

**HOUSE JOURNAL**  
**ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE**  
**THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE**  
**FIRST SESSION**

**Juneau, Alaska**

**Friday**

**February 3, 2023**

**Eighteenth Day**

Pursuant to adjournment the House was called to order by Speaker Tilton at 10:31 a.m.

Roll call showed 36 members present. Representatives McCabe and Patkotak had been excused from a call of the House today. Representative Saddler moved and asked unanimous consent that the following members be excused from a call of the House. There being no objection, the members were excused as noted:

Representative Stutes – from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., today

Representative Rauscher – from 8:00 a.m., today to 10:20 a.m., February 6

The invocation was offered by the Chaplain, Reverend Doctor Laura Krauss of Kunéix Hídi Northern Light United Church. Representative Vance moved and asked unanimous consent that the invocation be spread on the journal. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

I invite you to take a moment of stillness.

I grew up in a faraway land where you always received every gift, no matter how small or large, ordinary or marvelous with both hands cupped together.

May we cup our hands numerous times today, as we acknowledge the numerous gifts we will receive, giftwrapped or not. Living a life of gratitude grounds us and lifts us up.

Gunalchéesh. Amen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Representative Edgmon.

### **CERTIFICATION OF THE JOURNAL**

Representative Saddler moved and asked unanimous consent that the journal for the 16th and 17th legislative days and House and Senate Joint Journal Supplement No. 3 be approved as certified by the Chief Clerk. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

### **MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR**

A letter dated January 31 was read stating that, in accordance with AS 39.05.080 and art. III, sec. 25, Constitution of the State of Alaska, the Governor submits the following names for legislative confirmation of appointment to the positions noted.

The Speaker referred the following to the Finance Committee:

#### **Commissioner, Department of Revenue**

Adam Crum – Wasilla

Appointed: 11/16/2022

The Speaker referred the following to the Health & Social Services Committee:

#### **Commissioner, Department of Family and Community Services**

Kim Kovol – Anchorage

Appointed: 1/30/2023

#### **Commissioner, Department of Health**

Heidi Hedberg – Anchorage

Appointed: 12/19/2022

The Speaker referred the following to the Resources Committee:

#### **Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources**

John Boyle – Anchorage

Appointed: 12/16/2022

The Speaker referred the following to the State Affairs Committee:

**Commissioner, Department of Correction**

Jen Winkelman – Juneau

Appointed: 1/11/2023

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

A letter dated January 31 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 names for legislative confirmation of appointment to the positions noted.

The Speaker referred the following to the Community & Regional Affairs and Finance Committees:

**Regulatory Commission of Alaska**

Robert Doyle – Wasilla

Appointed: 5/23/2022

Term Expires: 3/1/2028

The Speaker referred the following to the Education Committee:

**Professional Teaching Practices Commission**

Mary Carlson – Fairbanks

Appointed: 6/22/2022

Term Expires: 3/1/2024

The Speaker referred the following to the House Special Committee on Fisheries and the Resources Committee:

**State Board of Fisheries**

Thomas Carpenter – Cordova

Appointed: 7/1/2022

Term Expires: 7/1/2025

Stanley Zuray – Tanana

Appointed: 12/29/2022

Term Expires: 7/1/2025

The Speaker referred the following to the Health & Social Services Committee:

**Board of Dental Examiners**

Kenley Michaud – Anchorage

Appointed: 5/25/2022

Term Expires: 3/1/2025

**Board of Massage Therapists**

Annetta Atwell – North Pole

Appointed: 5/25/2022

Term Expires: 3/1/2026

**State Medical Board**

David Paulson – Anchorage

Appointed: 5/25/2022

Term Expires: 3/1/2024

**Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives**

Darcy Lucey – Wasilla

Appointed: 6/22/2022

Term Expires: 3/1/2025

**Board of Nursing**

Vianne Smith – North Pole

Appointed: 8/3/2022

Term Expires: 3/1/2025

**Board of Pharmacy**

Carla Hebert – Anchorage

Appointed: 12/29/2022

Term Expires: 3/1/2024

**State Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board**

Lindsey Hill – Sterling

Appointed: 8/3/2022

Term Expires: 3/1/2026

Tina McLean – Seward

Appointed: 6/22/2022

Term Expires: 3/1/2026

Bryan Murphy – Anchorage

Appointed: 12/29/2022

Term Expires: 3/1/2024

Valerie Phelps – Anchorage

Appointed: 8/3/2022

Term Expires: 3/1/2025

**Board of Professional Counselors**

Rachel Buddin-Young – Eagle River

Appointed: 8/3/2022

Term Expires: 3/1/2026

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Teresa Cotton – Bethel

Appointed: 5/25/2022

Term Expires: 3/1/2026

**Board of Social Work Examiners**

Ann Applebee – Palmer

Appointed: 5/25/2022

Term Expires: 3/1/2025

Amber Taylor – JBER

Appointed: 8/3/2022

Term Expires: 3/1/2026

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

**Real Estate Commission**

Devon Thomas – Wasilla

Appointed: 10/22/2021

Term Expires: 3/1/2023

Reappointed: 3/1/2023

Term Expires: 3/1/2027

**Alaska Workers' Compensation Board**

Steven Heidemann – Anchorage

Appointed: 12/29/2022

Term Expires: 3/1/2024

Marc Stemp – Anchorage

Appointed: 12/29/2022

Term Expires: 3/1/2025

The Speaker referred the following to the Resources Committee:

**Big Game Commercial Services Board**

Larry Kunder – Anchorage

Appointed: 5/25/2022

Term Expires: 3/1/2026

**Board of Game**

Allen Barrette – Fairbanks

Appointed: 7/1/2022

Term Expires: 7/1/2025

Beatrice Cusack – Chugiak

Appointed: 7/1/2022

Term Expires: 7/1/2025

The Speaker referred the following to the Resources and Finance Committees:

**Alaska Gasline Development Corporation**

Mike Chenault – Kenai

Appointed: 4/11/2022

Term Expires: 12/1/2026

**Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission**

Brett Huber – Anchorage

Appointed: 1/9/2023

Term Expires: 3/1/2027

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

**Alaska Police Standards Council**

Bryan Barlow – Anchorage

Appointed: 10/6/2022

Term Expires: 3/1/2026

The Speaker referred the following to the Transportation Committee:

**Board of Marine Pilots**

James Cunningham – Homer

Appointed: 5/25/2022

Term Expires: 3/1/2025

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

**COMMUNICATIONS**

The following were received:

Dept. of Commerce, Community, & Economic Development  
Alaska Regional Development Organizations  
FY 2022 Annual Report  
(as required by AS 44.33.896)

Dept. of Commerce, Community, & Economic Development  
Division of Community and Regional Affairs  
Local Boundary Commission  
2022 Annual Report to the Legislature  
(as required by AS 44.33.812)

Dept. of Education & Early Development  
State Board of Education and Early Development  
Report to the Alaska Legislature  
January 2023  
(as required by AS 14.07.168)

Dept. of Fish & Game  
Division of Wildlife Conservation  
Board of Game Allocation of Big Game Hunting  
Annual Report  
February 1, 2023  
(as required by AS 16.05.050)

Alaska Industrial Development & Export Authority  
Interior Energy Project  
Quarterly Report to the Alaska State Legislature  
Fourth Quarter 2022  
[www.interiorenergyproject.com](http://www.interiorenergyproject.com)  
(as required by Chapter No. 39, SLA 2015)

## INTRODUCTION OF CITATIONS

The following citation was introduced and referred to the Rules Committee for placement on the calendar:

Commemorating - Elizabeth Peratrovich Day  
By Representatives Story, Hannan; Senator Kiehl

## INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING, AND REFERENCE OF HOUSE BILLS

### **HB 56**

HOUSE BILL NO. 56 by Representatives Ruffridge, Hannan, Carrick, Sumner, Galvin, Mears, and Gray, entitled:

"An Act exempting controlled substances prescribed or dispensed by a veterinarian to treat an animal from the requirements of the controlled substance prescription database."

was read the first time and referred to the Health & Social Services and Labor & Commerce Committees.

