

HOUSE JOURNAL
ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION

Juneau, Alaska

Wednesday

February 19, 2020

Thirtieth Day

Pursuant to adjournment the House was called to order by Speaker Edgmon at 11:01 a.m.

Roll call showed 37 members present. Representatives Neuman and Tilton had been excused from a call of the House today. District 3 was vacant.

The invocation was offered by the Chaplain, Dr. Thomas Fox Thornton of Juneau Society of Friends (Quakers). Representative Drummond moved and asked unanimous consent that the invocation be spread on the journal. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

Good morning Friends,

The silent, unprogrammed Quaker tradition of worship is based on no creeds, but rather expectant centeredness, heeding the Psalm: *Be still and know that I am God* (Psalm 46:10). Queries may be offered to invoke core values, like integrity and community, as those gathered in worship seek truth and unity in the light of God. In this spirit, I respectfully invite you into prayer with five short queries followed by a period of silent reflection.

1. Is my work in harmony with truth as I understand it?
2. How do my interactions with others reflect my beliefs and values?
3. Do I listen deeply and openly to others' views and experiences?

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4. How can I speak my truth so that those who may disagree can hear it?
5. Do I bring my inner life and outer life into wholeness and integrity, so as to reveal the light of God?

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Representative Pruitt.

CERTIFICATION OF THE JOURNAL

Representative Thompson moved and asked unanimous consent that the journal for the 28th and 29th legislative days and House and Senate Joint Journal Supplement No. 15 be approved as certified by the Chief Clerk. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

* * * * *

Representative Carpenter introduced his daughters, Jenna and Melanie Carpenter, Guest Pages, from Nikiski.

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

The following letter dated February 18 was received:

"Dear Speaker Edgmon:

Pursuant to my authority under Article II, Section 4 of the Alaska Constitution and the process outlined in AS 15.40.320, I have appointed Glenn M. Prax to fill the vacancy in the Alaska State House, District 3.

Subject to confirmation by the House Republicans, Glenn M. Prax will hold this office for the remainder of the unexpired term of the 31st Legislature for House District 3.

Sincerely,
/s/
Mike Dunleavy
Governor"

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MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

HB 44

A message dated February 17 was read stating the Senate passed:

HOUSE BILL NO. 44

"An Act relating to fees for using an automated teller machine; and providing for an effective date."

HB 44 was referred to the Chief Clerk for enrollment.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

The Transportation Committee reviewed the qualifications of the following and recommends the appointments be forwarded to a joint session for consideration:

Richard Harris
Luke Hasenbank

as members of the Board of Marine Pilots.

The report was signed by Representative Stutes, Chair; and Representatives Talerico, Story, Claman, Drummond, and Gillis.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

HB 221

The House Special Committee on Tribal Affairs considered:

HOUSE BILL NO. 221

"An Act providing for state recognition of federally recognized tribes; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends it be replaced with:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 221(TRB)
(same title)

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The report was signed by Representative Zulkosky, Chair, with the following individual recommendations:

Do pass (4): Kopp, Lincoln, Edgmon, Zulkosky

No recommendation (1): Vance

Amend (1): Talerico

The following fiscal note(s) apply to CSHB 221(TRB):

1. Zero, Dept. of Law

HB 221 was referred to the Community & Regional Affairs Committee.

INTRODUCTION OF CITATIONS

The following citations were introduced and referred to the Rules Committee for placement on the calendar:

Honoring - Brad and Christine St. Pierre, 2019 Farm Family of the Year

By Representatives Tarr, Hopkins, Talerico

Honoring - Dimond High School Girls Soccer, 2019 State Champions
By Senator Costello; Representative Rasmussen

Honoring - Team Rubicon

By Senator Reinbold

Honoring - Fraternal Order of Eagles 4207

By Senator Revak

In Memoriam - Sammye Seawell

By Senator Revak

In Memoriam - Kevin Mitchell Thomet

By Senator Stevens; Representative Stutes

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In Memoriam - Dr. Bob Johnson
By Senator Stevens; Representative Stutes

INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING, AND REFERENCE OF HOUSE RESOLUTIONS

HCR 13

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 13 by the House Rules Committee:

Relating to the Alaska permanent fund.

