome Dr.
Wasilla, AK 99654
H: 907.373.1274
M: 907.841.1040

From: [Gabby Hodges](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: Leave our PFD alone.
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 2:36:48 PM

For Sirs and Madame

I respectfully ask you to leave The People's Share of the PFD alone. Please find alternative means to balance the budget instead of hurting us, the members of this great State.

It would be my suggestion that the massive tax breaks given to the oil and gas industries stop immediately. You are giving huge tax breaks to mega companies and in turn, taking away The People's money. Makes no sense.

Please do the right thing and vote to return the The People's Share of PFD money back to us, the Alaskans that struggle to survive in our beautiful yet expensive state.

Thank you
Gabby Hodges
Anchorage

From: [mike johnson](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: Fw: SB 21 and SB 26
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 4:03:35 PM

From: mike johnson <southeastmike@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 4:59 PM
To: senate.state.affairs@alaskaleg.gov
Cc: Byron Hunt; robert lihou; sandman65706@icloud.com
Subject: SB 21 and SB 26

To Whom it may (or may not) concern:

Both Senate bill 21 and 26 should not be considered until further cuts to state government have been made. We have all heard of the hiring restrictions and travel restrictions that are supposedly taking place in state government. I have talked to several of my friends who work in state government and say that both the afore mentioned restrictions haven't really slowed down hiring or travel, depending on the department.

I find it rather amusing that senator Stedman has sponsored SB 21 after having squandered so much state money on pork barrel-type projects. Take for instance the Mt. Edgecumbe High School Aquatic Center currently being built. Senator Stedman rolled 20 million dollars for this project into a bond vote that was filled with projects that would benefit voters in the Mat-Su valley so of course is passed. It is no secret that the aquatic center is really being built for a small special interest group and not the student body that is touted by Mr. Stedman. So don't think for a minute that Mr. Stedman is showing leadership by introducing SB 21; he is in part a cause of our financial situation.

I applaud Senator Dunleavy for introducing a bill to return to the residents of Alaska the permanent fund money that was vetoed by the governor. In my opinion any redistribution of the permanent fund earnings should be placed on the ballot so the people can vote on it. Mr. Stedman shouldn't have any problem with that since he seems to be pretty good at it.

From: [Emery Schramm](#)
To: [Sen. David Wilson](#); [Sen. Bill Wielechowski](#); [Sen. Natasha Von Imhof](#); [Sen. Gary Stevens](#); [Sen. Bert Stedman](#); [Sen. Donny Olson](#); [Sen. Peter Micciche](#); [Sen. Kevin Meyer](#); [Sen. Anna MacKinnon](#); [Sen. Pete Kelly](#); [Sen. Shelley Hughes](#); [Sen. Lyman Hoffman](#); [Sen. Cathy Giessel](#); [Sen. Berta Gardner](#); [Sen. Dennis Egan](#); [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#); [Sen. Mia Costello](#); [Sen. John Coghill](#); [Sen. Click Bishop](#); [Sen. Tom Begich](#); [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: Testimony for SB 21 and SB 26
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 5:09:17 PM

Add this testimony to SB 21 and SB 26

Do NOT Pass SB 21

Do NOT Pass SB 26

These two bills will destroy the Permanent Fund as we know it. Recalculating the fund will only give more money to the government and less to the Alaska people. The Permanent Fund was put into place for the people of Alaska that live here and help support the economy of Alaska.

The government of Alaska has grown to large to be sustainable. The government does not need more money it needs to reduce the amount of money it spends. Reduce the waist and excess spending by cutting the budget.

The dividend payment to Alaskans helps the economy and in turn helps the government. Also, it was put into place due to the Alaskans not have mineral rights. Let the economy work. Respect the people of Alaska. We voted several times to not touch the Permanent Fund.

If an individual has an issue with receiving a dividend, the individual should not apply for one. If the individual wants to give their dividend to the government they can write a check to the Alaska government for the amount of the PFD. The government could make it easy by setting up a Pick.Click.Give for the Alaska Government.

