

HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
March 24, 2022  
1:40 p.m.

1:40:50 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chair Foster called the House Finance Committee meeting to order at 1:40 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Representative Neal Foster, Co-Chair  
Representative Kelly Merrick, Co-Chair  
Representative Dan Ortiz, Vice-Chair  
Representative Ben Carpenter  
Representative Bryce Edgmon  
Representative DeLena Johnson  
Representative Andy Josephson  
Representative Bart LeBon  
Representative Sara Rasmussen  
Representative Steve Thompson (via teleconference)  
Representative Adam Wool

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

ALSO PRESENT

Brodie Anderson, Staff, Representative Neal Foster

SUMMARY

HB 281      APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUNDS

CSHB 281(FIN) was REPORTED out of committee with six "do pass" recommendations, one "no recommendation" recommendation, and three "amend" recommendations.

HB 282      APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET

CSHB 282(FIN) was REPORTED out of committee with three "do pass" recommendations and seven "no recommendation" recommendations.

Co-Chair Foster reviewed the agenda for the meeting. The committee would continue the amendment process on the operating budget. He relayed the committee would pick up where it left off earlier in the day.

#hb281

#hb282

HOUSE BILL NO. 281

"An Act making appropriations for the operating and loan program expenses of state government and for certain programs; capitalizing funds; amending appropriations; making reappropriations; making supplemental appropriations; making appropriations under art. IX, sec. 17(c), Constitution of the State of Alaska, from the constitutional budget reserve fund; and providing for an effective date."

HOUSE BILL NO. 282

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

[1:41:38 PM](#)

^AMENDMENTS

[1:41:43 PM](#)

Co-Chair Foster relayed there were four remaining amendments. There had been a request to rescind action on one of the amendments.

Vice-Chair Ortiz MOVED to RESCIND action taken on Amendment L4, 32-GH2686\R.14 (Marx, 3/17/22) (copy on file).

Co-Chair Foster explained the amendment would put \$250 million into the Constitutional Budget Reserve (CBR).

Representative Rasmussen OBJECTED.

[1:43:24 PM](#)

AT EASE

[1:45:07 PM](#)

RECONVENED

Vice-Chair Ortiz WITHDREW his previous motion.

Vice-Chair Ortiz MOVED to RESCIND action taken on Amendment L5, 32-GH2686\R.8 (Marx, 3/17/22) (copy on file).

Representative Rasmussen OBJECTED.

Co-Chair Foster clarified that the previous adoption of the amendment put \$250 million into the CBR. He noted the committee was not debating the merits of the amendment itself; debate was limited to the procedure.

Representative Carpenter wanted to give Representative Thompson an opportunity to call in. He noted that the representative had left for the airport to attend a family emergency. He felt the proposed action was opportunistic.

Co-Chair Foster agreed it was fair to provide the opportunity for Representative Thompson to call into the meeting.

[1:47:23 PM](#)

AT EASE

[1:51:51 PM](#)

RECONVENED

Co-Chair Foster clarified the motion to rescind the committee's prior action on Amendment L5. The adopted amendment would place \$250 million into the CBR.

[1:52:33 PM](#)

A roll call vote was taken on the motion.

IN FAVOR: LeBon, Ortiz, Wool, Edgmon, Johnson, Josephson, Merrick, Foster

OPPOSED: Rasmussen, Thompson, Carpenter

The MOTION PASSED (8/3). There being NO further OBJECTION, action on Amendment L5 was RESCINDED.

[1:53:50 PM](#)

AT EASE

[1:55:14 PM](#)

RECONVENED

Representative Carpenter MOVED to ADOPT Amendment L5, 32-GH2686\R.8 (Marx, 3/17/22) (copy on file).

Representative Josephson OBJECTED.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion.

IN FAVOR: Rasmussen, Thompson, Carpenter, Johnson, Merrick

OPPOSED: Ortiz, Josephson, Wool, LeBon, Edgmon, Foster

The MOTION to adopt Amendment L5 FAILED (5/6).

[1:57:15 PM](#)

Co-Chair Foster MOVED to ADOPT Amendment Sup Op 2 (copy on file):

DEPARTMENT: DEC

APPROPRIATION: Water

ALLOCATION: Water Quality, Infrastructure Support & Financing

ADD: \$750,000 UGF (1004)

EXPLANATION: The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) will assume primacy of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA), enacted in 1972, which is the primary federal law governing pollution control and water quality of the Nation's waterways. The Act's objective is to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters. DEC assumption of the Section 404 program would provide a streamlined permitting procedure, greater certainty to the regulated community, conservation of resources of both the applicant and regulator, and greater control over the development of its natural resources while complying with federal law.

