

**ALASKA LEGISLATURE**

**1413**

**HOUSE and SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE FILES,**

**1995-1996**

142P

AS A "BUREAUCRATIC WHIPPING BOY" WHEN IT COMES TO FUNDING BECAUSE SO MUCH DEPENDS ON PUBLIC RADIO IN SMALL VILLAGES.

The countless hours of  
VOLUNTERISM

AND THOSE BEHIND THE SCENES TO present TOP-DRAWER SHOWS FOR OUR LISTENERS — .....

A WINTER IN-TALKEETNA IN A SMALL CABIN WOULD OPEN THE POLITICIANS EYES WHO OTHERWISE MIGHT LIVE IN OUTSIDERS HOMES LIVING IN ALASKA CANNOT POSSIBLY UNDERSTAND HOW MUCH RADIO(NON-COMMERCIAL) MEANS TO



US THAT CHOOSE OUR FORM  
AND WAY OF LIFE.

FUNDING MUST NOT BE CUT  
BUT RATHER INCREASED FOR  
PUBLIC RADIO IN ALASKA.

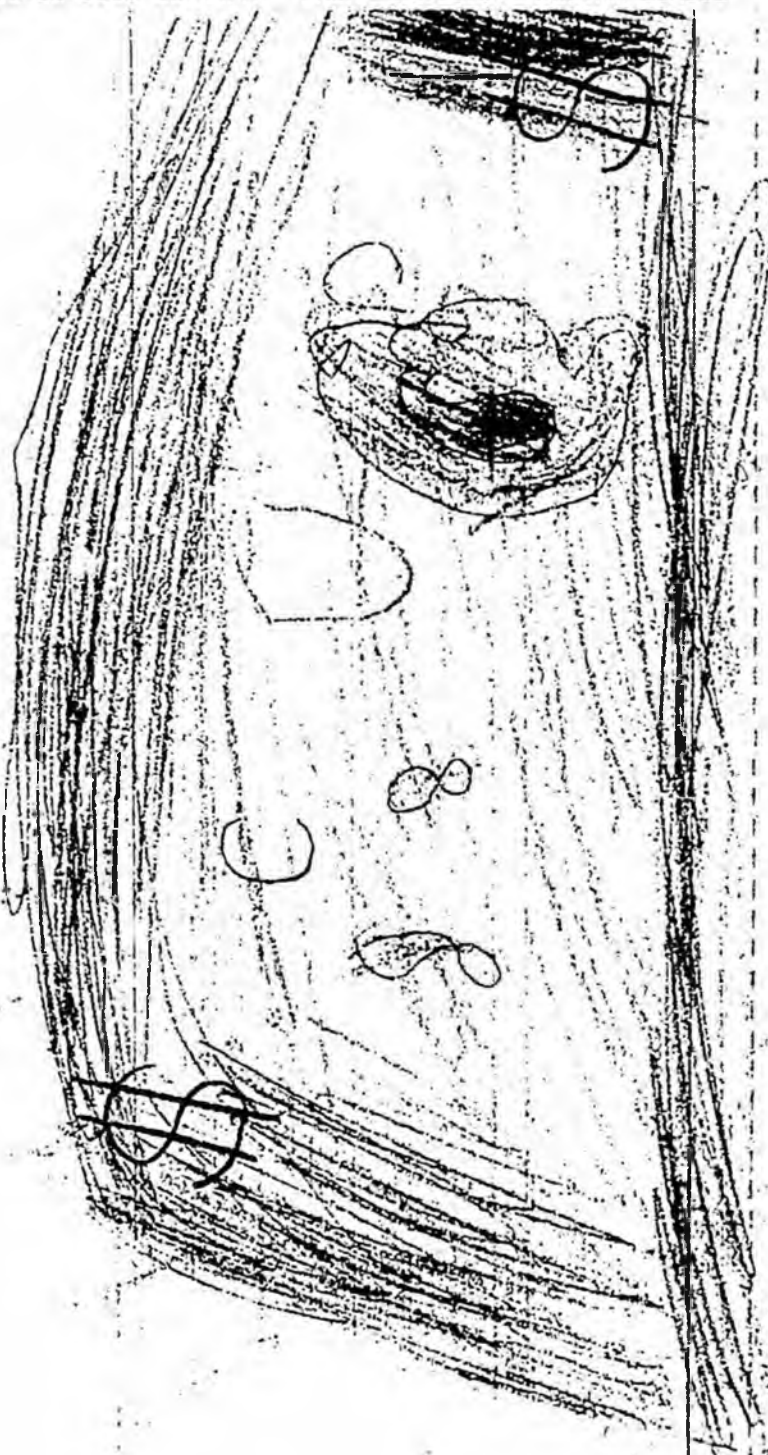
KTNA TALKEETNA  
IS BUT ONE EXAMPLE.

PAUL R. "Pappy" LOWE  
CITIZEN 733-2348

ALSO: PRODUCER  
"MYSTERY-DRAMA-SUSPENSE  
THEATRE"

PRODUCER  
"CHILDRENS RADIO"

ALSO: FILL IN  
NEWS PROGRAM  
MUSIC PROGRAMS



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March 22, 1996

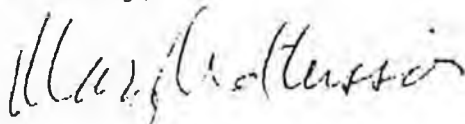
House Finance Committee

Attention: Mark Hanley 465-2418  
Richard Foster 465-3242  
Vic Kohring 465-3818

Dear Sirs:

As a listener/viewer of public radio and television I am writing to express my concern at the proposed cuts in funding that threaten to affect public broadcasting and to urge you to support the Governor's proposed budget. As a resident of Petersburg, where other forms of media are less accessible, I rely heavily on public radio and television for information. I believe the quality of life in rural communities such as Petersburg would be greatly diminished without public broadcasting.

Sincerely,



Mary Mathisson  
General Delivery  
Petersburg AK 99833

Janet Long  
P.O. Box 663  
Whittier, AK 99693

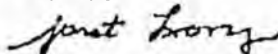
Mark Hanley, Co-Chair  
House Finance Committee  
Juneau, AK

March 21, 1996

Dear Representative Hanley:

It was with shock and disappointment that I heard the news of the House Finance Department of Education Budget Subcommittee 's proposal to eliminate the Alaska State Council on the Arts. I feel it is sometimes difficult for many in the urban mainstream to truly know how cut off the citizens of rural Alaska are from the services and programs vital to a healthy lifestyle. As a parent of two school- aged children and a member of our local educational advisory committee, I am particularly concerned about how the decision to cut funds to the arts would impact the youth of Alaska. Further, would it not make an alarming statement nationally for Alaska to be the only state in the union without an arts agency? Where lie our priorities? How can we ever hope for our young citizens to compete globally without the added depth of character provided by exposure to the multicultural outreach experiences brought to us by the Alaska State Council of the Arts? It has been statistically proven that students involved with arts programs experience both higher test scores and create fewer challenges for their communities. With the loss of 40 percent of federal funds to the National Endowment for the Arts for FY 1996, it is more critical than ever that the state *maintain level support*.

I would thank you greatly for your time and support in this most important issue.

  
Janet Long, Vice-President  
Whittier Community School  
Educational Advisory Committee



# Ingersoll Hotel

DATE: MARCH 21, 1996  
TO: MARK HANLEY AND RICHARD FOSTER  
CO-CHAIRS HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
FROM: ROBERT KOENITZER  
RE: BUDGET CUTS FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING

DEAR SIRS;

WHILE I DO SUPPORT REDUCED SPENDING BY STATE GOVERNMENT I AM CONCERNED ABOUT THE CURRENT PROPOSAL TO ELIMINATE OR DRASTICALLY REDUCE FUNDING FOR PUBLIC RADIO AND TELEVISION. ALASKA HAS A WELL DEVELOPED PUBLIC RADIO AND TV PRESENCE. THIS HIGH QUALITY SERVICE IS DEPENDENT ON NATIONAL, STATE AND PRIVATE DOLLARS. IF STATE FUNDING WERE REDUCED TO THE PROPOSED LEVEL IT WOULD BE DEVASTATING. IF CUTS MUST BE MADE PLEASE DO IT IN SMALL INCREMENTS AND OVER A PERIOD OF FIVE TO TEN YEARS. THE DEMISE OF PUBLIC RADIO AND TELEVISION WOULD BE A GREAT LOSS TO ALL ALASKANS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION.

SINCERELY,

ROBERT KOENITZER  
MANAGER, INGERSOLL HOTEL

CC: BILL WILLIAMS  
ROBIN TAYLOR

22 March 1996  
Representative Mark Hanley

Representative Hanley

I am writing with grave concern about the proposal to further cut funding for the State Council of the Arts, and for Public Broadcasting in Alaska.

I feel that this draconian action is very short sighted and mostly politically driven. The conservative movement has recently pointed to the Arts, and Public Broadcasting, as undeserving of public funding support. The reality is very much different.

Very few programs provide the tangible benefits to the state that arts funding does. As a house manager of the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts I regularly see the rewards which come from funding arts organizations. Since we opened our doors in 1988 well over one million people have attended functions as paid patrons. The economic value of this is measureable, and is not by any measure insignificant. National surveys regularly demonstrate a "multiplying factor" for each dollar spent on the arts. This conservatively amounts to a doubling of each dollar spent, and in some cases can be much higher. Every travelling company performing in Alaska spends thousands in hotels and restaurants, and on tourist activities. Patrons to the Center spend dollars on babysitters, parking, clothes, restaurants and post performance activities.

As an additional benefit, each season tens of thousands of school students attend daytime events at reduced or no cost. Two recent children's concerts by the Anchorage Symphony drew 3,000 students for daytime performances. The reactions of the children was beyond heartwarming. At a time when we worry about what our kids are exposed to in the modern world, seeing this crowd watching and responding to great works of symphonic music restored a modicum of hope for their future.

