

33RD ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION
CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON HB268 and HB270
May 8, 2024
4:36 p.m.

4:36:56 PM

ALL TO ORDER

Chair Stedman called the Conference Committee meeting on HB268 and HB270 to order at 3:29 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senate:

Senator Bert Stedman, Chair
Senator Lyman Hoffman
Senator Donny Olson

House:

Representative DeLena Johnson, Vice-Chair
Representative Bryce Edgmon
Representative Dan Ortiz

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

ALSO PRESENT:

Alexei Painter, Director, Legislative Finance Division; fiscal analysts with the Office of Management and Budget and Legislative Finance Division; and aides to committee members and other members of the Legislature.

SUMMARY

HB 268 APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET; CAP; SUPP; AM

HB 268 was HEARD and HELD in committee for further consideration.

HB 270 APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET

HB 270 was HEARD and HELD in committee for further consideration.

DEPARTMENTS:

ADMINISTRATION
COMMERCE, COMMUNITY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
CORRECTIONS
EDUCATION AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES
FISH AND GAME
GOVERNOR
HEALTH
LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
LAW
NATURAL RESOURCES
PUBLIC SAFETY
REVENUE
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES
UNIVERSITY
JUDICIARY
LEGISLATURE
FUND CAPITALIZATION
FUND TRANSFERS
LANGUAGE AND OTHER APPROPRIATIONS
FY24 SUPPLEMENTAL OPERATING ITEMS

#HB268

#HB270

SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 268(FIN)

"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 supplemental appropriations and reappropriations; and providing for an effective date."

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 268(FIN) am(brf sup maj fld)

"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."

and

SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 270 (FIN)

"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."

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 270 (FIN)

"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."

^ADMINISTRATION

[4:38:21 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED to ADOPT the following in the Department of Administration (DOA):

Item 1	Senate, on both items
Items 2-8	Open
Item 9	Senate
Item 10	Senate
Item 11	Senate

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. This action closed conference-able items 1, 9, 10, and 11 in the Department of Administration's budget and left open items 2 through 8.

^COMMERCE, COMMUNITY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

[4:38:32 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED to ADOPT the following in the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development (DCCED):

Items 1-6	Open
Item 7	Open
Item 8	Senate
Items 9-11	Open

Item 12	Senate
Item 13	Senate
Item 14	Open
Item 15	Senate

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. This action closed conference-able items 8, 12, 13, and 15 in the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development budget and left open items 1 through 7, items 9 through 11, and item 14.

^CORRECTIONS

[4:40:00 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED to ADOPT the following in the Department of Corrections (DOC):

Item 1	House
Item 2	House
Item 3	Senate
Item 4	Senate
Item 5	Senate
Items 6-21	Open
Item 22	Senate
Item 23	Senate, plus \$526.9 thousand UGF
Items 24-28	Open
Item 29	Senate
Items 30-32	Open

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. This action closed conference-able items 1 through 5, and items 22, 23, and 29 in the Department of Corrections' budget and left open items 6 through 21, items 24 through 28, and items 30 through 32.

^EDUCATION AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT

[4:41:39 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED to ADOPT the following in the Department of Education and Early Development (DEED):

Items 1-2	Open
Item 3	Senate
Item 4	Senate
Item 5-10	Open

Item 11 Senate
Item 12 Senate, both items
Item 13 Open
Item 14 Senate

[4:42:43 PM](#)

AT EASE

[4:42:53 PM](#)

RECONVENED

Item 15 Senate

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. This action closed conference-able items 3, 4, 11, 12, 14, and 15 in the Department of Education and Early Development's budget and left open items 1 and 2, items 5 through 10, and item 13.

^ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

[4:42:53 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED to ADOPT the following in the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC):

Item 1 Senate

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. This action closed the conference-able items in the Department of Environmental Conservation's budget.

^FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

[4:45:47 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED to ADOPT the following in the Department of Family and Community Services:

Item 1 House
Item 2 Senate
Item 3 Senate
Item 4 Senate
Item 5 Open
Item 6 House
Item 7 Senate

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. This action closed conference-able items 1 through 4 and items 6 and 7 in the Department of Family and Community Services' budget and left open item 5.