Co-Chair Merrick OBJECTED for discussion.

Co-Chair Foster asked his staff to explain the amendment.

BRODIE ANDERSON, STAFF, REPRESENTATIVE NEAL FOSTER, explained the amendment was part of the Legislative Council budget and provided additional authority to spend \$150,000 of general fund program receipts. He elaborated that the program receipt authority lay in collecting rent for the Assembly Building tenants. The amendment would allow the council to spend monies collected in rent in FY 22.

Co-Chair Merrick WITHDREW her OBJECTION.

Representative Carpenter OBJECTED.

[1:59:47 PM](#)

A roll call vote was taken on the motion.

IN FAVOR: Rasmussen, Thompson, Wool, Edgmon, Johnson, Josephson, LeBon, Ortiz, Merrick, Foster  
OPPOSED: Carpenter

The MOTION PASSED (10/1). There being NO further OBJECTION, Amendment Sup Op 2 was ADOPTED.

[2:01:08 PM](#)

AT EASE

[2:01:50 PM](#)

RECONVENED

Representative Josephson MOVED to ADOPT Amendment H UOA 1 (copy on file):

H UOA 1 - Alaska Health Education Centers

The Alaska Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) are regional community-based partnerships engaged in growing Alaska's healthcare workforce. This amendment provides \$100,000 for AHEC work with university students to help satisfy a federal match requirement and \$100,000 to staff the K-12 level Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) program.

1004 Gen Fund (UGF) 200.0

Representative Rasmussen OBJECTED.

Representative Josephson explained the amendment with a prepared statement:

This amendment provides \$200,000 for the Alaska Area Health Education Center (AHEC), which operates out of UAA. The program is dedicated to healthcare workforce development at all levels, from youth pipeline programming to the AHEC scholars program, which works with university healthcare students in continuing education for healthcare providers. AHEC is focused on supporting healthcare workforce development for rural and underserved communities.

The structure of the program includes a program office at UAA and six regional AHEC centers who are hosted by community organizations in their respective regions. The regional centers implement educational activities involving health professions and expose students to primary care delivery in rural and/or underserved settings.

In addition, AHEC works closely with state and local workforce investment boards to identify and address healthcare needs and shortages. Health education centers like AHEC are primarily funded by the federal health resources and services administration with a local match. Here in Alaska, the funding is awarded through the UAA School of Nursing.

The federal government provides \$888,000 annually, of which, 75 percent of those funds are distributed to the six regional AHEC centers. Federal funds must be matched one to one with \$888,000 annually of non-federal funds. Most AHEC programs across the nation receive a state appropriation to support the federal match requirement.

In Alaska, 100 percent of the match has been made through in-kind support secured by community partnerships. This amendment funds a portion of the Alaska match. This appropriation will reduce the strain on the AHECs to piecemeal together 100 percent of the match commitment each year. It also provides

consistent funding to a program dedicated to statewide healthcare workforce development programming in our most rural communities.

With the shortages of healthcare workers nationwide, Alaska must grow our own. It's the intention of this amendment that half of the funding (\$100,000) will fund a position in AHEC to sustain the high school based career and technical student organization called Health Occupation Students of America (HOSA). HOSA chapters in high schools or in district-wide rural chapters are an integral part of the health science program of study. HOSA connects high school students with mentors and exposes them to real world healthcare. HOSA promotes career awareness, leadership, and skill development.

Finally, HOSA has been managed by to extremely dedicated volunteers; however, these volunteers are no longer able to continue this work and a paid position is needed if HOSA is to continue. In conclusion, at the time when the pandemic has exhausted the healthcare workforce and exacerbated shortages, investment in the AHEC program is needed now more than ever.

Representative Josephson thanked Representative LeBon and his staff for bringing the issue to his attention. He referenced a one-page backup document showing AHEC health workforce program highlights (copy on file). He noted that he had received support from Representative Josiah Patkotak in preparing the amendment.

Representative LeBon supported the amendment. He shared that the regional office in the Interior was hosted by the Tanana Chiefs Conference. He shared that he had known one of the program volunteers from Fairbanks for many years. He noted she was a retired schoolteacher, and it was time for her to move on to other things. He believed bringing on paid staff was appropriate. He looked forward to the good work accomplished by the program. He knew the Tanana Chiefs Conference was on board and willing to help in any way possible.

