

**ALASKA LEGISLATURE**

**1939**

**HOUSE and SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE FILES, 1999 - 2000**

**Earl H. Beistline**

Mine Consultant

P. O. Box 80148  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99708Telephone: (907) 479-6240  
FAX: (907) 479-0176

To: Alaska State Senate, Finance Committee  
Alaska State House of Representatives, Finance Committee  
John Davies  
Gary Wilken  
Tom Brice

Re: University of Alaska Funding

Date: April 16, 1999

As a life time Alaskan and supporter of the University of Alaska I want to stress the need to adequately fund the University of Alaska as we enter a new millennium.

I graduated from the University of Alaska in 1939, majoring in Mining Engineering. This Alaskan education prepared me well for a full and successful career in various segments of the mining industry.

I recognize the growing sophistication of the University of Alaska and the importance of its educational and research programs to young Alaskans. Therefore I encourage you to support the funding proposals made by the University and provide adequate funds to keep the educational and research programs moving forward.

A strong University is vital for Alaska's youth and is important to all the people of the State for it contributes to the development of Alaska's Natural Resources and enriches our quality of life while building present and future leaders for our great State. It must receive our enthusiastic financial support.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Earl H. BeistlineP.O. Box 80148  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99708

**POSITION PAPER - COMMUNITY MEMBER**  
**Increased Funding for Child Care Grant Program**

**Why increase funding to early care and education?** Early care and education (also referred to as "day care" or "child care") has long been the step-child of education in America. The new brain research suggests the focus of our education efforts must shift to early care and education. This research tells us what we in the early care and education field have known for some time, that early experiences (especially those before age three) have a decisive impact on the architecture of the brain, and on the nature and extent of adult capabilities (Families and Work Institute, 1997). Early interactions don't just create a context; they directly affect the way the brain is "wired". We now know that there are "prime times" for acquiring different kinds of knowledge and skills.

Early care has a long lasting impact on how people develop, on their ability to learn and on their ability to regulate their emotions (Families and Work Institute, 1997). We now know that the human brain - across all ethnic and racial groups - is uniquely constructed to benefit from experience and from good teaching, particularly during the first years of life. (Families and Work Institute, 1997). Brain research clearly demonstrates that "education" of our children must begin, not in kindergarten, but at birth during the "prime time" for learning. As a nation and as a community, we can no longer afford to neglect our younger children. What we do with young children now will determine our future.

Not only is early care and education critical to our future, with the majority of women now working or transitioning from welfare to work, it has become a necessity for millions of American women and families. In 1995, three out of five (62%) women with children younger than six, were in the labor force. In addition, 50% of women with children younger than three were in the labor force in 1996. All of these working mothers must find someone to care for their children in order to work (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1995). The 1996 welfare reform places extraordinary new demands upon the nation's already overburdened and under-funded child care system (Children's Defense Fund, 1997).

Despite the clear necessity for early care and education for the majority of American families, the early care and education field languishes from poor quality and lack of funding. According to the Carnegie Corporation (1997), "child care services have so long been neglected that they now constitute some of the worst services for children in western society." Why is this? Because unlike elementary and secondary education in the public school system, the bulk of the financial burden for early care and education is placed on parents. Some say, this is as it should be. The problem with this is that low and middle-income parents simply cannot absorb the full cost of providing quality early care and education. The new brain research underscores the fact that not just parent and families, but the nation as a whole, has a vital stake in its youngest children's healthy development and learning.

This position statement substantiates the need for early care and education. As a concerned community member I urge you to increase funding for the Child Care Grant program this year.

Name and Address of Community Member

Telephone Number:

Michael + SUSAN SAMPSON

907 458-8262



4/15/99



Signature of Community Member

Date

FROM : PROJECT EDUCATION

PHONE NO. : 907 656 2167

Apr. 15 1999 11:09AM P1

*Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc.*

P.O. Box 92  
Galena, AK 99741  
(907) 656-1326/1226 or  
1-800-478-1326  
Fax: (907) 656-1628

TO: Whom It May Concern

FROM: Nancy Pitka, Y-K Subregional Director

RE: University Budget Cut

DATE: April 15, 1999


I am writing a letter of support regarding the budget cuts on the University of Alaska Fairbanks because the impact it's going to have on the rural area.

I am currently taking an English course. Taking this course I have learn to improve my grammar and business writing skills for me to assist the Yukon-Koyukuk Subregion with writing resolutions, letters of support and the Y-K Subregional Newsletter.

The University of Alaska-Fairbanks/Yukon-Koyukuk Center office moved back into the Yukon-Koyukuk area over a year ago and the demand for local courses has increased. The distance learning program has been very beneficial to parents with dependants who can not afford to leave their home. With the high rate of unemployment in the rural area, this program offer parents to get a degree and job opportunities.

Please do not cut the budget for the University of Fairbanks-Alaska.

Rest wishes,



Nancy Pitka, Y-K Subregional Director

3-4-99

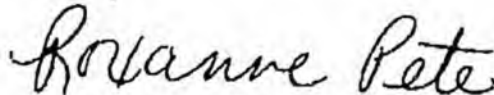
Roxanne Pqte  
1360 Airport Way 1H5  
Fairbanks AK. 99761  
March 4, 1999

To Whom It May Concern;

I'm thankful for Healthy Family Program because when I have questions about family matter, they are there to answer my questions or give me new ideas and suggestions to try. Also they help me with doctor appointments when it's time for my baby to get his shot.

I'm still learning how to be a better parent for my children. It's great to know there is help like Healthy Family Program.

Sincerely



Roxanne Pete

3-11-99

To whom it may concern,

My name is Amanda Lynn Brown I am a 19 year old single parent of a 7 month old baby girl and we are in the healthy families program for parents & children. My resource counselor has helped me a great deal and provided me with the information I have needed numerous times, I would like to go further in the program with my daughter. The resource center provides families with so much, I have even recommended friends to the program so that they can also be aware of something that helps so much.

Sincerely  
Amanda Lynn Brown

To whom it may concern, The Healthy Families program has helped our family in all sorts of ways, they have taught us all kinds of healthy ways of raising our baby they brought us literature on being good parents. They helped us enormously with transportation to the store, doctors appointments, they helped us get lots of baby stuff we needed and even stuff for ourselves. Without the Healthy Families program we wouldn't have known a lot about the necessary ways of raising a child. The healthy family program is wonderful.

Thankfully

Mendon Jones

Dear

I think that the home visits  
have helped me out alot with my child.  
My personal and emotional relationship  
with my child has gotten alot better.  
I really like it that they are helping moms  
like myself out.

Katrina Swance

To whom it may concern  
The Health family ~~is~~ is something  
that people need. I would rather  
see the money and help go to  
Health family's they help teach us.  
how to not be like my mother was.  
~~When~~ when I was growing up  
they ~~let~~ let me ~~know~~ know how  
to be a better mom to my son  
I ~~thank~~ thank we need ~~more~~ more  
Health family's ~~and~~ and ~~the~~ less  
blame ~~on~~ the mom's and dad's.  
we need more people to teach  
how to ~~break~~ break the cycle.  
that's ~~what~~ what a health family's  
~~is~~ is to me they help me get  
to appointments and ~~to~~ go get  
food and dips and to the doctor's

Thank you for health family's

Mary Sted

TO LORNA HANCOCK,

3-13-99

my name is Leticia Crowell Crowell  
I am an 18 yr old single parent  
of 1 child.

I am one of the many parents  
that receive advice and resources  
from the Healthy Families program

They have helped me out a great  
deal (e.g. - transportation to  
needs, meetings) once a week to  
work out different issues in my  
life at that time.

I really appreciate the services  
that I receive from them and I  
would really like to continue with  
this program.

Sincerely,  
Leticia Crowell

To whom it may concern,

my name is Kathleen Lewis. Last year I had participated in a meeting in the same concern. I have been with this organization for two year as one of the family's. I ~~was~~ then just got out of a abusive relationship of 7yrs and a healthy family gave me the strength and support to do so. My children total 4 boys<sup>+</sup> have been out of the relation for a year now and are going through a custody disput. H.F.'s are my strenght + my family. Please for the children in this community, let them give us the knowledge and understanding in beeing good healthy family's.

Kathleen Lewis  
3/12/99

31799

To whom it is concerns,

I have been working with Healthy Families for 5 to 6 months now and they have really helped me. Pam has been a good friend and helped when things got stressful. The program is a real good resource.

Sincerely

Pamela HARE

AND  
Cathryn Rose Foster.

was for my family. If I need any clothes or extra food, they would help gather it up from other resources. They were/are there for talking to and any questions I needed to ask. Most important to me was that they are mothers, too, and they know what it's like and have insight.

