

SENATE JOURNAL

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE -- SECOND SESSION

Juneau, Alaska

Friday

January 16, 2004

Fifth Day

Pursuant to adjournment the Senate was called to order by President Therriault at 10:13 a.m.

The roll showed seventeen members present. Senators Davis, Wilken were excused from a call of the Senate. Senator Guess was absent.

The prayer was offered by the Chaplain, The Venerable Mark Boesser, Archdeacon of Southeast Alaska for the Episcopal Church. Senator Hoffman moved and asked unanimous consent that the prayer be spread. Without objection, it was so ordered.

The story goes that an old Arab died and left his estate to his three sons: one-half to the eldest, one-third to the middle son, and one-ninth to the youngest. The trouble was the total inheritance amounted to seventeen camels, and when the family tried to divvy things up, they found that seventeen could not be divided by two or three or nine. So what to do? "Not to worry." A neighbor solved the problem very simply by lending them one camel so there would be a total of eighteen. It was easy now to divide the estate: one-half, nine camels, went to the eldest; one-third, six went to the middle son; one-ninth, two, went to the youngest. Nine plus six is fifteen plus two equals seventeen. So they divided the estate, returned the borrowed eighteenth camel to the neighbor, and all was well.

A point I'd like to draw from that neat story, is that each of us probably has some sort of "camel" to at least loan to a fellow legislator to assist in solving some seemingly unsolvable problem or meeting some really difficult need.

My prayer this morning is that as the legislative session unfolds, each person here may find it in his or her heart to be that kind of a neighbor. Amen.

Senator Gary Stevens led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Certification

Senator Ben Stevens moved and asked unanimous consent that the journals for the third and fourth legislative days be approved as certified by the Secretary. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Messages from the Governor

Message dated January 13 and received January 14 was read, stating:

Under the provision of article III, section 18 of the Alaska Constitution, I am requesting the opportunity to address a Joint Session of the Twenty-third Alaska State Legislature on Tuesday, March 9, 2004, at 7:00 p.m. to provide an update of the initiatives and developments of the administration.

Messages from the House

Message dated January 13 was read, stating:

The House of Representatives respectfully invites the Senate to a Joint Session of the Twenty-third Alaska Legislature at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 25 for the purpose of hearing Chief Justice Alexander O. Bryner present the annual State of the Judiciary message.

Senator Ben Stevens moved and asked unanimous consent that 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.

Communications

The following Budget and Audit Report was received from Pat Davidson, Legislative Auditor, in accordance with AS 24.20.311 and is on file in the Office of the Secretary of the Senate:

State of Alaska, Legislative Budget and Audit Committee, Annual Report 2003

The following reports are on file in the Office of the Secretary of the Senate:

Annual Report of the Alaska Drinking Water and Clean Water Loan Funds

from Ernesta Ballard, Commissioner, Department of Environmental Conservation

in accordance with AS 37.05.035 and AS 46.03.032

State of Alaska's Assumption of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

from Ernesta Ballard, Commissioner, Department of Environmental Conservation

in accordance with Chapter 50, SLA 2002

Standing Committee Reports

SB 259

The Health, Education and Social Services Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 259 "An Act establishing the SeniorCare program and relating to that program; and providing for an effective date." Signing do pass: Senator Dyson, Chair; Senators Green, Davis, Wilken. Signing no recommendation: Senator Guess.

The following previously published fiscal information applies:

- Fiscal Note No. 1, Department of Health and Social Services
- Fiscal Note No. 2, Department of Health and Social Services
- Fiscal Note No. 3, Department of Health and Social Services
- Fiscal Note No. 4, Department of Health and Social Services
- Fiscal Note No. 5, Department of Health and Social Services

The bill was referred to the Finance Committee.

Introduction and Reference of Senate Bills

SB 14

SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 14 BY SENATORS WAGONER, Wilken, entitled:

"An Act relating to the base student allocation used in the formula for state funding of public education; and providing for an effective date."

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

SB 267

SENATE BILL NO. 267 BY SENATOR WILKEN, entitled:

"An Act relating to the exemption from taxation of real property used as the primary residence of the widow or widower of a resident 65 years of age or older, and to tax equivalency payments for the widow or widower of a resident 65 years of age or older."

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

SB 268

SENATE BILL NO. 268 BY SENATOR WILKEN, entitled:

"An Act relating to the safe storage of firearms."

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

SB 269

SENATE BILL NO. 269 BY SENATOR GREEN, entitled:

"An Act relating to access to the library records of a child by a parent or guardian."

was read the first time and referred to Community and Regional Affairs and Health, Education and Social Services Committees.

SB 270

SENATE BILL NO. 270 BY SENATOR GREEN, entitled:

"An Act establishing November as Avalanche Awareness Month."

