

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
SENATE STATE AFFAIRS STANDING COMMITTEE

April 26, 2022

3:34 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Senator Mike Shower, Chair
Senator Lora Reinbold, Vice Chair
Senator Roger Holland
Senator Scott Kawasaki

MEMBERS ABSENT

Senator Mia Costello

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

SENATE BILL NO. 220

"An Act relating to a residency requirement for permanent full-time state employees in the classified, exempt, or partially exempt service; relating to allowable absences for permanent fund dividend eligibility; and providing for an effective date."

- HEARD & HELD

SENATE BILL NO. 195

"An Act relating to the compensation of certain public officials, officers, and employees not covered by collective bargaining agreements; and providing for an effective date."

- HEARD & HELD

SENATE BILL NO. 119

"An Act relating to oaths of office; and requiring public officers to read the state constitution, the Declaration of Independence, and the United States Constitution."

- MOVED CSSB 119(STA) OUT OF COMMITTEE

PREVIOUS COMMITTEE ACTION

BILL: SB 220

SHORT TITLE: STATE EMPLOYEES: STATE RESIDENCY

SPONSOR(S): SENATOR(S) WIELECHOWSKI

02/22/22 (S) READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS
02/22/22 (S) STA, FIN
04/14/22 (S) STA AT 3:30 PM BUTROVICH 205
04/14/22 (S) -- MEETING CANCELED --
04/26/22 (S) STA AT 3:30 PM BUTROVICH 205

BILL: SB 195

SHORT TITLE: PAY INCREASES FOR EXEMPT EMPLOYEES

SPONSOR(s): SENATOR(s) KIEHL

02/15/22 (S) READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS
02/15/22 (S) STA, FIN
03/29/22 (S) STA AT 3:30 PM BUTROVICH 205
03/29/22 (S) Heard & Held
03/29/22 (S) MINUTE(STA)
04/12/22 (S) STA AT 3:30 PM BUTROVICH 205
04/12/22 (S) Heard & Held
04/12/22 (S) MINUTE(STA)
04/14/22 (S) STA AT 3:30 PM BUTROVICH 205
04/14/22 (S) -- MEETING CANCELED --
04/26/22 (S) STA AT 3:30 PM BUTROVICH 205

BILL: SB 119

SHORT TITLE: OATH OF OFFICE

SPONSOR(s): SENATOR(s) REINBOLD

04/07/21 (S) READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS
04/07/21 (S) EDC, JUD, STA, FIN
04/23/21 (S) EDC AT 9:00 AM BUTROVICH 205
04/23/21 (S) Heard & Held
04/23/21 (S) MINUTE(EDC)
04/28/21 (S) EDC AT 9:00 AM BUTROVICH 205
04/28/21 (S) Moved CSSB 119(EDC) Out of Committee
04/28/21 (S) MINUTE(EDC)
04/30/21 (S) EDC RPT CS 4DP 1NR SAME TITLE
04/30/21 (S) DP: HOLLAND, HUGHES, STEVENS, MICCICHE
04/30/21 (S) NR: BEGICH
04/30/21 (S) FIN REFERRAL REMOVED
04/30/21 (S) CRA REFERRAL ADDED AFTER EDC
05/11/21 (S) CRA AT 3:30 PM BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)
05/11/21 (S) -- MEETING CANCELED --
05/13/21 (S) CRA AT 3:30 PM BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)
05/13/21 (S) Moved CSSB 119(EDC) Out of Committee
05/13/21 (S) MINUTE(CRA)
05/14/21 (S) CRA RPT 1DP 1DNP 2NR
05/14/21 (S) DP: HUGHES
05/14/21 (S) DNP: GRAY-JACKSON

