ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

Juneau, Alaska

Monday

February 28, 2022

Forty-second Day

Pursuant to adjournment the House was called to order by Speaker Stutes at 10:36 a.m.

Roll call showed 35 members present. Representative Gillham had been excused from a call of the House today. Representative Carpenter was absent.

Representative Tuck moved and asked unanimous consent that Representatives McKay, Merrick, and Patkotak be excused from a call of the House today. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

The invocation was offered by the Chaplain, Reverend Gordon Blue of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church. Representative Thompson moved and asked unanimous consent that the invocation be spread on the journal. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

In deepest respect for the religious beliefs of each person here, I invite you into a time of prayer and reflection. Let us pray.

A somewhat modified Litany of Thanksgiving from the Book of Common Prayer, #2:

Let us give thanks for all the gifts life has so freely bestowed upon us.

This is a responsive prayer; for each bidding of thanks which follows, those who wish may respond, We thank you.

For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea, We thank you

We thank you.

For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Grace, We thank you.

For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends, We thank you.

For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve, We thank you.

For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play, We thank you.

For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity, We thank you.

For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice, We thank you.

For the communion of saints, in all times and places, We thank you.

Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in our hopes and dreams for the State of Alaska,

We thank you. Amen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Representative Schrage.

CERTIFICATION OF THE JOURNAL

Representative Tuck moved and asked unanimous consent that the journal for the 37th through 41st legislative days and House Journal Supplement No. 8 and Senate and House Joint Journal Supplement No. 12 be approved as certified by the Chief Clerk. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

A letter dated February 25 was read stating that, in accordance with AS 39.05.080, and art. III, secs. 26 and 27, Constitution of the State of Alaska, the Governor submits the following list of appointees for confirmation:

The Speaker referred the following to the Education Committee:

Professional Teaching Practices Commission Emma Melkerson – Kivalina	
Appointed: 3/1/2022	Term Expires: 3/1/2025
Adam Reid – Anchorage	
Appointed: 4/1/2020	Term Expires: 3/1/2022
Reappointed: 3/1/2022	Term Expires: 3/1/2025
Deborah Riddle – Juneau	
Appointed: 7/20/2021	Term Expires: 3/1/2022
Reappointed: 3/1/2022	Term Expires: 3/1/2025
Lem Wheeles – Anchorage	
Appointed: 5/1/2019	Term Expires: 3/1/2022
Reappointed: 3/1/2022	Term Expires: 3/1/2025

The Speaker referred the following to the Labor & Commerce Committee:

Board of Massage Therapists

Amanda Nosich – Eagle River Appointed: 3/1/2022 Term Expires: 3/1/2026

Kelli Shew – Chugiak Appointed: 2/24/2022 Term Expires: 3/1/2025

The Speaker referred the following to the State Affairs and Judiciary Committees:

Alaska Commission for Human Rights

Lonzo Henderson – Anchorage Appointed: 3/1/2022 Term Expires: 3/1/2027

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Mae Marsh-Prax – Fairbanks Appointed: 2/24/2022 Term Expires: 3/1/2025

The Speaker referred the following to the Transportation Committee:

Board of Marine Pilots

Joseph Tougas – Seward Appointed: 3/1/2022 Term Expires: 3/1/2026

Resumes for the appointments are on file in the Chief Clerk's office.

A Declaration of Disaster Emergency and accompanying letter dated February 25, regarding the Village of Tunanak washeteria, were received and are on file in the Chief Clerk's office.

A Supplemental General Fund Authorization Request dated January 27 and accompanying letter dated February 25, regarding fire suppression activity, were received. The request and letter were copied to the Finance Committee Co-chairs and are on file in the Chief Clerk's office.

MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

A message dated February 25 was read stating the Senate ratified the following member to the Select Committee on Legislative Ethics pursuant to AS 24.60.130:

H. Connor Thomas

A message dated February 23 was read stating the Senate has passed the following, and it is transmitted for consideration:

FIRST READING AND REFERENCE OF SENATE BILLS

SB 150

SENATE BILL NO. 150 by Senators Myers, Costello, Shower, Kiehl, Gray-Jackson, Hughes, Reinbold, Holland, Stevens, Kawasaki, Micciche, Bishop, Revak, and Stedman, entitled:

"An Act establishing the second Monday of September of each year as Truck Driver Appreciation Day."

