

SENATE JOURNAL
ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

Juneau, Alaska

Wednesday

April 19, 2023

Ninety-third Day

Pursuant to adjournment the Senate was called to order by President Stevens at 11:03 a.m.

The roll showed sixteen members present. Senators Hughes, Wilson were excused from a call of the Senate. Senators Myers, Tobin were absent.

The prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Pastor Kermit Wilson, Safe Harbor Church. Senator Hoffman moved and asked unanimous consent the prayer be spread. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Dear God, and Great Creator,

I thank you for another day of life and health.

"The heavens declare your glory; and the expanse declares the work of your hands."

I am grateful for the beauty that surrounds us. I ponder at the beauty of your creation, the majestic mountains, the teaming seas, the expansive sky and all living creatures bring us wonder and awe.

Thank you for the blessings of the land and the peoples of the Land. I am grateful for the gifts of rich resources that provide for the peoples of the land. I ask for your guidance as we steward your creation from the villages to the cities and all parts between. Bring understanding, grant wisdom and bring unity to our leaders as they make important decisions related to your creation.

Bless all Alaskans this day,

Amen.

Senator Bishop led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Certification

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

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

Messages from the House

Message dated April 17 was read stating the House passed and transmitted for consideration:

First Reading and Reference of House Bills

HB 8

HOUSE BILL NO. 8 BY REPRESENTATIVES CARRICK, Mina, Prax, Sumner, Ruffridge, Galvin, C.Johnson, Josephson, Schrage, Himschoot, Groh, entitled:

"An Act relating to electric-assisted bicycles."

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

HB 39

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 39(FIN) am(brf sup maj fld)(efd fld) BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE, entitled:

"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 reappropriations; and making supplemental appropriations."

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

HB 41

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 41(FIN) am BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE, entitled:

"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."

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

Communications

Report from the Commissioner of the Department of Administration dated April 17 was received stating the monetary terms for the collective bargaining agreement reached with the Public Safety Employees Association representing the members of the Department of Public Safety in accordance with AS 23.40.215.

The President referred the report to the Finance Committee.

Standing Committee Reports

Report dated April 17 was read stating:

In accordance with AS 39.05.080, the Judiciary 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.

Alaska Judicial Council

Dennis DeWitt

Board of Governors of the Alaska Bar

William Granger

Signing the report: Senator Claman, Chair; Senators Tobin, Giessel, Kaufman.

SB 22

The Finance Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 22 "An Act establishing Juneteenth Day as a legal holiday."

Signing do pass: Senators Hoffman, Olson, Cochairs; Senators Kiehl, Bishop. Signing no recommendation: Senator Stedman, Chair; Senator Merrick.

The following fiscal information was published today:

Fiscal Note No. 3, Department of Education and Early
Development

Fiscal Note No. 4, Department of Health

Fiscal Note No. 5, Department of Fish and Game

Fiscal Note No. 6, Department of Transportation and Public
Facilities

Fiscal Note No. 7, Department of Corrections

Fiscal Note No. 8, zero, Department of Military and Veterans'
Affairs

Fiscal Note No. 9, Department of Public Safety

Fiscal Note No. 10, Department of Family and Community
Services

The bill was referred to the Rules Committee.

SB 61

The Judiciary Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 61 "An Act relating to an interstate compact to elect the President and Vice-President of the United States by national popular vote; and relating to the selection of electors for candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States and to the duties of those electors."

Signing do pass: Senator Claman, Chair; Senator Tobin. Signing do not pass: Senator Kaufman. Signing no recommendation: Senator Giessel.

The following fiscal information was published today:

Fiscal Note No. 1, zero, Office of the Governor

The bill was referred to the State Affairs Committee.

SB 74

The Finance Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 74 "An Act relating to an interstate physical therapy licensure compact; relating to the licensure of physical therapists, physical therapist assistants, occupational therapists, and occupational therapy assistants; and providing for an effective date" and recommended it be replaced with

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 74(FIN)

Signing do pass: Senator Hoffman, Cochair. Signing no recommendation: Senators Stedman, Olson, Cochairs; Senators Kiehl, Merrick.

The following previously published fiscal information applies:

Fiscal Note No. 1, Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

The bill was referred to the Rules Committee.

