

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

**Juneau, Alaska**

**Wednesday**

**March 22, 2023**

**Sixty-fifth Day**

Pursuant to adjournment the Senate was called to order by President Stevens at 12:28 p.m.

The roll showed nineteen members present. Senator Shower was absent.

The prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Lieutenant Brandt N. Peacock, Chaplain Corps, United States Navy. Senator Hoffman moved and asked unanimous consent the prayer be spread. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Our Father In Heaven. We are grateful to be here together today. We are grateful for the hard work, sacrifice, and dedication of all our elected officials and those who support this important work.

I ask that thou would bless this governing body with wisdom, light, and knowledge as they proceed today, and help them to represent themselves and their constituents in a manner that would be pleasing to thee. Father, I pray that the work done here will be a beacon and example for others to follow. Please bless and watch over our nation and its leaders.

We are grateful for the great State of Alaska and the incredible opportunities it affords to all who live here. May it forever be a blessed and prospered land. These things I pray, In thy Holy Name, Amen.

Senator Hughes led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Certification**

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

Senator Myers moved and asked unanimous consent Senator Shower be excused from a call of the Senate today. Without objection, Senator Shower was excused.

**Messages from the Governor****SB 86**

Letter dated March 20 was received:

Dear President Stevens:

Under the authority vested in me by Article II, Section 15, of the Alaska Constitution, I have vetoed the following bill:

**SB 86**

“An Act disapproving recommendations of the State Officers Compensation Commission relating to the salaries of state officers; and providing for an effective date.”

The State Officers Compensation Commission met on March 15, 2023, and modified their report, to include legislative salaries to be set at half the compensation of Commissioners, or \$84,000. As amended, the report now provides a comprehensive compensation plan that includes the legislature. This bill is no longer necessary as the issue has been resolved by the amendment to the report.

Sincerely,

/s/

Mike Dunleavy  
Governor

**Messages from the House**

Message dated March 20 was read stating the House passed and transmitted for consideration:

**First Reading and Reference of  
House Resolutions****HJR 4**

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 4 BY REPRESENTATIVES MINA, Wright, Sumner, Armstrong, Mears, Story, McCormick, Gray, Schrage, Carpenter, Groh, Shaw, Josephson, Stapp, Dibert, Galvin, Tomaszewski, Tilton,

Honoring the Alaska-Korea relationship; and celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Mutual Defense Treaty between the United States and the Republic of Korea, the 70th anniversary of the Korean Armistice Agreement, and the 120th anniversary of the first Korean immigration to the United States.

was read the first time and referred to the State Affairs Committee.

**HJR 10**

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 10 BY REPRESENTATIVES CRONK, Sumner, Stutes, McCabe, Armstrong, Rauscher, C. Johnson, Schrage, Vance, D. Johnson, Patkotak, Carpenter, Saddler, Tilton, Allard, Tomaszewski, Stapp, Wright,

Disapproving the proposed rule by the National Park Service limiting non-subsistence hunting methods; and urging the National Park Service to withdraw the rule.

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

Senator Merrick added as a cross sponsor on the resolution.

**First Reading and Reference of House Bills****HB 62**

HOUSE BILL NO. 62 BY REPRESENTATIVES EDGMON, Schrage, Hannan, Armstrong, Himschoot, Mina, Patkotak, Story, McCormick, Foster, Cronk, Galvin, Stutes, Josephson, Carrick, Groh, Ortiz, Wright, Mears, entitled:

"An Act relating to the renewable energy grant fund and recommendation program; and providing for an effective date."

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

Message dated March 21 was read stating:

The House of Representatives respectfully invites the Senate to a Joint Session of the Thirty-third Alaska Legislature at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 22 for the purpose of voting to override the Governor's veto to Senate Bill 86; Reject Compensation Commission Recommendations.

President Stevens stated a letter has been sent to the Speaker of the House respectfully declining the invitation to meet in Joint Session.