05/14/21 (S) NR: MYERS, WILSON
 01/31/22 (S) JUD AT 1:30 PM BUTROVICH 205
 01/31/22 (S) Heard & Held
 01/31/22 (S) MINUTE(JUD)
 02/02/22 (S) JUD AT 1:30 PM BUTROVICH 205
 02/02/22 (S) Heard & Held
 02/02/22 (S) MINUTE(JUD)
 02/09/22 (S) JUD AT 1:30 PM BUTROVICH 205
 02/09/22 (S) <Bill Hearing Postponed to Feb 11>
 02/11/22 (S) JUD AT 1:30 PM BUTROVICH 205
 02/11/22 (S) Moved CSSB 119(JUD) Out of Committee
 02/11/22 (S) MINUTE(JUD)
 02/15/22 (S) JUD RPT CS 3DP 1NR NEW TITLE
 02/15/22 (S) DP: HOLLAND, HUGHES, SHOWER
 02/15/22 (S) NR: KIEHL
 04/12/22 (S) STA AT 3:30 PM BUTROVICH 205
 04/12/22 (S) Heard & Held
 04/12/22 (S) MINUTE(STA)
 04/26/22 (S) STA AT 3:30 PM BUTROVICH 205

WITNESS REGISTER

SENATOR BILL WIELECHOWSKI
 Alaska State Legislature
 Juneau, Alaska
POSITION STATEMENT: Sponsor of SB 220.

SONJA KAWASAKI, Staff
 Senator Bill Wielechowski
 Alaska State Legislature
 Juneau, Alaska
POSITION STATEMENT: Presented the sectional analysis for SB 220
 on behalf of the sponsor.

SENATOR JESSEE KIEHL
 Alaska State Legislature
 Juneau, Alaska
POSITION STATEMENT: Sponsor of SB 195.

PHILLIP MOSER, representing self
 Juneau, Alaska
POSITION STATEMENT: Testified in support of SB 119.

ACTION NARRATIVE

[3:34:28 PM](#)

CHAIR MIKE SHOWER called the Senate State Affairs Standing Committee meeting to order at 3:34 p.m. Present at the call to order were Senators Holland, Reinbold, Kawasaki, and Chair Shower.

SB 220-STATE EMPLOYEES: STATE RESIDENCY

[3:35:07 PM](#)

CHAIR SHOWER announced the consideration of SENATE BILL NO. 220 "An Act relating to a residency requirement for permanent full-time state employees in the classified, exempt, or partially exempt service; relating to allowable absences for permanent fund dividend eligibility; and providing for an effective date."

He noted that this was the first hearing.

[3:35:23 PM](#)

SENATOR BILL WIELECHOWSKI, Alaska State Legislature, Juneau, Alaska, sponsor of SB 220, introduced the legislation speaking to the prepared sponsor statement.

There is no current law that requires State of Alaska employees to be residents of Alaska. In the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic, accessibility to important technological resources accelerated rapidly, enabling many members of the state work force the ability to avoid the congregate office setting. But while the "remote work" options appeared necessary at that time, at least one negative consequence of those advancements may be a shift toward state employees moving to work from out-of-state, living away from the locales their work affects and spending their state-earned salaries Outside.

Senate Bill 220 would mandate that Alaska's permanent, full-time state employees are residents of Alaska and would establish procedures to ensure that residency is maintained. Under this bill, employees who have maintained residency with a clear showing—to the extent that they qualify for a Permanent Fund Dividend—may continue state service. Using PFD eligibility automatically incorporates allowable absences that are already established in statute. Nonresidents could still be hired for state positions but would have to demonstrate residency through the

next full calendar year, at the first instance of possible PFD eligibility.

The bill tasks the State Director of Personnel with annually verifying that employees are in good standing with the residency requirement by reviewing their PFD eligibility status or otherwise confirming that an employee—despite not applying for the Dividend—would meet the same eligibility criteria. The personnel director's duties should be relatively easy to carry out; in most cases she can simply verify whether the Department of Revenue, Permanent Fund Dividend Division, approved the employee's Dividend application.

If they live and work in the state they serve, our public employees will experience higher morale, better productivity, improved collaboration, and will have more care for the tasks over which they are entrusted. This bill in no way restricts the ability of departments or agencies to offer work from-home arrangements within the state.

This legislation provides necessary, reasonable, and important safeguards against an exodus of our talented and valuable state employees. I ask for your support for this commonsense legislation ensuring that Alaska's public employee services are performed by Alaskans.

