

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough [<mailto:webmaster@borough.kenai.ak.us>]
Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2018 2:25 PM
To: BoroughAssembly <Borough-Assembly@kpb.us>
Subject: New Public Comment to Assembly Members

Your Name: Ron Keffer

Your Email: annronkeffer@gmail.com

Subject: Vetoes of schools & tourism

Message:

"Assembly members: I have learned late today of the mayor's veto of spending for schools and for promoting tourism. I am strongly opposed to those vetoes, and I'm urging you all to vote to override them. Those two programs, our schools and the promotion of tourism, are bedrocks of our economy. To underfund either would be damaging, but to cut them both would have serious consequences for peninsula families. Please don't let that happen; stand tall for keeping our borough the wonderful place that it is. Ron Keffer, Homer"

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough [<mailto:webmaster@borough.kenai.ak.us>]
Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2018 2:58 PM
To: BoroughAssembly <Borough-Assembly@kpb.us>
Subject: New Public Comment to Assembly Members

Your Name: LYNN TAKEOKA SPENCE

Your Email: ltakeokaspence@gmail.com

Subject: Mayor's Veto: School Funding and Tourism

Message:

Dear Mayor and Assembly Members, I am writing as a voting resident of the Kenai Peninsula who supports school funding at the highest levels and believes tourism is a critical factor in our economy. I have no children in school and I do not work or have interests in the tourism industry but I believe these are both worth funding and I was pleased the Assembly included funding in the budget. I think it is short sighted to cut education funding when youth are our most important asset. Supporting schools gives our youth the best chance at developing into thinking, motivated citizens. If we want a strong society with engaged workers, we need to make education a priority. I encourage each of you to support youth and education by voting to override the Mayor's veto to education funding.

I am also amazed that the Mayor does not see what an economic driver the tourism industry is on

the Kenai. Tourism does not happen by accident. It requires planning, advertising and infrastructure. As I try to turn left during the summer, it is obvious that tourism is thriving. It was not always this way so I believe the funding provided by the Borough has helped make the Kenai Peninsula a destination for many tourist. Word of mouth goes a long way in a small town but to get tourists from outside the Peninsula to come here to fish, sightsee, kayak, camp, eat and shop takes advertising and making contacts with tour promoters. I know little of the tourist business but I see a lot of little gift shops, charters, B&Bs, cafe's, guided sightseeing that wouldn't exist if it was only residents supporting them. Please support this industry and override the Mayor's veto. This is not the way to balance the budget.
Thank you.

-----Original Message-----

From: Carol Ford [<mailto:whoville@pobox.alaska.net>]
Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2018 3:46 PM
To: Blankenship, Johni <JBlankenship@kpb.us>
Subject: Mayor's veto of education and tourism

Please let it be known by all on the assembly that cutting the budget for education in this school district is unacceptable to anyone who cares about kids, learning, wellbeing, the future and the strength of our peninsula, or the ability of this area of the world to meet even its minimal potential.

It is also unacceptable to cut the budget of the tourist industry in our tourist-dependent area. Since we've all been given such a clear long bit of time to deal with this information and to communicate together about it, this statement will be direct and to the point. If you care about the Kenai Peninsula Borough, please overuse these shortsighted and thoughtless vetos.

Sincerely, and with a constantly-breaking heart over what passes for priorities,

Sent from my iPhone

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough [<mailto:webmaster@borough.kenai.ak.us>]
Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2018 4:30 PM
To: BoroughAssembly <Borough-Assembly@kpb.us>
Subject: New Public Comment to Assembly Members

Your Name: Janie Leask

Your Email: huntave@yahoo.com

Subject: Budget cuts

Message:

I realize a balanced budget is important and is a difficult challenge. Having said that I would urge the Assembly to NOT cut school funding by @\$690,000. Reducing school funding on the backs of our children does not make long-term financial sense. I would also add that the reduction in funds to promote tourism which will pretty much gut this program, in a time when we need to boost tourism and our collective economies is not a wise move to make.

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough [<mailto:webmaster@borough.kenai.ak.us>]
Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2018 5:11 PM
To: BoroughAssembly <Borough-Assembly@kpb.us>
Subject: New Public Comment to Assembly Members

Your Name: Anne Wieland

Your Email: agpacsu@yahoo.com

Subject: Proposed cuts to education and tourism

Message:

Nothing is more important in our Kenai Peninsula budget than the education of our children! And the lifeblood of many on the Peninsula is tourism. If these two very important items are not fully funded, great harm will come to our children and also to our economy. Please, no cuts to either! Instead, increase funding!