

SENATE JOURNAL

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

Juneau, Alaska

Monday

February 17, 2025

Twenty-eighth Day

Pursuant to adjournment the Senate was called to order by President Stevens at 11:01 a.m.

The roll showed nineteen members present. Senator Olson was absent.

The prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Major Petr Janousek, The Salvation Army. Senator Hoffman moved and asked unanimous consent the prayer be spread. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Gracious God,

I thank you for this moment of prayer and reflection as this is the time when we can ask you for your guidance, knowledge and wisdom.

In your word is written that: "How much better to get wisdom than gold, and good judgment than silver!" So I pray for revelation of your wisdom, knowledge and good judgment. Every one of us needs your wisdom from above in our ordinary daily lives. But how much more is your wisdom and knowledge needed when you grant the authority and power to make decisions about the whole state of Alaska and its people. And so I come before your throne now in prayer and ask lead us and give us understanding as well as faith, hope and love.

In Jesus' mighty name,

Amen.

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Senator Stedman led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Certification

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the journals for the twenty-fifth through twenty-seventh legislative days be approved as certified by the Secretary. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent Senator Olson be excused from a call of the Senate today through February 21. Without objection, Senator Olson was excused.

Communications

The following reports are on file in the Office of the Secretary of the Senate:

Department of Revenue
Summary of Calendar Year 2024 Alaska Education Tax Credits
in accordance with AS 43.05.010

Department of Education & Early Development
School District Forecasted Unreserved
Year-End Operating Fund Balance
FY 2025
in accordance with ch. 2, SLA 2021

Standing Committee Reports

SB 69

The Judiciary Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 69 "An Act relating to sexual assault examination kits; establishing the sexual assault examination kit tracking system; and providing for an effective date."

Signing do pass: Senator Claman, Chair; Senator Kiehl. Signing no recommendation: Senator Tobin.

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The following previously published fiscal information applies:
Fiscal Note No. 1, Department of Public Safety

The bill was referred to the Finance Committee.

Consideration of the Calendar

Citations

In Memoriam - Fred Hupprich

Senator(s) Kawasaki

Representative(s) Dibert

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the citation be adopted. Without objection, the citation was adopted and referred to the Secretary for transmittal.

Unfinished Business

Senator Dunbar moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate from morning plane time, February 20 through evening plane time, February 23. Without objection, Senator Dunbar was excused.

Announcements

Announcements are at the end of the journal.

Adjournment

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the Senate stand in adjournment until 11:00 a.m., February 19, 2025. Without objection, the Senate adjourned at 11:09 a.m.

Liz Clark
Secretary of the Senate

Announcements

Americans with Disabilities Act Notice - Persons with disabilities who require special accommodation or alternative communication formats to access committee meetings may contact the appropriate committee office or the Legislative Information Office in their community. Reasonable advance notice is needed to accommodate the request. For further information, call the ADA Coordinator at 465-3854 Voice/465-4980 TDD.

STANDING COMMITTEES

+ indicates teleconference

= indicates bill previously heard/scheduled

COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS

Feb 18 **Tuesday** **Beltz 105 (tsbldg)** **1:30 PM**
+= SB 63 LOCAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION
-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
Streamed live on AKL.tv

EDUCATION

Feb 17	Monday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+		Presentation: Alaska's per pupil spending in context: 2022 and 2023 updates	
		Dayna Jean DeFeo, Director, Center for Alaska Education Research, Institute of Social and Economic Research	
		Matthew Berman, Professor of Economics, Institute of Social and Economic Research	
+	SB 6	ASIAN AMERICAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER PROGRAM -- Invited & Public Testimony -- Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKI.ty**	

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EDUCATION (continued)

Feb 19	Wednesday	Davis 106	8:00 AM
	-- Please Note Time & Location Change -- Meeting jointly with the House Education Committee -- Testimony <Invitation Only> -- + Presentation: Alaska Municipal Leaders Education Priorities by Participants in the Alaska Municipal League 2025 Winter Legislative Conference Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		
Feb 21	Friday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+= SB 41	PUBLIC SCHOOLS: MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION -- Public Testimony --		
+= SB 22	FINANCIAL LITERACY PROGRAM IN SCHOOLS -- Public Testimony --		
+= SB 23	CIVICS EDUCATION -- Public Testimony --		
+ SB 82	EDUCATION:SCHOOLS; GRANTS; FUNDING; DEBT -- Invited & Public Testimony -- Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

