

ALASKA LEGISLATURE

1999

HOUSE and SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE FILES, 1999 - 2000

Attn: Please Distribute to all Finance Committee Members

Krafts With Kare
PO Box 871049
Wasilla, Alaska
99687-1049
E-Mail
kraftswithkare@gsi.net

Facsimile transmittal

To: Entire Finance Committee Fax: (907)373-4854

From: Kraftz With Kare Date: 03/04/00

Re: MIA Funding Cut? Pages: 1

CC:

Urgent For Review Please Comment Please E-mail Reply Please Recycle

To the Members Of the finance committee who think it a good idea to cut funding of the "Make It Alaska" program..... picture this..... The phone rings, it's a tourist wanting to buy three dozen cute little dogsleds that they saw when on vacation in Alaskasaying they would be great souvenirs to send to folks down here to prove that they saw the start of The Kitarod sled dog race in Alaska, they were priced at \$100.00ea but considering that the sleds were "Hand Made" That's not a bad price.....The vendor having only paid \$15.00ea for the sleds was more than happy to give the couple a large discount for purchasing such a large amount...(he knocked the price down to \$75.00ea) And that he would cover the shipping to Florida himself...The couple received the sleds in good condition and sent them to all there friends.....a few days pass and one of their friends calls them from the airport in Minnesota wanting to know if \$35.00 is to much to pay for a genuine handmade Dog sled Like the ones they got in Alaska and that they were very cute did they want one to add to their collection ?The couple said sure that they would look good sitting on the fireplace Mantle ,When they got the one from Minnesota they found it to be the same as the ones they had purchased in Alaska?

Now I'll admit that some of the tourists that come to Alaska are kinda gullible but how many Sled dog races are held in Taiwan or China or Brazil, The "Made in Alaska" program is a watch dog for you and them.

Please reconsider your plan to cut the funding for them just to Boost the Funding for the "Alaska Visitor Industry Association" HHHMmmmm are they not one and the SAME!!!!!!! If we as voters ever figure out the way politicians think.....well I guess we'd All Be Politicians.....Lets see.....They can't feed themselves with their left hand so lets CUT OFF THE RIGHT ONE!!!!!!

Have a nice day...See you at Fur Rondy MUHA/hahaha (I have a Dogsled for ya to buy HANDMADE....NS)

KWK

MIA# 3954



END

**Twin Rocks Enterprises, Inc.
Cohoe Micro Bakery**

PO Box 1095
53780 Florence Ave.
Kasilof, AK 99610-1095

Phone/Fax - (907)262-1690
Email - karnikis@alaska.net

March 3, 2000

To:
House Finance Committee Office

Attention:
All Members of House Finance Committee

Regarding:
Funding Cuts for Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED)

Dear House Finance Committee,

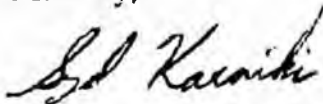
We would appreciate your continued support of DCED and its many valuable functions.

The "Made In Alaska" program assists small businesses such as ours by promoting Alaskan products. The well recognized "Made in Alaska" logo is an important aspect of our marketing and we are proud to display it on all our packaging.

The International Trade Office provides valuable assistance regarding the export of Alaskan products. Though we have not yet entered the international market, we have spoken with this office and received much needed information and insight into this important aspect of trade. We hope to use their services in the future as our business expands.

Thank you for ensuring that programs such as these remain available for all Alaskan businesses.

Sincerely,



Syd Karnikis
President - Twin Rocks Enterprises



KAWERAK, INC.

P.O. BOX 948 • NOME, ALASKA 99762

TELEPHONE: (907) 443-5231 • FAX: (907) 443-3708

- SEKVINU II IL
- VILLAGES OF:
- BREVIG MISSION
- COUNCIL
- DIOMEDE
- EUM
- GAMSHI
- GOLVIN
- KING ISLAND
- KOYUK
- MARYS IGLOO
- NOME
- SAVOUNGA
- SHAYTOOLIK
- SHISHMAREF
- SOLOMON
- STEBRINS
- ST. MICHAEL
- TELEK
- UNALAKLEET
- WALES
- WHITE MOUNTAIN

DT: March 3, 2000

FR: Branson Tungiyan
 Eskimo Heritage Program Director
 Kawerak, Inc.
 P.O. Box 948
 Nome, AK 99762

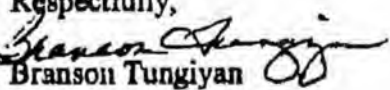
TO: House Finance Committee
 State Legislature
 Juneau, AK

RE: Letter of Protest on Longevity Bonus

Committee Members,

I am writing a Letter of Protest on behalf of the Kawerak Elders Advisory Committee to the Cuts that the Republican Majority have decided to the Longevity Bonus that our senior citizens have "faithfully earned" in our Great State of Alaska. Too long have the Republican led majority Legislature ventured into the heritage programs of the "True Alaskans" and made "Cuts" for the benefit of the Republicans "needs". It is not fair, nor will it be fair, for the House Finance Committee to cut \$1.75 million of the Longevity Bonus of those that got us to where we are today - the Senior Citizens of Alaska.

Please take this letter into consideration as a protest during the Public Hearing on Saturday, March 4, 2000 to the decision on the Longevity Bonus cut.
 Thank you.

Respectfully,

 Branson Tungiyan
 Eskimo Heritage Program Director

cc: Loretta Bullard, President, Kawerak, Inc.
 Eileen Norbert, Vice-President, Kawerak, Inc.
 Kawerak Elders Advisory Committee
 Files

FAX to House Finance Committee Office, All Members -
907-465-6813

To: All members of the House Finance Committee

I urgently request that the \$50K funding for the MADE IN ALASKA program in Governor Knowles' budget be restored and preserved! That amount is in general funds AND authorization for program receipts.

I am deeply concerned to hear that the LEGISLATURE would cut the DCED budget and thus eliminate the MADE IN ALASKA program. I am a self-employed computer builder AND I PROUDLY DISPLAY THE MADE IN ALASKA STICKER! My entire customer list looks for the Made in Alaska stickers on my products! This program is VERY POPULAR WITH THE PEOPLE OF ALASKA AND THE TOURISTS WE ATTRACT TO VISIT.

The benefit of this program for the self-employed VOTERS of Alaska, and the Tourism business goes way beyond the money invested by the Legislature. This is money well spent!

Why is Alaska willing to spend MILLIONS to attract tourists, to then turn around and eliminate the tiny amount that protects people who make authentic Alaska products to sell to those tourists!

The \$50K is less than 1% of what is planned to give the Tourism Association. In the long run YOU WILL ONLY UNDERMINE THE TOURISM INDUSTRY, if you eliminate this wonderful program! Please save the budget for the Made in Alaska program.

Sincerely, Richard McCorkle
418 Baranof Avenue
Fairbanks, AK 99701

Note: Please deliver to EACH Member's office.

Thank you, RHM

Attention FINANCE COMMITTEE members
FAX: 465-6813
March 3, 2000



Finance Committee
State Capital Building
Juneau, Alaska

RE: FY01 Funding for the Made in Alaska Program

Gentlemen/Ladies of the committee

Glacier Scents is a small manufacturing firm located in Juneau. We've been in business for 4 years- and consider one of our proudest assets our Made in Alaska permit. I was born and raised in Fairbanks so believe that I can speak with a *great deal* of knowledge about Alaskan owned businesses. This permit sets us apart from any other business because we've had to prove that we do make our products here in this State. Because the program requires a business to substantiate their products many consumers look specifically for this symbol because they are assured that items have been made here, by Alaskan's and the money goes back into the local economies.

This is not my first business venture, but if you take away the vital funding for continued administration of the Made in Alaska program it may be my last. Our business creates, among other items; very high quality hand made candles. I have to compete against large impersonally manufactured products, many of which aren't even made in the USA. If you take away the funding for the program administration this symbol will become nothing more than "another symbol of a good Alaskan idea- dumped by bad choices of elected officials".

Please do not make a bad choice. A mere \$50,k in general funds and the continued authorization for using program receipts assures that this program will continue it's excellent work on behalf of business owners and Alaskan's. This money represents less than 1% of the intended funds to be issued to the Tourism Association. If we can't supply tourism with unique Alaskan made products and services, supported by a permitted symbol that REALLY means something, eventually they won't return.

Dawn Borjesson
Owner

**GLACIER SCENTS
JUNEAU, ALASKA
907/789-2222**

Fax to House Finance Committee Office, All Members.
907-465-6813

To: All members of the House Finance Committee

I urgently request that the \$50K funding for the MADE IN ALASKA program in Governor Knowles' budget be restored and preserved! That amount is in general funds AND authorization for program receipts.

I AM OUTRAGED, and extremely concerned to hear that MY LEGISLATURE would cut the DCED budget and thus eliminate the MADE IN ALASKA program. I am a self-employed herbal products and gift manufacturer AND I PROUDLY DISPLAY THE MADE IN ALASKA STICKER! My entire customer list would rebel if the Made in Alaska stickers were eliminated, or came to mean nothing!!!! This program is VERY POPULAR WITH THE PEOPLE OF ALASKA AND THE TOURISTS WE ATTRACT TO VISIT. It has worked hard to be very cost efficient. The benefit to the hard-working people of Alaska, and the tourism business is immeasurable and goes way beyond the money invested by the Legislature.

Why is Alaska willing to spend MILLIONS to attract tourists, to then turn around and eliminate the tiny amount that protects people who make authentic Alaska products to sell to those tourists! These people are YOUR CONSTITUENTS!! The people YOU were elected to represent and protect! Many, many visitors have expressed how much they depend on the Made in Alaska sticker for genuine Alaskan-made crafts when buying for themselves, and especially when buying gifts for family and friends. The \$50K is less than 1% of what is planned to give the Tourism Association. It is NOT ESSENTIAL to the Tourism Association's budget!! And in the long run YOU WILL ONLY UNDERMINE THE TOURISM INDUSTRY!! No MADE IN ALASKA program means the market will be flooded with cheap, imported gift items that will out-compete our Alaskan craftspeople and DESTROY 1000'S OF HOME BUSINESSES!!! Gifts from Alaska will become known as cheap and tacky and the only people benefiting from Tourism will be the cruise and buslines!!

Sincerely, Deborah Paetzhold McCorkle
418 Baranof
Fairbanks, AK 99701

Note: Please deliver to EACH members office.

Thanks. DPM

Hugh Darling

From: Hugh Darling <darling@seward.net>
To: <Representative_Eldon_Mulder@legis.state.ak.us>
Sent: Friday, March 03, 2000 10:22 AM
Subject: Made In Alaska

Dear Rep. Mulder:

Sweet Darlings is a three year old candy company which has grown tremendously since its inception and employs six people year 'round with a good outlook for future growth. We give a lot of credit to our MADE IN ALASKA program which is administered by Steven Rouse. Our tourists have become aware that any product bearing the "Bear Insigna" is a product this is truly made in Alaska.

If you do away with the funding for this program you will severely hurt many small Alaskan businesses and open the market further to those companies who are in the lower forty-eight and off shore. It will also send an important message to our visitors that we only want their money and do not care what products we have representing our State.

I realize that it is necessary to curb spending, but please, please let's not do so to the detriment of our own businesses and people. We must put our best foot forward to compete with the other states for the tourism dollar and believe me those visitors who come here are looking for products Made in Alaska - we must encourage more Alaskan businesses, not discourage them.

We also have a retail business, Brown and Hawkins, which has been doing business in Alaska under the same family ownership since 1900 - that's 100 years in business, so we are not newcomers to the State. When the summer visitors come into our store, they immediately ask where the Made in Alaska products are with the Bear insignas, as they have learned that is their assurance of an authentic gift.

Thank you for not cutting the funding for the Made In Alaska Program.

Sincerely,

Iris A. Darling

I attempted to e-mail this to you - am not certain it went through - Please help us with this as it is very important to our Alaskan manufacturers.

Iris A. Darling

FAX COVER SHEET

Lasertech Alaska
2341 Cinnabar Loop
Anchorage, AK 99507-3150

Date 03/03/00

Phone (907) 344-6677
Fax (907) 344-3772
e-mail: linda@lasertechalaska.com

Company Name: **House Finance Committee**
Contact Name: **All Members**
Fax Number: **907-465-6813**

Re: Request for reconsideration of cutting funds within DCFD; eliminating the "Made in Alaska" program

Dear Representatives:

I was notified that Gov. Knowles' budget level for the DCFD was chosen by the House to be cut so that the funding (\$50K approx.) for the Made in Alaska program would be entirely eliminated. I believe you would not even consider such a cut if you knew some of the important services this small amount of funding provides.


