

HOUSE JOURNAL
ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

Juneau, Alaska

Wednesday

April 16, 2025

Eighty-sixth Day

Pursuant to adjournment the House was called to order by Speaker Edgmon at 10:07 a.m.

Roll call showed 40 members present.

The invocation was offered by the Chaplain, Reverend Fred La Plante of the Church of the Nazarene. Representative Story moved and asked unanimous consent that the invocation be spread on the journal. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

In my faith tradition, this week is Holy Week. I offer the following prayer for the Alaska State House of Representatives:

Father, I ask for your grace today for each of these leaders in this chamber. You know and care for them. You have placed them here to lead the people of Alaska into the future of our state. They have tough decisions to make where there are differences of opinion on many issues. Help them today to see how to work through those differences and come to a consensus to guide the people they serve in their respective areas. Grant them peace and grace along with the wisdom to find common ground even when they cannot see any. Strengthen them in all they do. Lastly, touch those who need special grace today in any struggle they may face.

In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Representative Tilton.

CERTIFICATION OF THE JOURNAL

Representative Kopp moved and asked unanimous consent that the journal for the 85th legislative day and House Journal Supplement Nos. 5, 6, and 7 be approved as certified by the Chief Clerk. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

A letter dated April 15 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 Education Committee:

University of Alaska Board of Regents

Fernando Escobar – Fairbanks

Appointed: 6/1/2025

Expires: 5/31/2027

The Speaker referred the following to the Labor & Commerce Committee:

Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives

Stacia Miller - Valdez

Appointed: 4/14/2025

Expires: 3/1/2026

Board of Pharmacy

Julie McDonald – Craig

Appointed: 4/14/2025

Expires: 3/1/2029

Real Estate Commission

Yolonda Logan – Anchorage

Appointed: 4/14/2025

Expires: 3/1/2029

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

MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

A message dated April 15 was read stating the Senate passed the following, and they are transmitted for consideration:

**FIRST READING AND REFERENCE
OF SENATE BILLS****SB 39**

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 39(FIN) by the Senate Finance Committee, entitled:

"An Act relating to loans in an amount of \$25,000 or less; relating to financial institutions; relating to the Nationwide Multistate Licensing System and Registry; relating to pawnbroker licensing exemptions; relating to deferred deposit advances; relating to computing interest; and providing for an effective date."

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

SB 113

SENATE BILL NO. 113 by the Senate Rules Committee, entitled:

"An Act relating to the Multistate Tax Compact; relating to apportionment of income to the state; relating to highly digitized businesses subject to the Alaska Net Income Tax Act; and providing for an effective date."

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

INTRODUCTION OF CITATIONS

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

Honoring – Vera Starbard

By Senator Kiehl; Representatives Hannan, Story

Honoring – Norma Aldefer

By Senator Tobin; Representative Fields

In Memoriam – Virgil Dean Severns

By Representative Tomaszewski; Senator Myers

In Memoriam – Louise Thompson

By Senator Kawasaki; Representatives Carrick, Dibert

In Memoriam – Richard Polzin

By Senator Kawasaki; Representative Dibert

In Memoriam – Rita Elizabeth McGrath

By Senator Kawasaki; Representative Dibert

INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING, AND REFERENCE OF HOUSE BILLS

HB 197

HOUSE BILL NO. 197 by Representative Tomaszewski, entitled:

"An Act relating to the practice of dental hygiene; establishing an executive administrator position for the Board of Dental Examiners; and relating to the ownership of dental offices and clinics."

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

HB 198

HOUSE BILL NO. 198 by Representative Josephson, entitled:

"An Act relating to the obstruction or hindrance of lawful trapping of game; and providing for an effective date."

was read the first time and referred to the Judiciary and Resources Committees.

HB 199

HOUSE BILL NO. 199 by the House Special Committee on Fisheries by request of the Joint Legislative Task Force Evaluating Alaska's Seafood Industry, entitled:

"An Act relating to the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development; relating to the Alaska Commercial Fishing and Agriculture Bank; relating to certain loans made by the Alaska Commercial Fishing and Agriculture Bank; and providing for an effective date."

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

HB 200

HOUSE BILL NO. 200 by the House Rules Committee by request of the Governor, entitled:

"An Act relating to the elimination or modification of state agency publications that are outdated, duplicative, or excessive."

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

The following fiscal note(s) apply:

1. Zero, Office of the Governor/Combined

The Governor's transmittal letter dated April 15 follows:

"Dear Speaker Edgmon:

Under the authority of Article III, Section 18 of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting a bill relating to the elimination or modification of state agency publications that are outdated, duplicative, or excessive.