SENATOR WIELECHOWSKI relayed that the Senate Finance Committee recently learned that nearly 10 percent of the Permanent Fund Corporation employees had moved out-of-state in the last year. They must fly back to Alaska for quarterly meetings and the state is paying for that travel and per diem. He emphasized that this practice does nothing to help the state's economy or its unemployment rate.

He opined that allowing state employees to live and work outside the state creates a host of problems and SB 220 offers a reasonable solution.

[3:37:42 PM](#)

CHAIR SHOWER asked if he had explored the constitutionality of telling State of Alaska employees they could not work for the state if they didn't live in the state. He also asked if he was

aware of any other states that had a similar requirement and if they had been challenged.

SENATOR WIELECHOWSKI said he asked his staff that question and she directed him to a Legislative Legal Services memo that opined that this would not be subject to a constitutional challenge. He read the following quote and offered to provide the full opinion to the committee.

Continuing residency requirements in order to maintain government employment have generally survived challenges alleging violations of various provisions of and rights guaranteed by the United States Constitution.

SENATOR WIELECHOWSKI clarified that the bill was confined to state workers; it did not apply to private industry.

CHAIR SHOWER said he'd like the opinion and it would be posted on BASIS.

SENATOR REINBOLD commented that she did not support most telehealth because the provider sees more in a face-to-face appointment with the patient. She added that she wasn't a big fan of Zoom because there was much more value of meeting one-to-one. She asked the sponsor if he thought that was a good analysis of why he believes fulltime state employees should be present.

[3:39:58 PM](#)

SENATOR WIELECHOWSKI said he shared that concern, but the bill does not address telework. SB 221 addresses [state employees] who work out-of-state. He restated the premise that Alaskans are better served when state employees work within the boundaries of the state.

SENATOR REINBOLD offered her view that the bill did relate to telemedicine because the point is to prevent undercutting the workers in the state of Alaska. She noted that Legislative Budget and Audit (LB&A) recently addressed this issue and imposed tight parameters on auditors for the state. She opined that any exceptions should be well justified.

SENATOR WIELECHOWSKI responded that he didn't disagree.

[3:41:46 PM](#)

SENATOR HOLLAND said he could see the use of telehealth if it is a cost saving but it struck him as improper for state employees to receive per diem to travel back to Alaska to do their work. He asked if that was actually happening.

SENATOR WIELECHOWSKI replied that is what the Senate Finance Committee was told about permanent fund employees. He wasn't aware of what other departments might do, but he was shocked to learn that the state pays for travel, food, and lodging expenses for state employees who choose to live out-of-state.

SENATOR HOLLAND asked if he had other examples of this practice.

SENATOR WIELECHOWSKI relayed that his office asked Legislative Research Services to look at how widespread this might be. They reported that the state personnel director was unresponsive to their multiple requests for this information, which was a concern. He noted that Legislative Research Services also reached out to the Alaska Gasline Development Authority (AGDC), Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC), Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA), Alaska Energy Authority (AEA), and the Alaska Mental Health Trust (AMHT) and each reported that none of their employees worked from outside the state.

[3:44:31 PM](#)

SENATOR HOLLAND asked if there were qualifying standards other than eligibility for the permanent fund dividend (PFD).

SENATOR WIELECHOWSKI responded that there are any number of ways to check residency, but using PFD eligibility seemed to be an easy way to verify.

SENATOR HOLLAND shared that he didn't qualify for a dividend the first year he was eligible because of a technicality, and he'd hate to think that somebody's employment could be at risk due to a technicality.

[3:45:47 PM](#)

SENATOR SHOWER asked the sponsor to send a request for the employee information to the committee and he would forward it to the Department of the Administration (DOA) personnel director as a committee request.

SENATOR WIELECHOWSKI agreed to do so.

CHAIR SHOWER asked Ms. Kawasaki to present the sectional analysis.

[3:46:22 PM](#)

SONJA KAWASAKI, Staff, Senator Bill Wielechowski, Alaska State Legislature, Juneau, Alaska, presented the sectional analysis for SB 220 on behalf of the sponsor.

Section 1 - State Employee State Residency Required; Determination; Termination; Regulation Authority

Section 1 creates three new sections in law:

Sec. 39.25.025 establishes the requirement that a full-time employee of the state in a classified, exempt, or partially exempt position must be, or become, a resident of the state, for continued state employment.