Representative Wool supported the amendment. He relayed that the subcommittee had added money to the college of health with the goal of growing more health professionals

in Alaska, which were desperately needed in all facets. He remarked that the amendment dovetailed well with the subcommittee increment. He added that the amendment encouraged younger people in rural communities to be welcomed and integrated into the healthcare profession.

Representative Rasmussen WITHDREW the OBJECTION.

Representative Josephson relayed the University's support of the program.

[2:07:34 PM](#)

Representative Carpenter OBJECTED. He stated he did not have the appetite the rest of the committee had for funding volunteer organizations.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion.

IN FAVOR: Thompson, Wool, Edgmon, Johnson, Josephson, LeBon, Ortiz, Rasmussen, Merrick, Foster  
OPPOSED: Carpenter

The MOTION PASSED (10/1). There being NO further OBJECTION, Amendment H UOA 1 was ADOPTED.

Co-Chair Foster reviewed the remaining amendments.

Representative Carpenter believed there were two amendments dealing with fund source swaps.

[2:09:57 PM](#)

Representative Josephson asked if Amendment AA4 by Representative Carpenter included [Amendment 32-GH2686\R.35.

Co-Chair Foster answered that Amendment AA4 and [Amendment 32-GH2686\R.35 were separate amendments.

[2:10:29 PM](#)

AT EASE

[2:12:45 PM](#)

RECONVENED

Representative Carpenter MOVED to ADOPT Amendment AA4 (copy on file):

DEPARTMENT: Education and Early Development  
APPROPRIATION: Libraries, Archives & Museums  
ALLOCATION: Live Homework Help

ADD:  
\$138,200 UGF (1004)

DELETE:  
\$138,200 Higher Education Fund (1226)

DEPARTMENT: Education and Early Development  
APPROPRIATION: Alaska Postsecondary Education Program  
ALLOCATION: Admin & Operations

ADD:  
\$514,300 UGF (1004)

DELETE:  
\$514,300 Higher Education Fund (1226)

DEPARTMENT: Education and Early Development  
APPROPRIATION: Alaska Postsecondary Education  
ALLOCATION: WWAMI Medical Education

ADD:  
\$3,294,900 UGF (1004)

DELETE:  
\$3,294,900 Higher Education Fund (1226)

DEPARTMENT: Education and Early Development  
APPROPRIATION: Student Financial Aid Programs  
ALLOCATION: AK Performance Scholarship Awd

ADD:  
\$11,750,000 UGF (1004)

DELETE:  
\$11,750,000 Higher Education Fund (1226)

DEPARTMENT: Education and Early Development  
APPROPRIATION: Student Financial Aid Programs  
ALLOCATION: Alaska Education Grants

ADD:  
\$5,841,800 UGF (1004)

DELETE:  
\$5,841,800 Higher Education Fund (1226)

DEPARTMENT: Revenue  
APPROPRIATION: Taxation and Treasury  
ALLOCATION: Treasury Division

ADD:  
\$311,200 UGF (1004)

DELETE:  
\$311,200 Higher Education Fund (1226)

Language Section: Amend 42(d) and (e) (fund transfers into Oil and Hazardous Substance Release Prevention and Response Fund) to be effective June 30, 2022 (see attached language section amendment).

EXPLANATION: This amendment ensures that if the reverse sweep is not agreed to, there would be no impact to services without relying on the assigned fund balances.

Representative Josephson OBJECTED.

Representative Carpenter explained that the amendment was a fund source swap connected with the reverse sweep. He detailed the amendment would change the appropriation for a handful of programs funded via the Higher Education Fund. He listed the programs. The first was Libraries, Archives, and Museums live homework help. The amendment would switch the funding source to undesignated general funds (UGF) in the amount of \$138,200. The second appropriation was for the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education (ACPE) program administration and operations allocation. The amendment would switch the ACPE fund source to UGF in the amount of \$514,300. The third appropriation was for the Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho (WWAMI) program under ACPE. The fund source would switch to UGF in the amount of roughly \$3.3 million. The fourth appropriation was student financial aid programs for the Alaska Performance scholarship. The amendment would switch the fund source to UGF in the amount of \$11.7 million. The fifth appropriation was Alaska education grants. The

amendment would switch the fund source to UGF in the amount of \$5.8 million. The sixth appropriation was for the Treasury Division. The amendment would switch the funding source to UGF in the amount of \$311,000.

