

SENATE JOURNAL
ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

Juneau, Alaska

Monday

March 3, 2025

Forty-second Day

Pursuant to adjournment the Senate was called to order by President Stevens at 11:02 a.m.

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

The prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Pastor Nathaniel Habeger, Juneau Christian Center. Senator Hoffman moved and asked unanimous consent the prayer be spread. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Dear Heavenly Father, I pray today over this senate body. I thank you for each man and woman who has responded to the call to lead and represent their regions. I thank you for this great state of Alaska. The beauty, the majesty, and the awe which this great state commands when we look around. I thank you for nature, the people, and the resources which are found within this state. God, I ask that you help all of us (politician or not) to steward well this life that we have.

God, I thank you for your mercy and grace which are so readily available for those who seek it out. I thank you for your kindness and patience, your justice and your righteousness. I thank you for your faithfulness and your unfailing love.

God, I pray over each Senator today. That they would be blessed in their comings and their goings. That their families would be blessed. That their minds and the things they put their hands to would flourish and be blessed. Bless them this day, in Jesus' name I pray.
Amen.

Senator Cronk led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Certification

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the journals for the thirty-ninth through forty-first 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 March 7. Without objection, Senator Olson was excused.

Messages from the House

SB 87

Message dated February 28 was read stating the House passed and returned:

SENATE BILL NO. 87 "An Act disapproving the recommendations of the State Officers Compensation Commission; and providing for an effective date."

The bill was referred to the Secretary for enrollment.

Communications

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

Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development
Military Courtesy Licensing Biennial Report
in accordance with AS 08.01.063

Department of Fish and Game
Status of Brown Bears and Other Natural Resources in the
McNeil River State Game Sanctuary and Refuge
2024 Annual Report to the Alaska State Legislature
February 2025
in accordance with AS 16.20.041 and AS 16.20.162

Alaska Mental Health Board
Statewide Suicide Prevention Council
2024 Annual Report
in accordance with AS 44.29.360

Alaska Court System
Appellate and Trial Courts
2024 Time-to-Disposition Report
in accordance with AS 22.20.310

Alaska Energy Authority
2024 Annual Report
in accordance with AS 44.83.940

Department of Education and Early Development
School Capital Project Funding Under SB 237
Annual Report
in accordance with AS 14.11.035

Standing Committee Reports

SSCR 1

The Finance Committee considered SENATE SPECIAL CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1 Disapproving Executive Order No. 136.

Signing the report: Senators Stedman, Hoffman, Cochairs; Senators Kaufman, Cronk, Merrick, Kiehl.

The following previously published fiscal information applies:
Fiscal Note No. 1, zero, Senate Resources Committee

In accordance with Uniform Rule 49(a)(4), the resolution was transmitted to the House for consideration.

Consideration of the Calendar**Third Reading of Senate Bills****SB 43**

SENATE BILL NO. 43 "An Act establishing the month of March as Women's History Month" was read the third time.

The question being: "Shall SENATE BILL NO. 43 "An Act establishing the month of March as Women's History Month" pass the Senate?" The roll was taken with the following result:

SB 43

Third Reading - Final Passage

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

Yeas: Bjorkman, Claman, Cronk, Dunbar, Giessel, Gray-Jackson, Hoffman, Hughes, Kaufman, Kawasaki, Kiehl, Merrick, Myers, Shower, Stedman, Stevens, Tobin, Wielechowski, Yundt

Excused: Olson

and so, SENATE BILL NO. 43 passed the Senate and was referred to the Secretary for engrossment.

Citations

Honoring - Tanana Valley League of Women Voters 60th Anniversary
Senator(s) Kawasaki
Representative(s) Dibert, Carrick

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**SJR 4**

Senators Yundt, Cronk, Myers, Hughes, Shower moved and asked unanimous consent to be shown as cosponsors on SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 4 Proposing amendments to the Constitution of the State of Alaska relating to an appropriation limit. Without objection, it was so ordered.

SJR 5

Senators Yundt, Hughes, Myers, Cronk, Shower moved and asked unanimous consent to be shown as cosponsors on SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5 Proposing amendments to the Constitution of the State of Alaska relating to the Alaska permanent fund, appropriations from the permanent fund, and the permanent fund dividend. Without objection, it was so ordered.