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

Consideration of the Calendar**Citations**

Honoring – Valdez High School Girls Volleyball Team, 2003 State 3A Championships

Representative(s) Harris

Senator(s) Therriault, Bunde, Cowdery, Davis, Dyson, Ellis, Elton, Green, Guess, Hoffman, Lincoln, Seekins, Stedman, Ben Stevens, Gary Stevens, Wagoner, Wilken

In Memoriam – Ford Horst

Representative(s) Weyhrauch, Kerttula

Senator(s) Elton, Therriault, Bunde, Cowdery, Davis, Dyson, Green, Guess, Hoffman, Lincoln, Seekins, Stedman, Ben Stevens, Gary Stevens, Wagoner, Wilken

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

Unfinished Business

Senator Dyson moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate on March 4 through plane time, March 7, from evening plane time, March 9 through March 15 and from noon, March 19 through March 21. Without objection, Senator Dyson was excused.

Senator Wagoner moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate from evening plane time, January 29 to plane time, February 1. Without objection, Senator Wagoner was excused.

Senator Ogan moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate from plane time, February 13 to plane time, February 16 and from plane time, March 8, to plane time, March 15. Without objection, Senator Ogan was excused.

Senator Hoffman moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate on February 4 through February 6. Without objection, Senator Hoffman was excused.

Senator Olson moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate to plane time, January 20. Without objection, Senator Olson was excused.

Senator Lincoln moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate on February 5 and February 6. Without objection, Senator Lincoln was excused.

Senator Ben Stevens moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate from afternoon plane time, March 11 to morning plane time, March 15. Without objection, Senator Ben Stevens was excused.

Announcements

Announcements are at the end of the journal.

Adjournment

Senator Ben Stevens moved and asked unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment until 11:00 a.m., January 20, 2004. Without objection, the Senate adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

Kirsten Waid
Secretary of the Senate

January 2004

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

Jan 16	Friday No Meeting Scheduled	Fahrenkamp 203	1:30 PM
Jan 19	Monday No Meeting Scheduled	Fahrenkamp 203	1:30 PM
Jan 21	Wednesday No Meeting Scheduled	Fahrenkamp 203	1:30 PM
Jan 23	Friday No Meeting Scheduled	Fahrenkamp 203	1:30 PM

FINANCE

Jan 16	Friday No Meeting Scheduled	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
Jan 19	Monday No Meeting Scheduled	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
Jan 20	Tuesday No Meeting Scheduled	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM

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FINANCE (continued)

Jan 21	Wednesday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
SB 259	SENIORCARE		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
Jan 21	Wednesday	House Finance 519	1:30 PM
	-- Time and Location Change --		
	Joint W/(H) Finance Committee Meeting		
	Presentation by the Denali Commission		
Jan 22	Thursday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
	No Meeting Scheduled		
Jan 23	Friday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
	No Meeting Scheduled		

HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES

Jan 19	Monday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
	No Meeting Scheduled		
Jan 21	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
	No Meeting Scheduled		
Jan 22	Thursday	Capitol 124	1:00 PM
	-- Time and Location Change --		
	Joint w/(H) Education		
+	Overview: Alternative Governance for		
	Charter Schools		

JUDICIARY

Jan 16	Friday	Beltz 211	1:00 PM
	No Meeting Scheduled		
Jan 21	Wednesday	Beltz 211	8:00 AM
+= SJR 18	CONST. AM: PF APPROPS/INFLATION-PROOFING		
+= SJR 19	CONST. AM: PERMANENT FUND INCOME		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

LABOR & COMMERCE

Jan 20 Tuesday Beltz 211 1:30 PM
 No Meeting Scheduled

Jan 22 Thursday Beltz 211 1:30 PM
 + Overview: Pulltabs Subcommittee Report
 -- Teleconference <Listen Only> --

RESOURCES

Jan 16 Friday Butrovich 205 3:30 PM
 No Meeting Scheduled

Jan 19 Monday Butrovich 205 3:30 PM
 No Meeting Scheduled

Jan 21 Wednesday Butrovich 205 3:30 PM
 += HCR 10 RESTORATION OF RIPARIAN HABITAT
 + SB 241 APPROP: NATURAL GAS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
 + SB 247 AK NATURAL GAS DEV. AUTHORITY INITIATIVE

Jan 23 Friday Butrovich 205 3:30 PM
 No Meeting Scheduled

STATE AFFAIRS

Jan 20 Tuesday Beltz 211 3:30 PM
 + SB 190 KENAI RIVER SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA
 + SB 167 INTRODUCTION OF BILLS
 + SCR 8 AMENDING UNIFORM RULES 37 AND 44

Jan 22 Thursday Beltz 211 3:30 PM
 No Meeting Scheduled

TRANSPORTATION

Jan 20 Tuesday Butrovich 205 1:30 PM
 Overview of Knik Arm Bridge and Toll
 Authority

JOINT COMMITTEES

SALMON INDUSTRY TASK FORCE

Jan 18	Sunday	House Finance 519	1:00 PM
	Final Discussion of Subcommittee Recommendations to the Task Force		
Jan 19	Monday	House Finance 519	8:00 AM
	Final Discussion of Subcommittee Recommendations to the Task Force		

OTHER MEETINGS

MISCELLANEOUS MEETINGS

Jan 26	Monday	Senate Finance 532	1:00 PM
	Senator Bunde will offer a presentation, "The High School Graduation Qualifying Exam - A Refresher" to provide legislators staff and others the opportunity to review the history of the exam, what the law contains and new developments since 2001. Copies of the Practice Test will be available. All are welcome.		