

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

**Juneau, Alaska**

**Monday**

**March 6, 2023**

**Forty-ninth Day**

Pursuant to adjournment the Senate was called to order by President Stevens at 11:00 a.m.

The roll showed seventeen members present. Senators Stedman, Tobin were excused from a call of the Senate. Senator Shower was absent.

The prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Reverend Doctor Laura Krauss, Kunéix Hídi Northern Light United Church. Senator Hoffman moved and asked unanimous consent the prayer be spread. Without objection, it was so ordered.

It is so easy to live a life operating from a place of fear believing the myth of scarcity. Instead of this struggle may we gather the courage of risk-taking. Envisioning a world of abundance for all of life, being reminded that all creation is interdependent and interconnected. May we truly share, for there is enough for all. Amen.

Senator Bishop led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Certification**

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the journals for the forty-fourth through forty-eighth legislative days be approved as certified by the Secretary. Without objection, it was so ordered.

**Messages from the Governor**

A Declaration of Disaster Emergency and initial finance plan dated March 3, authorizing public assistance for the Yupiit Regional Education Attendance Area (REAA) as a result of disrupted water service to community facilities and additional funds for the Eagle River Avalanche disaster, with an accompanying letter, was received pursuant to AS 26.23.020. The declaration, letter and finance plan had been copied to the Finance Committee Cochairs.

Letter dated March 2 was read stating in accordance with Article III, Section 13 of the Alaska Constitution and AS 44.19.040, I submit the following nomination for lieutenant governor successor:

**Lieutenant Governor Successor**

Jason Brune

The appointment was referred to the State Affairs Committee.

Letter dated March 2 was read stating in accordance with Article III, Sections 26 and 27 of the Alaska Constitution and AS 39.05.080, I submit the following list of appointees for confirmation:

**Alaska Labor Relations Agency**

Dennis DeWitt – Juneau

Appointed: 11/20/2020

Term Expired: 3/1/2023

Reappointed: 3/1/2023

Term Expires: 3/1/2026

Jennifer McConnel – Girdwood

Appointed: 3/1/2023

Term Expires: 3/1/2026

**Alcoholic Beverage Control Board**

David Koch – Anchorage

Appointed: 3/8/2021

Term Expired: 3/1/2023

Reappointed: 3/1/2023

Term Expires: 3/1/2026

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**Board of Dental Examiners**

Jesse Hronkin – Palmer

Appointed: 3/1/2019

Term Expired: 3/1/2023

Reappointed: 3/1/2023

Term Expires: 3/1/2027

Megan Ferguson – Anchorage

Appointed: 3/1/2023

Term Expires: 3/1/2027

Newell Walther – Wasilla

Appointed: 3/1/2023

Term Expires: 3/1/2027

**Board of Marital and Family Therapy**

Noah Shields – Kenai

Appointed: 3/1/2019

Term Expired: 3/1/2023

Reappointed: 3/1/2023

Term Expires: 3/1/2027

**Board of Massage Therapists**

Tonia Nelson – Anchorage

Appointed: 3/1/2023

Term Expires: 3/1/2024

**Board of Pharmacy**

Sara Rasmussen – Anchorage

Appointed: 3/1/2023

Term Expires: 3/1/2026

**Marijuana Control Board**

Ely Cyrus – Kiana

Appointed: 1/4/2022

Term Expired: 3/1/2023

Reappointed: 3/1/2023

Term Expires: 3/1/2026

Christopher Jaime – Anchorage

Appointed: 3/1/2020

Term Expired: 3/1/2023

Reappointed: 3/1/2023

Term Expires: 3/1/2026

**Real Estate Commission**

Cheryl Markwood – Fairbanks

Appointed: 3/1/2019

Term Expired: 3/1/2023

Reappointed: 3/1/2023

Term Expires: 3/1/2027

The appointments were referred to the Labor and Commerce Committee.

**Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Board of Trustees**

Anita Halterman – Eagle River

Appointed: 8/2/2019                      Term Expired: 3/1/2023

Reappointed: 3/1/2023                  Term Expires: 3/1/2028

The appointment was referred to the Health and Social Services and Finance Committees.

**Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission**

Greg Wilson – Eagle River

Appointed: 9/1/2022                      Term Expired: 3/1/2023

Reappointed: 3/1/2023                  Term Expires: 3/1/2029

The appointment was referred to the Resources Committee.

**Alaska Police Standards Council**

Rebecca Hamon – King Salmon

Appointed: 3/1/2011                      Term Expired: 3/1/2015

Reappointed: 3/1/2015                  Term Expired: 3/1/2019

Reappointed: 3/1/2019                  Term Expired: 3/1/2023

Reappointed: 3/1/2023                  Term Expires: 3/1/2027

Daniel Carothers – Douglas

Appointed: 3/1/2023                      Term Expires: 3/1/2025

Stephen Dutra – North Pole

Appointed: 5/14/2018                      Term Expired: 3/1/2019

Reappointed: 3/1/2019                  Term Expired: 3/1/2023

Reappointed: 3/1/2023                  Term Expires: 3/1/2027

The appointments were referred to the State Affairs and Judiciary Committees.

