

**HOUSE JOURNAL**  
**ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE**  
**THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE**  
**SECOND SESSION**

**Juneau, Alaska**

**Thursday**

**April 16, 2026**

**Eighty-seventh Day**

Pursuant to adjournment the House was called to order by Speaker Edgmon at 9:38 a.m.

Roll call showed 37 members present. Representatives Moore and Ruffridge were absent and their presence was noted later.

Representative Kopp moved and asked unanimous consent that Representative Story 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 Dani Cherian of Valley Church. Representative Himschoot 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 praise you because you give the ability to overcome. It's not by our own hands that we overcome, it is by your strength and loyal love that we are able to find victory. So I ask you for help and that you bring clarity today for our representatives.

The Bible says, in Psalm 44:3 NIV, *It was not by their sword that they won the land, nor did their arm bring them victory; it was your right hand, your arm, and the light of your face, for you loved them.*

I ask that you please help our representatives and their staff. I ask that you give them wisdom, peace, and strength as they

make good decisions for the people in our great State of Alaska. In Jesus' name, Amen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Representative Hall.

### **CERTIFICATION OF THE JOURNAL**

Representative Kopp moved and asked unanimous consent that the journal for the 85th and 86th legislative days be approved as certified by the Chief Clerk. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

### **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

#### **HB 96**

The Finance 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(L&C)

(same title)

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

Do pass (8): Bynum, Moore, Jimmie, Galvin, Hannan, Josephson, Schrage, Foster

No recommendation (1): Stapp

Amend (2): Allard, Tomaszewski

The following fiscal note(s) apply to CSHB 96(L&C):

2. Fiscal, Dept. of Health

HB 96 was referred to the Rules Committee.

\*\*The presence of Representative Moore was noted.

**HB 217**

The Community & Regional Affairs Committee considered:

HOUSE BILL NO. 217

"An Act regulating autonomous vehicles; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends it be replaced with:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 217(CRA)

(same title)

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

Do pass (6): Holland, Prax, G. Nelson, Hall, Himschoot, Mears

Amend (1): St. Clair

The following fiscal note(s) apply to CSHB 217(CRA):

1. Zero, Dept. of Administration

HB 217 was referred to the Rules Committee.

\*\*The presence of Representative Ruffridge was noted.

**HB 246**

The Finance Committee considered:

HOUSE BILL NO. 246

"An Act relating to allocations for the special education service agency; and providing for an effective date."

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

Do pass (7): Jimmie, Galvin, Hannan, Allard, Foster, Josephson, Schrage

No recommendation (3): Tomaszewski, Bynum, Stapp

The following fiscal note(s) apply:

1. Fiscal, Dept. of Education & Early Development

HB 246 was referred to the Rules Committee.

**HB 302**

The Labor & Commerce Committee considered:

HOUSE BILL NO. 302

"An Act relating to travel insurance."

and recommends it be replaced with:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 302(L&C)

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

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

Do pass (3): Frier, Carrick, Hall

No recommendation (4): Coulombe, Saddler, D. Nelson, Fields

The following fiscal note(s) apply to CSHB 302(L&C):

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

HB 302 was referred to the Transportation Committee.

**HB 334**

The Community & Regional Affairs Committee considered:

## HOUSE BILL NO. 334

"An Act relating to the issuance of certified copies of birth certificates to unhoused young adults; and relating to the issuance of identification cards to unhoused young adults."

and recommends it be replaced with:

## CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 334(CRA)

"An Act relating to the issuance of certified copies of birth certificates to unhoused persons; and relating to the issuance of identification cards to unhoused persons."

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

Do pass (5): Holland, Prax, Hall, Himschoot, Mears

Amend (2): G. Nelson, St. Clair

The following fiscal note(s) apply to CSHB 334(CRA):

1. Zero, Dept. of Health
2. Fiscal, Dept. of Administration

HB 334 was referred to the Finance Committee.

**HB 344**

The Health & Social Services Committee considered:

## HOUSE BILL NO. 344

"An Act establishing the opioid litigation settlement fund."

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

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

No recommendation (1): Prax

The following fiscal note(s) apply:

1. Fiscal, Dept. of Revenue
2. Zero, Dept. of Health

HB 344 was referred to the Finance Committee.

**HB 376**

The Health & Social Services Committee considered:

HOUSE BILL NO. 376

"An Act relating to early intervention services for certain children; relating to optional services under the medical assistance program; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends it be replaced with:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 376(EDC)  
(same title)

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

Do pass (3): Gray, Mears, Mina

No recommendation (2): Prax, Ruffridge

Amend (1): Schwanke

The following fiscal note(s) apply to CSHB 376(EDC):

1. Fiscal, Dept. of Health
2. Fiscal, Dept. of Health

HB 376 was referred to the Finance Committee.

**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Representative Kopp moved and asked unanimous consent that the notice and publication requirements be waived and the citations on the first special order citation calendar 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 on the first special order citation calendar.