Do NOT touch the Permanent Fund.

DO NOT PASS SB 21

DO NOT PASS SB 26

Thank you,

Emery Schramm

Wasilla, Alaska

From: [Ruth Bueneman](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: The Alaskans PFD
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 6:58:47 PM

The Alaskan people deserve a voice in dterminating what will happen to the pfd

From: [William Reiner](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: SB21 & SB26
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 7:32:38 PM

Thank you for POM.

I'm asking for a No vote on SB 21 & SB 26.

Putting cart before the horse. Choosing the low hanging fruit. That isn't the right approach I would prefer the State Bankrupt before giving a dime of the Earnings to the Carrpetbagging bureaucracy appointed with each new Governor.

Bill Reiner
AK voter number 01468049

From: [Richard Tieszen](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: SB 21 & SB26
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 9:55:48 PM

First off I don't care for either one!!!!!!

2nd of all, Before we discuss dipping into the PFD how about making larger cuts to the budget!!! SHOW US that YOU people in Juneau can not spend like the Kardashian's!!!!
Seriously!!!! This State has been living large for a long time and it needs to STOP!!!!

I get that taxes of some kind will probably be on the table at some point. My personal preference is a sales tax. Let the tourist help pay for some of the services they use while here!!! Its already known how much they spend in AK what would 2% or 3% or god forbid 5% bring to the State?

OK OK... If I had to pick one between SB 21 & SB26.... I'd pick SB 21 but first bigger cuts need to happen!! When my household budge drops my spending has to meet that level I can't keep spending above my income and expect things will be OK!!!!

Rich T.
Anchorage, AK 99504

From: [AK Terstegge](#)
To: bill.walker@alaska.gov; [Rep. Mike Chenault](#); [Rep. Matt Claman](#); [Rep. George Rauscher](#); [Rep. Harriet Drummond](#); [Rep. Bryce Edgmon](#); [Rep. Neal Foster](#); [Rep. Les Gara](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#); [Rep. Ivy Spohnholz](#); [Rep. David Guttenberg](#); [Rep. Jennifer Johnston](#); [Rep. DeLena Johnson](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Scott Kawasaki](#); [Rep. David Eastman](#); [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins](#); [Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Charisse Millett](#); [Rep. Justin Parish](#); [Rep. Dean Westlake](#); [Rep. Mark Neuman](#); [Rep. Daniel Ortiz](#); [Rep. Lance Pruitt](#); [Rep. Lora Reinbold](#); [Rep. Dan Saddler](#); [Rep. Paul Seaton](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. David Talerico](#); [Rep. Geran Tarr](#); [Rep. Steve Thompson](#); [Rep. Cathy Tilton](#); [Rep. Chris Tuck](#); [Rep. Jason Grenn](#); [Rep. Tammie Wilson](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Chuck Kopp](#); [Rep. Zach Fansler](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Sen. Click Bishop](#); [Sen. John Coghill](#); [Sen. Mia Costello](#); [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#); [Sen. Dennis Egan](#); [Sen. Shelley Hughes](#); [Sen. Berta Gardner](#); [Sen. Cathy Giessel](#); [Sen. Lyman Hoffman](#); [Sen. Pete Kelly](#); [Sen. Anna MacKinnon](#); [Sen. Natasha Von Imhof](#); [Sen. Kevin Meyer](#); [Sen. Peter Micciche](#); [Sen. Donny Olson](#); [Sen. Bert Stedman](#); [Sen. Gary Stevens](#); [Sen. David Wilson](#); [Sen. Bill Wielechowski](#); [Sen. Tom Begich](#)
Subject: Original intent of PFD
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 11:23:50 PM

What part of "it's not yours to spend" do you not understand?

Read attached link if you still don't get it.

"The Permanent Fund belongs to the people by constitutional mandate (Article 8). The PFD is the citizens' equal share of resource wealth, not a form of welfare. Alaskans have a right to consent to all changes to how fund earnings are used and managed."