As a small business owner, 37 year resident of Alaska, commercial and residential property owner, I have personally seen the immense benefits this Made in Alaska program has provided to almost 1500 business owners. For example; our company began manufacturing a Tourist souvenir item last year made of Alaskan Birch. It was the hottest selling Tourist item in the State last year and will far eclipse last year's sales this coming year. This one product was so successful that, within 9 months, there were two "knock-off" imports that will compete with our Alaskan-made product this year. The only thing that sets our product apart is the fact that we are Certified Permit Holders of the MIA logo ("The Bears Logo"). If it weren't for the MIA program and the policing done by all of our staff and our members (of the non-profit, Make It Alaskan, Inc.); these Thailand and Chinese imports would not hesitate to put the MIA logo on their packaging and pass it off to our Tourists as something made by the Peoples of Alaska. It would kill our market! We also had our first "Web Hit" last year. The company on the East Coast were looking for "an Alaskan-made product" for a gift item for their customers. They ordered our gift item because they were assured it was authentic MIA. The dollar amount of this one order was almost 6-figures! We were also able to sell our products to a large, tourist-oriented company in the lower 48. We are doing special customization for their area and I was pleasantly surprised that the Purchasing Agent requested we leave the Made in Alaska logo on the tags!

I have been involved with the MIA and the non-profit Make It Alaskan, Inc., for over 10 years. I was also involved with the Alaska Manufacturers Assoc. prior to that (since 1977). In all these past years, this idea of promoting (with just a little help from the State) Alaskan-Made goods and services has been a "No-Brainer" for all its members who make their living manufacturing items from Boats to Minted coins; Tourist giftware and Seafood to Fine art; and who can forget that beer made in Juneau!

Cutting this program, this small amount that reaches so far into our community, would be outrageous and ill-advised!

Thank you for your time and assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,


Linda M. Schroeder
Co-owner/ Lasertech Alaska
Vice-President/Make It Alaskan, Inc.

PLEASE DELIVER THIS FAX TO ALL HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

March 3, 2000

I am submitting this letter to demand that funding for the MADE IN ALASKA program at the level submitted in Governor Knowle's budget be restored and protected. That amount is \$50 K in general funds and authorization for program receipts.

I am a permit holder with the MADE IN ALASKA program, and using the well-known MADE IN ALASKA logo increases the desirability of my product. Without this recognizable logo on my packaging, there is nothing to guarantee to my customers that my product *is* made in the state.

Without this program, once again, entrepreneurs who create authentic Alaskan products will be unprotected and will again have to wage an uphill battle against companies and retailers who bring in outside products that resemble Alaskan work. For years artists and craftsmen have combatted products that look and feel Alaskan but are made elsewhere. The MADE IN ALASKA program, like the Silver Hand program, protects your constituents and ensures that Alaskan-made products receive recognition and are differentiated from other items. The logo program is one way to satisfy our customers and promote Alaska.

We spend millions to make Alaska a desirable tourist destination. The \$50K for the MADE IN ALASKA program is less than 1% of what the state will give to the Tourism Association. Alaska is a popular place, and our visitors often request products made here. It makes no sense that we spend money to get people here and then give them no means of determining which products are made in the state.

Please fund the MADE IN ALASKA program with full funding.

Sincerely,

Natasha Zahn Pristas
D Street Designs
1026 D Street
Juneau, Alaska 99801
907/586-1454
pristas@alaska.net



ALASKAN CHOPPED STICKS

P.O. BOX 73203

Fairbanks, Alaska, USA

99707

March 3, 2000

Fax: (907) 490-5981 Voice: (907) 488-7422
E-mail: sales@akchopsticks.com

PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO ALL HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

To Whom it may concern:

I would like to express my concern, disapproval, and outrage that the impact of cuts to the DCED budget will eliminate MADE IN ALASKA. I clearly request that funding for MADE IN ALASKA at the level submitted in Governor Knowles' budget be restored and protected. That amount is \$50K in general funds.

MADE IN ALASKA is important to Alaska Chopstick Company. Very often we get feedback from tourists saying how nice it is that they can just look for the "Made in Alaska Bears" and know they have a product from Alaska. There is no question and its something they can trust.

Why is Alaska willing to spend MILLIONS to attract tourists and yet eliminate the tiny amount that protects people who make authentic Alaska products to sell to those tourists. The \$50K is less than 1% of what you plan to give the Tourism Association. When we go to trade shows "outside" we are very proud to be a "Made in Alaska" product and get only positive response because of it. The amount of imported (outside the United States) goods sold to the tourists industry is appalling. It doesn't represent our state very well if a tourist visits Alaska, buys presents to take home, to find out the product was made in Asia somewhere.

Not only will our product suffer if this program is cut but Alaska's reputation for quality made products will suffer too.

Thank you for the opportunity to be heard

M. A. Staton

M. A. Staton

Phone: (907) 488-7422

Fax: (907) 490-5981

Web: akchopstick.com

Fax Cover Sheet

Don's Wood and Craft Barn
17800 James Way, Eagle River, AK 99577
(907) 694-9668
(907) 694-9668 *9

Send to: House Finance Committee Office	From: Don's Wood and Craft Barn / Rowi Slifer
Attention: All Members	Date: March 3, 2000
Office location:	Office location:
Fax number: (907) 465-6813	Phone number: (907) 694-9668

Urgent Reply ASAP Please comment Please review For your information

Total pages, including cover:
Three

Comments:

MADE IN ALASKA funding cut and request to restore.

Don's Wood and Craft Barn
17800 James Way
Eagle River, AK 99577
(907) 694-9668

March 3, 2000

To all Members of the House Finance Committee.

I hereby ask strongly that the funding for **MADE IN ALASKA** (as it was submitted in Governor Knowles' budget in the amount of \$50K) will be restored and protected.

MADE IN ALASKA has grown to a strong tool for us Alaskan Crafters and producers! Last summer I overheard several people (tourists and locals) saying, that they have to look for the "Made-in-Alaska" sticker to make sure the merchandise was really made in the State. It was a pleasure to see customers choose our product over some cheaper merchandise that was imported from the lower 48.

Alaska itself is a small market place and we are fighting daily the big Wal-Marts, K-Marts, Pier Ones, etc. Now you want to take away that one tool that sets our merchandise apart from imported "stuff". Most of us buy our supplies locally and it is us, the small vendors and crafters, that keep the money in Alaska. Please don't forget: We are the small people that put you where you are now and we gave you our vote so you can represent us!

We need our **MADE IN ALASKA** for our unique merchandise and to get our share of tourist and local market. With all the publicity of the BP and ARCO merger you have forgotten us the Alaskan small businesses that rely on programs like **MADE IN ALASKA**.

Have you ever looked at a **MADE IN ALASKA** directory..... do you see how many of us are participating! Now you want to put us out in the cold! Wake up!!!! Keep Alaska's small businesses competitive and give us back our **MADE IN ALASKA** program!!!! It's still growing and we need it here in Alaska to survive in the small business world.

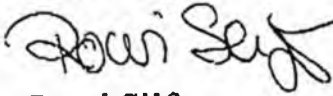
Page 2

Don's Wood and Craft Barn, 17800 James Way, Eagle River, AK 99577

PLEASE KEEP THE MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM ALIVE.

SUPPORT THE PEOPLE THAT VOTED FOR YOU AND RESTORE
THE \$50K IN GENERAL FUNDS AND AUTHORIZATION FOR
PROGRAM RECEIPTS.

Sincerely,



Rowi Slifer

Don's Wood and Craft Barn

Ron Wendt P.O. Box 870624 Wasilla, AK 99687 (907)376-4715

RE: MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM

ATTN:

To ALL House Finance Committee members

Please restore funding that was cut for the Made in Alaska program.

This program has been of great assistance to Made in Alaska members in promoting Alaska Made products & businesses. This is a small amount but has a great impact on tourism to our state. Its not asking too much to restore this tiny amount that does so well in impacting thousands of Alaskans.

Cutting back on tourism advertisement has cut down immensely on our businesses, we don't need another blow by the state. You can invest permanant fund monies to outside interests, surely you can invest in Alaskan businesses. We don't ask for much.

Thank You

Ron Wendt
GOLDSTREAM PUBLICATIONS
Wasilla, Alaska

FAX to: House Finance Committee Office
PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO ALL HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS.
Fax #: 907-465-6813

From: Dulce Ben-East and Michael East, Owners
Kahiltna Birchworks
Kahiltna Gold Birch Syrup
PO Box 13243
Trapper Creek, AK 99683
Phone/fax: 907-733-1309
Email: quietlake@matnet.com

To all House Finance Committee members:

I am writing to ask that the finance committee restore and protect the funding for the **Made In Alaska** program at the level submitted in Governor Knowles' budget. This amount is \$50,000 in general funds and authorization for program receipts.

As owner and operator of an Alaskan birch syrup business and president of the Alaska Birch Syrupmaker's Association, I cannot emphasize enough the importance of the **Made in Alaska** program to our business and to our industry. The labels on each of my products – and most of the products of association members - displays the **Made in Alaska** logo, and I know from our direct sales that tourists are familiar with and seek this symbol of guaranteed quality. Our retailers also request this symbol of authenticity. It seems absurd that the legislature, in order to fund a tourism -related industry, would disregard the symbol of Alaska's small manufacturers.

The **Made in Alaska** program has successfully helped to promote our business and industry through their website and publications over the past decade. It has helped to make our business healthy; and a healthy business has more need of Alaskan goods and services, in turn contributing to a healthy state economy and tourism industry. The program has also protected our business from outside manufacturers claiming to have an authentic Alaskan product that competed with our own. The **Made in Alaska** program guarantees the Alaskan authenticity that most tourists seek.

To delete this modestly funded program will hurt Alaskan businesses, making it easier for Outside competition to push it's way into our territory. Manufacturing In Alaska is extremely challenging and deserves continued support from the state. Please consider our contribution to a healthy Alaskan economy and do not withdraw the support given Alaskan manufacturers by the **Made in Alaska** program. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Dulce Ben-East
Michael East
Owners, Kahiltna Birchworks



5429 SHAUNE DRIVE • JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801 • 907/780-5866

Date: 3/2/00

FACSIMILE MESSAGE COVER SHEET

To: House Finance Committee Office
Alaska State House

*** Please distribute to All House Finance Committee Members

fax: (907) 465-6813

Following are 1 page(s) including this cover sheet.

Remarks:

URGENT!!! We have just been alerted that the MADE IN ALASKA program will be cut from state government oversight and funding. This program was funded at a level of \$50,000 annually along with authorization for program receipts. PLEASE DO NOT CUT THIS INVALUABLE PROGRAM! We have been a proud permit holder since our beginning in 1987, and this program helps protect authentic made in Alaska products such as ours. We have been asked countless times to brew our beer under contract in breweries in the lower 48. It would be much cheaper and cost effective, and those down south don't believe people would ever even know. But, we believe in this state and we believe in authenticity. The made in Alaska seal of the two bears is proof that we are not merely imitators of the real thing. Please help us continue to protect the good name of all things Alaskan!!! Please CONTINUE FUNDING THE MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM, EVEN AT THE CURRENT SMALL LEVEL OF \$50,000. We need STATE oversight, NOT visitor industry association oversight. PLEASE!?

From: Marcy Larson
Alaskan Brewing Co.
5429 Shaune Dr.
Juneau, AK 99801
Ph: (907) 780-5866
Fax: (907) 780-4514



Althea D. Clymer

P.O. Box 15002 • Fritz Creek, Alaska 99603

(907) 235-7553 or 235-8696

FAX 235-8245

March 2, 2000

To: **ALL** House Finance Committee members

Re: Made in Alaska, Inc.

When the Made In Alaska program first started, it was a tremendous boost for our note card business. We have been active participants in the program ever since, and would not miss out on being part of the fall craft show at the Sullivan Arena.

The program has helped make people more aware of the genuine Alaskan-made products, and now **people look for the Made In Alaska logo on what I sell.** It has come to really mean something. I really appreciate this as an Alaskan. Cheap foreign imports, disguised as genuine Alaskan products, can be difficult to compete against. Both tourists and Alaskans appreciate knowing they are getting the real thing. This program has been very valuable for the craftsman, for the tourist, and for the Alaskan wanting to send genuine Alaskan articles as gifts stateside.

It has just been brought to my attention that there is a movement to totally wipe out the entire Made In Alaska program. I find this hard to believe. Do you realize what a valuable program you are trying to eliminate?

Please rethink this situation! The program needs the type of funding proposed in Governor Knowles' budget (which I understand is \$50K in general funds and authorization for program receipts). This program is important for tourism, and tourism is and should be an important part of Alaska's future.