Representative Carpenter explained that the change was necessary because if the reverse sweep did not take place and funds were swept from the Higher Education Fund, the programs would likely be unfunded. He did not want that to happen. Additionally, the amendment made a change to the language section of the bill on page 99, lines 7 and 17. The change addressed the money put into the Oil and Hazardous Substance Release Prevention account. He had learned the money going into the account came from a sweepable fund. To prevent the funding from being swept, the amendment would change the date of the appropriation to June 30, which would encumber the money. The amendment would delete the July 1 date, which took place after the sweep. He stated the amendment carried on with the administration's decision with numerous designated general fund (DGF) funded programs, to consider the funds in sweepable accounts to be encumbered on June 30, to avoid the funding from being swept.

[2:16:48 PM](#)

Representative Rasmussen stated there was a bill currently in the committee that would move money into the Higher Education Fund. She considered a scenario where the money was moved at present to a different fund source. She asked if the money would sit in the Higher Education Fund.

Representative Carpenter replied with his understanding of the question. He thought Representative Rasmussen may be asking about the money that would be put back into the Higher Education Fund. He stated that the amendment was irrespective of that process. He explained that if the House Finance Committee put money into the Higher Education Fund and the reverse sweep did not occur, the money would be swept into the CBR without the amendment. The amendment attempted to recognize that the situation may occur, and the legislature would ensure the programs were paid out of general funds.

Representative Josephson discussed a potential amendment to the amendment. He explained that the amendment would delete pages 1 and 2 of Amendment AA4, which included the numbers

section regarding higher education. The conceptual amendment would only include the part starting with the words beginning with language section "Amendment 42(d) and (e) etcetera." The amendment would include the language section marked as [Amendment 32-GH2686\R.35 (Marx, 3/21/22) [note: Amendment 32-GH2686\R.35 is a separate amendment]].

Representative Josephson explained why he did not want to fund higher education in the proposed way even though it was designed to be a backstop. He relayed that he wanted to have a capitalized program. He discussed that the committee had heard substantial testimony from the University and students (and there was a lawsuit over the issue). He stated the issue was not going away. He detailed that students needed to be able to rely on education grants and scholarships on a four-year degree at least. He thought the original amendment signaled defeat that the program would not be capitalized. The part he would like to preserve would avoid the sweep (for one year) of four different funds that help populate the Spill Prevention and Response Fund. He supposed the legislature could have crafted another vessel replacement/Higher Education Investment Fund type of bill to try to cocoon it from being swept, but there was no such bill. He considered it may not be possible. He stated that the funds were vulnerable to the sweep. He explained that the conceptual amendment to Amendment AA4 would protect the funds for a year and a day.

[2:21:31 PM](#)

Co-Chair Foster referenced Representative Josephson's statement that the amendment signaled defeat if the committee decided not to go forward with the fund source swaps because it assumed the funds went away. He provided a scenario where the funds went away because the three-quarter vote was not achieved. He stated that at least the amendment gave assurance the funding was secured. He was playing devil's advocate and thought it was something to consider.

Representative Josephson stated that the only solace he could think of was the Attorney General Treg Taylor memo of June 28. He stated that if the governor's signature could be obtained by June 28, at least a year of the Higher Education Investment Fund would be populated. He stated if

it was the case, it would result in what the amendment was striving for.

Co-Chair Foster thought it was the heart of the argument made by Representative Carpenter. The mechanism referred to in the memo from the attorney general was referred to as the scoop. The question was whether the legislature agreed with the scoop and what it did. The scoop specified that as long as the appropriation was made before the sweep, the appropriation was legitimate, and scholarships would be paid out. He remarked that some individuals did not agree with the memo and had argued it was creative. He believed it was the position taken by Representative Carpenter in the amendment. He explained that for those who did not agree with the memo, the amendment would be the backstop to ensure funds were going out to scholarships if the reverse sweep did not occur.

[2:24:39 PM](#)

Representative Wool referenced the scoop and remarked that whether it was deemed legal or not, it was advantageous when items were funded the previous year and then the fund was swept. He surmised that if the governor signed the bill before the sweep date, the scoop happened, and the sweep came after. He remarked there was no guarantee of the bill signing and effective date, just as there was no guarantee that any legislation protecting the Higher Education Fund would be passed. He hoped it would be. He asked about the intent of the amendment. He suggested contingency language could be included similar to education funding language.