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

COMMUNICATIONS

The following were received:

Dept. of Education & Early Development School Capital Project Funding Annual Report February 28, 2022 (as required by AS 14.11.035)

Dept. of Labor & Workforce Development Alaska Workforce Investment Board Alaska Training Program Performance Report For Participants Exiting Programs in State Fiscal Year 2020 February 2022 (as required by AS 23.15.580)

State of Nebraska Unicameral Legislature Legislative Resolution 14 "Resolution to Congress for convention of the states to propose amendments to the United States Constitution "

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

The Judiciary Committee reviewed the qualifications of the following and recommends the appointment be forwarded to a joint session for consideration:

Gregory Bringhurst

as a member of the Violent Crimes Compensation Board.

The report was signed by Representative Claman, Chair; and Representatives Vance, Drummond, Snyder, and Kurka.

HB 37

The State Affairs Committee considered:

HOUSE BILL NO. 37

"An Act relating to deposits into the dividend fund; relating to income of and appropriations from the earnings reserve account;

relating to the taxation of income of individuals, partners, shareholders in S corporations, trusts, and estates; relating to a payment against the individual income tax from the permanent fund dividend disbursement; repealing tax credits applied against the tax on individuals under the Alaska Net Income Tax Act; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends it be replaced with:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 37(STA) (same title)

The report was signed by Representative Kreiss-Tomkins, Chair, with the following individual recommendations:

Do not pass (2): Eastman, Vance

No recommendation (4): Claman, Story, Tarr, Kreiss-Tomkins

The following fiscal note(s) apply to CSHB 37(STA):

- 4. Fiscal, Dept. of Administration
- 5. Fiscal, Dept. of Revenue
- 6. Fiscal, Dept. of Revenue
- 7. Fiscal, Dept. of Revenue

HB 37 was referred to the Finance Committee.

HB 172

The Judiciary Committee considered:

HOUSE BILL NO. 172

"An Act relating to admission to and detention at a subacute mental health facility; establishing a definition for 'subacute mental health facility'; establishing a definition for 'crisis residential center'; relating to the definitions for 'crisis stabilization center'; relating to the administration of psychotropic medication in a crisis situation; relating to licensed facilities; and providing for an effective date."

1950

and recommends it be replaced with:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 172(JUD) "An Act relating to crisis stabilization centers, crisis residential centers, and subacute mental health facilities; relating to the administration of psychotropic medication in a crisis situation; relating to licensed facilities; and providing for an effective date."

The report was signed by Representative Claman, Chair, with the following individual recommendations:

Do pass (3): Drummond, Snyder, Claman

Do not pass (1): Eastman

No recommendation (1): Kreiss-Tomkins

Amend (1): Vance

The following fiscal note(s) apply to CSHB 172(JUD):

- 4. Zero, Dept. of Public Safety
- 5. Fiscal, Alaska Judiciary System
- 6. Fiscal, Dept. of Health & Social Services
- 7. Fiscal, Dept. of Health & Social Services

HB 172 was referred to the Health & Social Services Committee.

HB 209

The Resources Committee considered:

HOUSE BILL NO. 209 "An Act relating to emergency firefighters."

The report was signed by Representative Patkotak, Chair, with the following individual recommendations:

Do pass (6): McKay, Fields, Cronk, Rauscher, Gillham, Patkotak

No recommendation (3): Hopkins, Hannan, Schrage

1952

The following fiscal note(s) apply:

1. Zero, Dept. of Natural Resources

HB 209 was referred to the Finance Committee.

HB 272

The Education Committee considered:

HOUSE BILL NO. 272 "An Act relating to education; increasing the base student allocation; and providing for an effective date."

The report was signed by Representatives Drummond and Story, Cochairs, with the following individual recommendations:

Do pass (4): Hopkins, Zulkosky, Drummond, Story

Do not pass (2): Prax, Gillham

No recommendation (1): Cronk

The following fiscal note(s) apply:

- 1. Zero, Dept. of Education & Early Development
- 2. Fiscal, Dept. of Education & Early Development/Fund Capitalization

HB 272 was referred to the Finance Committee.

HB 273

The Education Committee considered:

HOUSE BILL NO. 273 "An Act relating to education; increasing the base student allocation; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends it be replaced with:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 273(EDC)

"An Act relating to education; increasing the base student allocation according to inflation; and providing for an effective date."

The report was signed by Representatives Drummond and Story, Cochairs, with the following individual recommendations:

Do pass (4): Zulkosky, Hopkins, Drummond, Story

Do not pass (2): Gillham, Prax

No recommendation (1): Cronk

The following fiscal note(s) apply to CSHB 273(EDC):

- 1. Zero, Dept. of Education & Early Development
- 2. Fiscal, Dept. of Education & Early Development/Fund Capitalization

HB 273 was referred to the Finance Committee.