Sincerely,

Althea D. Clymer

FAX 907-465-6813

3-2-00

House Finance Committee Office

To all members of the House Finance Committee:

I am very concerned and outraged that the impact of cuts to the DCED budget will eliminate the Made In Alaska program.

My livelihood is basket weaving and Made In Alaska has been promoting my business for many years and has been beneficial to my earnings.

Alaska is willing to spend millions to attract tourists and yet eliminate the small amount that protects people who make authentic Alaska products to sell to tourists, why?!?

No Made In Alaska program would mean no permits, no protection from logo misuse, no directory, no web site, and no promotion.

PLEASE DO NOT CUT THIS FUNDING!

Please distribute this letter to all the members of the House Finance Committee.

Sincerely,

*Penelope Cyr-Lorenson
Wild Iris Basket Designs
PO Box 3527
Kodiak Island, Alaska 99615*

DATE: March 3, 2000
TO MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE
RE: "MADE IN ALASKA" PROGRAM ----DCED BUDGET
FROM: P. ALVA AND MARIE REED
dba MASTERS TOUCH MANUFACTURING

I want each and every one of you to know what a disastrous impact your current quest to find funds for the new Alaska Visitor Industry Association will have on those of us who have chosen to live in Alaska, contribute to our communities and make our living by manufacturing something "MADE IN ALASKA"

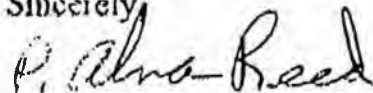
It should be obvious to most that if our logo and organization are taken from us through political process, those of us who identify with pride the fact that we live here, and are creative enough to make items available from Alaskan goods and labor will be gone, as well as a huge retail market place the tourists are coming here to see. Take a moment, and count the gift shops in any of our communities, and check out the makeup of the gifts they have for sale.

It's true, these same gift shop owners can purchase "look alike" from a foreign manufacturer, but the class and quality are gone. and gone too should be the pride of those who sit on these committees, that make decisions like this one, over a extremely small item like \$50,000.

I know that Gene Therriault is a Chair of this committee, and he is a neighbor here in North Pole who has derived his living for years working in a small business in our community. We personally urge him to reconsider his thinking on this issue, and reassure us that "MADE IN ALASKA" is critically important and cannot be cut in quest of funds for an association that the MADE IN ALASKA logo can only benefit.

Please call or come by at any time if constituency input is important to you individually or as a group in making your decision.

Sincerely,



P. Alva Reed
Owner

The Alaska Horse Directory

P.O. Box 871966
Wasilla, Alaska 99687-1966

March 2, 2000

State of Alaska
House Finance Committee Office
FAX: 907 465-6813

Dear Sirs;

I understand that you are considering cutting funding to the 'Made in Alaska Program.'

This will be my second year as a member of the "Made in Alaska" program. I am proud to be able to display their emblem on my product, an Alaskan publication.

I sought membership in this program because they promote Alaskan products. When shopping for Alaskan, I LOOK for the **Made in Alaska** emblem. It tells me I am not buying something made outside of Alaska and that my money is not leaving the state.

I was born in Alaska and feel that we already have too much money leaving the state that should remain here to build our economy. One positive way to help build our infrastructure is to promote Alaskan goods and services.

"Made in Alaska" is your program to do that very thing. It would be a big loss to eliminate the checks and balances that this program performs for the true Alaskan businessperson.

Please consider the long lasting consequences of eliminating the budget for this very worthwhile program.

Sincerely,

Judy Beckhorn-Ross
Judy Beckhorn-Ross, Editor
Alaska Horse Directory
(Proud to be an Alaskan)

Please deliver to all House Finance Committee members.

ALASKA WILD RIVER PRODUCTIONS, INC.
P.O. Box 210728
Anchorage, AK 99521-0728
907/338-1005
March 3, 2000

House Finance Committee Office
Fax 1/907/465-6813

Please distribute my letter to all House Finance Committee Members.

Dear Committee Members:

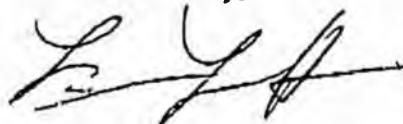
I understand that in an effort to find money to contribute to the new Alaska Visitor Industry Assn, your Committee has cut all economic development funds and related functions from the Department of Community and Economic Development.

Within that budget was \$50,000 earmarked for operation of MADE IN ALASKA. As you know, if that funding is not restored, there will be no oversight of MADE IN ALASKA which means no permits, no protection from logo misuse, no web site or directory and no promotion of the MADE IN ALASKA products. This would totally eliminate the valuable program which helps us market our Alaskan products locally, nationwide and even internationally.

I beg you to restore the funding for MADE IN ALASKA at the level submitted in Governor Knowles' budget (\$50,000 in general funds and authorization for program receipts).

Thank you for your support of this program which helps those of us who produce products in Alaska prove our authenticity, and shows our clients that we have a product worthy of their dollars. Help us keep bringing the dollars to Alaskan business owners, rather than supporting the import business with "wannabe" made in Alaska products.

Yours sincerely,



Linda L. Hill
Chief Financial Officer

www.alaskahuntingvideos.com

BCN**Adela W. Batin**
Publisher

March 2, 2000

To: House Finance Committee Office**FAX 907-465-6813****Please deliver to all House Finance Committee members****From: Adela Batin, Publisher, Alaskabooks****Alaska Angler Publications****Subject: MADE IN ALASKA program cuts**

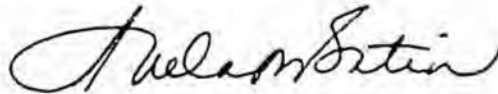
Why is the State of Alaska willing to spend millions of dollars to attract tourists and yet eliminate the tiny amount of \$50,000 that protects people who make authentic Alaska products to sell to those tourists? This \$50,000 is less than 1% of what the state plans to give the Tourism Association!!!

The Made in Alaska program was designed to encourage tourists to purchase items authentically made in Alaska, which in turn would keep the tourism dollars within the state. It directly supports and benefits local businesses, the majority of them small businesses upon which the state, and our nation is founded. Is this the way the state of Alaska chooses to support it's small businesses, by making cuts which directly affect their welfare and support? SHAME!!!

I am a lifetime Alaskan, who has been a small-business owner for over twenty years. I've published eight books on Alaska. As a photojournalist I publish my photographs in all the major outdoor/travel magazines. I promote the state of Alaska through my journalistic efforts, and I am in direct contact with the travel industry. I know that when people come to Alaska, they want authentic, original Alaska-made products.

The Made in Alaska program protects the visitor by providing the products they want and providing a guarantee. Most importantly, the integrity of the program adds value to the Alaska experience and the products that the visitor takes home with them. I urge you to support this valuable program and say **YES to continuing the financial support of the Made in Alaska program.**

Sincerely,



Adela Batin, Publisher

Alaska Angler* Publications
Alaska Angler* Public Relations
Alaska Angler* Photo Bank
Alaska Hunter* Publications
Alaska Angling & Hunting Library
Award Design

P.O. Box 82222
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709
Phone (907) 455-8222
FAX (907-455-6691

ACTIVE
MEMBER

~~TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE FINANCE COM.~~ TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE FINANCE COM.

IN REGARDS TO TAKING AWAY THE FUNDING TO THE MADE-
IN ALASKA PROGRAM. I AM NOT FAMILIAR WITH EACH
DETAIL, I JUST KNOW THAT THE FUNDING FOR THIS TIME
PROVIN, PUBLICLY RECOGNIZED PROGRAM WAS TAKEN AWAY
AND GIVEN TO A NEW TOURISM PROGRAM. THIS IS
UNACCEPTABLE, PLEASE RECTIFY.

TOM COOPER

907-262-9759

To: House Finance Committee Office
**PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO ALL HOUSE
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

It is my understanding that there is a proposal to drastically cut the amount of funds allocated to the Department of Community and Economic Development. As a result, the \$50,000 that would have been appropriated for the operation of the MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM will be cut - resulting in the end of the program.

I am very unhappy about this proposal - I am a registered participant in the MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM, (permit number 3435), and a large percentage of my product is purchased by tourists. Having the MIA logo on products is an important factor in tourist purchases - they feel better about buying something that was made here in the state, as opposed to Taiwan, and in many cases, without the MIA logo, there is no way to tell the difference.

I urge you to restore the monies allocated for the MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM - it amounts to less than 1% of the funds you will be giving to the Tourism Association, and it benefits MANY Alaskan Artisans and vendors. Please restore and protect the the \$50,000 in general funds and authorization for program receipts that was submitted in Governor Knowle's budget.

Thank you for your consideration.

Robin Hopper
Alaskan Musician and Artisan
MIA Member, #3435
PO Box 670549
Chugiak, AK 99567
email <njncer@alaska.net>
Tel. (907) 688-2032
Fax (907) 688-2032



CUSTOM KNIVES Made In Alaska Permit #4224
AND
FINE ART COLLECTIBLES

P.O. Box 326
Tallrosetna, Ak 99676
Phone (907) 733-4424
E-Mail: littlebighorn@gci.net

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE
RE: PROPOSED BUDGET CUTS

As a working artisan who makes my sole livelihood from my business, I was both appalled and outraged to hear, on very short notice that the House Finance Committee has recommended the cutting of all economic development funds and related functions from the Department of Community And Economic Development. As I understand it, this would totally eliminate the \$50,000 within that budget that is currently earmarked for the operation of the Made In Alaska (MIA) program.

This decision seems extremely paradoxical in that these funds are being eliminated in order to create \$5 million to fund the Alaska Visitor Industry Association. Though said Association I am sure would indirectly benefit those of us who make our living serving the tourists who visit our great state it simply does not make sense that you would go to such great lengths to encourage tourism on the one hand and then on the other hand cut an essential program such as MIA, whose sole purpose is to promote quality Alaskan made products for these same tourists to purchase when visiting.

The MIA program has gone to great lengths to educate tourists on the value of buying products made in Alaska. Countless times I have heard tourists who come into my shop complain about the abundance of cheap, imported items that abound in many of the gift venues. (I have been jokingly asked "Where is Tiawan, Alaska, anyway?") These tourists are eager to buy genuine Alaskan made products and many, many times I have been complimented on my working studio/shop. Tourists can not only purchase my goods, but can visit with me in my shop and watch art being produced. Many have made the comment that this experience is one of the highlights of their visit. Quite simply, tourists want to see and remember Alaska, not by some cheap imported quasi-Alaskan souvenir, but by taking home a genuine piece of Alaska. The MIA program helps the discriminating tourists make the right choices. More and more of them are looking for the MIA logo. When they see it attached to our products, they invariably choose them over the others. It is this kind of educated tourist who allows those of us artists and craftspeople to make our living doing the work that we love. Please do not short-change us or our valued customers by taking away such a valuable program just when its effects are becoming so evident. Should we lose the effects of the MIA program, the tourists you are trying so hard to attract are certainly going to enjoy a diminished experience while here. IS THAT WHAT YOU REALLY WANT?. If so, I for one find this unconscionable and question the value of your recommendation. The \$50,000 that you propose to cut is after all only 1% of the \$5 million that you seek to generate. **NEVER** before have I seen the potential for such a small percentage to make such a huge negative impact on the whole that your recommendation will do if implemented. Again I urge you to reconsider.

Yours in responsibly promoting Alaska, John W. Saily



CUSTOM KNIVES Made In Alaska Permit #4224
AND
FINE ART COLLECTIBLES

P.O. Box 326
Talkeetna, Ak 99676
Phone (907) 733-4424
E-Mail: littleblighorn@gci.net

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE
RE: PROPOSED BUDGET CUTS

As a working artisan who makes my sole livelihood from my business, I was both appalled and outraged to hear, on very short notice that the House Finance Committee has recommended the cutting of all economic development funds and related functions from the Department of Community And Economic Development. As I understand it, this would totally eliminate the \$50,000 within that budget that is currently earmarked for the operation of the Made In Alaska (MIA) program.

This decision seems extremely paradoxical in that these funds are being eliminated in order to create \$5 million to fund the Alaska Visitor Industry Association. Though said Association I am sure would indirectly benefit those of us who make our living serving the tourists who visit our great state it simply does not make sense that you would go to such great lengths to encourage tourism on the one hand and then on the other hand cut an essential program such as MIA, whose sole purpose is to promote quality Alaskan made products for these same tourists to purchase when visiting.

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Yours in responsibly promoting Alaska, John W. Saily



Thistleberries

P.O. Box 383
Willow, Ak 99688
Phone & Fax (907) 495-1008
E-Mail: thistleberries@gci.net

All Members of the House Finance Committee:

I would like to say "Thank You" on behalf of myself and artisan friends who have been proud sponsors of the Made In Alaska (MIA) program. Your vote of re-inserting the \$50,000 back into the budget to support the MIA program is greatly appreciated.

