

SENATE JOURNAL
ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION

Juneau, Alaska

Monday

February 25, 2008

Forty-second Day

Pursuant to adjournment the Senate was called to order by President Green at 11:03 a.m.

The roll showed seventeen members present. Senator Cowdery was excused from a call of the Senate. Senators Huggins, McGuire were absent.

Senator Ellis moved and asked unanimous consent that Senator Huggins be excused from a call of the Senate today. Without objection, Senator Huggins was excused.

The prayer was offered by the Chaplain, President Garth Hamblin of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Senator Hoffman moved and asked unanimous consent that the prayer be spread. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Heavenly Father, we are thankful for the blessings we have, and to live in such a beautiful place. We are grateful for the freedoms we enjoy; we are thankful for the bounty that surrounds us; we are grateful for those that serve here and we pray that thou would bless them in their deliberations as they seek to assist all Alaskans. We pray that thou would bless them as needed with patience, tolerance, wisdom and understanding; again, thanking thee for all that we have. I pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Senator Stedman led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Certification

Senator Ellis moved and asked unanimous consent that the journals for the thirty-eighth through forty-first legislative days be approved as certified by the Secretary. Without objection, it was so ordered.

The presence of Senator McGuire was noted.

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 268**

HOUSE BILL NO. 268 BY REPRESENTATIVES STOLTZE, Lynn, Ramras, Gatto, Crawford, Neuman, Keller, entitled:

"An Act relating to damaging a vehicle on public land by starting a fire or causing an explosion."

was read the first time and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

HB 285

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 285(CRA) BY THE HOUSE COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, entitled:

"An Act relating to an optional exemption from municipal property taxes for residences of widows and widowers of certain members of the armed forces of the United States."

was read the first time and referred to the Finance Committee.

Senator Therriault added his name as a cross sponsor on the bill.

Recede Messages**HB 121**

Message dated February 21 was read, stating the House failed to concur in the Senate amendment to CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 121(L&C) am and respectfully requests the Senate to recede from its amendment, namely:

SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 121(FIN) "An Act relating to release of information in individual workers' compensation records; and providing for an effective date."

President Green stated the message would be held on the Secretary's desk.

Standing Committee Reports**SB 153**

The Labor and Commerce Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 153 "An Act relating to the use of credited military service by retired peace officers and fire fighters to meet certain requirements for major medical insurance coverage benefits." Signing do pass: Senator Ellis, Chair; Senator Davis. Signing no recommendation: Senator Bunde.

The following fiscal information was published today:

Fiscal Note No. 1, Department of Administration

Fiscal Note No. 2, zero, Department of Public Safety

The bill was referred to the State Affairs Committee.

SB 209

The Labor and Commerce Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 209 "An Act extending the termination date of the Alaska Commission on Aging; and providing for an effective date." Signing do pass: Senator Ellis, Chair; Senators Bunde, Davis.

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.

Introduction and Reference of Senate Bills**SB 294**

SENATE BILL NO. 294 BY THE SENATE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE BY REQUEST, entitled:

"An Act relating to the pay and duties of commissioners of the Regulatory Commission of Alaska, establishing the position of executive director of the Regulatory Commission of Alaska and defining the duties and powers of the position, and placing the executive director and administrative law judges of the Regulatory Commission of Alaska in the exempt service under the State Personnel Act."

was read the first time and referred to the Labor and Commerce, Judiciary and Finance Committees.

Consideration of the Calendar**Second Reading of Senate Bills****SB 101**

SENATE BILL NO. 101 "An Act relating to private professional conservators and private and public guardians" was read the second time.

Senator Ellis, Chair, moved and asked unanimous consent for the adoption of the 2d Labor and Commerce Committee Substitute offered on page 1698. Without objection, CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 101(2d L&C) "An Act relating to private professional conservators, private and public guardians, and court hearings on the issue of incapacity; and establishing uniform adult guardianship and conservator jurisdiction and procedures" was adopted.

Senator Ellis moved and asked unanimous consent that the bill be considered engrossed, advanced to third reading and placed on final passage. Without objection, it was so ordered.

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 101(2d L&C) was read the third time.

The question being: "Shall CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 101(2d L&C) "An Act relating to private professional conservators, private and public guardians, and court hearings on the issue of incapacity; and establishing uniform adult guardianship and conservator jurisdiction and procedures" pass the Senate?" The roll was taken with the following result:

CSSB 101(2d L&C)

Third Reading - Final Passage

YEAS: 18 NAYS: 0 EXCUSED: 2 ABSENT: 0

Yeas: Bunde, Davis, Dyson, Ellis, Elton, French, Green, Hoffman, Kookesh, McGuire, Olson, Stedman, Stevens, Therriault, Thomas, Wagoner, Wielechowski, Wilken

Excused: Cowdery, Huggins

and so, CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 101(2d L&C) passed the Senate and was referred to the Secretary for engrossment.