HB 296

The Transportation Committee considered:

HOUSE BILL NO. 296

"An Act relating to program receipts; and relating to the acceptance of gifts, donations, and grants for the purpose of providing signage for assets under the control of the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities."

The report was signed by Representative Hopkins, Chair, with the following individual recommendations:

Do pass (5): Drummond, Cronk, Stutes, Hannan, McCabe

No recommendation (1): Hopkins

The following fiscal note(s) apply:

1. Zero, Dept. of Transportation & Public Facilities

HB 296 was referred to the Finance Committee.

1954

HB 308

The Health & Social Services Committee considered:

HOUSE BILL NO. 308 "An Act relating to dementia awareness."

The report was signed by Representatives Snyder and Zulkosky, Cochairs, with the following individual recommendations:

Do pass (5): Fields, McCarty, Spohnholz, Snyder, Zulkosky

Do not pass (1): Kurka

The following fiscal note(s) apply:

1. Fiscal, Dept. of Health & Social Services

HB 308 was referred to the Finance Committee.

SJR 15

The Labor & Commerce Committee considered:

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 15

Recognizing and honoring the relationship between Canada and the state; and recognizing the importance of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement.

and recommends it be replaced with:

HOUSE CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 15(L&C) (same title)

The report was signed by Representatives Fields and Spohnholz, Cochairs, with the following individual recommendations:

Do pass (5): Schrage, McCarty, Nelson, Fields, Spohnholz

The following fiscal note(s) apply to HCS SJR 15(L&C):

2. Zero, House Labor & Commerce Committee

SJR 15 was referred to the Rules Committee.

SB 10

The Education Committee considered:

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 10(FIN) am "An Act establishing a grant program to provide to essential workers and laid-off workers the tuition and fees to attend certain postsecondary institutions."

and recommends it be replaced with:

HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 10(EDC) (same title)

The report was signed by Representatives Story and Drummond, Cochairs, with the following individual recommendations:

Do pass (4): Hopkins, Zulkosky, Story, Drummond

No recommendation (3): Cronk, Gillham, Prax

The following fiscal note(s) apply to HCS CSSB 10(EDC):

- 6. Fiscal, Dept. of Education & Early Development
- 7. Fiscal, Dept. of Education & Early Development

CSSB 10(FIN) am was referred to the Finance Committee.

SB 20

The Education Committee considered:

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 20(FIN) "An Act relating to teaching certificates for teachers holding outof-state certificates."

and recommends it be replaced with:

HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 20(EDC) (same title)

The report was signed by Representatives Story and Drummond, Cochairs, with the following individual recommendations:

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Do pass (7): Cronk, Gillham, Prax, Zulkosky, Hopkins, Story, Drummond

The following fiscal note(s) apply to HCS CSSB 20(EDC):

3. Fiscal, Dept. of Education & Early Development

CSSB 20(FIN) was referred to the Finance Committee.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

HB 259

The House Special Committee on Ways & Means considered:

HOUSE BILL NO. 259

"An Act relating to use of income of the Alaska permanent fund; relating to the amount of the permanent fund dividend; relating to the duties of the commissioner of revenue; relating to funding for state aid for school districts, the state boarding school, centralized correspondence study, and transportation of pupils; and providing for an effective date."

The report was signed by Representative Spohnholz, Chair, with the following individual recommendations:

Do pass (2): Story, Spohnholz

Do not pass (1): Eastman

Amend (2): Wool, Josephson

The following fiscal note(s) apply:

- 1. Fiscal, Dept. of Education & Early Development/Fund Capitalization
- 2. Fiscal, Dept. of Revenue

HB 259 was referred to the Finance Committee.

The House Special Committee on Military & Veterans' Affairs considered:

HOUSE BILL NO. 297

"An Act relating to the duties of the Department of Health and Social Services; relating to child protection; and relating to children of active duty military members."

and recommends it be replaced with:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 297(MLV) (same title)

The report was signed by Representative Tuck, Chair, with the following individual recommendations:

Do pass (6): Claman, Tarr, Story, Nelson, Shaw, Tuck

The following fiscal note(s) apply to CSHB 297(MLV):

1. Zero, Dept. of Health & Social Services

HB 297 was referred to the Health & Social Services Committee.

