

HOUSE JOURNAL
ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

Juneau, Alaska

Wednesday

April 9, 2025

Seventy-ninth Day

Pursuant to adjournment the House was called to order by Speaker Edgmon at 10:33 a.m.

Roll call showed 40 members present.

The invocation was offered by the Chaplain, Pastor Dani Cherian of Valley Church. Representative Story moved and asked unanimous consent that the invocation be spread on the journal. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

Dear Lord Jesus,

I thank you for this morning, and I give you praise, for having called each representative here today.

In your scriptures, your word is like a light which illuminates our path, and you provide answers to our deepest questions. Please shine your radiant light in this room. Please answer our prayers and bring light to our deepest issues. Give wisdom to our representatives as they protect the people of Alaska.

Your Holy Bible says, in Daniel 2:20, 22 ESV: *Daniel answered and said: "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, to whom belong wisdom and might. ... [God] reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what is in the darkness, and the light dwells with him."*

Today, as our representatives gather, help them to find the solutions that will help bring light to every community in Alaska. Please help protect our representatives, their staff, and their families, as they make decisions for the people in Alaska.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Representative Schwanke.

CERTIFICATION OF THE JOURNAL

Representative Kopp moved and asked unanimous consent that the journal for the 77th and 78th legislative days and House Journal Supplement No. 4 be approved as certified by the Chief Clerk. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

COMMUNICATIONS

The following was received:

Dept. of Revenue
Alaska Retirement Management Board
Quarterly Report
March 12, 2025
(as required by AS 37.10.220)

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

HJR 15

The Community & Regional Affairs Committee considered:

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.

and recommends it be replaced with:

CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 15(CRA)
(same title)

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

Do pass (6): Holland, Prax, Ruffridge, Hall, Mears, Himschoot

The following fiscal note(s) apply to CSHJR 15(CRA):

1. Zero, Legislative Agency

HJR 15 was referred to the Rules Committee.

HB 17

The Finance Committee considered:

HOUSE BILL NO. 17

"An Act relating to retirement benefits and military service."

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

Do pass (10): Bynum, Johnson, Hannan, Allard, Tomaszewski, Galvin, Jimmie, Stapp, Foster, Schrage

No recommendation (1): Josephson

The following fiscal note(s) apply:

1. Indeterminate, Dept. of Administration

HB 17 was referred to the Rules Committee.

HB 35

The State Affairs Committee considered:

HOUSE BILL NO. 35

"An Act relating to the use and possession of electronic devices by prisoners."

and recommends it be replaced with:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 35(STA)
(same title)

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

Do pass (5): Moore, Holland, Himschoot, Story, Carrick

Do not pass (1): McCabe

No recommendation (1): Vance

The following fiscal note(s) apply to CSHB 35(STA):

1. Zero, Dept. of Corrections

HB 35 was referred to the Rules Committee.

HB 48

The Finance Committee considered:

HOUSE BILL NO. 48

"An Act relating to appropriations to the civil legal services fund."

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

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

Do not pass (2): Allard, Stapp

No recommendation (2): Bynum, Tomaszewski

The following fiscal note(s) apply:

1. Zero, Alaska Judiciary System
2. Fiscal, Dept. of Commerce, Community, & Economic Development

HB 48 was referred to the Rules Committee.

HB 58

The State Affairs Committee considered:

HOUSE BILL NO. 58

"An Act relating to the office of public advocacy; and relating to the public advocate."

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

Do pass (5): Moore, Holland, Himschoot, Story, Carrick

No recommendation (2): Vance, McCabe

The following fiscal note(s) apply:

1. Zero, Dept. of Administration
2. Zero, Alaska Judiciary System

HB 58 was referred to the Rules Committee.

HB 96

The Health & Social Services Committee considered:

HOUSE BILL NO. 96

"An Act establishing the Home Care Employment Standards Advisory Board; relating to payment for personal care services; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends it be replaced with:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 96(HSS)
(same title)

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

Do pass (6): Prax, Fields, Schwanke, Ruffridge, Mears, Mina

The following fiscal note(s) apply to CSHB 96(HSS):

1. Fiscal, Dept. of Health

HB 96 was referred to the Labor & Commerce Committee.

HB 144

The Health & Social Services Committee considered:

HOUSE BILL NO. 144

"An Act relating to prior authorization requests for medical care covered by a health care insurer; relating to a prior authorization application programming interface; relating to step therapy; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends it be replaced with:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 144(HSS)
(same title)

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

Do pass (5): Prax, Fields, Ruffridge, Mears, Schwanke

No recommendation (2): Gray, Mina

The following fiscal note(s) apply to CSHB 144(HSS):

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

HB 144 was referred to the Labor & Commerce Committee.

