

HOUSE JOURNAL
ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

Juneau, Alaska

Wednesday

April 2, 2025

Seventy-second Day

Pursuant to adjournment the House was called to order by Speaker Edgmon at 10:51 a.m.

Roll call showed 40 members present.

The invocation was offered by the Chaplain, Major Petr Janousek of the Salvation Army. Representative Story moved and asked unanimous consent that the invocation be spread on the journal. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

Dear Heavenly Father,

Prophet Habakkuk once said, *Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my savior. The sovereign Lord is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer; he enables me to tread on the heights.*

And so, I pray, O Lord, remind us today of the real values in life. Remind us of the things which remain - which are faith, hope, and love. Because that is the ultimate will for every one of us - to believe, to hope, to love, and to be loved by you.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Representative Ruffridge.

CERTIFICATION OF THE JOURNAL

Representative Kopp moved and asked unanimous consent that the journal for the 70th and 71st legislative days be approved as certified by the Chief Clerk. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

A letter dated April 1 was read stating that, in accordance with AS 39.05.080 and art. III, secs. 26 and 27, Constitution of the State of Alaska, the Governor submits the following names for legislative confirmation of appointment to the positions noted.

The Speaker referred the following to the House Special Committee on Fisheries and the Resources Committee:

Board of Fisheries

Olivia Irwin – Nenana

Appointed: 7/1/2025 Expires: 7/1/2028

The Speaker referred the following to the Resources Committee:

Board of Game

Allen Barrette – Fairbanks

Expired: 7/1/2022

Reappointed 7/1/2022

Expires: 7/1/2025

Reappointed: 7/1/2022

Expires: 7/1/2028

Carrie Ann Mueller – Palmer

Appointed: 7/1/2025

Expires: 7/1/2028

Resumes for the appointments are on file in the Chief Clerk's office.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

HB 50

HB 38 The Labor & Commerce Committee considered:

HOUSE BILL NO. 50

"An Act relating to snow classics."

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

Do pass (6): Burke, Coulombe, Carrick, Nelson, Hall, Fields

The following fiscal note(s) apply:

1. Zero, Dept. of Revenue

HB 50 was referred to the Rules Committee.

HB 56

The Finance Committee considered:

HOUSE BILL NO. 56

"An Act making supplemental appropriations; making appropriations to capitalize funds; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends it be replaced with:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 56(FIN)

"An Act making supplemental appropriations and capital appropriations; amending appropriations; capitalizing funds; repealing appropriations; making appropriations under art. IX, sec. 17(c), Constitution of the State of Alaska, from the constitutional budget reserve fund; and providing for an effective date."

The report was signed by Representatives Josephson, Foster, and Schrage, Co-chairs, with the following individual recommendations:

Do pass (6): Hannan, Galvin, Jimmie, Josephson, Foster, Schrage

Do not pass (2): Bynum, Allard

No recommendation (3): Johnson, Stapp, Tomaszewski

HB 56 was referred to the Rules Committee.

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HB 118

The Judiciary Committee considered:

HOUSE BILL NO. 118

"An Act establishing the Council on Human and Sex Trafficking; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends it be replaced with:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 118(JUD)
(same title)

The report was signed by Representative Gray, Chair, with the following individual recommendations:

Do pass (4): Underwood, Vance, Costello, Gray

No recommendation (2): Eischeid, Mina

The following fiscal note(s) apply to CSHB 118(JUD):

1. Fiscal, Dept. of Public Safety

HB 118 was referred to the Finance Committee.

SB 50

The Community & Regional Affairs Committee considered:

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 50(L&C)

"An Act relating to the comprehensive plans of first and second class boroughs."

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

Do pass (4): Holland, Hall, Himschoot, Mears

No recommendation (1): Ruffridge

The following fiscal note(s) apply:

1. Zero, Dept. of Commerce, Community, & Economic Development

CSSB 50(L&C) was referred to the Labor & Commerce Committee.

