

**SENATE JOURNAL**  
**ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE**  
**THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE**  
**SECOND SESSION**

**Juneau, Alaska**

**Thursday**

**May 9, 2024**

**One Hundred Fifteenth Day**

Pursuant to adjournment the Senate was called to order by President Stevens at 11:04 a.m.

The roll showed nineteen members present. Senator Hughes was excused from a call of the Senate.

The prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Pastor Greg Weinert, Emmanuel Baptist Church. Senator Hoffman moved and asked unanimous consent the prayer be spread. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Heavenly Creator, I praise Your name.

As the author of life, Father God, I lift up the men and women of this chamber and ask a blessing of good health, safety, and well-being that they may accomplish the noble works before them. Grant this fortification to all who serve here in name of the people of Alaska. And to their families and loved ones, many separated by great distance and time, I ask the blessing of peace-of-mind in the knowledge their sacrifice also is to the higher cause of selfless service.

I pray against the divisiveness that plagues our land. I humbly plead that, by Your miraculous power Father, the members of this Senate would work together in civil humility for the good of our state. Let there be no malice between them. Even in the midst of differing opinions, positions, and beliefs, let no one doubt their fervent devotion to the state and its people.

I invite Your Holy Spirit to give them comfort, discernment, and endurance as they finish the multitude of tasks in these last few days of this session. Keep them mindful of placing Your will first.

Let the world see the resolve, the strength, the ingenuity, the compassion, cooperation, and courage of all Alaska, inspired by the example set by their leaders.

I pray this in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Senator Kaufman led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Certification**

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the journal for the one hundred fourteenth legislative day be approved as certified by the Secretary. Without objection, it was so ordered.

### **Messages from the House**

Message dated May 8 was read stating the House passed and transmitted for consideration:

#### **First Reading and Reference of House Bills**

##### **HB 145**

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 145(FIN) BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE, entitled:

"An Act relating to loans in an amount of \$25,000 or less; relating to the Nationwide Multistate Licensing System and Registry; relating to deferred deposit advances; and providing for an effective date."

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

**HB 312**

HOUSE BILL NO. 312 am BY THE HOUSE RULES COMMITTEE  
BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR, entitled:

"An Act relating to the appointment of an assistant  
adjutant general; and providing for an effective date."

was read the first time and referred to the State Affairs Committee.

**HB 345**

HOUSE BILL NO. 345 BY REPRESENTATIVES STORY,  
McCormick, Himschoot, Stutes, Vance, Hannan, Josephson, Schrage,  
Cronk, Galvin, Wright, C.Johnson, Armstrong, Saddler, Gray, Mears,  
entitled:

"An Act relating to safety ladders at municipal harbor  
facilities; relating to the harbor facility grant fund;  
and providing for an effective date."

was read the first time and referred to the Community and Regional  
Affairs Committee.

**HB 362**

HOUSE BILL NO. 362 BY REPRESENTATIVE PRAX, entitled:

"An Act relating to the reimbursement rate for  
prisoner medical care."

was read the first time and referred to the State Affairs and Finance  
Committees.

**Concur Messages**

**SB 187**

Message dated May 8 and received at 7:53 p.m. was read stating the  
House passed and returned for consideration CS FOR SENATE BILL  
NO. 187(FIN) am "An Act making appropriations, including capital

appropriations, supplemental appropriations, and other appropriations; making reappropriations; making appropriations to capitalize funds; amending appropriations; and providing for an effective date" with the following amendment(s):

HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL  
NO. 187(FIN) am H

### **Standing Committee Reports**

#### **SB 266**

The Education Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 266 "An Act relating to standards-based assessments; relating to correspondence study programs; relating to student fund accounts for correspondence study programs; and providing for an effective date" and recommended it be replaced with

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 266(EDC) "An Act relating to standards-based assessments; relating to correspondence study programs; relating to allotments for correspondence study programs; and providing for an effective date."

Signing do pass: Senator Tobin, Chair; Senators Gray-Jackson, Kiehl.

The following fiscal information was published today:

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

The bill was referred to the Finance Committee.

