

**SENATE JOURNAL**  
**ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE**  
**TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE**  
**SECOND SESSION**

**Juneau, Alaska**

**Monday**

**February 11, 2008**

**Twenty-eighth Day**

Pursuant to adjournment the Senate was called to order by President Green at 11:06 a.m.

The roll showed seventeen members present. Senator Cowdery was excused from a call of the Senate. Senators McGuire, Olson were absent.

The prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Dr. Zimmerman of the Chapel by the Lake. Senator Hoffman moved and asked unanimous consent that the prayer be spread. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Eternal and Gracious God, may we never take for granted the freedoms that are ours as citizens of the United States: freedom to choose those who will represent us, freedom to be governed by the vote of the majority, freedom for minorities to be represented and to speak. May the exercise of our heritage be honored and valued this day in this chamber.

Grant wisdom and discernment to the members of this Senate as they do the people's work this day. May they speak with clarity, listen carefully, deliberate with integrity and discover solutions to the challenges now confronting the State of Alaska.

May they never forget the concerns of all of our citizens: those in distant villages, those in the urban core, our children, our seniors, the hidden people.

At the end of this day may they experience the satisfaction that comes when the docket has been completed and their work is done. Amen.

Senator French led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Certification**

Senator Ellis moved and asked unanimous consent that the journals for the twenty-fifth through twenty-seventh legislative days be approved as certified by the Secretary. Without objection, it was so ordered.

The presence of Senators Olson, McGuire was noted.

### **Messages from the Governor**

Letter dated and received February 8 was read, stating the Governor has made the following change to appointments received January 30 (page 1736):

#### **Board of Game**

Teresa Sager-Albaugh is withdrawn

Craig Fleener – Fort Yukon

Term Begins: 3/1/2008      Term Expires: 3/1/2011

The appointment was referred to the Resources Committee.

The resume for this appointment has been submitted to the Offices of the Senate Secretary and the Chief Clerk.

### **Messages from the House**

#### **HB 151**

Message dated February 8 was read, stating the House concurred in the Senate amendment to CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 151(JUD), thus adopting:

SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 151(JUD) "An Act requiring an indemnification, defense, and hold harmless provision in construction-related professional services contracts of state agencies, quasi-public agencies, municipalities, and political subdivisions."

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

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

#### **HB 260**

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 260(STA) BY THE HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, entitled:

"An Act relating to a State Officers Compensation Commission and establishing how legislators, the governor, the lieutenant governor, and executive department heads shall be compensated; providing for an effective date by repealing the effective dates of certain sections of ch. 124, SLA 1986; and providing for an effective date."

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

### **Standing Committee Reports**

#### **SB 119**

The Finance Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 119 "An Act establishing a grant program to support public school libraries" and recommended it be replaced with

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 119(FIN) "An Act relating to grant programs to support libraries."

Signing do pass: Senators Hoffman, Stedman, Cochairs; Senators Elton, Thomas, Dyson, Olson.

The following fiscal information was published today:

Fiscal Note No. 2, zero, Department of Education and Early Development

The bill was referred to the Rules Committee.

**SB 120**

The Labor and Commerce Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 120 "An Act relating to the calculation and payment of unemployment compensation benefits; and providing for an effective date" and recommended it be replaced with

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 120(L&C) "An Act relating to disclosure of certain information from the records of the Department of Labor and Workforce Development and limiting the use of the disclosed information, and to the calculation and payment of unemployment compensation benefits; and providing for an effective date."

Signing do pass: Senator Ellis, Chair; Senator Davis. Signing amend: Senator Stevens.

The following fiscal information was published today:

Fiscal Note No. 1, Department of Labor and Workforce Development

The bill was referred to the Finance Committee.

**Introduction and Reference of Senate Bills**

**SB 264**

SENATE BILL NO. 264 BY SENATORS OLSON, Green, Huggins, entitled:

"An Act relating to partial-birth abortions."

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

**Consideration of the Calendar****Second Reading of Senate Resolutions****SJR 11**

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 11 Supporting federal funding for veterans' health care and urging the United States Congress to ensure adequate funding for veterans' health care, was read the second time.

Senator Ellis moved and asked unanimous consent that the resolution be considered engrossed, advanced to third reading and placed on final passage. Without objection, it was so ordered.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 11 was read the third time.

Senators Therriault, Kookesh, Dyson, Thomas, Wagoner, Stevens, Bunde, Olson, Elton, McGuire, Wilken, Huggins, Ellis, Stedman, Hoffman, Green, Davis moved and asked unanimous consent to be shown as cosponsors on the resolution. Without objection, it was so ordered.