<http://juneauempire.com/opinion/2017-02-20/my-turn-alaskans-have-right-consent-pfd-and-fund-changes>

Lynn Terstegge
Talkeetna

From: [Scott K. Smith](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: SB21 Public Comment
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 12:07:07 PM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to voice support for the concept of SB21. Using 4.5% of the updated POMV is an excellent way to bridge the current State revenue gap and provide long term stability for Alaska.

While the 2.25% formula for dividends/State funding is elegant, I believe it leaves too much to dividends and too little to bridge the budget gap. I would prefer to see 1.5% to dividends and 3% to State funding. This would allow the bulk of the current deficit to be covered with a manageable shortfall that could be bridged with taxes/fees. After all, a \$1000-ish dividend is larger than the average payout since the fund's inception.

With the current recession creating greater fear than is really called for, a quick resolution to the fiscal uncertainty will save jobs.

Please move aggressively to enact SB21 and consider my voice as it relates to how to split the earnings.

Regards,



From: [Scott K. Smith](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: SB26 Public Comment
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 12:13:54 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

To Whom It May Concern:

I conceptually support the concept of SB26. The idea of using a portion of the Permanent Fund (along with judicious cuts and other revenue sources such as a broad based tax) is our only road to a sustainable Alaskan feature.

My concern, however, is that a 5.25% POMV draw down could be too great a draw to safeguard the Permanent Fund. I am in favor of the \$1000 dividend cap but that, combined with a 5.25% POMV withdrawal "overfunds" the State of Alaska. We need a prudent budget, a healthy Permanent Fund and alternate revenue sources to put Alaska on firm ground. If the POMV draw was closer the 4.5% proposed in SB21, this would be an excellent concept.

Lower the draw and I would be 100% supportive.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott K. Smith". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "S" at the beginning and a long, horizontal stroke at the end.

Alaska State Legislators'
Alaska State Capital Building
Juneau, Alaska, 99801

February 22, 2017

Re: AK State Deficit & Budget

Dear Legislators:

My letter is to express support for using our AK permanent funds to balance the state deficit. Further, I support reducing legislative & state expenses; and implementing new revenue actions such as an income tax. Options are decreasing the longer a solution is delayed. A complete fiscal plan should include using permanent funds, and imposing new costs affecting everyone -- all residents, visitors', and Alaska users'. I urge you to develop a comprehensive long term sustainable state fiscal plan this session.

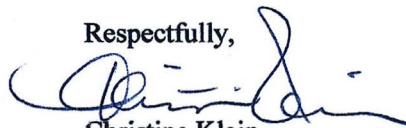
Nothing should be taken "off the table" as you consider solutions and revenue options to pay for core services guaranteed in AK's constitution. A deficit of this magnitude cannot be solved or accomplished in operating cuts alone as eliminating government (including legislature) will not solve it. We need a combination of permanent funds; reducing state costs and services; AND new revenue through requiring people pay for services the state provides. It's necessary if we want to have a positive economy. Of course nobody wants fees, taxes, or losing subsidies like a dividend we've become accustomed to; however, few alternatives remain if we want police protection, transportation, and schools. We all once paid for state services, in rural and urban areas prior to receiving any annual dividend. Alaskan's can do so again. We will have to.

Any solution developed needs to be: fair, consistent, and cut across Alaska's entire socioeconomic strata'. It will take the 'whole Alaskan team'. To diversify and balance the "load", new costs must affect, apply to, and impact everyone--ALL resource sectors', businesses, residents' statewide, the non-resident workers' and permit holders' (not captured currently), property owners' (for-profit and non-profit), and seasonal visitors'. A solution should also be long term for planning ahead, a government providing just the basic mandated services, and sustainable; otherwise, we face losing more jobs, businesses, and population to share the burden. Economically this can best be done by use of AK permanent funds and instituting a broad mixture of new measures affecting all of Alaska's users'.