There aren't enough resources available to single parents, and they are hard to find. It's too bad that we have to go through so many channels to find something to help us when we really need it. This program is very important to have and so many people get a lot of it. I have and I still use this resource no matter what ups or downs I have.

Thank you  
Robin

THE  
FOLLOWING  
DOCUMENT(S)  
ARE  
POOR  
ORIGINAL  
COPIES



I was a very depressed person  
 when they diagnosed me with MS in  
 1993. I had many friends and family  
 in Fairbanks. Some were very  
 kind and some were not. I  
 didn't have many visitors to  
 help me. It was very terrible  
 of my two older children and my  
 nephew, which was getting  
 overwhelming. I heard about  
 Healthy Families and hired a  
 public health nurse. They came  
 to my home as people who  
 were real. I didn't feel  
 unloved or pressured. They made  
 realize that they were here to  
 soothe and reassure me that I  
 wasn't alone. I felt like  
 my life was going to be much  
 better because they supported

To whom it may concern;

3-11-99

I'm writing this letter in recognition of the Resource Center for Parents and Children.

I've been in the R.C.P.C. program since early 1997, which has been such a great blessing for my daughter and I. Without the resources this program offers us, I would've been in a hard situation many times.

I thank God for the wonderful people I've met at the R.C.P.C. building. I believe that their helping hand and kind heart has brought happiness to many homes in Fairbanks, including mine.

The Resource Center for Parents and Children is such a great necessity in Fairbanks; it's a wonderful program.

Sincerely,  
Rachel & Skyler Edwin

Dona Thomas-Evan

630 Love Rd.

Fairbanks, AK 99712

907-488-9418

Re: RCP's Healthy Families

To whom it may concern:

My name is Dona Thomas and I am the single parent of a beautiful 21 month old boy. Since the birth of my son, I have learned quite a bit, going from zero knowledge of raising a child to at least being comfortable with my growing parental skills. A large amount of my confidence is due directly to the influence of the Healthy Families program. Over the last two years, the information, knowledge and support from the individuals in the program has been not only helpful, but irreplaceable. This program is a benefit to the community of Fairbanks; the parents of Fairbanks and any future parents of Fairbanks. Our children are our future and the only way to create strong children for a healthy future is to ensure the health, strength and knowledge of these raising them. Healthy Families creates and maintains these attributes within the families it reaches. I know it has in mine.

Thank you,

*Dona Thomas*

To Whom it May Concern,  
My family was in a crisis situation when I had my daughter in March, 1998. A nurse at the hospital referred me to the KCPC Healthy Families Program.

My family support worker met with me every week and talked about the baby and our family's situation.

I was a first time mother and my family support worker provided me with valuable information about infants and helped me to find practical solutions to the dilemma that I was in.

When my family support worker was unavailable, the Healthy Families Program director and the other family support workers were always enthusiastic to answer my questions ~~any way they could~~ and help me any way they could.

Sincerely,  
Kerry W. Fair  
Kerry W. Fair

**Healthy families,**

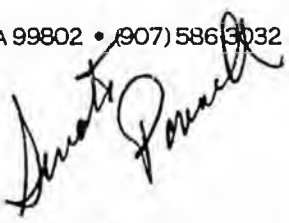
**My family and I have been A part of the healthy families program going on three years now. Myself and my wife think that the program has helped us greatly. There have been times when we were on the brink of divorce. We have made it through all of our problems with the help, guidance, and support of our home visitor, (Laura). We have five children. If There is anyone who has never had the experience of being a parent to five kids, they should look up the healthy families program. Our children love our home visitor like she was part of our family. We are moving to the lower 48 in about 10 months. It would be greatly appreciated if our home visitor can continue her visits to our home. The healthy families program is an excellant program to help the families and children of fairbanks.**

**Thank you  
Timothy Rogers**

**Howard  
William  
Scaman**

• BOX 23007 • JUNEAU, ALASKA 99802 • (907) 586-3032 • FAX (907) 586-3832

Date: April 16, 1999  
To: Senate Finance Committee



**Re: Budget recommendations Division Alcohol & Drug Abuse**

The Sub Committee has recommended budget cuts which in effect would totally cripple this division's ability to function. The proposed cuts are apparently being proposed on the basis that the division has recently been awarded approximately \$3 million a year in new federal money for the next three years. This money is specifically targeted to prevention efforts. Unfortunately, it cannot be used in any way to supplant existing state positions.

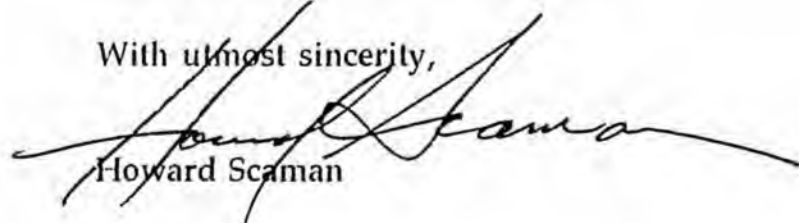
1. If the proposed cuts to the administrative component of the division's budget are permitted to remain the division would be forced to eliminate between 10 and 13 positions, including those responsible for administering the new money. It would probably be necessary to return those funds to the federal source. Senator Stevens worked very hard to assist the state in securing those funds.

2. An examination of the recommendations for other DH&SS divisions indicates that the cut of ADA administration funds is selective, targeted and exclusive. This is the only division where such a cut has been proposed. This is particularly hard to fathom since this division received an outstanding evaluation and audit this year and has, more than any other agency, been responsible for securing an infusion of discretionary exogenous federal resources into the state. This brings to question the possibility of other personal and economic interests being involved in this decision. Are there other factors involved?

However well intentioned, It would appear that the sub committee is missing a fundamental principal. If we administer large amounts of money and programs it requires staff to accomplish this. In addition to providing needed services, federal dollars create and provide new badly needed jobs.

I have worked in and volunteered in this field in Alaska for over 30 years. This is in all probability, the most shortsighted and damaging move I have seen in that time. The division is a model of efficiency and effectiveness for the rest of the country and the committee appears to be punishing rather than encouraging their effectiveness. Please re examine the proposed cuts and the actual effect it would have on the operation of the division. However well intentioned, this is not the way to accomplish your objectives.

With utmost sincerity,



Howard Scaman

I really enjoy the Healthy Family program. They have been there for me and my son since I had him. Everytime I had a question to ask they were there to try to answer them. Everyone in the program is very friendly and caring. I would like to keep them around in mine and my sons life. ☺

Melissa Taylor

March 9/99

To whom this may concern,

I like this program alot because it helps me alot on how to take care of my daughter because this is my first child and I think lots of people who have children need this kind of support because it is not a easy thing to do. If you have any problems they try to help you when you don't know what to do. I just think it is a prett cool program.

Sincerely,  
Windy Lynch

3-9-99

To Whom it may concern,

RCPC Has been a helpful Program to me, they helped me to sign up for my Section 8 program, I don't think I would be in my apartment now without their help. I have family here in Fairbanks, but my home visitors have been here when I didn't have anybody to come and visit me.

This isn't the way I meant to write my letter, ~~but~~ I was going to write a carefully, cleverly worded testimony on the benefits of RCPC to me and other members of the program, however being a new mom, of course I forgot to take the time to do it. Sooooo . . . . . I' just want to say RCPC Has been a positive experience for me and my son. And I hope it continues to be the same for more families in the future. Thank you,

Sincerely,

Jarissa McSweeney



## Family Training Associates

P.O. Box 81016, Fairbanks, Alaska 99708  
Phone: (907) 479-7461

February 7, 1999

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to submit a letter in support of the Resource Center for Parents and Children's collaborative proposal with the Fairbanks Public Health Center for Healthy Families Fairbanks.

The Resource Center for Parents & Children is a leader in a recognized network of family services in the Fairbanks community, pioneering preventive programs in child abuse and neglect. The comprehensive services provided by the Resource Center are creatively responsive to the needs of Alaska families, and the staff providing these services are held in high regard by professionals in agencies providing complementary services.

Innovative prevention programs, where the home is the primary site of service, make sense. The whole family benefits from home-based intervention services, conjoining the best resources a community has to offer. Young families learn early parenting skills in a safe and supportive environment. In addition, home-based services provide unique opportunities to help families resolve issues that might precipitate more serious family dysfunction.