The Public Broadcasting System is also a great multiplier of resources. Any commercial business could only dream about the compound returns the PBS generates from the seed money provided by the state. Not everyone can afford cable television, and public broadcasting gives everyone access to consistent, reliable quality entertainment. The value is beyond measure.

Surely, there are areas which will suffer less from a reallocation of monies than the two described above. We read daily of the lavish waste in state spending, e.g. giving thousands in "office expenses" to an outgoing member, or millions in selling Alaska salmon.

We who support these important issues will be watching the actions of the finance committee in the next weeks. The collective actions of the legislature will reflect in the voting booth.

Jeremy Seftor  
1220 W 11th  
Anchorage 99501

3.22.96

Representative Hanley:

I understand making difficult budget decision. I'm on the board of directors of Narrows Broadcasting Corporation (KFSK, Petersburg) a public radio station that lost a third of our budget last year for a total of 70% in cuts over the past few years. We will not survive another 15% cut coming so soon after such drastic decreases. To indicate otherwise is a misrepresentation of the facts.

One fact is that Alaska is about to take a giant step backwards. In a world where government and business are laboring to increase the public's access to information the \$808,500 reduction in state funding will effectively deny access to life saving emergency messages, education, weather, community public service announcements, and local, state and national news. It will exaggerate the isolation and alienation of the rural population and destroy an existing telecommunications infrastructure.

Public broadcasting has been working to eliminate its dependence on state and federal funding. Reorganization and implementation of cost saving measures are in progress, but we need a chance to succeed. A chance that could be provided through a cut-free recovery period. A chance to save an essential service to rural areas and a communications asset to the state.

Governor Knowles understands this and has recommended funding for public broadcasting remain at last year's level. Don't sacrifice a part of Alaska's future for a temporary victory in the present.

Sincerely,

Chris Weiss  
Box 32  
Petersburg, Alaska 99833

cc: Governor Knowles

LUAN SCHOOLER  
2615 INGRA STREET  
ANCHORAGE, AK 99508-3949  
907/274-7615

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March 22, 1996

The Honorable Brian Porter  
Fax 907/465-3834

Dear Representative Porter,

I urge you to fund the Alaska State Council on the Arts at the level proposed in Governor Knowles' budget. As your constituent, I ask that you represent my needs and desires in the legislature rather than following the fringe thinking about "necessary" budget cuts. We need the arts in this state and I hope you will work to preserve the tiny state appropriation that enables them to flourish.

I was very angry to read of Representative Kohring's proposal to eliminate the Council by claiming that we cannot afford to fund it. That thinking is specious and I believe it to be sheer political grandstanding. Kohring cut even deeper than House caps required! I hope you will not fall into that same pit. Eliminating the Arts Council will not make any significant difference to the State budget, but it will have an enormous -- and detrimental -- impact on the quality of life here.

The arts contribute to our economy (it ain't just the landscape tourists come here for...), the ability of our children to learn (studies show that children who study music also have higher math scores), and perhaps most importantly, our ability as humans to be compassionate and thoughtful. Alaska already ranks 49th in terms of public money spent on the arts per capita; it would be a great shame to not even be on the chart. Supporting the arts is good, moderate public policy.

I hope to hear soon that you are doing the right thing by supporting arts funding. Then I will be happy to say that you are my representative in Juneau.

Respectfully,  
Luan Schooler

cc: Rep. Mark Hanley  
Rep. Richard Foster  
Rep. Eldon Mulder  
Rep. Sean Parnell  
Rep. Pete Kelly  
Rep. Gene Therriault

Rep. Terry Martin  
Rep. Vic Kohring  
Rep. Kay Brown  
Rep. Ben Grussendorf  
Rep. Mike Navarre

March 21, 1996

Jim Bacon  
Box 210383  
Auke Bay, Ak  
99821

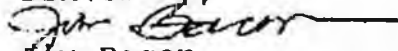
Members of the House Finance Committee,

I am writing to urge you to maintain funding for the Public Broadcasting System. Over my twenty one years living in Alaska my wife and I both have come to rely greatly on the services of public radio and television, primarily for news, however the feature programs are also very valuable.

Alaska is a large state. In my view, Public Broadcasting serves to bring Alaskan's together, giving us the oppurtunity to learn about each others concerns. It would be a great disservice to all Alaskans to end this program.

I respect your efforts to address the fiscal problems facing our State, however, I urge you to maintain enough funding to keep Public Broadcasting.

Sincerely,

  
Jim Bacon

● *MTNT, Limited*

March 21, 1996

Representative Mark Hanley  
House Finance Committee  
Alaska House of Representatives  
Juneau, AK 99801

P.O. Box 309  
McGrath, Alaska 99627  
Office (907)524-3336  
Fax (907)524-3701

Dear Rep. Hanley:

The Finance Committee is scheduled to take up the issue of funding for public broadcasting for FY97 in the near future. When you do I respectfully ask that you consider the following:

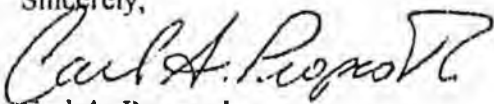
**Only Source of News and Information.** Alaska's rural public radio stations provide the only source of news and other vital information to many bush residents. I am writing this letter to you on a Thursday evening. The most recent copy of the Anchorage Daily News available at the local store is last Monday's. In more remote communities, fish camps, mining camps, etc., even that alternative doesn't exist. In McGrath, as in many other communities, when a moose cow and calf are on the main road, we learn about it on KSKO. When a local resident's house catches on fire, we learn about it on KSKO. And when a bear sow and cub are heading toward someone's dog lot, we hear about the danger on KSKO. KSKO is our primary, if not only, source of information in McGrath and the upper Kuskokwim area.

**Public Radio has taken major budget cuts in recent years.** Last fiscal year the state's public radio budget was reduced by some 40%. Any further budget cuts would have at least two impacts: (1) federal matching funds would be lost because of the state's failure to adequately match these funds; and (2) local radio stations such as KSKO in McGrath would be reduced to repeater status, which, in my opinion, would defeat their purpose.

Public radio stations have become a necessity in bush Alaska, and they should be funded by the state at a level which allows them to survive. Repeater status is not a solution. I am a strong advocate for tight fiscal controls, reduced overhead, etc., but the basic functions of public radio in the Alaskan bush must be maintained. Stations should be expected to raise a portion of their funding from local sources, but in an area with as sparse a population as the upper Kuskokwim, these funds are extremely limited. MTNT, Limited is a major contributor to KSKO. I believe that public radio deserves our continued support. I believe that it is worth yours also.

Your support of continued funding for public radio in bush communities will be most appreciated.

Sincerely,



Carl A. Propes Jr.,  
Chief Executive Officer

A.S. "Micky" Becker  
2026 Crataegus Circle  
Anchorage, AK 99508

March 21, 1996

To the Members of  
the Alaska State House  
Finance Committee

RE: Alaska State Council on the Arts

I am writing to voice my opposition to the FY97 Budget proposal to eliminate funding for the Alaska State Council on the Arts. Your committee is strongly urged to continue funding at last year's budget amount of \$564,000.

This is a quality of life issue as well as an economic issue. Without the contributions of Alaskan arts organizations, this state will find it difficult to attract outside investment and/or business relocation. Not only would this severely affect Anchorage, but since the Council reaches over 45 communities in our state, the impact would be far-reaching and severe.

I don't have to tell this Committee how much trimming the ASCA budget has had to absorb during the last few years! If the Legislature were to trim the remainder of the State budget by only a fraction of what the Arts have had to absorb, your current exercise would not be nearly as challenging. It is always easy to target the arts, but please consider the many educational aspects this latest proposal represents, not to speak of the payroll and economic multiplier effect manifest from arts dollar spending. Last, but not least, at least this year, the National Endowment of the Arts matching dollars would be lost if you were to go ahead with this proposal.

Don't cut the soul out of Alaska! Cut you must, but please try to be equitable and consider the severe paring already effected in the arts!

Sincerely,

Micky Becker

**TO:**

**Representatives**

**Mark Hanley  
Richard Foster  
Pete Kelly  
Gene Theriault  
Vic Kohring  
Ben Grussendorf  
Mike Navarre  
Brian Porter**

**FROM:**

**A. S. Micky Becker  
907 274-6144**

**DATE:**

**March 21, 1996**

## Douglas Island Veterinary Service

Lesley De Krey, DVM  
1/2 mile North Douglas Hwy  
P O Box 240031  
Douglas, Alaska 99824

Telephone (907) 463-5377  
Fax (907) 586-6332

The Honorable Mark Hanley  
Chair  
House Finance Committee  
465-2418

Dear Representative Hanley:

The disappearance of public broadcasting would affect me more strongly than any other cuts you could make.

KTOO radio wakes me up in the morning, keeps me informed throughout the day, exposes me to ideas and music that local commercial stations won't touch. *It's the only source of opera in southeast Alaska!*

I support my local public television and radio stations financially and as a volunteer, so I'm not just begging for a handout without doing my part. Every listener benefits from the information disseminated, yet only 10% contribute. The charter which created public broadcasting precludes charging for the service, so what other sources of funding does that leave? No more fat remains to be cut from the Alaska system.

Please continue funding for public broadcasting in Alaska at existing levels.

Thank you for your consideration of this issue.

Lesley De Krey

Donna Bell

3643245

**Mako Haggerty**

Phone/Fax 907.235.6410 PO Box 737, Homer, AK 99603

22 March 1996

Chairman Mark Hanley  
House Finance Committee  
Juneau, AK

Dear Mr Hanley,

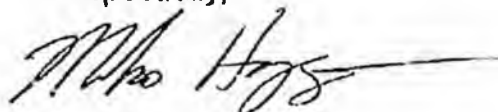
It is my understanding that we have public broadcasting back on the chopping block. This is almost unbelievable considering how hard the system has been hit the last few years. Why must you guys continue to bleed to death one of the most important functions of a first world society. Shame on you for even considering it.