- Utilize Permanent Fund savings; from budget reserves - constitutional reserve AND permanent fund earnings, for providing only the core services guaranteed and required in the AK constitution.
- Reduce, cap, and/or cease permanent fund dividend distributions permanently until AK can pay its bills.
- Re-initiate a state income tax based on a percent of Federal tax. This captures non-resident wage earners who take AK resources elsewhere to benefit their own home area coffers elsewhere.
- Reduce the state formula funds to communities without a local sales tax contribution to their own costs (Anchorage has no sales tax despite most all villages & towns having them to offset expenses).
- Return to a mandatory once-annual state education fee obtained from all working adults.
- Initiate a State Sales Tax only on non-food items.

May God speed you, each legislator, and our Governor as you work together for us to complete and long term Alaska fiscal plan this session. Thank you.

Respectfully,



Christine Klein
Owner/Principal
ADK Alaska,

From: [Carol Carman](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: SB 21 & SB 26
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 7:49:43 AM

Hello Scary Senate,

This is a reminder of **WHO** owns the Permanent Fund.

It is **NOT** yours to restructure or use. It is mine and the property of **ALL** Alaskans.

Consequently, your conscience should dictate to you to vote **NO** on SB 21 and SB 26.

Bcc: **Owners** of the Alaska Permanent Fund

Carol Carman
Chair, ARP District 9E
907-746-8670 - [Facebook](#)

Certificate of Ownership

STATE OF ALASKA

You, as a resident of Alaska, share in the ownership of 103 million acres of land, all navigable waters and the natural resources our land and waters contain. It is your oil, your natural gas, your coal, your minerals, your timber, your fish.

This Certificate symbolizes that ownership and entitles you to share in the benefits that come with it.

When state government made your land available for exploration by the private sector at Prudhoe Bay, geologists and oil workers were able to find and produce oil belonging to all Alaskans. The royalties from that oil are used for the many state services that you are able to enjoy with a minimum of taxes. A portion of your oil royalties are also set aside in the Permanent Fund from which you, as an owner, earn dividends.

In addition to accepting the benefits of ownership, the bearer of this Certificate also has obligations. Each owner should learn how state resources are turned into royalties and economic opportunities. Each of us should become informed on how these resources can be used wisely for the maximum benefit of all Alaskans. Each of us should be ready to communicate with those in state government who make the decisions to manage the assets we own in common.



Signature of the Owner

Walter Kiehl
Signature of the Governor

Dated: Autumn 1992

*This certificate is for educational purposes only.
It is non-negotiable and non-transferable.*

From: [Debbie Ramin](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: SB21 and SB26 My voice to committee
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 10:29:30 AM
Importance: High

Dear State Affairs Chairman and Committee Members

I watched and heard the session of questioning by Senator Dunlevy regarding the restructuring and re appropriating the PFD . I am AGAINST HB 21 and HB26, the restructuring and appropriating of the PFD funds. In NO WAY should the PFD be put in the General Fund for govt. emergencies. The PFD was set up for the people . It's set up and called PERMANENT DIVIDEND for a reason not a bailout of the govt for emergencies. I firmly believe that Senator Dunlevy's bill for the budget crisis should have been given more consideration and passed along for the Finance Committee to asses and not push these 2 bills thru solely at the detriment of the people of Alaska. CUT the fat of the government first then come to those paying your salaries and government services after. I will not even consider voting again for anyone that approves this bill

Sincerely an Alaska resident since 1975

Debbie Ramin

From: [Terrence Shanigan](#)
To: [Rep. Bryce Edgmon](#); [Rep. Chris Tuck](#)
Cc: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: Re: SB 21 & SB 26
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 11:37:36 AM

A copy of this ownership certificate should be sent to Governor Walker who always quotes and symbolically gestures Governor Hickel and how similar they are and what great friends they were. This is a clear deviation from what Governor Hickel stood for. I guess what should be asked to each legislator is whether or not they believe what Governor Hammond and Governor Hickel stated about the resources of Alaska and the Permanent Fund then compare that to what the State Constitution says. If we examine all of that and can still come to a conclusion that the Government of Alaska can divorce the people from its resources without the consent of the people or without a constitutional amendment then I guess the money earned from Alaska's resources are entirely owned by the government and not the people.