SB 37

Senators Yundt, Hughes, Myers, Cronk, Shower moved and asked unanimous consent to be shown as cosponsors on SENATE BILL NO. 37 "An Act relating to the Executive Budget Act; relating to strategic plans, mission statements, performance plans, and financial plans for executive branch agencies; and providing for an effective date." Without objection, it was so ordered.

SB 107

Senators Yundt, Myers, Kaufman, Cronk, Shower moved and asked unanimous consent to be shown as cosponsors on SENATE BILL NO. 107 "An Act establishing a violation for hindering the Alaska Sunset Commission; establishing the Alaska Sunset Commission to review, audit, and make recommendations on discontinuation of or changes to state entities; and relating to the powers and duties of the Alaska Sunset Commission." Without objection, it was so ordered.

SB 6

Senators Yundt, Kaufman, Cronk moved and asked unanimous consent to be shown as cosponsors on SENATE BILL NO. 6 "An Act requiring education in the history and contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders." Without objection, it was so ordered.

Announcements

Announcements are at the end of the journal.

Engrossment**SB 43**

SENATE BILL NO. 43 "An Act establishing the month of March as Women's History Month" was engrossed, signed by the President and Secretary and transmitted to the House for consideration.

Adjournment

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the Senate stand in adjournment until 11:00 a.m., March 5, 2025. Without objection, the Senate adjourned at 11:26 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

Mar 04	Tuesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
	No Meeting Scheduled		

EDUCATION

Mar 03	Monday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+ SB 82	EDUCATION:SCHOOLS; GRANTS; FUNDING; DEBT		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

Mar 05	Wednesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+ SB 13	SUMMER EBT BENEFITS FOR CHILDREN		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+ SB 46	EDUCATION FUNDING		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
	Presentation: Special Education in Alaska by		
	Front-line educators		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

Mar 07	Friday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+ SB 110	MUSEUM CONSTRUCTION GRANTS		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

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FINANCE

Mar 03	Monday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+	EO 136 Establish Depart. of Agriculture		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
+	SSCR 1 DISAPPROVE EO 136		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
	Presentation: FY25 - FY45 Medicaid Enrollment and Spending in Alaska Report (MESA)		
	Department of Health		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Mar 04	Tuesday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
	No Meeting Scheduled		
Mar 05	Wednesday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
	-- Rescheduled from 03/03/25 --		
+	Presentation: FY25-FY45 Medicaid Enrollment and Spending in Alaska Report (MESA)		
	Department of Health		
	Presentation: Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Mar 06	Thursday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+	SB 80 EXTEND BOARDS		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+	SB 109 PERMANENT FUND DIVIDEND; POMV SPLIT		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
+	SB 73 MARIJUANA: TAX/REGISTRATION; INCOME TAX		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+	SB 113 APPORTION TAXABLE INCOME; DIGITAL BUSINESS		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Mar 07	Friday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
	No Meeting Scheduled		

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Mar 04	Tuesday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+	Presentation: Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Chief Executive Officer Introduction Dr. Mary Wilson		
+	SB 90	MINOR MENTAL HEALTH: AGE OF CONSENT -- Invited & Public Testimony -- Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**	
Mar 06	Thursday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+	-- MEETING CANCELED -- Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

JUDICIARY

Mar 03	Monday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
+	-- MEETING CANCELED -- Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		
Mar 05	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		
Mar 07	Friday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
	No Meeting Scheduled		

LABOR & COMMERCE

Mar 03	Monday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
+=	SB 24	TOBACCO/NICOTINE/E-CIG AGE; E-CIG TAX -- Invited & Public Testimony -- -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --	
+	SB 50	MUNICIPAL COMPREHENSIVE PLANS: HOUSING -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --	
+	SB 81	PUBLIC EMPLOYER PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS -- Testimony <Invitation Only> -- <Above Item Removed from Agenda> **Streamed live on AKL.tv**	

LABOR & COMMERCE (continued)

Mar 05	Wednesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
+= SB 54	EXT ARCH, ENG, SURVEY BRD; REG INT DESIGN		
	-- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --		
+ SB 86	MONEY TRANSMISSION; VIRTUAL CURRENCY		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Mar 07	Friday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

RESOURCES

Mar 03	Monday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+	Consideration of Governor's Appointees:		
	Jessie Chmielowski, Alaska Oil and Gas		
	Conservation Commission		
+= SB 92	CORP. INCOME TAX; OIL & GAS ENTITIES		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Mar 05	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+	Presentation: Alaska Statehood Defense		
	Presentation: GaffneyCline Global LNG Market		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Mar 07	Friday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
	No Meeting Scheduled		

