



Senator Cathy Giessel

District N

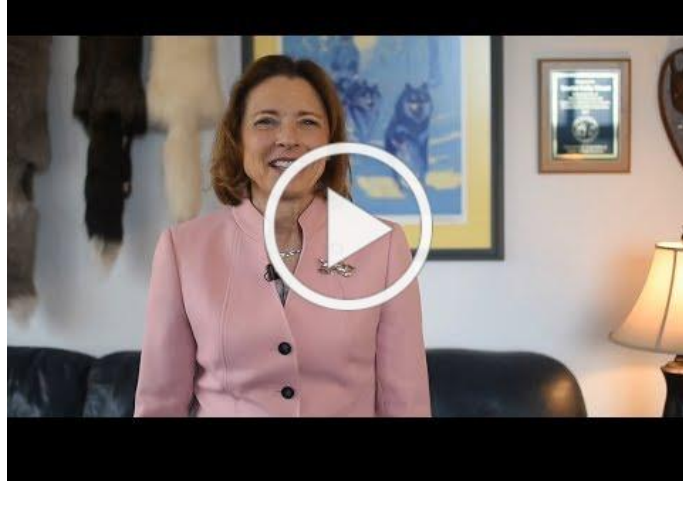
Northeast Anchorage, Anchorage Hillside, Indian, Bird, Girdwood and Portage

May 7, 2019

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

As we are in the closing nine days of the Legislative session, the Budget and the Crime Bills are center stage and the only topic under discussion.

The Conference Committees have been appointed for the Operating Budget and the Mental Health Budget.



The four Crime Bills from the Governor have been merged into one bill in the House. That bill contains elements of the Governor's four bills. It has added pieces as well from the House members. The Senate is watching the House floor, where that single crime bill will be scheduled. Then the bill will come over to the Senate.

The bill addressing the Schneider Loophole (sexual assault) will be on the Senate floor this week. It is the House version, with perfecting amendments from the Senate. Both the House and Senate agree with the bill and the changes made. I am hopeful for complete passage this week.

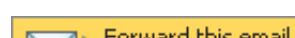
In this week's newsletter you'll find:

- Total Budget Spending Infographic
- Senate Finance
- Senate Passes Operating Budget
- Permanent Fund Information
- Alaska Agriculture Day

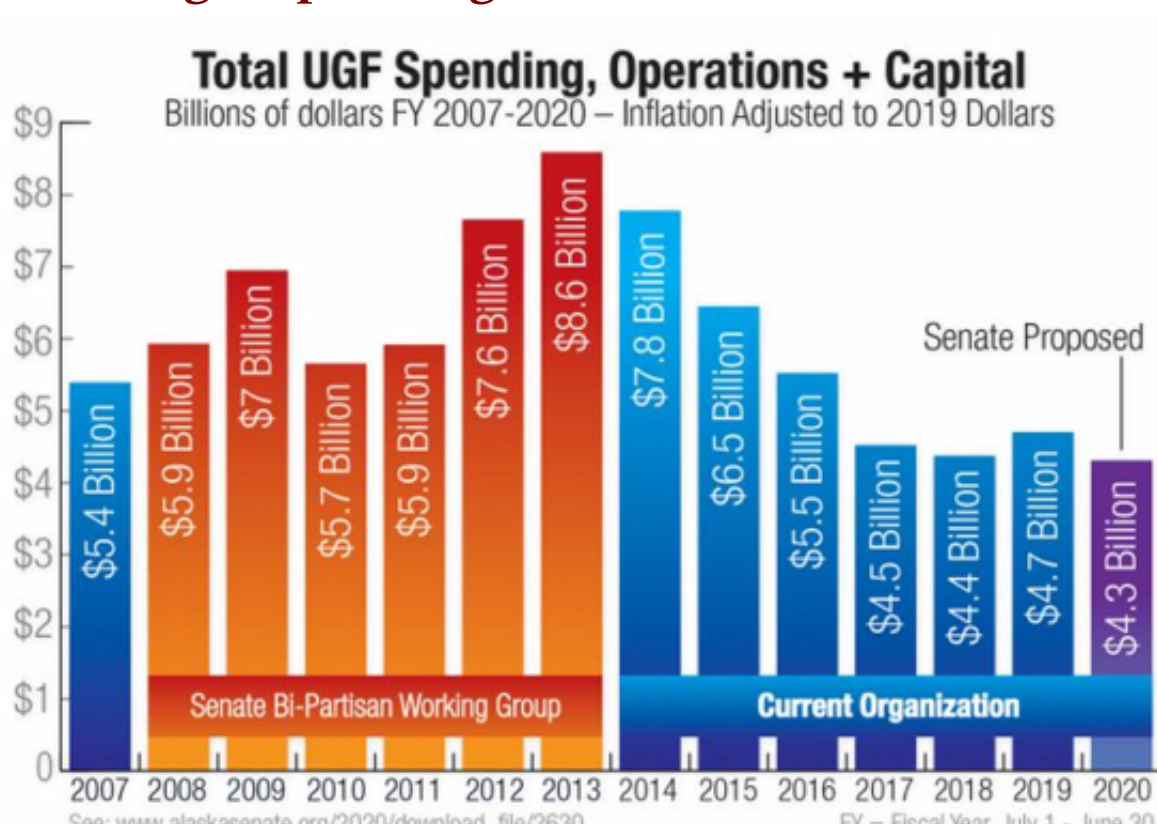
Kind regards,

Cathy

[Click here to email me.](#)