**HB 57**

HOUSE BILL NO. 57 by Representative Wright, entitled:

"An Act relating to review organizations and permitting an emergency medical services provider to establish a review organization; and relating to patient records."

was read the first time and referred to the Labor & Commerce and Health & Social Services Committees.

**HB 58**

HOUSE BILL NO. 58 by the House Rules Committee by request of the Governor, entitled:

"An Act relating to medical assistance for recipients of Medicaid waivers; establishing an adult care home license and procedures; providing for the transition of individuals from foster care to adult home care settings; and providing for an effective date."

was read the first time and referred to the Health & Social Services, Labor & Commerce, and Finance Committees.

The following fiscal note(s) apply:

1. Fiscal, Dept. of Health
2. Fiscal, Dept. of Health

The Governor's transmittal letter dated February 2 follows:

"Dear Speaker Tilton:

Under the authority of Article III, Section 18, of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting a bill to allow individuals to be licensed to operate an adult care home and receive payment under Medicaid for the provision of assisted living services for elderly adults and adult foster children in a home-like environment.

Under this bill, an adult care home would be limited to a non-business site where the head of household lives and provides 24-hour care for no more than two individuals. The Department of Health (DOH)



would be able to adopt regulations that allow for care of up to three individuals based on certain circumstances.

The bill would authorize DOH to pay for services under the state's Medicaid program associated with a licensed adult care home. DOH would also be authorized to license and develop rules for the operation of an adult care home.

This bill will allow Alaskans to continue to care for family members in their homes while providing access to financial support to offset the cost of the care. This bill will encourage foster families to remain together when special needs recipients age out of foster care and desire to remain with their foster family.

I urge your prompt and favorable action on this measure.

Sincerely,

/s/

Mike Dunleavy  
Governor"

### **HB 59**

HOUSE BILL NO. 59 by the House Rules Committee by request of the Governor, entitled:

"An Act relating to Medicaid eligibility; expanding eligibility for postpartum mothers; conditioning the expansion of eligibility on approval by the United States Department of Health and Human Services; and providing for an effective date."

was read the first time and referred to the Health & Social Services and Finance Committees.

The following fiscal note(s) apply:

1. Fiscal, Dept. of Health

The Governor's transmittal letter dated February 2 follows:

"Dear Speaker Tilton:

Under the authority of Article III, Section 18, of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting a bill to allow the expansion of Medicaid coverage in Alaska for postpartum mothers. This takes advantage of recent federal amendments to the Social Security Act of 1935 permitting states to amend their state plans to extend existing coverage for pregnant women up to 12 months postpartum.

Under the bill, the Department of Health (DOH) will be authorized to extend postpartum Medicaid coverage for enrolled pregnant women up to the maximum time authorized under federal law. The bill further requires DOH to submit a state plan amendment to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under 42 U.S.C. 1396a(e)(16), as amended by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, to authorize the extension of coverage for Medicaid-enrolled mothers up to 12 months postpartum.

Under the bill, the coverage expansion will only become effective if the state plan amendment is approved by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. If the department's state plan amendment is approved, the expansion would become effective on the day after the reviser of statutes is notified by the department of the approval.

Because the bill permits extension of postpartum coverage to the extent permitted by federal law, DOH will be able to seek additional extensions of postpartum coverage in the future, should federal law subsequently allow it, without the need of further statutory amendments.

I urge your prompt and favorable action on this measure.

Sincerely,

/s/

Mike Dunleavy  
Governor"

### **HB 60**

HOUSE BILL NO. 60 by the House Rules Committee by request of the Governor, entitled:

"An Act relating to the licensing of runaway shelters; relating to advisors to the board of trustees of the Alaska Mental Health Trust

Authority; relating to the sharing of confidential health information between the Department of Health and the Department of Family and Community Services; relating to the duties of the Department of Health and the Department of Family and Community Services; and providing for an effective date."

was read the first time and referred to the Health & Social Services and Finance Committees.