STATE AFFAIRS

Mar 04	Tuesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+	Presentation: ANDVSA: Alaska's support for those experiencing sexual and domestic violence		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
+= SB 40	HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH		
+= SJR 10	HMONG VETERANS; CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL		
+= SJR 6	WASHINGTON D.C. STATEHOOD		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
+ SCR 1	ART. II, SEC. 16, CONST: VETO RECON		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Mar 06	Thursday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

TRANSPORTATION

Mar 04	Tuesday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
+	Presentation: Intro to the Alaska Marine Highway System's Long-range Plan		
	Craig Tornnga, Marine Director, Alaska Marine Highway System		
	Dom Pannone, Director of Program Management & Administration		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Mar 06	Thursday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
	-- Continued from 2/20/25 --		
+	Presentation: Winter Road Maintenance		
	Andy Mills, Special Assistant, Commissioner's Office		
	Burrell Nickeson, Maintenance and Operations Manager, Central Region		
	Brad Bylsma, Director, State Equipment Fleet		
	Presentation: Rural Aviation System Update		
	Troy LaRue, Director of Statewide Aviation		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES

ADMINISTRATION

Mar 03 +	Monday Administration Subcommittee	Senate Finance 532	5:15 PM
Mar 10 +	Monday Administration Subcommittee	Senate Finance 532	5:15 PM
Mar 17 +	Monday Administration Subcommittee	Senate Finance 532	5:15 PM

CORRECTIONS

Mar 05	Wednesday Corrections Subcommittee	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	8:00 AM
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EDUCATION & EARLY DEVELOPMENT

Mar 11 +	Tuesday Education & Early Development Subcommittee	Senate Finance 532	5:15 PM
Mar 18 +	Tuesday Education & Early Development Subcommittee	Senate Finance 532	5:15 PM
Mar 25 +	Tuesday Education & Early Development Subcommittee	Senate Finance 532	5:15 PM

FISH & GAME

Mar 06 +	Thursday Department of Fish and Game Budget **Streamed live on AKL.tv**	Senate Finance 532	8:00 AM
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HEALTH

Mar 06 +	Thursday Presentation: Medicaid Update **Streamed live on AKL.tv**	Senate Finance 532	3:30 PM
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JUDICIARY

Mar 05	Wednesday Judiciary Subcommittee	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	5:30 PM
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LAW

Mar 03	Monday Law Subcommittee	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	5:30 PM
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NATURAL RESOURCES

Mar 04 +	Tuesday Overview: Department of Natural Resources FY26	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
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PUBLIC SAFETY

Mar 06	Thursday Public Safety Subcommittee	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	8:00 AM
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REVENUE

Mar 06 +	Thursday Revenue Subcommittee	Senate Finance 532	5:15 PM
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Mar 13 +	Thursday Revenue Subcommittee	Senate Finance 532	5:15 PM
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Mar 20 +	Thursday Revenue Subcommittee	Senate Finance 532	5:15 PM
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SPECIAL COMMITTEES

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ARCTIC AFFAIRS

Mar 06	Thursday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
	No Meeting Scheduled		

JOINT COMMITTEES

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET & AUDIT

Mar 04	Tuesday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
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+ -- Please Note Location Change --
Presentation: The Impact of the POMV on
Alaska’s Budget
Alexei Painter, Director, Legislative Finance
Division
Presentation: Alaska Permanent Fund
Corporation’s Trustees’ Paper #10, titled “A
Rules-Based Permanent-Endowment Model for
Alaska”
Jason Brune, Chair, APFC Board of Trustees and
Deven Mitchell, APFC Executive Director and CEO
Streamed live on AKL.tv

OTHER MEETINGS

JOINT SESSION

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

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		
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 02	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	12:00 PM
	Lunch & Learn Presentation: BUILDING FOR THE NORTH: The History of Alaska Housing and Cold Climate Solutions Leah Winters, Public Policy Fellow, Cold Climate Housing Research Center (CCHRC) Sponsored by Senator Kawasaki		
Apr 09	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	12:00 PM
	Lunch & Learn Presentation: Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education Sponsored by Senator Tobin		