

SENATE JOURNAL

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

Juneau, Alaska

Thursday

March 6, 2025

Forty-fifth Day

Pursuant to adjournment the Senate was called to order by President Stevens at 10:37 a.m.

The roll showed seventeen members present. Senator Olson was excused from a call of the Senate. Senators Hoffman, Shower were absent.

The prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Nova Tomaszewski, Senate Page. Senator Kaufman moved and asked unanimous consent the prayer be spread. Without objection, it was so ordered.

O Jesus, Give to us and to all in authority, wisdom and strength to know and to do Thy will. Fill us with the love of truth and righteousness and make us ever mindful of our calling to serve the people of this great state. Grant that we be guided by Your providence and dwell secure in Your peace. Amen.

Senator Giessel led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Certification

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the journal for the forty-fourth legislative day, Senate Journal Supplement No. 2, and House and Senate Joint Journal Supplement No. 5 be approved as certified by the Secretary. Without objection, it was so ordered.

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

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Senator Myers, Acting Minority Leader, moved and asked unanimous consent Senator Shower be excused from a call of the Senate today. Without objection, Senator Shower was excused.

Communications

The following report is on file in the Office of the Secretary of the Senate:

Letter from the Attorney General dated March 5 was received reporting the monetary terms for the collective bargaining agreement reached between the University of Alaska and United Academics (UNAC) in accordance with AS 23.40.215 and AO 356.

President Stevens referred the report to the Finance Committee.

Standing Committee Reports

Report dated March 5 was read stating:

In accordance with AS 39.05.080, the Resources Committee held a hearing on the following appointee(s). A signature on this report does not reflect an intent by any of the members to vote for or against the confirmation of the individual(s) during any further sessions.

Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, Alaska

Jessie Chmielowski

Signing the report: Senator Giessel, Chair; Senators Hughes, Myers, Wielechowski, Kawasaki.

SB 93

The Education Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 93 "An Act relating to district-wide early education programs; and providing for an effective date."

Signing do pass: Senator Tobin, Chair; Senator Kiehl. Signing no recommendation: Senators Cronk, Bjorkman.

The following fiscal information was published today:

Fiscal Note No. 1, Department of Education and Early Development

Fiscal Note No. 2, zero, Department of Education and Early Development

The bill was referred to the Finance Committee.

**Introduction and Reference of
Senate Resolutions****SJR 14**

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 14 BY THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE,

Proposing amendments to the Constitution of the State of Alaska relating to the Alaska permanent fund and to appropriations from the Alaska permanent fund.

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

Introduction and Reference of Senate Bills**SB 123**

SENATE BILL NO. 123 BY SENATOR MYERS BY REQUEST, entitled:

"An Act relating to citizen review panels for certain children in state custody; reestablishing the Citizens' Review Panel for Permanency Planning; and providing for an effective date."

was read the first time and referred to the Health and Social Services and Judiciary Committees.

Consideration of the Calendar**Second Reading of Senate Bills****SB 47**

SENATE BILL NO. 47 "An Act relating to Chugach State Park; and providing for an effective date" was read the second time.

Senator Giessel, Chair, moved and asked unanimous consent for the adoption of the Resources Committee Substitute offered on page 381. Without objection, CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 47(RES) was adopted.

President Stevens stated CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 47(RES) will advance to third reading on the March 10 calendar.

Third Reading of Senate Resolutions**SJR 9**

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 9 Recognizing and honoring the relationship between Canada and Alaska; and recognizing the importance of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement negotiated by President Donald J. Trump in October of 2018, was read the third time.

Senator Wielechowski, Chair, moved and asked unanimous consent SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 9 be returned to the Rules Committee. Without objection, the resolution was returned to the Rules Committee.

Citations

Commemorating - Peace Officers Memorial Day May 15, 2025
Representative(s) Edgmon

Honoring - Eduard Zilberkant
Senator(s) Myers, Cronk
Representative(s) Schwanke

Honoring - JAMHI Health & Wellness, Inc. 40th Anniversary
Representative(s) Hannan, Story
Senator(s) Kiehl

Honoring - Marti Guzman
Representative(s) Mina

Honoring - Alaska National Guard First Scouts
Representative(s) Nelson, Foster
Senator(s) Olson

Honoring - Joseph "Joe" Principe
Representative(s) Nelson, Stapp
Senator(s) Tobin

Honoring - Lucky Wishbone 70th Anniversary
Representative(s) Nelson
Senator(so) Tobin

In Memoriam - Ellen Jean Newkirk
Senator(s) Wielechowski
Representative(s) Mears, Eischeid

In Memoriam - Dorothy Ann Hunter
Senator(s) Wielechowski
Representative(s) Mears, Eischeid

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In Memoriam - Linda Bright
Senator(s) Wielechowski
Representative(s) Mears, Eischeid

In Memoriam - Calvin Robert Schaefer
Senator(s) Wielechowski
Representative(s) Mears, Eischeid

In Memoriam - David "Sandy" Jamieson
Senator(s) Kawasaki
Representative(s) Carrick

In Memoriam - Alfred "Al" Ketzler, Sr.
Senator(s) Kawasaki, Cronk
Representative(s) Dibert

In Memoriam - Ruth Gronlid Benson
Senator(s) Kawasaki
Representative(s) Dibert

In Memoriam - Nicole Nordstrand
Senator(s) Kawasaki
Representative(s) Dibert

In Memoriam - John Augustus Rego
Representative(s) Schwanke
Senator(s) Cronk

In Memoriam - Donald D. Church
Representative(s) Schwanke
Senator(s) Yundt

In Memoriam - William R. Church
Representative(s) Schwanke
Senator(s) Yundt

In Memoriam - Donnell Edward Erickson
Representative(s) Moore, Foster

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

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., March 10, 2025. Without objection, the Senate adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Liz Clark
Secretary of the Senate