**Standing Committee Reports**

Report dated March 20 was read stating:

In accordance with AS 39.05.080, the Resources Committee held a hearing on the following appointee(s). A signature on this report does not reflect an intent by any of the members to vote for or against the confirmation of the individual(s) during any further sessions.

**Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources**

John Boyle

**Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission**

Brett Huber

Greg Wilson

**Regulatory Commission of Alaska**

Robert Doyle

Signing the report: Senators Giessel, Bishop, Cochairs; Senators Dunbar, Kaufman, Kawasaki.

Report dated March 21 was read stating:

In accordance with AS 39.05.080, the Transportation Committee held a hearing on the following appointee(s). A signature on this report does not reflect an intent by any of the members to vote for or against the confirmation of the individual(s) during any further sessions.

**Board of Marine Pilots**

James Cunningham

Signing the report: Senator Kaufman, Chair; Senators Wilson, Myers, Tobin, Kiehl.

Reports dated March 21 were read stating:

In accordance with AS 39.05.080, the State Affairs Committee held a hearing on the following appointee(s). A signature on this report does not reflect an intent by any of the members to vote for or against the confirmation of the individual(s) during any further sessions.

**Lieutenant Governor Successor**

Jason Brune

**Alaska Police Standards Council**

Rebecca Hamon

Daniel Carothers

Stephen Dutra

Signing the reports: Senator Kawasaki, Chair; Senators Wielechowski, Bjorkman, Merrick.

**SB 13**

The Education Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 13 "An Act relating to costs of and charges for textbooks and other course materials required for University of Alaska courses; and providing for an effective date."

Signing do pass: Senator Tobin, Chair; Senators Gray-Jackson, Stevens, Kiehl.

The following fiscal information was published today:

Fiscal Note No. 1, zero, University of Alaska

The bill was referred to the Rules Committee.

**SB 23**

The Community and Regional Affairs Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 23 "An Act relating to the duties of the Alaska Police Standards Council; relating to municipal correctional officers and municipal correctional employees; making municipal police officers subject to police standards; relating to the duties of the Department of Public Safety; relating to reports of incidents of use of force by state and municipal police, probation, parole, and correctional officers and municipal correctional facility employees; and providing for an effective date" and recommended it be replaced with

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 23(CRA) "An Act relating to the duties of the Alaska Police Standards Council; relating to municipal correctional officers and municipal correctional employees; making municipal police officers subject to police standards; relating to the duties of the Department of Public Safety; relating to reports of incidents of use of force by state and municipal police, probation, parole, pretrial services, and correctional officers and municipal correctional facility employees; and providing for an effective date."

Signing no recommendation: Senator Dunbar, Chair; Senators Bjorkman, Giessel. Signing do pass: Senator Gray-Jackson.

The following fiscal information was published today:

Fiscal Note No. 1, zero, Department of Corrections

Fiscal Note No. 2, zero, Department of Public Safety

The bill was referred to the State Affairs Committee.

### **SB 63**

The Community and Regional Affairs Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 63 "An Act relating to restrictions on firearms and other weapons."

Signing no recommendation: Senator Dunbar, Chair; Senators Gray-Jackson, Giessel, Bjorkman.

The following fiscal information was published today:

Fiscal Note No. 1, zero, Department of Law

Fiscal Note No. 2, zero, Department of Law

The bill was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

## **Introduction and Reference of Senate Bills**

### **SB 110**

SENATE BILL NO. 110 BY SENATOR HUGHES, entitled:

"An Act relating to group insurance coverage and self-insurance coverage for school district employees, employees of the University of Alaska, and employees of other governmental units in the state; and providing for an effective date."

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

**SB 111**

SENATE BILL NO. 111 BY SENATORS HUGHES, Myers, entitled:

"An Act relating to payment of legislator salaries; disapproving recommendations of the State Officers Compensation Commission; and providing for an effective date."