**Commission on Judicial Conduct**

Todd Fletcher – Anchorage

Appointed: 5/21/2019                      Term Expired: 3/1/2023

Reappointed: 3/1/2023                  Term Expires: 3/1/2027

**State Board of Parole**

Sarah Possenti – Fairbanks

Appointed: 4/1/2011

Term Expired: 3/1/2013

Reappointed: 3/1/2013

Term Expired: 3/1/2018

Reappointed: 3/1/2018

Term Expired: 3/1/2023

Reappointed: 3/1/2023

Term Expires: 3/1/2028

The appointments were referred to the Judiciary Committee.

The resumes for these appointments have been submitted to the Office of the Senate Secretary.

**Messages from the House**

Message dated March 1 was read stating the House passed and transmitted for consideration:

**First Reading and Reference of  
House Resolutions****HJR 5**

CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5(FSH) BY THE HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES,

Urging the United States Secretary of Commerce, the National Marine Fisheries Service, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and other federal and state agencies to defend the state's fisheries, including the Southeast Alaska troll fishery.

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

**First Reading and Reference of House Bills**

**HB 51**

HOUSE BILL NO. 51 BY REPRESENTATIVES WRIGHT, Mears, Ruffridge, Schrage, Josephson, entitled:

"An Act relating to refrigerants designated as acceptable for use under federal law."

was read the first time and referred to the Labor and Commerce Committee.

**Introduction and Reference of Senate Bills**

**SB 90**

SENATE BILL NO. 90 BY SENATOR BISHOP, entitled:

"An Act extending the termination date of the Alaska Minerals Commission."

was read the first time and referred to the Resources and Finance Committees.

**SB 91**

SENATE BILL NO. 91 BY SENATOR CLAMAN, entitled:

"An Act relating to telehealth; relating to multidisciplinary care teams; and relating to the practice of medicine."

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

**Consideration of the Calendar**

**Citations**

Honoring - John H. McLay  
Representative(s) Vance  
Senator(s) Stevens

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In Memoriam - Chérie B. Stihler  
Senator(s) Kawasaki, Myers  
Representative(s) Carrick

In Memoriam - Burnie Recel Hall  
Representative(s) Carrick

In Memoriam - Carlene Joyce Sanders  
Representative(s) Tilton  
Senator(s) Wilson

In Memoriam - Faye Palin  
Representative(s) Tilton  
Senator(s) Wilson

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the citations be adopted. Without objection, the citations were adopted and referred to the Secretary for transmittal.

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the following citation be made a special order of business. Without objection, it was so ordered.

### **Special Order of Business**

Honoring - Emil Notti  
Senator(s) Bishop

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the citation be adopted. Without objection, the citation was adopted and referred to the Secretary for transmittal.

### **Unfinished Business**

Senator Merrick moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate on March 9 and March 10. Without objection, Senator Merrick was excused.

Senator Bishop moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate from morning plane time, March 7 through morning plane time, March 8. Without objection, Senator Bishop was excused.

**SB 87**

Senators Dunbar, Stevens moved and asked unanimous consent to be shown as cosponsors on SENATE BILL NO. 87 "An Act relating to a lumber grading training program and lumber grading certificates; relating to use of lumber graded and certified by a person holding a lumber grading training program certificate; and providing for an effective date." Without objection, it was so ordered.

**Announcements**

Announcements are at the end of the journal.

**Adjournment**

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the Senate stand in adjournment until 11:00 a.m., March 8, 2023. Without objection, the Senate adjourned at 11:19 a.m.

Liz Clark  
Secretary of the Senate

**Announcements**

Americans with Disabilities Act Notice - Persons with disabilities who require special accommodation or alternative communication formats to access committee meetings may contact the appropriate committee office or the Legislative Information Office in their community. Reasonable advance notice is needed to accommodate the request. For further information, call the ADA Coordinator at 465-3854 Voice/465-4980 TDD.

