

SENATE JOURNAL
ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION

Juneau, Alaska

Monday

April 15, 2024

Ninety-first 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 Kawasaki was excused from a call of the Senate. Senators Hoffman, Olson, Shower were absent.

The prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Father Michael Galbraith, St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church. Senator Bishop moved and asked unanimous consent the prayer be spread. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Loving and gracious God, I give you thanks for giving us another day.

I ask today that you bless the Members of this Senate to be the best and most faithful servants of the people they serve. Purify their intentions, that they will say what they believe and act consistent with their words.

Endow them with wisdom and courage that is borne of loyalty to all that is noble and worthy; loyalty to their constituents, and loyalty to our State and Nation. Help them to be honest with themselves so that they will be concerned how their words and deeds affect the lives of those in need and those who look to them for support and leadership.

I pray that they may serve your people with renewed clarity of vision and refined purpose that will soon unify the State of Alaska in compassion and confidence.

May all that is done this day in this Senate Assembly be for your greater honor and glory. Amen.

Senator Kiehl led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Certification

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

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

Messages dated April 12 were read stating the House passed and transmitted for consideration:

First Reading and Reference of House Resolutions

HCR 13

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 13 BY
REPRESENTATIVE SADDLER,

Recognizing and commending the National
Conference of State Legislatures on its 50th
anniversary in 2025.

was read the first time and referred to the Community and Regional Affairs Committee.

First Reading and Reference of House Bills

HB 268

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 268(FIN) am(brf sup maj 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; amending appropriations; making supplemental appropriations and reappropriations; and providing for an effective date."

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

HB 270

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 270(FIN) 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.

Standing Committee Reports

Report dated April 12 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.

Regulatory Commission of Alaska

John Espindola

Board of Fisheries

Märit Carlson-Van Dort

Signing the report: Senator Giessel, Cochair; Senators Kawasaki, Claman, Wielechowski, Kaufman, Dunbar.

SB 171

The Resources Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 171 "An Act changing the residency requirements for sport fishing, hunting, and trapping privileges; and providing for an effective date."

Signing do pass: Senator Giessel, Cochair; Senator Kaufman. Signing no recommendation: Senators Claman, Dunbar. Signing amend: Senator Kawasaki.

The following fiscal information was published today:

Fiscal Note No. 1, zero, Department of Fish and Game

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

The bill was referred to the Rules Committee.

SB 219

The Labor and Commerce Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 219 "An Act relating to utilization review entities; exempting certain health care providers from making preauthorization requests for certain services; and providing for an effective date."

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

The following fiscal information was published today:

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

The bill was referred to the Health and Social Services Committee.

SB 239

The Labor and Commerce Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 239 "An Act relating to the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority; and relating to workforce housing development projects."

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

The following fiscal information was published today:

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

The bill was referred to the Rules Committee.

Consideration of the Calendar

Citations

Honoring - Lydia Jacoby Big 12 Swimming Championship
Representative(s) Stutes, Armstrong
Senator(s) Stevens

Honoring - UAA Hospitality Administration Program 25th
Anniversary
Representative(s) Coulombe, Gray, Wright

Honoring - Principal Ron Brown
Representative(s) Gray, Mina
Senator(s) Dunbar

In Memoriam - Marian James Johnson
Representative(s) Stutes
Senator(s) Stevens

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

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 17, 2024. Without objection, the Senate adjourned at 11:27 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 16	Tuesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
+ HB 279	LOCAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION		
	<Bill Hearing Canceled>		
+ SB 174	HONOR & REMEMBER/HONOR & SACRIFICE FLAGS		
+ SJR 20	WEATHER OBSERVING SYSTEM STATION OUTAGES		
+ SCR 13	ART. II, SEC. 16, CONST:AFFIRM COMPLIANCE		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

Apr 18	Thursday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

EDUCATION

Apr 15	Monday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
+	Presentation: Alaska Vocational Technical Center by		
	Cathy LeCompte, AVTEC Director		
+	Presentation: Anchorage School District Career Academies by		
	Representatives from the Anchorage School District		
+	Presentation: Alaska EXCEL by		
	Representatives from Alaska EXCEL		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

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EDUCATION (continued)

Apr 17	Wednesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
+	Presentation: Education Assessment Results in Alaska by		
	Representatives from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Apr 19	Friday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
+	Briefing on the Federal "Maintenance of Equity" Requirements		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

FINANCE

Apr 15	Monday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
	No Meeting Scheduled		
Apr 15	Monday	Senate Finance 532	1:30 PM
	-- Please Note Time Change --		
	Subcommittee of the Whole		
	University of Alaska - FY25 Closeout		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
Apr 16	Tuesday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+	SB 168	COMPENSATION FOR WRONGFULLY SEIZED GAME	
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
+	SB 215	TEACHERS: BOARD CERTIFICATION INCENTIVE	
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
Apr 16	Tuesday	Senate Finance 532	1:30 PM
	-- Please Note Time Change --		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

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FINANCE (continued)

Apr 17	Wednesday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+	HB 268	APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET; CAP; SUPP; AM	
+	HB 270	APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET	
+		Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled	
Apr 17	Wednesday	Senate Finance 532	1:30 PM
		-- Please Note Time Change --	
+		Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled	
Apr 18	Thursday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+		Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled	
Apr 18	Thursday	Senate Finance 532	1:30 PM
		-- Please Note Time Change --	
+		Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled	
Apr 19	Friday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+		Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled	

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Apr 16	Tuesday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+	HB 17	CONTRACEPTIVES COVERAGE;INSURE;MED ASSIST	
		-- Invited & Public Testimony --	
+	SB 219	PRIOR AUTH EXEMPT FOR HEALTH PROVIDERS	
		-- Invited & Public Testimony --	
+		Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled	
Apr 18	Thursday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+		Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled	

