

HOUSE JOURNAL
ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION

Juneau, Alaska

Tuesday

May 7, 2024

One Hundred Thirteenth Day

Pursuant to adjournment the House was called to order by Speaker Tilton at 10:53 a.m.

Roll call showed 40 members present.

The invocation was offered by the Chaplain, Representative Armstrong. Representative Vance moved and asked unanimous consent that the invocation be spread on the journal. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

With the deepest respect for the beliefs of all Alaskans, I invite you into a moment of reflection with the following poems by Rilke:

I live my life in widening circles
that reach out across the world.
I may not complete this last one
but I give myself to it.

I circle around God, around the primordial tower.
I've been circling for thousands of years
and I still don't know: am I a falcon,
a storm, or a great song?

* * * * *

God speaks to each of us as he makes us,
then walks with us silently out of the night.
These are the words we dimly hear:

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You, sent out beyond your recall,
go to the limits of your longing.
Embody me.

Flare up like a flame
and make big shadows I can move in.

Let everything happen to you: beauty and terror.
Just keep going. No feeling is final.
Don't let yourself lose me.

Nearby is the country they call life.
You will know it by its seriousness.

Give me your hand.
Amen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Representative Ruffridge.

CERTIFICATION OF THE JOURNAL

Representative Saddler moved and asked unanimous consent that the journal for the 112th legislative day be approved as certified by the Chief Clerk. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

The Speaker stated that, without objection, the House would stand at ease to allow members of the Senate to enter the Chamber.

JOINT SESSION IN THE HOUSE

Consideration of the Governor's appointees will be published in House and Senate Joint Journal Supplement No. 18.

IN THE HOUSE

The Speaker called the House back to order at 4:37 p.m.

MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

HCR 13

A message dated May 6 was read stating the Senate passed:

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 13

Recognizing and commending the National Conference of State Legislatures on its 50th anniversary in 2025.

HCR 13 was referred to the Chief Clerk for enrollment.

HB 26

A message dated May 6 was read stating the Senate passed:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 26(TRB)

"An Act relating to the official languages of the State of Alaska; renaming the Alaska Native Language Preservation and Advisory Council as the Council for Alaska Native Languages; and relating to the Council for Alaska Native Languages."

with the following amendment, and it is transmitted for consideration:

SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 26(FIN)

"An Act relating to the official languages of the State of Alaska; renaming the Alaska Native Language Preservation and Advisory Council as the Council for Alaska Native Languages; relating to the transfer of the Council for Alaska Native Languages from the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development to the Department of Education and Early Development; and relating to the Council for Alaska Native Languages."

(SCR 11 - title change resolution)

CSHB 26(TRB) is under Unfinished Business.

HB 268

A message dated May 7 was read stating the President granted limited powers of free conference to the Senate members of the Conference Committee considering:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 268(FIN) am(brf sup maj fld)

"An Act making appropriations for the operating and loan program expenses of state government and for certain programs;

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capitalizing funds; amending appropriations; making supplemental appropriations and reappropriations; and providing for an effective date."

and

SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 268(FIN)

"An Act making appropriations for the operating and loan program expenses of state government and for certain programs; capitalizing funds; repealing appropriations; amending appropriations; making supplemental appropriations and reappropriations; and providing for an effective date."

on the following specific points:

The appropriations and language that are not identical in the House and Senate version of HB 268.

And, in accordance with practice and usage, authorized the addition of the monetary terms of collective bargaining agreements for the following bargaining units:

Alaska Correctional Officers Association Correctional Officers Unit
Alaska Public Employees Association / Supervisory Unit
Labor, Trades and Crafts Unit
Alaska Graduate Workers Association / UAW

The Speaker granted the limited powers of free conference as requested (page 2746).

HB 270

A message dated May 7 was read stating the President granted limited powers of free conference to the Senate members of the Conference Committee considering:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 270(FIN)

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

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and

SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 270(FIN)
(same title)

on the following specific points:

The appropriations and language that are not identical in the House and Senate version of HB 270.

