

Buy Back Alaska

by
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EXT. SOMEWHERE IN ALASKA

LOU
Hello, I'm Lou Logan

PAT
and I'm Pat Race.

BOTH
We're Alaskans.

PAT
...and we want you to help us buy
back the state legislature.

On average, each legislator only
makes about \$24,000 a year.

LOU
But they must make more than that.

PAT
Alright, alright... I didn't
include per diem and other office
expenses that aren't taxed or
accounted for... but with an average
legislative salary of just \$75,000
how can they be expected to feed
their families and heat their
homes?

LOU
Oh wow. They still only make
\$75,000 a year even counting all
that tax free income?

PAT
Yes, they only make \$75,000 a year
and because they get paid so little
they're forced to find income from
other sources.

LOU
So because the legislature doesn't
get paid enough they have to take
on consulting jobs, hope for free
meals from lobbyists, and
occasionally sell their votes to
big business?

PAT

That's right Lou. Based on recent ethical violations and consulting contracts political scientists have determined that the going full session rate for buying an Alaska State Legislator is right around \$250,000. Although many can be had for significantly less.

LOU

Does that number include free meals and under the table cash from lobbyists?

PAT

Sure does Lou.

LOU

Well, there are 40 representatives and 20 senators so that means we'll need \$15 million dollars to buy them all.

PAT

Only 10 million if we just buy a super majority.

LOU

I like the way you think!

PAT

With a population of just over 663 thousand that means it would only cost us Alaskans about \$15 each to bribe the legislature to work for us.

LOU

Imagine what it would be like if the citizens controlled the government...

PAT

Instead of making decisions that favor big business and out of state oil companies we could be directing state dollars to our communities and programs that matter.

LOU

We could fully fund the University of Alaska

PAT

We could more than fully fund the University and use the new dollars to provide additional tuition waivers and opportunities for ongoing education.

LOU

The state could create more public health services or even provide citizens with the option of buying into the existing state health care system.

PAT

We could force Exxon to pay the billions of dollars they still owe from the Valdez spill.

LOU

Imagine what that would do for the state economy!

PAT

Communities could build things like harbors, parks, schools, sewage treatment plants, and swimming pools.

LOU

Swimming pools with water slides.

PAT

Yes. Water slides.

LOU

But who do I pay? How does this all work?

PAT

It's easy.. When applying for your state dividend this year just select the box that says "I want state government to work for me" and we'll automatically deduct \$15 from your PFD.

LOU

WOW! That great! With this plan we can hire the legislature to work for the citizens of Alaska and it only costs \$15 a year.

PAT

That's less than the price of a
South Franklin Street hooker.

LOU

Now that's what I call a bargain!

Lou flashes a cheesy wink and a thumbs up.