**STANDING COMMITTEES**

+ indicates teleconference

= indicates bill previously heard/scheduled

**COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS**

**Mar 07      Tuesday      Beltz 105 (tsbldg)      1:30 PM**  
No Meeting Scheduled

**Mar 09      Thursday      Beltz 105 (tsbldg)      1:30 PM**  
+= SB 16 AK COMMUNITY HEALTH AIDE APPRECIATION DAY  
+ SB 23 LAW ENFORCEMENT: REGISTRY; USE OF FORCE  
-- Invited & Public Testimony --  
\*\*Streamed live on AKL.tv\*\*  
+ Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

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**EDUCATION**

**Mar 06      Monday      Beltz 105 (tsbldg)      3:30 PM**  
+= SB 29 CIVICS EDUCATION; EST AK CVCS ED COMM  
-- Public Testimony --  
+= SB 24 PUBLIC SCHOOLS: MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION  
-- Public Testimony --  
Presentation: Foundation Funding Formula for  
Public Education in Alaska by  
Alaska Department of Education and Early  
Development  
Legislative Finance Division  
+ Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled  
\*\*Streamed live on AKL.tv\*\*

**EDUCATION (continued)**

**Mar 08      Wednesday                      Beltz 105 (tsbldg)                      3:30 PM**

Presentation: Teacher Retention and Recruitment  
in Alaska by Alaska Department of Education and  
Early Development, University of Alaska Institute  
of Social and Economic Research

+ Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**\*\*Streamed live on AKL.tv\*\***

**Mar 10      Friday                                      Beltz 105 (tsbldg)                      3:30 PM**

Presentation: Public Education Funding in Alaska:  
Constitutional Requirements and Legal Precedents

+ Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**\*\*Streamed live on AKL.tv\*\***

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**FINANCE**

**Mar 06      Monday                                      Senate Finance 532                      9:00 AM**

No Meeting Scheduled

**Mar 07      Tuesday                                      Senate Finance 532                      9:00 AM**

+ SB 58 MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY: POSTPARTUM MOTHERS

-- Invited & Public Testimony --

-- Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --

+ SB 55 EXTEND STATE MEDICAL BOARD

-- Invited & Public Testimony --

-- Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --

+ Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**Mar 08      Wednesday                                      Senate Finance 532                      9:00 AM**

-- MEETING CANCELED --

Presentation: Alaska's Economy by  
Dan Robinson, Research Chief, Department of  
Labor and Workforce Development

+ Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**Mar 09      Thursday                                      Senate Finance 532                      9:00 AM**

Presentation: Comparing Retention Data Between  
Defined Benefit and Defined Contribution  
Employees by Alexei Painter, Director  
Division of Legislative Finance

+ Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

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## FINANCE (continued)

**Mar 10      Friday                      Senate Finance 532              9:00 AM**  
Presentation: Power Cost Equalization Endowment  
Fund Performance by Department of Revenue  
+ Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

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## HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

**Mar 07      Tuesday                      Butrovich 205              3:30 PM**  
Consideration of Governor's Appointees: Heidi  
Hedberg, Commissioner-Designee, Department of  
Health  
-- Invited & Public Testimony --  
+ Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled:  
+= SB 8 REPEAL CERTIFICATE OF NEED PROGRAM  
+= SB 44 NATUROPATHS: LICENSING; PRACTICE

**Mar 09      Thursday                      Butrovich 205              3:30 PM**  
+ Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled:  
+= SB 51 CONTROLLED SUB. DATA: EXEMPT VETERINARIAN  
+= SB 53 FIVE-YEAR INVOLUNTARY COMMITMENTS  
+= SB 57 ADULT HOME CARE; MED ASSISTANCE  
+= SB 59 RUNAWAYS; DFCS/DOH: DUTIES/LICENSING/INFO

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## JUDICIARY

**Mar 06      Monday                      Butrovich 205              1:30 PM**  
+= SB 80 2023 REVISOR'S BILL  
+ SB 66 CRIME OF SEX/HUMAN TRAFFICKING  
-- Invited & Public Testimony --  
+ Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**Mar 08      Wednesday                      Butrovich 205              1:30 PM**  
+ SB 12 ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY PROGRAM  
-- Invited & Public Testimony --  
Presentation: Alaska Bar Rule 43.5 and the  
Community Justice Worker Program by  
Nikole Nelson, Executive Director  
Alaska Legal Services Corporation  
-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --  
+ Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**JUDICIARY (continued)**

**Mar 10      Friday                                      Butrovich 205                      1:30 PM**  
+    SB 53    FIVE-YEAR INVOLUNTARY COMMITMENTS  
                 <Pending Referral>  
                 -- Invited & Public Testimony --  
+                   Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled  
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**LABOR & COMMERCE**

**Mar 06      Monday                                      Beltz 105 (tsbldg)                      1:30 PM**  
+    SB 84    MONEY TRANSMISSION; VIRTUAL CURRENCY  
                 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --  
+    SB 83    PROFESSIONAL LICENSING; TEMP PERMITS  
                 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --  
                 \*\*Streamed live on AKL.tv\*\*

**Mar 08      Wednesday                                      Beltz 105 (tsbldg)                      1:30 PM**  
+    SB 74    PHYSICAL THERAPY LICENSURE COMPACT  
                 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --  
+    SB 75    AUD. & SPEECH-LANG INTERSTATE COMPACT  
                 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --  
                 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --  
                 \*\*Streamed live on AKL.tv\*\*