#### **HB 29**

The Judiciary Committee considered CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 29(JUD) am "An Act prohibiting certain insurance decisions based solely on a person's status as an elected official" and recommended the adoption of the Labor and Commerce Committee Substitute offered on page 2464.

Signing do pass: Senator Claman, Chair. Signing no recommendation: Senators Tobin, Kaufman.

The following previously published fiscal information applies:

Fiscal Note No. 2, zero, Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

The bill was referred to the Rules Committee.

**HB 347**

The Community and Regional Affairs Committee considered CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 347(CRA) am "An Act relating to assessment of property, boards of equalization, and certification of assessors; and providing for an effective date" and recommended it be replaced with

SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL  
NO. 347(CRA) "An Act relating to municipal  
property tax; relating to assessment of property,  
boards of equalization, and certification of assessors;  
and providing for an effective date."  
(Title Change SCR 18)

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

The following fiscal information was published today:

Fiscal Note No. 2, zero, Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

The bill was referred to the Finance Committee.

**HB 375**

The Transportation Committee considered CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 375(L&C) "An Act prohibiting certain restrictions based on the energy source of a motor vehicle."

Signing do pass: Senator Kaufman, Chair; Senator Myers. Signing do not pass: Senator Tobin.

The following previously published fiscal information applies:  
Fiscal Note No. 1, zero, Office of the Governor

The bill was referred to the Rules Committee.

### **Introduction and Reference of Senate Resolutions**

#### **SCR 18**

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 18 BY THE  
SENATE COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE,  
entitled:

Suspending Rules 24(c), 35, 41(b), and 42(e),  
Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature,  
concerning House Bill No. 347, relating to  
assessment of property, boards of equalization, and  
certification of assessors.

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

#### **SJR 21**

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 21 BY THE SENATE  
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE, entitled:

Urging federal support for the state's aviation fuel  
transition.

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

### **Consideration of the Calendar**

### **Second Reading of House Bills**

#### **HB 228**

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 228(STA) am "An Act establishing the  
Alaska task force for the regulation of psychedelic medicines  
approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration; and  
providing for an effective date" was read the second time.

President Stevens stated CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 228(STA) am will advance to third reading on the May 10 calendar.

**HB 237**

HOUSE BILL NO. 237 "An Act relating to temporary permits for nurses with lapsed licenses" was read the second time.

President Stevens stated HOUSE BILL NO. 237 will advance to third reading on the May 10 calendar.

**HB 371**

HOUSE BILL NO. 371 "An Act relating to medical review organizations; relating to the definitions of 'health care provider' and 'review organization'; and relating to the duties of the chief medical officer in the Department of Health" was read the second time.

President Stevens stated HOUSE BILL NO. 371 will advance to third reading on the May 10 calendar.

**Third Reading of House Bills****HB 17**

SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 17(L&C) "An Act relating to insurance coverage for contraceptives and related services; relating to medical assistance coverage for contraceptives and related services; and providing for an effective date" was read the third time.

The question being: "Shall SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 17(L&C) "An Act relating to insurance coverage for contraceptives and related services; relating to medical assistance coverage for contraceptives and related services; and providing for an effective date" pass the Senate?" The roll was taken with the following result:

SCS CSHB 17(L&C)

Third Reading - Final Passage

Effective Date(s)

**YEAS: 16 NAYS: 3 EXCUSED: 1 ABSENT: 0**

Yeas: Bishop, Bjorkman, Claman, Dunbar, Giessel, Gray-Jackson, Hoffman, Kaufman, Kawasaki, Kiehl, Merrick, Olson, Stedman, Stevens, Tobin, Wielechowski

Nays: Myers, Shower, Wilson

Excused: Hughes

and so, SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 17(L&C) passed the Senate.

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the vote on the passage of the bill be considered the vote on the effective date clause(s). Without objection, it was so ordered and the bill was referred to the Secretary for engrossment.

### **Third Reading of Senate Resolutions**

#### **SJR 19**

CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 19(RES) Supporting trade policies for the United States that hold China, Russia, and other countries accountable, reward leadership in clean production standards, reward superior environmental performance, support economic development, and support the rebuilding of supply chains in the United States, was read the third time.

