

SENATE JOURNAL
ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

Juneau, Alaska

Thursday

February 22, 2007

Thirty-eighth Day

Pursuant to adjournment the Senate was called to order by President Green at 10:49 a.m.

The roll showed fifteen members present. Senators Bunde, Stevens were excused from a call of the Senate. Senators Cowdery, Stedman, Therriault were absent.

The prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Pastor Mike Rose of the Juneau Christian Center. Senator Hoffman moved and asked unanimous consent that the prayer be spread. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Heavenly Father,

I give you praise for this day which is created for your glory. Thank you for your loving kindness and faithfulness to each person. Lord, thank you for the freedoms that we enjoy in this great nation, and help us to remember and cherish the sacrifices others made for us to make our freedom possible. Lord, we remember our troops in the Middle East today, and ask that you would protect them and prosper them in their assignments. Lord, we ask for ongoing protection from all terrorists and their assignments against our nation.

Lord, I pray that you would grant your favor to the Senate today, I ask that you give them wisdom for all decisions that they make today. May your blessing, provision and protection be over the Senators and their families today. This I pray in your matchless name. Amen.

Senator Kookesh led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Certification

Senator Huggins, Acting Majority Leader, moved and asked unanimous consent that the journal for the thirty-seventh legislative day be approved as certified by the Secretary. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Messages from the House

Message dated February 21 was read, stating the House passed and transmitted for consideration:

First Reading and Reference of House Bills

HB 51

HOUSE BILL NO. 51 am BY REPRESENTATIVES RAMRAS, Samuels, Harris, Olson, entitled:

"An Act relating to recorking, sealing, or packaging of wine served with a meal and removal of recorked, sealed, or packaged wine from licensed premises."

was read the first time and referred to the Labor and Commerce Committee.

Standing Committee Reports**SB 4**

The Health, Education and Social Services Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 4 "An Act extending the cash assistance benefit program for seniors under the senior care program and increasing the benefit amount; and providing for an effective date." Signing do pass: Senator Davis, Chair; Senators Elton, Thomas, Cowdery. Signing do not pass: Senator Dyson.

The following fiscal information was published today:

Fiscal Note No. 1, Department of Health and Social Services

The bill was referred to the Finance Committee.

The presence of Senator Cowdery was noted.

SB 5

The Judiciary Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 5 "An Act relating to reporting of certain crimes" and recommended it be replaced with

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 5(JUD)

Signing do pass: Senator French, Chair; Senator McGuire. Signing do not pass: Senator Huggins. Signing no recommendation: Senator Therriault. Signing amend: Senator Wielechowski.

The following fiscal information was published today:

Fiscal Note No. 1, zero, Department of Public Safety

Fiscal Note No. 2, indeterminate, Department of Administration

Fiscal Note No. 3, indeterminate, Department of Administration

Fiscal Note No. 4, indeterminate, Department of Administration

Fiscal Note No. 5, zero, Alaska Court System

Fiscal Note No. 6, zero, Department of Law

The bill was referred to the Finance Committee.

SB 69

The Judiciary Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 69 "An Act relating to the creation of a civil legal services fund." Signing do pass: Senator French, Chair; Senators Therriault, Wielechowski, McGuire. Signing no recommendation: Senator Huggins.

The following fiscal information was published today:

Fiscal Note No. 1, zero, Department of Administration

The bill was referred to the Finance Committee.

The presence of Senators Stedman, Therriault was noted.

SB 81

The Health, Education and Social Services Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 81 "An Act extending the termination date for the Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives; and providing for an effective date." Signing do pass: Senator Davis, Chair; Senators Elton, Thomas, Dyson. Signing no recommendation: Senator Cowdery.

The following fiscal information was published today:

Fiscal Note No. 1, Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development

The bill was referred to the Finance Committee.

HB 21

The State Affairs Committee considered CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 21(STA) "An Act relating to the state flag; and relating to the proper retirement of an official state flag." Signing do pass: Senator McGuire, Chair; Senators French, Green.

The following previously published fiscal information applies:

Fiscal Note No. 1, zero, Department of Administration

The bill was referred to the Rules Committee.

