

**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 44.29.350

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 60<sup>th</sup> 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

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**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\*\*

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**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

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**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\*\*

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**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

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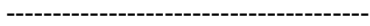
STATE AFFAIRS

**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 Tornga, 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**

<b>Mar 03</b> +	<b>Monday</b> Administration Subcommittee	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>5:15 PM</b>
<b>Mar 10</b> +	<b>Monday</b> Administration Subcommittee	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>5:15 PM</b>
<b>Mar 17</b> +	<b>Monday</b> Administration Subcommittee	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>5:15 PM</b>

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**CORRECTIONS**

<b>Mar 05</b>	<b>Wednesday</b> Corrections Subcommittee	<b>Beltz 105 (tsbldg)</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>
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**EDUCATION & EARLY DEVELOPMENT**

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

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**FISH & GAME**

<b>Mar 06</b> +	<b>Thursday</b> Department of Fish and Game Budget	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>
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**HEALTH**

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

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**JUDICIARY**

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

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**LAW**

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

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**NATURAL RESOURCES**

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

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**PUBLIC SAFETY**

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

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**REVENUE**

**Mar 06**      **Thursday**                              **Senate Finance 532**                      **5:15 PM**  
+              Revenue Subcommittee

**Mar 13**      **Thursday**                              **Senate Finance 532**                      **5:15 PM**  
+              Revenue Subcommittee

**Mar 20**      **Thursday**                              **Senate Finance 532**                      **5:15 PM**  
+              Revenue Subcommittee

**SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ARCTIC AFFAIRS**

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

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**JOINT COMMITTEES**

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET & AUDIT**

**Mar 04**      **Tuesday**                      **Senate Finance 532**                      **9:00 AM**  
 -- 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\*\*

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**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