Citations

In Memoriam – Patricia Harpel

Senator(s) Bunde, Green, Cowdery, Davis, Dyson, Ellis, Elton, Hoffman, Huggins, Kookesh, McGuire, Olson, Stedman, Stevens, Therriault, Thomas, Wagoner, Wielechowski, Wilken

Senator Ellis moved and asked unanimous consent that the citation be adopted. Without objection, the citation was adopted and referred to the Secretary for transmittal.

Unfinished Business

Senator Wilken moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate from afternoon plane time, February 27 through evening plane time, March 2. Without objection, Senator Wilken was excused.

Announcements

Announcements are at the end of the journal.

Engrossment**SB 101**

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 101(2d L&C) "An Act relating to private professional conservators, private and public guardians, and court hearings on the issue of incapacity; and establishing uniform adult guardianship and conservator jurisdiction and procedures" was engrossed, signed by the President and Secretary and transmitted to the House for consideration.

Adjournment

Senator Ellis moved and asked unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment until 11:00 a.m., February 27, 2008. Without objection, the Senate adjourned at 11:37 a.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

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COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS

Feb 26 Tuesday Beltz 211 3:30 PM
No Meeting Scheduled

Feb 28 Thursday Beltz 211 3:30 PM
+ SB 254 AK REGIONAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

FINANCE

Feb 25 Monday Senate Finance 532 9:00 AM
+ SB 223 G.O. BONDS FOR CRIME LAB
+ SB 224 G.O. BONDS FOR TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS
+ SB 236 TRANSPORTATION FUND
+ Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

Feb 26 Tuesday Senate Finance 532 9:00 AM
No Meeting Scheduled

Feb 27 Wednesday Senate Finance 532 9:00 AM
+= SB 236 TRANSPORTATION FUND
+= HB 273 EDUCATION FUNDING
<Pending Referral>
+ HB 321 SALMON PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT TAX CREDIT
+ SB 216 PURPLE HEART TRAIL
+ Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

FINANCE (continued)

Feb 28 Thursday Senate Finance 532 9:00 AM
 += SB 230 FILM OFFICE/ FILM PRODUCTION TAX CREDIT
 += HB 61 TAX CREDIT FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO VOC ED
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

Feb 29 Friday Senate Finance 532 9:00 AM
 += HB 13 RETIREMENT SYSTEM LIABILITY/BONDS/CORP.
 + SB 229 TANANA VALLEY FOREST/MINTO FLATS REFUGE
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES

Feb 25 Monday Butrovich 205 1:30 PM
 + SB 267 DOCUMENT PRENATAL ALCOHOL EXPOSURE
 + SB 243 COMMISSION ON AGING
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

Feb 27 Wednesday Butrovich 205 1:30 PM
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

Feb 29 Friday Butrovich 205 1:30 PM
 + SB 191 PUBLIC EDUCATION OF HOMELESS STUDENTS
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

JUDICIARY

Feb 25 Monday Beltz 211 1:30 PM
 + Presentation: Tony Palmer, TransCanada
 Withdrawn Partners Liability Issues
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --

Feb 27 Wednesday Beltz 211 1:30 PM
 + SB 185 SEX OFFENDER/CHILD KIDNAPPER REGISTRATION
 + SB 202 PROHIBIT STATE SPENDING FOR REAL ID ACT
 + SB 273 CRUELTY TO ANIMALS
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

Feb 29 Friday Beltz 211 1:30 PM
 += SB 234 CRIMINAL LAW/PROCEDURE: OMNIBUS BILL
 + SB 164 USED MOTOR VEHICLE SALES
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

LABOR & COMMERCE

Feb 26 Tuesday Beltz 211 1:30 PM
 + SB 160 MANDATORY UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 += SB 149 REDISTRIBUTION OF USED EYEGLASSES

Feb 28 Thursday Beltz 211 1:30 PM
 + SB 113 NURSING MOTHERS IN WORKPLACE
 + SB 258 PAID SICK LEAVE
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 += SB 160 MANDATORY UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE

Mar 01 Saturday Beltz 211 1:30 PM
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

RESOURCES

Feb 25 Monday Butrovich 205 3:30 PM
 + Presentation: AGIA Applicant
 Alaska Natural Gas Development Authority
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 + HB 315 EXTEND BIG GAME COMMERCIAL SERVICES BOARD
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --

Feb 27 Wednesday Butrovich 205 3:30 PM
 + SB 214 HUNTING BY MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 += SB 246 SUSITNA HYDRO WORKING GROUP; REPORT
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --

Feb 29 Friday Butrovich 205 3:30 PM
 + Presentation: Process & Requirements for
 Large Mine Permit Applications in Alaska
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

Mar 01 Saturday Butrovich 205 11:00 AM
 + SJR 17 OFFSHORE OIL & GAS REVENUE
 -- Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

