

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

**Juneau, Alaska**

**Friday**

**February 23, 2024**

**Thirty-ninth Day**

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

Roll call showed 38 members present. Representative Armstrong was absent and later excused (page 1624).

Representative Saddler moved and asked unanimous consent that Representative Shaw be excused from a call of the House today. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

The invocation was offered by the Chaplain, Deacon Charles Rohrbacher of Cathedral of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Representative Vance moved and asked unanimous consent that the invocation be spread on the journal. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

Thank you for inviting me here to lead you in prayer this morning as you take up your important task of upholding human dignity and working together for the common good.

If you so desire, please join your prayer with the Prayer Of St. Francis:

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:  
where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek  
to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved as to love.  
For it is in giving that we receive,  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Representative Stapp.

### **CERTIFICATION OF THE JOURNAL**

Representative Saddler moved and asked unanimous consent that the journal for the 38th legislative day be approved as certified by the Chief Clerk. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

\* \* \* \* \*

Representative Carpenter introduced Maranatha and Joy Henderson, Guest Pages, from Nikiski.

### **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

The Health & Social Services Committee reviewed the qualifications of the following and recommends the appointment be forwarded to a joint session for consideration:

Ethan Arndt

as a member of the Board of Examiners in Optometry.

The report was signed by Representative Prax, Chair; and Representatives Fields, Ruffridge, McCormick, Saddler, and Mina.

### **HB 279**

The Community & Regional Affairs Committee considered:

HOUSE BILL NO. 279

"An Act relating to the Local Boundary Commission; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends it be replaced with:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 279(CRA)  
(same title)

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

Do pass (3): Baker, Himschoot, Ruffridge

No recommendation (3): Mears, McCabe, McCormick

The following fiscal note(s) apply to CSHB 279(CRA):

1. Zero, Dept. of Commerce, Community, & Economic Development

HB 279 was referred to the Rules Committee.

### **INTRODUCTION OF CITATIONS**

The following citations were introduced and taken up later as a Special Order of Business:

Honoring - Jirdes Winther Baxter  
By Senator Kiehl; Representatives Hannan, Story

Honoring - 50th Anniversary of the Festival of Native Arts  
By Senators Kawasaki, Bishop; Representative Dibert

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

In Memoriam - Sara Lynn Cebulski  
By Senators Kawasaki, Myers

In Memoriam - Betty Ruth "Bruth" George  
By Senators Bishop, Kawasaki

In Memoriam - Bryce Clinton Ray  
By Senator Hughes; Representative D. Johnson

In Memoriam - David Elbert Austin  
By Senators Hughes, Stedman

**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Representative Saddler moved and asked unanimous consent that the notice and publication requirements be waived and the citations, Honoring - Jirdes Winther Baxter and 50th Anniversary of the Festival of Native Arts, be taken up as a Special Order of Business. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

Representative Saddler moved and asked unanimous consent that the House approve the citations. There being no objection, the following citations were approved and sent to enrolling:

Honoring - Jirdes Winther Baxter  
By Senator Kiehl; Representatives Hannan, Story

Honoring - 50th Anniversary of the Festival of Native Arts  
By Senators Kawasaki, Bishop; Representative Dibert

\* \* \* \* \*

Representative Saddler moved and asked unanimous consent that Representative Armstrong be excused from a call of the House today. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

**CONSIDERATION OF THE DAILY CALENDAR**

**SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILLS**

**HB 148**

The following was read the second time:

HOUSE BILL NO. 148

"An Act relating to the Alaska performance scholarship program."

with the:

Journal Page

EDC RPT CS(EDC) 6DP	797
FN1: ZERO(EED)	797
FN2: (EED)	797
FN3: (EED)	797

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FIN RPT CS(FIN) 10DP 1NR	1491
FN4: (EED)	1491
FN5: (EED)	1491
FN6: (EED)	1491
FN7: (EED)	1491

Representative Saddler moved and asked unanimous consent that the following committee substitute be adopted in lieu of the original bill:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 148(FIN)  
(same title)

Representative Eastman objected and withdrew the objection. There being no further objection, CSHB 148(FIN) was adopted.