We artists, craftspeople and assorted artisans have come to realize, as well as our loyal visiting customers, the value of providing top quality authentic products made in Alaska by Alaskans. As an artist, I do my best to make the visitor knowledgeable on the Made in Alaska, the silver hands, and the Alaska grown logos. Explaining to them the importance of these logos and the guarantee each logo brings to them. By purchasing a product with any of these logos, assures them they have purchased a Made in Alaska product. They are not some cheap replica that has been imported for quick sales. All too often I hear, "We come to Alaska and want to purchase something made in Alaska, not something from China. We can buy that at home." I am not opposed to all import trade and realize the international composition of our customer base. For those businesses that choose to go this route with their products, that is their choice. But I feel that Alaska is deserving of only a genuine representation and try to do this by representing that sentiment in my products. In my place of business the tourist as well as the local customer prove to me that they support and respect my beliefs. Made in Alaska is so very important to them.

Thank You once again for your supporting votes concerning the MIA program. I look forward to your continued support of MIA.

Yours in Responsibility Promoting Alaska,

Ruth A. Holland
@ Thistleberries



**CUSTOM KNIVES
AND
ACCESSORIES**

P.O. Box 326
Talkeetna, Ak 99676
Phone (907) 733-4424
E-Mail: littlebighorn@gci.net

TO: ALL MEMBERS, HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

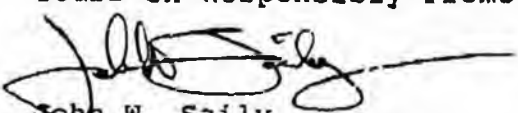
RE: MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM

Speaking for myself and on behalf of many artisan friends who are proud sponsors of the Made In Alaska (MIA) program, I would like to express my gratitude for your vote in favor of re-inserting into your proposed budget the \$50,000 necessary for continued funding of the MIA program.

We as artists, craftspeople and assorted artisans have come to realize, as have our loyal visiting customers, the value of providing top quality authentic products made in Alaska by Alaskans. Our products vary from foodstuffs to the very best in craft and fine art. In this day and age it is so easy and tempting to bow to the lure of importing cheapened reproductions of Alaskan products or products that can be easily disguised as "Alaskan", solely for the higher profits that can be gleaned. It is not that I and others are opposed to all import trade. Certainly we recognize the international composition of our customer base. Some businesses have opted for the imported goods market and we recognize that as their prerogative. But I, and others, feel that Alaska is deserving of only a genuine representation and try our best to represent that sentiment in our products. Certainly both our tourists and local customers do so also and their education and preferences in this regard do not go unnoticed by us who deal with them on a regular basis in our places of business.

In view of your recent vote I am both refreshed and hopeful that it is a vote of confidence in the MIA program. We who support MIA in our businesses take great pride in giving to our visitors a true taste of Alaska and feel adamantly that our great State deserves only the best of genuine representation. We trust that this vote of confidence portrays a like feeling on your part and I, for one, am grateful and look forward to your continued support of MIA.

Yours in Responsibly Promoting Alaska,



John W. Saily
Little Bighorn Custom Knives

Thistleberries
 Ruth A. Holland
 P.O. Box 283
 Willow, AK 99588
 Phone - (907) 485-1008
 Fax - (907) 485-1008

THISTLEBERRIES

Fax

To: House Finance Committee Office	From: Ruth A. Holland @ Thistleberries
Fax: (907) 485-8813	Pages: 2
Phone:	Date: 03/02/00
Re: Made in Alaska Program Cut	CC:

Urgent
 For Review
 Please Comment
 Please Reply
 Please Recycle

ATTENTION: ALL HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS;

I am requesting this be delivered to all House Finance Committee Members.

On March 01, 2000 it was brought to my attention that in order to accommodate a \$8 million budget for the NEW Alaska Visitor Industry Association, the Finance Committee has cut all economic development funds and related functions from the Department of Community and Economic Development. The Made in Alaska Program holds an essential part in this funding. I find this devastating to ALL of the individuals that have purchased the logo as well as retail store owners that have supported this program and based their calendar year sales accordingly. This decision is ludicrous!

It makes no sense whatsoever that Alaska is willing to spend MILLIONS to attract tourists to our state and yet eliminates the minimal amount of money that it takes to support the ONLY EXISTING PROGRAM that PROTECTS people who make authentic Alaska products to sell to these tourists. I was SHOCKED to know that \$50K is all the money this program is allotted in the first place!

Those of you in the House Finance Committee should attend a Saturday Market or Make It Alaska Show or talk to the tourist while here in our beautiful state. Maybe it would be a SURPRISE to you to gain the knowledge that Alaska Tourists, DO NOT repeat DO NOT want to take home a souvenir that says MADE IN CHINA on the bottom.

We have a state that STANDS OUT from the rest. Known for its beauty and diversity we have the opportunity to take the MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM even further. Many of the

March 2, 2000

artists that I have come to know and respect have battled and fought through their own personal struggles to give the visitors to this state a piece of Alaska Memorabilia to take home and remember their travels to the UNIQUE & DIFFERENT Land of the Midnight sun. As a permit holder in the Made in Alaska Program since 1997, I too have been one of those artists. Steve Rowe has believed in Alaska and its Vendors and Artists and gone that "Stop Above All The Rest" to support, promote and SAVE the Made in Alaska Program. We "The People" have supported, promoted and are WANTING TO SAVE this program through efforts of our own and are asking that the House Finance Committee NOT CUT the Made in Alaska Program!

Please, please, do your homework before such decisions are made... The loss of this program will devastate the individuals that have supported this program, not just financially as their means of supporting themselves and their families, but ALL retail outlets that promote Made in Alaska products as their sales base for this tourist season as well as seasons to come.

Please take a stand for "We the Made in Alaska permit holders". Believe in our talents and support our state and the opportunity we have at hand through the Made in Alaska Program to make it even BETTER! This program provides a net-working that can ONLY GET BETTER...

Sincerely,

Ruth A. Holland

© Thistleberries

permit # 3962



CUSTOM KNIVES Made In Alaska Permit #4224
AND
FINE ART COLLECTIBLES

P.O. Box 326

Talkeetna, Ak 99676

Phone (907) 733-4424

E-Mail: littlebighorn@gci.net

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

RE: PROPOSED BUDGET CUTS

As a working artisan who makes my sole livelihood from my business, I was both appalled and outraged to hear, on very short notice that the House Finance Committee has recommended the cutting of all economic development funds and related functions from the Department of Community And Economic Development. As I understand it, this would totally eliminate the \$50,000 within that budget that is currently earmarked for the operation of the Made In Alaska (MIA) program.

This decision seems extremely paradoxical in that these funds are being eliminated in order to create \$5 million to fund the Alaska Visitor Industry Association. Though said Association I am sure would indirectly benefit those of us who make our living serving the tourists who visit our great state it simply does not make sense that you would go to such great lengths to encourage tourism on the one hand and then on the other hand cut an essential program such as MIA, whose sole purpose is to promote quality Alaskan made products for these same tourists to purchase when visiting.

The MIA program has gone to great lengths to educate tourists on the value of buying products made in Alaska. Countless times I have heard tourists who come into my shop complain about the abundance of cheap, imported items that abound in many of the gift venues. (I have been jokingly asked "Where is Tiawan, Alaska, anyway?") These tourists are eager to buy genuine Alaskan made products and many, many times I have been complimented on my working studio/shop. Tourists can not only purchase my goods, but can visit with me in my shop and watch art being produced. Many have made the comment that this experience is one of the highlights of their visit. Quite simply, tourists want to see and remember Alaska, not by some cheap imported quasi-Alaskan souvenir, but by taking home a genuine piece of Alaska. The MIA program helps the discriminating tourists make the right choices. More and more of them are looking for the MIA logo. When they see it attached to our products, they invariably choose them over the others. It is this kind of educated tourist who allows those of us artists and craftspeople to make our living doing the work that we love. Please do not short-change us or our valued customers by taking away such a valuable program just when its effects are becoming so evident. Should we lose the effects of the MIA program, the tourists you are trying so hard to attract are certainly going to enjoy a diminished experience while here. IS THAT WHAT YOU REALLY WANT?. If so, I for one find this unconscionable and question the value of your recommendation. The \$50,000 that you propose to cut is after all only 1% of the \$5 million that you seek to generate. NEVER before have I seen the potential for such a small percentage to make such a huge negative impact on the whole that your recommendation will do if implemented. Again I urge you to reconsider.

Yours in responsibly promoting Alaska, John W. Saily



'OOMINGMAK'
MUSK OX PRODUCERS' CO-OPERATIVE
604 H Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907) 272-9225

March 2, 2000

TO: All Members of the House Finance Committee

FROM: Sigrun C. Robertson

We have learned that all the funds related to economic development and related functions are being cut from the Department of Community and Economic Development, and we wish to express our disapproval. Particularly concerning to us are that the funds for MADE IN ALASKA, a very successful program, are completely eliminated.

MADE IN ALASKA is an important program to small business such as ours, in that it clearly helps the buying public identify products that are Made in Alaska. This program has been valuable in establishing authentic Alaskan goods, and distinguishing them from cheap imitation products, stamped with Alaska, made abroad or elsewhere in the United States.

Our understanding is that the cut was made to finance the marketing of Alaska for the tourism industry, which certainly is an important project, if we wish to prosper from the large renewable resource, tourists. However, a cut to the MADE IN ALASKA program would be very detrimental, since it would take many of those same tourist dollars generated by the tourism marketing effort and sending them outside of Alaska, rather than circulating them in Alaska to grow the economy.

PLEASE GIVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO FUNDING THE MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM.

Please restore the funding
to our Market Access Program.
This helps our candle business
and promotes Alaska.

We are able to make
business contacts through our
Program.

We really need the program
to promote Alaska products
made in Alaska not foreign
countries.

You attract tourists from around
the country and they spend tourist
dollars on products made in Alaska.

Thanks

Vera Delgado #4180

907-248-2041

Cameron Birch Syrup & Confections, Inc.

1265 Seward Meridian Road

PO Box 872090

Wasilla, Alaska 99687-2090

Ph 907-373-6275 Fax 907-373-6274

<http://www.birchsyrup.com>

March 2, 2000

To: House Finance Committee

For distribution:

Eldon Mulder
Alan Austerman
John Davies
Richard Foster
Carl Moses
Bill Williams

Gene Therriault
Con Bunde
Gary Davis
Ben Grussendorf
Gail Phillips

Fax: 907-465-6813

RE: Budget Cuts/Made in Alaska Program

I understand that the proposed budget cuts will in effect eliminate the current Made in Alaska program. In view of the fact that the Finance Committee wishes to contribute a large amount of funding to the Alaska Visitor Industry Association, it seems inappropriate at least and absurd at most to disregard such a significant element of our tourism industry—the recognized and respected symbol of products truly made here in Alaska.

This year Cameron Birch Syrup is celebrating its 10th anniversary—*"Tapping Into 2000"*—and our success in large part has been due to enthusiastic support from the state and exposure through the Made in Alaska program. We are a leader in Alaska's birch syrup industry which now claims seven commercial syrupmakers throughout the state. Our products are marketed in-state and out of state, and we are currently negotiating a five-year contract with a major European distributor of health and nutrition products for all the syrup we can produce. In addition, I am being "tapped" for speaking engagements at international conferences and for consulting with potential birch syrup producers in Canada.

As everyone knows, manufacturing in Alaska is more challenging than in any other state, and yet small businesses make up a large part of Alaska's economy. The Alaskan spirit is alive and well; the state should be proud of that and should actively protect and promote its native products. Competition is tough from products made outside the state and country that trade on the Alaskan name and image.

I urge you to restore funding in the budget specifically for the Made in Alaska program, \$50,000 in general funds (no increase from prior years) and authorization for program receipts. Don't sell out Alaskan manufacturers to Outside businesses.



Marlene Cameron, President
CAMERON BIRCH SYRUP & CONFECTIONS, INC.

Norma & John

From: Norma & John <daniels@customcpu.com>
To: <Representative Eldonmullder@legis.state.ak.us>; <RepresentativeGeneTherriault@legis.ak.us>
Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2000 1:25 PM
Subject: MADE IN ALASKA ??

Is that made in Alaska ?? The tourist asks, but no question when it " is "labeled " Made in Alaska" It seems that over the past 20 some years of being in business it Does concern the tourist !!

As owner of the Alaska Doll & Ornament Co. and a member of Made In Alaska Program since it started; it has come to my attention that as of June the program may cease , and all the hard work to get the program to where it is today will be lost !! This is a very important part of the tourism industry and has been overwhelmingly accepted in the state . The program assists many business with the tools to sell their items on a website, The Product Directory , and being protected by with labeling of products!! and acts as a watchdog for products that are not produced here ; and labeling them as though they were. Alaska business needs this protection. This Program

is only a fraction of the budget and should not be eliminated !!