SB 75

The Finance Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 75 "An Act relating to an audiology and speech-language interstate compact; relating to the practice of audiology and the practice of speech-language pathology; and providing for an effective date" and recommended it be replaced with

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 75(FIN)

Signing do pass: Senator Hoffman, Cochair. Signing no recommendation: Senators Stedman, Olson, Cochairs; Senators Kiehl, Merrick.

The following previously published fiscal information applies:

Fiscal Note No. 1, Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

The bill was referred to the Rules Committee.

SB 83

The Labor and Commerce Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 83 "An Act relating to professional licensing; relating to temporary licenses for some professions; and providing for an effective date" and recommended it be replaced with

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 83(L&C)

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

The following previously published fiscal information applies:

Fiscal Note No. 1, Department of Commerce, Community, and
Economic Development

The bill was referred to the Finance Committee.

SB 87

The Finance Committee considered 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."

Signing do pass: Senators Stedman, Hoffman, Olson, Cochairs;
Senators Merrick, Bishop. Signing no recommendation: Senator Kiehl.

The following previously published fiscal information applies:

Fiscal Note No. 1, Department of Natural Resources

The bill was referred to the Rules Committee.

SB 92

The Resources Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 92 "An Act relating to state ownership of submerged land underlying navigable water within the boundaries of and adjacent to federal areas; and providing for an effective date" and recommended it be replaced with

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 92(RES)

Signing do pass: Senators Giessel, Bishop, Cochairs; Senators Claman, Dunbar, Kaufman. Signing amend: Senator Kawasaki.

The following fiscal information was published today:

Fiscal Note No. 1, zero, Department of Natural Resources

The bill was referred to the Rules Committee.

SB 99

The Education Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 99 "An Act establishing a financial literacy education course for public schools; and providing for an effective date" and recommended it be replaced with

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 99(EDC) "An Act establishing a financial literacy education program for public schools; and providing for an effective date."

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

The following fiscal information was published today:

Fiscal Note No. 1, Department of Education and Early Development

President Stevens added a Finance Committee referral to the bill.

The bill was referred to the Finance Committee.

HB 56

The Labor and Commerce Committee considered HOUSE BILL NO. 56 "An Act exempting controlled substances prescribed or dispensed by a veterinarian to treat an animal from the requirements of the controlled substance prescription database" and recommended it be replaced with

SENATE CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 56(L&C) "An Act relating to the certification of veterinarians; exempting veterinarians from the requirements of the controlled substance prescription database; and providing for an effective date."
(Title Change SCR 2)

Signing do pass: Senator Bjorkman, Chair; Senators Merrick, Gray-Jackson, Bishop, Dunbar.

The following previously published fiscal information applies:
Fiscal Note No. 1, zero, Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

The bill was referred to the Rules Committee.

Introduction and Reference of Senate Resolutions

SCR 2

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 2 BY THE SENATE
LABOR & COMMERCE COMMITTEE,

Suspending Rules 24(c), 35, 41(b), and 42(e), Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature, concerning House Bill No. 56, 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 held on the Secretary's desk.

Consideration of the Calendar**Third Reading of Senate Bills****SB 58**

SENATE BILL NO. 58 "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 third time.

The question being: "Shall SENATE BILL NO. 58 "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" pass the Senate?" The roll was taken with the following result:

SB 58

Third Reading - Final Passage

Effective Date(s)

YEAS: 16 NAYS: 0 EXCUSED: 3 ABSENT: 1

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

Excused: Hughes, Tobin, Wilson

Absent: Myers

and so, SENATE BILL NO. 58 passed the Senate.

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the vote on the passage of the bill be considered the vote on the effective date clause(s). Without objection, it was so ordered and the bill was referred to the Secretary for engrossment.

Third Reading of House Bills**HB 78**

HOUSE BILL NO. 78 "An Act establishing September 10 as Alaska Community Health Aide Appreciation Day" was read the third time.

Senators Hoffman, Stevens moved and asked unanimous consent to be shown as cross sponsors on the bill. Without objection, it was so ordered.

The question being: "Shall HOUSE BILL NO. 78 "An Act establishing September 10 as Alaska Community Health Aide Appreciation Day" pass the Senate?" The roll was taken with the following result:

HB 78

Third Reading - Final Passage

YEAS: 16 NAYS: 0 EXCUSED: 3 ABSENT: 1

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

Excused: Hughes, Tobin, Wilson

Absent: Myers

and so, HOUSE BILL NO. 78 passed the Senate, was signed by the President and Secretary and returned to the House.

