

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

**Juneau, Alaska**

**Wednesday**

**March 27, 2024**

**Seventy-second Day**

Pursuant to adjournment the Senate was called to order by President Stevens at 10:33 a.m.

The roll showed sixteen members present. Senator Gray-Jackson was excused from a call of the Senate. Senators Olson, Shower, Stedman were absent.

The prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Aaron Crook, Senate Page. Senator Hoffman moved and asked unanimous consent the prayer be spread. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Oh! Almighty and Everlasting God, Creator of  
Heaven, Earth and the Universe:

Help me to be, to think, to act what is right, because it  
is right; make me truthful, honest and honorable in all  
things; make me intellectually honest for the sake of  
right and honor and without thought of reward to me.  
Give me the ability to be charitable, forgiving and  
patient with my fellowmen - help me to understand  
their motives and their shortcomings - even as Thou  
understandest mine!                      Amen, Amen, Amen.

Senator Bjorkman led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Certification**

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

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

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

The presence of Senator Stedman was noted.

Message dated March 25 was read stating the House passed and transmitted for consideration:

**First Reading and Reference of House Bills****HB 371**

HOUSE BILL NO. 371 BY REPRESENTATIVE RUFFRIDGE BY REQUEST, entitled:

"An Act relating to medical review organizations; relating to the definitions of 'health care provider' and 'review organization'; and relating to the duties of the chief medical officer in the Department of Health."

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

**Standing Committee Reports****SB 113**

The Finance Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 113 "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."

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

The following fiscal information was published today:

Fiscal Note No. 2, Department of Education and Early Development

The bill was referred to the Rules Committee.

### **SB 255**

The Transportation Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 255 "An Act relating to the obstruction of airports and runways; relating to the obstruction of highways; establishing the crime of obstruction of free passage in public places; relating to the obstruction of public places; relating to the crime of trespassing; relating to the obstruction of navigable waters; and providing for an effective date."

Signing amend: Senator Kaufman, Chair; Senator Wilson. Signing do not pass: Senator Tobin. Signing no recommendation: Senator Myers.

The following previously published fiscal information applies:

Fiscal Note No. 1, zero, Department of Public Safety

The bill was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

### **HB 81**

The Transportation Committee considered HOUSE BILL NO. 81 "An Act relating to the transfer of a title on the death of the owner; and providing for an effective date."

Signing do pass: Senator Kaufman, Chair. Signing no recommendation: Senators Myers, Tobin, Wilson.

The following previously published fiscal information applies:

Fiscal Note No. 2, Department of Administration

President Stevens added a Finance Committee referral to the bill.

The bill is referred to the State Affairs, then Finance Committees.

**HB 341**

The Transportation Committee considered HOUSE BILL NO. 341 "An Act naming the Marvin Thurmond Galena Maintenance and Operation Station."

Signing do pass: Senator Kaufman, Chair; Senator Myers. Signing no recommendation: Senators Tobin, Wilson.

The following previously published fiscal information applies:

Fiscal Note No. 1, zero, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

The bill was referred to the Rules Committee.

**SCR 9**

The Health and Social Services Committee considered SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 9 Recognizing the need for parity in the provision of mental health and substance use disorder medical assistance benefits in the state; and urging the Department of Health to adopt regulations that ensure parity in the provision of mental health and substance use disorder medical assistance benefits in the state.

Signing no recommendation: Senator Wilson, Chair; Senator Kaufman. Signing do pass: Senators Tobin, Giessel.

The following fiscal information was published today:

Fiscal Note No. 1, zero, Legislative Agency

The resolution was referred to the Rules Committee.

**Consideration of the Calendar**

**Citations**

Commemorating - Law Enforcement Memorial Day January 9, 2024  
Representative(s) Tilton

Honoring - Alaska Statewide Mentor Project  
Senator(s) Claman

In Memoriam - Timothy Alexander Roy  
Representative(s) Rauscher

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**

In Memoriam - Tyrone Thomas  
Senator(s) Myers  
Representative(s) Stapp

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 Hughes moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate on April 2. Without objection, Senator Hughes was excused.

Senator Kaufman moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate from plane time, March 28 through plane time, April 1. Without objection, Senator Kaufman was excused.

Senator Tobin moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate from morning plane time, April 2 through evening plane time, April 2. Without objection, Senator Tobin was excused.

