

HOUSE JOURNAL
ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

Anchorage, Alaska

Tuesday

June 26, 2007

First Day

Pursuant to a poll of the legislature resulting in an affirmative vote of more than two-thirds of the membership calling themselves into special session, the House was called to order by Speaker Harris at 10:06 a.m. at the William A. Egan Center in Anchorage, Alaska.

Roll call showed 36 members present. Representative Buch was absent and later excused and his presence was noted later. Representatives Fairclough, Foster, and Wilson were absent and later excused.

The Speaker stated that pursuant to article II, section 9 of the Constitution of the State of Alaska and Alaska Statutes 24.05.100(a)(2), the House of Representatives would be polled again whether to hold a special session.

The question being: "Shall the House convene the First Special Session to consider senior citizens' benefits?" The roll was called with the following result:

Convene First Special Session

YEAS: 36 NAYS: 0 EXCUSED: 0 ABSENT: 4

Yeas: Chenault, Cissna, Coghill, Crawford, Dahlstrom, Doll, Doogan, Edgmon, Gara, Gardner, Gatto, Gruenberg, Guttenberg, Hawker, Holmes, Johansen, Johnson, Joule, Kawasaki, Kelly, Kerttula, Kohring, LeDoux, Lynn, Meyer, Nelson, Neuman, Olson, Ramras, Roses, Salmon, Samuels, Seaton, Stoltze, Thomas, Harris

Absent: Buch, Fairclough, Foster, Wilson

And so, the motion passed.

Representative Samuels 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:

Representative Buch - from 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., today

Representative Fairclough - from today to midnight, June 29

Representative Foster - from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., today

Representative Wilson - from today to 5:30 p.m., plane time, July 5

The invocation was offered by the Chaplain, Representative Dahlstrom. Representative Meyer moved and asked unanimous consent that the invocation be spread on the journal. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

With the deepest respect for the religious beliefs of all Alaskans, I offer the following prayer.

Our Father in Heaven: We come before you today as an elected body with the goals and intent of serving our great state to the best of our ability.

We thank you for and value the freedom we enjoy. We ask for thy blessings on the men and women serving in our military today. We ask for thy blessings on the families left behind.

We thank you for the beauties of this earth and our great state and ask for thy guidance as we work on the legislation and issues that bring us together. Father, bless us to be able to work together, sharing our differences in finding common ground together. Again, we are grateful for the bounties of the earth and accept willingly the responsibility we have to our state.

We ask for thy blessings on the members of this body who have challenging health issues. Bless them with a calm and returned health.

This prayer is offered, Father, in thy name. Amen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Representative Nelson.

**The presence of Representative Buch was noted.

CERTIFICATION OF THE JOURNAL

Representative Samuels moved and asked unanimous consent that the journal for the 121st legislative day, Senate and House Joint Journal Supplement No. 7, and the First Supplement of the First Session be approved as certified by the Chief Clerk. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

HB 126

A message dated June 22, 2007, was read stating the Governor signed the following bill and is transmitting the engrossed and enrolled copies to the Lieutenant Governor's office for permanent filing:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 126(JUD)(title am)

"An Act relating to access to criminal justice information for certain employees of the Department of Administration; relating to the procedure for changes to certificates, registration, titles, licenses, permits, and other forms relating to driving and motor vehicles; relating to requirements for, cancellations of, renewals of, reinstatements of, expirations of, disqualifications of, withdrawals of, suspensions or revocations of, and exemptions from commercial and other driver's licenses, permits, or privileges to drive; relating to records concerning motor vehicles and their drivers; relating to penalties for violating commercial driver licensing requirements; relating to the driver's license compact; and providing for an effective date."

Chapter No. 23, SLA 2007

Effective Date: See Chapter

The Speaker stated that, without objection, the House would recess until 1:00 p.m.; and so, the House recessed at 10:27 a.m.

AFTER RECESS

The Speaker called the House back to order at 2:38 p.m.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

SB 4

The Finance Committee considered:

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 4(FIN) am

"An Act extending the cash assistance benefit program for seniors under the senior care program and increasing the benefit amount; amending medical income eligibility provisions for persons under 19 years of age and for pregnant women; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends it be replaced with:

HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 4(FIN)

"An Act relating to cash assistance for seniors; establishing the senior benefits payment program; and providing for an effective date."