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

**SB 112**

SENATE BILL NO. 112 BY SENATOR DUNBAR, entitled:

"An Act relating to the diagnosis, maintenance, and repair of products that use digital electronics to operate; adding an unlawful act to the Alaska Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Act; and providing for an effective date."

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

**SB 113**

SENATE BILL NO. 113 BY THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE, entitled:

"An Act relating to the regional educational attendance area and small municipal school district fund; relating to Mt. Edgecumbe High School; and relating to teacher housing."

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



**Consideration of the Calendar****Citations**

In Memoriam - William "Bill" Louis Dozette  
Representative(s) Carrick

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****HJR 4**

Senators Tobin, Kawasaki, Dunbar, Gray-Jackson, Bishop, Merrick, Claman, Wielechowski, Stedman, Myers, Kaufman, Stevens moved and asked unanimous consent to be shown as cross sponsors on HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 4 Honoring the Alaska-Korea relationship; and celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Mutual Defense Treaty between the United States and the Republic of Korea, the 70th anniversary of the Korean Armistice Agreement, and the 120th anniversary of the first Korean immigration to the United States. Without objection, it was so ordered.

**HJR 4**

Senator Kawasaki, Chair, moved and asked unanimous consent that the State Affairs Committee referral be waived on HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 4 Honoring the Alaska-Korea relationship; and celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Mutual Defense Treaty between the United States and the Republic of Korea, the 70th anniversary of the Korean Armistice Agreement, and the 120th anniversary of the first Korean immigration to the United States. The State Affairs Committee passed CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 6(STA) (a similar bill) out of committee, (page 453) with a do pass recommendation. Without objection, the resolution was referred to the Rules Committee.

**SB 13**

Senators Hughes, Kiehl, Kawasaki moved and asked unanimous consent to be shown as cosponsors on SENATE BILL NO. 13 "An Act relating to costs of and charges for textbooks and other course materials required for University of Alaska courses; and providing for an effective date." Without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Hughes offered the following:

**Sense of the Senate**

It is the sense of the Senate that the Senate disapproves of the pay increases recommended by the State Officers Compensation Commission that were included in the bill that passed the Senate on February 27th. This bill was subsequently vetoed by the governor on March 20th.

In addition, the Senate finds that the process undertaken by the State Officers' Compensation Commission was flawed in adopting an amendment to their original report, and with the spring revenue forecasts predicting a deficit of over \$900 million for this and the next fiscal year, pay raises are not justified nor warranted.

Senator Hughes moved and asked unanimous consent to adopt the Sense of the Senate. Objections were heard.

President Stevens referred the Sense of the Senate to the Finance Committee.

Senator Myers moved and asked unanimous consent the Senate accept the House invitation to meet in Joint Session today.

President Stevens ruled the motion out of order.

Senator Myers appealed the ruling of the Chair.

The question being: "Shall the Senate Uphold the Ruling of the Chair?" The roll was taken with the following result:

Uphold Ruling of the Chair?

**YEAS: 16 NAYS: 2 EXCUSED: 1 ABSENT: 1**

Yeas: Bishop, Bjorkman, Claman, Dunbar, Giessel, Gray-Jackson, Hoffman, Kaufman, Kawasaki, Kiehl, Merrick, Stedman, Stevens, Tobin, Wielechowski, Wilson

Nays: Hughes, Myers

Excused: Shower

Absent: Olson

and so, the ruling of the Chair was upheld.

### **HJR 10**

Senators Wilson, Giessel, Bishop, Bjorkman moved and asked unanimous consent to be shown as cross sponsors on HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 10 Disapproving the proposed rule by the National Park Service limiting non-subsistence hunting methods; and urging the National Park Service to withdraw the rule. Without objection, it was so ordered.

