

SENATE JOURNAL
ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION

Juneau, Alaska

Monday

March 4, 2024

Forty-ninth Day

Pursuant to adjournment the Senate was called to order by President Stevens at 11:02 a.m.

The roll showed seventeen members present. Senator Stedman was excused from a call of the Senate. Senators Hoffman, Shower were absent.

The prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Guy Crockroft, Love, INC. Senator Olson moved and asked unanimous consent the prayer be spread. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Dear Heavenly Father, I thank you for this new day and for this body, the Alaska Senate. Bless them as they serve and grant them the ability to love each other, even when they have differences of opinion.

Thank you for your words about love, in I Corinthians 13 “Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.”

“And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.” Lord, in accordance with your unconditional love, may you help each Senator as they work together today.

In Jesus’ name, I pray,

Amen.

Senator Kaufman led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Certification

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

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

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

Messages from the House

Message dated March 1 was read stating the House passed and transmitted for consideration:

First Reading and Reference of House Resolutions

HJR 20

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 20 BY REPRESENTATIVES BAKER, Tomaszewski, Fields, Wright, Rauscher, McKay, McCabe, Armstrong, C.Johnson, Schrage, Saddler, Cronk, Allard, Himschoot, D.Johnson, Stapp, Coulombe, Galvin, Ruffridge, Sumner, Story, Ortiz, Tilton,

Urging withdrawal of proposed Bureau of Land Management regulations affecting the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska; and urging meaningful engagement with tribes, local governments, and affected communities.

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

Message dated March 4 was read stating:

The House of Representatives respectfully invites the Senate to a Joint Session of the Thirty-Third Alaska Legislature at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 12 for the purpose of considering Senate Special Concurrent Resolutions regarding the Governor's Executive Orders.

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the Senate accept the House invitation to meet in Joint Session. Without objection, it was so ordered.

The Secretary was requested to notify the House.

Standing Committee Reports

SB 179

The Community and Regional Affairs Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 179 "An Act prohibiting municipalities from levying a tax on the transfer of real property; prohibiting the state from levying a tax on the transfer of real property; and relating to municipal taxation of mobile telecommunications services" and recommended it be replaced with

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 179(CRA)

Signing do pass: Senator Dunbar, Chair; Senators Gray-Jackson, Giessel, Bjorkman.

The following fiscal information was published today:
Fiscal Note No. 1, zero, Department of Revenue

The bill was referred to the Rules Committee.

Introduction and Reference of Senate Resolutions

SCR 11

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 11 BY THE
SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE,

Suspending Rules 24(c), 35, 41(b), and 42(e),
Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature,
concerning House Bill No. 26, relating to the official
languages of the State of Alaska; renaming the
Alaska Native Language Preservation and Advisory
Council as the Council for Alaska Native Languages;
and relating to the Council for Alaska Native
Languages.

was read the first time and held on the Secretary's desk.

Consideration of the Calendar

Second Reading of Senate Bills

SB 24

SENATE BILL NO. 24 "An Act relating to mental health education;
and providing for an effective date" was read the second time.

Senator Olson, Cochair, moved and asked unanimous consent for the
adoption of the Finance Committee Substitute offered on page 1658.
Without objection, CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 24(FIN) was
adopted.

President Stevens stated CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 24(FIN) will
advance to third reading on the March 6 calendar.

SB 147

SENATE BILL NO. 147 "An Act relating to reemployment rights and
benefits" was read the second time.

Senator Bjorkman, Chair, moved and asked unanimous consent for the adoption of the Labor and Commerce Committee Substitute offered on page 1713. Without objection, CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 147(L&C) "An Act relating to reemployment rights and benefits; and providing for an effective date" was adopted.

President Stevens stated CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 147(L&C) will advance to third reading on the March 6 calendar.

Citations

Honoring - Aaron Harkley
Senator(s) Dunbar
Representative(s) Mina, Gray

Honoring - Robert "Bobby" Hill II
Senator(s) Merrick
Representative(s) Allard

Honoring - Ramsey Bodeen
Senator(s) Merrick
Representative(s) Allard

Honoring - Maria Downey
Senator(s) Giessel
Representative(s) Shaw, C. Johnson

Honoring - Colony Knights Boys' Soccer Team
Senator(s) Hughes, Wilson

Honoring - Colony Knights Boys' Track and Field
Senator(s) Hughes, Wilson

Honoring - Polaris Building
Senator(s) Myers
Representative(s) Stapp, Carrick

Honoring - Alaska Trappers Association 50th Anniversary
Senator(s) Kawasaki, Wilson, Bishop

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Honoring - Tasha Kahele
Senator(s) Dunbar
Representative(s) Cronk, Groh

Honoring - Gretchen Winter
Senator(s) Hughes
Representative(s) D. Johnson

Honoring - Coby Marvin
Senator(s) Hughes
Representative(s) D. Johnson

Honoring - Amy Gallaway
Representative(s) Carrick
Senator(s) Kawasaki

Honoring - John N. Davies
Representative(s) Carrick

Honoring - Scott Raygor
Representative(s) Carrick

In Memoriam - Patrick M. Rodey
Senator(s) Dunbar, Tobin
Representative(s) Gray

In Memoriam - Michelle V. Minor
Senator(s) Bishop
Representative(s) Josephson

In Memoriam - Barbara "Tamie" Miller
Senator(s) Hughes
Representative(s) D. Johnson

In Memoriam - Paul Rodriguez, Jr.
Senator(s) Hughes, Kiehl

In Memoriam - Jackie William Gallion
Representative(s) Allard

In Memoriam - Sergeant William Francis Murphy
Representative(s) Allard

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the citations be adopted. Without objection, the citations were adopted and referred to the Secretary for transmittal.