Healthy Families Fairbanks has proved itself as a prevention program that provides young families with access to a vast array of local services to meet a wide variety of needs. Much of the program's success should be credited to the caring and committed staff that provide the services. It is more than a program. It is a clear example of how people change lives in a positive way. I am continually impressed with the positive energy of helpers who are attracted to this program and their salutary commitment to Healthy Families Fairbanks.

Sincerely,

Carol H. Brice, R.N., M.Ed.  
Certified Family Life Educator



**fireweed**  
counseling center

March 10, 1999 .

To Whom It May Concern,

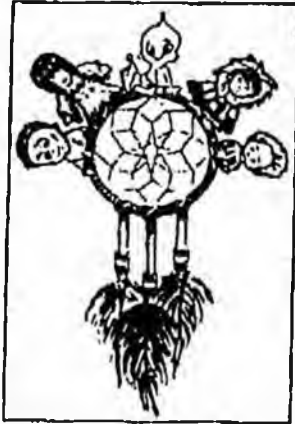
I am pleased to submit a letter in support of the Resource Center for Parents and Children's proposal for Healthy Families Fairbanks.

The Resource Center for Parents and Children in Fairbanks is identified as one of the first agencies that clients can receive information and referrals for needs pertaining to their families. The staff is highly respected by other social agencies in Fairbanks for their professionalism and caring.

Healthy Families Fairbanks addresses prevention issues with families before more serious issues arise. Families benefit from preventive programs on a home-based model where they are comfortable and supported in their own environment. This program also works with the whole family and not just members of the family in isolation.

Healthy Families Fairbanks meets parents on a prevention and intervention level. This program helps change lives. I fully support and am impressed with how this program has creatively responded to the needs of families in the Fairbanks area.

  
Valerie Anne Demming M.Ed.



# Early Head Start

609 Third St.

Fairbanks, AK 99701

Ph# (907) 451-8814 Fax# (907) 451-8815

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March 11, 1999

To Whom It May Concern:

RCPC's Healthy Family program has been an incredible asset to the Fairbanks community. They are actively involved in recruiting families for their program through partnering with other community agencies. These other agencies have benefited from Healthy Family's collaboration and involvement, such as our Early Head Start program. Healthy Families and Early Head Start have similar missions in this community, and we are serving distinct populations with successful outcomes. Our coexistence and cooperation is complimented by Healthy Families commitment to professional services and family advocacy. We enjoy shared training with the Healthy Family staff. Healthy Families and Early Head Start over the past year worked together to start a community home visiting support meeting, now named Interior Home Visiting Network.

Early Head Start and it's enrolled families have benefited from the services offered by the RCPC Healthy Family program. We support their efforts through mutual referrals and community education. There is a high need within the Fairbanks community to serve families that have little support and minimal resources. Healthy Families offers a unique blend of family advocacy, education, parenting, and opportunities to link with community resources for families in need. Healthy Families existence and efforts are far reaching in our community and homes. We feel that the continuation and increase of funding for the RCPC's Healthy Family program would be a continuation of a quality service for our interior Fairbanks home.

Sincerely,

Valerie Naquin  
Early Head Start Director

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A Service of Fairbanks Native Association



# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Finance  
 Committee on Budget Committee Name Dated 4/15/99  
Bill / Subject

*Please support the Board of Regents  
 Budget for the University of Alaska*

RUTH E BURNETT

SIGNED:

*Ruth E Burnett*

Testifier

WAF Committee of the Chamber  
 Representing

1901 Crossman Ave, Fairbanks  
 Address / Phone Number

907-456-0261

Effective treatment for alcohol and drug abuse and other social problems have to be owned by the individuals and the communities receiving treatment. Alaska Native people are an independent group of people who are interdependent on one another for support and growth. These cultural traits should be capitalized on to allow appropriate and effective programs. Obviously cutting services to rural communities is not the answer.

Often treatment programs have been started in a "bandaid" type of approach rather than focusing on the cause of the illness. Programs focus on alcoholics who have progressed to the point in their disease that they are no longer functioning members of our society. The treatment focuses on what is an "eyesore", i.e. public inebriates and the homeless. I agree and fully support treatment for this group of individuals but strongly believe in early treatment and prevention programs that result in a decreased number of individuals who are alcoholics and an increased number of alcoholics who are in recovery.

Alcoholism is disease that affects many aspects of an individual's life, the community and the State the individual lives in, so that the net result is this is a societal problem. Alcoholism results in:

1. Increased death through alcohol related illness, trauma, physical abuse, suicide, homicides and exposure,
2. Increased community problems through child neglect, rape, child abuse, grieving, spouse abuse, destruction of property and theft,
3. Decreased self esteem of alcoholics, their family members and their communities through the above and society's message to alcoholics that this is a problem of self control rather than the truth - that this is an illness,
4. Increased rates of FAS and FAE result in increased health care costs, community costs, plus numerous other problems resulting from a permanent disability,
5. Increased cost from the above and increased costs through increased rates of unemployment, disability and incarceration to the State and Federal Governments.

I know that the budget deficit is a huge problem and cuts need to be made Statewide. I feel that cutting or not increasing services to rural communities and women's treatment programs is short sighted and will result in a marked increase in cost to the State over the long run.

Sincerely



Donna R. Galbreath M.D  
Governors Advisory Board on Alcoholism  
And Drug Abuse..

Dr. Donna Galbreath  
P.O. Box 82247  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99708

State of Alaska  
Senate Finance Committee

Dear Committee Members,

I am concerned about the budget cuts for alcohol and drug treatment and prevention. Specifically I am extremely concerned about the proposed cuts affecting service delivery for women's treatment programs and improvement of services to rural communities.

Treatment programs for women in previous years have been nonexistent. It is in the last few years that there has been an increase in these programs but there is still a need for more services in order to meet State-wide needs. The programs that are in existent are doing a wonderful job and have statistics to show their impact on alcohol and drug abuse.

Treatment for women is of utmost importance not only for treatment, but for prevention. Children of alcoholics are more likely to become alcoholics and these children also have a high likelihood of having Fetal Alcohol Effects or Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. These treatment programs for women not only address alcohol and drug abuse in parents but address parenting skills which results in prevention of alcoholism in children when they become adults and the prevention of future FAE and FAS affected children.

As you know, Alaska has one of the Nations highest rates of alcoholism. Furthermore, the rural communities have a disproportionate rate of alcoholism and alcohol related adverse effects. Because of the greater numbers of people in larger communities, services for alcohol and drug abuse have been focused in larger communities. Rural communities with higher rates of alcoholism and drug abuse have not received these services. People in rural communities are expected to leave family and friends to receive treatment in other communities. These treatment programs try to be culturally sensitive but the lack is apparent in that most workers are non-Native, the treatment facility life style including food are culturally different then how individuals from villages live. People with alcohol or drug abuse problems often do not go to treatment because they cannot, will not, leave their family to stay in a treatment program that is stressful not only because of treatment issues but because of lifestyle issues. Villagers are put into an artificial environment then expected to return home and maintain sobriety. A more effective approach is to allow rural communities to deliver treatment programs within their own communities. This not only allows culturally appropriate treatment, but, includes family for increased support and raises community awareness and support. This results in increased rates of sobriety through community actions and community awareness, thereby decreasing alcoholism.



# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Please enter into the record my testimony to the SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
 Committee on DEC budget Committee Name  
 Dated 4-15-99  
Bill / Subject

MY UNDERSTANDING IS THE AK DEC/FAP (FINANCIAL ASSIST. PROGRAM) IS AN PROGRAM BEING CONSIDERED TO BE DEFUNDED. I, LIKE SOME OTHERS I ASSUME, HAVE BEEN PURSUING UNDER THE DEC/FAP REMEDIATION OF PROPERTY CONSIDERED POLLUTED. AT THIS POINT IN TIME THE PROPERTY I AM 'REMEDIATING' HAS BEEN MAKING POSITIVE PROGRESS TOWARD REMEDIATION, TO SUDDENLY DEFUND THE PROGRAM AT THIS POINT LEAVES THE REMEDIATION PROJECT 75% (APPROX) TO NOWHERE. DECISIONS WERE MADE SOME YEARS BACK IN CONJUNCTION WITH AK DEC, CONSULTANTS AND MYSELF ON A REMEDIATION THAT WAS ANTICIPATED TO BE SUCCESSFUL WITHIN THE FINANCIAL LIMITS OF THE FAP. IF THE FUNDING IS CURTAILED AT THIS POINT WE WILL HAVE WASTED A LOT OF TIME & MONEY. THE MOST RECENT TEST, LATE 98 SHOW A DEFINITE IMPROVEMENT OF THE SITE IN QUESTION. WE SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO COMPLETE THE PROCESS UNDER DEC/FAP

SIGNED: KENNETH H MURRAY  
 Testifier  
Lucky Sourdough GAS STATION - FAIRBANKS  
 Representing PO BOX 71007 PH 456-6646  
FAIRBANKS, AK 99707 FAX 457 452-5445  
 Address / Phone Number



## Northern Alaska Environmental Center

218 DRIVEWAY STREET, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701-2806

PHONE: (907)452-5021 FAX: (907)452-3100

<http://www.mosquitonet.com/~nacc>

[nacc@mosquitonet.com](mailto:nacc@mosquitonet.com)

### News Release

For immediate release:  
April 15, 1999

For more information contact:  
Sylvia Ward (907)452-5021  
George Matz (907)343-3139

### Controversial Northern Intertie big part of budget solution

Conservationists are pointing to controversial and wasteful state projects as a \$182 million opportunity that could be a big part of the solution to this year's state budget crisis. Last week, the Northern Alaska Environmental Center asked the House Finance Committee to consider budget cuts for private utility interties, Northern Region road construction, foreign trade offices, state forestry development, and lobbying for oil drilling in the Arctic Refuge. Instead, the committee voted to eliminate \$48 million in state revenue sharing which will likely be passed on to residents as property tax increases.