Sec. 39.25.027 provides that the State Director of Personnel must annually determine whether state employees who are subject to the residency requirement and who have been employed for the entire previous calendar year are not eligible for a Permanent Fund Dividend in the current year, which links an employee's eligibility for continued state service to the employee's right to receive a PFD.

An employee who would qualify for a PFD but who is ineligible because the employee did not actually apply for a PFD, or an employee who does not qualify due to certain criminal convictions that do not prevent state employment but disqualifies the employee for a PFD, may still be eligible for continued employment.

The director must notify affected departments of an employee who is not eligible for a PFD and who is not otherwise excepted from the requirement, and the employee shall be terminated.

Sec. 39.25.029 authorizes the Commissioner of Administration to adopt regulations to implement these provisions.

[3:48:10 PM](#)

Section 2 - Clarifying Language Added for Employees Who Must Work Out-of-State

Current law provides limitations on the duration that a PFD applicant may be absent from the state and still be eligible for a PFD. An exception exists for state employees who work in "a field office or other location"; the bill adds clarifying language that the employee's presence in the location that is out-of-state must be necessary to fulfill the employee's job duties.

[3:48:39 PM](#)

Section 3 - Applicability to Collective Bargaining Agreements

The new residency requirement does not apply to collective bargaining agreements entered into before the bill's effective date.

Section 4 - Transition Provision for Applicability to Current State Employees

A current state employee may continue state employment until January 1, 2024, despite ineligibility for state service under the new residency requirement.

Section 5 - Effective Date

The Act is effective July 2, 2022.

SENATOR HOLLAND asked if any state corporation employees were required to live outside the state, specifically AGDC positions in Texas.

MS. KAWASAKI relayed that AGDC communicated to Legislative Research Services that their employees are not considered employees of the state but that they all live in Alaska.

SENATOR HOLLAND clarified that his question was whether any state corporations might have a requirement that certain employees live outside the state.

SENATOR WIELECHOWSKI said he was only aware of the congressional delegation for which there is an exception in the PFD statute, the individual the governor hires to work in Washington, DC, and congressional staff.

SENATOR HOLLAND said he brought it up to ensure the bill would provide "carve outs" to protect those employees.

MS. KAWASAKI relayed that the carve outs were in the permissible absence statutes for the PFD and SB 221 would link to those statutes. The bill clarifies that employment out-of-state must be necessary for the performance of the job duties.

CHAIR SHOWER conveyed information from his staff that the eight PCNs for the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute (ASMI) that were in Seattle had all moved back to Alaska.

SENATOR REINBOLD said she would like to see proof that no AGDC employees work out-of-state. She added that the bill was intriguing because she also recalled that US Senator Dan Sullivan talked about the number of federal employees who work on behalf of Alaska but reside in Washington state.

[3:53:00 PM](#)

SENATOR WIELECHOWSKI restated that his office requested the information from Legislative Legal Research Services and the response from AGDC president Frank Richards was:

We are not State of Alaska employees. All our employees work in Alaska.

CHAIR SHOWER said he would be curious to hear whether the Department of Law agreed with Legislative Research Services or had a different opinion.

[3:54:09 PM](#)

CHAIR SHOWER held SB 220 in committee.

SB 195-PAY INCREASES FOR EXEMPT EMPLOYEES

[3:54:16 PM](#)

CHAIR SHOWER announced the consideration of SENATE BILL NO. 195 "An Act relating to the compensation of certain public officials, officers, and employees not covered by collective bargaining agreements; and providing for an effective date."

CHAIR SHOWER asked the sponsor to give the committee a high level summary of the bill.

[3:54:37 PM](#)

SENATOR JESSEE KIEHL, Alaska State Legislature, Juneau, Alaska, sponsor of SB 195, stated that this is a catchup bill for state

workers who are not represented by a union. It provides a five percent pay increase spread equally over two years. This brings the pay for these state workers up to the last round of general government employee pay increases. This will be the first adjustment these employees have received since 2015. He noted that during a previous hearing he incorrectly stated that the bill affects all Department of Law (DOL) employees. The bill would cover all the attorneys at the Department of Law; the non-attorneys in that department are mostly represented by a union.