Many of us who live in Alaska don't reside in Anchorage and don't have the access to flow of information that city dwellers enjoy. Staying current is just as important to many of us in the more rural areas, sometimes more important lest we get left behind. Considering how important it is for an Alaskan to stay informed and considering that many of us have neither the resources and / or the inclination to surf the Internet the Alaska public broadcasting system becomes integral to being an Informed citizen.

Alaska's public broadcasting system took years to create. Please don't destroy it. Indeed please consider dedicating more money to the system so Alaska can continue to stay informed as well as share our unique perspectives with the rest of the country.

Thank you.

Respectfully,



March 22, 1996

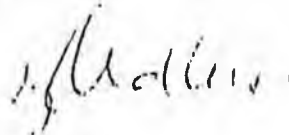
State Finance Committee

Attention: Mark Hanley 465-3433  
Richard Foster 465-3411  
Vic Kohring 465-3435

Sirs:

As a listener/viewer of public radio and television I am writing to express concern at the proposed cuts in funding that threaten to affect public broadcasting and to urge you to support the Governor's proposed budget. I am a resident of Petersburg, where other forms of media are less accessible. I rely heavily on public radio and television for information. I believe the quality of life in rural communities such as Petersburg would be greatly diminished without public broadcasting.

Sincerely,



J. Mathisson  
General Delivery  
Petersburg AK 99833

Glenn E. Caldwell  
P.O. Box 2308  
Homer, Alaska 99603

March 22, 1996

Representative Mark Hanley  
Juneau, Alaska  
Fax 465-2418

Dear Mark,

Just a short note with my input on the proposed cuts to Public Broadcasting. While I understand you are dealing with the problems of declining revenues, please remember that here in Homer, Public Broadcasting is an integral part of the life and pulse of the community. Besides, money spent on Public Radio in our state is an excellent value, and one of the wisest possible uses of state money.

Do not cut \$800,000 from Public Broadcasting. As you deliberate this issue, remember all the people across the state who would be impacted by these proposed cuts. Remember that everywhere in Alaska, every day, Public Broadcasting earns its keep.

Let's keep funding Public Broadcasting.

Thank you.  
Respectfully,

Glenn E. Caldwell

Tamás Deák  
 Landscape Architect  
 915 W 15TH AVE APT A  
 ANCHORAGE, AK, 99501

rk Hanley, Co-Chair  
 use Finance Committee  
 aka Legislature  
 ato Capitol  
 waou, AK 99801-1182

rch 22, 1996

ar Representative,

would like to express my disapproval of the complete diminution of the Alaska  
 Council on the Arts budget for FY 1997.

ides enjoying the work of such artists as Dale Chihuly, Andy Goldsworthy, Ravi  
 Shankar, who exhibited or performed in Alaska in 1996, we need to be supportive of  
 aspects of creativity to enrich our lives.

It is an integral part of our culture and eradicating public support for it is  
 unacceptable.

ose consider my opinion, when you vote in the Finance Committee.

wrk you,  
 fm Deák

ms Deák, ASLA

To Mark Hanley,

I am writing to you regarding the additional purposed budget cuts of public radio.

The community of Homer with its many rural residents depend on public radio for communication and connection with others. The news, marine and local weather are extremely important.

Please our public radio cannot be cut back any more.

Dana Roberts

P.O. Box 1974

Homer, AK 99603

To	Mark Hanley	From	M. Calmes
Co.	House Finance.	Co.	
Dept.	Committee	Phone #	907-488-4312
Fax #	465-2418	Fax #	

Fairbanks AK 99712  
22 March 1996

To

in particular Representative Kelly —  
and Representative Theriault —

I have watched my two sons respond to the arts from a very young age — in all forms, music, drama, the written word, dance, visual art, crafts — and now they participate in the arts and are learning more than I'll ever be able to completely articulate from the process. I know one thing — the ARTS are IMPORTANT to all of us — man, woman and child. The arts connect us generationally, culturally and on a very deep primal level. People have "done art" since very primitive times — people will continue to "do art" until the human race no longer exists. We have the responsibility as a civilized society to acknowledge and support this very vital role of art in our lives. We can not afford to cut the lifeline that feeds our souls. Maybe it is time to make some difficult political decisions — like reinstate the state income tax — unpopular? yes! — necessary? — I think so. Support of the arts is a necessity — we need to support it.

DO NOT CUT The Alaska State Council for the Arts.

Mary A. Calmes

JUNEAU  
ARTS &  
HUMANITIES  
COUNCIL



P.O. Box 20562 / 234 North Franklin Street Juneau, Alaska 99802-0562 (907) 586-ARIS FAX: (907) 586-2148

This letter has been submitted to the House Finance Committee as written testimony for the March 23 hearing on the House version of the FY 96 operating budget

March 21, 1996

Rep. Mark Hanley, Co-Chair  
Rep. Richard Foster, Co-Chair  
House Finance Committee  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Rep. Hanley, Rep. Foster and members of House Finance:

The Juneau Arts and Humanities Council (JAHC) urges the House Finance Committee to restore funding for the Alaska State Council on the Arts before reporting the FY 97 operating budget out of committee.

Members of the Alaska State Legislature generally support economic development to improve the state economy. The legislature actively seeks ways to foster economic growth and improve the climate for industry in Alaska. **Art is an industry.** In Juneau alone in 1994 the art industry employed 333 people (full-time, part-time and temporary) with an annual payroll of \$5.4 million. It garnered \$10 million in sales and other income. 744 art-related events in Juneau during 1994 attracted attendance of 238,700. State grants were a key element in making this possible.

The Juneau Arts and Humanities Council is the official arts agency for Alaska's Capital City, and the largest concert presenter in Southeast Alaska. It makes grants to individual artists and local arts organizations, and provides youth art scholarships. In cooperation with the local school district and UAS it presents a film series.

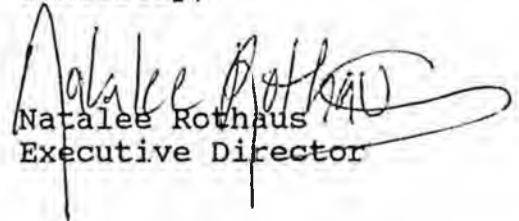
A few years ago, our grant from ASCA represented about a third of our budget. At that time we had three full-time staff positions. This year the ASCA grant accounts for about 15% of our budget. In response to last year's reductions in government support we increased efforts to obtain funding from the non-government sources, and have cut staff to one and a half. JAHC remains committed to maintaining services to the community, however further erosion of state support will undermine our ability to do so.

House Finance Committee  
March 22, 1996  
page two

The arts constitute an industry, and are an important economic force. If public funding for the arts is allowed to erode throughout the country, we will be impoverished in more than an economic sense.

Please restore funding for the Alaska State Council on the Arts, which provides essential support statewide. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

  
Natalee Rothaus  
Executive Director

cc: Rep. Eldon Mulder  
Rep. Sean Parnell  
Rep. Pete Kelly  
Rep. Gene Thierrault  
Rep. Terry Martin  
Rep. Vic Kohring  
Rep. Kay Brown  
Rep. Ben Grussendorf  
Rep. Mike Navarre

To: Rep. Mark Hanley, House Finance  
From: Pat Lukin Box 305, Homer, Alaska  
RE: **PUBLIC RADIO FUNDING**  
Date: March 22, 1996

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Throwing **support for public radio** in the trash has become an annual event in Juneau these days. Almost a rite of spring. Well, **defending public radio** is also a **tradition**.

Here in Homer **public radio station KBBI, AM 890, is the information highway** available to all citizens. The station offers access to local government meetings, interviews with local policy makers and cultural icons, school bus delays and school closings, emergency information as well as contact between neighbors via the bush line, ride line, job line, ect.

**You know all that, but have you considered ...**

As the Internet and other electronic information sources come on line a station like KBBI becomes even more **vital**. Why? Because **local public radio stations are links to the community**. The community is public radio via financial support and volunteer staffing.

I am hooked up the the Internet. I can find information on Homer as long as my interests mirror the tourist ambling up the Alcan. I can also access volumes of info from state agencies. This is awesome, but requires a computer, appropriate software and maintenance of a monthly access charge else the information door will be slammed shut in my face!

My point is that **public radio offers equal access to news and information**. Do not make the **mistake of restricting communication to the elite**. Communities thrive with common causes and open forums. States in turn blossom from a free exchange of ideas and compromise. **Alaska's strength is derived from its diversity. Squash that by cutting the links people have between themselves and the communities next door and you will plant the seed of a narrow minded, bitter populace always suspecting the other guy of getting more than his/her fair share.**



**DO NOT THROW PUBLIC RADIO OUT WITH THE TRASH!  
IT IS UP TO YOU!!**

**THANKS,  
Pat Lukin  
Homer, Alaska**

March 21, 1996

Representative Mark Hanley:

I am writing to you to request your support for Public Broadcasting in Alaska. I have been an avid listener of K.B.B.I. in Homer for the last 15 years. K.B.B.I. is not an "extra" but an integral part of my life. As a teacher, I listen to K.B.B.I. to learn about current national, international and local news.

The station is also an integral part of our community, not only relating local news, but supporting local projects. They report on activities within our schools as well as training students on radio programming techniques.

Public radio is essential in Alaska. It is my connection to the rest of the world. It makes my life in Alaska complete.

I hope that you change your mind and decide to continue supporting public broadcasting at its current level.

Thank you,



Janet Fink

P.O. Box 1644

Homer, Alaska 99603

URGENT MESSAGE

TO:(your representatives) V. Kohring, M. Hanley, R. Foster, P. Kelly, E. Mulder,  
T. Martin, S. Parnell, G. Therriault, M. Navarre, K. Brown, B. Grussendorf  
NAME: Cathy Flavin

MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 492  
Dillingham AK 99576  
City State Zip

DAY PHONE: (907) 842-9345

BILL (HOUSE BILL 42)

MESSAGE:

DO NOT CUT FUNDING FOR PUBLIC  
RADIO. Rural Alaska relies on public radio  
to get vital information out to people.  
KDLG is our vital link to necessary  
information such as emergency messages to  
people without phones, year round, but  
especially in summer during fishing season.

Signature: Cathy Flavin

Date: 3-22-96

URGENT MESSAGE TO LEGISLATURE

TO: EACH AND EVERY LEGISLATOR on House Finance Sub Committee

V. Kohring, M. Hanley, R. Foster, P. Kelly, E. Mulder,  
T. Martin, S. Arruel, G. Theriault, M. Novare, K. Brown

NAME: Gladys Lind B. Grussendorf

MAILING ADDRESS: PO Box 845

Billingham AK 99576  
City State Zip

DAY PHONE: (907) 842-9526

BILL (HOUSE BILL) 412

MESSAGE:

Do not cut the funding for our Public  
radio in Bush Alaska. Bush Alaska  
depends on public radio to get important  
information to the residents of remote  
villages. Locally, KDLG is our  
communication link within the region  
and without it, our region would  
suffer tremendously.

Signature: Gladys Lind

Date: 3/22/96

MARK MURPHY  
465-2418

PLEASE SUPPORT MAXIMUM FUNDING FOR PUBLIC RADIO. WE RELY ON IT  
FOR NEWS COVERAGE AND GENERAL INFORMATION.  
COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING IS NOT AN ALTERNATIVE!

DORLE SCHOLZ  
HC 67, BOX 1258C  
ANCHOR POINT, ALASKA 99556

D. Scholz

Janet Long  
P.O. Box 663  
Whittier, AK 99693

House Finance Committee  
Juneau, AK

March 21, 1996

Dear House Finance Committee Member:

It was with shock and disappointment that I heard the news of the House Finance Department of Education Budget Subcommittee 's proposal to eliminate the Alaska State Council on the Arts. I feel it is sometimes difficult for many in the urban mainstream to truly know how cut off the citizens of rural Alaska are from the services and programs vital to a healthy lifestyle. As a parent of two school- aged children and a member of our local educational advisory committee, I am particularly concerned about how the decision to cut funds to the arts would impact the youth of Alaska. Further, would it not make an alarming statement nationally for Alaska to be the only state in the union without an arts agency? Where lie our priorities? How can we ever hope for our young citizens to compete globally without the added depth of character provided by exposure to the multicultural outreach experiences brought to us by the Alaska State Council of the Arts? It has been statistically proven that students involved with arts programs experience both higher test scores and create fewer challenges for their communities. With the loss of 40 percent of federal funds to the National Endowment for the Arts for FY 1996, it is more critical than ever that the state *maintain level support*.

I would thank you greatly for your time and support in this most important issue.

*Janet Long*

Janet Long, Vice-President  
Whittier Community School  
Educational Advisory Committee

REP. HANLEY

**Fax**

Date: 3-20-96

To: House Finance

Fax:

From: Sara Boesser  
9365 View Drive  
Juneau, AK 99801  
789-7450 (fax) 586-5230 (w) 789-9604 (h)

Total Pages: 1

Regarding: Public broadcasting

**Please don't cut public broadcasting!**

House Finance Majority Members:

How much injury does you have to cause to Alaskans you don't happen to agree with?

Last year's cuts to public broadcasting were almost too severe for public TV and radio to survive. Whether you comprehend it or not, loss of public stations will lessen the quality of life, education and entertainment that is truly valued by many Alaskans.

With last year's cuts you made your point that you don't agree with some of public broadcasting's values. . . but you must realize that whether you like it or not, this is a large diverse state, and this proposed cut rings heavily of an uninclusive attempt to kill anything you disagree with. That kind of behavior does not build a strong democracy.

Who knows, maybe if you kill public broadcasting altogether it will be the last straw to get the majority of Alaskans to vote you out of office. But the pain that entire process will cause Alaskans and yourselves is unnecessary if you could just bear to live and let live a little bit once and a while.

So -- please don't cut public broadcasting as your subcommittee proposed; don't cut it at all this year. Thank you.

March 20, 1996

465-2418

Dear Representative

Mark Hanley

As a concerned citizen I am writing to you to voice my opposition to the FY97 Budget proposal to eliminate funding for the Alaska State Council on the Arts (ASCA). I feel very strongly that ASCA is a necessary and vital organization and that the House Finance Committee should approve level funding at last year's budget amount of \$64,000.

Arts Council programs reached over 45 communities in 1995. The existence of arts and cultural programming improves the quality of life in our communities and fosters a sense of civic pride that goes a long way towards achieving the goal of a positive and healthy living environment for residents of Alaska. Elimination of the Alaska State Council on the Arts would make arts programming less affordable to the average citizen and severely decrease the impact of arts organizations that serve as important resources in our community.

I have heard that certain members of the Alaska State Legislature feel that this issue does not have an impact on constituents in their district. In my opinion, that is a very narrow and uninformed view. ASCA programs affect residents throughout Alaska. Public funding to an organization such as ASCA, which has a state-wide impact, makes far more sense than eliminating this exemplary agency in the favor of funding services for only one community.

The elimination of the Alaska State Council on the Arts would be a grave mistake with far-reaching repercussions. Again, I urge you to support level funding of the Alaska State Council on the Arts.

Sincerely,

Sandra K. Moeller

Sandra K. Moeller  
Moeller and Moeller  
9920 Spring Hill Dr.  
Anchorage, Ak. 99507

THE OBSERVATORY, ABAA 235 SECOND STREET, JUNEAU, ALASKA  
99801

Telephone 907/ 586-9676  
e-mail deelong@alaska.net

Fax 907/586-9606  
March 20, 1996

Dear Sen. Hanley,

Sometimes I think the legislative Masjority forgets they were elected to represent the State of Alaska, not simply their ideaology or their constituents.

If you had ever spent any time in the Bush, you would know what a lifeline public broadcasting is. Weather reports, personal messages, and just plain communicating with the outside world make all the difference. The monthly call-in to the Governor is a good example of genuinely giving all Alaskans a chance to air their views, ask questions, and get a feel for what the rest of the state is thinking.

And we don't need to hear any nonsense about the expense. You must know public broadcasting costs pennies compared to most programs. Outsiders like to portray NPR as elitist entertainment. When I lived in Sitka the town of Pelican held a bake sale to raise money during our fund drive. Is that elitist or real Alaska?

The television stations have cobbled together Alaska One which is far from perfect but still offers television across the state. They can't cut any more - you cut into the marrow last year. I don't know and would like to hear your real reasons for trying to kill public broadcasting. The Bush cannot support radio let alone dream of television stations. For example, Sitka repeats to Tenakee Springs, Port Alexander, Pelican, and Angoon. Gustavus and Hoonah listen in on KTOO. They had nothing before and they will have nothing again. If you are successful, I can only wish you would get stuck in mid-winter in Barrow or Bethel or Pelican and want to listen to the news.

Please think of all Alaska for a change.

Dee Longenbaugh

BEVERLY LINDELL MS, LPA

---

408 Gold Street  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
(907) 586-4432

March 20, 1996

Mr. Hanley, Chair  
Finance Committee

Dear Mr. Hanley,

I strongly urge you to continue to fund public radio and television at their current levels. The proposed massive cuts would undermine the educational and cultural environment that makes Alaska a fascinating place to live and work. When we moved to Alaska five years ago, one of the considerations in our choice was the fact that there was a strong and well supported public radio service. I urge you to support continued funding for public radio and tv.

Sincerely,

Beverly Lindell



## Anchorage Opera

19 March 1996

Representative Terry Martin  
The Alaska Legislature  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Martin:

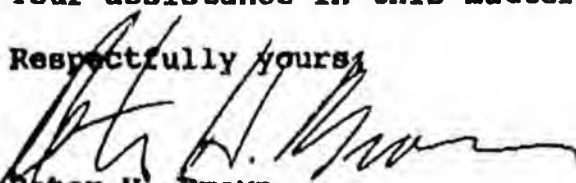
As a resident of your district, at 108 East Cook, on Government Hill, I am writing to request your support for the Alaska State Council on the Arts. As you may be aware, the House Finance Department of Education Budget Committee has approved a FY97 Budget proposal that would eliminate the Alaska State Council on the Arts. Clearly this is not a wise course of action.

With the present cuts in funding for the National Endowment for The Arts passed by Congress, it is vitally important to maintain level support for the State Arts Council in order to help ease the loss of federal funds to the estimated two thirds of the organizations previously served by the NEA.

The present budget for the State Arts Council is a mere \$1,254,300, which is only 11% of what it was in 1983. The State Arts Council has taken its share of cuts - last year the legislature cut the Council's budget by 32%. Alaska is rated 49 out of 50 states in the percentage of general fund spending related to the arts, and if the State Arts Council is eliminated, Alaska will be the only state in the Union without a state arts agency, a dubious distinction at best. Arts Council programs insure that all Alaskans have affordable local access to the Arts, to programs and services that promote healthy communities, nurture our youth and help create employment. Considering what Alaskan artists and arts organizations accomplish \$1,254,300 is a bargain price.

Your assistance in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully yours,

  
Peter H. Brown  
General Director

John Luther Adams, Composer in Residence for Meet The Composers New Residencies

1507 Spar Avenue • Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
(907) 279-2557 • Facsimile (907) 279-7798



## Anchorage Opera

March 19, 1996

Representative Brian Porter  
The Alaska Legislature  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Porter,

As a resident of House District 20, at 1781 East 53rd Avenue, I am writing to request your support for the Alaska State Council on the Arts. As a member of the House Finance Department of Education Budget Subcommittee, you voted on March 18th to approve a FY97 Budget proposal which would eliminate ASCA completely. I disagree with your position, and urge you to reconsider it.

With current cuts in funding for the National Endowment for the Arts passed by Congress, it is vitally important to maintain present levels of support for the State Arts Council in order to help ease the loss of federal funds to the estimated two thirds of the organizations previously served by the NEA.

The present budget for ASCA, at \$1,254,300, is only 11% of what it was in 1983. Haven't the Arts taken their share of cuts? Last year the legislature cut the Council's budget by 32%. Alaska is rated 49 out of 50 states in the percentage of general fund spending related to the Arts, and if the State Arts Council is eliminated, Alaska will be the only state in the Union without a state Arts agency. This is an embarrassment to those of us in the Arts who live and raise families here, as it should be to every resident!

In my position at Anchorage Opera, I spend time in the schools doing educational outreach. I have seen the intellectual spark that is generated by participation in Arts activities, and recognize that for some students, this involvement is the sole motivation for remaining in school. Considering our collective concern for the future of our youth, I cannot support the dismantling of this important avenue of expression and participation.

Your assistance in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully yours,

Ed Bourgeois  
Assistant General Director

# THE ISLAND INSTITUTE

Box 2420, SITKA, ALASKA 99835



PHONE 907 747 3794 ♦ FAX 907 747-6554

18 March 1996

To: Bonnie Bernholz, Chair  
Alaska State Council on the Arts / Copies to all House Finance Committee members

From: Carolyn Servid *Carolyn Servid*  
Co-Director, The Island Institute

This is in response to your FAX concerning Representative Vic Kohring's proposal to eliminate ASCA. I understand that the DOE Budget Subcommittee has acted affirmatively on this and the Subcommittee recommendation will now go to the full House Finance Committee for approval or amendment.

If ASCA is eliminated and there is no state appropriation for the arts in Alaska, of course this would mean that matching funds from the National Endowment for the Arts would also be lost. These cuts would seriously threaten The Island Institute. As the state budget for ASCA dropped during each of the last three years, the Institute received diminished season support grants from ASCA — \$11,970 in '94, \$10,000 in '95, and \$7,935 in the current year. So far, we have managed to continue our program without compromising its integrity through increased fund-raising and volunteer contributions, and budget tightening, but we have reached the limit of our capacity to do more with less. The net effect of the elimination of ASCA would be at least a 50% reduction in the number of people we serve. The Institute would likely have to cut one of our two staff positions and scale back or eliminate one or more of our programs, as described below.

- **Sitka Symposium on Human Values & the Written Word**

This is an annual conference, now in its 13th year, led by noted writers, thinkers, and community leaders from around the country, exploring social and cultural ideas within a selected theme. It has attracted participants from Sitka and 23 other Alaska communities, and from 25 other states. It has also earned a reputation nationally for being an exemplary program, unlike any other. This is our most expensive program and would probably have to be held alternate years rather than annually.

- **Resident Fellows Program**

Three month-long residencies with artists, writers, and humanities scholars, allowing them to pursue their work and share it with the community through exhibits, readings, workshops, forums, and school presentations. This component would have to be reduced from three residencies to one or two. The length of the residency may be shortened, and it might not be possible to continue our practice of having Resident Fellows make visits to outlying villages such as Angoon, Hoonah, and Pelican.

- **Visiting Writers Series**

4 - 5 day visits with two noted writers each year, involving writing workshops, readings, and talks to students in schools. This has been a cooperative program with other communities (Ketchikan, Petersburg, Anchorage, Fairbanks). It would very likely have to be eliminated entirely.

- **Connotations, a semi-annual journal**

Features essays, poetry, and stories by participants in our programs, and enables us to reach more people. Since this journal is oriented around our other program, its fate would depend on what happens to them. We might have to give up the journal entirely, or produce a single annual issue.

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Box 907

Nome, Alaska 99762

Phone &amp; Fax: 443-2865

MARCH 18, 1996

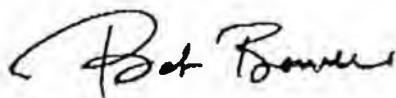
FAX TRANSMISSION

TO: Representative Mark Hanley, Co-Chair of House Finance

FROM: Bob Bowers

SUBJECT: Defunding of Alaska Arts Council

In my estimation Representative Kohring's move to defund the Alaska State Council for the Arts is a deplorable move that will hurt the whole state. A state which inspires artists as Alaska does and which has received as much inspiration and enrichment from its artists as Alaska has received can ill afford to destroy support for its artists. Such a move is a slap in the face to some of the most hard working, conscientious and creative people in our state and those who are enriched by their efforts. Please do not let this effort get through the Finance Committee.



20 Mar 1996

TO: Rep. Mark Hanley, Co-Chair House Finance Committee

FROM: Frederick C. Dean, 810 Ballaine Road, Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-6606  
Tel. (Voice Only) 907-479-6607

Subject: Budget - ARTS & PUBLIC BROADCASTING

Rep. Kohring's proposal to "save" money by eliminating funding for the Arts Council and for public broadcasting is shortsighted to say the least. He proposes to put the arts money into state troopers but neglects to recognize that societies with high participation in the arts quite probably require fewer troopers and jails. Even if he funds more troopers with the arts money at this moment, he is going to have to find other trooper salary moneys and jail-related funds in the future. It is about time to start addressing some of our problems at the root rather than with opaque salves and band-aids.

Will this battle for public broadcasting funds never stop? Most of the state does not have the population base to support public stations (decent, "family values" programming) without staqte support.

Let's get on with the re-establishment of a state income tax! The Govenor's proposal on this is very modest; let's do it!

END PAGE 1/1.

J.G. HAIGH DESIGN-RESEARCH  
280 E. Birch Hill Rd.  
Fairbanks, AK 99712  
907 457-7834  
e-mail: jhaigh@polarnet.tnsb.ak.us

March 20, 1996

Dear Rep. Hanley,

I am very upset about efforts by Rep. Kohring to zero out arts funding, and make further major cuts to Public Broadcasting. It seems that the Majority is using the supposed budget crisis to get rid of programs you don't like on ideological grounds.

Both the arts and public broadcasting are important to our communities. There is no justification for zeroing out these programs while putting an additional billion into the permanent fund, still without any long range plan for the future.

Having recently visited Anchorage, I saw a city with empty malls and parking lots whose economy seems to be heading downhill. I fail to see how cutting hundreds of jobs of State workers, workers on capital projects, and workers in the arts is going to improve things.

I urge you to give serious consideration to plans for a soft landing which would protect education using an educational endowment! concept. We need to move ahead to meet the twenty-first century in a bold and positive manner, not shrink back, allowing other outside interests to take control

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*Jane G. Haigh*

Jane G. Haigh

**Carol Harding  
P.O. Box 2563  
Homer, Alaska 99603  
(907) 235-8635**

March 23, 1996

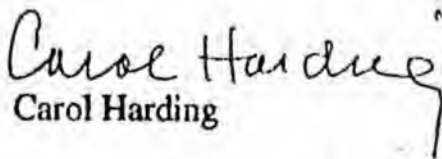
To the House Finance Committee:

I am very distressed to hear that the House Finance Department of Education (DOE) Budget Subcommittee approved an FY97 budget proposal to eliminate the Alaska State Council on the Arts!

Grant reductions would have a profound, and devastating effect in our community. The arts play a significant role in the community of Homer. It is wrong that arts programs that emphasize serving our community should be eliminated. Arts programs mean that all Alaskans have affordable local access to the arts. The artists and arts organizations of Alaska offer services and programs that every community needs and attends to problems that every community faces. The State Arts Council promotes healthy communities, nurtures children, helps create jobs, and attracts tourist dollars.

If ASCA is eliminated, Alaska would be the ONLY state in the union without a state agency!

Sincerely,

  
Carol Harding

cc: Mark Hanley 465-2418  
Richard Foster 465-3242  
Kay Brown 465-4419  
John Torgerson, State Senator 465-4779  
Gail Phillips, Representative 465-3472

Benjamin A. Barrera  
2301 St Elias  
Anchorage, AK. 99517

March 20, 1996

To: House Finance Committee  
Rep. Mark Hanley Co-Chair  
Fax 907-465-2418

Dear Rep. Hanley,

The elimination of the State Council on the Arts is simply  
**not a good idea.** I will not bore you with my reasons,  
just with my ultimate opinion.

Sincerely,



Ben A. Barrera

REBECCA BLASCO  
3184 Pioneer Avenue  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

March 20, 1996

Representative Vic Kohring  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Representative Vic Kohring:

My name is Rebecca Blasco and I am a 16 year old sophomore at JDHS. I have been following your legislation on the funding for the arts and am extremely upset that you would even consider cutting all arts funding. I dance and play piano and take these hobbies seriously as do many other young and old people.

I don't know if you are aware of this, but before there were troopers or paved roads, there were pictures drawn on stone walls by the natives. These pictures not only depicted their lives, but also their culture. They told stories and recorded important dates. During the slavery years, African-Americans expressed their oppression through music and blues which soon became a major part of their culture. This music provided a reason to live, something to strive for. During World War II, Winston Churchill maintained funding for the arts even though a war was going on. He once said, "I kept the arts alive so that people would remember what they were fighting for."

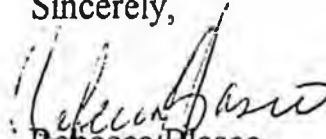
The Renaissance was a unique time period in history, one that has never been repeated. During the Renaissance, arts were valued more than any other part of life, creating what is the western culture. All over the world people use art as a form of expression, allowing art to become one of the strongest assets in every culture. I know that if I couldn't dance or play piano it would be like losing an arm or leg. Nobody, no matter what their position is in government, has the right to take away someone's freedom of

expression and, without funding for arts, many children and young people will not have the opportunity to become something great.

I realize that Alaska doesn't have endless bundles of money to be spent on every issue, but I know that the arts cannot afford such a cut. We need your help to realize that such a cut is foolish. We need you to realize that without the arts there is no culture and without culture there is nothing to live for. I hope you find this letter useful in determining your future decisions and I hope you take all I've said under consideration before you take away all our rights.

Thank you for your time and consideration. There are a lot of young people out there who feel the same as I do and I wish there were something more we could do. Please listen to us.

Sincerely,



Rebecca Blasco

cc: Representative Mark Hanley ✓  
Senator Steve Frank  
Senator Rick Halford  
Senator Jim Duncan  
Representative Caren Robinson  
Representative Kim Elton  
Representative Bettye Davis  
Senator Steve Rieger

1510 P Street,  
Anchorage,  
AK 99501.

March 21st 1996

Dear Representative Hanley,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the FY97 Budget proposal to eliminate funding for the Alaska State Council on the Arts (ASCA). I feel strongly that ASCA is a necessary and vital organization and that the House Finance Committee should approve funding at last year's budget amount of \$564,000.

Arts Council programs reached over 45 communities in 1995. These programs improve the quality of life in our communities, they foster civic pride and often have a strong positive economic impact. Elimination of the Alaska State Council on the Arts would severely decrease the positive contribution of arts organizations.

Our budget deficit is often attributed to programs that other states do not have. This is not the case with respect to state support for the arts: Alaska is 49th in arts spending on a per capita basis and if ASCA is eliminated then Alaska would have the dubious honor of being the only state without a State Arts Council. In addition, ASCA funding has already been drastically reduced and in 1995 was a mere 11% of the 1983 funding level.

The elimination of the Alaska State Council on the Arts would be a grave mistake with far-reaching consequences, Again I urge you to support level funding of the Alaska State Council on the Arts .

Sincerely

*Brian Davies*

March 21, 1996

To. Mark Hanley, Co-Chair  
House Finance Committee Member

FAX: 465-2418

Dear Sir,

I **STRONGLY** oppose the funding cut for the Alaska State Council on the Arts. Please take a moment to reconsider this action.

Sincerely,



Catherine J. Deak

915 W. 15th Avenue, #A  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
(907)272-0173

A.S. "Micky" Becker  
2026 Cratnegus Circle  
Anchorage, AK 99508

March 21, 1996

To the Members of  
the Alaska State House  
Finance Committee

**RE: Alaska State Council on the Arts**

I am writing to voice my opposition to the FY97 Budget proposal to eliminate funding for the Alaska State Council on the Art. Your committee is strongly urged to continue funding at last year's budget amount of \$364,000.

This is a quality of life issue as well as an economic issue. Without the contributions of Alaskan arts organizations, this state will find it difficult to attract outside investment and/or business relocation. Not only would this severely affect Anchorage, but since the Council reaches over 45 communities in our state, the impact would be far-reaching and severe.

I don't have to tell this Committee how much trimming the ASCA budget has had to absorb during the last few years! If the Legislature were to trim the remainder of the State budget by only a fraction of what the Arts have had to absorb, your current exercise would not be nearly as challenging. It is always easy to target the arts, but please consider the many educational aspects this latest proposal represents, not to speak of the payroll and economic multiplier effect manifest from arts dollar spending. Last, but not least, at least this year, the National Endowment of the Arts matching dollars would be lost if you were to go ahead with this proposal.

Don't cut the soul out of Alaska! Cut you must, be please try to be equitable and consider the severe paring already effected in the arts!

Sincerely,

Micky Becker

**TO: Representatives**

**Mark Hanley  
Richard Foster  
Pete Kelly  
Gene Theriault  
Vic Kohring  
Ben Grussendorf  
Mike Navarre  
Brian Porter**

**FROM: A. S. Micky Becker  
907 274-8144**

**DATE: March 21, 1996**



# ALASKA CENTER *for the* ENVIRONMENT

519 West 8th Avenue, Suite 201 • Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
(907) 274-3621 • fax; 274-8733

March 22, 1996

House Finance Committee  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol (MS 3100)  
Juneau, AK 9801-1182

Re: Resource Agency Budgets

Dear Committee Members:

Since I will not be able to be at your statewide teleconference tomorrow morning, I would like to offer for the record the following written testimony on behalf of the Alaska Center for the Environment and its approximately 1000 members.

Alaskans are passionate about the protection and appropriate enjoyment and use of the state's fish and wildlife. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game is the agency we depend on to accomplish that objective, but they cannot do that, in spite of the best intentions, without adequate funding. Cutting \$546,000 from the Division of Habitat and Restoration's budget, as we understand has been proposed, would be not only unwise but, we believe, unsupported by the great majority of Alaskans. Senator Phillips' survey results, for example (copy enclosed), suggest that cutting natural resource budgets is one of the least favored spending reduction targets.

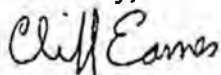
Furthermore, one of the functions that would be lost or substantially reduced, we understand, is the monitoring of logging operations. A great many Alaskans, including for example the State Board of Fisheries, are seriously concerned about the cumulative impacts that extensive logging operations on a variety of land ownerships are likely to have on our fish and wildlife and other non-timber forest resources. Crippling ADF&G's ability, which is already inadequate, to monitor logging operations could have serious long-term impacts that would affect not only Alaskans but also the many visitors who are attracted to our state by our presently abundant fish and wildlife.

Finally, we would like to speak in opposition to the \$93,000 cut proposed for the Division of Parks' budget. Does it really make sense to spend millions of dollars to try to attract tourists to the state, and then fail to provide adequate funding to the agency that has a large share of the responsibility for making their visits enjoyable ones?--not to mention the importance of the division's functions to individual Alaskans, who recreate outdoors at twice the national average. \$93,000 might not sound like much, but that figure needs to be viewed in the context of a long list of sizable cuts over the last several years. Parks has already been stripped to the bone, further cuts could truly emasculate the agency.

Additionally, the division should be rewarded, not punished, for the substantial revenue that it has worked hard to generate from fees in recent years. If some portion of those fee revenues were used to eliminate the proposed \$93,000 cut, the division would have an incentive to generate, responsibly we hope and assume, additional revenue. Not allowing the agency to keep more of its fee income will have exactly the opposite effect, and will discourage revenue generation.

Thank you very much for your serious consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,



Cliff Eames  
Issues Director

As a result of declining oil production in Alaska, revenues received by the state each year are less than the current level of spending. This has resulted in a "fiscal gap," currently a shortfall of \$524 million for FY 96 including ending for Permanent Fund Dividends and inflation proofing. In the past the fiscal gap has been closed by using reserve funds, one time revenues, and reducing spending levels. In 1995, the Legislature established the "Long Range Financial Planning Commission" to make recommendations on a plan to close the fiscal gap. These recommendations are listed below.

**Attention, Please Note: Read the next two pages before answering questions.**

**Budget Cuts**

**100 Million Budget Cut**

Do you favor or oppose a \$100 million cut to the state general fund budget over the next three years to close the fiscal gap?

Favor 786/34% Oppose 149/16% 935 Total Responses

Do you favor or oppose cuts larger than \$100 million over the next three years to close the fiscal gap?

Favor 441/50% Oppose 434/50% 875 Total Responses

The FY 96 state general fund budget of \$2.4 billion as adopted by the Legislature was based on an estimate of \$1.95 billion available from revenues, including one time revenues, and \$487 million from the Constitutional Budget Reserve. Following are the fiscal year 1996 state general fund expenditures by function given in millions of dollars.

Please choose 3 functions that you would cut. If you feel that spending cuts are not needed, please check here 66/7%. If you feel that spending cuts are needed, please check 3 functions below.

	Millions		Millions
<u>13/33%</u> Education	\$855	<u>129/14%</u> Natural Resources	\$111
<u>15/53%</u> Health and Social Services	\$567	<u>71/0%</u> School Debt	\$ 80
<u>13/20%</u> Law, Justice, and Public Protection	\$312	<u>92/10%</u> Economic Development	\$ 20
<u>17/75%</u> General Government	\$197	General Obligation Bonds	\$ 19
<u>10/20%</u> Transportation	\$129	Other Debt	\$ 10
<u>10/53%</u> Capital Projects	\$116	Total	\$2.4 billion

**Permanent Fund**

**Permanent Fund Endowment**

With voter approval, amend the State Constitution to change the Permanent Fund from a savings account to an endowment account. The change provides for increased deposits into the Permanent Fund and then an annual payout from the Permanent Fund equal to 4% of the market value of the Fund (market value approximately \$18 billion). This payout would be used to fund state government and to pay dividends at a reduced amount.

Do you favor or oppose a Constitutional Amendment that would change the Permanent Fund from a savings account to an endowment account?

Favor 233/23% Oppose 759/77% 992 Total Responses

**Additional Transfers to the Permanent Fund**

Changes to the Permanent Fund would change the need for other reserve funds.

Do you favor or oppose transferring \$800 million from the Constitutional Budget Reserve Fund and \$1.2 billion from the Earnings Reserve Account of the Permanent Fund to the Principal of the Permanent Fund?

Favor 380/42% Oppose 526/58% 906 Total Responses

**Permanent Fund Dividends**

Reduce the amount used to pay permanent fund dividends (\$565 million 1995) by \$50 million per year for the next three years. This would reduce dividends to approximately \$700 per Alaskan in 1998, and lower the amount in years thereafter.

Do you favor or oppose this reduction in the permanent fund dividend to close the fiscal gap?

Favor 262/26% Oppose 739/74% 1001 Total Responses

March 22, 1996

Representative Mark Hanley, Co-Chair  
and House Finance Committee Members  
The Alaska Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 428  
Juneau, AK 99811-1182

Dear Representative Hanley and House Finance Committee Members:

As I will be traveling tomorrow, I write in place of testimony at tomorrow's public hearing. The proposed elimination of the Alaska State Council on the Arts would be devastating for several reasons.