And, in accordance with practice and usage, authorized the addition of the monetary terms of collective bargaining agreements for the following bargaining units:

Alaska Correctional Officers Association Correctional Officers Unit
Alaska Public Employees Association / Supervisory Unit
Labor, Trades and Crafts Unit
Alaska Graduate Workers Association / UAW

The Speaker granted the limited powers of free conference as requested (page 2747).

A message dated May 6 was read stating the Senate passed the following, and they are transmitted for consideration:

FIRST READING AND REFERENCE OF SENATE RESOLUTIONS

SCR 11

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 11 by the Senate Finance Committee:

Suspending Rules 24(c), 35, 41(b), and 42(e), Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature, concerning House Bill No. 26, relating to the official languages of the State of Alaska; renaming the Alaska Native Language Preservation and Advisory Council as the Council for Alaska Native Languages; and relating to the Council for Alaska Native Languages.

was read the first time.

**FIRST READING AND REFERENCE
OF SENATE BILLS****SB 28**

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 28(FIN) by the Senate Finance Committee, entitled:

"An Act relating to workplace violence protective orders; relating to the crime of violating a protective order; relating to the powers of district judges and magistrates; amending Rules 4 and 65, Alaska Rules of Civil Procedure, and Rule 9, Alaska Rules of Administration; and providing for an effective date."

was read the first time and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

SB 204

SENATE BILL NO. 204 by the Senate Rules Committee by request of the Governor, entitled:

"An Act relating to the issuance of certificates of fitness for plumbers and electricians; relating to fees for certificates of fitness for plumbers and electricians; and providing for an effective date."

was read the first time and referred to the Finance Committee.

SB 206

SENATE BILL NO. 206 by Senators Gray-Jackson, Bjorkman, Dunbar, and Kaufman, entitled:

"An Act relating to workers' compensation reemployment benefits; establishing a workers' compensation stay-at-work program; and providing for an effective date."

was read the first time and referred to the Labor & Commerce and Finance Committees.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**HB 307**

The Finance Committee considered:

HOUSE BILL NO. 307

"An Act relating to the taxation of independent power producers; and increasing the efficiency of integrated transmission system charges and use for the benefit of ratepayers."

and recommends it be replaced with:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 307(FIN)

"An Act relating to the Regulatory Commission of Alaska; relating to regulation of public utilities and pipeline carriers; relating to approval of wholesale power agreements; relating to preapproval for construction of energy facilities; relating to electric reliability organizations; relating to the taxation of new electricity generation facilities; relating to the Alaska Energy Authority; relating to the Railbelt Transmission Organization; and providing for an effective date."

The report was signed by Representatives Edgmon, D. Johnson, and Foster, Co-Chairs, with the following individual recommendations:

Do pass (5): Stapp, Hannan, Edgmon, D. Johnson, Foster

No recommendation (4): Cronk, Coulombe, Josephson, Ortiz

Amend (1): Tomaszewski

The following fiscal note(s) apply to CSHB 307(FIN):

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

HB 307 was referred to the Rules Committee.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES**HB 268**

The Conference Committee considering:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 268(FIN) am(brf sup maj fld)

"An Act making appropriations for the operating and loan program expenses of state government and for certain programs;

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capitalizing funds; amending appropriations; making supplemental appropriations and reappropriations; and providing for an effective date."

and

SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 268(FIN)

"An Act making appropriations for the operating and loan program expenses of state government and for certain programs; capitalizing funds; repealing appropriations; amending appropriations; making supplemental appropriations and reappropriations; and providing for an effective date."

requests limited powers of free conference on the appropriations and language that are not identical in the House and Senate version of HB 268.

In accordance with past practice and usage, the Conference Committee requests authorization to add the monetary terms of collective bargaining agreements for the following bargaining units:

Alaska Correctional Officers Association Correctional Officers Unit

Alaska Public Employees Association / Supervisory Unit

Labor, Trades and Crafts Unit

Alaska Graduate Workers Association / UAW

The request was signed by Representatives D. Johnson (Chair), Edgmon, Ortiz; and Senators Stedman (Chair), Olson.