SB 47

The Resources Committee considered:

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 47(RES)

"An Act relating to Chugach State Park; and providing for an effective date."

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

Do pass (9): Coulombe, Hall, Rauscher, Elam, Mears, Fields, Saddler, Dibert, Burke

The following fiscal note(s) apply:

1. Zero, Dept. of Natural Resources

CSSB 47(RES) was referred to the Rules Committee.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

HB 125

The House Special Committee on Fisheries considered:

HOUSE BILL NO. 125

"An Act relating to membership of the Board of Fisheries."

and recommends it be replaced with:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 125(FSH)
(same title)

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

Do pass (4): Kopp, Edgmon, McCabe, Stutes

No recommendation (2): Vance, Himschoot

The following fiscal note(s) apply to CSHB 125(FSH):

1. Zero, Dept. of Fish & Game

HB 125 was referred to the Resources Committee.

SJR 10

The House Special Committee on Military & Veterans' Affairs considered:

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 10

Encouraging the United States Congress to award Hmong veterans of the Vietnam War the Congressional Gold Medal.

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

Do pass (6): Saddler, Hall, Nelson, Gray, Allard, Eischeid

The following fiscal note(s) apply:

1. Zero, Legislative Agency

SJR 10 was referred to the Rules Committee.

INTRODUCTION OF CITATIONS

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

Honoring - Education and Sharing Day 2025

By Senator Hughes; Representatives Underwood, Moore

Honoring - The Resource Development Council, 50th Anniversary

By Representatives Saddler, Fields; Senator Giessel

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

Honoring - Hospice of Homer, 40th Anniversary

By Senator Stevens; Representative Vance

In Memoriam - David Witt

By Senators Myers, Cronk; Representative Schwanke

In Memoriam - Joyanna Geisler

By Senator Stevens; Representative Vance

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Representative Kopp moved and asked unanimous consent that the notice and publication requirements be waived and the citations, Honoring - Education and Sharing Day 2025 and Honoring - The Resource Development Council, 50th Anniversary, 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 Saddler objected to the citation, Honoring - The Resource Development Council, 50th Anniversary, offered remarks, and withdrew the objection.

Representative Underwood objected to the citation Honoring - Education and Sharing Day 2025, offered remarks, and withdrew the objection.

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

Honoring - Education and Sharing Day 2025

By Senator Hughes; Representatives Underwood, Moore

Honoring - The Resource Development Council, 50th Anniversary

By Representatives Saddler, Fields; Senator Giessel

**INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING, AND REFERENCE
OF HOUSE RESOLUTIONS****HJR 17**

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 17 by Representative Galvin:

Urging the United States Congress to pass the Ensuring Lasting Smiles Act; and urging lawmakers to advocate for policies that guarantee equitable access to vital healthcare.

was read the first time and referred to the Health & Social Services Committee.

HJR 18

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 18 by Representatives Costello, Rauscher, Tilton, Elam, McCabe, and Tomaszewski:

Supporting the continued development of the Alaska Liquefied Natural Gas Project; recognizing the importance of the Alaska Liquefied Natural Gas Project to the economy of the state, energy independence, and national security; and urging the United States Congress, President Donald J. Trump, Secretary of the Interior Douglas Burgum, and relevant federal agencies to take all necessary actions to expedite the success of the Alaska Liquefied Natural Gas Project.

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

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

HB 175

HOUSE BILL NO. 175 by Representative Burke, entitled:

"An Act relating to the term of the chair of the Regulatory Commission of Alaska; and relating to the qualifications of members of the Regulatory Commission of Alaska."

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

HB 176

HOUSE BILL NO. 176 by Representative Carrick, entitled:

"An Act relating to notice of new fees and fee increases from the University of Alaska; relating to billing statements from the University of Alaska; and providing for an effective date."

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

HB 177

HOUSE BILL NO. 177 by Representative Elam, entitled:

"An Act relating to meetings of the Board of Fisheries and the Board of Game; and providing for an effective date."

was read the first time and referred to the House Special Committee on Fisheries and the Resources Committee.

HB 178

HOUSE BILL NO. 178 by Representative Mina, entitled:

"An Act relating to medical debt and consumer credit reporting agencies; relating to discriminatory practices based on the medical debt of a person; and providing for an effective date."