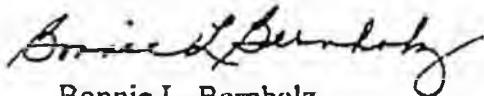
Elimination of the Council means the elimination of jobs -- both those employed in the arts and those employed in support and service industries such as printing companies, restaurants, hotels, etc. In FY95, arts attendance totaled almost two million! In Anchorage, as you are well aware, downtown restaurants, as an example, rely on the continuation of performances in the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts to employ waiters, waitresses, cooks, etc. There is no question that if the number of performances is downsized, so will the jobs supporting those organizations presenting the performances. At a time when employment of Alaskans is a key issue among your constituents, it is appropriate to remember that in addition to many affordable programs and services provided by the arts community, we are also a credible and viable employment sector within this state.

Additionally, ASCA has taken more than its share of budget cuts during the past several years. Our state is ranked 49th out of 50 in the percentage of general fund spending dedicated to the arts. Last year, this agency disbursed \$986,000 of combined state and federal funding through 185 grants in 46 communities.

Like most Alaskans, I am keenly aware of the need to bridge the fiscal gap -- but it cannot and should not require the demise of this state's arts agency. If you eliminate ASCA, Alaska would be the ONLY state in the union without a state arts agency. Clearly, we are not the ONLY state with current or past budget problems.

I urge you to consider the ramifications of any decision that drastically affects the Alaska State Council on the Arts, and to remember that the arts are important to the health, safety, and vitality of a community.

Sincerely,



Bonnie L. Bernholz  
Chair, Alaska State Council on the Arts

6500 Switzerland  
Anchorage, AK 99516  
(907) 345-1394



# Alaska State Legislature

## Written Testimony Form

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

committee on BUDGET, dated 3-21-96  
(bill/subject)

PLEASE DO NOT ELIMINATE THE STATE GENERAL FUND MATCH FOR THE ASMI EXPORT PROGRAM. THE TOTAL SFY 95 ASMI BUDGET AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL ALASKA SALMON EXPORT VALUE IS 19%. PLEASE SUPPORT ASMI. PLEASE ALSO SUPPORT FULL FUNDING FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME. THANK YOU.

Signed: Virginia Miller  
Testifier Name

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

P.O. BOX 295 Cordova  
Address

424-3786  
Phone Number



# Alaska State Legislature

## Written Testimony Form

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

committee on BUDGET, dated 3-21  
(bill/subject)

PLEASE DO NOT ELIMINATE THE STATE GENERAL FUND MATCH FOR THE ASMI EXPORT PROGRAM. THE TOTAL SFY 95 ASMI BUDGET AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL ALASKA SALMON EXPORT VALUE IS 19%. PLEASE SUPPORT ASMI. PLEASE ALSO SUPPORT FULL FUNDING FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME. THANK YOU.

Signed: Jack Balne  
Testifier Name

Self  
Representing (Optional)

Box 1208 Cordova 99574  
Address

(907) 424 7244  
Phone Number



# Alaska State Legislature

## Written Testimony Form

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

committee on BUDGET, dated \_\_\_\_\_  
(bill/subject)

PLEASE DO NOT ELIMINATE THE STATE  
GENERAL FUND MATCH FOR THE ASMI  
EXPORT PROGRAM. THE TOTAL SFY 95  
ASMI BUDGET AS A PERCENTAGE OF  
TOTAL ALASKA SALMON EXPORT VALUE  
IS 10%. PLEASE SUPPORT ASMI. PLEASE  
ALSO SUPPORT FULL FUNDING FOR  
PUBLIC BROADCASTING AND THE DEPART-  
MENT OF FISH AND GAME. THANK YOU.

Signed:

[Signature]  
Testifier Name

Representing (Optional)

Box 2453 - Cordova AK 99574

Address

(907) 424-5779

Phone Number



# Alaska State Legislature

## Written Testimony Form

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

committee on BUDGET, dated \_\_\_\_\_  
(bill/subject)

PLEASE DO NOT ELIMINATE THE STATE  
GENERAL FUND MATCH FOR THE ASMI  
EXPORT PROGRAM. THE TOTAL SFY 95  
ASMI BUDGET AS A PERCENTAGE OF  
TOTAL ALASKA SALMON EXPORT VALUE  
IS 19%. PLEASE SUPPORT ASMI. PLEASE  
ALSO SUPPORT FULL FUNDING FOR  
PUBLIC BROADCASTING AND THE DEPART-  
MENT OF FISH AND GAME. THANK YOU.

Signed: Matt Babic  
Testifier Name

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

Box 1208  
Address

(907) - 424 - 2245  
Phone Number



# Alaska State Legislature

## Written Testimony Form

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

committee on BUDGET, dated \_\_\_\_\_  
(bill/subject)

PLEASE DO NOT ELIMINATE THE STATE  
GENERAL FUND MATCH FOR THE ASMI  
EXPORT PROGRAM. THE TOTAL SFY 95  
ASMI BUDGET AS A PERCENTAGE OF  
TOTAL ALASKA SALMON EXPORT VALUE  
IS 10%. PLEASE SUPPORT ASMI. PLEASE  
ALSO SUPPORT FULL FUNDING FOR  
PUBLIC BROADCASTING AND THE DEPART-  
MENT OF FISH AND GAME. THANK YOU.

Kayley Babie

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Testifier Name

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

Box 1208 \_\_\_\_\_

Address

(907) 424 7244 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number



# Alaska State Legislature

## Written Testimony Form

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

committee on BUDGET, dated \_\_\_\_\_  
(bill/subject)

PLEASE DO NOT ELIMINATE THE STATE GENERAL FUND MATCH FOR THE ASMI EXPORT PROGRAM. THE TOTAL SFY 95 ASMI BUDGET AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL ALASKA SALMON EXPORT VALUE IS 10%. PLEASE SUPPORT ASMI. PLEASE ALSO SUPPORT FULL FUNDING FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME. THANK YOU.

Signed: Mike Benic  
Testifier Name

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

Box 1208  
Address

(907) 424-7240  
Phone Number



# Alaska State Legislature

## Written Testimony Form

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HOUSE FINANCE  
(committee name)  
committee on BUDGET, dated 3/22/96  
(bill/subject)

PLEASE DO NOT ELIMINATE THE STATE  
GENERAL FUND MATCH FOR THE ASMI  
EXPORT PROGRAM. THE TOTAL SFY 95  
ASMI BUDGET AS A PERCENTAGE OF  
TOTAL ALASKA SALMON EXPORT VALUE  
IS 19%. PLEASE SUPPORT ASMI. PLEASE  
ALSO SUPPORT FULL FUNDING FOR  
PUBLIC BROADCASTING AND THE DEPART-  
MENT OF FISH AND GAME. THANK YOU.

Signed: Marcen Bardush  
Testifier Name

citizen of Alaska  
Representing (Optional)

Box 751 Cordova AK 99574  
Address

424-3659  
Phone Number



# Alaska State Legislature

## Written Testimony Form

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HOUSE FINANCE + Senate  
(committee name)

committee on BUDGET, dated 3/22/96  
(bill/subject)

PLEASE DO NOT ELIMINATE THE STATE GENERAL FUND MATCH FOR THE ASMI EXPORT PROGRAM. THE TOTAL SFY 95 ASMI BUDGET AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL ALASKA SALMON EXPORT VALUE IS 19%. PLEASE SUPPORT ASMI. PLEASE ALSO SUPPORT FULL FUNDING FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME. THANK YOU.

Signed:

[Signature]  
Testifier Name

At a time when Alaska salmon markets are in crisis, this

is not the time to be cutting the ASMI budget.

ASMI is one of the few hopes we have in increasing our salmon markets.

Representing (Optional)

Box 1566  
Address

(907) 424-5266  
Phone Number



# Alaska State Legislature

## Written Testimony Form

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

committee on the budget, dated 3/23/96  
(bill/subject)

Please do not make further cuts to public radio - its funding should be increased!  
 Public radio is a vital link for all rural Alaska to the legislature of the outside world. Public radio is a cheap <sup>effective</sup> means of communicating about all the issues concerning rural Alaska - from natural resources to health to statewide concerns and national issues. Most people can afford a radio. It can be a method of information exchange because it is accessible to many - and hosts talk shows and allows extensive volunteer participation. It does not require a lot of time on the part of the listener - and allows even those who can't read to be informed. Much of rural Alaska does not get regular newspapers - and print media is not very accessible to those of another first language than English. ~~It~~ If the legislature zeros out public radio - after what it has already done to communications sectors of fish and other departments - it will send a clear message to rural Alaska - "Shut up and learn us alone." We do not care if you know what we do, or why or how."

Signed: Judy Seitz  
Testifier Name Judy SEITZ

Self  
Representing (Optional)

Box 881 Cordova, AK 99574  
Address

424-3719  
Phone Number

Fish and other departments - it will send a clear message to rural Alaska - "Shut up and learn us alone." We do not care if you know what we do, or why or how."



9040 Glacier Highway, Juneau, AK 99801 TELEPHONE (907) 789-3888  
 March 22, 1996 FAX (907) 789-7038

Senator Mark Hanley  
 Alaska State Legislature  
 State Capital Building  
 Juneau Alaska 99801  
 Via: Fax # 465- 2418

RE: FY 97 BUDGET REQUEST FOR  
 Department of Commerce  
 Occupational Licensing  
 REAL ESTATE COMPONENT

Dear Senator:

The Department of Commerce, Division of Occupational Licensing has chosen to play a "shell game" with proposed cuts. They have noted a CUT of appropriation \$82,000 in the area of Real Estate Education funds. This money was to be funded by the Surety Fund, which is paid into by real estate licensees per AS 08.88.450

"...THE FUND IS COMPOSED OF PAYMENTS MADE BY LICENSED REAL ESTATE BROKERS AND SALESMEN UNDER AS 08.88.455 AND FILING FEES RETAINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH AS 08.88.460. THE FUND MAY NOT EXCEED \$500,000 AND AMOUNTS IN THE FUND IN EXCESS OF \$250,000 MAY BE APPROPRIATED FOR REAL ESTATE EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES AS PROVIDED IN AS 08.88.091 .....