SENATOR REINBOLD recalled a similar bill in 2014 and the average cost was \$10 million. She relayed her concern was that the private sector was struggling and their voice wasn't being heard. She said she was reserving judgment pending a review of the fiscal note.

[3:57:23 PM](#)

SENATOR KIEHL responded that there are just over 2,800 exempt and partially exempt employees statewide. The fiscal note shows an \$8.6 million cost the first year, \$5.78 million of which is unrestricted general fund (UGF). The total cost the second year is \$8.8 million. These costs reflect a modest, total five percent, increase for workers who have not had a pay adjustment since 2015.

SENATOR KIEHL said he was pleased to see that wages in the private sector were increasing because it was past due. He was also pleased to see that the economy was beginning to recover. He agreed that private sector business have been struggling and they deserve empathy. He said it's noteworthy that even as they struggle, many are raising wages for their employees, and for more than what is proposed in SB 195. He reiterated that the bill is a catch up, but not on par with the increases in the private sector.

SENATOR REINBOLD spoke about the disparity between a 37.5 hour week job with benefits and the relentless hours and huge responsibilities for the owner of a private sector business. She recalled hearing that about 75,000 jobs were lost over the last two years due to COVID-19, and noted that she wasn't aware of even one "bureaucratic job" that was lost. She questioned the timing of the proposal.

[4:01:36 PM](#)

SENATOR KIEHL said he didn't disagree that the private sector had struggled, but he did not agree with the point that these exempt and partially exempt state employees work just 37.5 hours

a week. These employees are not represented by a union, a large majority are not overtime eligible, many of them work significantly more than the 37.5 hour state contract work week, and that additional time is not compensated.

SENATOR KIEHL clarified that he was not trying to draw an equivalence. SB 195 is about how the legislature, as the board of directors for the State of Alaska, addresses an inequity in the pay of legislative and some executive and judicial branch employees.

SENATOR REINBOLD responded that her point was that union and non-union workers were getting raises while small businesses in the state were getting wiped out. She agreed that many state employees work more than 37.5 hours per week, but that wasn't her point. The point was that private sector businesses don't have anybody looking out for them and it's not wise to ignore their needs.

SENATOR KIEHL restated that Senator Reinbold was not wrong about the suffering in the private sector. He expressed appreciation for the legislative efforts to reopen tourism and opined that everyone in the room was focused on and committed to work together on economic recovery.

[4:04:13 PM](#)

SENATOR HOLLAND noted that the fiscal note reflected the \$8.6 million cost for the first 2.5 percent increase in FY2023 and \$8.8 million for the second 2.5 percent increase in FY2024. He asked whether the reason that FY2024 didn't show the cumulative cost of \$17.4 million was that the first year cost would be in the base budget in the second year.

SENATOR KIEHL replied that his analysis was correct. When fully implemented, the total cost of the five percent increase was about \$17 million.

[4:05:47 PM](#)

CHAIR SHOWER stated he would hold SB 195 in committee to ensure all the committee member's questions were answered.

SENATOR KIEHL said he would be happy to answer any questions the members may have either in the office or during the next hearing.

[4:06:57 PM](#)

At ease

SB 119-OATH OF OFFICE

[4:07:36 PM](#)

CHAIR SHOWER reconvened the meeting and announced the consideration of SENATE BILL NO. 119 "An Act relating to oaths of office; and requiring public officers to read the state constitution, the Declaration of Independence, and the United States Constitution."

[CSSB 119(JUD) was before the committee.]

[4:08:33 PM](#)

SENATOR REINBOLD, speaking as sponsor, summarized that SB 119 will require elected officials to sign a statement, before they take the oath of office, attesting that they have read the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Alaska.

SENATOR HOLLAND said he heard the bill in a previous committee of referral and would hold his questions until the amendment process.

CHAIR SHOWER asked the sponsor to offer the first amendment.

