

HOUSE JOURNAL
ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

Juneau, Alaska

Monday

February 17, 2025

Twenty-eighth Day

Pursuant to adjournment the House was called to order by Speaker Edgmon at 10:44 a.m.

Roll call showed 36 members present. Representatives Saddler and Schwanke had been excused from a call of the House today. Representative Underwood was absent and later excused (page 201).

Representative Kopp moved and asked unanimous consent that Representative Dibert be excused from a call of the House today. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

The invocation was offered by the Chaplain, Pastor David J. Elmore of Landmark Apostolic Church. Representative Story moved and asked unanimous consent that the invocation be spread on the journal. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

With the deepest respect for the religious beliefs of all Alaskans, I offer the following prayer:

Jesus, I come before you and I thank you for this legislative body today. I thank you for your many blessings and for your wisdom and guidance. I ask that you would anoint each and every person here as they gather to make decisions for the betterment of this great state and its people. Jesus, I ask that you would give them wisdom, knowledge, and understanding. Give them a heart of love and peace for the people that they lead and represent.

Jesus, I pray for a hedge of protection around them, protect them and keep them safe, encamp your angels around them. Lord, I pray for this session today, that it would be uninterrupted and that this legislative body would be unified like never before.

Lord, I know that each person here has been called to serve for such a time as this, and I am grateful for their willingness to answer that call. Lord, I pray blessings, peace, and unity upon this body, the State of Alaska, and its people. It's in Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Representative Fields.

CERTIFICATION OF THE JOURNAL

Representative Kopp moved and asked unanimous consent that the journal for the 25th, 26th, and 27th legislative days be approved as certified by the Chief Clerk. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

COMMUNICATIONS

The following were received:

Dept. of Education & Early Development
Annual Progress Report
February 14
(as required by AS 14.03.078)

Alaska State Commission for Human Rights
2024 Annual Report
(as required by AS 18.80.150)

Dept. of Revenue
Tax Division
Education Tax Credits
Calendar Year 2024 Summary
(as required by AS 43.05.010)

Messages dated February 12 and 14 were received stating the Speaker made the following appointments:

Alaska Aerospace Corporation

Representative Stutes

Citizen's Advisory Commission of Federal Management Areas in Alaska

Representative Josephson

Representative Rauscher

Coordinated Care Demonstration Project Review Committee

Representative Mina

Representative Gray, alternate

Education Commission of the States

Representative Himschoot

Alaska Gasline Development Corporation Board

Representative Kopp

Governor's Council on Human and Sex Trafficking

Representative Gray

Kodiak Seafood and Marine Science Center Policy Council

Representative Stutes

Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education

Representative Carrick

Renewable Energy Grant Fund Advisory Committee

Representative Mears

Representative Holland

Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute Board

Representative Vance, alternate

Statewide Broadband Advisory Board

Representative Edgmon

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**HJR 5**

The Education Committee considered:

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5

Urging the United States Congress and the President of the United States to reinstate the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 and make the funding mechanism in the Act permanent.

The report was signed by Representatives Story and Himschoot, Co-chairs, with the following individual recommendations:

Do pass (4): Eischeid, Elam, Story, Himschoot

The following fiscal note(s) apply:

1. Zero, Legislative Agency

HJR 5 was referred to the Rules Committee.

INTRODUCTION OF CITATIONS

Honoring - 2025 Alaska Business Hall of Fame Laureates
By Senators Kaufman, Cronk; Representative Coulombe

In Memoriam - Lindley Harris "Ketch" Ketchum
By Senator Giessel

**INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING, AND REFERENCE
OF HOUSE BILLS****HB 108**

HOUSE BILL NO. 108 by Representative Rauscher, entitled:

"An Act relating to participation of certain peace officers in the defined benefit and defined contribution plans of the Public Employees' Retirement System of Alaska; and providing for an effective date."

was read the first time and referred to the State Affairs, Labor & Commerce, and Finance Committees.

CONSIDERATION OF THE DAILY CALENDAR**SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILLS****HB 65**

The following was read the second time:

HOUSE BILL NO. 65

"An Act authorizing the Alaska Railroad Corporation to issue revenue bonds to finance the replacement of the Alaska Railroad Corporation's passenger dock and related terminal facility in Seward, Alaska; and providing for an effective date."

with the:

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FN1: ZERO(CED)

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Representative Kopp moved and asked unanimous consent that Representative Underwood be excused from a call of the House today. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

Representative Kopp moved and asked unanimous consent that HB 65 be considered engrossed, advanced to third reading, and placed on final passage. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

HB 65 was read the third time.

The question being: "Shall HB 65 pass the House?" The roll was taken with the following result:

HB 65

Third Reading

Final Passage

YEAS: 36 NAYS: 0 EXCUSED: 4 ABSENT: 0

Yeas: Allard, Burke, Bynum, Carrick, Costello, Coulombe, Edgmon, Eischeid, Elam, Fields, Foster, Galvin, Gray, Hall, Hannan, Himschoot, Holland, Jimmie, Johnson, Josephson, Kopp, McCabe, Mears, Mina, Moore, Nelson, Prax, Rauscher, Ruffridge, Schrage, Stapp, Story, Stutes, Tilton, Tomaszewski, Vance

Excused: Dibert, Saddler, Schwanke, Underwood

And so, HB 65 passed the House.

Representative Kopp moved and asked unanimous consent that the roll call on the passage of the bill be considered the roll call on the effective date clause. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

HB 65 was referred to the Chief Clerk for engrossment.

LEGISLATIVE CITATIONS

Representative Kopp moved and asked unanimous consent that the House approve the citation on the calendar. There being no objection, the following citation was approved and sent to enrolling:

In Memoriam - Fred Hupprich
By Senator Kawasaki; Representative Dibert

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

HJR 5

Representative Schrage added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5

Urging the United States Congress and the President of the United States to reinstate the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 and make the funding mechanism in the Act permanent.

HB 65

Representatives Saddler, Bynum, Elam, McCabe, Costello, Schrage, Nelson, Josephson, and Rauscher added as cosponsors to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 65

"An Act authorizing the Alaska Railroad Corporation to issue revenue bonds to finance the replacement of the Alaska Railroad Corporation's passenger dock and related terminal facility in Seward, Alaska; and providing for an effective date."

ENGROSSMENT

HB 65

HB 65 was engrossed, signed by the Speaker and Chief Clerk, and transmitted to the Senate for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

House committee schedules are published under separate cover.

ADJOURNMENT

Representative Kopp moved and asked unanimous consent that the House adjourn until 10:30 a.m., February 19. There being no objection, the House adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Crystalline Jones
Chief Clerk