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

INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING, AND REFERENCE OF HOUSE BILLS

HB 255

HOUSE BILL NO. 255 by Representatives Josephson and Tuck, entitled:

"An Act relating to a waiver of work requirements or time limits in the food stamp program; and providing for an effective date."

was read the first time and referred to the Health & Social Services Committee.

HB 256

HOUSE BILL NO. 256 by Representatives Hopkins and Story, entitled:

"An Act establishing a workforce enhancement program for teachers employed in the state."

was read the first time and referred to the Education and Labor & Commerce Committees.

HB 257

HOUSE BILL NO. 257 by Representative LeBon by request, entitled:

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"An Act relating to the Alaska Banking Code; relating to mutual savings banks; relating to interstate state banks and international banks; relating to the pledging of bank assets as collateral security to tribal organizations; relating to the pledging of bank assets for interest swap agreements; relating to state business licenses; relating to persons who make loans secured by interests in vessels or facilities; relating to liability for the release or threatened release of hazardous substances; relating to the Model Foreign Bank Loan Act; and providing for an effective date."

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

HB 258

HOUSE BILL NO. 258 by the House Rules Committee by request of the Governor, entitled:

"An Act relating to state lands; relating to the authority of the Department of Natural Resources over state owned lands; relating to the disposal of state land; relating to the leasing and sale of state land for commercial or industrial development; repealing establishment of recreation rivers and recreation river corridors; and providing for an effective date."

was read the first time and referred to the Resources and Finance Committees.

The following fiscal note(s) apply:

1. Indeterminate, Dept. of Transportation & Public Facilities
2. Fiscal, Dept. of Natural Resources

The Governor's transmittal letter dated February 18 follows:

"Dear Speaker Edgmon:

Under the authority of Article III, Section 18, of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting a bill clarifying the State's role in management of state land, removing barriers or obstacles in the state land sales process, allowing for the lease of state lands for economic

or industrial development, and repealing statutes that have created land use or management problems for the State.

This bill would make land managed by the Department of Natural Resources -- including Mental Health Trust land, parks and recreation areas, refuges, and habitat areas -- subject to the Department of Natural Resources' platting authority, regardless of where the land is situated. Under current law, plats for subdivisions of state lands for disposal of sale must be approved by a municipality exercising its platting authority. Obtaining this approval delays the platting process and slows state land sales.

To make the most of all avenues available to encourage land use for the benefit of the public, this bill includes a new statute for leasing state lands for commercial or industrial development. Under this new statute, the State can lease and sell lands situated within federally designated Qualified Opportunity Zones, or nominated and assessed by the state as appropriate for commercial development. The statute includes a process for requesting proposals from prospective lessees, for accepting bids, and for entering a contract to lease. This statute will allow the lessee to apply to purchase the leased land at any time during the term of the lease if the department determines the lessee has used the land for commercial development consistent with their proposal.

Further, this bill clarifies the state land sale bidding process by requiring an earnest money deposit, increasing the term of a contract for sale, and granting the state greater discretion as far as when to construct access roads related to state land sales.

This bill also repeals the establishment of recreational rivers and corridors. These statutes have created management problems for the State and through this bill we can end those management issues, maintain public use, and allow the State to consider the disposal of some of those state lands.

In order to make the best use of our state land for all citizens, I urge your prompt and favorable action on this measure.

Sincerely,

/s/

Mike Dunleavy
Governor"

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HB 259

HOUSE BILL NO. 259 by the House Rules Committee by request of the Governor, entitled:

"An Act directing the commissioner of revenue to pay dividends to certain eligible individuals; and providing for an effective date."

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

The following fiscal note(s) apply:

1. Fiscal, Dept. of Revenue

The Governor's transmittal letter dated February 18 follows:

"Dear Speaker Edgmon:

Under the authority of Article III, Section 18 of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting a bill that directs the payment of the unpaid amount of the 2019 Permanent Fund dividend. The payment of the unpaid amount will be distributed to eligible individuals in 2020. An individual is eligible to receive the unpaid amount of the 2019 Permanent Fund dividend if the individual received a 2019 Permanent Fund dividend and is eligible to receive the 2020 Permanent Fund dividend.