(technical title change)

The report was signed by Representatives Chenault and Meyer, Co-chairs, with the following individual recommendations:

Do pass (4): Thomas, Nelson, Chenault, Meyer

No recommendation (1): Stoltze

Amend (5): Hawker, Joule, Crawford, Gara, Kelly

The following fiscal note(s) apply to HCS CSSB 4(FIN):

7. Fiscal, Dept. of Health & Social Services

CSSB 4(FIN) am is on today's calendar.

INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING, AND REFERENCE OF HOUSE BILLS

HB 1001

HOUSE BILL NO. 1001 by Representatives Doogan and Gara,
entitled:

"An Act making a special appropriation to the Department of Health and Social Services for the Alaska senior benefits payment program; and providing for an effective date."

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

CONSIDERATION OF THE DAILY CALENDAR

SECOND READING OF SENATE BILLS

SB 4

The following was read the second time:

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 4(FIN) am

"An Act extending the cash assistance benefit program for seniors under the senior care program and increasing the benefit amount; amending medical income eligibility provisions for persons under 19 years of age and for pregnant women; and providing for an effective date."

with the:

Journal Page

FIN RPT HCS(FIN) NT 4DP 1NR 5AM	1502
TECHNICAL TITLE CHANGE	1502
FN7: (HSS)	1502

Representative Samuels moved and asked unanimous consent that the following committee substitute be adopted in lieu of the original bill:

HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 4(FIN)

"An Act relating to cash assistance for seniors; establishing the senior benefits payment program; and providing for an effective date."

There being no objection, it was so ordered.

Amendment No. 1 was offered by Representative Hawker:

Page 3, line 6:

Delete "150"

Insert "175"

Page 3, line 18:

Delete "175"

Insert "250"

Delete "100"

Insert "75"

Page 3, line 20:

Delete "150"

Insert "175"

Delete "135"

Insert "75"

Page 3, line 22:

Delete "100"

Insert "125"

Delete "150"

Insert "100"

Representative Hawker moved and asked unanimous consent that Amendment No. 1 be adopted.

Representative Coghill objected.

Representative Johnson moved and asked unanimous consent that he be allowed to abstain from voting because of a conflict of interest. Objection was heard, and Representative Johnson was required to vote.

Amendment to Amendment No. 1 was offered by Representative Kelly:

Delete all material in Amendment No. 1.

Page 1, line 1 through Page 5, line 19 of HCS CSSB 4(FIN) delete all material and insert:

Conceptual provisions that would:

1. Extend the current senior care program until June 30, 2011;
2. Eliminate the prescription drug benefit effective June 30, 2007;
3. Change the name of the program to "Senior Benefit Payment Program"; and
4. Allow legislative legal services to make conforming amendments and changes to enact the above provisions.

Representative Kelly moved and asked unanimous consent that Amendment to Amendment No. 1 be adopted.

There was objection.

The question being: "Shall Amendment to Amendment No. 1 be adopted?" The roll was called with the following result:

HCS CSSB 4(FIN)

Second Reading

Amendment to Amendment No. 1

YEAS: 10 NAYS: 27 EXCUSED: 3 ABSENT: 0

Yeas: Chenault, Coghill, Dahlstrom, Johnson, Kelly, Meyer, Ramras, Samuels, Seaton, Stoltze

Nays: Cissna, Crawford, Doll, Doogan, Edgmon, Gara, Gardner, Gatto, Gruenberg, Guttenberg, Hawker, Holmes, Johansen, Joule, Kawasaki, Kerttula, Kohring, LeDoux, Lynn, Nelson, Neuman, Olson, Roses, Salmon, Thomas, Buch, Harris

Excused: Fairclough, Foster, Wilson

And so, Amendment to Amendment No. 1 was not adopted.

The question being: "Shall Amendment No. 1 be adopted?" The roll was called with the following result:

HCS CSSB 4(FIN)

Second Reading

Amendment No. 1

YEAS: 22 NAYS: 15 EXCUSED: 3 ABSENT: 0

Yeas: Cissna, Crawford, Doll, Doogan, Edgmon, Gara, Gardner, Gatto, Gruenberg, Guttenberg, Hawker, Holmes, Joule, Kawasaki, Kerttula, Kohring, LeDoux, Lynn, Nelson, Olson, Salmon, Buch

Nays: Coghill, Dahlstrom, Johansen, Johnson, Kelly, Meyer, Neuman, Ramras, Roses, Samuels, Seaton, Stoltze, Thomas, Chenault, Harris

Excused: Fairclough, Foster, Wilson

And so, Amendment No. 1 was adopted.