FINANCE

Feb 17	Monday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+	Presentation: Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA) Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		
Feb 18	Tuesday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+	Presentation: Cases, Judgments, and Settlements Department of Law Overview: University of Alaska - FY26 Budget Senate Finance Subcommittee of the Whole Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

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FINANCE (continued)

Feb 19	Wednesday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+ SB 72	RAILROAD CORP. FINANCING		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+ HB 65	RAILROAD CORP. FINANCING		
	<Pending Introduction & Referral>		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
	Presentation: Three-Year Budget Outlook		
	Legislative Finance Division		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Feb 20	Thursday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+	Presentation: Alaska Municipal League		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Feb 21	Friday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
	No Meeting Scheduled		

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Feb 18	Tuesday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
	-- Agenda Change --		
+ SB 89	PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT SCOPE OF PRACTICE		
+	Presentation: Alaska Primary Care Association		
	Nancy Merriman, CEO, Alaska Primary Care		
	Association		
	Lisa Aquino, CEO, Anchorage Neighborhood Health		
	Center and APCA FQHC Payment Taskforce Chair		
	Joshua Gilmore, CEO, Sunshine Health Center and		
	APCA Board Chair		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

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HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES (continued)

Feb 20	Thursday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
-- MEETING CANCELED --			
-- Agenda Change --			
Presentation: Alaska Primary Care Association			
Nancy Merriman, CEO, Alaska Primary Care			
Association			
Lisa Aquino, CEO, Anchorage Neighborhood Health			
Center and APCA FQHC Payment Taskforce Chair			
Joshua Gilmore, CEO, Sunshine Health Center and			
APCA Board Chair			
<Above Item Removed from Agenda>			
+ SB 9	SURRENDER OF INFANTS; INF. SAFETY DEVICE		
Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled			
Streamed live on AKL.tv			

JUDICIARY

Feb 17	Monday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
-- MEETING CANCELED --			
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
Streamed live on AKL.tv			
Feb 19	Wednesday	Davis 106	1:30 PM
-- Please Note Location Change --			
+	Meeting Jointly with House Judiciary Committee		
Presentation: Oregon Criminal Justice Commission			
Overview			
Ken Sanchagrin, Executive Director,			
Oregon Criminal Justice Commission			
Streamed live on AKL.tv			
Feb 21	Friday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
Streamed live on AKL.tv			

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LABOR & COMMERCE

Feb 17	Monday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
+ = SB 11	FLOOD INSURANCE		
	-- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --		
+ = SB 17	CRIME COUNTERFEIT/NONFUNCTIONING AIRBAG		
	-- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --		
+ SB 98	EXTEND BOARD OF VETERINARY EXAMINERS		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Feb 19	Wednesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
+	Presentation: How Workers' Compensation Works		
	Director Chuck Collins, Division of Workers'		
	Compensation		
+ SB 98	EXTEND BOARD OF VETERINARY EXAMINERS		
	-- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --		
+ SB 39	LOANS UNDER \$25,000; PAYDAY LOANS		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Feb 21	Friday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
	No Meeting Scheduled		

RESOURCES

Feb 17	Monday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+ SB 47	CHUGACH STATE PARK EASEMENTS		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+ = SB 29	BIG GAME COMMERCIAL SERVICES BOARD		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+ = SB 30	STATE PARK PERMITS FOR DISABLED VETERANS		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+ = SB 61	ELECTRONIC DEVICE RECYCLING		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

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RESOURCES (continued)

Feb 19	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+ SB 92	CORP. INCOME TAX; OIL & GAS ENTITIES -- Testimony <Invitation Only> -- Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		
Feb 21	Friday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
	No Meeting Scheduled		

STATE AFFAIRS

Feb 18	Tuesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+ SB 31	ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY PROGRAM -- Public Testimony --		
+ SB 43	WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH -- Invited & Public Testimony -- Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		
Feb 20	Thursday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+	Presentation: Adding a faculty member to the UA Board of Regents Jill Dumesnil - Statewide President, United Academics Jackie Cason - UAA Faculty Senate President		
+	Presentation: Department of Law Overview Functions and current litigation Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