The question being: "Shall SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 11 Supporting federal funding for veterans' health care and urging the United States Congress to ensure adequate funding for veterans' health care, pass the Senate?" The roll was taken with the following result:

**SJR 11**

Third Reading - Final Passage

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

Yeas: Bunde, Davis, Dyson, Ellis, Elton, French, Green, Hoffman, Huggins, Kookesh, McGuire, Olson, Stedman, Stevens, Therriault, Thomas, Wagoner, Wielechowski, Wilken

Excused: Cowdery

and so, SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 11 passed the Senate and was referred to the Secretary for engrossment.

**SCR 17**

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 17 was read the second time and was before the Senate on final passage.

The question being: "Shall SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 17 Relating to establishing March 2008 as Brain Injury Awareness Month, pass the Senate?" The roll was taken with the following result:

SCR 17

Final Passage

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

Yeas: Bunde, Davis, Dyson, Ellis, Elton, French, Green, Hoffman, Huggins, Kookesh, McGuire, Olson, Stedman, Stevens, Therriault, Thomas, Wagoner, Wielechowski, Wilken

Excused: Cowdery

and so, SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 17 passed the Senate and was referred to the Secretary for engrossment.

**Announcements**

Announcements are at the end of the journal.

**Engrossment****SJR 11**

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 11 Supporting federal funding for veterans' health care and urging the United States Congress to ensure adequate funding for veterans' health care, was engrossed, signed by the President and Secretary and transmitted to the House for consideration.

**SCR 17**

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 17 Relating to establishing March 2008 as Brain Injury Awareness Month, was engrossed, signed by the President and Secretary and transmitted to the House for consideration.

**Adjournment**

Senator Ellis moved and asked unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment until 11:00 a.m., February 13, 2008. Without objection, the Senate adjourned at 11:42 a.m.

Kirsten Waid  
Secretary of the Senate

February 2008

**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**

**Feb 12                      Tuesday                                      Beltz 211                      3:30 PM**

+ = SB 204 MUNI TAX EXEMPTION: COMBAT DEATHS

+ = SB 235 ALCOHOL: LOCAL OPTION/LICENSING/MINORS

+    SJR 15 DISAPPROVING KETCHIKAN ANNEXATION

Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**Feb 14                      Thursday                                      Beltz 211                      3:30 PM**

No Meeting Scheduled

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**FINANCE**

**Feb 11                      Monday                                      Senate Finance 532                      9:00 AM**

-- Recessed to 9:00 am 2/12/08 --

+    SB 256 SUPPLEMENTAL/CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS

+                      Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**Feb 12                      Tuesday                                      Senate Finance 532                      9:00 AM**

-- Continued from 02/11/08 --

+ = SB 256 SUPPLEMENTAL/CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS

**Feb 13                      Wednesday                                      Senate Finance 532                      9:00 AM**

+                      Revenue Forecast by Commissioner Galvin,  
Dept of Revenue

+                      Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled



**FINANCE (continued)**

**Feb 14      Thursday                      Senate Finance 532              9:00 AM**

+ SB 196 PRESCRIPTION DATABASE  
 + SB 255 SNETTISHAM REFUNDING BONDS  
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**Feb 15      Friday                              Senate Finance 532              9:00 AM**

+ SB 240 EDUCATION FUNDING  
 + HB 273 EDUCATION FUNDING  
     <Pending Referral>  
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**Feb 16      Saturday                              Senate Finance 532              10:00 AM**

-- Please Note Time Change --  
 + Presentation:  
     Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority  
     Housing Trust, Bring the Kids Home  
     Initiative, Crime, and Recidivism  
     -----

**HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES**

**Feb 11      Monday                              Butrovich 205              1:30 PM**

+ SB 170 INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR WELL-BABY EXAMS  
 + SB 181 ANATOMICAL GIFTS  
     Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**Feb 13      Wednesday                              Butrovich 205              1:30 PM**

+ SB 241 UNIV. REPORT: TEACHER TRAINING/RETENTION  
 + SB 107 NATUROPATHS  
 + SB 239 DENTISTS & DENTAL ASSISTANTS  
     Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**Feb 15      Friday                                      Capitol 106              1:30 PM**

+ Joint with House HES  
 + Presentation: Bring the Kids Home  
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**JUDICIARY**