We small business owners are proud of our state and Proud of our products and our elected officials should keep the program in tact as to promote small business , and help preserve the livelihoods of the families that depend on tourism in our state !!

On behalf of all who haven't had an opportunity to E-mail or get a hold of any of you I would like you to reconsider not funding " Made in Alaska" . Steven Rouse needs to be commended on the achievements that the program was intended to do, and should be given the support of the State Officials !!!!

Will you please distribute this to all the Members of the House Finance Committee TODAY !!

It is for the commongood of Small business in Alaska

Sincerely,

Norma Daniels
Small business owner

03/02/2000

Creations by Teri

"Gifts from the Heart"

6867 Markgraf Street

Salcha, Alaska 99714

1-888-480-9466



(907)488-9466

byteri@ptialaska.net

www.creationsbyteri.com

March 2, 2000

To: House Finance Committee

It has just been brought to my attention that the Finance Committee has cut all economic development funds and related functions from the Department of Community and Economic Development. Within that budget was the \$50,000 earmarked for operation of MADE IN ALASKA. As an Alaskan artisan who depends on tourist dollars every year to keep her business up and running I cannot begin to express my dismay, concern and outrage! To eliminate this program means letting manufacturers send their second rate copies of Alaskan made art and crafts into our state, which will successfully destroy the income of many Alaskan artists, artisans and crafters. Visitors to our state come here looking for authentic Alaskan artwork; not something which was manufactured overseas and is usually of poor quality. Just think how you would feel if you bought something to commemorate your visit to a special place and it fell apart after you got it home. For ever after you would be left with the impression that products made in Alaska were cheap and therefore, Alaskan's were only out to get your money - take you for a "ride", so to speak. Is this conducive to the tourist trade you are trying so hard to increase? Why you spend millions of dollars to attract tourists and at the same time cut the only program which assures them of authentic, quality merchandise is totally beyond comprehension. Our visitors are very interested in our art and culture and have a strong desire for authenticity. I receive many requests for my specific location so they can visit simply because of that little sticker which assures them my products were, in fact, Made In Alaska.

I am terribly concerned that the impact of cuts to the DCED budget will eliminate MADE IN ALASKA and am requesting that funding for MADE IN ALASKA, at the level submitted in Governor Knowles' budget, be restored and protected. That amount is \$50K in general funds AND authorization for program receipts.

Please support us in our effort!

Sincerely,

Leslie K. Kozeluh

March 1, 2000

To All House Finance Committee Members:

I am a member of the Made In Alaska program and have just learned of the cuts to all economic development funds and related functions from the Department of Community and Economic Development which includes \$50,000 earmarked for operation of the Made In Alaska program. If that funding is not restored, the entire program will be eliminated.

I ask that funding for Made In Alaska be restored and protected at the level submitted in Gov. Knowles' budget. That amount is \$50,000 in general funds AND authorization for program receipts.

The Made In Alaska program is very important to the people of this state, even those who are not members. It promotes the state through sales of items produced by Alaskans. Many of these items go outside the state, even outside the country, and each time those items are viewed, the Made In Alaska logo is there to remind viewers of the items' origins.

It doesn't make sense that funding for Made In Alaska will be taken away only to be given to the Alaska Visitor Industry Association. What is the point of spending millions of dollars to attract visitors while eliminating a very small amount of money that would protect Alaskans who make products to sell to those very visitors? \$50,000 is a pittance for what it accomplishes.

If there is no Made in Alaska program the following will undoubtedly happen:

1. People will have no idea if items they purchase are made in Alaska or not.
2. Products from out of state and out of the county will be imported and passed off as Alaskan-made with no policing. Sales of these fakes will cut into the sales of items truly made by Alaskans.

When you visit a place, do you not look for items specific to that place to take home for yourself and others to continue to remind you of the uniqueness of that place? I'm sure we all agree that Alaska is a special place and should be promoted and kept as that.

Thank you for taking the time to read my plea to restore funding for the Made In Alaska program.


Megan Pasternak
Made In Alaska program member
Box 830
Sitka, AK 99835
(907) 747-5943
mwpstnk@ptialaska.net



Abeare Photography

Arne Grisham

P.O. Box 888 Kenai, Alaska 99661

March 2, 2000

To all House Finance Committee Members:

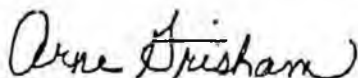
I am very concerned and outraged about the proposal to cut the funding for operation of Made In Alaska. This is a very important program for the State of Alaska and all the people who participate in it.

Abeare Photography is a very active participant in this program. We take pride in the fact that all of our products are 100% Made In Alaska. This program is important to all those who participate and the level submitted in Governor Knowles budget of \$50.K needs to be restored and protected.

Authentic Alaskan products are important to the State of Alaska and the people who purchase them and we need all of your help to keep this program on track.

I, for one, am very tired of seeing so called Alaskan products with labels stating they are made in China, Korea, Taiwan, etc.

Thank you for your time.



Arne Grisham
Abeare Photography
Made In Alaska permit #3841



TO: All Members
House Finance Committee FAX: 907-485-8813

FROM: Jerry /Leslie Gustafson FAX: 907-488-2551
White Spruce Enterprises, Inc. PHONE: 907-488-3004

DATE: March 2, 2000

SUBJECT: Made In Alaska NO. OF PAGES: 1

Dear House Finance Committee Members:

I would like to address my concern with the decision to eliminate funding for the MAKE IN ALASKA program.

This program protects people who make authentic Alaskan products to sell to tourists as well as to Alaskans. This could allow any person, using any products, to market them as Alaskan—which is a deceiving practice and will be done without a program implemented such as MADE IN ALASKA. The \$50,000 earmarked for this operation is worth the investment to the goods made in Alaska and marketed as such.

Please support the level submitted in Governor Knowles' budget—that amount of \$50,000 in general funds and authorization for program receipts.

We run a small sawmill operation producing house logs, as well as rough lumber. We have a growing value-added market of storage bams, garages, and frame cabins. It is important to us to market it as MADE IN ALASKA. (see www.whitespruce.com)

Thank you for reviewing this decision.

Sincerely,

Leslie Gustafson
Vice President

WHITE SPRUCE ENTERPRISES, Inc.
10293 Old Valdez Trail
Salcha, AK 99714
www.whitespruce.com
whitespruce/?mosquitonct.com

SUPERIOR PRODUCTS INC.

Creator and Maker of ALASKAN MADE Pre-Cut Log Systems

SUPERIOR LOGSTM

March 2, 2000

To: House Finance Committee Office
Attention: ALL Committee Members
FAX # 465-6813

From: Jerry Green of Superior Products, Inc. & *Superior Logs*
FAX # (907) 345-0323 CELL # (907) 244-7476 OFFICE # (907) 345-3323
E-mail: alaskalog@gci.net Web site: alaskamall.com/alaskalog
Pages: 1

Subject: Made In Alaska program budget cuts

Dear Committee Members,

As the Alaskan manufacturer of pre-cut *Superior Logs* since 1983, I have watched the "Made In Alaska" program grow to become a viable presence & advocate for the Alaskan entrepreneur.

I have been informed you plan to do away with this low cost, high affect program. I have found a great deal of misrepresentation by Lower 48 log manufacturers & dealers presenting themselves to our Alaskan public as Alaskan products using the "Made In Alaska" symbol over the years. Through the efforts of the "Made In Alaska" program, this has been successfully stopped, but you want to bring it back.

The "Made In Alaska" program efforts protect the Alaskan manufacturer, artists, fabricator, craftsperson & agricultural businesses from outside misrepresentation of what actually is an ALASKAN PRODUCT. One of the reason tourists come to Alaska is for authentic Alaskan products which NOW seem to be in jeopardy.

I have provided projects for Princess Tours, ARA Denali Parks Hotel, ERA Aviation, Residence Inn, lodge owners, lenders & many tourism providers. They all make note of the "Made In Alaska" logo we display in our literature & ads.

The current combination of private & State participation in the "Made In Alaska" program is excellent & inexpensive. You are now creating a very, very serious business breech for the "true" Alaskan creator.

I request you reinstate this program immediately & let me know by email, fax or tel # with the result. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter in advance.



"Simple yet SUPERIOR"

PHONE (907) 345-3323
FAX (907) 345-0323

MAILING: P.O. 11046E
ANCHORAGE, AK
99511-046E

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee,

I formally request that the funding for MADE IN ALASKA at the level submitted in Gov. Knowles budget be restored and protected. That amount is \$50K in general funds and authorization for program receipts.

My name is Caroline Gutierrez, sole proprietor of Beads by Caroline, a small cottage industry located in Hyder Alaska. I just returned from trip south where I had my first booth at the Seattle Gift Show. There I learned there the importance of my little MADE IN ALASKA bears. Alaskans support Alaskans! I will probably skip the Seattle Gift Show next year and only attend the Anchorage Gift Show.

Could you tell me why Alaska is willing to spend millions to attract tourists yet eliminate the tiny amount that protects people, like myself, who make authentic Alaskan products to sell to those tourist? Surely less than 1% of that which is slated for the Tourism Association can be spared for a program so important to Alaskans. I should hate to see Alaskan artists suffer the indignities of artists in states like Arizona, where mass-produced, imitation artwork is passed off the "Real Deal". Those two little bears are my protection from those who would do that here, and I charge that you *must not* allow that to happen!

Most humbly and sincerely,


Caroline Gutierrez
Alaskan Artist

March 02, 2000

Summit Windows and Doors, Inc.
7950 King Street
Anchorage AK 99518
phone: 907-522-7757
fax: 907-522-7457

DELIVER TO: ALL MEMBERS of the House Finance Committee Office
fax: 907-465-6813


RE: Funding for the MADE IN ALASKA Program

We, at Summit Windows and Doors, Inc. are extremely displeased and concerned at your proposed cut in funding of the MADE IN ALASKA program . As a long time permit holder, we want to encourage you to re-think the decision to eliminate the \$50,000.00 in order to come up with funds for the new Alaska Visitor Industry Association.

The MADE IN ALASKA program is essential in assuring consumers that they are getting authentic products manufactured in our state. Without this program, there will be NO way to identify Alaska-made products, which will affect consumers when making purchase decisions.

Again, we ask that you restore the \$50,000.00 in general funds and authorization for program receipts, as submitted in Governor Knowles' budget. This amount is a mere fraction of a percentage of which you are willing to spend on the Tourism Association.

Alaskans prefer MADE IN ALASKA products. Legislators should support Alaskan manufacturers who employ workers, pay taxes and vote!



Stewart Barnes
President

From: John Lucas <jlucas@ptialaska.net>
To: Representative_Eldon_Mulder@legis.state.ak.us
<Representative_Eldon_Mulder@legis.state.ak.us>
Date: Thursday, March 02, 2000 9:23 AM
Subject: Made In Alaska Program.

Dear Sir. We would like to express our concern, disapproval and outrage over the impact of cuts to the DCED budget that will eliminate the Made in Alaska program. We are requesting that the portion of Gov. Knowls budget be restored and protected of which \$50K in general funds and authorization for program receipts be included.

We are a small business just starting up, producers of Alaskan berry wines. We will rely on the tourist trade of which the state has spent millions of dollars promoting. In the few months we have been in business we have already received inquiries from out of state residence thru the Made in Alaska program. We feel the cuts will have a great detrimental impact on small businesses in Alaska.

respectfully John and Judy Lucas
Kodiak Island Winery
P.O. box 5630
Chiniak Ak. 99615

P.S. please forward this to all House Finance Committee members.

3/2/00

Wilderness Inspirations™

*Targeted Electronic Marketing:
Custom Screensavers
Electronic Postcards
Custom Cardshops*



P.O. Box 190647
Anchorage, Alaska 99519
TEL. (907) 248 9916
FAX (907) 248-8589
e-mail: swimages@alaska.net
<http://www.swimages.com>

March 1, 2000

House Finance Committee Office
Attention: all House Finance Committee members.

My husband and I have owned a wildlife photography business for 12 years. Our work has been carried in the gift shops of the Smithsonian Museum, Yellowstone National Park, Zion National Park, the Columbus Zoo, the Santa Barbara Zoo, the Anchorage Zoo, the Anchorage Museum of History and Art, the Alaska Natural History Association, countless gifts shops within Alaska, and, more recently, worldwide through our Web site over the Internet. Our work, promoting Alaska as a tourism destination, has been featured in national ad campaigns that have appeared in National Geographic, Life, Smithsonian, Newsweek, Sports Illustrated, Field and Stream, People and Alaska Magazines as well as The Washington Post, and The New York Times. Our photos have graced the covers of books, calendars, notecards, and videos that can be found in every gift shop in this State.