Citations

Honoring – Nordic Skiing Association of Anchorage
Representative(s) Gray, Mears
Senator(s) Claman

Honoring – Heather Flynn
Representative(s) Gray, Fields
Senator(s) Tobin

Honoring – University of Alaska Anchorage Master of Public Health Program
Representative(s) Gray
Senator(s) Dunbar

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Honoring – Reed Smith
Representative(s) Gray
Senator(s) Dunbar

Honoring – Lisa Parker
Representative(s) Ruffridge
Senator(s) Bjorkman

In Memoriam – Joe Hotch
Senator(s) Kiehl
Representative(s) Story, Hannan

In Memoriam – Dr. John Harlan Clark
Representative(s) Hannan, Story
Senator(s) Kiehl

In Memoriam – Clarence “Coyne” Vanderjack
Representative(s) Hannan, Story
Senator(s) Kiehl

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 – Fairbanks Community Cooperative Market’s 10th
Anniversary
Representative(s) Stapp, Dibert
Senator(s) Kawasaki

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 Shower moved and asked unanimous consent Senator Myers be excused from a call of the Senate today through April 23. Without objection, Senator Myers was excused.

Senator Shower moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate on April 21. Without objection, Senator Shower was excused.

SB 29

Senators Bishop, Stedman moved and asked unanimous consent to be shown as cosponsors on SENATE BILL NO. 29 "An Act relating to civics education, civics assessments, and secondary school graduation requirements; establishing the Alaska Civics Education Commission; and providing for an effective date." Without objection, it was so ordered.

SB 87

Senators Bishop, Merrick, Stedman, Olson, Kawasaki 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.

SB 104

Senators Bishop, Kawasaki, Kiehl, Gray-Jackson moved and asked unanimous consent to be shown as cosponsors on SENATE BILL NO. 104 "An Act relating to appropriations to the civil legal services fund." Without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Kaufman moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate from afternoon plane time, April 20 through morning plane time, April 24. Without objection, Senator Kaufman was excused.

HB 123

Senators Hoffman, Giessel, Claman, Bishop, Gray-Jackson, Olson, Stevens moved and asked unanimous consent to be shown as cross sponsors on HOUSE BILL NO. 123 "An Act relating to an amendment to the articles of incorporation of a corporation organized under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act; and providing for an effective date." Without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Claman moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate from June 28 through June 30. Without objection, Senator Claman was excused.

Announcements

Announcements are at the end of the journal.

Engrossment**SB 58**

SENATE BILL NO. 58 "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 engrossed, signed by the President and Secretary and transmitted to the House for consideration.

Adjournment

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the Senate stand in adjournment until 10:30 a.m., April 21, 2023. Without objection, the Senate adjourned at 11:30 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

Apr 20	Thursday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
+ SB 79	RECLASSIFICATION OF FIRST CLASS CITIES		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
	Overview: ANCSA 14(c)(3) and the Municipal Lands Trustee Program		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

EDUCATION

Apr 19	Wednesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
	Presentation: Teachers Like Us: Strategies for Increasing Educator Diversity by Lynn Olson, former Deputy Director of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

Apr 21	Friday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
	No Meeting Scheduled		

FINANCE

Apr 19 Wednesday Senate Finance 532 9:00 AM

- + HB 39 APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUND; SUPP
<Bill Hearing Canceled>
- + HB 41 APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET
<Bill Hearing Canceled>
- + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled:
- += SB 22 PROCLAIM JUNETEENTH DAY A HOLIDAY
- += SB 57 ADULT HOME CARE; MED ASSISTANCE

Apr 19 Wednesday Senate Finance 532 1:30 PM

- Please Note Time Change --
- + SB 53 FIVE-YEAR INVOLUNTARY COMMITMENTS
-- Invited & Public Testimony --
<Time Limit May Be Set>
- + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled:
- += HB 39 APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUND; SUPP
- += HB 41 APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET
- += SB 22 PROCLAIM JUNETEENTH DAY A HOLIDAY
<Bill Hearing Canceled>
- += SB 57 ADULT HOME CARE; MED ASSISTANCE
<Bill Hearing Canceled>
- += SB 107 PERMANENT FUND DIVIDEND; POMV SPLIT