^FISH AND GAME

[4:45:47 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED to ADOPT the following in the Department of Fish and Game (DFG):

Items 1-14	Open
Item 15	House
Item 16	Senate
Items 17-21	Open

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. This action closed conference-able items 15 and 16 in the Department of Fish and Game's budget and left open items 1 through 14, and items 17 through 21.

^GOVERNOR

[4:45:47 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED to ADOPT the following in the Office of the Governor:

Item 1	Open
Item 2	Senate
Item 3	Senate
Item 4	Senate
Item 5	Senate
Item 6	Open
Item 7	Senate

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. This action closed conference-able items 2 through 5 and item 7 in the Office of the Governor's budget and left open items 1 and 6.

^HEALTH

[4:46:39 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED to ADOPT the following in the Department of Health (DOH):

Item 1	House
Item 2	Senate
Item 3	Open
Item 4	Senate
Item 5	Open
Item 6	House
Item 7	Open
Item 8	House
Item 9	House
Items 10-13	Open
Item 14	Senate
Items 15-22	Open
Item 23	Senate
Item 24	House
Item 25	Open
Item 26	Senate
Items 27-32	Open

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. This action closed conference-able items 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 9, 14, 23, 24, and 26 in the Department of Health's budget and left open items 3, 5, 7, items 10 through 13, items 15 through 22, item 25, and items 27 through 32.

^LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

[4:48:22 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED to ADOPT the following in the Department of Labor and Workforce Development:

Item 1	Open
Item 2	House
Item 3	Senate

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. This action closed conference-able items 2 and 3 in the Department of Labor and Workforce Development's budget and left open item 1.

^LAW

[4:48:55 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED to ADOPT the following in the Department of Law:

Item 1	Senate
Item 2	Open
Item 3	Senate
Item 4	Open
Item 5	Senate
Item 6	Senate
Item 7	Senate
Item 8	Senate
Item 9	Senate
Item 10	Senate
Item 11	Senate
Item 12	Senate
Item 13	Senate
Item 14	Senate
Item 15	Senate
Item 16	Senate
Item 17	Senate
Item 18	Open
Item 19	Senate

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. This action closed conference-able items 1 and 3, items 5 through 17, and item 19 in the Law's budget and left open items 2, 4, and 18.

[4:50:21 PM](#)

AT EASE

[4:50:46 PM](#)

RECONVENED

^NATURAL RESOURCES

[4:50:50 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED to ADOPT the following in the Department of Natural Resources (DNR):

Item 1	Senate
Item 2	House
Item 3	House
Item 4	House
Item 5	Open
Item 6	Open

Item 7	House
Item 8	Open
Item 9	House

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. This action closed conference-able items 1 through 4, and items 7 and 9 in the Department of Natural Resources' budget and left open items 5, 6, and 8.

^PUBLIC SAFETY

[4:51:51 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED to ADOPT the following in the Department of Public Safety (DPS):

Items 1-4	Open
Item 5	House
Items 6-12	Open
Item 13	Senate

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. This action closed conference-able items 5 and 13 in the Department of Public Safety's budget and left open items 1 through 4, and items 6 through 12.

^REVENUE

[4:52:43 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED to ADOPT the following in the Department of Revenue (DOR):

Item 1	Senate
Item 2	Senate
Item 3	Senate
Item 4	Senate
Items 5-14	Open

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. This action closed conference-able items 1 through 4 in the Department of Revenue's budget and left open items 5 through 14.

^TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

[4:53:16 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED to ADOPT the following in the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT):

Items 1 and 2	Open
Item 3	Senate
Item 4	Senate
Items 5-10	Open
Item 11	Senate
Item 12	Senate
Item 13	Open

Representative Ortiz asked for an explanation of Item 3.

[4:54:04 PM](#)

ALEXEI PAINTER, DIRECTOR, LEGISLATIVE FINANCE DIVISION, explained that Items 3 and 4 had similar intent language, so taking "Senate" on both took the Senate version of the intent language for snow removal.