For years, we have depended on the MADE IN ALASKA program, especially its trade show, to help us grow our business and make the contacts that have lead us to the success we now enjoy. Therefore, we are outraged that the House Finance Committee members have chosen to cut the DCED budget and eliminate MADE IN ALASKA program. We ask that you restore the funding for MADE IN ALASKA at the level submitted in Governor Knowles' budget and protected it from future assaults. We understand the amount is \$50K in general funds AND authorization for program receipts.

Why is Alaska willing to spend MILLIONS to attract tourists and yet eliminate the tiny amount that protects people who make authentic Alaska products to sell to those tourists? The \$50K is less than 1% of what the House Finance Committee is planning to give the Tourism Association.

We urge you to reconsider your shortsighted approach to this issue, and restore all requested funding to the MADE IN ALASKA program immediately,

Sincerely,

Dorothy and Leo Keeler

ALASKA WILD BERRY PRODUCTS
 5225 JUNEAU STREET • ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99518
 PH. (907) 562-8858 FAX (907) 562-5467



DATE: March 2, 2000

TO: **House Finance Committee**
 Representative Eldon Mulder, Chair
 Representative Gene Therriault, Co-Chair
 Representative Con Bundc, Vice-Chair
 Representative Alan Austerman
 Representative Gary Davis
 Representative Richard Foster
 Representative Gail Phillips
 Representative Bill Williams
 Representative John Davies
 Representative Ben Grussendorf
 Representative Carl Moses

FROM: **Peter G. Eden, President and Owner, Alaska Wild Berry Products**

As the owner of Alaska Wild Berry Products, an Alaskan business that manufactures products in Alaska, employs over 80 Alaskans during tourist season, and attracts tourists to our great state, I request that you restore \$50,000.00 of development funds earmarked for the MADE IN ALASKA program to the Department of Community and Economic Development.

It has come to my attention that in an effort to contribute \$5 million to the new Visitor Industry Association, the House Finance Committee has cut all economic development funds and related functions from the budget of the Department of Community and Economic Development. Included in the funds cut was \$50,000.00 designated for the operation of MADE IN ALASKA.

Without MADE IN ALASKA, Alaskan manufacturers will have no protection from logo misuse, there will be no permits, and no promotion of products made in Alaska. Promoting Made In Alaska Products supports Alaskan manufacturers and serves to stimulate the state's economy by employing Alaskans.

Additionally, there are many products on the market in Alaska that imitate and/or represent to be products made in Alaska. Alaskan manufacturers, employing Alaskan citizens, and promoting the growth of the economy of the State, are unable to compete with products manufactured outside the State of Alaska. Based upon the higher cost of manufacturing in Alaska, imitation Alaskan products can be manufactured outside Alaska that use the name "Alaska," and sell for a lower price. As such, imitation Made In Alaska products are more attractive to tourists, and outsiders. Without MADE IN ALASKA to protect Alaskan manufacturers our viability in the Alaskan marketplace will be destroyed.

House Finance Committee
March 2, 2000
Page 2 of 2

It is imperative to Alaskan manufacturers that funding for MADE IN ALASKA be restored and protected at the level submitted in Governor Knowles budget, \$50,000.00 in general funds, and authorization for program receipts.

If the House Finance Committee is unwilling to restore the budget, I respectfully request an explanation regarding why the legislature is willing to spend millions of dollars to attract tourists to our state, yet eliminate the minimal amount of funding that goes far to protect the manufacturers of authentic Alaskan products. Please note, \$50,000.00 is less than one per cent of the budgeted amount that will be given to the Tourism Association.

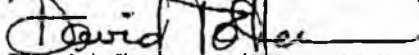
March 1, 2000

To: All Members, House Finance Committee

From: David Totten

Ref: Made In Alaska Funding

I am the owner and sole artist at Willow Wildlife Art Gallery at Mile 85 on the Parks Highway, north of Willow. I have been a member of Made In Alaska (MIA) for several years and am appalled that you would consider cutting funds for such a necessary organization. Many of our visitors are from outside of Alaska and tell us that they appreciate knowing the products in my shop are made here in this state. This is assured by the two-bear logo of MIA. The amount of MIA funding is small compared to the projected funding to the new Alaska Visitor Industry Association and there is no reason that it could not be included in those funds. Please continue to protect the artisans and craftspeople of Alaska and their patrons from the influx of products from other countries.



David Totten, Willow Wildlife Art Gallery

Phone: (907) 495-1090

Fax: (907) 495-5811

FAX COVER SHEET

TO: State of Alaska, House Finance Committee
 ATT: Members
 FAX #: 907-465-6813

FROM: NANCY BORG
 COMPANY: NOMAD ART AND DESIGN
 FAX #: 907-333-1347
 PHONE #: 907-333-1146
 DATE: 3-3-2000

PAGES: 1
 (INCLUDING COVER)

NOTES:

Why does the state of Alaska spend millions to attract visitors & yet eliminate the tiny amount spent to protect people who make authentic Alaskan products to sell to those tourists? This makes NO sense! Please restore funding to the Made In Ak. program. Nancy Borg

N
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A
D

A
R
T
&
D
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S
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G
N



To: *The Finance Committee*
<Representative_Eldon_Mulder@legis.state.ak.us>, <Representative_Gene_Therriault@legis.state.ak.us>, <steven_rouse@makeitalaska.com>
From: Shadow Mountain Trading Company <shadowmountain@worldnet.att.net>
Subject: MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM
Cc:
Bcc:
Attached:

Page 1 of 2

Fifty thousand dollars - \$50,000 - an extremely low price for the benefits we, as Made in Alaska Permit Holders, receive through the Made in Alaska Program. Shadow Mountain Trading Co. is run by two Permit Holders, and we sell art and products made by 29 other permit holders from Alaska.

Our store is on the cruise ship dock here in Ketchikan, and we have noticed over the past two years (especially), that the **cruise lines are educating their passengers about the special value of Made In Alaska-marked products.** They are telling their people that if they want the "real thing", be sure to look for the Made in Alaska symbol or the Silver Hand symbol. Our visitors are not dumb, as some storekeepers in the past liked to believe. We receive comments daily from Summer visitors that its nice to see so much "real stuff" all in one place (at our store) after going through store after store full of imported curios. I have witnessed customers rejecting an item that does not carry the symbol for one that does - in my own store!

I remember when the program was begun back in the 80's - it sounded so great.. then it went through its growing pains, with good ideals but little enforcement, and other "development" problems. Although I've never told them directly (and I should have), the Non-profit (Steve Rouse) and the \$50,000 per year that keeps this program running has made **Alaska-made products finally stand out** among the foreign-made imported tourist "stuff" - we're **finally recognized and preferred.**

Now that **it is a viable, workable, extremely cost-effective and valuable program**, please, please, don't kick the bucket out from under us now! I know there's a budget crunch! Look at the statistics a little - unemployment is rampant in Southeast, tourism is the only growing industry, small businesses make up the majority of business (period!) in Alaska... "Little people" like us, the Alaskan artist and crafter (and there are very very many of us) use the Made in Alaska to help with product advertising (through its website and its product catalogue), we use the stickers to identify our products, there are real enforcements going on after people who abuse the use of the symbol, and frankly, now people finally recognize it and look for it - why "kill" it? Many of our 29 artists use their Alaska-made art to augment their family income - it's their "other job"! Cutting the program will make their work less valuable in a short time as the "vultures and liars" again start telling the innocent visitors that , *"of course, my dear, everything here is made in Alaska"*. Like I said, our visitors aren't dumb - and they leave with a real sour taste for Alaska and Alaskans in general when they know they've been lied to and cheated. Most of all, most of the artists would have to give up their "part-time" jobs of making art - and that's the biggest shame of all.

Page 2 of 2

Fifty thousand dollars - its not just a couple of guys you feed to stand around -- this non-profit has worked their fannies off for us! I urge you - **line item them out of this budget cut - they're in a "different category" that is not only using their funding well, but stretching it out.** Quite literally, for every dollar that has gone into them, like seeds, they've sprouted, nurtured and grown better things. The program is over the "development hump" - it's sailing -- Please, don't pull the plug and make us all go down....

Arilee Carlson and Terry Davis
along with 29 other Made in Alaska artists
in and around Ketchikan and Southeast Alaska

907-225-6619

FAX TO: House Finance Committee ATTN: ALL MEMBERS 907-465-6813

FROM: Denali Dreams Soap Company

March 3, 2000

Topic: Made in Alaska

Dear House Finance Committee:

As a small business in Alaska, we are very concerned that the cuts to the Department of Community and Economic Development budget will eliminate the MADE IN ALASKA program. We rely on MADE IN ALASKA as a source for networking with fellow Alaskans for products and services we might need. We appreciate the effort MADE IN ALASKA makes to further the business enterprises in our state. It is also important to us that we maintain the International Trade Office.

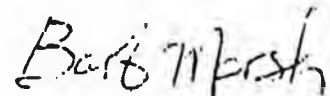
Please make sure that funding for MADE IN ALASKA as submitted in Governor Knowles budget be restored - \$50K in general funds and authorization for program receipts.

We are working hard to compete in the Alaska tourist market and have found MADE IN ALASKA a real support towards helping small businesses like ours. They are always ready to answer questions or help out in any way possible. They work hard promoting ALASKA businesses, a real advocate for us little guys. It is important to attract tourists, but it is equally important, or more so, to support fellow Alaskans.

We urge you to make sure MADE IN ALASKA stays in the budget to help all Alaska business persons.

Sincerely,

Janie Taylor and Barb Marsh
owners, Denali Dreams



Denali Dreams

Fine Handcrafted Soaps & Accessories

1300 W 46th Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99503

(907) 222-2644

Barb Marsh & Janie Taylor

Dear House Finance Committee Member,

This week I learned that the Made In Alaska program is in danger of being deleted from the budget. I was very surprised and disappointed.

Just last month I received my Made in Alaska permit and was so excited. I immediately told friends and applied stickers to my products. We all thought of it as a significant step in my business venture.

It is my understanding that under the proposed state operating budget just submitted by the House Finance Committee, the Made in Alaska program will lose funding and that the program will be no more. Please reconsider the program and the needs that it serves.

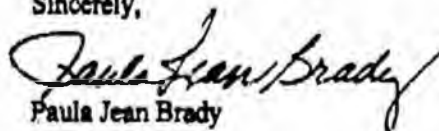
As nearly as I can determine, the program and approved logo are the primary ways that residents and visitors can be assured that claims made about articles sold as 'made in Alaska' are valid. This is critical for visitors who have little time to learn about materials used in the products or research the origin. And, they certainly have little recourse if they discover, after the sale, that there is a question.

I would also think that having the program discourages others who would import items and sell them as authentic thus effecting the selling potential of merchants and crafters within the state.

I'm proud that the state has the program. It is a real asset. It is well thought out and organized, and is respected. Please restore and protect the \$50K that was included in the original budget. Please don't abandon a successful program when later, down the road, someone will come up with an identical idea, probably costing more.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Paula Jean Brady
16541 Davis St.
Eagle River, Alaska 99577
(907)694-2415
pbrady@alaska.net



INTERSTATE BRANDS CORPORATION

2248 Spenard Road / P.O. Box 92517 / Anchorage, AK 99509
(907) 277-3548 / Order Fax: 1-800-478-1925 / Fax: (907) 277-3243



March 1, 2000

**To: House Finance Committee
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, Alaska**

Re: Make It Alaska Program

I am an employee of Interstate Brands Corporation (Wonder Bread) in Anchorage. I have been told that the funding has been stopped for the Make It Alaska Program and that the program is being stopped. I am very upset that this is happening. This program has helped keep local jobs in our bakery and frozen bread in Washington. We are all tax payers and voters and feel like we have been shafted. Please reconsider this move.