**Feb 11 Monday Beltz 211 1:30 PM**  
 += SB 211 AGGRAVATING FACTOR: HOMELESSNESS  
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled  
 += SB 226 VEXATIOUS LITIGANTS  
 += SB 247 MISSING PERSONS  
 + Other Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**Feb 13 Wednesday Beltz 211 1:30 PM**  
 + Presentation: Status of Point Thomson  
 Alaska Department of Law  
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**Feb 15 Friday Beltz 211 1:30 PM**  
 + HB 197 TRUSTS  
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

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**LABOR & COMMERCE**

**Feb 12 Tuesday Beltz 211 1:30 PM**  
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled  
 Including But Not Limited to:  
 += SB 230 FILM OFFICE/ FILM PRODUCTION TAX CREDIT  
 += HB 226 REPEAL TERMINATION OF STEP PROGRAM  
 += HJR 25 SUPPORTING RIGHT TO FORM LABOR UNIONS  
 += SB 187 ALASKA MINIMUM WAGE  
 -- Rescheduled to 02/14/08

**Feb 14 Thursday Beltz 211 1:30 PM**  
 + HB 233 UNCLAIMED PHONE/ELEC COOP DISTRIBUTIONS  
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled  
 Including But Not Limited to:  
 += SB 230 FILM OFFICE/ FILM PRODUCTION TAX CREDIT  
 += SB 187 ALASKA MINIMUM WAGE

**Feb 16 Saturday Beltz 211 1:30 PM**  
 += HJR 25 SUPPORTING RIGHT TO FORM LABOR UNIONS  
 <Above Item Removed from Agenda>  
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled  
 += HB 226 REPEAL TERMINATION OF STEP PROGRAM

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+	SCR 15	AMEND UNIFORM RULES: STANDING COMMITTEES
+=	SB 215	REQUIREMENTS FOR DRIVER'S LICENSE/I.D.
+	SB 202	PROHIBIT STATE SPENDING FOR REAL ID ACT
+		Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**TRANSPORTATION**

<b>Feb 12</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>1:00 PM</b>
SB 164	USED MOTOR VEHICLE SALES		
SB 249	CAPSTONE AVIONICS FUND/LOANS		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

<b>Feb 14</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>1:00 PM</b>
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

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**FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES****ADMINISTRATION**

<b>Feb 19</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>3:00 PM</b>
+	Overview: Governor's Amendments		
	Q & A		

<b>Mar 10</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>4:00 PM</b>
+	Budget Close-out		

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**COMMERCE, COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEV**

<b>Feb 15</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>House Finance 519</b>	<b>12:15 PM</b>
	Joint with House		
	FY09 Budget Request		

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**COURT SYSTEM**

<b>Feb 14</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Fahrenkamp 203</b>	<b>3:00 PM</b>
+	FY09 Budget		
	Mental Health Trust Funds		

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**EDUCATION & EARLY DEVELOPMENT**

<b>Feb 11</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Fahrenkamp 203</b>	<b>12:00 PM</b>
	FY09 Budget Overview		

**FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES (continued)****EDUCATION & EARLY DEVELOPMENT (continued)**

<b>Feb 15</b>	<b>Friday</b> FY09 Budget Overview	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>
<b>Feb 29</b>	<b>Friday</b> FY09 Budget Overview	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>
<b>Mar 07</b>	<b>Friday</b> FY09 Budget Overview	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>
<b>Mar 12</b>	<b>Wednesday</b> FY09 Budget Overview	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>12:00 PM</b>

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**GOVERNOR**

<b>Feb 12</b>	<b>Tuesday</b> Budget Subcommittee Meeting	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>4:00 PM</b>
<b>Mar 12</b>	<b>Wednesday</b> Close-out Meeting	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>3:00 PM</b>

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**HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES**

<b>Feb 14</b> +	<b>Thursday</b> Department Budget - Explanation of Changes from Last Year's Budget -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --	<b>Fahrenkamp 203</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>
<b>Feb 28</b> +	<b>Thursday</b> Department Budget - Questions & Answers -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --	<b>Fahrenkamp 203</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>
<b>Mar 06</b> +	<b>Thursday</b> Department Budget Close-Out -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>12:30 PM</b>

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**FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES (continued)****LABOR & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

<b>Feb 11</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>House Finance 519</b>	<b>5:15 PM</b>
	-- MEETING CANCELED --		
	Joint with House		
	FY09 Budget Request		
<b>Feb 13</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>House Finance 519</b>	<b>5:15 PM</b>
	-- MEETING CANCELED --		
	Joint with House		
	FY09 Budget Request		