Total Budget Spending



Senate Finance

Thursday, May 2nd:
1:30pm [SB 32](#), [SB 33](#), and [SB 34](#) Crime Bills
[Click here to watch a recording of the hearing.](#)

Friday, May 3rd:
9:00am [SB 19](#) Capital Budget, [SB 34](#) Crime Bill
[Click here for a link to the documents from the hearing.](#)
[Click here to watch a recording of the hearing.](#)

1:30pm [SB 32](#), [SB 33](#), [SB 34](#) Crime Bill Public Testimony
[Click here for a link to the documents from the hearing.](#)
[Click here to watch a recording of the hearing.](#)

Saturday, May 4th:
9:00am [SB 74](#) Internet for Schools, [HB 14](#) Schneider Loophole, [SB 35](#) Crime
[Click here for a link to the documents from the hearing.](#)
[Click here to watch a recording of the hearing.](#)

Monday, May 6th:
9:00am [HB 106](#) School Bond Debt Reimbursement, [HB 14](#) Schneider Loophole, [SB 91](#) Nuyakuk River Hydroelectric Site
[Click here for a link to the documents from the hearing.](#)
[Click here to watch a recording of the hearing.](#)

9:00am [HB 106](#) School Bond Debt Reimbursement, [HB 14](#) Schneider Loophole, [SB 91](#) Nuyakuk River Hydroelectric Site
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Senate Approves State Operating Budget

Last week the Senate passed the state's operating budget for the 2020 fiscal year.

The budget includes \$4.3 billion in unrestricted general funds (UGF) for agency and statewide operations - a reduction of \$258 million over last year - and \$1.94 billion to pay each eligible Alaskan a Permanent Fund dividend of approximately \$3,000.

Including a \$3,000 dividend in the Senate's version of the budget creates the possibility for a House and Senate conference committee to negotiate up to the full, statutory dividend amount.

[Click here to read the full press release.](#)
[Click here to watch a press availability regarding the operating budget.](#)



Permanent Fund Information

I've included a few links below with more information about the Alaska Permanent Fund that I think you might find interesting.

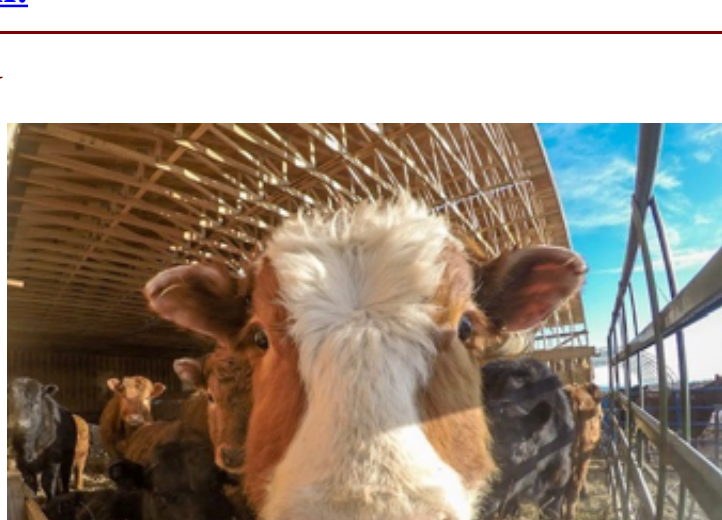
[Click here to view a historical timeline of the Permanent Fund.](#)

[Click here for FAQs related to the Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation.](#)



Alaska Agriculture Day

Today is Alaska Agriculture Day! I encourage you to seek out and purchase products produced in Alaska and educate yourselves on the role that agriculture plays in our economy.

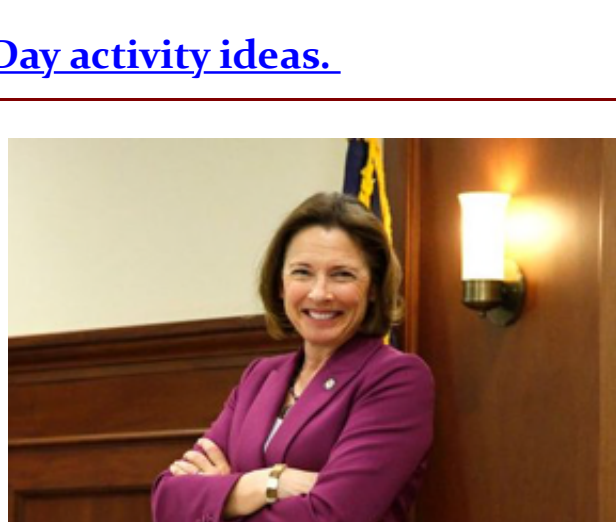


The theme of Agriculture Day this year is *Farm Animal Fun!* [Share](#) the ways that you're celebrating for a chance to win an Alaskan Grown prize and to be featured on the Alaska Grown Facebook page!

[Click here to read a press release from the Department of Natural Resources.](#)

[Click here for Alaska Agriculture Day activity ideas.](#)

It's a pleasure to serve and represent the wonderful people of district N!



I look forward to hearing your ideas, suggestions and comments.

[To email me, click here.](#)



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