

# 2019 Session Priorities Survey



**Representative Dan Ortiz**

*Ketchikan, Wrangell, Metlakatla, Saxman, Hydaburg, Hyder, Meyers Chuck, Loring*

Rep.Dan.Ortiz@akleg.gov

(907) 247 4672

*Government of the people, by the people, for the people*

Each year, the legislature has the duty of passing a budget. As a member of the legislature and a Finance Committee Majority member, I need input on what the budget should look like. This session, we will most likely have two options to balance our budget: making substantial budget cuts or using revenue that is currently earmarked for a full permanent fund dividend. Governor Dunleavy has chosen to predominantly close the deficit through budget cuts, which is outlined in his February 13<sup>th</sup> budget proposal:

1. 68.3% cut to the Alaska Marine Highway System
2. Complete elimination of the Senior Benefits Program
3. A plan to make Pioneer Home unaffordable to new entrants by removing state subsidies to the program
4. A 23% cut to the Foundation Formula (within the Department of Education and Early Development)
4. A complete elimination of Pre-K Grants, the Council of the Arts, WWAMI, OWL, Live Homework Help, and Public Radio funding
5. A \$1.64 million cut to commercial fisheries

Governor Dunleavy also is in favor of a full dividend. PFDs and government services compete for funding; for every dollar used to pay the dividend, we have one less dollar to use for government services, such as education, the ferry system, and Pioneer Homes, and vice versa. It will cost \$1.6 billion to pay the full dividend for Fiscal Year 2020 and an additional 2.4 billion to pay back the past three capped dividends.

Overall, what are your top priorities that you want the legislature to focus on this session? Please rank with #1 as your preferred choice.

Making cuts to the budget	Protecting gov. services from cuts
Reducing Crime	Paying a full dividend
Passing a tax on Alaskans or industries (oil, mine, fish)	
Restructuring our AMHS ferry system to a private-public corporation	
Protecting our savings (the ERA) from being used to balance the budget	
Other	

Place Stamp Here

**Representative Dan Ortiz**  
Alaska Capitol Building  
120 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 513  
Juneau, AK 99801

Please fold in half along the dotted line, tape shut with the return address facing outward, and don't forget the stamp!

1. How would you prefer for the legislature to balance the budget? Please rank with #1 as preferred choice.		5. Are you in support of using the Earnings Reserve Account to help balance our budget?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Budget Cuts	<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Support
<input type="checkbox"/>	Use of Savings	<input type="checkbox"/>	Support
<input type="checkbox"/>	Use of Permanent Fund Earnings	<input type="checkbox"/>	Oppose
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Oppose
2. Is our currently implemented budget (as passed last year) too high, too low, or just right?		6. Are you in support of SB26? (SB26 limits the draw of the ERA to 5.25% of the value of the fund to pay for dividends and government services)	
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Support
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Support
3. Are you in support of Governor Dunleavy's proposed budget cuts?		<input type="checkbox"/>	Oppose
<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Support	<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Oppose
<input type="checkbox"/>	Support		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Oppose	7. Are you in support of receiving a full dividend for this year based on current statutory calculations if that means less money for schools, roads, troopers, etc.?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Oppose	<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Support
4. If you are in favor of cuts, please mark the agencies or programs you want to see cut at the level proposed by Governor Dunleavy.		<input type="checkbox"/>	Support
<input type="checkbox"/>	None of the below	<input type="checkbox"/>	Oppose
<input type="checkbox"/>	K-12 education	<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Oppose
<input type="checkbox"/>	State Parks	<input type="checkbox"/>	All of the below
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Safety	<input type="checkbox"/>	University of Alaska
<input type="checkbox"/>	Courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	AMHS
<input type="checkbox"/>	Medicaid	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rod Maintenance
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Revenue Sharing (ex: landing tax or school bond debt reimbursement)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fish & Game
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Senior Benefits/Pioneer Homes
4. If you are in favor of cuts, please mark the agencies or programs you want to see cut at the level proposed by Governor Dunleavy.		8. Are you in support of receiving a payback for the past three capped dividends (totaling \$3,740) if that means less money for schools, roads, troopers, etc.?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	None of the below	<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Support
<input type="checkbox"/>	K-12 education	<input type="checkbox"/>	Support
<input type="checkbox"/>	State Parks	<input type="checkbox"/>	Oppose
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Safety	<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Oppose
<input type="checkbox"/>	Courts		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Medicaid	9. Are you in support of a smaller dividend if that means more money for schools, roads, troopers, etc.?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Revenue Sharing (ex: landing tax or school bond debt reimbursement)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Support
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Support
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Oppose
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Oppose
		10. Optional comments:	

Thank you for taking my survey! All answers will be used to help better understand the needs and priorities of District 36, and to guide my decision making this session. Please leave your contact information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_