Amendment No. 1 was offered by Representative Eastman:

Page 1, line 1, following "**program**" (title amendment):

Insert "**;** and relating to the Alaska Police Standards Council"

Page 6, following line 1:

Insert a new bill section to read:

"\* **Sec. 8.** AS 18.65.220 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(b) The council may not establish standards for employment under (a)(2) of this section or reject an applicant for admission to a police training program, or otherwise treat a person differently, solely because of the source of the person's high school diploma or equivalent credential. Nothing in this subsection prohibits the council from inquiring into the content of a secondary educational program to determine whether a person meets qualifications required for employment or for admission to a police training program."

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

Representative Ruffridge objected.

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

Representative Saddler moved and asked unanimous consent that CSHB 148(FIN) be considered engrossed, advanced to third reading, and placed on final passage.

There was objection.

CSHB 148(FIN) will advance to third reading on the February 26 calendar.

### **THIRD READING OF HOUSE BILLS**

#### **HB 143**

The following, which was held from the February 22 calendar (page 1616), was read the third time:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 143(RES)

"An Act relating to the Department of Environmental Conservation; relating to advanced recycling and advanced recycling facilities; relating to waste; and providing for an effective date."

The question being: "Shall CSHB 143(RES) pass the House?" The roll was taken with the following result:

CSHB 143(RES)

Third Reading

Final Passage

**YEAS: 23 NAYS: 13 EXCUSED: 2 ABSENT: 2**

Yeas: Allard, Baker, Carpenter, Coulombe, Cronk, Edgmon, Foster, C.Johnson, D.Johnson, McCabe, McCormick, McKay, Ortiz, Prax, Rauscher, Ruffridge, Saddler, Stapp, Sumner, Tilton, Tomaszewski, Vance, Wright

Nays: Carrick, Dibert, Eastman, Fields, Gray, Groh, Himschoot, Josephson, Mears, Mina, Schrage, Story, Stutes

Excused: Armstrong, Shaw

Absent: Galvin, Hannan

And so, CSHB 143(RES) passed the House.

Representative Saddler moved the effective date clause.

The question being: "Shall the effective date clause be adopted?" The roll was taken with the following result:

CSHB 143(RES)

Third Reading

Effective Date

**YEAS: 34 NAYS: 2 EXCUSED: 2 ABSENT: 2**

Yeas: Allard, Baker, Carpenter, Carrick, Coulombe, Cronk, Dibert, Edgmon, Fields, Foster, Gray, Groh, Himschoot, C.Johnson, D.Johnson, McCabe, McCormick, McKay, Mears, Mina, Ortiz, Prax, Rauscher, Ruffridge, Saddler, Schrage, Stapp, Story, Stutes, Sumner, Tilton, Tomaszewski, Vance, Wright

Nays: Eastman, Josephson

Excused: Armstrong, Shaw

Absent: Galvin, Hannan

And so, the effective date clause was adopted.

CSHB 143(RES) was referred to the Chief Clerk for engrossment.

The Speaker stated that the House would stand at ease; and so, the House stood at ease at 11:35 a.m.

#### **AFTER AT EASE**

The Speaker called the House back to order at 12:12 p.m.

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 Galvin – today

Representative Hannan – from today to 2:00 p.m., February 25

Representative Ortiz – from today to 10:00 p.m., February 25

## **SECOND READING OF HOUSE RESOLUTIONS**

### **HJR 7**

The Speaker stated that, without objection, the following, which was held from the February 22 calendar (page 1616), would be held to the February 26 calendar:

#### **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 7**

Proposing amendments to the Constitution of the State of Alaska requiring payment of a dividend to eligible state residents.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

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 Vance – from 2:00 p.m., March 1 to 10:00 p.m., March 3

Representative Allard – from 6:00 a.m., February 24 to 11:00 a.m., February 25

Representative Mears – from 6:00 a.m., February 24 to 10:00 p.m., February 25

Representative C. Johnson moved and asked unanimous consent that the House revert to Introduction of Guests. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

Representative Saddler moved and asked unanimous consent that the House advance to Committee Announcements. There being no objection, it was so ordered.



**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**HJR 20**

Representative Armstrong added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 20

Urging withdrawal of proposed Bureau of Land Management regulations affecting the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska; and urging meaningful engagement with tribes, local governments, and affected communities.

**HB 147**

Representative McCormick added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 147

"An Act relating to teacher certificates for retired teachers."

**ENGROSSMENT**

**HB 143**

CSHB 143(RES) was engrossed, signed by the Speaker and Chief Clerk, and transmitted to the Senate for consideration.

**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 26. There being no objection, the House adjourned at 12:21 p.m.

Crystaline Jones  
Chief Clerk