[4:10:11 PM](#)

SENATOR REINBOLD moved Amendment 1, work order 32-LS0163\W.1

32-LS0163\W.1
Marx
4/13/22

AMENDMENT 1

OFFERED IN THE SENATE BY SENATOR REINBOLD
TO: CSSB 119(JUD)

Page 1, line 2, following "**constitution**":
Insert "**, the Declaration of Independence,**"

Page 1, line 6, following "**Alaska**":
Insert "**, the Declaration of Independence,**"

Page 2, line 1, following "**Alaska**":
Insert "**, the Declaration of Independence,**"

Page 2, line 5, following "Alaska":
Insert ", the Declaration of Independence,"

Page 2, line 11, following "Alaska":
Insert ", the Declaration of Independence,"

Page 2, line 16, following "Alaska":
Insert ", the Declaration of Independence,"

Page 2, line 22, following "Alaska":
Insert ", the Declaration of Independence,"

Page 2, line 31, following "Alaska":
Insert ", the Declaration of Independence,"

Page 3, line 6, following "Alaska":
Insert ", the Declaration of Independence,"

Page 3, line 13, following "Alaska":
Insert ", the Declaration of Independence,"

Page 3, line 19, following "Alaska":
Insert ", the Declaration of Independence,"

CHAIR SHOWER objected for discussion purposes.

SENATOR REINBOLD explained that Amendment 1 adds the Declaration of Independence to the documents that elected officials would be required to read before taking the oath of office. This is in keeping with the original intent of the legislation because the documents are inseparable. This document is the charter and the constitution lays out the bylaws.

CHAIR SHOWER advised that the amendment did not have a fiscal impact.

[4:11:25 PM](#)

SENATOR HOLLAND observed that the sponsor did not mention the Declaration of Independence in her opening remarks. As important as that document is, he didn't believe that elected officials were required to take an oath to it like they do to the Constitution of the State of Alaska and the United States Constitution. He asked if that was correct.

SENATOR REINBOLD responded that the only reason that she didn't mention the Declaration of Independence in her opening remarks

was because that requirement was removed in a previous committee and she was speaking to the current version.

[4:12:24 PM](#)

At ease

[4:13:24 PM](#)

CHAIR SHOWER reconvened the meeting. He asked if there were additional questions on Amendment 1.

SENATOR HOLLAND advised that he would not support the amendment because he had voted to remove that requirement when he heard the bill in an earlier committee.

SENATOR REINBOLD shared that when she reads the Declaration of Independence she thinks about the conditions in the Colonies because of King George' actions and is reminded of reasons that the rights outlined in the constitution are so valuable.

SENATOR HOLLAND said he was trying to find an analogy between King George as an unresponsive dictator and this requirement. There is no law that requires anybody to read the Declaration of Independence and for that reason he had trouble supporting the amendment.

[4:15:12 PM](#)

CHAIR SHOWER removed his objection.

[4:15:23 PM](#)

SENATOR HOLLAND objected.

[4:15:39 PM](#)

A roll call vote was taken. Senators Reinbold Kawasaki, and Shower voted in favor of Amendment 1 to SB 119 and Senator Holland, voted against it. Therefore, Amendment 1 passed on a 3:1 vote.

CHAIR SHOWER announced that Amendment 1 passed with three yeas and 1 nay.

SENATOR REINBOLD moved Amendment 2 to SB 119, work order 32-LS0163\W.2.

32-LS0163\W.2

Marx

4/13/22

AMENDMENT 2

OFFERED IN THE SENATE
TO: CSSB 119(JUD)

BY SENATOR REINBOLD

Page 1, line 7:

Delete "take and sign"

Insert "shall take, [AND] sign, and file with the applicable school board"

Page 2, line 1, following "take":

Insert ", sign, and file with the division in the Department of Education and Early Development responsible for state libraries, archives, and museums"

Page 2, line 6:

Delete "and subscribe to"

Insert ", sign, and file with the division in the Department of Education and Early Development responsible for state libraries, archives, and museums [AND SUBSCRIBE TO]"

Page 2, line 12:

Delete "and subscribe to"

Insert ", sign, and file with the division in the Department of Education and Early Development responsible for state libraries, archives, and museums [AND SUBSCRIBE TO]"

Page 2, line 17:

Delete "and subscribe to"

Insert ", sign, and file with the division in the Department of Education and Early Development responsible for state libraries, archives, and museums [AND SUBSCRIBE TO]"