**Mar 10      Friday                                      Beltz 105 (tsbldg)                      1:30 PM**  
                 No Meeting Scheduled  
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**RESOURCES**

**Mar 06      Monday                                      Butrovich 205                      3:30 PM**  
                 Presentation: Carbon Capture, Utilization and  
                 Storage by David Greeson, Carbon Capture Project  
                 Consultant; Frank Paskvan, Affiliate Professor on  
                 Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Sequestration,  
                 University of Alaska Fairbanks  
                 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --  
+                   Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled  
                 \*\*Streamed live on AKL.tv\*\*

**RESOURCES (continued)**

<b>Mar 08</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
	Presentation: Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage by Tip Meckel, Senior Research Scientist, Bureau of Economic Geology Austin Cahill, Managing Director, Alliant Insurance; David LePain, State Geologist, Director of Geological & Geophysical Surveys, Department of Natural Resources; Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner, Department of Fish and Game -- Testimony <Invitation Only> -- + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		
<b>Mar 10</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
+ SB 49	CARBON STORAGE -- Testimony <Invitation Only> -- + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

**STATE AFFAIRS**

<b>Mar 07</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Beltz 105 (tsbldg)</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
+ SB 19	ELECTIONS; BALLOTS -- Testimony <Invitation Only> -- + SB 1 ELECTIONS: BALLOT, VOTING, SECURITY -- Testimony <Invitation Only> -- + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		
<b>Mar 09</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Beltz 105 (tsbldg)</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> -- Discussion on Election Reform and Election Related Bills by Carol Beecher, Director Division of Elections + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

<b>Mar 09</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>
+	-- Teleconference -- Corrections Budget		

**CORRECTIONS (continued)**

<b>Mar 16</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>
+	-- Teleconference -- Corrections Budget		

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**EDUCATION & EARLY DEVELOPMENT**

<b>Mar 08</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>12:30 PM</b>
+	Department of Education and Early Development Budget **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

<b>Mar 08</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>1:00 PM</b>
+	-- MEETING CANCELED -- Department of Education and Early Development Budget **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

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**FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES**

<b>Mar 08</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>5:30 PM</b>
+	Department of Family & Community Services Budget Overview -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		

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**FISH & GAME**

<b>Mar 09</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>
	Budget Overview		

<b>Mar 21</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>
	Budget Overview		

HEALTH

**Mar 06      Monday                      Senate Finance 532              5:30 PM**  
+      Department of Health Budget Overview  
-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --

**Mar 07      Tuesday                      Senate Finance 532              5:30 PM**  
+      Department of Health Budget Overview  
-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --

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JUDICIARY

**Mar 06      Monday                      Butrovich 205              6:00 PM**  
+      -- Teleconference --  
Judiciary Budget

**Mar 13      Monday                      Butrovich 205              6:00 PM**  
+      -- Teleconference --  
Judiciary Budget

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LABOR & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

**Mar 10      Friday                      Senate Finance 532              7:30 AM**  
+      FY24 Department Overview

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NATURAL RESOURCES

**Mar 09      Thursday                      Senate Finance 532              7:30 AM**  
+      FY24 Department Overview

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TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC FACILITIES

**Mar 07      Tuesday                      Senate Finance 532              7:30 AM**  
+      FY24 Proposed Budget Highlights

**Mar 14      Tuesday                      Senate Finance 532              7:30 AM**  
+      FY24 Highways & Roads

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### TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC FACILITIES (continued)

<b>Mar 21</b> +	<b>Tuesday</b> FY24 Airports & Aviation	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>7:30 AM</b>
<b>Mar 28</b> +	<b>Tuesday</b> FY24 Marine Highways	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>7:30 AM</b>
<b>Apr 04</b> +	<b>Tuesday</b> Closeout	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>7:30 AM</b>

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### JOINT COMMITTEES

#### SELECT COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE ETHICS

<b>Mar 09</b>	<b>Thursday</b> -- Teleconference -- SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE 1. Call to Order 2. Public Comment 3. Election of House Subcommittee Chairs for 2023-2024 (+) 4. Executive Session 5. Public Session 6. Other Business 7. Adjourn (Meeting will be teleconferenced) Anchorage Only: 907-563-9085 Juneau Only: 907-586-9085 Outside Anchorage or Juneau: 1-844-586-9085	<b>Anch Lio Denali Rm</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>
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### OTHER MEETINGS

#### MISCELLANEOUS MEETINGS

<b>Mar 06</b>	<b>Monday</b> Lunch & Learn Presentation: Alaska Long Trail Updates and Overview by: Haley Johnston, Alaska Trails Initiative Sponsored by Senator Wielechowski	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>12:00 PM</b>
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