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

Commemorating - Peace Officers Memorial Day May 15, 2026  
By Representative Edgmon

Honoring - James Thaddeus "Thad" Poulson  
By Representative Himschoot; Senator Stedman

Honoring - Sharon Miranda  
By Representative Allard

Honoring - Anson Blocker  
By Representative Allard

Honoring - Henry Strub  
By Representative Edgmon

Honoring - Patrick Reinhart  
By Representatives Story, Vance; Senator Kiehl

Honoring - Aidan Cole, 2026 Alaska State Spelling Bee Champion  
By Representative Ruffridge; Senator Bjorkman

Honoring - Eagle River Elks Lodge  
By Representative Allard

Honoring - The Ester Gold Camp 90th Anniversary  
By Representative Carrick; Senator Myers

Honoring - Marine Exchange of Alaska, 25th Anniversary  
By Representatives Hannan, Story; Senator Kiehl

Honoring - The 2026 Arctic Lightning Airshow & Open House  
By Representatives Tomaszewski, Prax; Senator Myers

Honoring - Gustavus Volunteer Fire Department  
By Representatives Story, Hannan; Senator Kiehl

Honoring - Christopher "Chris" Scott Constant  
By Senators Tobin, Dunbar, Gray-Jackson

Honoring - Georgianna Lincoln  
By Senator Hoffman

Honoring - Bettye Davis East Anchorage High School, Nordic Ski  
Team Coaches & Mentors  
By Senator Dunbar; Representatives Eischeid, Mina

In Memoriam - Colette Nelson Guggenheim  
By Representative Himschoot; Senator Stedman

In Memoriam - Dr. R. Dale Guthrie  
By Representative Carrick; Senator Kawasaki

In Memoriam - Eric Braendel  
By Representative Allard

In Memoriam - Master Sergeant David Wayne Foster  
By Representative Allard

In Memoriam - Joseph Allan Elliott  
By Representative Allard

In Memoriam - Kaye Carleton  
By Representative Allard

In Memoriam - Paul Stephen Bates  
By Representative Allard

In Memoriam - Gary J. Turner  
By Representatives Ruffridge, Elam; Senator Bjorkman

In Memoriam - Richard Mauer  
By Representatives Fields, Hall; Senator Wielechowski

In Memoriam - Chin Sun Stephenson  
By Senator Wielechowski; Representative Mears

In Memoriam - Darlene Carol Ivanoff  
By Senator Wielechowski; Representative Mears

In Memoriam - John Thomas "Tom" Adzima  
By Senator Wielechowski; Representative Mears

Honoring - Nome-Beltz 3A Boys Basketball Team, 2026 Alaska State  
Tournament  
By Representative Foster; Senator Olson

Honoring - 2026 Team USA Men's Olympic Hockey Team  
By Senators Merrick, Cronk; Representative Eischeid

In Memoriam - Jacob Sebring  
By Representatives Underwood, Kopp; Senator Giessel

In Memoriam - Earl Prentice Lackey  
By Representative Johnson; Senator Tilton

In Memoriam - Robert "Troy" Gourley  
By Representatives Prax, Tomaszewski; Senator Myers

Honoring - Stanley Robinson  
By Senator Cronk

Honoring - The Whisenant Family  
By Senator Cronk

In Memoriam - Benedict Jones Sr.  
By Senator Cronk

In Memoriam - Valorie F. Walker  
By Senator Wielechowski; Representative Mears

In Memoriam - Francisco "Frank" Mizal Javier  
By Senator Wielechowski; Representatives Mears, Mina

In Memoriam - Shawn David McVey  
By Senators Kawasaki, Wielechowski; Representative Eischeid

In Memoriam - Noel Janice Murray  
By Senator Kawasaki; Representative Dibert

In Memoriam - Dr. Gary Laursen  
By Senator Kawasaki; Representatives Carrick, Dibert

**CONSIDERATION OF THE DAILY CALENDAR****SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILLS****HB 133**

The Speaker stated that, without objection, the following, which was held from the April 14 calendar (page 2183), would be held to the April 20 calendar:

## HOUSE BILL NO. 133

"An Act establishing a 30-day deadline for the payment of contracts under the State Procurement Code; establishing deadlines for the payment of grants, contracts, and reimbursement agreements to nonprofit organizations, municipalities, and Alaska Native organizations; relating to payment of grants to named recipients that are not municipalities; and providing for an effective date."

**HOUSE BILLS IN SECOND READING****HB 25**

The following, which was held from the April 14 calendar (page 2183), was before the House in second reading with Amendment No. 8 (page 2182) moved and pending:

## CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 25(L&amp;C) am

"An Act relating to disposable food service ware and containers provided by customers; and providing for an effective date."

Representative Stutes, citing Section 101 of Mason's Manual, rose to points of order regarding confining remarks to the amendment before the body.

The Speaker directed the members to confine their remarks.

