

28TH ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SESSION  
CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON HB 65 and HB 66  
April 11, 2013  
4:52 p.m.

4:52:34 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Austerman called the Conference Committee meeting on HB 65 and HB 66 to order at 4:52 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

House:

Representative Alan Austerman, Chair  
Representative Bill Stoltze  
Representative Les Gara

Senate:

Senator Pete Kelly, Vice-Chair  
Senator Kevin Meyer  
Senator Lyman Hoffman

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

ALSO PRESENT:

David Teal, Director, Legislative Finance Division; fiscal analysts with the Office of Management and Budget and Legislative Finance Division; and aides to committee members and other members of the Legislature.

SUMMARY

HB 65        APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUNDS

HB 65 was HEARD and HELD in committee for further consideration.

HB 66        APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET

HB 66 was HEARD and HELD in committee for further consideration.

#HB65

#HB66

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 65(FIN)

"An Act making appropriations for the operating and loan program expenses of state government and for certain programs, capitalizing funds, and making reappropriations; and providing for an effective date."

SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 65(FIN)

"An Act making appropriations for the operating and loan program expenses of state government and for certain programs, capitalizing funds, and making reappropriations; and providing for an effective date."

and

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 66(FIN)

"An Act making appropriations for the operating and capital expenses of the state's integrated comprehensive mental health program and making a reappropriation; and providing for an effective date."

SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 66(FIN)

"An Act making appropriations for the operating and capital expenses of the state's integrated comprehensive mental health program and making a reappropriation; and providing for an effective date."

DEPARTMENTS

Education and Early Development  
Fish and Game  
Health and Social Services  
Military and Veterans' Affairs  
Public Safety

Chair Austerman communicated that the conference committee would be meeting on HB 65 and HB 66 open items. He noted that Limited Powers of Free Conference had been granted by both the Senate and the House. Departments with open items

would be taken up based on the motion sheets distributed to members earlier in the day and dated April 11, 2013. He relayed that the conference committee would not address open items from the following departments during the current meeting:

[4:53:45 PM](#)

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION and EARLY DEVELOPMENT

Vice-Chair Kelly MOVED to ADOPT the Chair's recommendation on the following items for the Department of Education and Early Development budget:

Item 1	Senate
Item 2	Senate
Item 3	House
Item 4	House
Item 5	Senate
Item 6	Senate minus \$4.062 million and add a new allocation for the Alaska Learning Network with \$1.1 million General Funds
Item 7	House
Item 8	House
Item 9	Senate
Item 10	Senate
Item 11	House
Item 12	House

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. The action closed all conferencable items in the budget for the Department of Education and Early Development.

[4:55:05 PM](#)

DEPARTMENT OF FISH and GAME

Vice-Chair Kelly MOVED to ADOPT the Chair's recommendation on the following items for the Department of Fish and Game budget:

Item 1	Senate and change "Senate Finance Committee" to "Finance Committees"
Item 3	Senate
Item 4	Senate

Item 5 Senate  
Item 6 Senate  
Item 7 Senate  
Item 8 Senate  
Item 9 House  
Item 10 Senate as a Temporary Increment (IncT)  
for FY14 through FY16  
Item 11 Senate  
Item 12 House  
Item 13 House

[4:56:25 PM](#)

Representative Stoltze thanked the committee for inserting the intent language. He specifically thanked the Department of Fish and Game.

Representative Stoltze WITHDREW his OBJECTION.

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered.

Item 2 remained OPEN.

[4:57:42 PM](#)

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH and SOCIAL SERVICES

Vice-Chair Kelly MOVED to ADOPT the Chair's recommendation on the following items for the Department of Health and Social Services budget:

Item 1 Senate  
Item 2 Senate  
and change "report to the legislature"  
to "report to the Legislative Finance  
Division"  
Item 3 House  
and change from Conditional Language to  
Legislative Intent  
Item 4 House  
Item 5 Senate  
Item 6 Senate  
Item 7 House  
Item 8 House

Senator Meyer asked to leave item 9 OPEN. There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered.

Item 10 House  
Item 11 Senate  
and change fund source from General  
Funds to GF Mental Health  
Item 12 House  
Item 13 House plus \$6,368.8  
Item 14 Senate  
Item 15 House  
Item 16 Senate  
Item 17 Senate  
Item 18 House  
Item 19 House  
Item 21 House

5:00:20 PM

Senator Meyer asked that Item 22 be left OPEN. There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered.

Item 23 House  
Item 24 Senate

Senator Meyer asked that Item 25 be left OPEN. There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered.

Item 26 House  
Item 27 Senate

Senator Meyer asked that Item 28 be left OPEN. There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered.

Item 29 Senate  
Item 30 Senate  
Item 31 Senate  
Item 32 On line #1, House minus \$1,409.1  
On line #2, House

Senator Meyer asked that Item 33 be left OPEN. There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered.

Item 34 Senate  
Item 35 House  
Item 36 Senate

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered.

Items 9, 20, 22, 25, 28, and 33 remained OPEN.

[5:02:49 PM](#)

Representative Gara addressed Item 13. He appreciated that the behavioral health funding was maintained near the governor's original budget proposal.

[5:03:33 PM](#)

AT EASE

[5:06:53 PM](#)

RECONVENED

[5:06:57 PM](#)

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY and VETERANS AFFAIRS

Vice-Chair Kelly MOVED to ADOPT the Chair's recommendation on the following items for the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs budget:

Item 1	House
Item 2	House
	and change the date to March 1, 2014
	and change the dollar amount to \$2 million
Item 3	Senate
Item 4	Senate minus \$81,300

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. The action closed all conferencable items in the budget for the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.

[5:07:39 PM](#)

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Vice-Chair Kelly MOVED to ADOPT the Chair's recommendation on the following items for the Department of Public Safety budget:

Item 1	Senate
Item 2	House
Item 3	House
Item 4	Senate
Item 5	House

Vice-Chair Kelly asked that Item 6 remain open.

Item 7	House
Item 8	House minus \$585,100 and minus 2 positions
Item 9	House
Item 10	House
Item 11	Senate
Item 12	Senate
Item 13	Senate
Item 14	House
Item 15	House
Item 16	House
Item 17	House
Item 18	House
Item 19	House

Added new language: "It is the intent of the legislature that the Department of Public Safety, Alaska State Troopers, allocate funding for training and investigation of sex trafficking in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014."

Senator Hoffman OBJECTED for discussion. He felt that Item 6 was an important program that was specific to the Village Public Safety Officers (VPSO). He remarked the Hooper Bay was a large community of approximately 1000 people, so he wanted to be sure that the community had the proper VPSO coverage. He shared that he planned to examine the budget further.

Senator Hoffman WITHDREW his OBJECTION.

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered.

Item 6 remained OPEN.

Chair Austerman relayed that the next meeting would be held on following day.

HB 65 was HEARD and HELD in committee for further consideration.

HB 66 was HEARD and HELD in committee for further consideration.

#

ADJOURNMENT

5:10:55 PM

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.