INTRODUCTION OF CITATIONS

The following citations were introduced and taken up as a Special Order of Business:

Honoring - Rayme Lawrence Vinson
By Representatives Hannan, Story; Senator Kiehl

Honoring - Elizabeth Ripley
By Representatives Moore, Johnson; Senator Hughes

In Memoriam - Dr. Paul Dunscomb
By Senator Kaufman; Representatives Coulombe, Stapp

The following citations were introduced and referred to the Rules Committee for placement on the calendar:

Honoring - Mike "Stedy" Stedman
By Senators Stedman, Kiehl; Representative Story

Honoring - Terry Holliday
By Senators Stedman, Merrick; Representative Saddler

Honoring - Jerry Clemens Ball
By Senators Stedman, Hoffman; Representative Edgmon

Honoring - Toolik Field Station, 50th Anniversary
By Senators Myers, Olson; Representative Carrick

In Memoriam - Skye Rench
By Representatives Tilton, Moore

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In Memoriam - Sean Kendall
By Representatives Tilton, Fields

In Memoriam - James "Scooter" Lyman Welch
By Senator Kawasaki; Representative Dibert

In Memoriam - Ellen Ayotte
By Senator Kawasaki; Representative Dibert

In Memoriam - David Alan Colwell
By Senator Stevens; Representative Stutes

In Memoriam - Gerald "Jerry" Duane Haugeberg
By Senator Kawasaki; Representative Dibert

In Memoriam - Kimberly Kay Fisher
By Senator Myers; Representatives Carrick, Tomaszewski

In Memoriam - Glenn Shaw
By Senator Myers; Representatives Carrick, Tomaszewski

In Memoriam - Mother Emma Randolph Avery
By Senators Myers, Gray-Jackson, Kawasaki

In Memoriam - Gerald "Jerry" Alan McBeath
By Senators Kawasaki, Myers; Representative Carrick

In Memoriam - Richard Tilly
By Senator Kawasaki; Representative Carrick

In Memoriam - Anne Dolores Shinkwin
By Senator Kawasaki; Representative Dibert

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Representative Kopp moved and asked unanimous consent that the notice and publication requirements be waived and the citations, Honoring - Rayme Lawrence Vinson, Honoring - Elizabeth Ripley, and In Memoriam - Dr. Paul Dunscomb, be taken up as a Special Order of Business. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

Representative Kopp moved and asked unanimous consent that the House approve the citations.

Representative Stapp objected to the citation, In Memoriam - Dr. Paul Dunscomb, offered remarks, and withdrew the objection.

Representative Hannan objected to the citation, Honoring - Rayme Lawrence Vinson, offered remarks, and withdrew the objection.

There being no further objection, the following citations were approved and sent to enrolling:

Honoring - Rayme Lawrence Vinson
By Representatives Hannan, Story; Senator Kiehl

Honoring - Elizabeth Ripley
By Representatives Moore, Johnson; Senator Hughes

In Memoriam - Dr. Paul Dunscomb
By Senator Kaufman; Representatives Coulombe, Stapp

INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING, AND REFERENCE OF HOUSE RESOLUTIONS

HR 5

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 5 by the House State Affairs Committee:

Urging Governor Dunleavy and the Department of Administration to release all copies of the statewide salary study.

was read the first time and referred to the State Affairs Committee.

INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING, AND REFERENCE OF HOUSE BILLS

HB 166

HOUSE BILL NO. 166 by Representative Rauscher, entitled:

"An Act relating to the duties of the Department of Education and Early Development; relating to public education; and relating to opioid abuse awareness and prevention."

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was read the first time and referred to the Education and Finance Committees.

HB 167

HOUSE BILL NO. 167 by Representatives Foster and Schwanke, entitled:

"An Act renaming Ruby Airport as Harold Esmailka Airport; and providing for an effective date."

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

HB 168

HOUSE BILL NO. 168 by Representative Johnson, entitled:

"An Act relating to civics education, civics assessments, and secondary school graduation requirements; and providing for an effective date."

was read the first time and referred to the Education and Finance Committees.

HB 169

HOUSE BILL NO. 169 by Representative Tomaszewski, entitled:

"An Act relating to a municipal property tax exemption for real property owned and occupied as the primary residence and permanent place of abode by a resident 65 years of age or older, a disabled veteran, or the widow or widower of a resident 65 years of age or older or a disabled veteran; and providing for an effective date."

was read the first time and referred to the Community & Regional Affairs and Finance Committees.

HB 170

HOUSE BILL NO. 170 by Representative Burke, entitled:

"An Act relating to a failure to report a violent crime."

was read the first time and referred to the State Affairs and Judiciary Committees.