The question being: "Shall CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 19(RES) Supporting trade policies for the United States that hold China, Russia, and other countries accountable, reward leadership in clean production standards, reward superior environmental performance, support economic development, and support the rebuilding of supply chains in the United States, pass the Senate?" The roll was taken with the following result:

CSSJR 19(RES)

Third Reading - Final Passage

**YEAS: 19 NAYS: 0 EXCUSED: 1 ABSENT: 0**

Yeas: Bishop, Bjorkman, Claman, Dunbar, Giessel, Gray-Jackson, Hoffman, Kaufman, Kawasaki, Kiehl, Merrick, Myers, Olson, Shower, Stedman, Stevens, Tobin, Wielechowski, Wilson

Excused: Hughes



and so, CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 19(RES) passed the Senate and was referred to the Secretary for engrossment.

### **Citations**

In Memoriam - Richard Cleo McGahan  
Senator(s) Bjorkman  
Representative(s) Carpenter

In Memoriam - Gene Horner  
Senator(s) Hughes, Claman

In Memoriam - Kenneth Christensen  
Representative(s) Story, Hannan  
Senator(s) Kiehl

In Memoriam - Bill Bishop  
Representative(s) McCabe, D. Johnson  
Senator(s) Myers

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

### **Unfinished Business**

Senator Tobin moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate from morning plane time, June 1 through evening plane time, June 15. Without objection, Senator Tobin was excused.

Senator Myers moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate from August 5 through August 14. Without objection, Senator Myers was excused.

**Announcements**

Rule 23(d) of the Alaska State Legislature Uniform Rules is currently in effect.

Announcements are at the end of the journal.

**Engrossment****HB 17**

SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 17(L&C) "An Act relating to insurance coverage for contraceptives and related services; relating to medical assistance coverage for contraceptives and related services; and providing for an effective date" was engrossed, signed by the President and Secretary and returned to the House for consideration.

**SJR 19**

CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 19(RES) Supporting trade policies for the United States that hold China, Russia, and other countries accountable, reward leadership in clean production standards, reward superior environmental performance, support economic development, and support the rebuilding of supply chains in the United States, was engrossed, signed by the President and Secretary and transmitted to the House for consideration.

**Adjournment**

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the Senate stand in adjournment until 11:00 a.m., May 10, 2024. Without objection, the Senate adjourned at 11:31 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**

<b>May 09</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Beltz 105 (tsbldg)</b>	<b>1:30 PM</b>
+ HB 345	HARBOR FACILITIES AND SAFETY LADDERS		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

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**EDUCATION**

<b>May 10</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Beltz 105 (tsbldg)</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
+ HB 111	EDUCATION FOR DEAF & HARD OF HEARING		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	**Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

<b>May 13</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Beltz 105 (tsbldg)</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	**Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

<b>May 15</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Beltz 105 (tsbldg)</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	**Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

<b>May 17</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Beltz 105 (tsbldg)</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
	No Meeting Scheduled		

FINANCE

**May 09      Thursday                      Senate Finance 532              9:00 AM**  
+                      Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled:  
+= HB 66      CONTROLLED SUB;HOMICIDE;CRIMES;SENTENCING  
                         -- Public Testimony <Time Limit Will Be Set> --  
+= HB 126      ASSOCIATE AND PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS  
+= HB 155      ESTABLISH AK MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMISSION  
+= HB 19      REGISTRATION OF BOATS: EXEMPTION  
                         -- Invited & Public Testimony --

**May 09      Thursday                      Senate Finance 532              1:30 PM**  
                         -- Please Note Time Change --  
+                      Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled:  
+= HB 66      CONTROLLED SUB;HOMICIDE;CRIMES;SENTENCING  
                         -- Public Testimony <Time Limit Will Be Set> --  
+= HB 155      ESTABLISH AK MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMISSION  
+= HB 126      ASSOCIATE AND PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS  
                         <Above Item Removed from Agenda>  
= HB 19      REGISTRATION OF BOATS: EXEMPTION  
                         <Above Item Removed from Agenda>