Special Committee Reports**HB 18**

The Senate Special Committee on Education considered CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 18(HES) "An Act amending the functions and powers of the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education; and relating to the repayment provisions for medical education and postsecondary degree program participants" and recommended it be replaced with

SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO.
18(SED)

Signing do pass: Senator Stevens, Chair; Senators Huggins, Davis, Olson, Wilken.

The following previously published fiscal information applies:

Fiscal Note No. 1, Department of Education and Early
Development

Fiscal Note No. 2, zero, House Finance Committee

The bill was referred to the Health, Education and Social Services Committee.

Introduction and Reference of Senate Bills**SB 93**

SENATE BILL NO. 93 BY SENATOR DAVIS, entitled:

"An Act relating to licensed professional counselors;
and relating to the unlicensed use of the title
'professional counselor.'"

was read the first time and referred to the Labor and Commerce Committee.

Recess

Senator Huggins, Acting Majority Leader, moved and asked unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess to the Joint Session. Without objection, the Senate recessed at 10:55 a.m.

After Recess**Joint Session in the House**

Speaker Harris called the House to order and in accordance with Uniform Rule 51 turned the gavel over to President Green, who called the Joint Session to order at 11:12 a.m.

The purpose of the Joint Session was to hear an address by the Honorable Lisa Murkowski, U. S. Senator.

Senator Huggins, Acting Majority Leader, moved and asked unanimous consent that the roll call of the Senate be waived and all members be shown as present. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Representative Samuels moved and asked unanimous consent that the roll call of the House be waived and all members be shown as present. Without objection, it was so ordered.

President Green appointed Representative Nelson and Senator McGuire to escort Senator Murkowski to the Joint Session.

The Senate Sergeant at Arms, Gary Stambaugh, announced Lisa Murkowski's entrance to the House Chamber.

The Honorable Senator Murkowski was escorted to the rostrum and welcomed by President Green.

Senator Murkowski delivered her address. This address appears in Senate and House Joint Journal Supplement No. 2.

Following her address, there was a question and answer period. Senator Murkowski received a standing ovation and was escorted from the chamber by Senator McGuire and Representative Nelson.

Senator Huggins, Acting Majority Leader, moved and asked unanimous consent that the Joint Session stand in adjournment. Without objection, President Green adjourned the Joint Session at 12:13 p.m.

After Recess

In the Senate

The Senate reconvened at 12:16 p.m.

Announcements

Announcements are at the end of the journal.

Adjournment

Senator Huggins, Acting Majority Leader, moved and asked unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment until 10:00 a.m., February 23, 2007. Without objection, the Senate adjourned at 12:18 p.m.

Kirsten Waid
Secretary of the Senate

Announcements

Americans with Disabilities Act Notice - Persons with disabilities who require special accommodation or alternative communication formats to access committee meetings may contact the appropriate committee office or the Legislative Information Office in their community. Reasonable advance notice is needed to accommodate the request. For further information, call the ADA Coordinator at 465-3854 Voice/465-4980 TDD.

STANDING COMMITTEES

+ indicates teleconference

= indicates bill previously heard/scheduled

COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS

Feb 27	Tuesday	Beltz 211	3:30 PM
+	Overview - Local Boundary Commission		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
Mar 01	Thursday	Beltz 211	4:00 PM
+= SB 16	EXTEND REGULATORY COMMISSION OF ALASKA		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

FINANCE

Feb 23	Friday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
	No Meeting Scheduled		
Feb 26	Monday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+ SB 49	COMMEMORATIVE PLATES: STATEHOOD ANIV.		
+ SB 75	EXTENDING COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE		
+ HB 18	POSTSECONDARY MEDICAL & OTHER EDUC. PROG.		
	<Pending Referral>		
Feb 27	Tuesday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+= SB 83	SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
Feb 28	Wednesday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

FINANCE (continued)

Mar 01	Thursday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+	Joint w/ (H) Finance		
	Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation		
	Presentation; APFC Board of Directors		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
Mar 02	Friday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES

Feb 23	Friday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
	No Meeting Scheduled		
Feb 26	Monday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
+= SJR 1	MEDICAL ASSISTANCE FOR CHILDREN		
	SEED: Ready to Read, Ready to Learn;		
	AEYC; AK Child Care Resource & Referral		
	Network; Alaska Head Start Directors		
	Presentation: Economic Impact of Early		
	Education & Child Care Services in Alaska		
	Panel Discussion		
Feb 28	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
+	Strengthening Families Initiatives		
= SB 40	LONGEVITY BONUS REAPPLICATIONS		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
Mar 02	Friday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
	No Meeting Scheduled		