Page 2, line 23:

Delete "and subscribe to"

Insert ", sign, and file with the division in the Department of Education and Early Development responsible for state libraries, archives, and museums [AND SUBSCRIBE TO]"

Page 3, line 1, following "take":

Insert ", sign, and file with the division in the Department of Education and Early Development responsible for state libraries, archives, and museums"

Page 3, line 14, following "file":

Insert "with the division in the Department of Education and Early Development responsible for state libraries, archives, and museums"

Page 3, line 19:

Delete "and sign"

Insert ", [AND] sign, and file with the division in the Department of Education and Early Development responsible for state libraries, archives, and museums"

CHAIR SHOWER objected for discussion purposes.

[4:16:22 PM](#)

SENATOR REINBOLD explained that Amendment 2 establishes where the signed oaths will be housed. Oaths of school board members will be filed with the appropriate school board and the oaths for all other elected officials, judges, and magistrates will be filed with the division in the Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) responsible for state libraries, archives, and museums.

[4:17:54 PM](#)

SENATOR HOLLAND noted that he was surprised that this direction was missing in the original legislation and he did support the addition.

SENATOR REINBOLD offered her belief that the amendment would have no fiscal impact.

CHAIR SHOWER thanked her for the clarification.

[4:19:18 PM](#)

SENATOR KAWASAKI asked if she knew where the lieutenant governor files the oaths that legislators sign when they are sworn into office.

SENATOR REINBOLD answered no.

SENATOR KAWASAKI asked if she had spoken to any school boards or districts about filing these oaths for school board members and whether it would be easy to do.

SENATOR REINBOLD answered no but her belief was that the details about where oaths for school board members would be filed could be addressed through regulation. She highlighted that she had received no opposition to the bill.

SENATOR KAWASAKI asked if DEED would be responsible for filing the oaths from a Regional Educational Attendance Area (REAA) since they have no school board.

SENATOR REINBOLD surmised that would be the case.

[4:21:30 PM](#)

SENATOR KAWASAKI asked if her office had contacted the State Libraries, Archives, and Museums (SLAM) to ask whether or not filing and storing these oaths would have a fiscal impact.

SENATOR REINBOLD acknowledged that she couldn't answer the question with certainty but her personal opinion was that these few filings would not result in a fiscal note.

CHAIR SHOWER offered his recollection that the bill initially had a finance referral that was subsequently removed. He didn't recall the details.

[4:23:15 PM](#)

SENATOR REINBOLD offered her understanding that the referral to finance was removed because the bill doesn't have a fiscal note.

CHAIR SHOWER recalled that there were five zero fiscal notes on BASIS initially.

[4:24:08 PM](#)

CHAIR SHOWER removed his objection to Amendment 2; finding no further objection, Amendment 2 passed.

[4:24:29 PM](#)

CHAIR SHOWER opened public testimony on SB 119.

[4:24:49 PM](#)

PHILLIP MOSER, representing self, Juneau, Alaska, stated support for SB 119. He opined the Declaration of Independence helps bring up some of the hard issues related to the creation of the United States. This document lists grievances with the King of

England, the issues the founding of America had with slavery, and the extermination of native American people. He restated that he fully supports requiring everyone who takes public office to read and thus be aware of these things.

[4:27:17 PM](#)

CHAIR SHOWER closed public testimony on SB 119.

SENATOR REINBOLD thanked the committee and stated that it was an honor to have the opportunity to present the bill.

CHAIR SHOWER commented that he agreed with the foundation. Finding no further questions or comments, he solicited the will of the committee.

[4:28:41 PM](#)

At ease

[4:28:59 PM](#)

CHAIR SHOWER reconvened the meeting.

[4:29:03 PM](#)

SENATOR HOLLAND moved to report SB 119, work order 32-LS0163\W, as amended, from committee with individual recommendations and attached fiscal note(s).

CHAIR SHOWER found no objection and CSSB 119(STA) was reported from the Senate State Affairs Standing Committee.

[4:29:52 PM](#)

There being no further business to come before the committee, Chair Shower adjourned the Senate State Affairs Standing Committee meeting at 4:29 p.m.