"In its haste to push the cost of government onto the backs of property owners, the State House missed out on over \$182 million worth of easy ways to eliminate the worst of government extravagance and pork," said Sylvia Ward, executive director of the Northern Alaska Environmental Center, a local conservation organization founded in 1971.

The State Legislature will be finalizing decisions to eliminate many popular and vital state programs in the next week. The Northern Alaska Environmental Center asked the Knowles Administration and legislators to act immediately to tap over \$182 million dollars set to be spent on controversial and wasteful programs. If the \$182 million were reappropriated to the General Fund, not only could it be put to better public use, but less money would have to be taken from the Alaska Permanent Fund earnings to cover the \$1 billion budget gap. Not having to cover \$182 million out of Permanent Fund earnings would put over \$310 in each dividend check (based on the number of Permanent Fund dividend recipients in 1998). Every dollar in the Permanent Fund is hard at work earning more on a compounded basis. It makes no sense to take more out of the fund than is absolutely necessary at this time.

The biggest item on the group's Conservation Budget would generate \$145 million for the General Fund. "The intertie projects hit nearly every Alaskan right in their pocketbook," says George Matz, President of Anchorage Audubon.

Ward adds, "We told the committee where they could find millions of dollars of wasteful state expenditures; instead they're reaching for your wallet. What we're highlighting could support the many popular, vital programs jeopardized in various budget proposals: the state University system; public TV; municipal funding; public and worker safety; road maintenance; and the foster parent program. We're offering the legislature \$182 million worth of solutions to protect worthy public needs, avoid raising property taxes, and conserve the Alaska Permanent Fund."

"There are states in this country where they wouldn't lose track of over \$100 million," chides Ward. "This is the year to eliminate wasteful, unpopular projects. That's why we're urging people to let their legislators and governor hear about the Conservation Budget before all the decisions get locked in."



printed on recycled paper

04/15/99

Marie Simmons  
615 Ginko #1  
Fairbanks, Ak.99709

Senator: Pete Kelly  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol(MS)3100  
Juneau, Ak.99801-1182

Dear Senator Kelly

My name is Marie Simmons, I am a member of the Governors Council on Disabilities and Special Education and a parent of Teisha, and she is a twenty two year old quadriplegia.

I am asking for your support for full funding of Medicaid and request that the Senate extend Representative Therriault's promise of allowing a supplemental budget as needed next session.

I am concerned about Medicaid. 28% of Alaska's expenditures are dedicated to disabled people. These individuals cannot afford to have availability of medical care in jeopardy due to payment reductions.

I thank you for your time and consideration .

Sincerely,

*Marie Simmons*

04/15/99

Marie Simmons  
615 Ginko #1  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

Senator: Gary Wilken  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol(MS)3100  
Juneau, Ak.99801-1182

Dear Senator: Gary Wilken:

My name is Marie Simmons, I am a member of the Governors Council on Disabilities and Special Education and a parent of Teisha, and she is a twenty two year old quadriplegia. I am very proud of her accomplishments. She made the National Deans list and is in her third year at the University/Fairbanks.

I am asking for your support for full funding of Medicaid and request that the Senate extend Representative Therriault's promise of allowing a supplemental budget as needed next session.

I am concerned about Medicaid. 28% of Alaska's expenditures are dedicated to disabled people. These individuals cannot afford to have availability of medical care in jeopardy due to payment reductions.

I thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

*Marie Simmons*

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## ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Please enter into the record my testimony to the \_\_\_\_\_

Committee on \_\_\_\_\_ Committee Name  
Dated \_\_\_\_\_

Bill / Subject

The upper end of the Dalton Highway is falling apart again! The D-1 crush is gone. Why? The Budget was cut and we couldn't buy enough calcium chloride to cover the rd to hold the "Fines on the surface." So now we have to go to Bid again to make more crush for the road Topping! A grader can only do so much with rocks but with a good 8" to 10" of D-1 it can do wonders.

40 mi of the Denali Highway is proposed to drop for rd. maint. Over that 40 mi section there are many spots that could wash out, and the 100,000 proposed spending reduction could turn around to cost D.O.T/P.F. 250,000 to repair! Our Highways are getting wider and longer Tourism is up! But our maint. Budget is getting smaller it doesn't make sense! WE need to get a dedicated Highway fund not just Federal Dollars. Alaskans need to start paying our way again!

SIGNED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Testifier\_\_\_\_\_  
Representing\_\_\_\_\_  
Address / Phone Number



# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Please enter into the record my testimony to the (S) FINANCE  
Committee Name  
 Committee on OPERATING BUDGET Dated 4/15/99  
Bill / Subject

Hello, my name is BEN STEWART, I'm a 29yr employee with the D.O.T/P.F. as a Highway maint Foreman. I would like to encourage you not to cut and slash our maint budget. As a long time employee I have seen and felt the legislative budget-cuts as a state worker and as a public citizen.

My summer job is the foreman of the Highway Striping crew in the Northern Region, I paint from the Canadian border to FBKS, Chukotka on the Parks Highway to FBKS. Valdez to FBKS. and all the other side Rds that D.O.T maintains that has paint. Over the last 6 to 8 yrs my painting budget has been cut. But more roads have been built that need striping every year and sometimes twice a year due to higher increase in tourism. Some roads here in the interior haven't been painted in 2 yrs! Where does it stop? The legislature has slowly eroded our maint personnel over the yrs so in some camps if there is a man on L.V. and 1 or 2 others call in sick the job at hand whether it be snow plowing or grading cannot be done!

SIGNED:

BEN STEWART  
 Testifier

SELF  
 Representing

P.O.B. 83717 FBKS AK 99708.  
 Address / Phone Number

TO : MEMBERS OF THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

From: Leon Lynch  
P.O.Box 387  
Ester, Alaska 99725

Let me begin by stating that I recognize you have a difficult job to accomplish when the state is currently experiencing a billion dollar deficit. My concern is that you are not accurately considering the impacts of some cuts you have proposed. A specific example is the proposed million dollar cut to the Division of Land.

Currently I am employed by the Northern Region of Division of Land (Lands). My job is to issue permits, leases, right-of-ways (ROW's), and material sales on the north slope. I spend an average of 12 weeks of the year in the field working directly with the oil industry. I take exception to comments attributed to the Senate DNR subcommittee that Lands does nothing for development I find this particularly ironic when Greenpeace thinks the exact opposite! I had to spend half this winter preparing for court to defend our office's decision to issue ice road permits for Northstar development.

On average my office brings in one million dollars a year in revenue; **just from the slope**. This includes such things as 1.2 million yard material sale for Badami in 1997, and 1.2 million yard sale for Northstar in 1999. Deadhorse industrial leases bring in approximately \$250,000 annually, land use permit revenue from the slope this year was over \$100,000. The authorizations we issue facilitate major development and generate substantial revenue. Currently two and one half staff positions are responsible for oil and gas permitting. Isn't that a pretty good return on investment?

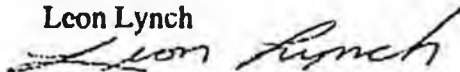
Recently in the interior, Lands has had an active role in development of the Fort Knox mine, Pogo mine, Golden Valley Intertie, and the MFS fiber optic cable ROW. Lands has to issue the leases, permits, ROW's and material sales to make these projects happen on state land. Isn't this rather large-scale development? Doesn't the long term (and short-term) economic health of the state depend upon the revenue generated from projects like these? Without the legal authorizations to use the land how can projects such as these proceed in the future?