**May 10      Friday                                  Senate Finance 532              9:00 AM**  
+ SB 135      AK WORK & SAVE PROGRM; RETIRE. SAVINGS BD  
                         -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --  
+                      Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**May 11      Saturday                              Senate Finance 532              10:00 AM**  
                         -- Please Note Time Change --  
+                      Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**May 12      Sunday                                  Senate Finance 532              1:00 PM**  
+                      Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

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HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

**May 09      Thursday                              Butrovich 205                  3:30 PM**  
                         -- MEETING CANCELED --  
+                      Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**May 14      Tuesday                                  Butrovich 205                  3:30 PM**  
+                      Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

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## JUDICIARY

<b>May 10</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>1:30 PM</b>
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	**Streamed live on AKL.tv**		
<b>May 13</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>1:30 PM</b>
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	**Streamed live on AKL.tv**		
<b>May 14</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>
	-- Please Note Time Change --		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	**Streamed live on AKL.tv**		
<b>May 15</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>1:30 PM</b>
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	**Streamed live on AKL.tv**		
<b>May 17</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>1:30 PM</b>
	No Meeting Scheduled		

## LABOR & COMMERCE

<b>May 09</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Beltz 105 (tsbldg)</b>	<b>5:15 PM</b>
	-- Please Note Time Change --		
+= HB 226	PHARMACIES/PHARMACISTS/BENEFITS MANAGERS		
	-- Public Testimony --		
+= HB 189	SALE OF ALCOHOL		
	-- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --		
+= HB 88	WAREHOUSE WORK QUOTAS		
	-- Public Testimony --		
+= HB 203	PAYMENT OF WAGES; PAYROLL CARD ACCOUNT		
	-- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --		
+= HB 146	REGULATION OF FIREWORKS		
	-- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --		
+= SB 146	GAMING; ELECTRONIC PULL-TABS		
	-- Public Testimony --		
+= HB 233	RATES: MOTOR VEHICLE WARRANTY WORK		
	-- Public Testimony --		
+	HB 251 EXEMPTIONS FOR HOMEMADE FOODS		
	-- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	**Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

**LABOR & COMMERCE (continued)**

<b>May 10</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Beltz 105 (tsbldg)</b>	<b>1:30 PM</b>
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	**Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

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**RESOURCES**

<b>May 09</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>2:00 PM</b>
	-- Please Note Time Change --		
+= SB 194	REDUCE ROYALTY ON COOK INLET OIL & GAS		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	**Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

<b>May 10</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled:		
HB 295	SALMON HATCHERY PERMITS		
	-- Public Testimony --		
HB 329	AQUATIC FARMS AND HATCHERIES		
	-- Public Testimony --		
	**Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

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**STATE AFFAIRS**

<b>May 09</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Beltz 105 (tsbldg)</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
	-- MEETING CANCELED --		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	**Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

<b>May 11</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Beltz 105 (tsbldg)</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	**Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

<b>May 14</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Beltz 105 (tsbldg)</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	**Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

<b>May 16</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Beltz 105 (tsbldg)</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
	No Meeting Scheduled		

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## TRANSPORTATION

**May 09      Thursday      Butrovich 205      9:00 AM**

-- Please Note Time Change --

+    HB 375    ENERGY SOURCES OF MOTOR VEHICLES

-- Invited & Public Testimony --

+                Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**May 09      Thursday      Butrovich 205      1:30 PM**

-- MEETING CANCELED --

+                Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

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## JOINT COMMITTEES

### LEGISLATIVE BUDGET & AUDIT

**May 09      Thursday      Adams 519      5:00 PM**

+

I. Approval of Minutes - April 4, 2024

II. Executive Session - Audit

a. Release of the FY23 State Single Audit

Teleconferenced: Juneau (907)586-9085, Anchorage

(907)563-9085, Outside Juneau & Anchorage

(844)586-9085

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## CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

### CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON HB268 AND HB270

**May 09      Thursday      Senate Finance 532      4:15 PM**

Conference Committee:

+= HB 268    APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET; CAP; SUPP; AM

+= HB 270    APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET