

Dear Finance Committee, Manager Ryan, Mayor Cremata,

I'm writing in regard to the proposed amendments made to the Emergency Assistance and Economic Stimulus Program.

I know you have a very difficult job at hand and not everyone will be happy with how you choose to disperse the funds. But excluding children impacted financially by COVID-19 is a grave mistake. A child is DEPENDENT on their caregiver for food, shelter, heat, clothing, education . . . a myriad of responsibilities that all have a very high price, especially in our community. To put an age limit of 14 years is absolutely preposterous and quite frankly, not in the best interest of our community. At the end of the school year, there were 155 children under the age of 14 enrolled in our school. 155. To not include them would negatively affect a very large percentage of our population. And although they do not vote, it is your duty as an elected official to represent them as well. If the parent has been adversely affected financially, so are their children.

As a FORMER small business owner. I do believe that this sect of our population does require more assistance. The debt alone that they carry, the costs it takes to not only run a business, but to start up for a season, and all that they contribute to Skagway, they are vital to our community as a whole and they need our help more than ever.

The checks and balances as to what is required for eligibility seem fair. As does having documentation of the direct impact. If I could be working full time, trust me, I would be. My family needs this money to live here. To pay the mortgage, to fill the fuel tank, to purchase the cord of wood, to buy groceries, to afford internet . . . the list is long.

The last thing I would like to say is thank you. I have been employed in the tourism industry since I first came to Alaska in 1996. It's all I know, and I love it dearly. To be able to represent and show off Alaska, and in particular Skagway, has always made me feel so fortunate because I have genuine love for where I live and for my job (former job(s)) Having a community that wants to continue to support and assist myself and my son only amplifies why I am so proud to call this my home.

Rebecca Hylton

Emily Deach

Subject: Letter for the Finance Committee

From: Reba Hylton

Sent: Monday, June 1, 2020 6:03 PM

To: Emily Deach <e.deach@skagway.org>

Subject: [External Email] Re: [External Email] Letter for the Finance Committee

I'm so sorry. I thought I had made an edit but it looks like I did not. Please just add this to the correspondence as well

There were 112 students under the age of 14. 155 total students

Reba