Again, I know budget cuts are necessary in this economic climate but I know our staff has been cut year after year until now we are at less than 50% of our 1990 staffing level. Now the Senate proposes to cut another 20% of what little remains. I don't think that yearly cuts are pro-development, rather I think further cuts will make anti-development groups very pleased. Please consider tempering cuts to those agencies that directly provide income to the state and also allows responsible development to continue.

Please start focusing on generating income, not continuing to bleed income producing agencies and the University to death. My preference would be for you to cap the dividend this year. I know it won't solve the revenue problem by itself but it is a start. It will also stop acting as a magnet drawing people to Alaska who come for the wrong reason.

In closing I would like to thank the legislature for keeping the Legislative Information Offices open so Alaskans can provide you their input.

Sincerely,  
Leon Lynch



TO: Members of the Senate Finance Committee

April 16, 1999

From: Nancy Raboner, POB 81428, Fairbanks, AK 99708

Let me begin by saying I realize you have a difficult task in dealing with the State's deficit. I'm concerned that you don't realize the tangible impacts of some of your proposed cuts, in particular the \$1,000,000 cut to the DNR Division of Land.

Currently I am employed with the Division of Land, Northern Region (NRO) in Fairbanks. I am 1 of 12 Natural Resource Officers who issue land use permits, leases and sales which facilitate development of the state's natural resources. We manage all the state land north of the Alaska Range, from the Canadian border to the Bering and Arctic Seas. Through previous budget cuts we are down to only one third of our original staff.

The DNR is one of the State's biggest money makers. The Division of Land, NRO, brings in \$350,000 from north slope mineral sales alone. The finance committee's proposed \$1,000,000 cut would mean the loss of at least 2 more positions from our Fairbanks office which would decrease the amount of money we can bring into the state.

I notice \$726,400 of the cut has been targeted from the Division of Land's (DL) budget meant for "Allocate/Planning Land and Resources". I suggest you not make this cut, but reinstate this money. Instead, cut other options that the Commissioner has identified and that are not mandated by the Alaska Statutes and thus are not integral to the workings of the DNR.

"Allocate/Planning" includes all the interagency coordination and planning required to both defend the State's interest and issue authorizations. Planning and coordination is not separate from DL's function in authorizing use of state land, it's an integral part of the process. If DL could not plan or coordinate with other agencies, then DL cannot defend or develop State's interests. The Federal government would roll over us.

It would be like many football teams trying to play ball on the same field at the same time without any game plan or communication with each other. Imagine the outcome. It would be chaos. Alaskan land is the field, the agencies are the teams. If the agencies were not planning or coordinating they would be working AT ODDS with each other, each aiming for their own goals and each losing out.

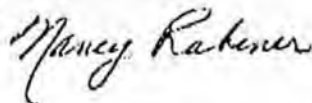
Some of the more visible planning and coordination functions are:

- 1) Authorizations - DL works with other state or federal agencies for every authorization (permits, leases, sales) for people and businesses to use state land - that way the state and the client are both protected; the left hand knows what the right hand is doing.
- 2) GVEA Interrio - DL represented state land interests in the interagency meetings for choosing the route and developing the access for the Interrio
- 3) Fire Protection Levels - a representative from the DL works with the State, Federal, and Native Corporation fire managers in changing fire protection levels that can save the State money.
- 4) MFS Fiber Optic Cable - DL coordinated with other agencies in developing access for the fiber optic cable.
- 5) Alaska Coastal Zone Management Program - DL must coordinate and plan with the Federal government in order to issue authorizations for land use in the coastal zone
- 6) Dalton Highway Plan - DL works with the Federal government and Native corporations to facilitate development of the Denali Highway corridor. No coordination = no development
- 7) Denali Park Gateway - DL works with the National Park Service, the Denali Borough and other agencies to facilitate development of the Denali Park gateway. No coordination = no development
- 8) Denali Park North Access Feasibility Study - DL represented the state in plans to develop access to Denali Park via a northern route and potential railroad. No coordination = no state interest protected or developed.
- 9) Municipal Entitlements - DL coordinates with municipalities to convey to them their land selections so that they can carry on with their own resource development.
- 10) Nenana River Access - DL coordinates with the National Park Service and other agencies to assure public access to the Nenana River.

Instead of continuing to cut revenue generating departments, I'd like to see the legislature focus on how to generate income that will save our quality of life and our University, wherein the State's future lies. I suggest you cap the permanent fund dividend so that a certain percentage of the dividend will always go to individual residents and the remainder go to funding the services and education which make Alaska a quality place to live.

Thank you for your consideration,

Nancy Raboner



**TO: MEMBERS OF THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

From: Judy Chapman  
P.O. Box 89  
Ester, AK 99725

---

Thank you for taking the time to read my comments. I am a lifelong Alaskan and am employed by the DNR, Division of Land in its Fairbanks office. Over the past six years I have worked with the State's RS 2477 program, land authorizations, North Slope issues and other state's rights and planning issues.

The work we do is important to the state. Whether defending the State's access rights or representing state interests at the planning table, the Division of Land promotes natural resource development and protects state interests. As a long-term state resident I worry that the legislature's proposal to cut a million dollars from the Division of Land budget amounts to cutting off the state's nose to spite its face. I do not think this tactic will enhance industry and development that use state lands--rather, it will inhibit development and cause land use problems.

The Division of Land provides the state's backbone for economic development on state lands. We legalize the use of state land by other agencies, permit access across state land for mine development, and develop access routes to timber sales. We are part of virtually every state government function that incorporates the use of state land. Our North Slope gravel sales bring in **hundreds of thousands of dollars** every year to the state. Lease fees and other authorizations are other significant revenue sources. Division of Land has been a vital player in large cooperative projects such as the **GVEA Intertie**, the **MFS fiber optic line**, and the development of **Fort Knox and Pogo gold mines**.

Planning is an integral part of development projects. Acting without planning ensures future litigation and land use problems. Many large-scale development projects require inter-agency coordination in order to occur. The proposed cuts to the "allocate" function would cripple the division's ability to participate and authorize future development programs. I have represented the state's interests in a variety of planning projects. These include a planning project to evaluate **northern access into Denali National Park**, coordinating **Dalton Highway planning and development** (a cooperative effort between oil industry and land managers along the highway), a project to develop **river access facilities** to the Nenana River, and planning for the **management of RS 2477 rights-of-way**, to name a few. Planning is essential to approve a development in an area where there is no area plan. Without planning, the development could not occur. Without the State at the table, state interests are not represented.

Additionally, the proposed cuts inhibit the ability of the state to transfer land to local governments, thereby impeding their ability to plan and develop those lands.

I hope you will reconsider the proposed cut of 726.0 to the division's allocate function. Our clients often tell us they wish we could have more of a field presence and interact more with local governments, particularly in the planning arena. In the Northern Regional Office, staffing levels have been cut 50% in nine years, making it much more difficult to serve the public when they apply for a land use authorization for their business, right-of-way, etc. For these reasons, I urge you to fund revenue-generating agencies at their current 1998 levels, and instead focus on establishing a source of income to fund the programs that enhance our great state.

Sincerely,

Judy Chapman



TO: SENATOR WILKEN  
FROM: HAL MEYER, FAIRBANKS

---

4/15/99

Senator Wilken - I spoke with Beth today about Randy Phillips comments that Division of Land does not provide economic benefit to the State of Alaska. She recommended I contact you with my concerns.

Sen. Phillips remarks really chilled me to the bone when he made the above referenced remark. I'm not sure how I can explain the benefits that we provide the public without sounding like I'm getting up on a soapbox but here goes.

Our mission statement is to "Develop, Conserve and Enhance Natural Resources for Present and Future Alaskans" and we have been doing just that. From million dollar material sales (Northstar and Badami on the north slope) to the \$350 permits for the mom and pop guiding businesses, we are a player in almost every natural resource activity in the state. We lease land to run million dollar logistic camps for mineral exploration; we lease land to operate multi-million dollar recreational businesses who support tourism in Alaska (Denali Wilderness Lodge, etc.); we authorize the Arctic Man snow machine races at Summit Lake (Howard Thies); we permit boat tours operators who show tourists how to pan for gold (Denali Wilderness Safaris); we created a 5.5 million cubic yard sale of gravel to the Fairbanks North Star Borough for the new land fill where the extracted gravel site will become a water related recreational park presently titled the Tanana Lakes Park (330 acres); a future right-of-way permit for a fiber optic line to increase Alaska's communication abilities (MFS); a land disposal program offering thousands of Alaskans an opportunity to create their family home (homesite, homestead, remote parcel programs); assist sister agencies in the performance of their duties (Fish and Wildlife protection, Alaska Fire Service, etc.); and I've only just skimmed the surface of what we do here at the Division of Land.