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

HB 179

HOUSE BILL NO. 179 by the House Rules Committee by request of the Governor, entitled:

"An Act relating to notice requirements for certain state actions."

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

The following fiscal note(s) apply:

1. Zero, Dept. of Environmental Conservation
2. Zero, Dept. of Natural Resources

The Governor's transmittal letter dated April 8 follows:

"Dear Speaker Edgmon:

Under the authority of Article III, Section 18 of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting a bill relating to public notice requirements.

This bill would amend public notice requirements for state entities, including notices issued by the Department of Environmental Conservation and the Department of Natural Resources related to land and water use, as well as general notice requirements under the Administrative Procedure Act. The intent is to modernize public notice practices without changing the underlying processes.

Under the bill, public notices could be posted on the Alaska Online Public Notice System, with newspaper publication made discretionary. It would also remove requirements for repeated or region-specific newspaper publications, allowing state agencies to determine if additional advertising is necessary after initial publication.

By prioritizing the use of the widely accessible Online Public Notice System, this bill aims to reduce costs and streamline the public notice process.

I urge your prompt and favorable action on this measure.

Sincerely,

/s/

Mike Dunleavy

Governor"

HB 180

HOUSE BILL NO. 180 by the House Rules Committee by request of the Governor, entitled:

"An Act relating to the powers of the commissioner of administration with respect to motor vehicles; relating to electronic identification cards; relating to electronic driver's licenses and permits; and providing for an effective date."

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

The following fiscal note(s) apply:

1. Zero, Dept. of Administration
2. Zero, Dept. of Public Safety

The Governor's transmittal letter dated April 8 follows:

"Dear Speaker Edgmon:

Under the authority of Article III, Section 18 of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting a bill to update the powers of the Commissioner of Administration with respect to motor vehicles, including the issuance of electronic identification cards, driver's licenses, and permits.

This bill authorizes the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to issue electronic identification cards and electronic driver's licenses and permits. Because an electronic identification card or driver's license may be displayed to a peace officer on a mobile device, the bill includes provisions that limit a peace officer's access to an individual's mobile device and provide civil immunity for unintentional damage to such devices.

Additionally, the bill permits the Commissioner of Administration to enter into data-sharing agreements with law enforcement agencies, governmental agencies or programs, or data exchange services – such as the National Driver Register, Problem Driver Pointer System, Commercial Driver's License Information System, State-to-State National Verification Service, and the Driver License Data Verification Service.

These changes will equip the DMV with the necessary tools to keep its systems current with modern technology and ensure that its communications and practices remain effective in both state and national contexts.

I urge your prompt and favorable action on this measure.

Sincerely,

/s/

Mike Dunleavy
Governor"

HB 181

HOUSE BILL NO. 181 by Representatives Prax and Tomaszewski,
entitled:

"An Act relating to bond requirements for contractors."

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

CONSIDERATION OF THE DAILY CALENDAR**SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILLS****HB 31**

The following was read the second time:

HOUSE BILL NO. 31

"An Act relating to the registration of commercial vessels; and
relating to the derelict vessel prevention program fund."

with the:

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FSH RPT 7DP	171
FN1: ZERO(DFG)	171
FN2: (ADM)	171
FN3: ZERO(DNR)	171
FIN RPT 8DP 3NR	460
FN1: ZERO(DFG)	460
FN2: (ADM)	460
FN3: ZERO(DNR)	460
FN4: ZERO(CED)	460

Representative Kopp moved and asked unanimous consent that HB 31
be considered engrossed, advanced to third reading, and placed on
final passage.

There was objection.

HB 31 will advance to third reading on the April 11 calendar.

HB 50

The following was read the second time:

HOUSE BILL NO. 50

"An Act relating to snow classics."

with the:

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CRA RPT 6DP

501

FN1: ZERO(REV)

501

L&C RPT 6DP

590

FN1: ZERO(REV)

590

Representative Kopp moved and asked unanimous consent that HB 50 be considered engrossed, advanced to third reading, and placed on final passage.

There was objection.

HB 50 will advance to third reading on the April 11 calendar.

HB 75

The Speaker stated that, without objection, the following would be held to the April 11 calendar:

HOUSE BILL NO. 75

"An Act relating to national criminal history record checks for certain employees of the Department of Revenue; relating to allowable absences for eligibility for a permanent fund dividend; relating to the confidentiality of certain information provided on a permanent fund dividend application; relating to electronic notice of debt collection executed on a permanent fund dividend; and providing for an effective date."