This bill is being introduced pursuant to AS 44.99.220(b), which requires the governor to submit legislation to eliminate or modify publication requirements identified by state agencies under AS 44.99.220(a).

Sincerely,

/s/

Mike Dunleavy
Governor"

CONSIDERATION OF THE DAILY CALENDAR**HOUSE BILLS IN SECOND READING****HB 55**

The following, which was held in second reading from the April 15 calendar (page 802), was before the House:

HOUSE BILL NO. 55

"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."

Representative Kopp moved and asked unanimous consent that the following committee substitute be adopted in lieu of the original bill:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 55(FIN)
(same title)

Representative Stapp objected and withdrew the objection. There being no further objection, CSHB 55(FIN) was adopted.

Amendment No. 1 was offered by Representative Coulombe:

Page 3, line 29:

Delete "**54,444,200**"

Insert "**53,953,500**"

Delete "**52,853,500**"

Insert "**52,362,800**"

Page 4, line 8:

Delete "988,900"

Insert "498,200"

Page 8, line 22:

Delete "126,274,500"

Insert "125,783,800"

Adjust fund sources and totals accordingly.

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Representative Coulombe moved and asked unanimous consent that Amendment No. 1 be adopted.

Representative Galvin objected.

The question being: "Shall Amendment No. 1 be adopted?" The roll was taken with the following result:

CSHB 55(FIN)

Second Reading

Amendment No. 1

YEAS: 23 NAYS: 17 EXCUSED: 0 ABSENT: 0

Yeas: Allard, Bynum, Costello, Coulombe, Elam, Gray, Himschoot, Johnson, Kopp, McCabe, Moore, Nelson, Prax, Rauscher, Ruffridge, Saddler, Schrage, Schwanke, Stapp, Tilton, Tomaszewski, Underwood, Vance

Nays: Burke, Carrick, Dibert, Edgmon, Eischeid, Fields, Foster, Galvin, Hall, Hannan, Holland, Jimmie, Josephson, Mears, Mina, Story, Stutes

And so, Amendment No. 1 was adopted.

Amendment No. 2 was offered by Representative Coulombe:

Page 3, line 29:

Delete "**52,853,500**"

Insert "**42,885,900**"

Delete "**1,590,700**"

Insert "**11,558,300**"

Page 8, line 22:

Delete "**126,274,500**"

Insert "**116,306,900**"

Page 8, line 23:

Delete "**3,925,700**"

Insert "**13,893,300**"

Adjust fund sources and totals accordingly.

Representative Coulombe moved and asked unanimous consent that Amendment No. 2 be adopted.

There was objection.

Representative Coulombe moved and asked unanimous consent to table Amendment No. 2. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

Representative Coulombe moved and asked unanimous consent that the House rescind prior action in adopting Amendment No. 1 (page 813). There being no objection, it was so ordered.

Amendment No. 1 (page 812) was before the House.

The question being: "Shall Amendment No. 1 be adopted?" The roll was taken with the following result:

CSHB 55(FIN)
Second Reading
Amendment No. 1

YEAS: 19 NAYS: 21 EXCUSED: 0 ABSENT: 0

Yeas: Allard, Bynum, Costello, Coulombe, Elam, Johnson, McCabe, Moore, Nelson, Prax, Rauscher, Ruffridge, Saddler, Schwanke, Stapp, Tilton, Tomaszewski, Underwood, Vance

Nays: Burke, Carrick, Dibert, Edgmon, Eischeid, Fields, Foster, Galvin, Gray, Hall, Hannan, Himschoot, Holland, Jimmie, Josephson, Kopp, Mears, Mina, Schrage, Story, Stutes

And so, Amendment No. 1 was not adopted.

Representative Coulombe moved and asked unanimous consent that Amendment No. 2 (page 813) be taken from the table. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

The question being: "Shall Amendment No. 2 be adopted?" The roll was taken with the following result:

CSHB 55(FIN)
Second Reading
Amendment No. 2

YEAS: 19 NAYS: 21 EXCUSED: 0 ABSENT: 0

Yeas: Allard, Bynum, Costello, Coulombe, Elam, Johnson, McCabe, Moore, Nelson, Prax, Rauscher, Ruffridge, Saddler, Schwanke, Stapp, Tilton, Tomaszewski, Underwood, Vance

Nays: Burke, Carrick, Dibert, Edgmon, Eischeid, Fields, Foster, Galvin, Gray, Hall, Hannan, Himschoot, Holland, Jimmie, Josephson, Kopp, Mears, Mina, Schrage, Story, Stutes

And so, Amendment No. 2 was not adopted.