Can we really expect to do all this in a professional and timely matter without a plan? That seems to be the question before the Senate Finance Committee. Planning seems to be the buzzword of the nineties. We plan for dinner, we plan to do this or that, we are even constantly asked by TV and magazines "Do you have a plan for the future". I do have a plan for my future, but I'm afraid Alaska won't if we decide to eliminate funds from the Division of Lands budget for a sound planning process.

I must admit my aim is selfish Senator Wilkens. Not because I am an employee of the Division of land but because I have two children whom I hope will choose to remain in Alaska as I have. I often times reflect on the kind of Alaska I will be leaving my children, especially when I have been so close to the issues that will shape our state's future. I want my kids to see an Alaska that has grown strong through sound, responsible conservation and development of our resources and this cannot and will not happen without a plan. We are the Titanic and the public has given us repeated warnings of what is ahead if we don't plan for it. We shouldn't ignore their warning!

Why is it that the agencies that manage and promote the development of state resources secure less than 10% of general fund monies? Let's not cut off the hand that feeds us. If we do, the public will be the ones who suffer. Alaska will suffer.

I think we should consider generating revenue rather than cutting essential state programs. Do this by capping the permanent fund and using a portion of the rest to fund state government and as an educational IRA for our children. The longer they are here, the more they get and the money can only be used for Alaska schools! This would benefit the University of Alaska and Alaska money would stay in Alaska.

Thanks Senator Wilkens for taking the time to address my concerns and for your efforts as a member of the Senate Finance Committee.

Hal Meyer *HM*

CC: Senate Finance Committee

To: Members of the Senate Finance Committee

April 16, 1999

From: Nancy L. Rabenar, POB 81428, Fairbanks, AK 99708

Let me begin by saying I realize you have a difficult task in dealing with the State's deficit. I'm concerned that you don't realize the tangible impacts of some of your proposed cuts, in particular the \$1,000,000 cut to the DNR Division of Land.

I am an 11 year employee with the Division of Land (DL), Northern Region (NRO) in Fairbanks. I am 1 of 12 Natural Resource Officers who issue land use permits, leases and sales which facilitate development of the state's natural resources. We manage all the state land north of the Alaska Range, from the Canadian border to the Bering and Arctic Seas. Through previous budget cuts we are down to only one third of our 1985 staff.

The DNR is one of the State's biggest revenue generators. The Division of Land, NRO, brings in \$350,000 per year from north slope mineral sales alone. The finance committee's proposed \$1,000,000 cut would mean the loss of at least 2 more positions from our Fairbanks office. This loss would decrease the amount of revenue we can bring to the state. Does cutting your revenue generator to save revenue make sense?

I notice \$726,400 of the cut has been targeted from DL's budget meant for "Allocate / Planning Land and Resources". I suggest you not make this cut, but reinstate this money. Instead, cut other options that the DNR Commissioner has identified and that are not mandated by the Alaska Statutes and thus are not integral to the workings of DNR.

"Allocate / Planning" includes all the interagency coordination and planning required to both defend the State's interests and issue authorizations. They are not separate from DL's function in authorizing use of state land, they're an integral part of the process. DL works with other state, federal, municipal or Native agencies for every authorization (permits, leases, sales) for people and businesses to use state land - that coordination facilitates authorizations for use of state land and protects both the state and the client from litigation -- the left hand knows what the right hand is doing. DL is wisely required to use land use plans as guides in decision making. The plans promote best value use of natural resources and give consistency to our decisions. If DL could not plan, or coordinate with other agencies, then the DL could not defend or properly develop State's interests. The Federal government would roll over us.

It would be like many football teams trying to play ball on the same field at the same time without any game plan or communication with each other. Imagine the outcome. It would be chaos. Alaskan land is the field, the agencies are the teams. If the agencies were not planning or coordinating they 1) would not know where they were going, and 2) would be working AT ODDS with each other, each aiming for their own goals and each losing out.

Some of the more visible planning and coordination functions are:

- 1) Authorizations - For every authorization for people and businesses to use state land DL coordinates with other agencies and uses the land plan as a guide.
- 2) GVEA Intertie - DL represents state land interests in the interagency decisions for choosing the route, developing the access, and issuing the authorizations for the Intertie
- 3) Fire Protection Levels - DL representatives work with the State, Federal, and Native Corporation fire managers in changing fire protection levels that can save the State money.
- 4) MFS Fiber Optic Cable - DL coordinated with other agencies in developing and authorizing access for the fiber optic cable.
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- 6) Denali Highway Plan - DL works with the Federal government and Native corporations to facilitate development of the Denali Highway corridor. No coordination = no development
- 7) Denali Park Gateway - DL works with the National Park Service, the Denali Borough and other agencies to facilitate development and thus relieve growth issues for the Denali Park gateway communities.
- 8) Denali Park North Access Feasibility Study - DL represented the state in plans to develop access to Denali Park via a northern route and potential railroad. No coordination = no state interest protected or developed.
- 9) Municipal Entitlements - DL coordinates with municipalities to convey to them their land selections so that they can carry on with their own resource development.
- 10) Nenana River Access - DL coordinates with the National Park Service and other agencies to assure public access to and development of facilities for the Nenana River.

Instead of continuing to cut revenue-generating departments, I'd like to see the legislature focus on how to generate income that will save our quality of life and our University, wherein the State's future lies. I suggest you cap the permanent fund dividend so that a certain percentage of the dividend will always go to individual residents and the remainder go to funding the services and education which make Alaska a quality place to live.

Thank you for your consideration, Nancy Rabenar





# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Budget Finance  
 Committee on Budget Committee Name Dated 4/15/99  
Bill/Subject

I would like to encourage you to reinstate municipal assistance for the local governments. The local governments need some time to establish alternate sources of revenue like a sales tax. Some communities are more able to support a tax others not, due to population or tax caps. I'm sure you are aware of that.

I am willing to support state income tax to generate another source of ~~income~~ <sup>revenue</sup> for our state. Local governments that can should & probably will propose a sales tax to support their communities. Alaska is a wonderful place to live, we need to keep it that way. I hope reason and responsibility continue to be present during your deliberations.

SIGNED: Gleason Cummings  
 Testifier

Self & Borough Assembly  
 Representing

1267 Jacquelyn Lane, North Pole Ak  
 Address / Phone Number 488 9386 99705



# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate

Committee on State Budget Committee Name  
Bill / Subject Dated April 15, 1999

This is an appropriate date to hold this teleconference on, April 15. A day dedicated to keeping the American dream alive for all citizens. This is accomplished by a dynamic funding mechanism known as the Federal Income Tax. Without this day many Americans would not enjoy the lifestyle this country allows.

Each of us helps pay our share, albeit somewhat grudgingly sometimes, but a necessary fact of life.

I urge you to endorse and pass a statewide Income Tax in recognition of the fact all residents of the State of Alaska deserve a brighter future than the one being painted by the Legislative Majority. Making cuts and reductions for the sake of appearing to exercise fiscal constraint is misleading, when in fact Municipal Revenue sharing cuts appear elsewhere in the form of increased local taxes, be they sales or property taxes.

This abbreviated period for testimony is woefully inadequate for such an important topic.