INTRODUCTION OF CITATIONS

The following citation was introduced and taken up later as a Special Order of Business:

In Memoriam - Marie Eileen Stevenson Holmes By Representatives McCabe, Cronk; Senator Bishop

The following citations were introduced and referred to the Rules Committee for placement on the calendar:

Honoring - Frederick George Hamilton, Sr. By Representative Kreiss-Tomkins; Senator Stedman

Honoring - The City of Craig's 100th Anniversary By Representative Kreiss-Tomkins; Senator Stedman

1958

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In Memoriam - Richard Baurick By Senator Kawasaki; Representative Wool

In Memoriam - Chief Donald Honea, Sr. By Senators Kawasaki, Olson; Representative Foster

In Memoriam - David John Witteveen By Senator Stevens; Representative Stutes

INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING, AND REFERENCE OF HOUSE RESOLUTIONS

HR 11

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 11 by the House Labor and Commerce Committee:

Urging the Washington House of Representatives and the Governor of the State of Washington to reject Senate Bill 5974, imposing a tax of \$.06 per gallon on gasoline and diesel fuel.

was read the first time.

Amendment No. 1 was offered by Representatives Edgmon, Spohnholz, and McCabe:

Page 2, line 13, following the first occurrence of "the": Insert "Alaska"

Page 2, line 13 Delete "Representative" Insert "Representatives"

Page 2, line 16, following the first occurrence of "the": Insert "Alaska"

Page 2, line 18, following "the" Insert "Alaska"

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

There was objection.

Representative Edgmon moved and asked unanimous consent to withdraw Amendment No. 1. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

Amendment No. 2 was offered by Representatives Edgmon, Spohnholz, and McCabe:

Page 2, line 13, following the first occurrence of "the": Insert "Alaska"

Page 2, line 13: Delete "Representative" Insert "Representatives"

Page 2, line 16, following the first occurrence of "the": Insert "Alaska"

Page 2, line 18, following "the": Insert "Alaska"

Page 2, line 21, following "the": Insert "Alaska"

Page 2, line 22: Delete the second occurrence of "this" Insert "our"

Representative Edgmon moved and asked unanimous consent that Amendment No. 2 be adopted.

Representative Eastman objected.

The question being: "Shall Amendment No. 2 be adopted?" The roll was taken with the following result:

HR 11 Second Reading Amendment No. 2

1960

YEAS: 35 NAYS: 0 EXCUSED: 4 ABSENT: 1

Yeas: Claman, Cronk, Drummond, Eastman, Edgmon, Fields, Foster, Hannan, Hopkins, Johnson, Josephson, Kaufman, Kreiss-Tomkins, Kurka, LeBon, McCabe, McCarty, Nelson, Ortiz, Prax, Rasmussen, Rauscher, Schrage, Shaw, Snyder, Spohnholz, Story, Stutes, Tarr, Thompson, Tilton, Tuck, Vance, Wool, Zulkosky

Excused: Gillham, McKay, Merrick, Patkotak

Absent: Carpenter

And so, Amendment No. 2 was adopted.

The question being: "Shall HR 11 am pass the House?" The roll was taken with the following result:

HR 11 am Second Reading Final Passage

YEAS: 33 NAYS: 2 EXCUSED: 4 ABSENT: 1

Yeas: Claman, Cronk, Drummond, Edgmon, Fields, Foster, Hannan, Hopkins, Johnson, Josephson, Kaufman, Kreiss-Tomkins, LeBon, McCabe, McCarty, Nelson, Ortiz, Prax, Rasmussen, Rauscher, Schrage, Shaw, Snyder, Spohnholz, Story, Stutes, Tarr, Thompson, Tilton, Tuck, Vance, Wool, Zulkosky

Nays: Eastman, Kurka

Excused: Gillham, McKay, Merrick, Patkotak

Absent: Carpenter

And so, HR 11 am passed the House and was referred to the Chief Clerk for engrossment and enrollment.

CONSIDERATION OF THE DAILY CALENDAR

SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILLS

HB 90

The Speaker stated that, without objection, the following will be held to the March 2 calendar:

HOUSE BILL NO. 90

"An Act relating to rental vehicles; relating to vehicle rental networks; relating to liability for vehicle rental taxes; and providing for an effective date."

SECOND READING OF SENATE RESOLUTIONS

SJR 16

The Speaker stated that, without objection, the following would be returned to the Rules Committee:

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 16

Calling on President Biden to immediately seek and secure an end to the embargo imposed by Russia on seafood imports from abroad so that Alaska seafood producers' access to the Russian domestic seafood market is fully restored.