### **HB 62**

Senators Kaufman, Kawasaki, Tobin, Kiehl, Dunbar, Gray-Jackson, Claman moved and asked unanimous consent to be shown as cross sponsors on HOUSE BILL NO. 62 "An Act relating to the renewable energy grant fund and recommendation program; and providing for an effective date." Without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Kaufman moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate from evening plane time, March 24 through morning plane time, March 27. Without objection, Senator Kaufman was excused.

**Announcements**

Announcements are at the end of the journal.

**Adjournment**

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the Senate stand in adjournment until 10:30 a.m., March 24, 2023. Without objection, the Senate adjourned at 1:11 p.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**

<b>Mar 23</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Beltz 105 (tsbldg)</b>	<b>1:30 PM</b>
+ SB 77	MUNI PROP TAX EXEMPTION/TAX BLIGHTED PROP		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

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**EDUCATION**

<b>Mar 22</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Beltz 105 (tsbldg)</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
	No Meeting Scheduled		

<b>Mar 24</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Beltz 105 (tsbldg)</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
	Consideration of Governor’s Appointees for the University of Alaska Board of Regents: Dennis Michel, Bethany Marcum, Joey Crum, Paula Harrison		
	Consideration of Governor’s Appointees for the Professional Teaching Practices Commission: Mary Carlson		
+ SB 97	TEACHER RECRUITMENT; LUMP SUM PAYMENT		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> -- Susan McKenzie, Director of Innovation and Education Excellence		
	SENATE BILL: LEGISLATION TO EXTEND THE ALASKA EDUCATION TAX CREDIT PROGRAM		
	<Pending Introduction & Referral>		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	**Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

**FINANCE**

- Mar 22      Wednesday                      Senate Finance 532                      9:00 AM**  
 Presentation: Spring Revenue Forecast by  
 Department of Revenue  
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
- Mar 23      Thursday                                  Senate Finance 532                      9:00 AM**  
 Presentation: Willow Project Update by  
 Department of Natural Resources  
 Department of Revenue  
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
- Mar 24      Friday    Senate Finance 532                      9:00 AM**  
 Presentation: Fiscal Summary Update & Fiscal  
 Scenarios by Division of Legislative Finance  
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

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**HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES**

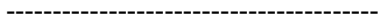
- Mar 23      Thursday                                  Butrovich 205                      3:30 PM**  
 + SB 24 PUBLIC SCHOOLS: MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION  
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --  
 <Time Limit May Be Set>  
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

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**JUDICIARY**

- Mar 22      Wednesday                                  Butrovich 205                      1:30 PM**  
 Presentation: Discussion of Court Rules and Grand  
 Jury by Nancy Meade, General Counsel, Alaska  
 Court System John Skidmore, Deputy Attorney  
 General, Criminal Division, Department of Law  
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --  
 + SB 64 CONTROLLED SUB.;HOMICIDE;GOOD TIME DEDUC.  
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --  
 += SB 53 FIVE-YEAR INVOLUNTARY COMMITMENTS  
 <Bill Hearing Canceled>  
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --  
 += SB 37 CRIME COUNTERFEIT/NONFUNCTIONING AIRBAG  
 <Bill Hearing Canceled>  
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**JUDICIARY (continued)**

**Mar 24 Friday Butrovich 205 1:30 PM**  
 Presentation: Alaska Victimization Survey by  
 Dr. Ingrid Johnson, Assistant Professor,  
 Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage  
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --  
 + SB 104 CIVIL LEGAL SERVICES FUND  
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --  
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled



**LABOR & COMMERCE**

**Mar 22 Wednesday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 1:30 PM**  
 += SB 88 RETIREMENT SYSTEMS; DEFINED BENEFIT OPT.  
 -- Invided and Public Testimony --  
 <Time Limit May Be Set>  
 All off net callers must hang up immediately  
 after testifying to keep lines open  
 \*\*Streamed live on AKL.tv\*\*  
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**Mar 24 Friday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 1:30 PM**  
 + SB 89 AGE FOR TOBACCO/NICOTINE/E-CIG; TAX E-CIG  
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --  
 + SB 51 CONTROLLED SUB. DATA: EXEMPT VETERINARIAN  
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --  
 + SB 93 FISHERMEN'S FUND: VESSEL OWNER CLAIMS  
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --  
 \*\*Streamed live on AKL.tv\*\*  
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled  
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --

**RESOURCES**

**Mar 22      Wednesday    Butrovich 205    3:30 PM**

- + SB 90 EXTEND ALASKA MINERALS COMMISSION  
-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --  
Enrique Fernandez, Chairman, Alaska Minerals  
Commission
- + = SB 49 CARBON STORAGE  
-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --  
Kevin Connors, Assistant Director, Regulatory  
Compliance and Energy Policy, Energy and  
Environmental Research Center (EERC)  
Presentation: Cambridge Energy Research  
Associates (CERA) Update by  
Commissioner-Designee John Boyle, Department of  
Natural Resources  
-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
- + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**Mar 24      Friday    Butrovich 205    3:30 PM**

- + = SB 68 PUBLIC NOTICE FOR WATER RIGHTS  
<Bill Hearing Canceled>  
-- Public Testimony --
- + SB 90 EXTEND ALASKA MINERALS COMMISSION  
-- Public Testimony --
- + = SB 34 CITIZEN ADVISORY COMM ON FEDERAL AREAS  
-- Public Testimony --
- + = SB 87 LUMBER GRADING PROGRAM  
-- Public Testimony --
- + = SB 72 NATL. RES. WATER NOMINATION/DESIGNATION  
<Bill Hearing Canceled>  
-- Public Testimony --
- + = HJR 10 NAT'L PARK SERVICE; HUNTING IN PRESERVES  
-- Public Testimony --
- + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled  
\*\*Streamed live on AKL.tv\*\*



**STATE AFFAIRS**

**Mar 23 Thursday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 3:30 PM**  
 += SB 46 BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS MONTH  
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --  
 += SB 28 WORKPLACE VIOLENCE PROTECTIVE ORDERS  
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --  
 \*\*Streamed live on AKL.tv\*\*  
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

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**TRANSPORTATION**

**Mar 23 Thursday Butrovich 205 1:30 PM**  
 -- MEETING CANCELED --  
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled  
 -- Teleconference <Listen Only> --  
 \*\*Streamed live on AKL.tv\*\*

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**FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES**

**FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES**

**Mar 28 Tuesday Senate Finance 532 5:30 PM**  
 + Department of Family & Community Services  
 Budget Overview  
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --

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**HEALTH**

**Mar 27 Monday Senate Finance 532 5:30 PM**  
 -- MEETING CANCELED --  
 + Department of Health Budget Overview  
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --

**Mar 29 Wednesday Senate Finance 532 5:30 PM**  
 Department of Health Budget Overview  
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --

**TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC FACILITIES**

**Mar 28**      **Tuesday**                      **Senate Finance 532**              **7:30 AM**  
 +              FY24 Marine Highways

**Apr 04**      **Tuesday**                      **Senate Finance 532**              **7:30 AM**  
 +              Closeout

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**OTHER MEETINGS**

**MISCELLANEOUS MEETINGS**

**Mar 22**      **Wednesday**                      **Butrovich 205**              **12:00 PM**  
 Lunch & Learn Presentation: Red Cross of Alaska  
 Sharing the Impact of Red Cross Volunteers and  
 Employees Across the State by: Buddy Custard,  
 Red Cross of Alaska Board Chair and Cameron  
 Morrison, Regional Philanthropy Officer  
 Sponsored by Senator Olson

**Mar 28**      **Tuesday**                      **Butrovich 205**              **12:00 PM**  
 Lunch & Learn Presentation: Healthcare startups  
 and innovation in Alaska by Jacqueline Summers,  
 Executive Director of Health TIE  
 Sponsored by Senator Kiehl