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Governor Bill Walker
STATE OF ALASKA

December 26, 2014

The Honorable Kevin Meyer
Senate President-elect
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

The Honorable Mike Chenault
Speaker of the House
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 208
Juneau, AK 99801

The Honorable Pete Kelly
Co-Chair, Senate Finance Committee
State Capitol, Room 516
Juneau, AK 99801

The Honorable Mark Neuman
Co-Chair-Elect, House Finance Committee
State Capitol, Room 513
Juneau, AK 99801

The Honorable Anna MacKinnon
Co-Chair-Elect, Senate Finance Committee
State Capitol, Room 514
Juneau, AK 99801

The Honorable Steve Thompson
Co-Chair-Elect, House Finance Committee
State Capitol, Room 500

Dear Legislators:

Thank you for your letter dated December 23rd in regards to my administration's immediate plans to address the anticipated revenue shortfall and the resulting budget deficit for FY2015 and FY2016. I share your concerns, and I appreciate your candid suggestions. I also want to thank each of you and the other legislators who have reached out to me over the past several weeks. I appreciate your collective offer of assistance and cooperation in addressing Alaska's fiscal situation, due in part to the low oil prices.

Weeks prior to receiving your correspondence, my administration was in the process of considering the specific budget recommendations you have outlined, as well as others, the implementation of which will likely occur after January 1, 2015. Further details will be forthcoming.

The Lieutenant Governor and I are committed to working collaboratively with you and your respective colleagues in the coming months to prioritize our spending, eliminate inefficiencies, and reduce government waste. We are confident that together we can identify impactful solutions to lead Alaska through these challenging fiscal times.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill Walker".

Bill Walker
Governor