Terrence Shanigan
(907)244-8165

On Wed, Feb 22, 2017 at 7:47 AM, Carol Carman <district9@mtaonline.net> wrote:

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Bcc: **Owners** of the Alaska Permanent Fund

Carol Carman
Chair, ARP District 9E
[907-746-8670](tel:907-746-8670) - [Facebook](#)

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Signature of the Owner

Walter Hsieh

Signature of the Governor

Dated: Autumn 1992

*This certificate is for educational purposes only.
It is non negotiable and non transferable.*

From: mcleodak@alaska.net
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#); [Sen. Cathy Giessel](#); [Sen. David Wilson](#); [Sen. John Coghill](#); [Sen. Dennis Egan](#)
Cc: [Sen. Bill Wielechowski](#); [Sen. Berta Gardner](#); [Sen. Bert Stedman](#); pfd4ak@gmail.com; bill.walker@alaska.gov; [Sen. Kevin Meyer](#); [Sen. Pete Kelly](#)
Subject: SB 21 & SB 26 testimony to Senate State Affairs - Walker's Broken Promises
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 2:53:31 PM

To Senate State Affairs Committee members,

Please consider the following as I missed yesterday's public hearing on SB 21 and SB 26.

Until eligible Alaskans are made whole for the portion of last year's PFD amount that was snatched by Governor Walker when he vetoed the full amount of our PFD's and broke long-standing promises, tradition and maybe even the law ---- further actions on bills that pertain to our Alaska Permanent Fund is moot.

Furthermore, until this governor ceases to lavish exempt appointments (ex: Kendall, Heckendorn, Whitaker, Therriault) with high salaries that contain excessive salary-override provisions (salaries over and above what's required) while he simultaneously spends millions of more scarce dollars to maintain offices and staff in other states and countries, among other things --- further actions on bills that pertain to our Alaska Permanent Fund, its restructure and uses to fund government is also moot.

Thank you.
Andree McLeod
Anchorage, Alaska

From: [Ruth Bueneman](#)
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Subject: Bills SB 21 and SB 26
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 5:03:42 PM

I am thankful for all the work you have done to save our PFDs and would be really grateful if you would continue to fight these bill from becoming viable.
Sincerely, 50 year resident, RuthBueneman

2002 Sandvik st apt 312
Fbks,Ak 99709
907-888-3087

Feb 21, 2017

From: [Brandi Wadkins](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Cc: [Sen. Peter Micciche](#); [Rep. Mike Chenault](#)
Subject: SB21 and 26
Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017 9:43:17 PM

Dear Sen. Dunleavy and State Affairs Committee,

I'd like to take a moment to thank you for taking the time to hear a fellow Alaskan and how I feel about the current state of our State & budget.

While I do not support SB21 or SB 26 in any way, I do support Sen. Dunleavy's approach to balancing the budget and bringing about a more sustainable size to government while keeping our Permanent Fund in tact and The People's half of the Dividend as currently defined by Statute Law. I also support a Constitutional Protection for The People's portion of the Dividend and send the strong message that **this is not your money to take.**

Decreasing the size and scope of government is paramount. Our State simply cannot sustain the level of spending that the Alaska Legislature has been operating with for years.

Senators, you simply must be better stewards of our resources, our revenues and be more accountable.

I want to see fair taxation and use fees on all of our natural resources, maximizing our Commonly Held resources for the benefit of all Alaskans.

I want to see unfair and unbalanced tax credits removed. When Government subsidizes business it is no longer a free market.

I support restructuring and resizing the Government, not the Permanent Fund or Dividend.

There are many places we can do just that, as outlined by ISER and United for Liberty. And one great place to start is the AK LNG project. The Alaska Legislature truly needs to tighten the belt and put a halt on spending before ever asking already strapped citizens to donate more to the cause.