Respectfully,

Louis Neuk



INTERSTATE BRANDS CORPORATION

2248 Spenard Road / P.O. Box 92517 / Anchorage, AK 99509
(907) 277-3548 / Order Fax: 1-800-478-1925 / Fax: (907) 277-3243



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Respectfully,

*9311 Stathmon
Anchorage, AK 99575*



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2248 Spenard Road / P.O. Box 92517 / Anchorage, AK 99509
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Respectfully,

*10612 Washington Circle.
99515.*



INTERSTATE BRANDS CORPORATION

2248 Spenard Road / P.O. Box 92517 / Anchorage, AK 99509
(907) 277-3548 / Order Fax: 1-800-478-1925 / Fax: (907) 277-3243



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Respectfully,

*DAN FISHER
20124 Spenard DR
ANCHORAGE, AK*



INTERSTATE BRANDS CORPORATION

2248 Spenard Road / P.O. Box 92517 / Anchorage, AK 99509
(907) 277-3548 / Order Fax: 1-800-478-1925 / Fax: (907) 277-3243



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Respectfully,

*LARRY STIDDIAL
354 Lionheart Ct.
Anchorage, Alaska 99528-2527*



INTERSTATE BRANDS CORPORATION

2248 Spenard Road / P.O. Box 92517 / Anchorage, AK 99509
(907) 277-3548 / Order Fax: 1-800-478-1925 / Fax: (907) 277-3243



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Respectfully,

*CHARLES A. TARSELLI
11925 LUGENE LANE
EAGLE RIVER, AK
99577-7902*



INTERSTATE BRANDS CORPORATION

2248 Spenard Road / P.O. Box 92517 / Anchorage, AK 99509
(907) 277-3548 / Order Fax: 1-800-478-1925 / Fax: (907) 277-3243



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Juneau, Alaska*

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Respectfully,

*SEAN Dolan
18726 Sarichef lp.
Eagle River, AK 99577*

**INTERSTATE BRANDS CORPORATION**

2248 Spenard Road / P.O. Box 92517 / Anchorage, AK 99509
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Respectfully,



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Respectfully,

2807 LEAWOOD, DR
ANCHORAGE AK. 99515



INTERSTATE BRANDS CORPORATION

2248 Spenard Road / P.O. Box 92517 / Anchorage, AK 99509
(907) 277-3548 / Order Fax: 1-800-478-1925 / Fax: (907) 277-3243



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Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, Alaska**

Re: Make It Alaska Program

I am an employee of Interstate Brands Corporation (Wonder Bread) in Anchorage. I have been told that the funding has been stopped for the Make It Alaska Program and that the program is being stopped. I am very upset that this is happening. This program has helped keep local jobs in our bakery and frozen bread in Washington. We are all tax payers and voters and feel like we have been shafted. Please reconsider this move.

Respectfully,

Tasha D. [Signature]
2180 TASHA DR.
Anch. AK 99502



INTERSTATE BRANDS CORPORATION

2248 Spenard Road / P.O. Box 92517 / Anchorage, AK 99509
(907) 277-3548 / Order Fax: 1-800-478-1925 / Fax: (907) 277-3243



March 1, 2000

**To: House Finance Committee
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, Alaska**

Re: Make It Alaska Program

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Respectfully,

Mel Porter

**GENERAL MANAGER
INTERSTATE BRANDS CORP
2248 SPENARD RD
ANCHORAGE, AK 99503**

Dear House Finance Committee Member,

This week I learned that the Made In Alaska program is in danger of being deleted from the budget. I was very surprised and disappointed.

Just last month I received my Made in Alaska permit and was so excited. I immediately told friends and applied stickers to my products. We all thought of it as a significant step in my business venture.

It is my understanding that under the proposed state operating budget just submitted by the House Finance Committee, the Made in Alaska program will lose funding and that the program will be no more. Please reconsider the program and the needs that it serves.

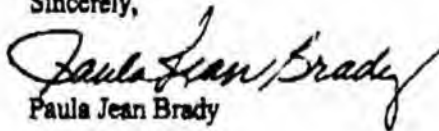
As nearly as I can determine, the program and approved logo are the primary ways that residents and visitors can be assured that claims made about articles sold as 'made in Alaska' are valid. This is critical for visitors who have little time to learn about materials used in the products or research the origin. And, they certainly have little recourse if they discover, after the sale, that there is a question.

I would also think that having the program discourages others who would import items and sell them as authentic thus effecting the selling potential of merchants and crafters within the state.

I'm proud that the state has the program. It is a real asset. It is well thought out and organized, and is respected. Please restore and protect the \$50K that was included in the original budget. Please don't abandon a successful program when later, down the road, someone will come up with an identical idea, probably costing more.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Paula Jean Brady
16541 Davis St.
Eagle River, Alaska 99577
(907)694-2415
pbrady@alaska.net

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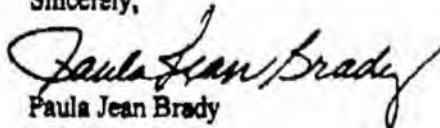
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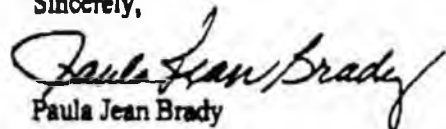
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Sincerely,



Paula Jean Brady
16541 Davis St.
Eagle River, Alaska 99577
(907)694-2415
pbrady@alaska.net

House Finance Committee
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, Alaska

Mar 3, 2000

(Please distribute this letter to ALL House Finance Committee members)

This letter is to express my concern and disapproval over your committee's pending decision to drop funding for the Made In Alaska program.

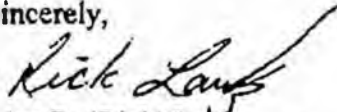
I live in North Pole and run small business called "Treasures In Wood". My wife and I make wood items and sell to over 20 gift shops throughout the state. We rely heavily on the Made In Alaska program to market our hand made items and to insure out of state interests don't try to pass their merchandise off as being Made In Alaska. I'm sure Mr. Rouse can give you examples of outside interests trying to capitalize on the importance being "ALASKAN MADE" and his successful efforts to stop this from happening.


Without continued funding for the Made In Alaska program you are telling me, and small business owners in you districts, that we are not worth helping. If you continue as planned and drop this vital program, it will only take a couple years to realize your mistake and the program will have to be re-implemented. Would it not be more cost effective to continue the program now and avoid the much higher price down the road of starting all over?

Granted, we are a small "Mom and Pop" business and don't bring millions into the State's economy each year. But consider this: Last year our small business grossed nearly \$30,000. Add to this the retail mark up on our items and it accounts for over \$60,000. Multiply this by the number of Made In Alaska permit holders and you'll find that collectively we DO bring a sizable amount into the State each year. Are we not worth protecting?

I urge you to restore and protect funding for the Made In Alaska program at the level submitted in Governor Knowles' budget. You were not elected to the State Legislature to spend millions to attract tourists, yet eliminate the tiny amount needed to protect people who make authentic Alaska products.

Sincerely,


Alva R. (Rick) Lahtz
Treasures In Wood
P.O. Box 56844
North Pole, AK 99705
MIA #3520





Dear All of the House Finance Committee

I must congratulate all of you on your infinite wisdom in getting rid of the Made in Alaska program. You are so wise to have us import more things from Seattle and get rid of Alaska Made Products. Why would we want to create jobs here in Alaska and have the money stay in Alaska when we can send it to Seattle? I didn't realize that I was so stupid to try to create products that we import from Seattle. Why didn't you campaign with the idea of importing more from Seattle and get rid of Alaska Product. I have to think that you are sure to get reelected when ever you run. You are sure saving a lot when you cut \$50,000 and you must have dug deep to find a small amount like this.

Sincerely,

John R. Dean

President, Environmental Recycling, Inc.

PS

Makers of Alaska Gold Compost, Potting Soil and Sandblasting Media of which is made from waste material and manufactured and sold here in Alaska.

ENVIRONMENTAL RECYCLING, INC.
P.O. Box 92229
Anchorage, Alaska USA 99509-2229
Telephone: 907-243-8577 • FAX: 907-248-2402

Windsong Designs
201 Vitskari St.
Sitka, Alaska 99835
(907)747-3382

March 3, 2000

To:

All House Finance Committee Members:

I am very concerned about the impact of cuts to the DCED budget which will eliminate the MADE IN ALASKA program funding. I request that the funding for the MADE IN ALASKA Program at the level submitted in Governor Knowles' budget be restored and protected. That amount is \$50K in general funds and authorization for program receipts.

Windsong Designs is an Alaskan family owned business which provides 75% of our entire family income. We produce Alaskan ornaments and nativity sets which are marketed primarily to Alaskans and visitors of Alaska. The MADE IN ALASKA program is very important to our business. The program assists us in letting our buyers know that they are buying a QUALITY Made In Alaska product. There is much competition from products which are imported from the Far East. My buyers are looking for products which are Made in Alaska. Through the use of the MADE IN ALASKA stickers and program, we are able to let our buyers know that they are buying an authentic Alaskan made product. We are proud to be Alaskans and proud to attach the MADE IN ALASKA stickers to our products.

One of our own products was just recently reproduced by another company with help from far east production companies. They have changed the product just enough to be within the copyright laws. People come to Alaska looking for our product which is made in Alaska. Without the MADE IN ALASKA program, we would not have a state wide program to help designate our product as authentic Alaskan. If Alaska is willing to spend tourism dollars to attract visitors, we should be willing to spend a small amount to protect the Alaskans who make authentic Alaskan products to sell to the tourists who visit our state.

Thank you for your consideration.

Please leave the funding for the MADE IN ALASKA program intact.

Sincerely,

Becky Martin
Becky Martin
Windsong Designs

March 4, 2000

Members of the House Finance Committee:

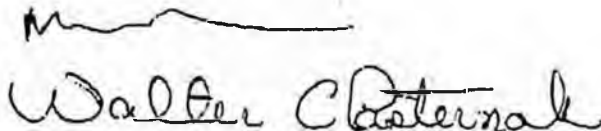
Your proposed budget includes cuts to the Alaska public radio system. These cuts must not be implemented.

The public radio budget has repeatedly taken large cuts over the past years and can no longer afford to do so. Staff and programming have already been pared down to bare minimums. Many, many volunteers put in many, many hours to supplement the budget.

As you are well aware, most of your constituents rely on public radio for vital information. Most are in isolated areas of the state and this is their only means of keeping in touch. Public radio is an essential part of their lives.

Please, do all you can to restore funding for the Alaska public radio broadcasting system.

Thank you for your time in considering this matter.



Walter Pasternak

Megan and Walter Pasternak
Box 830
Sitka, AK 99835
(907) 747-5943
mwpstnk@ptialaska.net

To House Finance Committee Members

I am writing this on Made In ALASKA program. We need this for the tourists cause they look for the made in ALASKA sticker. to make sure they are getting a real ALASKAN made product. And not something made in China or some other country that puts ALASKA on it. And a fake sticker. We are ALASKA and have a lot of Artists here who count on the Made in ALASKA sticker. So tourists know they get a real ALASKAN gift. Please reconsider it.

Please deliver to all House Finance Committee members.

Thank You

All ALASKAN Arts + Gifts

June M Wall

March 3 2000

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All ALASKAN Arts + Gifts

June M Wall

Off-The-Wall, Inc.

P.O. Box 112743

Anchorage, Alaska 99511-2743

Phone (907) 345-2766 Toll Free 1-800-607-2766 Fax (907) 345-2780

www.offthewallinc.com

March 3, 2000

House Finance Committee Office

Via Fax 1-907-465-6813

Re: MADE IN ALASKA

Attn: ALL HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMEBERS

I really can't believe you folks are considering dropping the MADE IN ALASKA program. This is one of the very few things that helps level the field for companies like Off-The-Wall, Inc. who are trying to compete with companies who make everything out of State or overseas.

My company, Off-The-Wall, Inc., makes Alaskan gifts to sell in gift shops around the State and custom mouse pads for other customers. As our custom mouse pad business grows, we are talking more and more about relocating to the Lower 48 so that we can be more competitive in this very large market. The only reasons we are still here is 1) because of our large Alaskan gift shop market, and 2) because I want to live here. Our biggest selling point right now is that all of our products are MADE IN ALASKA. The main reason this helps is that there are several large distributors who copy every good idea and have these products made overseas for less money. The only two selling points we have left are quality and MADE IN ALASKA.

If you take away the MADE IN ALASKA program, within a year or two, all of these companies that make stuff out of State will start claiming MADE IN ALASKA and devalue that selling point. After that, it won't make any economic sense for our business to stay in Alaska.

My company will only have about \$700,000 in payroll this year, but if you add up all of the other businesses that will shut down or relocate without this program, it **is** going to make a substantial economic impact on our State.

I really hope you consider all of the effects of dropping the MADE IN ALASKA program before you move ahead with doing it. So many other states are bending over backwards to attract new businesses; it doesn't make much sense to discourage the businesses that are already here.

Sincerely,



William Kellogg

President

Off-The-Wall, Inc.

TO: House Finance Committee
FROM: Andrew deValpine, Dillingham
RE: Funding for public radio

My name is Andrew deValpine and once a week I volunteer to put on a one-hour radio show of music from around the world at our local public radio station, KDLG.

One weekday I was walking down the street and passed a young Yup'ik boy who was whistling a strange melody. I didn't think much of it at first, except that it lodged in my head, and I began whistling it to myself, and then I noticed it was a melody familiar to me, and finally I realized that it was from a show I did the previous Sunday – traditional wedding music from the east coast of Africa.