The question being: "Shall Amendment No. 8 be adopted?" The roll was taken with the following result:

CSHB 25(L&C) am

Second Reading

Amendment No. 8

**YEAS: 19 NAYS: 20 EXCUSED: 1 ABSENT: 0**

Yeas: Allard, Bynum, Costello, Coulombe, Elam, Johnson, McCabe, Moore, D.Nelson, G.Nelson, Prax, Ruffridge, Saddler, Schwanke, St. Clair, Stapp, Tomaszewski, Underwood, Vance

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

Excused: Story

And so, Amendment No. 8 was not adopted.

Amendment No. 9 was offered by Representative G. Nelson:

Page 2, line 26, following "includes":

Insert "a coffee kiosk, a grocery deli, a hospital or school food operation, a caterer, a concession, a food hybrid service businesses,"

Page 2, line 27, following the first occurrence of "food":

Insert ", "

Representative G. Nelson moved and asked unanimous consent that Amendment No. 9 be adopted.

Representatives Carrick and Stapp objected and withdrew the objections.

Representative G. Nelson moved and asked unanimous consent to withdraw Amendment No. 9.

Representative Stapp objected and withdrew the objection.

Representative G. Nelson withdrew the motion to withdraw Amendment No. 9.

There being no further objection, Amendment No. 9 was adopted.

Amendment No. 10 was not offered.

Amendment No. 11 was offered by Representative D. Nelson:

Page 2, following line 15:

Insert a new subsection to read:

"(g) The department shall maintain a telephone number that an individual may call to report violations related to polystyrene foam disposable food service ware."

Reletter the following subsection accordingly.

Representative D. Nelson moved and asked unanimous consent that Amendment No. 11 be adopted.

Representative Josephson objected.

Representative Allard rose to a point of order regarding confining remarks to the amendment.

The Speaker stated that the point was well taken.

The question being: "Shall Amendment No. 11 be adopted?" The roll was taken with the following result:

CSHB 25(L&C) am  
Second Reading  
Amendment No. 11

**YEAS: 8 NAYS: 31 EXCUSED: 1 ABSENT: 0**

Yeas: Coulombe, Elam, McCabe, D.Nelson, G.Nelson, Ruffridge, Saddler, St. Clair

Nays: Allard, Bynum, Carrick, Costello, Dibert, Edgmon, Eischeid, Fields, Foster, Frier, Galvin, Gray, Hall, Hannan, Himschoot, Holland, Jimmie, Johnson, Josephson, Kopp, Mears, Mina, Moore, Prax, Schrage, Schwanke, Stapp, Stutes, Tomaszewski, Underwood, Vance

Excused: Story

And so, Amendment No. 11 was not adopted.

Representative Kopp moved and asked unanimous consent that CSHB 25(L&C) am be considered engrossed, advanced to third reading, and placed on final passage.

There was objection.

CSHB 25(L&C) am will advance to third reading on the April 20 calendar.

### **SENATE RESOLUTIONS IN SECOND READING**

#### **SCR 19**

The Speaker stated that, without objection, the following, which was held from the April 14 calendar (page 2173), would be held in second reading to the April 20 calendar.

#### **SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 19**

Extending the governor's October 9, 2025, declaration of a disaster emergency in response to the 2025 West Coast Storm.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

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 Stapp – from 1:00 p.m., April 16 to 1:00 p.m., April 19

Representative Elam – from 7:30 a.m., April 17 to 9:30 p.m., April 19

Representative Hall – from 1:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., April 16

Representative Foster – from 6:00 p.m., April 16 to 1:30 p.m., April 20

Representative Stutes – from 1:00 p.m., April 16 to 9:30 p.m., April 19

Representative Dibert – from 9:00 p.m., April 22 to 7:40 p.m., April 23

Representative Frier – from 4:00 p.m., June 29 to 2:30 p.m., July 11

#### **HJR 36**

Representative Gray added as a cosponsor to:

**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 36**

Proposing amendments to the Constitution of the State of Alaska relating to terms of legislators.

**HB 77**

Representative Allard added as a cosponsor to:

**HOUSE BILL NO. 77**

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

**HB 96**

Representatives Galvin and Schrage added as cosponsors to:

**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 246**

Representative Allard added as a cosponsor to:

**HOUSE BILL NO. 246**

"An Act relating to allocations for the special education service agency; and providing for an effective date."

**HB 342**

Representative Tomaszewski added as a cosponsor to:

**HOUSE BILL NO. 342**

"An Act relating to physician liability for sex-reassignment treatments or procedures performed on minors; relating to standardized informed consent forms for sex-reassignment treatments or procedures; relating to the duties of the State Medical Board; relating to informed consent for sex-reassignment treatments or procedures performed on minors; establishing the crime of criminal sex-reassignment treatment or procedure; and providing for an effective date."

**HB 373**

Representative Tomaszewski added as a cosponsor to:

HOUSE BILL NO. 373

"An Act relating to investments of the permanent fund; relating to investments made by the Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation; relating to regulations adopted by the Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation; 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 20. There being no objection, the House adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

Crystaline Jones  
Chief Clerk