

SENATE JOURNAL
ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION

Juneau, Alaska

Thursday

April 4, 2024

Eightieth Day

Pursuant to adjournment the Senate was called to order by President Stevens at 11:02 a.m.

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

The prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Reverend Fred LaPlante, Church of the Nazarene. Senator Hoffman moved and asked unanimous consent the prayer be spread. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Father, I thank you for these leaders who gathered today to advocate for the State of Alaska and its people. I lift them to you and ask that you grant them your wisdom and grace to do the work of legislation. Please help them work through the difficulties they face in leading the State of Alaska.

Help them to remember when they first came to the office they desired to help others, to right wrongs and to make Alaska a more beautiful place. I ask you to help them with any difficulties they face, either professionally or personally. When they struggle to see the way through an issue, please help them to focus on the issue and not the distractions whatever they may be.

In the name of Jesus, I pray.

Amen.

Senator Giessel led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Certification

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the journal for the seventy-ninth legislative day, Senate Journal Supplement No. 8 and House and Senate Joint Journal Supplement No. 17 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.

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 House

Message dated April 3 was read stating the House passed and transmitted for consideration:

First Reading and Reference of House Resolutions

HCR 15

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 15 BY THE HOUSE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE,

Designating May 2024 as Mental Health Awareness Month; and designating May 5 - 11, 2024, as Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week.

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

Standing Committee Reports

Report dated April 3 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 Environmental Conservation

Emma Pokon

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

SB 204

The Labor and Commerce Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 204 "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."

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

The following fiscal information was published today:

Fiscal Note No. 2, Department of Labor and Workforce
Development

The bill was referred to the Finance Committee.

SB 228

The Finance Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 228 "An Act extending the termination date of the Board of Massage Therapists; and providing for an effective date."

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

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.

Consideration of the Calendar

Citations

Honoring - United Fishermen of Alaska
Senator(s) Stevens, Kiehl, Bjorkman
Representative(s) Stutes

Honoring - Chugiak High School 60th Anniversary
Senator(s) Merrick
Representative(s) Saddler

Honoring - Chief Thomas R. Opie
Senator(s) Olson
Representative(s) Baker

Honoring - Lora Volden
Representative(s) Saddler

Honoring - Alan Rockwood
Representative(s) Ortiz

Honoring - Metlakatla High School Miss Chiefs Girls' Basketball
Team 2024 ASAA 2A State Champions
Representative(s) Ortiz
Senator(s) Stedman

Honoring - Alaska Broadcasters Association 60th Anniversary
Representative(s) Galvin
Senator(s) Gray-Jackson

In Memoriam - Bob Summer
Senator(s) Bjorkman

In Memoriam - Steven Ross Gibson
Senator(s) Stevens, Bjorkman
Representative(s) Vance

In Memoriam - Juliana Mary "Emuguak" & Howard Farley, Sr.
Representative(s) Foster, Cronk
Senator(s) Olson

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

Unfinished Business

SB 131

Senator Dunbar moved and asked unanimous consent to be shown as a cosponsor on SENATE BILL NO. 131 "An Act requiring education in the history and contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders." 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., April 8, 2024. Without objection, the Senate adjourned at 11:17 a.m.

Sarah Ritter
Deputy Senate Secretary

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 04 Thursday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 1:30 PM
 + Presentation: Local Boundary Commission
 += HCR 8 HONORING VIETNAM WAR VETERANS
 + SB 252 ARBOR DAY
 <Above Item Removed from Agenda>
 + SB 174 HONOR & REMEMBER/HONOR & SACRIFICE FLAGS
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 Uniform Rule 23(a) Waived
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

Apr 09 Tuesday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 1:30 PM
 += HCR 8 HONORING VIETNAM WAR VETERANS
 + SJR 20 WEATHER OBSERVING SYSTEM STATION OUTAGES
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

Apr 11 Thursday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 1:30 PM
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

EDUCATION

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

EDUCATION (continued)

- Apr 08 Monday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 3:30 PM**
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 + Presentation: Education Funding Research Review
 and Legal Considerations by
 Justin Silverstein, CO-CEO of APA Consultants
 Dr. Larry Picus, Professor of Education,
 Finance and Policy at the University of
 Southern California
 Howard Trickey, Attorney with Schwabe,
 Williamson & Wyatt
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv
- Apr 10 Wednesday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 3:30 PM**
 += SB 221 CPR CURRICULUM
 += SB 158 SCHOOL GRANTS AND BOND DEBT REIMBURSEMENT
 + SB 143 EDUCATION FOR DEAF & HEARING IMPAIRED
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv
- Apr 12 Friday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 3:30 PM**
 + Briefing on the Federal "Maintenance of Equity"
 Requirements
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

FINANCE

- Apr 04 Thursday Senate Finance 532 9:00 AM**
 SB 187 APPROP: CAP; REAPPROP
 <Bill Hearing Canceled>
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled:
 += SB 234 EXTEND MARIJUANA CONTROL BOARD
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 += SB 243 ALASKA ENERGY AUTHORITY GOVERNANCE
 -- Above Item Removed from Agenda --
 += SB 228 EXTEND BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPISTS

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FINANCE (continued)

- Apr 04 Thursday Senate Finance 532 1:30 PM**
 -- MEETING CANCELED --
 -- 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
- Apr 08 Monday Senate Finance 532 9:00 AM**
 No Meeting Scheduled
- Apr 09 Tuesday Senate Finance 532 9:00 AM**
 + SB 60 REPEAL WORKERS' COMP APPEALS COMMISSION
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 <Time Limit May Be Set>
 + SB 182 EXTEND BIG GAME COMM SERVICES BOARD
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 <Time Limit May Be Set>
 + SJR 15 CONST. AM: VOTES NEEDED FOR VETO OVERRIDE
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
- Apr 09 Tuesday Senate Finance 532 1:30 PM**
 -- Please Note Time Change --
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
- Apr 10 Wednesday Senate Finance 532 9:00 AM**
 + Overview: Governor's Amendments by
 Office of Management and Budget
 Department of Transportation
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
- Apr 10 Wednesday Senate Finance 532 1:30 PM**
 -- Please Note Time Change --
 += SB 187 APPROP: CAP; REAPPROP
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
- Apr 11 Thursday Senate Finance 532 9:00 AM**
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

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FINANCE (continued)

- Apr 11** **Thursday** **Senate Finance 532** **1:30 PM**
 -- Please Note Time Change --
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

- Apr 12** **Friday** **Senate Finance 532** **9:00 AM**
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

- Apr 04** **Thursday** **Butrovich 205** **3:30 PM**
 + Consideration of Governor’s Appointees:
 Eric Nimmo, State Medical Board
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 Presentation: Department of Health - Child Care
 Task Force
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled:
 += HB 89 CHILD CARE: TAX CREDITS/ASSISTANCE/GRANTS
 <Above Item Removed from Agenda>
 += HB 57 EMERGENCY MED. SVCS: REVIEW ORGANIZATIONS
 += SB 240 SCHOOL DISTRICT MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

- Apr 09** **Tuesday** **Butrovich 205** **3:30 PM**
 No Meeting Scheduled

- Apr 11** **Thursday** **Butrovich 205** **3:30 PM**
 + Presentation: Department of Health - Behavioral
 Health Roadmap for Alaska Youth
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 + HB 371 MEDICAL REVIEW ORGANIZATIONS
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 + HCR 15 MENTAL HEALTH MONTH; TARDIVE DYSK WEEK
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

JUDICIARY

- Apr 05** **Friday** **Butrovich 205** **1:30 PM**
 += SB 134 INS. DATA SECURITY; INFO. SECURITY PRGRMS
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

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JUDICIARY (continued)

Apr 08 Monday Butrovich 205 1:30 PM
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

Apr 10 Wednesday Butrovich 205 1:30 PM
 += SB 258 CRIM. CONV. OVERTURNED: RECEIVE PAST PFD
 + SB 255 OBSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC PLACES; TRESPASSING
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

Apr 12 Friday Butrovich 205 1:30 PM
 += SB 20 APPROPRIATION LIMIT; GOV BUDGET
 += SJR 4 CONST. AM: APPROP LIMIT
 += SB 165 DEFENSE OF PUB. OFFICER: ETHICS COMPLAINT
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

LABOR & COMMERCE

Apr 05 Friday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 1:30 PM
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled:
 += SB 115 PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT SCOPE OF PRACTICE
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
 += SB 135 AK WORK & SAVE PROGRAM; RETIRE. SAVINGS BD
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
 += SB 257 ELECTRIC UTILITY REGULATION
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

Apr 08 Monday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 1:30 PM
 += SB 102 REFUSE UTILITY REGULATIONS
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 -- Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
 += SB 219 PRIOR AUTH EXEMPT FOR HEALTH PROVIDERS
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 -- Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
 + HB 97 SELF-STORAGE UNITS: LIENS; SALES
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

LABOR & COMMERCE (continued)

Apr 10 Wednesday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 1:30 PM
 += SB 152 COMMUNITY ENERGY FACILITIES; NET METERING
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 -- Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
 += SB 257 ELECTRIC UTILITY REGULATION
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 -- Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

Apr 12 Friday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 1:30 PM
 += SB 239 AIDEA WORKFORCE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 -- Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
 += SB 211 AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS/LOANS/SALES
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 -- Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

RESOURCES

Apr 05 Friday Butrovich 205 3:30 PM
 + Presentation: Achieving an 80% Renewable
 Portfolio in Alaska's Railbelt by
 Paul Denholm, Senior Research Fellow,
 National Renewable Energy Laboratory
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

Apr 08 Monday Butrovich 205 3:30 PM
 += SB 164 STATE PARK PERMITS FOR DISABLED VETERANS
 + SB 253 DNR BIG GAME HUNTING PRGRM/PILOT PROJECT
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 + SB 248 BIG GAME COMMERCIAL SERVICES BOARD
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