The Permanent Fund Dividend Program was established in 1980, to allow all Alaskans to benefit directly from Alaska's mineral and investment wealth. For years, the Alaska State Legislature, through a carefully balanced statutory formula has assured a dividend payment that keeps the Permanent Fund on a healthy financial footing, while at the same time directly benefitting the mineral owners, Alaskans themselves.

For the past four years, the statutory calculation of the dividend has not been followed. Until such a time that the statutory calculation is amended, I intend to follow the law and submit requests to pay the unpaid amounts.

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I urge your prompt and favorable action on this measure.

Sincerely,

/s/

Mike Dunleavy
Governor"

HB 260

HOUSE BILL NO. 260 by Representative Tarr, entitled:

"An Act relating to the state education policy."

was read the first time and referred to the Education and Health & Social Services Committees.

HB 261

HOUSE BILL NO. 261 by Representative Tarr, entitled:

"An Act relating to mental health screening for children in foster care."

was read the first time and referred to the Health & Social Services and Finance Committees.

CONSIDERATION OF THE DAILY CALENDAR

SECOND READING OF HOUSE RESOLUTIONS

HJR 25

The following was read the second time:

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 25

Encouraging the President of the United States, the United States Congress, and the Governor of the state to assist the National Park Service in its efforts to ensure long-term access into Denali National Park and Preserve by way of the existing roadway.

with the:

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RES RPT 9DP

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FN1: ZERO(LEG)

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Representative Thompson moved and asked unanimous consent that HJR 25 be considered engrossed, advanced to third reading, and placed on final passage. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

HJR 25 was read the third time.

The question being: "Shall HJR 25 pass the House?" The roll was taken with the following result:

HJR 25
Third Reading
Final Passage

YEAS: 37 NAYS: 0 EXCUSED: 2 ABSENT: 0 VACANT: 1

Yeas: Carpenter, Claman, Drummond, Eastman, Edgmon, Fields, Foster, Gillis, Hannan, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Johnston, Josephson, Knopp, Kopp, Kreiss-Tomkins, LeBon, LeDoux, Lincoln, Merrick, Ortiz, Pruitt, Rasmussen, Rauscher, Shaw, Spohnholz, Story, Stutes, Sullivan-Leonard, Talerico, Tarr, Thompson, Tuck, Vance, Wool, Zulkosky

Excused: Neuman, Tilton

Vacant: District 3

And so, HJR 25 passed the House and was referred to the Chief Clerk for engrossment.

LEGISLATIVE CITATIONS

Representative Thompson moved and asked unanimous consent that the House approve the citation on the calendar. There being no objection, the following citation was approved and sent to enrolling:

In Memoriam - Leo Mark-Anthony
By Senator Coghill

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Representative Thompson moved and asked unanimous consent that the following members be excused from a call of the House. There being no objection, the members were excused as noted:

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Representative Johnson – from 1:00 p.m., February 20 to 10:00 p.m., February 23

Representative Gillis – from 7:30 a.m., February 21 to 10:00 a.m., February 24

Representative Rauscher – from 6:00 a.m., February 21 to 11:00 a.m., February 24

HJR 25

Representatives Pruitt, Eastman, Johnston, Story, Tuck, and Tarr added as cosponsors to:

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 25

Encouraging the President of the United States, the United States Congress, and the Governor of the state to assist the National Park Service in its efforts to ensure long-term access into Denali National Park and Preserve by way of the existing roadway.

HB 181

Representative Story added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 181

"An Act relating to mental health education."

HB 198

Representative Claman added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 198

"An Act relating to aggravating factors considered at sentencing."

HB 245

Representative Tuck added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 245

"An Act relating to the definition of 'disaster.'"

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ENGROSSMENT

HJR 25

HJR 25 was engrossed, signed by the Speaker and Chief Clerk, and transmitted to the Senate for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

House committee schedules are published under separate cover.

The following meeting today was changed:

Judiciary Committee

CANCELED

ADJOURNMENT

Representative Thompson moved and asked unanimous consent that the House adjourn until 10:30 a.m., February 21. There being no objection, the House adjourned at 12:13 p.m.

Crystaline Jones
Chief Clerk