HB 171

HOUSE BILL NO. 171 by Representative Elam, entitled:

"An Act relating to interchange fees on tax and gratuity; and relating to the Alaska Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Act."

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

CONSIDERATION OF THE DAILY CALENDAR**THIRD READING OF SENATE BILLS****SB 15**

The following, which was advanced to third reading from the March 31 calendar (page 583), was read the third time:

HOUSE CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 15(L&C)

"An Act relating to the sale of alcohol; relating to the posting of warning signs for alcoholic beverages; and providing for an effective date."

Representative Johnson moved and asked unanimous consent to abstain from voting because of a conflict of interest. Objection was heard, and she was required to vote.

The question being: "Shall HCS SB 15(L&C) pass the House?" The roll was taken with the following result:

HCS SB 15(L&C)

Third Reading

Final Passage

YEAS: 32 NAYS: 8 EXCUSED: 0 ABSENT: 0

Yea: Burke, Bynum, Carrick, Costello, Coulombe, Dibert, Edgmon, Eischeid, Elam, Fields, Foster, Galvin, Gray, Hall, Hannan, Himschoot, Holland, Jimmie, Josephson, Kopp, Mears, Mina, Nelson, Prax, Ruffridge, Saddler, Schrage, Schwanke, Stapp, Story, Stutes, Tomaszewski

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Nays: Allard, Johnson, McCabe, Moore, Rauscher, Tilton, Underwood, Vance

And so, HCS SB 15(L&C) 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.

HCS SB 15(L&C) was referred to the Chief Clerk for engrossment.

LEGISLATIVE CITATIONS

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

Honoring - Governor Sean Parnell
By Representatives Johnson, Coulombe, Saddler

Honoring - Jeff Cook
By Representative Prax; Senator Myers

In Memoriam - Roger Grummett
By Representatives Story, Hannan; Senator Kiehl

In Memoriam - John K. Sliwinski
By Representatives Kopp, Costello, Johnson

In Memoriam - George & Judith Moerlein
By Senator Giessel; Representative Hannan

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Representative Kopp moved and asked unanimous consent that the following member be excused from a call of the House. There being no objection, the member was excused as noted:

Representative Stapp – from 7:00 a.m., April 11 to 10:00 p.m., April 13

The Speaker removed the House Special Committee on Fisheries referral (page 495) for the following Governor's appointee:

Board of Game

John Wood

HJR 15

Representative Schrage added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 15

Urging the Governor, the Department of Natural Resources, division of forestry and fire protection, the Department of Public Safety, municipalities of the state and relevant wildfire planning and response agencies, and the Alaska delegation in Congress to prepare for the 2025 wildfire season.

HB 11

Representative Eischeid added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 11

"An Act relating to contributions and donations from permanent fund dividends."

HB 16

Representative Holland added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 16

"An Act amending campaign contribution limits for state and local office; directing the Alaska Public Offices Commission to adjust campaign contribution limits for state and local office once each decade beginning in 2031; and relating to campaign contribution reporting requirements."

HB 28

Representative Himschoot added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 28

"An Act establishing a student loan repayment pilot program; and providing for an effective date."

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HB 40

Representative Vance added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 40

"An Act relating to school athletics, recreation, athletic teams, and sports."

HB 77

Representatives McCabe and Kopp added as cosponsors to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 77

"An Act making the theft of mail or an article within mail theft in the second degree."

HB 148

The Speaker removed the Health & Social Services Committee referral and added a Finance Committee referral for the following:

HOUSE BILL NO. 148

"An Act relating to insurance; and providing for an effective date."

HB 148 is in the Labor & Commerce Committee.

HB 165

Representative Fields added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 165

"An Act relating to maximum classroom sizes in public schools; relating to the duties of school districts; and providing for an effective date."

SB 15

Representative Bynum added as a cross sponsor to:

HOUSE CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 15(L&C)

"An Act relating to the sale of alcohol; relating to the posting of warning signs for alcoholic beverages; and providing for an effective date."

ENGROSSMENT**SB 15**

HCS SB 15(L&C) 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., April 3. There being no objection, the House adjourned at 11:52 a.m.

Crystaline Jones
Chief Clerk