

Alaska State Legislature



Official Business

July 15, 2025

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
United States Senator for Alaska
522 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Dan Sullivan
United States Senator for Alaska
706 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

<<Delivered Electronically>>

Re. Opposition to Public Broadcasting Cuts in H.R. 4 – The Rescissions Act of 2025

Dear Senator Murkowski and Senator Sullivan,

We write today to express our opposition to the public broadcasting cuts in H.R. 4, which is currently under consideration in the United States Senate. Given that Alaska is a vast and rural state, public broadcasting is integral for the health, safety, and well-being of Alaskans. In rural areas with limited to no internet access, public broadcasting provides important information during emergencies and natural disasters to help keep Alaskans safe, as well as providing important community information and connection across our state. Public broadcasting also keeps Alaskans connected to their Legislature through programing on Gavel Alaska.

Without federal support, public broadcasting in Alaska will be very hard-pressed to continue delivering these vital public services. The importance of federal support for public broadcasting is underscored by the fact that, despite the Alaska Legislature's support for public broadcasting funding since 2019, that funding has repeatedly been vetoed from the state budget. That political reality, combined with our current financial shortfalls, mean that the State of Alaska will be unable to backfill the money from federal public broadcasting cuts.

Ultimately, the rescission of public broadcasting funds in H.R. 4 will have a minimal impact on addressing the federal budget deficit. However, they will have catastrophic impacts on public broadcasting and the safety and well-being of communities across Alaska. Specifically, H.R. 4 rescinds roughly \$9.4 billion in previously appropriated federal funds. This represents 0.13% of the nearly \$7 trillion federal operating budget. While we understand the importance of fiscal responsibility and addressing the federal deficit, these cuts will do more harm than good for public safety and well-being in Alaska.

With these factors in mind, we kindly request that you work to preserve public broadcasting funding for Alaska. Thank you for your consideration and your service to Alaskans.

Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ashley E. Carrick".

Representative Ashley Carrick
D – West Fairbanks

Alaska State Capitol
120 4th Street
Juneau, AK 99801



Representative Bryce Edgmon
Speaker of the House
I – Dillingham



Representative Louise Stutes
R – Kodiak



Representative Neal Foster
D – Nome



Representative Robyn Niayuq Burke
D -- Utqiagvik



Representative Alyse Galvin
I – Anchorage



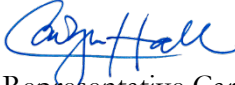
Representative Andrew Gray
D – Anchorage



Representative Andy Josephsen
D – Anchorage



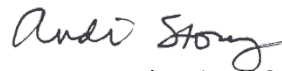
Representative Calvin Schrage
I – Anchorage



Representative Carolyn Hall
D – Anchorage



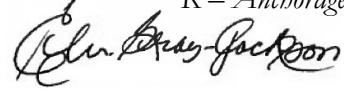
Representative Sara Hannan
D – Juneau



Representative Andi Story
D – Juneau



Senator Cathy Giessel
Senate Majority Leader
R – Anchorage



Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson
D – Anchorage



Senator Löki Tobin
D – Anchorage



Senator Matt Claman
D – Anchorage



Senator Scott Kawasaki
D – Fairbanks



Senator Bill Wielechowski
D – Anchorage



Senator Jesse Kiehl
D – Juneau



Representative Rebecca Himschoot

I – Sitka



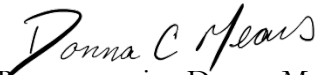
Representative Ted Eischeid

D – Anchorage



Representative Maxine Dibert

D – Downtown Fairbanks



Representative Donna Mears

D – Anchorage