Representative Rasmussen asked if the money would be protected if the effective date did not pass.

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Representative Josephson thought the important thing in the part of the amendment he wanted to preserve was that it got to June 30<sup>th</sup> on the prevention mitigation and response mitigation accounts. There would be an effective date one way or another. Once the bill was signed by the governor, if there was a "draw" like the previous year, the effective date would revert to the date included in the bill. Under the conceptual amendment, all four components that went into SPAR would be "unswept."

Representative Carpenter objected to the idea of the conceptual amendment. He stated the intention of Amendment AA4 was nothing more than to ensure the programs were funded in the budget. He stated that other bills before the legislature may or may not pass, but without the amendment, the programs may not be funded.

Representative Rasmussen supported the Higher Education Fund and hoped the legislature had an opportunity to bring it through; however, in the past four years she had seen the reverse sweep three-quarter vote fail time after time. She had heard overwhelming testimony from constituents every year about the uncertainty it caused the Alaska Performance Scholarship. She highlighted the importance of the WWAMI program and the need for medical professionals. She would support the underlying amendment and oppose the conceptual amendment. She spoke to the necessity of protecting the programs.

[2:29:37 PM](#)

Representative Wool had apprehension deleting funding from the Higher Education Fund as if the legislature was accepting it would not be functional by going straight to UGF as a fund source. He noted the legislature had failed to pass a reverse sweep, which was a more recent phenomenon. He believed the Higher Education Fund could be functional and protected. He would only support the amendment if there was a contingency that if the Higher Education Fund was swept before the appropriation date, UGF could be used.

Representative Josephson provided wrap up on conceptual Amendment 1 to Amendment AA4. It was his understanding that with the conceptual amendment, the CS would still include an effort to recapitalize and populate approximately \$395 million. He stated it would reflect the intent of the committee and House's interest in restoring the Higher Education Investment Fund. He referenced his related bill (possibly HB 229) and the Senate's counterpart legislation to treat the fund as unsweepable. He thought the original amendment was akin to waiving a white flag and it gave an option he did not want people to have.

Representative Carpenter MAINTAINED the OBJECTION.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion.

IN FAVOR: Wool, Edgmon, Josephson, Ortiz, Merrick, Foster  
OPPOSED: Carpenter, Johnson, LeBon, Rasmussen, Thompson

The MOTION PASSED (6/5). There being NO further OBJECTION, conceptual Amendment 1 to Amendment AA4 was ADOPTED.

[2:33:54 PM](#)

Representative Carpenter stated the amended amendment as it now stood reflected thinking that only eleven people were needed to pass the budget.

Representative Josephson highlighted that under Amendment AA4 as amended, the four components feeding spill prevention and response would not be subject to the sweep until July of 2023. He stated it would help protect the state's environment. He supported the amended amendment.

[2:34:52 PM](#)

AT EASE

[2:35:46 PM](#)

RECONVENED

Representative Rasmussen MAINTAINED the OBJECTION.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion.

IN FAVOR: Edgmon, Josephson, Wool, Ortiz, Merrick, Foster  
OPPOSED: Johnson, LeBon, Rasmussen, Thompson, Carpenter

The MOTION PASSED (6/5). There being NO further OBJECTION, Amendment AA4 was ADOPTED as amended.

[2:37:39 PM](#)

Representative Carpenter MOVED to ADOPT Amendment L4, 32-GH2686\R.14 (Marx, 3/17/22) (copy on file):

Page 73, line 10, following "FUND.":  
Insert "(a)"

Page 73, following line 12:  
Insert a new subsection to read:

"(b) The sum of \$250,000,000 is appropriated from the general fund to the budget reserve fund (AS 37.05.540(a))."

[2:38:44 PM](#)

AT EASE

[2:39:12 PM](#)

RECONVENED

Co-Chair Foster stated the motion was before the committee.

Representative Carpenter explained the amendment was similar to an amendment passed at the beginning of the amendment process to put \$250 million into the CBR. He highlighted that the committee had rescinded the action earlier in the current meeting. He remarked that thus far, the committee had not made a decision to put any of the surplus into savings. Amendment L4 would put \$250 million in surplus funds into the Statutory Budget Reserve (SBR) instead of the CBR.

