



Why Cuts Alone Won't Balance the Budget:

- We cannot cut our way to a sustainable balanced budget – the gap is simply too large.
- Balancing the budget through cuts alone would mean eliminating programs and services most Alaskans deem essential. It would also mean liquidating a number of our State's assets. What should we do without – state troopers and courts, prisons, airports, roads, education? The following facts lend perspective:
 - a) Alaska could zero out the billion-dollar fiscal gap if the State stops paying K-12 education, the Medicaid match, general funds appropriated to the Department of Transportation & Public Facilities, AND all general funds appropriated to the University of Alaska.
 - b) We could lay off every State employee, end all State aid to communities, stop building essential public facilities, and the State would still be \$100 million in the hole.
 - c) We could eliminate all general funds in each department of the State except the Department of Health and Social Services and the Department of Education, and we would still have a \$50,000 fiscal gap.
 - d) We could eliminate all general funds in the Department of Health and Social Services and the Department of Education, and we would still have to find another \$85,000 to fill the gap.
 - e) If each Alaskan chipped in to cover the billion-dollar gap, every man, woman, and child in Alaska would be responsible for \$1,799 each year the gap existed.