Representative Kopp moved and asked unanimous consent that CSHB 55(FIN) be considered engrossed, advanced to third reading, and placed on final passage.

There was objection.

CSHB 55(FIN) will advance to third reading on the next calendar.

THIRD READING OF HOUSE BILLS**HB 53**

The following, which was advanced to third reading from the April 15 calendar (page 802), was read the third time:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 53(FIN) am

"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; 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."

Representatives Stutes and McCabe rose to points of order regarding impugning the motives of others.

The Speaker directed members to confine their remarks to the question before the House.

Representative Stapp rose to a point of order regarding references not under debate.

The Speaker stated that the point was well taken.

Representative Costello rose to a point of order regarding engaging in personalities during debate.

The Speaker cautioned members to refrain from engaging in personalities.

The question being: "Shall CSHB 53(FIN) am pass the House?" The roll was taken with the following result:

CSHB 53(FIN) am

Third Reading

Final Passage

YEAS: 21 NAYS: 19 EXCUSED: 0 ABSENT: 0

Yeas: Burke, Carrick, Dibert, Edgmon, Eischeid, Fields, Foster, Galvin, Gray, Hall, Hannan, Himschoot, Holland, Jimmie, Josephson, Kopp, Mears, Mina, Schrage, Story, Stutes

Nays: Allard, Bynum, Costello, Coulombe, Elam, Johnson, McCabe, Moore, Nelson, Prax, Rauscher, Ruffridge, Saddler, Schwanke, Stapp, Tilton, Tomaszewski, Underwood, Vance

And so, CSHB 53(FIN) am passed the House.

Representative Kopp moved and asked unanimous consent that the appropriations from the constitutional budget reserve fund (Article IX, Section 17(c), Constitution of the State of Alaska) be adopted.

The question being: "Shall the constitutional budget reserve fund appropriations be adopted?" The roll was taken with the following result:

CSHB 53(FIN) am

Third Reading

Constitutional Budget Reserve Appropriations

YEAS: 21 NAYS: 19 EXCUSED: 0 ABSENT: 0

Yeas: Burke, Carrick, Dibert, Edgmon, Eischeid, Fields, Foster, Galvin, Gray, Hall, Hannan, Himschoot, Holland, Jimmie, Josephson, Kopp, Mears, Mina, Schrage, Story, Stutes

Nays: Allard, Bynum, Costello, Coulombe, Elam, Johnson, McCabe, Moore, Nelson, Prax, Rauscher, Ruffridge, Saddler, Schwanke, Stapp, Tilton, Tomaszewski, Underwood, Vance

And so, lacking the required 30 votes, the appropriations from the constitutional budget reserve fund were not adopted, and the new title follows:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 53(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 providing for an effective date."

Representative Kopp moved the effective date clause.

The question being: "Shall the effective date clause be adopted?" The roll was taken with the following result:

CSHB 53(FIN) am(brf sup maj fld)

Third Reading

Effective Date

YEAS: 25 NAYS: 15 EXCUSED: 0 ABSENT: 0

Yeas: Burke, Bynum, Carrick, Costello, Dibert, Edgmon, Eischeid, Fields, Foster, Galvin, Gray, Hall, Hannan, Himschoot, Holland, Jimmie, Josephson, Kopp, Mears, Mina, Nelson, Ruffridge, Schrage, Story, Stutes

Nays: Allard, Coulombe, Elam, Johnson, McCabe, Moore, Prax, Rauscher, Saddler, Schwanke, Stapp, Tilton, Tomaszewski, Underwood, Vance

And so, lacking the required 27 votes, the effective date clause was not adopted, and the new title follows:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 53(FIN) am(brf sup maj fld)(efd fld)
"An Act making appropriations for the operating and loan program expenses of state government and for certain programs; capitalizing funds; amending appropriations; and making supplemental appropriations."

CSHB 53(FIN) am(brf sup maj fld)(efd fld) was referred to the Chief Clerk for engrossment.

The Speaker stated that, without objection, the House would recess to 2:00 p.m.; and so, the House recessed at 1:21 p.m.

AFTER RECESS

The Speaker called the House back to order at 2:26 p.m.

THIRD READING OF HOUSE BILLS

HB 57

The following, which was held from the April 15 calendar (page 803), was read the third time:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 57(EDC) am
"An Act relating to wireless telecommunications devices in public schools; and providing for an effective date."