Representative Samuels moved and asked unanimous consent that HCS CSSB 4(FIN) am H be considered engrossed, advanced to third reading, and placed on final passage. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

HCS CSSB 4(FIN) am H was read the third time.

The question being: "Shall HCS CSSB 4(FIN) am H pass the House?" The roll was called with the following result:

HCS CSSB 4(FIN) am H

Third Reading

Final Passage

YEAS: 34 NAYS: 3 EXCUSED: 3 ABSENT: 0

Yeas: Crawford, Doll, Doogan, Edgmon, Gara, Gardner, Gatto, Gruenberg, Guttenberg, Hawker, Holmes, Johansen, Johnson, Joule, Kawasaki, Kerttula, Kohring, LeDoux, Lynn, Meyer, Nelson, Neuman, Olson, Ramras, Roses, Salmon, Samuels, Seaton, Stoltze, Thomas, Buch, Chenault, Cissna, Harris

Nays: Coghill, Dahlstrom, Kelly

Excused: Fairclough, Foster, Wilson

And so, HCS CSSB 4(FIN) am H passed the House.

Representative Samuels moved and asked unanimous consent that the roll call on the passage of the bill be considered the roll call on the effective date clause. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

Representative Samuels gave notice of reconsideration of the vote on HCS CSSB 4(FIN) am H.

RECONSIDERATION

SB 4

Representative Samuels moved and asked unanimous consent that reconsideration of HCS CSSB 4(FIN) am H be taken up on the same day. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

HCS CSSB 4(FIN) am H was again before the House in third reading.

The question to be reconsidered: "Shall HCS CSSB 4(FIN) am H pass the House?" The roll was called with the following result:

HCS CSSB 4(FIN) am H--RECONSIDERATION

Third Reading

Final Passage

YEAS: 34 NAYS: 3 EXCUSED: 3 ABSENT: 0

Yeas: Crawford, Doll, Doogan, Edgmon, Gara, Gardner, Gatto, Gruenberg, Guttenberg, Hawker, Holmes, Johansen, Johnson, Joule, Kawasaki, Kerttula, Kohring, LeDoux, Lynn, Meyer, Nelson, Neuman, Olson, Ramras, Roses, Salmon, Samuels, Seaton, Stoltze, Thomas, Buch, Chenault, Cissna, Harris

Nays: Dahlstrom, Kelly, Coghill

Excused: Fairclough, Foster, Wilson

And so, HCS CSSB 4(FIN) am H passed the House on reconsideration.

Representative Samuels moved and asked unanimous consent that the roll call on the passage of the bill be considered the roll call on the effective date clause. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

HCS CSSB 4(FIN) am H was referred to the Chief Clerk for engrossment.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Representative Samuels 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:

Representative Chenault - from 7:00 a.m., October 2 to 8:00 p.m., October 12

Representative Fairclough - from 7:00 p.m., July 14 to 9:00 p.m., July 20; and from 1:00 a.m., August 4 to 10:00 a.m., August 28

Representative Gatto - from September 28 to October 4

Representative Wilson - from 8:00 a.m., August 4 to evening plane time, August 10

The Speaker stated that, without objection, the House would recess to a call of the Chair; and so, the House recessed at 3:48 p.m.

AFTER RECESS

The Speaker called the House back to order at 5:00 p.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS**SB 4**

Representatives Lynn, Gardner, Gara, Crawford, Doogan, Holmes, Gruenberg, Buch, Kerttula, and Doll added their names as cross sponsors to:

HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 4(FIN) am H

"An Act relating to cash assistance for seniors; establishing the senior benefits payment program; and providing for an effective date."

ENGROSSMENT**SB 4**

HCS CSSB 4(FIN) am H was engrossed, signed by the Speaker and Chief Clerk and transmitted to the Senate for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The House committee schedule is published under separate cover.

ADJOURNMENT

Representative Samuels moved and asked unanimous consent that the First Special Session of the House of Representatives for the Twenty-fifth Legislature adjourn sine die. There being no objection, the House adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

Suzi Lowell
Chief Clerk