**SCR 9**

Senators Claman, Kiehl, Tobin moved and asked unanimous consent to be shown as cosponsors on SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 9 Recognizing the need for parity in the provision of mental health and substance use disorder medical assistance benefits in the state; and urging the Department of Health to adopt regulations that ensure parity in the provision of mental health and substance use disorder medical assistance benefits in the state. Without objection, it was so ordered.

**Announcements**

Announcements are at the end of the journal.

**Enrollment**

**SSCR 1**

SENATE SPECIAL CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1 Disapproving Executive Order No. 124, was enrolled, signed by the President and Secretary, Speaker and Chief Clerk and the engrossed and enrolled copies transmitted to the Office of the Governor at 5:10 p.m., March 26, 2024.

Legislative Resolve No. 12

**SSCR 3**

SENATE SPECIAL CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3 Disapproving Executive Order No. 126, was enrolled, signed by the President and Secretary, Speaker and Chief Clerk and the engrossed and enrolled copies transmitted to the Office of the Governor at 5:10 p.m., March 26, 2024.

Legislative Resolve No. 13

**SSCR 4**

SENATE SPECIAL CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4 Disapproving Executive Order No. 127, was enrolled, signed by the President and Secretary, Speaker and Chief Clerk and the engrossed and enrolled copies transmitted to the Office of the Governor at 5:10 p.m., March 26, 2024.

Legislative Resolve No. 14

**SSCR 5**

SENATE SPECIAL CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 5 Disapproving Executive Order No. 128, was enrolled, signed by the President and Secretary, Speaker and Chief Clerk and the engrossed and enrolled copies transmitted to the Office of the Governor at 5:10 p.m., March 26, 2024.

Legislative Resolve No. 15

**SSCR 6**

SENATE SPECIAL CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 6 Disapproving Executive Order No. 129, was enrolled, signed by the President and Secretary, Speaker and Chief Clerk and the engrossed and enrolled copies transmitted to the Office of the Governor at 5:10 p.m., March 26, 2024.

Legislative Resolve No. 16

**SSCR 7**

SENATE SPECIAL CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 7 Disapproving Executive Order No. 130, was enrolled, signed by the President and Secretary, Speaker and Chief Clerk and the engrossed and enrolled copies transmitted to the Office of the Governor at 5:10 p.m., March 26, 2024.

Legislative Resolve No. 17

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**SSCR 8**

SENATE SPECIAL CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 8 Disapproving Executive Order No. 131, was enrolled, signed by the President and Secretary, Speaker and Chief Clerk and the engrossed and enrolled copies transmitted to the Office of the Governor at 5:10 p.m., March 26, 2024.

Legislative Resolve No. 18

**SSCR 9**

SENATE SPECIAL CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 9 Disapproving Executive Order No. 132, was enrolled, signed by the President and Secretary, Speaker and Chief Clerk and the engrossed and enrolled copies transmitted to the Office of the Governor at 5:10 p.m., March 26, 2024.

Legislative Resolve No. 19

**Adjournment**

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the Senate stand in adjournment until 10:30 a.m., March 29, 2024. Without objection, the Senate adjourned at 10:52 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 28      Thursday                      Beltz 105 (tsbldg)              1:30 PM**  
 No Meeting Scheduled

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**EDUCATION**

**Mar 27      Wednesday                      Beltz 105 (tsbldg)              3:30 PM**  
 -- MEETING CANCELED --  
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled  
 \*\*Streamed live on AKL.tv\*\*

**Mar 29      Friday                                  Beltz 105 (tsbldg)              3:30 PM**  
 No Meeting Scheduled

**Apr 01      Monday                                Beltz 105 (tsbldg)              3:30 PM**  
 No Meeting Scheduled

**Apr 03      Wednesday                          Davis 106                          8:00 AM**  
 -- Please Note Time & Location Change --  
 Meeting Jointly with the House Education Committee  
 + Presentation: Alaska Board of Education and Early Development by James Fields, State Board Chair  
 DEED Commissioner Deena Bishop  
 Members of the State Board of Education and Early Development  
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled  
 \*\*Streamed live on AKL.tv\*\*

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**EDUCATION (continued)**

**Apr 05      Friday                              Beltz 105 (tsbldg)                      3:30 PM**  
No Meeting Scheduled