My show is, to say the least, often full of challenging – by that I mean extremely unfamiliar – music and, consequently, is probably not broadly popular. But this small incident reminded me of why I've always appreciated public radio, and that's because of its ability to take us someplace we ordinarily wouldn't go and, as a result, we grow and expand our horizons.

Our resources this far away are limited and we are pretty isolated as it is. We need every venue we can get to connect to the rest of the state and world, not to mention simply to our region, which is the size of the state of Ohio. KDLG and public radio link us as no other medium can or will, and I encourage you to fully support – and, indeed, increase – funding for public radio in Alaska.

Andrew deValpine
Dillingham

A = S V



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Finance
 committee name
 committee on HB 312 , dated 3/2/00
 bill/subject

I am writing to express my concern on possible funding cuts to Public Broadcasting as a result of House Bill 312.

I live an isolated community of Alaska. Like many small town Alaskans I get much of my entertainment for radio. I depend on Public Broadcasting to bring me family entertainment, accurate news, both local and world wide and a varied view of the world. I know that when I turn on the radio, I will get programs produced for Alaskans in Alaska instead of canned top 40 music.

I appreciate that my local radio station, KCAV, offers the best local news coverage I've found anywhere in Alaska. I also can find regularly scheduled programming suitable for children and dinner time without advertisements ad nauseam for stores and services not available in Alaska.

Sincerely,

Marg. Parsons

Marg. Parsons

Signed: MARG. PARSONS -
 Testifier
TAXPAYERS
 Representing (Optional)
PO Box 6461 Sitka
 Address
747-8421
 Phone No.



Hats by Judy Stauffer

PO BOX 146
ESTER, ALASKA 99725
PHONE/FAX: (907) 479-5525



JUDY STAUFFER

TUNDRA, TOWN, TRAIL, GARDEN, MOUNTAIN, BEACH

907-465-6713

FAX TO: all House Finance Committee Members March 2, 2000

I am shocked to hear that funding for the Made In Alaska program has been cut by the Finance Committee!

You must realize the importance of MIA to Alaska's Citizen Entrepreneurs. Certification by MIA has more than doubled my sales through promotion, networking and increased sales to visitors to our state. My customers rely on the MIA logo to ensure the products they buy are made right here and not by workers from other countries.

Cutting MIA means you are taking food from my table and funds that provide my very existence.

I urge you to restore complete funding as submitted in Gov. Knowles' budget. Please feel free to call if you need more information regarding the importance of this program. Respectfully
Judy Stauffer



Shop located at Ester Gold Camp. Open every summer evening, holiday weekends, 6 year round by appt. #3084

March 3, 2000

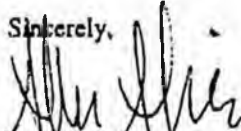
Dear House Finance Committee Members,

Please vote against proposed cuts to public broadcasting. Public radio (KFSK, in my case) and public television (AlaskaOne) play an important role in my life and in my community. In addition to providing essential Emergency Broadcast Alerts, my local public radio station informs, stimulates, and entertains me every day. KFSK provides the only daily local news available in Petersburg. It also broadcasts weather reports, school board and city council meetings, national and state news, and important local public service announcements.

Watching AlaskaOne connects me to the rest of Alaska. Shows produced in the Fairbanks and Bethel areas bring me closer in touch with the people of mainland Alaska. Without that programming, I would be a less-educated person regarding statewide issues and events. Because of these efforts on the part of public broadcasting in Petersburg and in Alaska in general, I am a better-informed citizen of my town, my state, and my country.

KFSK, and all the CoastAlaska stations in Southeast, have worked long and hard and have been very innovative in dealing with cuts already made to their budgets. Rather than punishing those cost-cutting efforts with further cuts, why not show that you see the same value that I do in these services that public broadcasting provides to Alaska communities by voting to continue funding at the present level?

Sincerely,



Allison A. Rice
P.O. Box 1736
Petersburg, AK 99833
907-772-2321



FAX

MELISSA SANFORD
P.O. BOX 671701
CHUGIAK, AK 99567
www.alaska.net/~wildexp

DATE: 3/3/00
TO: ALL House Finance Committee Members
PHONE:
FAX: (907) 465-6813

FROM: Melissa Sanford
Wilderness Expressions
PHONE: (907) 688-0556
FAX: (907) 688-0557
E-MAIL: wildexp@alaska.net

RE: Cutting of funds to the MADE IN ALASKA program
Number of pages including this cover sheet: 2

Message:

Dear House Finance Committee Members,

I am writing to protest the cutting of funds to the MADE IN ALASKA program! How can you eliminate a program that so clearly supports Alaskan businesses? Without this program many tourist dollars will be going to "outside" or overseas companies! How can you consider such a move that would so clearly hurt our economy?

I was recently at a wholesale in Seattle where the buyers are avidly searching for "Made-In-Alaska" products because that is what their customers (mostly tourists) buy. By eliminating this program you are eliminating that focus and therefore a large portion of the local economy. Why are we spending millions of dollars to attract tourists and then do away with the one program that protects authentic Alaskan products to sell to those tourists? I can't tell you how many visitors come to my place of business and explain how they look for the "Made-In-Alaska" logo....and most of this is a result of the Made-In-Alaska education program. I just returned from a business trip to the East coast where there is strong support of the Made-In-USA program along with individual state's programs to support the local "Made In _____" programs. To cut funding to our state's program would be a HUGE step backwards!!!

As a small manufacturer, this program has many aspects that promote my work, which in turn supports my employees. A trickle-down effect that when you multiply it by the number of Made-In-Alaska participants adds up to a tremendous impact on our state's economy.

I would like to strongly request that the \$50,00 in general funds and authorization for program receipts in Governor Knowles budget be restored and protected. It is the right thing to do for our state and our economy.

Respectfully,

Melissa Sanford
Wilderness Expressions

Judie Gumm
DESIGNS

made in alaska u.s.a.

POB 169 · Ester, Alaska 99725 · Phone/Fax: 800-478-4568 or 907-479-4568 · Email: rjgumm@compuserve.com

Web Site: Wholesalecrafts.com



To: All members of the House Finance Committee, (please copy to Rep. John Davies)

From Richard Gumm, Judie Gumm Designs

Re: Proposed Budget Cuts to the MADE IN ALASKA and the International Trade Office

Date: 3/3/00

Dear Representatives,

I have learned today that the MADE IN ALASKA program along with the International Trade Office has been eliminated from the state budget. I strongly protest this proposal.

As a small business person who produces a handmade Alaskan product our company has benefited immensely from the MADE IN ALASKA program in the following ways

-It provides a necessary level of documentation and authorization for product that is authentically Alaskan. Without it any company can proclaim their product is made in Alaska.

-It provides marketing venues for small business person's such as myself. The MADE IN ALASKA show which takes place in the fall in Anchorage provides us with both wholesale and retail opportunities that don't otherwise exist. Their directory listing us as a MADE IN ALASKA business is another example of their ability to help small business people.

Furthermore programs such as MADE IN ALASKA and the International Trade Office are essential to the export efforts of small businesses.

I request that both of these fine programs be reinstated at the original levels as submitted in the Governor's budget. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Richard Gumm
Judie Gumm Designs

GREER

Steel ■ Tanks ■ Welding

March 3, 2000

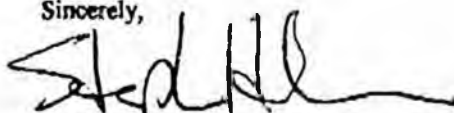
House Finance Committee
"All Members"

re: Budget cuts to Made In Alaska Funding

Sirs/Madams:

I can't believe the committee is wanting to cut funding from something that benefits so many many businesses in Alaska. This is not some special interest group that has no redeeming qualities. The "Made In Alaska" program works, but it won't work without help from you!!! So, please restore the funding at the level submitted in Governor Knowles' budget, which is \$50K in general Funds and authorization for program receipts. I would like a reply as to what your final decision is. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Stephen Helms
General Manager

Off-The-Wall, Inc.

P.O. Box 112743

Anchorage, Alaska 99511-2743

Phone (907) 345-2768 Toll Free 1-800-607-2766 Fax (907) 345-2780

www.offthewallinc.com

March 3, 2000

State of Alaska
House Finance Committee

Attn: Representative Gene Therriault

Via Fax 1-907-465-6813

Re: MADE IN ALASKA Program

Dear Representative Therriault,

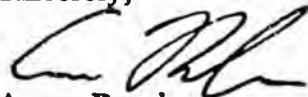
As a small Alaska business that manufactures all of its products in Alaska, our company is keenly aware that cutting the small funding for MADE IN ALASKA would be detrimental to many Alaska businesses, including ours. The MADE IN ALASKA logo is one of stature and is respected by consumers throughout the world. Consumers purchasing products in gift shops specifically look for the MADE IN ALASKA logo.

To discard the MADE IN ALASKA program would be like dropping the MADE IN USA logo. Alaskans take great pride in their products. If you were to proceed with this elimination, it will most likely result in the misidentification of where Alaskan products are actually made.

PLEASE KEEP THIS FUNDING FOR THE MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM.

Please feel free to contact me at 1-800-607-2766 for any additional information or insight.

Sincerely,

Anson Renshaw
Vice President Marketing
Off-The-Wall, Inc.

Off-The-Wall, Inc.

P.O. Box 112743

Anchorage, Alaska 99511-2743

Phone (907) 345-2766 Toll Free 1-800-607-2766 Fax (907) 345-2780

www.offthewallinc.com

March 3, 2000

State of Alaska
House Finance Committee

Attn: Representative Eldon Mulder

Via Fax 1-907-465-6813

Re: MADE IN ALASKA Program

Dear Representative Mulder,

As a small Alaska business that manufactures all of its products in Alaska, our company is keenly aware that cutting the small funding for MADE IN ALASKA would be detrimental to many Alaska businesses, including ours. The MADE IN ALASKA logo is one of stature and is respected by consumers throughout the world. Consumers purchasing products in gift shops specifically look for the MADE IN ALASKA logo.

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Off-The-Wall, Inc.

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P.O. Box 112743

Anchorage, Alaska 99511-2743

Phone (907) 345-2766 Toll Free 1-800-607-2766 Fax (907) 345-2780

www.offthewallinc.com

March 3, 2000

State of Alaska
House Finance Committee**Attn: ALL HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Via Fax 1-907-465-6813

Re: MADE IN ALASKA Program

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Sincerely,

Anson Renshaw
Vice President Marketing
Off-The-Wall, Inc.

To: ALL House Finance Committee

Subject: MADE IN ALASKA

I wish to thank the members of the House Finance Committee for cutting the funding of the MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM! Your action is making my early retirement possible.

I'm not ready for retirement or even prepared for it. But that is what is going to happen as a direct result of your above action. Instead of being an asset to the Alaskan economy, I'll be forced to be a burden to it! Unemployed and on Welfare. That ought to really help the Alaskan economy!

Instead of cutting the MADE IN ALASKA PROGRAM, it should be enlarged. Why enlarge it? To keep jobs in Alaska, by Alaskans. These MADE IN ALASKA products are what the tourists spend their money on. These products are unique to ALASKA! So is this program! In the long run it increases the tax base of Alaska! So why not create a larger tax base through programs like MADE IN ALASKA?

I really don't want to be forced to retire. That is the current direction your current proposal is heading. It isn't too late to rectify this situation, so please do. Restore the funding for MADE IN ALASKA to the level submitted in Governor Knowles' budget and protect that funding level!

The State of Alaska is spending \$5 million to bring the tourists(customers) here. Let's work together and give them products MADE IN ALASKA to spend their tourist dollars on!

Randy S. Core
MADE IN ALASKA Employee



To all House Finance Committee Members:

The proposed budget cuts to our Department of Community Economic Development do not make any sense. That these cuts eliminate the MADE IN ALASKA program is even more absurd. No more MADE IN ALASKA would hurt me, other permit holders and all businesses that sell our products. One has to wonder what the value of hurting so many small businesses could possibly be. Certainly it can not be budget reduction. It is my understanding the budget for MIA is only \$50,000 in state funds and yet you are preparing to give \$5.5 million to a tourism association to attract more tourists. I ask you what do you think tourists want when they come to Alaska? I suggest it is in large part a unique and authentic experience. And when they return home with a remembrance or souvenir they want it to be authentic too. MADE IN ALASKA protects that authenticity. Plus the bears logo is as much and as big a tourism marketing symbol as Alaska owns. By killing those bears you will be harming the very industry you are attempting to grow.

Please restore FULL funding for MADE IN ALASKA. The program deserves more not less and certainly not extinction.

Thank you.

Susan DiFrancia