The Speaker granted the limited powers of free conference as requested. In addition, the Speaker ruled that given the unique nature of collective bargaining agreements in the budget process, that must either be accepted or rejected, these late-received collective bargaining agreements would be incorporated into the budget during the conference committee process, so therefore the Speaker granted the powers requested by the conference committee related to the above bargaining agreements.

The Chief Clerk notified the Senate.

The Senate message granting limited powers of free conference is on page 2741.

HB 270

The Conference Committee considering:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 270(FIN)

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

and

SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 270(FIN)

(same title)

requests limited powers of free conference on the appropriations and language that are not identical in the House and Senate version of HB 270.

In accordance with past practice and usage, the Conference Committee requests authorization to add the monetary terms of collective bargaining agreements for the following bargaining units:

Alaska Correctional Officers Association Correctional Officers Unit
Alaska Public Employees Association / Supervisory Unit
Labor, Trades and Crafts Unit
Alaska Graduate Workers Association / UAW

The request was signed by Representatives D. Johnson (Chair), Edgmon, Ortiz; and Senators Stedman (Chair), Olson.

The Speaker granted the limited powers of free conference as requested. In addition, the Speaker ruled that given the unique nature of collective bargaining agreements in the budget process, that must either be accepted or rejected, these late-received collective bargaining agreements would be incorporated into the budget during the conference committee process, so therefore the Speaker granted the powers requested by the conference committee related to the above bargaining agreements.

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The Chief Clerk notified the Senate.

The Senate message granting limited powers of free conference is on page 2742.

INTRODUCTION OF CITATIONS

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

Honoring - Deborah Collins
By Representative Galvin; Senator Gray-Jackson

Honoring - Tam Agosti-Gisler
By Representatives Galvin, Josephson; Senator Gray-Jackson

Honoring - Paul Klaben
By Representatives Vance, Ruffridge

Honoring - Staff Sergeant Adan Sanches
By Representatives Prax, Stapp; Senator Myers

Honoring - Blue Market AK
By Representatives Galvin, Mina; Senator Gray-Jackson

Honoring - Imagine That Childcare, 50th Anniversary
By Representative Prax; Senator Myers

Honoring - Juneau Douglas High School Yadaa.at Kalé Crimson Bears
2023 Varsity Softball State Champions
By Representatives Hannan, Story; Senator Kiehl

Honoring - 2024 Senate Floor Staff
By Senator Wielechowski

In Memoriam - Frederick Joseph John
By Representative Ortiz; Senator Stedman

In Memoriam - Nynaeve Kay Seaman
By Representative Prax; Senator Myers

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In Memoriam - David Charles Kilbourn
By Representatives Prax, Dibert; Senator Myers

In Memoriam - Wendall Harold Zesiger
By Representative Prax

In Memoriam - Louis Hale Barton
By Representative Prax

In Memoriam - Andra Lee Olive Gutendorf Rice
By Representative Prax; Senator Myers

In Memoriam - Dale Edwin Denny
By Representative Prax; Senator Myers

In Memoriam - Candice Marie Howard Brunt
By Representative Prax

In Memoriam - Jonnie Lee Jennings
By Senator Wielechowski; Representative Mears

In Memoriam - Jeanne Mary Brenner
By Senator Wielechowski; Representative Wright

In Memoriam - Richard Anthony Gularte
By Senator Wielechowski

In Memoriam - Charles D. Hostetler
By Senator Wielechowski

In Memoriam - Cheryl Smith
By Senator Wielechowski; Representative Mears

In Memoriam - Winnifred "Winnie" Belle Atwood
By Senators Kawasaki, Bishop; Representative Carrick

In Memoriam - Barry Donnellan
By Senator Kawasaki; Representative Dibert

In Memoriam - Mildred "Millie" Alice Dufseth
By Senator Kawasaki

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In Memoriam - Joshua Loring Collins
By Senators Kawasaki, Bishop; Representative Dibert

CONSIDERATION OF THE DAILY CALENDAR

SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILLS

HB 55

The following was read the second time:

HOUSE BILL NO. 55

"An Act relating to allocations of funding for the Alaska Workforce Investment Board; and providing for an effective date."

with the: Journal Page

EDC RPT CS(EDC) NEW TITLE 2DP 2NR 3AM	1865
FN1: (EED)	1865
FN2: (LWF)	1865
FN3: (LWF)	1865
FN4: (LWF)	1865
L&C RPT CS(L&C) 3DP 2NR 2AM	2182
FN5: (EED)	2182
FN6: (LWF)	2182
FN7: (LWF)	2182
FN8: (LWF)	2182
FN9: (UA)	2182
FIN RPT CS(L&C) 9DP 2NR	2676
FN2: (LWF)	2676
FN10: ZERO(LWF)	2676
FN11: (EED)	2676
FN12: (LWF)	2676
FN13: (LWF)	2676
FN14: (UA)	2676

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. 55(L&C)
(same title)

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Representative Eastman objected and withdrew the objection. There being no further objection, CSHB 55(L&C) was adopted.

Amendment No. 1 was offered by Representative Eastman:

Page 2, lines 6 - 9:

Delete all material.

Renumber the following bill section accordingly.

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

Representative Carrick objected.

The question being: "Shall Amendment No. 1 be adopted?" The roll was taken with the following result:

CSHB 55(L&C)

Second Reading

Amendment No. 1

YEAS: 1 NAYS: 39 EXCUSED: 0 ABSENT: 0

Yea: Eastman

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

And so, Amendment No. 1 was not adopted.

Representative Saddler moved and asked unanimous consent that CSHB 55(L&C) be considered engrossed, advanced to third reading, and placed on final passage. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

CSHB 55(L&C) was read the third time.

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The question being: "Shall CSHB 55(L&C) pass the House?" The roll was taken with the following result:

CSHB 55(L&C)
Third Reading
Final Passage

YEAS: 38 NAYS: 2 EXCUSED: 0 ABSENT: 0

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

Nays: Coulombe, Eastman

Allard changed from "NAY" to "YEA"

And so, CSHB 55(L&C) passed the House.

Representative Saddler moved and asked unanimous consent that the roll call on the passage of the bill be considered the roll call on the effective date clause.

There was objection.

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

CSHB 55(L&C)
Third Reading
Effective Date

YEAS: 40 NAYS: 0 EXCUSED: 0 ABSENT: 0

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

And so, the effective date clause was adopted.

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CSHB 55(L&C) was referred to the Chief Clerk for engrossment.

HB 114

The following was read the second time:

HOUSE BILL NO. 114

"An Act relating to the definition of 'village' in the Village Safe Water Act."

with the:

Journal Page

RES RPT 6DP 2DNP

2446

FN1: ZERO(DEC)

2446

Amendment No. 1 was offered by Representative McCormick:

Page 1, line 5, following "city":

Insert "**located off the interconnected state road system**"

Page 1, line 6, following "city":

Insert "**located off the interconnected state road system**"

Page 1, line 7, following "municipality":

Insert "**located off the interconnected state road system**"

Page 1, line 12, following "is":

Insert "**located off the interconnected state road system and is**"

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

Representative Vance objected.

The question being: "Shall Amendment No. 1 be adopted?" The roll was taken with the following result:

HB 114

Second Reading

Amendment No. 1

YEAS: 17 NAYS: 23 EXCUSED: 0 ABSENT: 0

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Yea: Armstrong, Carrick, Dibert, Eastman, Edgmon, Fields, Galvin, Gray, Groh, Hannan, Himschoot, Josephson, McCormick, Mina, Ortiz, Schrage, Story

Nay: Allard, Baker, Carpenter, Coulombe, Cronk, Foster, C.Johnson, D.Johnson, McCabe, McKay, Mears, Prax, Rauscher, Ruffridge, Saddler, Shaw, Stapp, Stutes, Sumner, Tilton, Tomaszewski, Vance, Wright

And so, Amendment No. 1 was not adopted.

Representative Saddler moved and asked unanimous consent that HB 114 be considered engrossed, advanced to third reading, and placed on final passage.