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the following citations be made a special order of business. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Special Order of Business

Honoring - Samuel Hart Trivette
Representative(s) Hannan, Story
Senator(s) Kiehl

In Memoriam - Price E. Qaiyaan Brower
Representative(s) Baker

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the citations be adopted. Without objection, the citations were adopted and referred to the Secretary for transmittal.

Announcements

Announcements are at the end of the journal.

Adjournment

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the Senate stand in adjournment until 11:00 a.m., March 6, 2024. Without objection, the Senate adjourned at 11:16 a.m.

Liz Clark
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

Mar 05	Tuesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
+ SB 184	ELIMINATE DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
Mar 07	Thursday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
	-- MEETING CANCELED --		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

EDUCATION

Mar 04	Monday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+	Presentation: Alaska's Charter School Model by School Board Members from School Districts with Charter Schools		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Mar 06	Wednesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+= SB 97	TEACHER RECRUITMENT; LUMP SUM PAYMENT		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Mar 08	Friday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
	No Meeting Scheduled		

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FINANCE

Mar 04	Monday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
	No Meeting Scheduled		
Mar 05	Tuesday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+	School District Fund Balance Discussion		
	<Invited Testimony Only>		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
Mar 05	Tuesday	Senate Finance 532	1:30 PM
	-- Please Note Time Change --		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
Mar 06	Wednesday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+	SB 197	RESIDENTIAL BUILDING CODE	
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+	SB 183	WORKERS' COMP BENEFITS GUARANTY FUND	
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
Mar 06	Wednesday	Senate Finance 532	1:30 PM
	-- Please Note Time Change --		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
Mar 07	Thursday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+	SB 189	EXTEND ALASKA COMMISSION ON AGING	
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+	HB 120	HUNT/FISH LICENSE FOR NONRESIDENT STUDENT	
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+	SCR 10	JOINT LEGIS SEAFOOD INDUSTRY TASK FORCE	
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
Mar 07	Thursday	Senate Finance 532	1:30 PM
	-- Please Note Time Change --		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
Mar 08	Friday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Mar 05	Tuesday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+	Consideration of Governor’s Appointees: - Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority John Sturgeon, Brent Fisher - State Medical Board David Barnes, David Wilson -- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+	SB 241	MEDICAL ASSIST. DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS <Bill Hearing Canceled> -- Invited & Public Testimony --	
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
Mar 07	Thursday	Davis 106	3:30 PM
	-- Please Note Location Change -- Meeting Jointly with House Health and Social Services Committee		
+	Presentation: Alaska Citizen Review Panel Annual Report and DFCS Office of Children's Services Response		

JUDICIARY

Mar 04	Monday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
+	Consideration of Governor’s Appointees: Anna Cometa, Violent Crimes Compensation Board Ron Dupee, Alaska Police Standards Council Jeff Brown, Alaska Police Standards Council -- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled:		
+=	SB 163	ANIMAL ADOPTION RECORDS	
Mar 06	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
+	Consideration of Governor’s Appointees: Terrence Haas, Public Defender Robert Sheldon, Commission on Judicial Conduct		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
Mar 08	Friday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
	No Meeting Scheduled		

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LABOR & COMMERCE

Mar 04 Monday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 1:30 PM

- + SB 154 BIDDER PREF MILITARY CAREER SKILLS PROG
-- Invited & Public Testimony --
-- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
- + SB 102 REFUSE UTILITY REGULATIONS
-- Invited & Public Testimony --
-- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
- + SB 44 NATUROPATHS: LICENSING; PRACTICE
<Bill Hearing Canceled>
- + SB 257 ELECTRIC UTILITY REGULATION
Uniform Rule 23 Waived
-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
Streamed live on AKL.tv

Mar 06 Wednesday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 1:30 PM

- + Presentation: TVEP by University of Alaska
- + SB 121 PHARMACIES/PHARMACISTS/BENEFITS MANAGERS
-- Invited & Public Testimony --

Mar 08 Friday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 1:30 PM

- + SB 196 EMPLOYER DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING
-- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
-- Invited & Public Testimony --
- + SB 234 EXTEND MARIJUANA CONTROL BOARD
-- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
-- Invited & Public Testimony --
Streamed live on AKL.tv