The question being: "Shall CSHB 57(EDC) am pass the House?" The roll was taken with the following result:

CSHB 57(EDC) am

Third Reading

Final Passage

YEAS: 34 NAYS: 6 EXCUSED: 0 ABSENT: 0

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

Nays: Hannan, Jimmie, Nelson, Ruffridge, Schwanke, Stapp

And so, CSHB 57(EDC) am 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.

Representative Stapp gave notice of reconsideration of the vote on CSHB 57(EDC) am.

HB 75

The following, which was held from the April 15 calendar (page 803), was read the third time:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 75(STA)

"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."

The question being: "Shall CSHB 75(STA) pass the House?" The roll was taken with the following result:

CSHB 75(STA)

Third Reading

Final Passage

YEAS: 35 NAYS: 5 EXCUSED: 0 ABSENT: 0

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

Nays: Allard, McCabe, Rauscher, Tilton, Vance

And so, CSHB 75(STA) 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.

Representative McCabe gave notice of reconsideration of the vote on CSHB 75(STA), and reconsideration was taken up later.

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 - Dr. Brian Barnes
By Representative Tomaszewski; Senator Myers

Honoring - Craig Heinselman
By Representative Tomaszewski; Senator Myers

Honoring - Kiann Williams
By Representatives Tomaszewski, Prax; Senator Myers

Honoring - Joseph "Joe" Want
By Representative Tomaszewski; Senator Myers

Honoring - Jenny McAvoy-Anteau
By Representatives Gray, Mears; Senator Wielechowski

Honoring - Joe Nedland
By Representative Gray; Senator Dunbar

Honoring - Steve Cleary
By Representative Fields; Senators Wielechowski, Merrick

Honoring - Bryce Ward
By Representatives Carrick, Dibert

Honoring - Dan Bross
By Representative Carrick; Senator Kawasaki

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Honoring - Erin Morotti
By Representative Carrick

Honoring - Kendall Kramer
By Representative Carrick; Senators Kawasaki, Myers

Honoring - Lael Wilcox
By Representatives Galvin, Fields; Senator Gray-Jackson

In Memoriam - Cathy Ann Griseto
By Representative Carrick

Honoring - Megan Hatswell
By Senator Merrick; Representative Saddler

In Memoriam - Charles Sux aa haan Patrick Johnnie
By Senators Hoffman, Bjorkman

RECONSIDERATION

HB 75

Representative Bynum moved and asked unanimous consent that reconsideration of CSHB 75(STA) be taken up on the same day.

There was objection.

The question being: "Shall reconsideration of CSHB 75(STA) be taken up on the same day?" The roll was taken with the following result:

CSHB 75(STA)

Third Reading

Take Up Reconsideration on the Same Day

YEAS: 35 NAYS: 5 EXCUSED: 0 ABSENT: 0

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

Nays: Allard, McCabe, Rauscher, Tilton, Vance

And so, the motion passed.

The following was before the House in third reading:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 75(STA)

"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."

The question to be reconsidered: "Shall CSHB 75(STA) pass the House?" The roll was taken with the following result:

CSHB 75(STA)

Third Reading

Final Passage

Reconsideration

YEAS: 35 NAYS: 5 EXCUSED: 0 ABSENT: 0

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

Nays: Allard, McCabe, Rauscher, Tilton, Vance

And so, CSHB 75(STA) passed the House on reconsideration.

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.

CSHB 75(STA) was referred to the Chief Clerk for engrossment.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

HB 15

Representative Prax added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 15

"An Act relating to royalty rates and payments for certain oil and gas; and providing for an effective date."

HB 16

Representatives Hall, Mina, and Burke added as cosponsors 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 57

Representatives Josephson and Schrage added as cosponsors to:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 57(EDC) am

"An Act relating to wireless telecommunications devices in public schools; and providing for an effective date."

ENGROSSMENT

HB 53

CSHB 53(FIN) am(brf sup maj fld)(efd fld) was engrossed.

HB 75

CSHB 75(STA) 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.

The following meetings today were changed:

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Finance Committee

CANCELED

Judiciary Committee

CHANGED TO:

4:30 p.m.

Labor & Commerce Committee

CHANGED TO:

15 min. after adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Representative Kopp moved and asked unanimous consent that the House adjourn until 10:30 a.m., April 18 for a technical session. There being no objection, the House adjourned at 4:17 p.m.

Crystalline Jones
Chief Clerk