RESOURCES (continued)

Apr 10 Wednesday Butrovich 205 3:30 PM
 + Consideration of Governor’s Appointees:
 Board of Game: Jake Garner, James Baichtal
 Board of Fisheries: Curtis Chamberlain
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 + HB 272 BIG GAME HUNTING BY PERSON W/ DISABILITY
 += SB 253 DNR BIG GAME HUNTING PRGRM/PILOT PROJECT
 -- Public Testimony --
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

Apr 12 Friday Butrovich 205 3:30 PM
 + Consideration of Governor’s Appointees:
 Regulatory Commission of Alaska: John Espindola
 Board of Fisheries: Märit Carlson-Van Dort
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 + Presentation: Cook Inlet Region Low Carbon
 Power Generation With Carbon Capture,
 Transport, and Storage Feasibility Study by
 Frank Paskvan, Affiliate Professor, University
 of Alaska Fairbanks, Institute of Northern
 Engineering
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

STATE AFFAIRS

Apr 04 Thursday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 3:30 PM
 += SB 201 OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
 -- Public Testimony --
 += SB 177 AI, DEEPFAKES, CYBERSECURITY, DATA XFERS
 + SB 262 ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TASK FORCE
 Consideration of Governor’s Appointees:
 Donald Handeland
 <Above Item Rescheduled from 4/2/24>
 -- Public Testimony --
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES (continued)

COMMERCE, COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEV

Apr 09 **Tuesday** **Senate Finance 532** **12:35 PM**
+ Department of Commerce, Community & Economic
Development Budget Closeout
Streamed live on AKL.tv

CORRECTIONS

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

EDUCATION & EARLY DEVELOPMENT

Apr 09 **Tuesday** **Senate Finance 532** **12:55 PM**
+ Department of Education & Early Development
Budget Closeout
Streamed live on AKL.tv

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Apr 10 **Wednesday** **Beltz 105 (tsbldg)** **12:00 PM**
+ Overview:
Department of Environmental Conservation
Senate Finance Subcommittee Closeout

FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Apr 09 **Tuesday** **Butrovich 205** **3:30 PM**
+ Department of Family and Community Services
Senate Finance Subcommittee Closeout

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES (continued)

FISH & GAME

Apr 09 **Tuesday** **Senate Finance 532** **12:15 PM**
 + Department of Fish & Game Budget Closeout
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

GOVERNOR

Apr 11 **Thursday** **Senate Finance 532** **3:00 PM**
 + Subcommittee Budget Closeout

HEALTH

Apr 09 **Tuesday** **Butrovich 205** **3:50 PM**
 + -- Please Note Time Change --
 Department of Health
 Budget Item Discussion
 Senate Finance Subcommittee Closeout

JUDICIARY

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

LABOR & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

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

LEGISLATURE

Apr 11 **Thursday** **Senate Finance 532** **3:05 PM**
 + Subcommittee Budget Closeout

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES (continued)**MILITARY & VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

Apr 10 **Wednesday** **Beltz 105 (tsbldg)** **12:20 PM**
 +
 Overview:
 Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs
 Senate Finance Subcommittee Closeout

NATURAL RESOURCES

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

REVENUE

Apr 10 **Wednesday** **Beltz 105 (tsbldg)** **12:40 PM**
 +
 Overview:
 Department of Revenue
 Senate Finance Subcommittee Closeout

TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC FACILITIES

Apr 09 **Tuesday** **Senate Finance 532** **7:30 AM**
 +
 FY25 Closeout

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 (Procurement)
 b. Consideration of Contract Award
 Juneau (907) 586-9085, Anchorage (907) 563-9085
 All other 844-586-9085

JOINT COMMITTEES (continued)

SELECT COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE ETHICS

Apr 04	Thursday	Barnes 124	9:00 AM
	-- Please Note Time Change --		
+	I. Update on Committee Member Nominees/Welcome Members		
+	II. Approval of the Agenda		
+	III. Approval of the Minutes		
	a. House Subcommittee - November 29, 2023		
	IV. Public Comment		
+	V. Chairs/Staff Reports		
	a. Revised Staff Report - February 16, 2024		
	b. Staff Report - Informal Advice		
+	VI. Budget		
+	VII. Advisory Opinion		
	a. AO 24-01		
	b. AO 24-02 Confidentiality Waived by Representative Eastman		
	VIII. Executive Session		
	IX. Public Session		
	X. Other Business		
	(Public Segment of the Meeting will be Teleconferenced) Anchorage Only: 907-563-9085 Juneau Only: 907-586-9085 Outside Anchorage or Juneau: 1-844-586-9085		

OTHER MEETINGS

MISCELLANEOUS MEETINGS

Apr 11	Thursday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	6:00 PM
+	Alaska Children's Caucus Meeting Stakeholder Presentations with Recommendations for Consideration by the Children's Caucus -- Invited Testimony -- **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		