May Wisdom and Justice be your guides,

Brandi Wadkins

Soldotna

From: [J. Cassellius](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: SUPPORT for STOPPING SB21 and 26 in STATE AFFAIRS
Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017 10:34:46 AM

Sen. Dunleavy and Senate State Affairs Committee,
Thanks to Sen. Dunleavy for not pushing SB21 and SB26 through your committee. SB21 and 26 were scheduled (pending referral) to go immediately to Senate Finance. Thank you for not rushing this bill through and ideally, stopping it with votes in State Affairs. We need to STOP PLANS FOR A PERMANENT FUND POMV and PFD RESTRUCTURE. TAKE THESE OFF THE TABLE NOW. Then, use Fund earnings and CBR and give Alaskans a vote on SJR1 to put our PFD in the Constitution where it belongs in 2018. Restructure government for efficiencies over the next year. Get help (Federal intervention if necessary) to tackle reform for DHSS and Education Departments. That must come before discussion of taxes and any Fund changes by PUBLIC CONSENT.

Thanks,
Juanita Cassellius

From: [W Buchanan](#)
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Subject: AK Perm. Fund Dividend, and Income Taxation
Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017 1:54:22 PM

Senator Dunleavy,

Thank you for your concern for the Alaskan resident and for your work to make our 2016 Dividend whole. As a retired Alaskan, (my wife just went back to work) the annual dividend was important to our budgeting and when Gov Walker took half of our last one, it hurt.

Please continue with the process and move it from committee and also the State hasn't even tried to balance the budget. I have worked in the O&G industry for 40 years and experienced 15-25 and 47% reduction of personnel and know we as citizens of this great state can absorb the same for public employees and programs, without hurting our students, roads and EMS. Billions may end up being spent from state coffers on a LNG project, that the private sector wisely backed away from and likely will never happen. Balancing a budget is not difficult and you'all in the legislature are capable of doing it without enacting a new Income Tax.

Sincerely,

Wayne Buchanan
POB 4438
Soldotna, AK. 99669

From: [Cynthia Ramos](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: Thank You
Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017 2:54:43 PM

Sen. Dunleavy, Many thanks to you and all the committee members for the diligence in your work to preserve the People's' PFD.

Best of luck in your continued fight that puts all Alaskans first.

Sincerely
Cynthia Ramos

From: [Kent Widmayer](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: Thank you
Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017 4:45:06 PM

Thank you Sen Dunleavy for stopping the PFD restructure. There are a lot of sacred cows in the state budget that need to be cut long before the state uses the PFD for funding. Like the wasted unfinished building on the UAF campus.

Kent Widmayer
Fairbanks Alaska

From: [Chris](#)
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: Bills SB21 and SB26
Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017 6:52:25 PM

Thank you Senator Dunleavy for stopping these very bad bills.

Christopher Estes
Palmer, AK

Sent from my iPad

From: [Dorothy Higginbotham](#)
To: [Sen. Mike Dunleavy](#)
Subject: pfd
Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017 9:41:19 AM

Dear Senator, Please forward the senate bills 21 and 26 to be considered by the senate. Holding the bills back will only delay the inevitable. Our state needs to move forward. Cuts and restructuring our oil, mining and fisheries also need to be in the mix. The PFD model is obsolete. Please have an open mind for changes in the PFD.
Thanks Dorothy Higginbotham

February 27, 2017

Honorable State Affairs Chair Dunleavy, and Finance Co-Chairs Senators Hoffman and MacKinnon and Senate Finance Committee Members, Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 21, SB 26, and SB 70, the Permanent Fund Dividend bills. The PFD was set up to be given to the people by the state, by Governor Hammond. The companies that take our oil were and are required to pay us for taking that oil and Governor Hammond wisely set up a fund to give back to the people of this great state. There are many people in the state that depend on their dividends to pay their taxes and many of their bills, my family is not the only family that depends on our dividends. If you take this money away from us it will be financially crippling.