SIGNED:

Timothy L. Beck  
Testifier

Respectfully Submitted,  
*[Signature]*

Self, Citizen of the State of Alaska  
Representing

PO Box 60736 Fairbanks, Alaska 99706  
Address / Phone Number

(907) 488 3320

FAY 456-3346

**PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE**

**To Budget Committee members of the Senate & House**

**You all have difficult decisions to make, but please search for ways to balance the budget without making such deep cuts.**

**Alaska's young people, our greatest natural resource, deserve and need a good education, a foundation for their future:**  
**PLEASE fully fund the University of Alaska and public schools.**

**SUGGESTIONS FOR INCREASING REVENUE:**

- 1. Each working person in Alaska to pay a \$100 school tax annually, to be automatically deducted from the second paycheck.**
- 2. Limit the permanent fund bonus for each Alaskan to a maximum of \$1,000.00.**
- 3. Consider a State tax of ten percent of each person's Federal tax.**

**I've lived in Alaska for 71 years. We used to pay a school tax. It was deducted at the beginning of each year. We used to pay a state tax-think it was 14 or 16 percent of the federal tax? We also used to pay local sales tax.**

**We can't go on expecting to get something for nothing. If we want good services and a state we can be proud of, we have to pay for it. Please don't sell young people short.**

**Helen L. Atkinson - e-mail: [atkinson@alaska.net](mailto:atkinson@alaska.net)  
P.O. 80805, Fairbanks, Ak. 99708-0805**



*Earl H. Beistline*  
Mine Consultant

P. O. Box 80148  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99708

Telephone: (907) 479-6240  
FAX: (907) 479-0176

April 16, 1999

Please send the attached letter to the following:

1. Alaska Senate, Finance Committee
2. Alaska House of Representatives, Finance Committee
3. John Davies
4. Gary Wilken
5. Tom Brice

Thank you,

*Earl H. Beistline*  
Earl H. Beistline

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



# Fax

**To:** Senate Finance Committee  
Senator Sean Parnell, Co-Chair  
Senator John Torgerson, Co-Chair

**From:** Fairbanks Legislative Information Office

**Fax:**

**Date:** April 16, 1999

**Phone:**

**Pages:** 42-43-44

**Re:** Written Testimony for HB 50, SB 30:

**CC:**

Teleconferenced on 04/15/99

- Urgent     For Review     Please Comment     Please Reply     Please Recycle

**-Comments:** The originals will be mailed to Senator Parnell's office. Thank you.

Fran/Fbx LIO

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee  
Members

From: Kathy Blanc

Address: POB 1438  
Petersburg AK 99833

Date: April 15, 1999

RECEIVED

APR 21 1999

Senate Finance  
Committee

I am the Director of the Petersburg Children's Center, a private, non-profit childcare facility that is primarily (88%) supported by parent payments.

The Child Care Grant Program provides wage dollars for Children's Center. This program is vital to maintain affordable, licensed care. This grant is the only financial incentive the state provides for caregivers to become licensed, which supports quality care for the youngest Alaskans.

Over the past four years the Children's Center has received an average of \$10,000 a year from this grant. As we do not have *any* extra room in our budget, if we loose this grant it is likely that we will have to raise rates by 4-5%. That translates to an extra \$300.00 per year for a child who attends full time. Low and middle income working people already struggle to pay their childcare bills, and cannot afford a further increase in rates.

Please maintain the Child Care Grant program and increase the current funding level.

Respectfully,



Kathleen Blanc

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: Sandy Volk

Address: POB 554  
Petersburg, AK 99833

Date: 4-15-99

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

The Child Care Grant Program provides wage dollars for Children's Center staff which decreases my child care bill. This program is vital to maintain affordable, licensed care.

PLEASE MAINTAIN THIS PROGRAM AND INCREASE THE CURRENT FUNDING LEVEL

Signature Sandy Volk SAM VOLK

Molly Volk

Affordable childcare is critical to the workforce for Alaskan families. It is a necessity for ~~for~~ most mothers to work, to just help pay bills and keep food on the table, while daycare already takes a major portion of the paycheck.  
Child Care cannot be compromised

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: Linda Hammer

Address: P.O. Box  
Petersburg, AR 72450

Date: 4-15-99

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

The Child Care Grant Program provides wage dollars for Children's Center staff which decreases my child care bill. This program is vital to maintain affordable, licensed care.

PLEASE MAINTAIN THIS PROGRAM AND INCREASE THE CURRENT FUNDING LEVEL

Signature

Linda Hammer

Kelsey Hammer  
Our family does not currently qualify for reduced rates. Our day care bill is as much as our house payment! Please do not cut funding further. We cannot afford it!

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: LAURA EDTELT

Address: BOX 1738, PETERSBURG 99833

Date: 4/15/99

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

The Child Care Grant Program provides wage dollars for Children's Center staff which decreases my child care bill. This program is vital to maintain affordable, licensed care. *This is especially important for parents!*

PLEASE MAINTAIN THIS PROGRAM AND INCREASE THE CURRENT FUNDING LEVEL

Signature



To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: Susan Flanary

Address: P.O. Box 776  
Petersburg, AK 99833

Date: 4/15/99

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

The Child Care Grant Program provides wage dollars for Children's Center staff which decreases my child care bill. This program is vital to maintain affordable, licensed care.

**PLEASE MAINTAIN THIS PROGRAM AND INCREASE THE CURRENT FUNDING LEVEL**

Signature

Susan Flanary

This Center is vital to Petersburg. Please help us maintain good quality day care here.

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From:

Ginger Ressler

Address:

Box 1313  
Petersburg, AK 99833

Date:

4/15/99

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

The Child Care Grant Program provides wage dollars for Children's Center staff which decreases my child care bill. This program is vital to maintain affordable, licensed care.

PLEASE MAINTAIN THIS PROGRAM AND INCREASE THE CURRENT FUNDING LEVEL

Signature

Ginger Ressler

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: Mark Martinson

Address: Box 331  
Petersburg AK 99833

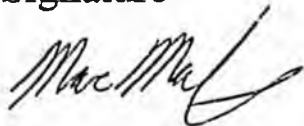
Date: 4/16/99

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Signature



To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: Michele K. Rover

Address: PO 1777 (15 Delphin U4) Petersburg AK  
99533

Date: 7-16-99  
grandparent

My daughter

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need a dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

The Child Care Grant Program provides wage dollars for Children's Center staff which decreases <sup>the</sup> my child care bill. This program is vital to maintain affordable, licensed care.

PLEASE MAINTAIN THIS PROGRAM AND INCREASE THE CURRENT FUNDING LEVEL

Signature

Michele K. Rover

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: DeEtta Quezon

Address: P.O. box 827 Petersburg AK 99833


Date: 4/16/99

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

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PLEASE MAINTAIN THIS PROGRAM AND INCREASE THE CURRENT FUNDING LEVEL

Signature



DeEtta Quezon

P.O. box 827

Petersburg AK 99833

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: VICKI CURTISS

Address: BOX 1532 PETERSBURG, AK 99833

Date: 4/16/99

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

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PLEASE MAINTAIN THIS PROGRAM AND INCREASE THE CURRENT FUNDING LEVEL

Signature



VICKI R. CURTISS

BOX 1532

PETERSBURG, AK 99833

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: Susan Miller Erickson

Address: P.O. Box 53 Petersburg, AK 99833

Date: 4-15-99

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

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PLEASE MAINTAIN THIS PROGRAM AND INCREASE THE CURRENT FUNDING LEVEL

Signature

Susan Miller Erickson

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: JAMET KVERNVIK

Address: Bx 1081

Date: 4/16/99

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

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PLEASE MAINTAIN THIS PROGRAM AND INCREASE THE CURRENT FUNDNG LEVEL !!!

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JAMET KVERNVIK'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial 'J' and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: Cynthia Frech

Address: PO Box 1304  
Petersburg AK 99833

Date: 15 APR 99

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

The Child Care Grant Program provides wage dollars for Children's Center staff which decreases my child care bill. This program is vital to maintain affordable, licensed care.

PLEASE MAINTAIN THIS PROGRAM AND INCREASE THE CURRENT FUNDING LEVEL

Signature

C. Frech

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: Linda Hammer

Address: P.O. Box 1415  
Petersburg, AK 99833

Date: 4/15/99

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

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PLEASE MAINTAIN THIS PROGRAM AND INCREASE THE CURRENT FUNDING LEVEL

Signature

Linda Hammer

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: Charles Teresa I. Strenli

611 Rambler  
Address: PO Box 692  
Petersburg, AK 99833

Date: 4-15-99

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

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PLEASE MAINTAIN THIS PROGRAM AND INCREASE THE CURRENT FUNDING LEVEL

Signature

Teresa I. Strenli

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: Paula K. AKers

Address: P.O. Box 845  
513 Sandy Beach Rd.  
Petersburg AK. 99833

Date: 4/15/99

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

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Signature Paula K. Akers

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: Donald M. & Mary Reyes

Address: P.O. Box 1622  
Pgs. AK 99833

Date: 4-15-99

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

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PLEASE MAINTAIN THIS PROGRAM AND INCREASE THE CURRENT FUNDING LEVEL

Signature Donald M. Reyes

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: Linda Slight

Address: PO BOX 2117  
Petersburg, AK 99833

Date: 4/16/99

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

I have two children in daycare.

The Child Care Grant Program provides wage dollars for Children's Center staff which decreases my child care bill. This program is vital to maintain affordable, licensed care.