JUDICIARY

Feb 26	Monday	Beltz 211	1:30 PM
+= SB 13	BAN CONSULTING CONTRACTS WITH LEGISLATORS		
Feb 28	Wednesday	Beltz 211	1:30 PM
	-- Teleconference <Listen Only> --		
+	Confirmation Hearing : Talis Colberg		
	Attorney General - Department of Law		

JUDICIARY (continued)

Mar 01	Thursday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

LABOR & COMMERCE

Feb 27	Tuesday	Beltz 211	1:30 PM
+	SB 84	BURNING CAPABILITY OF CIGARETTES	
		Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled	
+=	SB 68	MOTOR VEHICLE INSURANCE	

Mar 01	Thursday	Beltz 211	1:30 PM
+	Confirmation of Governor's Appointees:		
	Alcoholic Beverage Control Board -		
	Shirley A Gifford		
	Alaska Workers' Compensation Board -		
	Stephan T Hagedorn		
	Mark A Crutchfield		
	Gloria O'Neill		
	Janet L Waldron		
	William K Willaims		

RESOURCES

Feb 23	Friday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
	-- MEETING CANCELED --		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
+	Presentations Previously Heard/Scheduled		

Feb 26	Monday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+	Presentation: Agrium Kenai Nitrogen		
	Operations: Agrium US Inc, Alaska RR,		
	Usibelli Coal Mine, Inc		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		

Feb 28	Wednesday	Senate Finance 532	12:00 PM
	Joint w/ (H) Resources		
+	Mining Industry Briefing - Council of		
	Alaska Producers		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

RESOURCES (continued)

Feb 28 Wednesday Butrovich 205 3:30 PM
 += SB 80 OIL & GAS PRODUCTION TAX: EXPENDITURES
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

Mar 02 Friday Butrovich 205 3:30 PM
 + HB 25 RECREATIONAL LAND USE LIABILITY/ADV. POSS
 + Confirmation Hearings:
 Department Commissioners:
 Tom Irwin, Larry Hartig, Denby Lloyd
 Big Game Commercial Services Board:
 Richard A Roher, Leif Wilson
 Board of Game:
 Robert Bell, Ben Grussendorf
 Alaska Oil & Gas Conservation Commission:
 Cathy P Foerster
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Presentations Previously Heard/Scheduled

STATE AFFAIRS

Feb 27 Tuesday Beltz 211 9:00 AM
 + Overview: Impacts of the 90-Day Session

Mar 01 Thursday Beltz 211 9:00 AM
 + Overview: Impacts of the 90-Day Session

TRANSPORTATION

Feb 27 Tuesday Butrovich 205 1:30 PM
 No Meeting Scheduled

Mar 01 Thursday Butrovich 205 1:30 PM
 No Meeting Scheduled

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES**ADMINISTRATION**

Feb 26	Monday	Senate Finance 532	3:00 PM
	Department Budget Overview		
Mar 05	Monday	Senate Finance 532	3:00 PM
	Department Budget Detail		
Mar 12	Monday	Senate Finance 532	3:00 PM
	Department Budget Detail		
Mar 19	Monday	Senate Finance 532	3:00 PM
	Department Budget Detail		

EDUCATION & EARLY DEVELOPMENT

Mar 07	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	8:00 AM
	-- Meeting Canceled -- FY'08 Proposed Budget		
Mar 14	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	8:00 AM
	Postsecondary Education Commission FY'08 Proposed Budget Overview		
Mar 16	Friday	Butrovich 205	8:00 AM
	Dept of Education & Early Development FY'08 Proposed Budget		
Mar 21	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	8:00 AM
	Dept of Education & Early Development FY'08 Proposed Budget		

FISH & GAME

Feb 27	Tuesday	Senate Finance 532	3:00 PM
	-- Time Change -- Budget Overview		

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES (continued)**FISH & GAME (continued)**

Mar 01	Thursday Budget Detail	Senate Finance 532	3:00 PM
Mar 13	Tuesday Budget Detail	Senate Finance 532	8:00 AM