Don't take the Permanent Fund Dividend from the people. If you need to use some of the money, take some of the interest of the PFD every other year. Do not take it every year or it will delete our fund and there will be none left for the people which is what it was set up for. By taking the interest every other year, this allows the fund to build up on the off year. I think this would be in the best interest of the dividend holders because it was built for Alaskans.

I would not be against a state income tax like we had before but I am against a fisheries tax or any other tax. We are being taxed a lot at the city level and if you put more taxes on us a lot of cities in the state will go bankrupt. Also, I think it is very disrespectful to our Senior Citizens to say that they should move out of the state because the state pays too much for them. I heard a Representative say this on the radio the other day and was taken aback by the statement. Our State would not be what it is today if it were not for the Senior Citizens. They are the ones who built this great state and nation and they deserve everything we can give them. I would like to thank Governor Hammond for creating the Permanent Fund Dividend for the people of Alaska. God bless him for that from my family.

Darrel & Deanna Gross & Family

PO Box 754

Wrangell, Alaska 99929

From: and.czk@gmail.com
To: [Senate State Affairs](#)
Subject: SB 21
Date: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 8:55:25 AM

Mr. Stedman. Here's an exact example of the problem with true politicians that more than likely didn't and can't make it in the real world. You are never satisfied with the amount you have to spend even if it's so over budgeted it's absolutely ridiculous. Who in their right mind says oil will be worth again as much this year as last when we are in a DECLINE. Not only is the price going down but overall production is decreasing as well. THAT MEANS TIGHTEN YOUR BELT AND SHRINK GOVERNMENT ALONG WITH THE SHRINKING ECONOMY INSTEAD OF TRYING TO GROW IT. Who gives you the right to overspend year after year especially to the point of putting the state in debt to the point of attempting to raid the people's permanent fund and piss it away and then tell everyone that we are used to spending so much money and now we need more. Well after the PFD is gone the only resource left will be to tax the slaves and wring them dry even though they had nothing to do with the mess the state politicians got us into. I'm not sure how people like you continually get into office. Budget in a way to start your own rainy day PFD so you can have a surplus to spend at a later day and time. I've said for decades now that if we replaced you with kindergarteners and said now children here is the amount you have to spend and don't go over at least they would follow instruction that far. Leave the permanent fund alone for a true rainy day necessity and not a perceived one. Pretend it doesn't even exist. Look to the people's social security if you need a prime example of what happens when there is a prized pot of money burning holes in the pockets of the never have enough politicians. It's now decimated and the people are paying the excessive burden left in the aftermath and still have nothing to show for all the hardship and sacrifice of their savings effort. It doesn't take a genius to look back at things already tried and proven not to work. The government is always cut to the bone but in fact you haven't even given yourself a razor burn yet. Cut the budget for real. There will be people yelping and whining but too bad. CUT THE BUDGET and don't pull the same old punch that the only thing left to cut is road maintenance since that directly affects the people the most when you try to make a false point. That's your job when things get tough not finding more ways to get us so far into debt we can never get out. Is that the way you run your life? You're household is millions of dollars in debt and have no way of ever seeing financial freedom. Well if so then we don't want you leading us down the same path. Handle the people's money with the greatest care and respect in which you can handle and care for someone else's hardship and sacrifice that they're making. Spending money is one of the easiest things to do in the world today. Especially if it's someone else's. How can you expect the budget to get smaller when every department has an incentive program to spend their whole budget and beg for more or risk losing as much funding the following year. This leads down the road of waste and foolish and frivolous spending not reducing. Why not put out incentives to spend less instead of more than your budget? Wow! What a novel idea! Please start there! Show the people that you're at least trying and maybe they'll get behind your efforts instead of continually blowing smoke up our butt in the false pretense of cutting back. Let's see some real attempts to work this out without always crying for more and more. More money isn't the answer. Controlled spending is! Thank you for your consideration and thought.

Keep looking up... Andy