JUDICIARY

Apr 15	Monday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
		Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled:	
+=	SB 20	APPROPRIATION LIMIT; GOV BUDGET	
+=	SJR 4	CONST. AM: APPROP LIMIT	
+=	SB 165	DEFENSE OF PUB. OFFICER: ETHICS COMPLAINT	

JUDICIARY (continued)

Apr 17 Wednesday Butrovich 205 1:30 PM
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

Apr 19 Friday Butrovich 205 1:30 PM
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

LABOR & COMMERCE

Apr 15 Monday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 1:30 PM
 + SB 235 CNA TRAINING
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 += SB 237 TAX CREDIT CHILD CARE/UTILITY/HOUSE/FOOD
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 -- Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

Apr 17 Wednesday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 1:30 PM
 Consideration of Governor's Appointees:
 Commissioner, Department of Labor and Workforce:
 Cathy Munoz – Juneau
 Alaska Labor Relations Agency:
 Justin Mack – Anchorage
 Board of Public Accountancy:
 Mark Diehl – Palmer
 Lance Johnson – Nome
 Alaska Workers' Compensation Board:
 Mark Sayampanathan – Anchorage
 Debbie White – Auke Bay
 John Corbett – Fairbanks
 Pamela Cline – Wasilla
 Bronson Frye – Anchorage
 Steven Heidemann – Anchorage
 Brian Zematis – Anchorage
 Alcoholic Beverage Control Board:
 Diane Thompson – Anchorage
 Janice Hill – Haines
 State Board of Registration for Architects,
 Engineers, and Land Surveyors:
 Jeffrey Garness – Anchorage

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Colin Maynard – Anchorage
Paul Baril – Anchorage
John Barry – Gustavus
Bradford Rinckey – Anchorage
Board of Barbers and Hairdressers:
Tenaya Miramontes – Juneau
Wendy Palin – Palmer
Michelle McMullin – Anchorage
Kevin McKinley - Anchorage
Board of Chiropractic Examiners:
Ronald Gherman – Soldotna
John Lloyd – Anchorage
Board of Examiners in Optometry:
Ethan Arndt – Anchorage
Bradley Cross – Soldotna
Marijuana Control Board:
Bailey Stuart – Wasilla
Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives:
Bethel Belisle – Anchorage
Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers:
Mae Sprague – Wasilla
Jenny Buswell – Palmer
Board of Marital and Family Therapy:
Shawnmarie Carpenter – Anchorage
Kayla Green – Eagle River
Board of Massage Therapists:
Emily Foster – Palmer
Board of Nursing:
Michael Collins – Wasilla
April Erickson – Anchorage
Occupational Safety and Health Review Board:
Ryan Sharratt – Kodiak
Board of Pharmacy:
Sylvain Nouvion – Eagle River
Ashley Schaber – Anchorage
Carla Hebert – Anchorage
Board of Psychologists and Psychological
Associate Examiners:
Lorin Bradbury – Bethel
Erin Johnson – Anchorage
Bradley McConnell – Anchorage
Board of Social Work Examiners:
Anne Wells – Fairbanks

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LABOR & COMMERCE (continued)

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Board of Veterinary Examiners:
Denise Albert – Denali Park
Fishermen’s Fund Advisory and Appeals Council:
Megan O’Neil – Petersburg
State Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy
Board:
Rebecca Dean – Fairbanks
Workers’ Compensation Appeals Commission:
Nancy Shaw – Anchorage
Amy Steele – Anchorage

+ SB 152 COMMUNITY ENERGY FACILITIES; NET METERING
Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
Streamed live on AKL.tv

Apr 19 Friday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 1:30 PM

+ SB 257 ELECTRIC UTILITY REGULATION
-- Invited & Public Testimony --
-- Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --

+ SB 146 GAMING; ELECTRONIC PULL-TABS
-- Invited & Public Testimony --
-- Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --

+ HB 253 FEDERALLY DESIGNATED REFRIGERANTS
-- Invited & Public Testimony --
-- Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --

+ Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
Streamed live on AKL.tv

RESOURCES

Apr 15 Monday Butrovich 205 3:30 PM

+ SJR 19 SUPPORTING CERTAIN US TRADE POLICIES
-- Invited & Public Testimony --

+ Presentation: Department of Natural Resources
Next Generation Mineral Assessments in Alaska by
Melanie Werdon, Director, Division of
Geological & Geophysical Surveys;
John Crowther, Deputy Commissioner,
Department of Natural Resources

+ Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
Streamed live on AKL.tv

RESOURCES (continued)

Apr 17	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+	Presentation: Alaska Hydrogen Opportunities by Alaska Hydrogen Working Group, Alaska Center for Energy and Power, University of Alaska Fairbanks Erin Whitney, Director, Department of Energy Arctic Energy Office		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		
Apr 19	Friday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+ SB 217	INTEGRATED TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

STATE AFFAIRS

Apr 16	Tuesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
	-- MEETING CANCELED --		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Apr 18	Thursday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+=	SCR 3	HOUSING SHORTAGE;PUBLIC-PRIV. PARTNERSHIP	
	-- Public Testimony --		
+	HB 146	REGULATION OF FIREWORKS	
	-- Public Testimony --		
+	HB 265	CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE MATERIAL	
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+	HB 286	CRIME VICTIM RESTITUTION	
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

May 09	Thursday	Adams 519	5:00 PM
I. Approval of Minutes - April 4, 2024 II. Executive Session - Audit a. Release of the FY23 State Single Audit Teleconferenced: Juneau (907)586-9085, Anchorage (907)563-9085, Outside Juneau & Anchorage (844)586-9085			