The following fiscal note(s) apply:

1. Zero, Dept. of Family and Community Services
2. Zero, Dept. of Health

The Governor's transmittal letter dated February 2 follows:

"Dear Speaker Tilton:

Under the authority of Article III, Section 18, of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting a bill relating to the implementation of Executive Order 121.

Executive Order 121 separated the Department of Health and Social Services into the Department of Health (DOH) and the Department of Family and Community Services (DFCS). This bill would facilitate administration of the resulting departments by enacting a statute to allow the departments to share identifiable health information necessary for the operation of state programs. It would correct an error wherein licensing authority for runaway shelters was assigned to DFCS. The bill would also add the Commissioner of DFCS as a board advisor to the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority.

In addition to these substantive changes, the bill contains clarifying amendments to properly identify or assist with identification of the new departments in statute.

I urge your prompt and favorable action on this measure.

Sincerely,

/s/

Mike Dunleavy  
Governor"

**CONSIDERATION OF THE DAILY CALENDAR****LEGISLATIVE CITATIONS**

Representative Saddler moved and asked unanimous consent that the House approve the citations on the calendar.

Representative Eastman objected and moved and asked unanimous consent to divide the citations to consider the citation, Honoring - Alaska Hospital & Healthcare Association's 70th Anniversary, separately. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

The question being: "Shall the House approve the citation, Honoring - Alaska Hospital & Healthcare Association's 70th Anniversary?" The roll was taken with the following result:

Honoring – Alaska Hospital & Healthcare Association's 70th Anniversary

Approve Citation(s) on Calendar

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

Yeas: Allard, Armstrong, Carpenter, Carrick, Coulombe, Cronk, Dibert, Edgmon, Fields, Foster, Galvin, Gray, Groh, Hannan, Himschoot, C.Johnson, D.Johnson, Josephson, McCormick, McKay, Mears, Mina, Ortiz, Prax, Ruffridge, Saddler, Schrage, Shaw, Stapp, Story, Sumner, Tilton, Tomaszewski, Vance, Wright

Nays: Eastman

Excused: McCabe, Patkotak, Rauscher, Stutes

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

Honoring - Alaska Hospital & Healthcare Association's 70th Anniversary

By Senator Wilson

Representative Saddler moved and asked unanimous consent that the House approve the remaining citations on the calendar.

Representative Eastman objected to the citation, Honoring - Richard Boothby, offered remarks, and withdrew the objection. There being no further objection, the following citations were approved and sent to enrolling:

Honoring - 2023 UAF Alumni Association Award Recipients  
By Representative Carrick

Honoring - Richard Boothby  
By Senator Wilson; Representative McCabe

Honoring - Colony High School Knights, 2022 Football State  
Champions  
By Senator Wilson; Representative Sumner

In Memoriam - Andy Granville Andersen  
By Representative Rauscher; Senator Shower

In Memoriam - Robert Clyde April  
By Senators Wilson, Wielechowski; Representative Wright

In Memoriam - Bert Lloyd Cottle  
By Senator Wilson; Representatives D. Johnson, Rauscher

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Representative Saddler 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 McKay – from 6:00 p.m., March 3 to 9:30 p.m., March 5

#### **HB 17**

Representative Hannan added as a cosponsor to:

##### **HOUSE BILL NO. 17**

"An Act relating to insurance coverage for contraceptives and related services; relating to medical assistance coverage for contraceptives and related services; and providing for an effective date."

#### **HB 19**

Representative Hannan added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 19

"An Act relating to the registration of commercial vessels; and providing for an effective date."

**HB 28**

Representative Armstrong added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 28

"An Act restricting the release of certain records of convictions; and providing for an effective date."

**HB 36**

Representative Galvin added as a cosponsor to:

SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 36

"An Act requiring the disclosure of the identity of certain persons, groups, and nongroup entities that expend money in support of or in opposition to an application filed for a state referendum or recall election; relating to political contributions; and providing for an effective date."

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

House committee schedules are published under separate cover.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Representative Saddler moved and asked unanimous consent that the House adjourn until 11:00 a.m., February 6. There being no objection, the House adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

Crystalline Jones  
Chief Clerk