Representative Edgmon liked the idea of putting money into savings accounts; however, he considered the broader picture of volatile oil prices and demand. He highlighted that the K-12 fund would be reduced commensurably with a reduction in oil prices. He thought it did not make sense to put money in an account that would earn much less. He explained that the earned 2 to 3 percent compared to the K-12 fund that earned 27 percent the previous year. He thought it was better to keep the money in place where it would most likely go towards the public education health trust account for forwarding K-12.

[2:41:44 PM](#)

AT EASE

[2:43:30 PM](#)

RECONVENED

Co-Chair Foster made a couple of clarifying comments. He stated that before the amendment process started the CS included \$2.3 billion going into the SBR. He thought some individuals watching may wonder why an amendment adding another \$250 million to the SBR was necessary. He clarified that the amendment would guarantee the money went to the SBR because if for some reason there was a huge swing in

oil prices and revenue declined the money would need to come from somewhere. He explained the funding could come from the SBR or another location the legislature had put money toward such as the forward funding of education in the amount of \$1.2 billion. The amendment would at least put the \$250 million into the SBR.

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Representative Wool had thought that any residual funds would go to the SBR. He noted Representative Edgmon had mentioned the committee had included provisions to put funding towards the K-12 formula. He stated his understanding the funding would go towards K-12 first and any residual funds would go into the SBR. He would rather the funding go to forward fund education first and then the SBR. He remarked the committee had heard from many that forward funding was a priority.

Co-Chair Foster stated the amendment put the SBR deposit in front of the education forward funding.

Co-Chair Merrick asked the committee to keep in mind there was still a capital budget that needed funding. The capital budget had been starved in recent years and had it just been matching federal funds. She highlighted there was a large backlog of deferred maintenance and school major maintenance. The capital budget was currently in the other body, but there were projects the committee would want to fund.

Representative Rasmussen stated that putting money into the SBR felt a little hollow in her opinion. She understood the CBR savings mentality because it required a three-quarter vote to access the funds. She stated the SBR could be accessed with a simple majority as easily as the General Fund and other various funds. She supported saving money and had supported the CBR both times, but the motion did not carry the weight she desired. She did not support the amendment.

[2:47:51 PM](#)

Representative Carpenter provided wrap up on the amendment. He agreed it was a question of priorities. He believed it was prudent to pay debts, save, and then spend when there was excess revenue. He believed the committee was getting

things backwards. He stated the debts had been paid, the budget spent money, and if there was anything left it would be saved. He stated the committee was assuming all of the projected surplus would not be spent by the time the legislature adjourned. He stated the committee had the opportunity to say regardless of decisions made later that it wanted to pay debts, save money, and spend the remainder.

The OBJECTION was MAINTAINED.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion.

IN FAVOR: Johnson, LeBon, Thompson, Carpenter

OPPOSED: Edgmon, Josephson, Ortiz, Rasmussen, Wool, Merrick, Foster

The MOTION to adopt Amendment L4 FAILED (4/7).

[2:50:16 PM](#)

Co-Chair Foster relayed the committee had completed the amendment process. He reviewed the process.

Representative Edgmon was comfortable with moving the bill out during the current meeting and allowing legislative legal to make any necessary [conforming and technical] changes.

Co-Chair Foster agreed.

Co-Chair Merrick MOVED to REPORT CSHB 281(FIN) out of committee with individual recommendations with authorization to the Legislative Finance Division and Legislative Legal Services to make any necessary technical and/or conforming changes or amendments.

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered.

CSHB 281(FIN) was REPORTED out of committee with six "do pass" recommendations, one "no recommendation" recommendation, and three "amend" recommendations.

[2:52:55 PM](#)

AT EASE

[2:53:48 PM](#)

RECONVENED

Co-Chair Merrick MOVED to REPORT CSHB 282(FIN) out of committee with individual recommendations with authorization to the Legislative Finance Division and Legislative Legal Services to make any necessary technical and/or conforming changes or amendments.

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered.

CSHB 282(FIN) was REPORTED out of committee with three "do pass" recommendations and seven "no recommendation" recommendations.

Co-Chair Foster stated his understanding that the budget would be read across the House floor on the following Monday the 28th. He thanked staff for their work on the budget.

Co-Chair Foster relayed that the next meeting would be the following afternoon. The morning meeting was canceled.

#  
ADJOURNMENT

2:56:50 PM

The meeting was adjourned at 2:56 p.m.