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TRANSPORTATION

Feb 18	Tuesday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
+	-- Continued from 02/13/25 --		
	Presentation: STIP Update and Construction Outlook		
	Katherine Keith, Deputy Commissioner		
	Dom Pannone, Director of Program Management & Administration		
	Overview: Alaska International Airport System		
	Angie Spear, C.M., AIAS Director		
	Teri Lindseth, ANC Deputy Airport Director, Planning & Development		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Feb 20	Thursday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
+	Presentation: Winter Road Maintenance		
	Andy Mills, Special Assistant, Commissioner's Office		
	Jason Sakalaskas, Maintenance and Operations Chief, Northern Region		
	Burrell Nickeson, Maintenance and Operations Manager, Central Region		
	Brad Bylsma, Director, State Equipment Fleet		
	Christine Langley, Director, Data Modernization and Innovation Office		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ARCTIC AFFAIRS

Feb 20	Thursday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
+	Presentation: The Wilson Center		
	Shannon-Elizabeth O'Hare, US Polar Leadership Project Coordinator, Wilson Center		
	Presentation: Denali Commission		
	Julie Kitka, Federal Co-Chair, Denali Commission		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

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OTHER MEETINGS

JOINT SESSION

Feb 20	Thursday	House Chamber	11:00 AM
+	Annual Address by Nick Begich III, U.S. Representative		
Mar 18	Tuesday	House Chamber	11:00 AM
+	Annual Address by Lisa Murkowski, U.S. Senator		
Mar 20	Thursday	House Chamber	11:00 AM
+	Annual Address by Dan Sullivan, U.S. Senator		

MISCELLANEOUS MEETINGS

Feb 19	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	12:00 PM
+	Lunch & Learn Presentation: Covenant House Alaska Sponsored by Senator Tobin		
Feb 19	Wednesday	Davis 106	12:00 PM
+	Lunch & Learn Presentation: Dock Talk: The Work of Alaska Longshoremen Dennis Young, President, ILWU Jesse Groom, Vice President, ILWU Darryl Tseu, Secretary/Treasurer, ILWU Caleb Adelmann, SC Committeeman, ILWU Travis Swangel, SW Committeeman, ILWU Sponsored by Senator Kiehl and Representative Fields		
Feb 19	Wednesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	5:30 PM
+	Alaska Children's Caucus Meeting -- Testimony <Invitation Only> -- Presentation: Kids Count Data Book Trevor Storrs, President & CEO, Alaska Children's Trust Presentation: Children's Justice Act Task Force Josh Louwerse, Senior Director of Legislative Affairs and Youth Systems Improvement, Covenant House Alaska **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

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MISCELLANEOUS MEETINGS (continued)

Feb 24	Monday	Butrovich 205	12:00 PM
	Lunch & Learn Presentation: Alaska Trucking Association Industry Overview Jamie Benson, President/CEO Sponsored by Senator Bjorkman and Representative Carrick		
Feb 26	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	12:00 PM
	Lunch & Learn Presentation: 2025 Report Card for Alaska's Infrastructure American Society of Civil Engineers - Alaska Section as part of the Alaska Professional Design Council annual Legislative Fly-In David Gamez, Tor Anderzen, Greg Kinney Sponsored by Senator Kaufman		
Mar 05	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	12:00 PM
	Lunch & Learn Presentation: Safeguarding Alaska's Natural Resources from Foreign Malign Influence Tyler Vose, Founder & CEO, Denali Defense Solutions Dal Rae Beach, COO Sponsored by Senators Shower, Yundt and Representatives Vance, Allard		
Mar 19	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	12:00 PM
	Lunch & Learn Presentation: Alaska Travel and Tourism Alaska Travel Industry Association Sponsored by Senator Merrick		
Mar 31	Monday	Butrovich 205	12:00 PM
	Lunch & Learn Presentation: Alaska's Workforce Future Alaska Workforce Alliance Jose Owens, American Marine International Carol Wren, BBNC and AWA Executive Director Sponsored by Senator Merrick		

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MISCELLANEOUS MEETINGS (continued)

Apr 01	Tuesday	Butrovich 205	12:00 PM
Lunch & Learn Presentation: Alaska is an Aerospace State Dr. Bob McCoy, Director, UAF Geophysical Institute Sponsored by Senator Kawasaki			
Apr 09	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	12:00 PM
Lunch & Learn Presentation: Alaska Commission of Postsecondary Education Sponsored by Senator Tobin			