HB 79

The following was read the second time:

HOUSE BILL NO. 79

"An Act naming the Vic Fischer Shoup Bay State Marine Park."

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with the:

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RES RPT 8DP

476

FN1: ZERO(DNR)

476

Representative Kopp moved and asked unanimous consent that HB 79 be considered engrossed, advanced to third reading, and placed on final passage.

There was objection.

HB 79 will advance to third reading on the April 11 calendar.

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 - Edra Morledge

By Representatives Coulombe, McCabe, Tomaszewski

In Memoriam - Samuel "Sam" Wright III

By Representatives Story, Hannan; Senator Kiehl

In Memoriam - Erna Cucurull

By Senators Wielechowski, Dunbar; Representative Mears

In Memoriam - Ronald "Ron" Keith Sternberg

By Senator Wielechowski; Representatives Mears, Stutes

In Memoriam - Adriana Pérez Brooks

By Senator Wielechowski; Representative Mears

In Memoriam - Julius Pleasant Sr.

By Senators Olson, Hoffman; Representative Foster

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

HB 96

The Speaker added a Finance Committee referral for the following:

HOUSE BILL NO. 96

"An Act establishing the Home Care Employment Standards Advisory Board; relating to payment for personal care services; and providing for an effective date."

HB 96 is in the Labor & Commerce Committee with further referral to the Finance Committee.

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

Representative Prax – from 1:00 p.m., April 10 to 10:00 p.m., April 13

Representative Saddler – from 12:30 p.m., April 17 to 2:00 p.m., April 22

Representative Tomaszewski – from 6:00 a.m., June 1 to 10:00 p.m., June 17

HJR 13

Representatives Hall and Allard added as cosponsors to:

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 13

Urging the President of the United States to expand evacuation efforts for applicants with approved Special Immigrant Visas, including resumption of evacuation flights organized by the Coordinator for Afghan Relocation Efforts; urging the United States Department of State to secure legal protections and humanitarian assistance for Special Immigrant Visa applicants; and requesting that the United States Secretary of State provide a report to Congress regarding efforts to reinstate evacuation flights for applicants with approved Special Immigrant Visas.

HJR 14

Representatives Prax, Underwood, Stapp, Coulombe, Johnson, Rauscher, and Moore added as cosponsors to:

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 14

Supporting the completion of the Port MacKenzie Rail Extension

and the Northern Rail Extension; supporting the increase in defensive capabilities at Fort Greely, Alaska; encouraging a renewed commitment by the Alaska Railroad to a community-minded approach to future rail expansion; and encouraging the development of critical Arctic infrastructure.

HJR 15

Representatives Kopp, Elam, and Bynum added as cosponsors 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 17

Representative Costello added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 17

"An Act relating to retirement benefits and military service."

HB 28

Representative Galvin added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 28

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

HB 31

Representatives Galvin and Schrage added as cosponsors to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 31

"An Act relating to the registration of commercial vessels; and relating to the derelict vessel prevention program fund."

HB 75

Representatives Hall, Galvin, Moore, and Fields added as cosponsors to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 75

"An Act relating to national criminal history record checks for certain employees of the Department of Revenue; relating to allowable absences for eligibility for a permanent fund dividend; relating to the confidentiality of certain information provided on a permanent fund dividend application; relating to electronic notice of debt collection executed on a permanent fund dividend; and providing for an effective date."

HB 79

Representatives Galvin and Josephson added as cosponsors to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 79

"An Act naming the Vic Fischer Shoup Bay State Marine Park."

HB 101

Representative Galvin added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 101

"An Act relating to civil claims by victims of sexual abuse to a minor; relating to homicide; relating to assault in the third degree; relating to stalking; relating to sexual abuse of a minor; relating to enticement of a minor; relating to endangering the welfare of a child; relating to indecent exposure; relating to sending an explicit image of a minor; relating to solicitation or production of an indecent picture of a minor; relating to distribution of indecent material to minors; relating to the testimony of children in criminal proceedings; relating to sentencing; and providing for an effective date."

HB 144

Representative Prax added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 144

"An Act relating to prior authorization requests for medical care covered by a health care insurer; relating to a prior authorization application programming interface; relating to step therapy; and providing for an effective date."

HB 165

Representative Saddler 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."

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 11. There being no objection, the House adjourned at 11:34 a.m.

Crystalline Jones
Chief Clerk