

COMMON SENSE, 1792:

"Government is controlled when public opinion is fixed."

-- James Madison

COMMON SENSE, 1980:

Alaskans have some definite opinions about the level of government spending—and some strong feelings about the amount of control they as taxpayers have over it.

In a recent poll*, nearly half of all Alaskans asked (47%) said they think state government is spending too much money, while about a quarter (24%) feel spending is about right. Only 23% feel the state isn't spending enough.

But when it comes to the amount of control the average taxpayer has over how much his state government spends, the results are more striking—almost unanimous. By a nine-to-one margin, Alaskans feel that taxpayers as a group—and as individuals—don't have enough control over state spending.

Most Alaskans (53%) see themselves, at the ballot box, as the primary element of the solution. Others (47%) place the responsibility on government officials. And two-thirds (65%) of those interviewed

support the idea of a Constitutional amendment to limit the growth of government spending.

Alaskans seem to be taking more interest—and demanding more voice—in the spending decisions of their state government. That's good. Citizens should have that voice. It's only Common Sense.

*Dittman Research, March-April, 1980

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YES, I'M FOR A COMMON-SENSE APPROACH TO STATE SPENDING.

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