The cuts that have been made, have not CUT MONIES FROM THE GENERAL FUND. They will in fact, require increase expenditures of general fund monies. The publication specialist position ( PCN 08-2049) is proposed to be funded now 1/2 time by GENERAL FUND MONIES rather than Surety Fund monies. These cuts make the division appear to be doing just what you wish to happen, cutting GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES. Instead, it is just harming licensees that have paid into the fund for the specific purposes of receiving educational benefits

This year, occupational licensing increased the licensees fees by \$40.00 to a total of \$290.00. The licensees were told that was due to the increase in services to the licensees. The division then, has chosen not to use funds, that would not be GENERAL FUND MONIES, to cut the educational goals of the Real Estate Commission. The real estate industry is working very diligently to upgrade the profession. With increased education, comes an increase in public protection. The division of occupational licensing as broken trust with the industry.

I ask, that you restore the appropriation, for funds from the Surety Fund to enable the Real Estate Commission to continue working towards a better educated industry. Thank you for your support

Sincerely,

*Janie Bee Powell*  
 Janie Bee Powell, Broker



9040 Glacier Highway, Juneau, AK 99801 TELEPHONE (907) 789-3888  
FAX (907) 789-7038

Representative Mark Hanley  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capital Building  
Juneau Alaska 99801  
Via: Fax # 465-2418

March 22, 1996

RE: FY 97 BUDGET REQUEST FOR  
Department of Commerce/Occupational Licensing  
REAL ESTATE COMMISSION FUNDS

Dear Representative:

The Department of Commerce, Division of Occupational Licensing has chosen to play the old confuse the issue and don't worry about the "details or the people involved" with proposed cuts to the real estate commission budget. They have proposed a CUT of \$82,000, in the area of Real Estate Education funds. These costs were to be funded by the Surety Fund, which is paid into by real estate licensees.

The term licensees means ME, LARRY TELFER, LICENSED REAL ESTATE ASSOCIATE BROKER. I paid my renewal fee of \$290.00, of which \$125.00 was to go into the surety fund. That fund was set up for two purposes, to insure the general public that intentional acts that caused monetary harm would be paid, and to educate the licensees so that they would not harm the public. Now, the administration, by use of "CREATIVE BUDGETING", have decided that it is not necessary to appropriate the funds from the Surety Fund for the educational purposes that the Real Estate Commission and the licensees feel are necessary.

I feel that my trust has been broken. I paid the funds, with the understanding that the purpose by which the money was collected would be spent. And to make matters worse, from a taxpayers view, the cuts are really increased expenditures of general fund monies. The publication specialist position (PCN 08-2049) is proposed to be funded 1/2 time by GENERAL FUND MONIES rather than TOTALLY BY Surety Fund monies as done in the past. These cuts make the division appear to be doing just what you wish to happen, cutting GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES. Instead, it is just harming licensees that have paid into the fund for the specific purposes of receiving educational benefits or the use to that position.

I ask, that you restore the appropriation, and restore mine and all other licensees trust in the state government. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Larry Telfer".

Larry Telfer, Associate Broker

**FAX****Date** 03/22/96**Number of pages including cover sheet** 1

**TO:**

Rep. Mark Hanley 465-2418  
Rep. Pete Kelly 465-3765  
Rep. Eldon Mulder 465-3518  
Rep. Sean Parnell 465-2278  
Rep. Mike Navarre 465-2278  
Rep. Ben Grussendorf 465-2278  
Rep. Richard Foster 465-3242  
Rep. Vic Kohring 465-3818  
Rep. Terry Martin 465-2293  
Rep. Gene Therriault 465-3884  
Rep. Kay Brown 465-4419

**FROM:** PeggyAnn McConnochie,  
Real Estate Broker  
ALASKA COASTAL  
HOMES

**Phone** (907) 789-3540

**Fax Phone** (907) 789-3456

**CC:** file / AAR / AREC

**REMARKS:**  Urgent  For your review  Reply ASAP  Please Comment

I am deeply concerned about the proposed cuts to the Alaska Real Estate Commission's funding for FY 1997. The funds that are being taken are deposits to the Surety Fund paid by the licensees of the State. These moneys fund, among other activities, a specialist who provides us with news on the latest in education, court cases; the publication of the Landlord Tenant Act Booklet which helps licensees as well as renters and landlords understand the laws that everyone must abide by; Broker training; Instructor training. These cuts jeopardize the continuing efforts of the Real Estate Commission to protect the buying/selling public, and educate the real estate community.

I urge you to look closely at the proposal that Director Kathryn Readon has recommended to the House Subcommittee on Finance and see it for what it is - merely a shell game to take away the funding that comes from our license deposits. This move does not cut moneys from the general fund.

We need the Real Estate Commission to continue to be a receipts-based program so that together we can work for a more educated real estate community and thereby a happier buying/selling public.

Thank you in advance for your time and attention to this most important matter.

# Public Opinion Message

Fairbanks Legislative Information Office (LIO)

119 N. Cushman St. Suite 101, Fairbanks, AK 99701 - Phone: 452-4448 Fax: 456-3346

**From:** Print your name and address as it appears on your voter registration card.

Ms., Mr., Mrs.	First name	Last name	Jr., Sr., III
	Katharine	Kawlings	
Residence (street address)	1522 Kathrop Street Fairbanks, AK 99701		Zip code
Home phone	same		Zip code
City or town (if not member)	Group affiliation (if applicable)		
457-1677			

**To:** Write an H or an S in a Committee box; put a V in a Caucus or Member's box.

Committees (enter H or S)	House members	Senate members
<input type="checkbox"/> Community & Regional Affairs (cra)	<input type="checkbox"/> Austerman (aus)	<input type="checkbox"/> Adams (ada)
<input type="checkbox"/> Finance (fin)	<input type="checkbox"/> Bames (bar)	<input type="checkbox"/> Denley (don)
<input type="checkbox"/> Health, Ed. & Social Services (hes)	<input type="checkbox"/> Brice (br)	<input type="checkbox"/> Duncan (dun)
<input type="checkbox"/> Judiciary (jud)	<input type="checkbox"/> Brown (bro)	<input type="checkbox"/> Ellis (ell)
<input type="checkbox"/> Labor & Commerce (l&c)	<input type="checkbox"/> Bunde (bun)	<input type="checkbox"/> Frank (fra)
<input type="checkbox"/> Resources (res)	<input type="checkbox"/> Davies (dav)	<input type="checkbox"/> Green (gre)
<input type="checkbox"/> Rules (rls)	<input type="checkbox"/> Davis, B. (dab)	<input type="checkbox"/> Halford (hal)
<input type="checkbox"/> State Affairs (sta)	<input type="checkbox"/> Davis, G. (dag)	<input type="checkbox"/> Hoffman (hof)
<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation (tra)	<input type="checkbox"/> Elton (elt)	<input type="checkbox"/> Kelly, T. (kel)
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Finkelstein (fk)	<input type="checkbox"/> Leman (lem)
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Foster (fos)	<input type="checkbox"/> Lincoln (lin)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Green (gm)	<input type="checkbox"/> Miller (mil)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Grussendorf (grs)	<input type="checkbox"/> Pearce (pea)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hanley (han)	<input type="checkbox"/> Phillips, R. (ph)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Ivan (iva)	<input type="checkbox"/> Rioger (rie)
	<input type="checkbox"/> James (jam)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sato (sat)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kelly, P. (kd)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sharp (sha)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kohring (kar)	<input type="checkbox"/> Taylor (tay)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Kott (kot)	<input type="checkbox"/> Tongorson (ton)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Kubina (kub)	<input type="checkbox"/> Zharov (zha)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Long (lng)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Macko (mak)
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Martin (mar)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Masak (mas)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Moses (mos)
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mudder (mul)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Navarre (nav)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Nicholas (nic)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Ogan (oga)
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parnell (par)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Phillips, G. (phg)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Porter (por)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Robinson (rob)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rokeberg (rok)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Sanders (san)
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theriault (thr)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Toohay (toh)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Vexey (vez)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Williams (wil)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Willis (wis)

**Subject:** Enter a bill number and check one box below OR enter a subject.

HB or SB	Bill number	and check one:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	OR	Subject:
		<input type="checkbox"/> Oppose			ASEA CONTRACT
		<input type="checkbox"/> Amend			

**Message:** \* This form MUST be completely filled out, including a phone number. You may phone, fax, or deliver your POM to any LIO. \* Please PRINT. Your message cannot exceed 50 words (one word per box), and cannot contain any vulgar language.

I	am	sending	you	this
in	hopes	that	you	will
support	ASEA'S	contract.	As	you
know	we	have	given	up
quite	a	bit	and	have
not	had	a	cola	for
a	long	time.	if	would
appreciate	your	support	for	our
contract.	I	feel	that	it
is	very	reasonable.	Thank	you!

B2

March 22, 1996

Please read this as part of the House Finance Committee's Public Teleconference March 23, 1996.

As Vice President of the Board of Directors of AWAIC I strongly encourage you to support level funding for the Council's line item in the Department of Public Safety's Budget. Our staff are dedicated, hard working individuals who are underpaid and greatly appreciated. They are committed to the delivery of complete, professional services to battered women and their children. I, as a Board member am proud of the work they do. Without the continued support of the legislature for the DPS's Council budget victims could be at risk. Please consider the faces of women and children as you search for places to **cut** the budget. AWAIC is appreciative of your continued support of **all** of their programs.

Thank You,

Louann Cutler  
V.P. Board of Director  
Abused Women's Aid In Crisis