RESOURCES

Mar 04 Monday Butrovich 205 3:30 PM

- + SB 217 INTEGRATED TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS
-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
- + SB 257 ELECTRIC UTILITY REGULATION
<Bill Hearing Canceled>
Presentation: Alaska Railbelt Transmission Issues
Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled:
- + SB 243 ALASKA ENERGY AUTHORITY GOVERNANCE
Streamed live on AKL.tv

RESOURCES (continued)

Mar 06	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
	Presentation: Resident Hunters of Alaska (RHAK) by Mark Richards, Executive Director		
+ SB 168	COMPENSATION FOR WRONGFULLY SEIZED GAME -- Public Testimony --		
+ SJR 18	NAT'L PETROLEUM RESERVE IN ALASKA <Bill Hearing Canceled>		
+ HJR 20	NAT'L PETROLEUM RESERVE IN ALASKA -- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		
Mar 08	Friday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
	No Meeting Scheduled		

STATE AFFAIRS

Mar 05	Tuesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+	Presentation: Division of Elections Overview by Carol Beecher, Director, Division of Elections		
+ HB 129	VOTER REGISTRATION -- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+ SB 246	LEGISLATORS LEGAL FUND -- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+ SB 232	VOTER PREREGISTRATION FOR MINORS -- Invited & Public Testimony -- **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
Mar 07	Thursday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+	Presentation: Department of Corrections by Jen Winkleman, Commissioner DOC		
+ SB 176	BOARD OF PAROLE: MEMBERSHIP -- Invited & Public Testimony -- **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

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1805

TRANSPORTATION

Mar 05 Tuesday Butrovich 205 1:30 PM
+ SB 244 MARVIN THURMOND GALENA MAINT. STATION
-- Invited & Public Testimony --
Streamed live on AKL.tv

Mar 07 Thursday Butrovich 205 1:30 PM
+ Presentation: Hours of Service & Electronic Log
Review by Senator Myers & Invited Presenters
+ Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
Streamed live on AKL.tv

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES

ADMINISTRATION

Mar 05 Tuesday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 11:00 AM
+ Department of Administration Budget

Mar 19 Tuesday Butrovich 205 5:15 PM
+ Department of Administration Budget

CORRECTIONS

Mar 21 Thursday Butrovich 205 5:15 PM
+ Department of Corrections Budget

EDUCATION & EARLY DEVELOPMENT

Mar 14 Thursday Senate Finance 532 8:00 AM
+ FY25 Department of Education and Early
Development Budget
Streamed live on AKL.tv

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Mar 14 Thursday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 11:00 AM
+ Presentation: Spill Prevention and Response

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES (continued)

FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Mar 06 +	Wednesday Presentation: Department of Family and Community Services FY 25 Budget	Butrovich 205	5:30 PM
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HEALTH

Mar 05 +	Tuesday Presentation: Department of Health FY 25 Budget	Senate Finance 532	5:30 PM
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JUDICIARY

Mar 11 +	Monday Court System Budget	Butrovich 205	5:15 PM
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LAW

Mar 07 +	Thursday Department Overview	Senate Finance 532	5:30 PM
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Mar 14 +	Thursday Department Overview	Senate Finance 532	5:30 PM
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NATURAL RESOURCES

Mar 05 +	Tuesday Overview of FY25 Budget Request	Senate Finance 532	7:30 AM
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PUBLIC SAFETY

Mar 06 +	Wednesday Department Overview	Senate Finance 532	5:30 PM
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FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES (continued)

PUBLIC SAFETY (continued)

Mar 13	Wednesday	Senate Finance 532	5:30 PM
+	Department Overview		

REVENUE

Mar 12	Tuesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	11:30 AM
+	Overview: Department of Revenue, Alaska Mental Health Trust and Alaska Housing Finance Corporation by Steve Williams, CEO AMHT, and Bryan Butcher, CEO AHFC		

TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC FACILITIES

Mar 07	Thursday	Senate Finance 532	7:30 AM
+	FY25 Request - continued		

JOINT COMMITTEES

AK FOOD STRATEGY TASK FORCE EXEC. BOARD

Mar 08	Friday	Butrovich 205	11:00 AM
+	1. Public Testimony 1-844-586-9085		
+	2. Report on the Alaska Food Strategy Task Force Presentation to the Legislature		
+	3. Focus Area Updates		
+	4. 2024 Report Process		
+	5. Presentation: Retail Food Supply Chain Frictions and Implications for Rural Food Security by Mike Jones		
+	6. Next Meeting		
+	7. Other Items and Announcements		

JOINT COMMITTEES (continued)

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET & AUDIT

Mar 06	Wednesday	Adams 519	5:00 PM
+	Approval of Minutes		
	a. December 13, 2023		
	b. January 15, 2024		
	Executive Session (Procurement)		
	a. Legislative Audit Single Audit Contract		
	Juneau (907) 586-9085, Anchorage (907) 563-9085		
	All other 844-586-9085		

OTHER MEETINGS

JOINT SESSION

Mar 12	Tuesday	House Chamber	10:30 AM
+	Consideration of Senate Special Concurrent		
	Resolutions Regarding the Governor's Executive		
	Orders		