LEGISLATIVE CITATIONS

Representative Tuck moved and asked unanimous consent that the House approve the citation, In Memoriam - Nadine Gillespie.

There was objection.

The question being: "Shall the House approve the citation, In Memoriam - Nadine Gillespie?" The roll was taken with the following result:

Approve Citation(s) on the Calendar In Memoriam - Nadine Gillespie

YEAS: 34 NAYS: 1 EXCUSED: 4 ABSENT: 1

Yeas: Claman, Cronk, Drummond, Edgmon, Fields, Foster, Hannan, Hopkins, Johnson, Josephson, Kaufman, Kreiss-Tomkins, Kurka, LeBon, McCabe, McCarty, Nelson, Ortiz, Prax, Rasmussen, Rauscher, Schrage, Shaw, Snyder, Spohnholz, Story, Stutes, Tarr, Thompson, Tilton, Tuck, Vance, Wool, Zulkosky

Nays: Eastman

Excused: Gillham, McKay, Merrick, Patkotak

Absent: Carpenter

1962

And so, the following citation was approved and sent to enrolling:

In Memoriam - Nadine Gillespie By Representative Rauscher; Senator Shower

Representative Tuck moved and asked unanimous consent that the House approve the remaining citation on the calendar. There being no objection, the following citation was approved and sent to enrolling:

In Memoriam - Jules Winslow Wright By Senator Bishop

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Representative Tuck moved and asked unanimous consent that the notice and publication requirements be waived and the citation, In Memoriam - Marie Eileen Stevenson Holmes, be taken up as a Special Order of Business. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

Representative Tuck moved and asked unanimous consent that the House approve the citation. There being no objection, the following citation was approved and sent to enrolling:

In Memoriam - Marie Eileen Stevenson Holmes By Representatives McCabe, Cronk; Senator Bishop

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Representative Tuck moved and asked unanimous consent that the following member be excused from a call of the House. There being no objection, the member was excused as noted:

Representative Thompson – from 1:00 p.m., March 3 to 10:00 p.m., March 7

HJR 35

Representative Schrage added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 35 Supporting the completion of the Northern Rail Extension;

supporting the increase in defensive capabilities at Fort Greely, Alaska; and encouraging the development of critical Arctic infrastructure.

HB 48

Representative Schrage added as a cosponsor to:

SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 48 "An Act relating to the Alaska performance scholarship program."

HB 209

Representatives Kaufman and Schrage added as cosponsors to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 209 "An Act relating to emergency firefighters."

HB 240

Representative Tuck added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 240

"An Act relating to the duties of the Department of Education and Early Development; relating to public schools and school districts; relating to early education programs; relating to funding for early education programs; relating to school age eligibility; relating to reports by the Department of Education and Early Development; relating to school operating funds; and providing for an effective date."

HB 304

Representative McCarty added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 304

"An Act modifying the boundary of Chugach State Park; directing the sale of land to the Eagle River Lions Club; and providing for an effective date."

HB 347

Representative Schrage added as a cosponsor to:

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HOUSE BILL NO. 347

"An Act relating to the confidentiality of certain state records relating to animals; and providing for an effective date."

HB 351

Representative Schrage added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 351

"An Act providing for the establishment of public schools through state-tribal compacts; and providing for an effective date."

HB 358

Representative Schrage added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 358

"An Act relating to the renewable energy grant fund and recommendation program; and providing for an effective date."

HB 361

Representative Tuck added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 361

"An Act providing for a surcharge on oil produced in the state and delivered to a state that imposes a tax on fuel delivered to this state."

HB 363

Representative Schrage added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 363

"An Act establishing the office of broadband; creating the broadband parity adjustment fund; establishing the Statewide Broadband Advisory Board; and providing for an effective date."

HB 382

Representative Schrage added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 382

"An Act relating to insurance coverage for pharmacy services."

HB 393

Representative Tuck added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 393

"An Act relating to fishery resource business and landing tax surcharges and credits against the surcharges; and providing for an effective date."

SB 150

Representative Tuck added as a cross sponsor to:

SENATE BILL NO. 150

"An Act establishing the second Monday of September of each year as Truck Driver Appreciation Day."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

House committee schedules are published under separate cover.

ADJOURNMENT

Representative Tuck moved and asked unanimous consent that the House adjourn until 10:00 a.m., March 2. There being no objection, the House adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Crystaline Jones Chief Clerk