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**FINANCE**

**Apr 03      Wednesday                              Senate Finance 532                      9:00 AM**  
+ SB 28 WORKPLACE VIOLENCE PROTECTIVE ORDERS  
-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --  
+ SB 181 CHILD PLACEMENT; DILIGENT SEARCH  
-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --  
+ SB 228 EXTEND BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPISTS  
-- Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --  
-- Invited & Public Testimony --  
+ SB 234 EXTEND MARIJUANA CONTROL BOARD  
-- Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --  
-- Invited & Public Testimony --  
+ Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**Apr 04      Thursday                              Senate Finance 532                      9:00 AM**  
SB 187 APPROP: CAP; REAPPROP  
+ Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**Apr 04      Thursday                              Senate Finance 532                      1:30 PM**  
-- Please Note Time Change --  
+ Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**Apr 05      Friday                              Senate Finance 532                      9:00 AM**  
+= SB 187 APPROP: CAP; REAPPROP  
+ Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

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**HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES**

**Mar 28      Thursday                              Butrovich 205                      3:30 PM**  
No Meeting Scheduled

**Apr 02      Tuesday                              Butrovich 205                      3:30 PM**  
+ Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled:  
+= HB 57 EMERGENCY MED. SVCS: REVIEW ORGANIZATIONS  
+= HB 344 MEDICAL ASSIST. DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS



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**RESOURCES**

<b>Mar 27</b>	<b>Wednesday</b> No Meeting Scheduled	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
<b>Mar 29</b>	<b>Friday</b> No Meeting Scheduled	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
<b>Apr 01</b>	<b>Monday</b> No Meeting Scheduled	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
<b>Apr 03</b>	<b>Wednesday</b> Consideration of Governor’s Appointees: Commissioner, Department of Environment Conservation: Emma Pokon Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission: Michael Porcaro -- Invited & Public Testimony --	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
+	Presentation: Graphite Creek Project Update by Kevin Torpy, Vice President of Mining, Graphite One Inc.		
+	Presentation: Donlin Project Update by Kristina Woolston, External Affairs Manager, Donlin Gold		
+	SB 253 DNR BIG GAME HUNTING PRGRM/PILOT PROJECT -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		
<b>Apr 05</b>	<b>Friday</b> Presentation: Achieving an 80% Renewable Portfolio in Alaska's Railbelt by Paul Denholm, Senior Research Fellow, National Renewable Energy Laboratory	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

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**STATE AFFAIRS**

<b>Mar 28</b>	<b>Thursday</b> Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**	<b>Beltz 105 (tsbldg)</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
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**TRANSPORTATION**

**Mar 28**      **Thursday**                                      **Butrovich 205**                                      **1:30 PM**  
No Meeting Scheduled

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**FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES**

**ADMINISTRATION**

**Apr 11**      **Thursday**                                      **Butrovich 205**                                      **5:30 PM**  
+              Budget Closeout

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**COMMERCE, COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEV**

**Mar 27**      **Wednesday**                                      **Senate Finance 532**                                      **12:15 PM**  
+              -- MEETING CANCELED --  
Department of Commerce, Community & Economic  
Development Budget  
\*\*Streamed live on AKL.tv\*\*

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**CORRECTIONS**

**Apr 11**      **Thursday**                                      **Butrovich 205**                                      **5:45 PM**  
+              Budget Closeout

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**JUDICIARY**

**Apr 11**      **Thursday**                                      **Butrovich 205**                                      **5:15 PM**  
+              Budget Closeout

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**LABOR & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

**Apr 11**      **Thursday**                                      **Senate Finance 532**                                      **7:30 AM**  
+              FY25 Budget Closeout

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**FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES (continued)**

**NATURAL RESOURCES**

**Apr 04**                      **Thursday**                      **Senate Finance 532**                      **7:30 AM**  
+                      FY25 Budget Closeout

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**JOINT COMMITTEES**

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET & AUDIT**

**Apr 04**                      **Thursday**                      **Adams 519**                      **5:00 PM**  
+                      I. Approval of Minutes  
                         a. March 6, 2024  
                         II. Executive Session (Audit)  
                         a. Preliminary Release of the FY23 State Single  
                         Audit  
                         Juneau (907) 586-9085, Anchorage (907) 563-9085  
                         All other 844-586-9085

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**OTHER MEETINGS**

**MISCELLANEOUS MEETINGS**

**Apr 03**                      **Wednesday**                      **Butrovich 205**                      **12:00 PM**  
+                      Lunch & Learn Presentation:  
                         The Presentation will Explore the Shared  
                         Commercial Kitchen "Incubator" Model by Kirk  
                         Rose, CEO of Anchorage Community Land Trust  
                         Sponsored by Senator Dunbar & Representative Mina