There was objection.

HB 114 will advance to third reading on tomorrow's calendar.

SECOND READING OF SENATE BILLS

SB 187

The following was read the second time:

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 187(FIN) am
"An Act making appropriations, including capital appropriations, supplemental appropriations, and other appropriations; making reappropriations; making appropriations to capitalize funds; amending appropriations; and providing for an effective date."

with the:

Journal Page

FIN RPT HCS(FIN) 7DP 3AM

2684

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

HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 187(FIN)
(same title)

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Representative Eastman objected.

The question being: "Shall the House adopt HCS CSSB 187(FIN)?"
The roll was taken with the following result:

CSSB 187(FIN) am

Second Reading

Adopt House Finance CS

YEAS: 39 NAYS: 1 EXCUSED: 0 ABSENT: 0

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

Nay: Eastman

And so, HCS CSSB 187(FIN) was adopted.

The Speaker stated that, without objection, HCS CSSB 187(FIN) would be held in second reading to tomorrow's calendar.

Representative C. Johnson moved and asked unanimous consent to set an amendment deadline of 7:00 p.m., today, for all amendments to HCS CSSB 187(FIN) to be turned into Legal Services. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

THIRD READING OF HOUSE BILLS

HB 169

The following, which was advanced to third reading from the May 6 calendar (page 2699), was read the third time:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 169(FSH)

"An Act relating to certain fish; and establishing a fisheries rehabilitation permit."

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The question being: "Shall CSHB 169(FSH) pass the House?" The roll was taken with the following result:

CSHB 169(FSH)
Third Reading
Final Passage

YEAS: 35 NAYS: 5 EXCUSED: 0 ABSENT: 0

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

Nays: Galvin, Hannan, Josephson, McCormick, Mears

And so, CSHB 169(FSH) passed the House and was referred to the Chief Clerk for engrossment.

LEGISLATIVE CITATIONS

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

Representative Eastman objected.

The question being: "Shall the House approve the citations on the calendar?" The roll was taken with the following result:

Approve the Citation(s) on the Calendar

YEAS: 38 NAYS: 1 EXCUSED: 0 ABSENT: 1

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

Nays: Eastman

Absent: Edgmon

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And so, the following citations were approved and sent to enrolling:

Honoring – Thunder Mountain High School Culinary Arts Team
By Representatives Story, Hannan; Senator Kiehl

Honoring – Alaska School Boards and Members
By Representatives Story, Hannan; Senator Kiehl

Honoring – 2024 House Floor Staff
By Representative C. Johnson

Honoring – Pena Park Market
By Senators Wielechowski, Tobin; Representative Groh

Honoring – Łuk'ae Tse' Taas Comics
By Senators Wielechowski, Tobin, Dunbar

In Memoriam – George Davidson
By Representatives Story, Hannan; Senator Kiehl

In Memoriam – James "Jim" Eldon Graham
By Senator Wielechowski; Representative Mears

In Memoriam – Orin Seybert
By Senator Olson; Representative Edgmon

SPECIAL PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Representative Eastman rose to points of order regarding impugning the motives of others.

The Speaker directed the member to proceed with caution.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

HB 55

Representatives Josephson and Story added as cosponsors to:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 55(L&C)

"An Act relating to allocations of funding for the Alaska Workforce Investment Board; and providing for an effective date."

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ENGROSSMENT

HB 55

CSHB 55(L&C) was engrossed, signed by the Speaker and Chief Clerk, and transmitted to the Senate for consideration.

HB 169

CSHB 169(FSH) was engrossed, signed by the Speaker and Chief Clerk, and transmitted to the Senate for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

With appointment of the Conference Committee on the operating budget, Rule 23(d) of the Uniform Rules is in effect as of May 6.

House committee schedules are published under separate cover.

The following meetings today were changed:

Health & Social Services Committee

CHANGED TO:

10 min. after adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Representative Saddler moved and asked unanimous consent that the House adjourn until 10:30 a.m., May 8. There being no objection, the House adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

Crystaline Jones
Chief Clerk