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**LAW**

<b>Feb 19</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Fahrenkamp 203</b>	<b>1:30 PM</b>
	Budget Overview		
<b>Feb 26</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Fahrenkamp 203</b>	<b>1:30 PM</b>
	Budget Detail		
<b>Mar 04</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Fahrenkamp 203</b>	<b>1:30 PM</b>
	Budget Detail		
<b>Mar 11</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Fahrenkamp 203</b>	<b>1:30 PM</b>
	Close-out		

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**LEGISLATURE**

<b>Feb 12</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>4:30 PM</b>
	Budget Subcommittee Meeting		
<b>Mar 12</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
	Close-out Meeting		

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**MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

<b>Mar 05</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Fahrenkamp 203</b>	<b>1:00 PM</b>
	FY09 DMVA Budget Closeout		

**FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES (continued)****NATURAL RESOURCES**

<b>Feb 12</b>	<b>Tuesday</b> -- Location Change -- FY09 Budget Overview	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>4:00 PM</b>
<b>Feb 19</b>	<b>Tuesday</b> FY09 Budget Overview	<b>Fahrenkamp 203</b>	<b>4:00 PM</b>
<b>Feb 26</b>	<b>Tuesday</b> FY09 Budget Overview	<b>Fahrenkamp 203</b>	<b>4:00 PM</b>
<b>Mar 04</b>	<b>Tuesday</b> FY09 Budget Closeout	<b>Fahrenkamp 203</b>	<b>4:00 PM</b>
<b>Mar 11</b>	<b>Tuesday</b> FY09 Budget Overview	<b>Fahrenkamp 203</b>	<b>4:00 PM</b>

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**PUBLIC SAFETY**

<b>Feb 19</b> +	<b>Tuesday</b> Department Budget - Questions & Answers -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --	<b>Fahrenkamp 203</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>
<b>Mar 04</b> +	<b>Tuesday</b> Department Budget Close-Out -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --	<b>Fahrenkamp 203</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>

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**REVENUE**

<b>Feb 21</b>	<b>Thursday</b> Budget Overview: Department of Revenue	<b>Fahrenkamp 203</b>	<b>1:30 PM</b>
<b>Feb 28</b>	<b>Thursday</b> Budget Detail	<b>Fahrenkamp 203</b>	<b>1:30 PM</b>
<b>Mar 06</b>	<b>Thursday</b> Budget Detail	<b>Fahrenkamp 203</b>	<b>1:30 PM</b>

**FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES (continued)****REVENUE (continued)**

<b>Mar 13</b>	<b>Thursday</b> Close-out	<b>Fahrenkamp 203</b>	<b>1:30 PM</b>
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**TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC FACILITIES**

<b>Feb 14</b>	<b>Thursday</b> Finish FY09 Budget Overview Marine Highway System	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
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**UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA**

<b>Feb 21</b>	<b>Thursday</b> Budget Overview: University of Alaska	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>7:30 AM</b>
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**SPECIAL COMMITTEES****SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

<b>Feb 13</b>	<b>Wednesday</b> HB 192 LAYOFF/NONRETENTION OF TEACHERS Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled Including But Not Limited to: = SB 14 RAISE COMP. SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AGE	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>
<b>Feb 15</b>	<b>Friday</b> No Meeting Scheduled	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>
<b>Feb 16</b>	<b>Saturday</b> Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>

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**JOINT COMMITTEES****ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE**

<b>Feb 12</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>1:00 PM</b>
	Presentations by:		
	Lt. General Douglas M. Frasier		
	Alaska Army National Guard		
	Alaska Air National Guard		

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**OTHER MEETINGS****JOINT LEGISLATIVE HEALTH CAUCUS**

<b>Mar 19</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>12:00 PM</b>
	Measuring Success: Improving Health Indicators		

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**JOINT SESSION**

<b>Feb 19</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>House Chamber</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>
	Annual Address by the Honorable Ted Stevens, U.S. Senator		

<b>Mar 17</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>House Chamber</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>
	Annual Address by the Honorable Lisa Murkowski, U.S. Senator		

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**MISCELLANEOUS MEETINGS**

<b>Feb 11</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>2:00 PM</b>
	<b>SCHOOL DISTRICT LEGISLATIVE FLY-IN</b>		
	Informal Q & A Session Regarding Alaska's Public School System		