

SENATE JOURNAL
ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

Juneau, Alaska

Tuesday

January 19, 2021

First Day

Pursuant to provisions of the Constitution of the State of Alaska, the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature, and AS 24.05.160, the Senate of the State of Alaska assembled in the Senate chamber for the first regular session of the Thirty-Second Legislature. The Senate was called to order at 10:35 a.m. by the Honorable Kevin Meyer, Lieutenant Governor.

Senator Begich led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation

The prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Senator Micciche. Senator Hoffman moved and asked unanimous consent the prayer be spread. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Lord, yesterday was Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day. A national holiday in our great country. As dogs were sicced on his people, lynchings still occurred and his peaceful marchers were washed across streets with water cannons, he demanded peace. He knew that violence would have delayed equality in America. He knew that exponential factor of hate versus hate would justify untruth in the shallow minds that feared equality.

Dr King said "Like an unchecked cancer, hate corrodes the personality and eats away its vital unity. Hate destroys a man's sense of values and his objectivity. It causes him to describe the beautiful as ugly and the ugly as beautiful, and to confuse the true with the false and the false with the true.

He followed with this, "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that. Returning violence for violence multiplies violence, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars.

Lord, let those words find their way to Americans today. Violence will never succeed. We pray today that you deliver that message.

And Lord for those with thicker cranial linings not willing to hear those words, folks that often use your words out of context, let them read your words in Luke 6:35.

"I tell you, love your enemies. Help and give without expecting a return. You'll never-I promise-regret it. Live out this God-created identity the way our Father lives toward us, generously and graciously, even when we're at our worst. Our Father is kind; you be kind."

Be with these 20 amazing servants of the public as well Lord. Be with their staff. They are away from their families and faced with tough choices. Bring us together as a body to respectfully serve Alaskans. Allow us to ignore the letter next to their names, their gender, color, religion and district politics to allow us to see each other as fellow, equal servants here to guide the policies of our great state, honorably, honestly, transparently and while always remembering those struggling back at home.

Lord - I close with Psalm 46:1, the verse that speaks of three primary attributes of our relationship with you God. Refuge, strength and help. I repeat the words of that verse. "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

Through those words I pray that you be there for us, this body, the other body and the executive branch this session as we make very difficult decisions. Be there for the folks at home and deliver an end to COVID-19 and the effects of this pandemic. Be there for Alaska and watch over us and bring us together.

Amen.

Election Certification

Lieutenant Governor Meyer read the certificate of election:

I, Gail Fenumiai, Director of the Division of Elections for the State of Alaska, do hereby certify that in accordance with the provisions of AS 15.15.450, a General Election was held on the 3rd day of November, 2020, in the State of Alaska pursuant to AS 15.15.020 and the following are the certified results for the office designated:

Senate District B	Robert H. Myers Jr.	4 year term
Senate District D	David S. Wilson	4 year term
Senate District F	Shelley Hughes	4 year term
Senate District H	Bill Wielechowski	4 year term
Senate District J	Tom Begich	4 year term
Senate District L	Natasha A. von Imhof	4 year term
Senate District M	Joshua C. Revak	2 year term
Senate District N	Roger Holland	4 year term
Senate District P	Gary Stevens	4 year term
Senate District R	Bert K. Stedman	4 year term
Senate District T	Donald C. "Donny" Olson	4 year term

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed hereto the Seal of the State of Alaska, at Juneau, the Capital, this 30th day of November, A.D. 2020.

/s/

Gail Fenumiai, Director
 Division of Elections

Lieutenant Governor Meyer requested the following Senators approach the rostrum to be administered the Oath of Office:

Senate District B	Robert H. Myers Jr.
Senate District D	David S. Wilson
Senate District F	Shelley Hughes
Senate District H	Bill Wielechowski
Senate District J	Tom Begich
Senate District L	Natasha A. von Imhof

The Lieutenant Governor administered the Oath of Office to the Senators.

Lieutenant Governor Meyer requested the following Senators approach the rostrum to be administered the Oath of Office:

Senate District M	Joshua C. Revak
Senate District N	Roger Holland
Senate District P	Gary Stevens
Senate District R	Bert K. Stedman
Senate District T	Donald C. "Donny" Olson

The Lieutenant Governor administered the Oath of Office to the Senators.

President Pro Tempore

Lieutenant Governor Meyer announced nominations were in order for President pro tempore of the Senate.

Senator Micciche moved and asked unanimous consent Senator Stevens be nominated. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Micciche moved and asked unanimous consent nominations for President pro tempore of the Senate be closed. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Micciche moved and asked unanimous consent Senator Stevens be elected President pro tempore. There being no objection, Senator Stevens was elected President pro tempore of the Senate.

President pro tempore Stevens announced that under provisions of law, AS 24.05.120, the Uniform Rules of the Twelfth Legislature, First Session, as amended in 1985, 1988, 1989, 1991, 1998, 2001, 2003, 2004, 2008, 2011, 2012 and 2018 will serve as the temporary rules of the current legislature until permanent rules are adopted.

President

President pro tempore Stevens announced nominations for Senate President were open.

Senator Hughes moved and asked unanimous consent Senator Micciche be nominated President of the Senate for the Thirty-Second Legislature. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Hughes moved and asked unanimous consent nominations be closed. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Hughes moved and asked unanimous consent Senator Micciche be elected President of the Senate for the Thirty-Second Legislature. Without objection, Senator Micciche was elected Senate President.

President pro tempore Stevens requested Senator Stedman and Senator Begich escort President Micciche to the podium.

Election of Senate Secretary

In accordance with Uniform Rule 3(a) and AS 24.10.030, Senator Stevens nominated Liz Clark to serve as Senate Secretary for the Thirty-Second Legislature and moved and asked unanimous consent the nominations be closed. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Stevens moved and asked unanimous consent Liz Clark be elected Senate Secretary for the Thirty-Second Legislature. There being no objection, Liz Clark was elected Senate Secretary for the Thirty-Second Legislature.

Senator Begich rose to a point of order requesting members adhere to the Legislative Council Safe Floor Session Policy and remain seated while speaking. President Micciche ruled the point well taken.

Unfinished Business

Senator von Imhof moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate from afternoon plane time today through morning plane time, January 25. Without objection, Senator von Imhof was excused.

Senator Gray-Jackson moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate from afternoon plane time, January 23 through morning plane time, January 26. Without objection, Senator Gray-Jackson was excused.

Announcements

Announcements are at the end of the journal.

Adjournment

Senator Hoffman moved and asked unanimous consent the Senate stand in adjournment until 11:00 a.m., January 20, 2021. Without objection, the Senate adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

Liz Clark
Secretary of the Senate

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.

NO MEETINGS SCHEDULED