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. This action closed conference-able items 3, 4, 11, and 12 in the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities' budget and left open items 1, 2, items 5 through 10, and item 13.

^UNIVERSITY

[4:55:29 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED to ADOPT the following in the University:

Item 1	Senate
Items 2-5	Open

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. This action closed conference-able item 1 in the University of Alaska's budget and left open items 2 through 5.

^JUDICIARY

[4:56:02 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED to ADOPT the following in the Judiciary:

Items 1-3	Open
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Item 4 Senate
Items 5 and 6 Open

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. This action closed conference-able item 4 in the Judiciary's budget and left open items 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6.

^LEGISLATURE

[4:56:25 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED to ADOPT the following in the Legislature:

Item 1 Senate
Item 2 Senate
Item 3 Senate
Item 4 Senate
Item 5 Senate
Item 6 Senate
Item 7 Senate

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. This action closed the conference-able items in the Legislature's budget.

^FUND CAPITALIZATION

[4:57:02 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED to ADOPT the following in the Fund Capitalization:

Items 1-4 Open
Item 5 Senate, all items
Item 6 Senate, all items
Item 7 Open

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. This action closed conference-able items 5 and 6 in Fund Capitalization and left open items 1 through 4, and item 7.

^FUND TRANSFERS

[4:57:36 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED to ADOPT the following in the Fund Transfers:

Items 1 and 2	Open
Item 3	Senate

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. This action closed conference-able item 3 in Fund Transfers and left open items 1 and 2.

^LANGUAGE AND OTHER APPROPRIATIONS

[4:58:10 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED to ADOPT the following in the Language and Other Appropriations:

Items 1 and 2	Open
Item 3	House
Item 4	Senate

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. This action closed conference-able items 3 and 4 in Language and Other Appropriations and left open items 1 and 2.

^FY24 SUPPLEMENTAL OPERATING ITEMS

[4:58:31 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED to ADOPT the following in the FY 24 Supplemental Operating Items:

Item 1	Open
Item 2	Senate
Item 3	Senate
Item 4	Senate
Item 5	Senate
Item 6	Senate
Item 7	Senate
Item 8	Open
Item 9	House
Item 10	House
Item 12	Open
Item 13	Senate
Item 14	Senate
Items 15 and 16	Open
Item 17	Senate

Item 18	Senate, both items
Item 19	Senate
Item 20	Senate
Item 21	Senate

Representative Ortiz OBJECTED for explanation on Items 20 and 21.

5:00:00 PM

AT EASE

5:00:08 PM

RECONVENED

5:00:14 PM

Chair Stedman stated that Item 11 was skipped.

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED to ADOPT the following in the FY 24 Supplemental Operating Items:

Item 11 House

Representative Ortiz asked about the impact of adopting the Senate version of Items 20 and 21.

Mr. Painter explained that the Item corrected an accounting error, where funds were inadvertently transferred in between the Ocean Ranger sub-fund and the Commercial Vessel Passenger (CVP) Environmental Compliance sub-fund. He stated that both sub-funds existed in the same statutory fund, but had different revenue sources and different restrictions. He stated that the governor amended that prior accounting error by moving the money back to the Ocean Ranger sub-fund from the CVP sub-fund.

Representative Ortiz wondered if it retroactively corrected an error in accounting.

Mr. Painter stated that it would correct the error in the current fiscal year, but the error was made over a decade prior.

Representative Ortiz REMOVED his objection.

There being NO further OBJECTION, it was so ordered. This action closed conference-able items 2 through 7, 9 through

11, items 13, 14, items 17 through 21 in FY24 Supplemental Operating Items and left open items 1, 8, 12, 15, and 16.

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED to ADJOURN. There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered.

HB 281 was HEARD and HELD in committee for further consideration.

HB 282 was HEARD and HELD in committee for further consideration.

#

ADJOURNMENT

[5:03:44 PM](#)

The meeting was adjourned at 5:03 p.m.