Apr 20 Thursday Senate Finance 532 9:00 AM

- For Juneau, Southeast, Prince William Sound, &
Kodiak Please Sign Up By 10:15 am
- + HB 39 APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUND; SUPP
-- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
- + HB 41 APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET
-- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
- += SB 41 APPROP: CAPITAL/SUPPLEMENTAL
<Time Limit May Be Set For All Public
Testimony>
- + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

FINANCE (continued)

Apr 20 Thursday Senate Finance 532 1:30 PM

For Fairbanks, Interior, & Copper River Valley
Please Sign Up by 2:45 pm

-- Please Note Time Change --

+ = HB 39 APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUND; SUPP
-- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --

+ = HB 41 APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET
-- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --

+ = SB 41 APPROP: CAPITAL/SUPPLEMENTAL
-- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --

+ Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

Apr 21 Friday Senate Finance 532 9:00 AM

For Nome, Bethel, Kotzebue, Utqiagvik,
Unalaska, Dillingham & Offnets

Please sign up by 10:15 am

+ = HB 39 APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUND; SUPP
-- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --

+ = HB 41 APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET
-- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --

+ = SB 41 APPROP: CAPITAL/SUPPLEMENTAL
-- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --

+ Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

Apr 21 Friday Senate Finance 532 1:00 PM

For Anchorage, Mat-Su Valley, Kenai
Peninsula Please sign up by 2:45 pm

+ = HB 39 APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUND; SUPP
-- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --

+ = HB 41 APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET
-- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --

+ = SB 41 APPROP: CAPITAL/SUPPLEMENTAL
-- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --

+ Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Apr 20 Thursday Butrovich 205 3:30 PM
 No Meeting Scheduled

JUDICIARY

Apr 19 Wednesday Butrovich 205 1:30 PM
 + SB 65 HARASSMENT; SEX OFFENDERS & OFFENSES
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 += SB 70 OWNER & CONTRACTOR CONTROLLED INSURANCE
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

Apr 21 Friday Butrovich 205 1:30 PM
 + SB 84 MONEY TRANSMISSION; VIRTUAL CURRENCY
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 + SB 128 COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHERY CLOSURE
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

LABOR & COMMERCE

Apr 19 Wednesday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 1:30 PM
 += SB 45 DIRECT HEALTH AGREEMENT: NOT INSURANCE
 += SB 85 PERM FUND; EMPLOYMENT; ELIGIBILITY
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
 += SB 126 ARCHITECT/ENGINEER REGISTRATION BOARD
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

Apr 21 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 123 LICENSE REQUIREMENTS: COMM. DRIVERS
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled:
 += SB 73 REGISTER INTERIOR DESIGNERS
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

RESOURCES

Apr 19 Wednesday Butrovich 205 3:30 PM
 Consideration of Governor’s Appointees: Board
 of Game: Stanley Hoffman, David Lorrington
 -- Public Testimony --
 += HJR 11 ADDRESS AIR POLLUTION IN FAIRBANKS
 -- Public Testimony --
 += SB 68 PUBLIC NOTICE FOR WATER RIGHTS
 -- Invited Testimony --
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

Apr 21 Friday Butrovich 205 3:30 PM
 += SB 68 PUBLIC NOTICE FOR WATER RIGHTS
 -- Public Testimony --
 + SB 82 COOK INLET: NEW ADMIN AREA;PERMIT BUYBACK
 -- Public Testimony --
 += SB 48 CARBON OFFSET PROGRAM ON STATE LAND
 -- Public Testimony --
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

STATE AFFAIRS

Apr 20 Thursday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 3:30 PM
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 Presentation: What is Electronic Registration
 Information Center (ERIC) and how does it
 benefit elections by
 Shane Hamlin, Executive Director of ERIC
 + HB 8 ELECTRIC-ASSISTED BICYCLES
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 + SB 62 ELECTRIC-ASSISTED BICYCLES
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled:
 + SB 95 LICENSE PLATES: SPECIALTY ORGANIZATIONS
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 <Bill Hearing Rescheduled from 04/18/23>
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