STATE AFFAIRS

Feb 26 Tuesday Beltz 211 9:00 AM

+ HB 260 STATE OFFICERS COMPENSATION COMMISSION
 + SB 181 ANATOMICAL GIFTS
 + SJR 12 CRUISE SHIP PORT TIMES: JONES ACT
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

Feb 28 Thursday Beltz 211 9:00 AM

+ SB 218 CHILD SAFETY SEATS & SEAT BELTS
 + SB 276 STATE CONSTRUCT'N PROJECT LABOR AGREEMENT
 + SB 208 SEX OFFENSES: 'WITHOUT CONSENT' DEFINED
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

TRANSPORTATION

Feb 26 Tuesday Butrovich 205 1:00 PM

+ Financial Oversight Hearing on the
 Juneau Road Project

Feb 28 Thursday Butrovich 205 1:00 PM

+ SB 190 MINORS TRAVELING ALONE BY AIR
 + SB 189 APPROP.: BRIDGES, SERVICE ROADS, TRAILS
 + SB 265 SEX OFFENDERS & CHILD KIDNAPPERS
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES**ADMINISTRATION**

Mar 10 Monday Senate Finance 532 4:00 PM

+ -- MEETING CANCELED --
 Budget Close-out

Mar 11 Tuesday Senate Finance 532 3:30 PM

+ Budget Close-out

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES (continued)**EDUCATION & EARLY DEVELOPMENT (continued)**

Feb 29	Friday FY09 Budget Overview	Butrovich 205	8:00 AM
Mar 07	Friday -- MEETING CANCELED -- FY09 Budget Overview	Butrovich 205	8:00 AM
Mar 12	Wednesday FY09 Budget Overview	Butrovich 205	12:00 PM

FISH & GAME

Feb 25	Monday Fish & Game Budget Meeting	Senate Finance 532	3:00 PM
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GOVERNOR

Mar 12	Wednesday Close-out Meeting	Senate Finance 532	3:00 PM
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HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Feb 28 +	Thursday Department Budget - Questions & Answers -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --	Fahrenkamp 203	8:00 AM
Mar 06 +	Thursday Department Budget Close-out -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --	Senate Finance 532	12:30 PM

LAW

Feb 26	Tuesday Budget Detail	Fahrenkamp 203	1:30 PM
Mar 04	Tuesday Budget Detail	Fahrenkamp 203	1:30 PM

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES (continued)**LAW (continued)**

Mar 11	Tuesday Close-out	Fahrenkamp 203	1:30 PM
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LEGISLATURE

Mar 12	Wednesday Close-out Meeting	Senate Finance 532	3:30 PM
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MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

Feb 29	Friday FY09 Budget Close-out	Fahrenkamp 203	12:30 PM
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Mar 05	Wednesday -- MEETING CANCELED -- FY09 DMVA Budget Close-out	Fahrenkamp 203	1:00 PM
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NATURAL RESOURCES

Feb 26	Tuesday FY09 Budget Overview	Fahrenkamp 203	4:00 PM
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Mar 04	Tuesday -- MEETING CANCELED -- FY09 Budget Close-out	Fahrenkamp 203	4:00 PM
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Mar 11	Tuesday FY09 Budget Overview	Fahrenkamp 203	4:00 PM
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PUBLIC SAFETY

Mar 04 +	Tuesday Department Budget Close-out -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --	Fahrenkamp 203	8:00 AM
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FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES (continued)**REVENUE**

Feb 28	Thursday Budget Detail	Fahrenkamp 203	1:30 PM
Mar 06	Thursday Budget Detail	Fahrenkamp 203	1:30 PM
Mar 13	Thursday Close-out	Fahrenkamp 203	1:30 PM

SPECIAL COMMITTEES**SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

Feb 27 + SB 285	Wednesday STATE INTERVENTION IN SCHOOL DISTRICT Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled	Butrovich 205	8:00 AM
Feb 29 +	Friday Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled	Butrovich 205	8:00 AM
Mar 01 +	Saturday Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled	Butrovich 205	10:00 AM
Mar 08 +	Saturday Workshop on Charter Schools	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM

CONFERENCE COMMITTEES**CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON SB 59**

Feb 29 SB 59	Friday GAMING: BROADCASTING/CABBAGE CLASSICS	Beltz 211	9:30 AM
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OTHER MEETINGS**JOINT LEGISLATIVE HEALTH CAUCUS**

Mar 05	Wednesday Maximizing Access Measuring Success: Improving Health Indicators	Butrovich 205	12:00 PM
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OTHER MEETINGS (continued)**JOINT LEGISLATIVE HEALTH CAUCUS (continued)**

Mar 19	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	12:00 PM
	-- MEETING CANCELED --		
	Measuring Success: Improving Health Indicators		
Apr 02	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	12:00 PM
	High Quality, Low Cost		

JOINT SESSION

Mar 18	Tuesday	House Chamber	11:00 AM
	-- Date Change --		
	Annual Address by the Honorable Lisa Murkowski, U.S. Senator		