PLEASE MAINTAIN THIS PROGRAM AND INCREASE THE CURRENT FUNDING LEVEL

Signature

Linda Slight

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: JESSE O'CONNOR

Address: P.O. Box 703 PETERSBURG  
AK

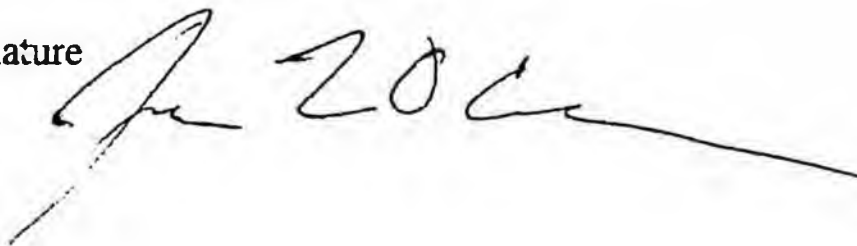
Date: 4/15/99

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PLEASE MAINTAIN THIS PROGRAM AND INCREASE THE CURRENT FUNDING LEVEL

Signature



To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: Jennifer m. Kettleton

Address: PO Box 73  
Petersburg, AK 99833

Date: 4-16-99

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

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Signature

Jennifer m. Kettleton

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: Virginia P Evens

Address: Box 585  
380 Mitkof Hwy  
Petersburg, AK 99833

Date: 16 April 1999

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

The Child Care Grant Program provides wage dollars for Children's Center staff which decreases my child care bill. This program is vital to maintain affordable, licensed care.

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Signature

Virginia P Evens

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: Naomi McCullough

Address: P.O. Box 1724  
Peg, AK 99833

Date: 4/15/99

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

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Signature

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Naomi McCullough", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From:

WAMEN YIP

Address:

P.O. BOX. 2037

Date:

4-15-88

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

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PLEASE MAINTAIN THIS PROGRAM AND INCREASE THE CURRENT FUNDING LEVEL

Signature

Wamen Yip

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: CALVIN CHANG

Address: P.O. Box 2132

Date: 4/15/99

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

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Signature



To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: Laura Tyler

Address: P.O. Box 1764  
Petersburg, AK 99833

Date: 4-15-99

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

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Signature

Laura Tyler

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: Barbara Marston

Address: PO Box 917 Petersburg AK. 99833

Date: 4/14/99

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

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PLEASE MAINTAIN THIS PROGRAM AND INCREASE THE CURRENT FUNDING LEVEL

Signature

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Barbara Marston".

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: Mitzi Willimon

Address: General Delivery  
Petersburg AK 99833

Date: 4/15/99

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

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Signature *Mitzi L. Willimon*

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: Millie M. Tuccillo

Address: PO Box 2120  
204 Gjoa St.  
Petersburg AL 39833

Date: 4/15/99

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

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**PLEASE MAINTAIN THIS PROGRAM AND INCREASE THE CURRENT FUNDING LEVEL**

Signature



To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: Tom Abbott

Address: P.O. BOX 1617  
Petersburg, AK 99833

Date: 4/15/99

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

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Signature

Thomas E. Abbott

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: Polly Grebe

Address: 106 Sing Lee Alley  
Box 564  
Petersburg AK 99833

Date: 4/15/99

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

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Signature

Polly Grebe

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: *Craig Evans*

Address: *PO BOX 585*  
*Petersburg AK 99833*

Date: *4-15-99*

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

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Signature

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Craig Evans", written in black ink.

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: Miriam M. Mearig

Address: 713 Wrangell Ave (PO Box 1464)  
Petersburg, AK 99833

Date: 4-15-99

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work. //

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Signature

Miriam M. Mearig

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: MARVA MARTINSEN

Address: Box 331, Petersburg AK 99833

Date: 4/15/99

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

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Signature



To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: *SUE McCallum*

Address: *Box 191, Petersburg AK 99833*

Date: *4/15/99*

I am a parent of a child at the Petersburg Children's Center. I need dependable, affordable childcare in order to go to work.

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PLEASE MAINTAIN THIS PROGRAM AND INCREASE THE CURRENT FUNDNG LEVEL

Signature

*Sue McCallum*

To: Senate Finance Committee and DCRA Committee Members

From: Jeff Erickson

Address: PO Box 53

Date: 4-15-99

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Signature ,

Jeff Erickson

**WORKSAFE, Inc.**

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH &amp; SAFETY

April 19, 1999

State of Alaska Legislature  
Senate Finance Co-Chairs  
Co-Chair, Sen. Sean Parnell  
Co-Chair, Sen. John Torgerson  
Mail Stop 3100  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Sent Via Fax, Senate Sara Write 465-2187

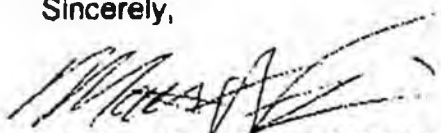
Dear Co-Chairs, Senators Parnell and Torgerson:

I am writing to let you to know of my concern about the proposed funding cuts facing the Alaska Technical Center in Kotzebue. In order for workers to be qualified to work on projects at the Red Dog Mine and North Slope oilfields, the Alaska Technical Center in Kotzebue must be adequately funded to provide training for the people of the Northwest Arctic region. The proposed elimination of funding would cause an undue burden on the residence of the Northwest Arctic region to receive skill-based training for employment in and out the region.

I understand that the intention of the Alaska Legislature is to continue to offset the current budget deficit by additional revenues to the general fund, from new and old resource development. To eliminate the primary training facility in the Northwest Arctic region is contrary to that objective. This action jeopardizes the local hire that exists in this region, creating more unemployment. The successful employment rates are directly connected to the training provided by the Alaska Technical Center.

I would encourage the members of the Senate and House Finance Committees to re-evaluate the decision to eliminate funding of \$609,000. The Alaska Technical Center in Kotzebue needs full funding to effectively fulfill its mission that is beneficial to the State of Alaska as a whole.

Sincerely,



Matthew T. Fagnani, C-SAPA  
President

Cheryl Mann  
P. O. Box 240434  
Anchorage, Alaska 99524

14, April, 1999

Dear Senator,

I am writing to ask for your support in restoring the proposed cuts that would decimate the provision of alcohol and other drug abuse services for the people of Alaska. It is grossly unfair that the majority of the proposed cuts to the Department of Health and Social Services fall almost entirely on the Division of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse. Further, they would seriously threaten both the direct and indirect delivery of substance abuse services to the families and communities who need them. Cutting more than 60% of the budget for ADA would result in losing more than half the staff and their ability to monitor state and federal grants. Thus, quality assurance would be greatly reduced and federal matching funds will be lost. And, Alaska was one of the few states to receive a federal prevention grant last year. Why are we thinking about eliminating the programs that can help our children have a better future?

These proposed cuts would eliminate the progress that we have made in the field in the last several years as well as jeopardize drug and alcohol service delivery. The Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, a citizen group, worked for more than a year to develop a statewide Outcomes based plan using the Friedman model supported by the Legislature. Through collaboration with a variety of groups statewide we have developed what has been lauded as a model plan. It is very disappointing to think that this work was for nothing and that services are going to be arbitrarily cut before being able to demonstrate that the plan provides the framework for more effective and efficient delivery. Additionally, I teach at UAA and everyday I observe students come through my classroom who are changing their lives and those of their families to create better futures for themselves and for Alaska as a result of their participation in alcohol and drug treatment programs. What better demonstration can we have that these services work and benefit the state?

Please reduce these draconian cuts and acknowledge that solving our budget shortfall should not be done on the backs of individuals and families with substance abuse problems that can, and are, being treated.

Sincerely,



Cheryl Mann,  
Chair, Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse



**WILLIAM RANSOM WOOD**  
PRESIDENT (EMERITUS), UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA



April 9, 1999

Senator Gary Wilken  
Alaska State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 514  
Juneau, AK. 99801-1182

Dear Senator Wilken:

There is no range of options open. Either Alaska makes sound common sense use of its basic resources and youth power for the future, or it becomes a "nothing" space on the world map, exploited in one way or another by the less well endowed.

Here is oil, gas, timber, fish, coal, gold, a few small harvest crops and many seasonal visitor attractions, but the most vital and abundant resource is our youth which we tend to export and pay for the shipping.

Either provide them with the top of the best education right here in Alaska and create good job opportunities to hold them or let Alaska wither on the vine of the educational ladder.

A balanced budget is great but it should not be a barricade to building a stable and prosperous tomorrow.

The University system of Alaska is the state's future. Support it strongly now. Tomorrow could be too late for you, your family, your neighbors and their future here.

You are one of the "master builders" of Alaska, a part of history. Make the next chapter one of which you and all Alaskans can be proud.

Respectfully,

*Bill Wood*

William Ransom Wood

Compliments of...  
*Gary Wilken*  
Senator, West Fairbanks