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Mar 08	Thursday Department Budget Detail	Fahrenkamp 203	8:00 AM
Mar 22	Thursday Department Budget Detail	Fahrenkamp 203	8:00 AM
Apr 05	Thursday Department Budget Close-Out	Fahrenkamp 203	8:00 AM

LAW

Feb 27	Tuesday Budget Overview	Fahrenkamp 203	1:30 PM
Mar 06	Tuesday Budget Detail	Fahrenkamp 203	1:30 PM
Mar 13	Tuesday Budget Detail	Fahrenkamp 203	1:30 PM
Mar 20	Tuesday Budget Detail	Fahrenkamp 203	1:30 PM

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES (continued)**MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

Mar 14	Wednesday	Beltz 211	12:00 PM
	Overview by Major General Craig Campbell FY'08 Proposed Budget		

NATURAL RESOURCES

Mar 06	Tuesday	Fahrenkamp 203	4:00 PM
	-- MEETING CANCELED -- FY'08 Proposed Budget		

Mar 13	Tuesday	Fahrenkamp 203	4:00 PM
	FY'08 Proposed Budget		

Mar 20	Tuesday	Fahrenkamp 203	4:00 PM
	FY'08 Proposed Budget		

Mar 22	Thursday	Fahrenkamp 203	4:00 PM
	FY'08 Proposed Budget		

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mar 05	Monday	Beltz 211	8:00 AM
	-- Meeting Canceled -- Department Budget Detail		

Mar 06	Tuesday	Beltz 211	8:00 AM
+	Department Budget Detail		

Mar 19	Monday	Beltz 211	8:00 AM
	-- Meeting Canceled -- Department Budget Detail		

Mar 20	Tuesday	Beltz 211	8:00 AM
+	Department Budget Detail		

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES (continued)**PUBLIC SAFETY (continued)**

Apr 02	Monday -- Meeting Canceled -- Department Budget Close-Out	Beltz 211	8:00 AM
Apr 03 +	Tuesday Department Budget Close-Out	Beltz 211	8:00 AM

REVENUE

Mar 01	Thursday Budget Overview	Fahrenkamp 203	1:30 PM
Mar 08	Thursday Budget Detail	Fahrenkamp 203	1:30 PM
Mar 15	Thursday Budget Detail	Fahrenkamp 203	1:30 PM
Mar 22	Thursday Budget Detail	Fahrenkamp 203	1:30 PM

TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC FACILITIES

Mar 15	Thursday DOT/PF Budget	Beltz 211	8:00 AM
Mar 29	Thursday DOT/PF Budget	Beltz 211	8:00 AM

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA

Mar 01	Thursday Budget Overview	Senate Finance 532	7:30 AM
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FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES (continued)**UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA (continued)**

Mar 08	Thursday Budget Detail	Senate Finance 532	7:30 AM
Mar 15	Thursday Budget Detail	Senate Finance 532	7:30 AM
Mar 22	Thursday Budget Detail	Senate Finance 532	7:30 AM

SPECIAL COMMITTEES**SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

Feb 23	Friday No Meeting Scheduled	Butrovich 205	8:00 AM
Feb 28	Wednesday Consideration: Repeal of requirement that 70% of education funds to be spent on instruction.	Butrovich 205	8:00 AM
Mar 02	Friday Overview: Truancy and Dropouts	Butrovich 205	8:00 AM

SB 31 TRUANCY

OTHER MEETINGS**JOINT LEGISLATIVE HEALTH CAUCUS**

Mar 21	Wednesday "Filling the Need: Complimentary Medicine Workforce"	Butrovich 205	12:00 PM
Apr 18	Wednesday "Filling the Need: Other Forms of Health Care"	Butrovich 205	12:00 PM

OTHER MEETINGS (continued)**JOINT LEGISLATIVE HEALTH CAUCUS (continued)**

May 02	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	12:00 PM
	"Week of the Uninsured: Alaska's Workforce"		

JOINT SESSION

Feb 28	Wednesday	House Chamber	11:00 AM
	Chief Justice Dana Fabe's Annual State of the Judiciary Message		

Mar 19	Monday	House Chamber	11:00 AM
	Annual Address by the Honorable Ted Stevens, U.S. Senator		