

33RD ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE  
SECOND SESSION  
CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON HB268 and HB270  
May 10, 2024  
5:01 p.m.

5:01:43 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Stedman called the Conference Committee meeting on HB268 and HB270 to order at 5:01 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:

CORRECTIONS

HEALTH

LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

LAW

PUBLIC SAFETY

TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

UNIVERSITY

JUDICIARY

FUND CAPITALIZATION

FUND TRANSFERS

FY24 SUPPLEMENTAL 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."

^DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

5:02:52 PM

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

|               |       |
|---------------|-------|
| Items 12 - 21 | House |
| Item 24       | House |
| Item 25       | House |

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered.

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED to REOPEN Item 4 in the Department of Corrections (DOC).

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED that the Committee replace the previously adopted intent language in Item 4 with the following:

It is the intent of the legislature that the Department report to the Co-chairs of the finance committees and the Legislative Finance Division on a monthly basis by institution the amount spent on overtime and other premium pay, the number of overtime hours, and the vacancy rate. This report should include the Department's plan to complete the fiscal year without the need for a supplemental budget request.

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

^DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

5:04:19 PM

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

|             |                    |
|-------------|--------------------|
| Item 3      | Senate, both items |
| Item 5      | Open               |
| Item 7      | Open               |
| Item 10     | Open               |
| Item 11     | Open               |
| Item 13     | Open               |
| Item 20     | Open               |
| Item 21     | Open               |
| Item 22     | Open               |
| Item 25     | Open               |
| Items 27-32 | Open               |

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. This action closed conference-able item 3 in the Department of Health's budget and left open items 5, 7, 10, 11, 13, items 20 through 22, item 25, and items 27 through 32.

^DEPARTMENT OF LABOR and WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

[5:05:23 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED to ADOPT the following in the Department of Labor and Workforce Development's (DLWD) budget:

|        |        |
|--------|--------|
| Item 1 | Senate |
|--------|--------|

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. This action closed the conference-able in the Department of Labor and Workforce Development's budget.

^DEPARTMENT OF LAW

[5:05:59 PM](#)

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

|        |        |
|--------|--------|
| Item 2 | Senate |
| Item 4 | Open   |

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. This action closed conference-able item 2 in the Department of Law's budget and left open item 4.

^DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

[5:06:29 PM](#)

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

|         |                                  |
|---------|----------------------------------|
| Item 1  | Senate                           |
| Item 2  | Senate                           |
| Item 3  | Senate                           |
| Item 4  | Senate                           |
| Item 6  | Senate, both items               |
| Item 7  | Senate                           |
| Item 8  | House                            |
| Item 9  | House                            |
| Item 10 | House, plus \$209.1 thousand UGF |
| Item 11 | House                            |
| Item 12 | House                            |

[5:07:13 PM](#)

Representative Ortiz OBJECTED to Item 8.

[5:07:29 PM](#)

AT EASE

[5:08:26 PM](#)

RECONVENED

[5:08:29 PM](#)

Representative Ortiz OBJECTED to Items 6, 7, and 8.

[5:08:48 PM](#)

Mr. Painter explained that Item 8 was a new administrative assistant position, which was in the Victims Services position. He stated that Items 6 and 7 were linked to an item in DOH, and a Fund Civilization item. He stated that there were Restorative Justice funds, which had been changed to 12 percent. He stated that the difference was 2 percent going to Restorative Justice, and the fund change in Item 6 was related to Item 7. He stated that the Senate Item provided more funds for victim's services.

Representative Ortiz REMOVED his OBJECTION.

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

^DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION and PUBLIC FACILITIES

[5:11:06 PM](#)

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

|         |        |
|---------|--------|
| Item 1  | Senate |
| Item 2  | House  |
| Item 6  | Senate |
| Item 7  | Senate |
| Item 8  | Senate |
| Item 9  | Senate |
| Item 10 | Senate |
| Item 13 | Senate |

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. This action closed the conference-able items in the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities' budget.

^UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA

[5:11:56 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED to ADOPT the following in the University of Alaska's budget:

|        |                                                                  |
|--------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Item 2 | House, both items                                                |
| Item 3 | Senate                                                           |
| Item 4 | House, both items                                                |
|        | Modify to reduce UGF by \$400 thousand and reduce positions by 3 |
| Item 5 | House, with modified fund sources as follows:                    |
|        | \$5.4 million UGF                                                |
|        | \$12.5 million Higher Education Fund                             |
|        | \$2.1 million University Receipts                                |

[5:12:33 PM](#)

AT EASE

[5:13:02 PM](#)

RECONVENED

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. University of Alaska's budget.

^JUDICIARY

[5:13:22 PM](#)

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

|        |                                  |
|--------|----------------------------------|
| Item 1 | House                            |
| Item 2 | Senate minus \$15.4 thousand UGF |
| Item 3 | Senate                           |
| Item 5 | Senate                           |
| Item 6 | Senate                           |

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

^FUND CAPITALIZATION

[5:13:57 PM](#)

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

|           |                    |
|-----------|--------------------|
| Items 1-4 | Open               |
| Item 7    | Senate, both items |

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

^FUND TRANSFERS

[5:14:32 PM](#)

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

|        |        |
|--------|--------|
| Item 1 | Open   |
| Item 2 | Senate |

[5:14:48 PM](#)

Representative Ortiz OBJECTED to Item 2, and queried the impact of the Item.

[5:15:15 PM](#)

Mr. Painter replied that that it put general funds into the fund that required further appropriation. He stated that the Senate item did not have an impact on the budget.

Representative Ortiz REMOVED his OBJECTION.

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

^FY 24 SUPPLEMENTAL OPERATING ITEMS

[5:16:30 PM](#)

Vice-Chair Johnson MOVED to ADOPT the following in FY24 Supplemental Operating Items:

|         |        |
|---------|--------|
| Item 1  | Open   |
| Item 8  | Open   |
| Item 12 | Senate |
| Item 15 | Open   |
| Item 16 | Open   |

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. This action closed conference-able item 12 in the FY24 Supplemental Operating Items and left open items 1, 8, 15 and 16.

Chair Stedman stated that there would be another meeting scheduled in the upcoming weekend.

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

#

ADJOURNMENT

[5:17:55 PM](#)

The meeting was adjourned at 5:17 p.m.