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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 11	Tuesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
+ SB 111	DIGITAL PRODUCT REPAIR		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
+ SB 102	ELIMINATE DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
+ SB 26	ELIMINATE DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

EDUCATION

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

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EDUCATION (continued)

Mar 10	Monday	Davis 106	8:30 AM
	-- Please Note Time & Location Change --		
+	Meeting jointly with the House Education Committee		
	Presentation: 2025 State Board of Education Report to the Legislature		
	James Fields, State Board Chair		
	Deena Bishop, DEED Commissioner		
	Members of the Alaska State Board of Education and Early Development		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Mar 12	Wednesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+	SB 18 COMMUNICATION DEVICES IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+	HB 69 EDUCATION FUNDING: INCREASE BSA <Pending Referral>		
+=	SB 6 ASIAN AMERICAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER PROGRAM		
	Consideration of Governor's Appointees:		
	Alaska Board of Education and Early Development		
	Kimberly Bergey		
	Kathryn McCollum		
	Consideration of Governor's Appointees:		
	Professional Teaching Practices Commission		
	Heidi Barnes		
	Kimberly Bergey		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Mar 14	Friday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
	-- Please Note Time & Location Change --		
+	Meeting jointly with the Senate Judiciary Committee		
	Presentation: Policy and Prevention for Young Adults in the Juvenile Justice System		
	Adriana Galván, Director, Developmental Neuroscience Laboratory at University of California Los Angeles		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

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FINANCE

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 <Bill Hearing Rescheduled to 03/10/25> -- Invited & Public Testimony -- Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		
Mar 07	Friday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
	No Meeting Scheduled		
Mar 10	Monday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+ SB 113	APPORTION TAXABLE INCOME;DIGITAL BUSINESS -- Invited & Public Testimony -- Presentation: Three Year Budget Outlook Update Legislative Finance Division Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
Mar 11	Tuesday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+ SJR 14	CONST AM: PERMANENT FUND; POMV;EARNINGS -- Testimony <Invitation Only> -- Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
Mar 12	Wednesday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+	Presentation: Medicaid Levers and Federal Marketplace Department of Health Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
Mar 13	Thursday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+	Presentation: Spring Revenue Forecast Department of Revenue Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

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FINANCE (continued)

Mar 14	Friday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+	Overview: Major Maintenance and School Construction		
	Department of Education and Early Development		
	Alaska Council of School Administrators		
	Mt. Edgecumbe High School		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Mar 06	Thursday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+	-- MEETING CANCELED --		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Mar 11	Tuesday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+	SB 121	HEALTH INSURANCE ALLOWABLE CHARGES	
+	SB 122	HEALTH INSURANCE NETWORK STANDARDS	
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

Mar 13	Thursday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled:		
+=	SB 9	SURRENDER OF INFANTS; INF. SAFETY DEVICE	
+=	SB 83	TELEHEALTH REIMBURSEMENT RATES	
	SENATE BILL: CRISIS CARE		
	<Pending Introduction & Referral>		
	SENATE BILL: MEDICAID		
	<Pending Introduction & Referral>		

JUDICIARY

Mar 07	Friday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
	No Meeting Scheduled		
Mar 10	Monday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
+	SJR 6	WASHINGTON D.C. STATEHOOD	
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

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JUDICIARY (continued)

Mar 12	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
+ = SB 12	PFD/CHILD SUPPORT Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		
Mar 14	Friday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
+	Meeting jointly with the Senate Education Committee Presentation: Policy and Prevention for Young Adults in the Juvenile Justice System Adriana Galván, Director, Developmental Neuroscience Laboratory at the University of California Los Angeles Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

LABOR & COMMERCE

Mar 07	Friday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
+ = SB 54	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled: EXT ARCH, ENG, SURVEY BRD; REG INT DESIGN		
+ = SB 50	MUNICIPAL COMPREHENSIVE PLANS: HOUSING -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --		
+ = SB 86	MONEY TRANSMISSION; VIRTUAL CURRENCY -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> -- **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		
Mar 10	Monday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
	No Meeting Scheduled		
Mar 12	Wednesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
+ = SB 54	EXT ARCH, ENG, SURVEY BRD; REG INT DESIGN		
+ = SB 24	TOBACCO/NICOTINE/E-CIG AGE; E-CIG TAX		
+ = SB 55	TRS CONTR RATE; PERS/TRS SOC SECUR OR SBS -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> -- **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

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LABOR & COMMERCE (continued)

Mar 14	Friday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
+ SB 89	PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT SCOPE OF PRACTICE		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
+ SB 96	CHILD CARE: TAX CREDITS		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

RESOURCES

Mar 07	Friday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
	No Meeting Scheduled		
Mar 10	Monday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+ SB 108	FINFISH FARMS AND PRODUCTS		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+ SB 97	BIG GAME PERMIT PROGRAM		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

Mar 12	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+ SB 105	STATE LAND FOR RECREATIONAL CABIN SITES		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+ SB 112	OIL & GAS PRODUCTION TAX		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

Mar 14	Friday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+ SB 97	BIG GAME PERMIT PROGRAM		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

STATE AFFAIRS

Mar 06	Thursday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
	-- MEETING CANCELED --		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

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STATE AFFAIRS (continued)

Mar 11	Tuesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+ SB 62	BOARD OF PAROLE: MEMBERSHIP, REPORT		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+ SB 71	PRETRIAL SERVICES SUPERVISION AGRMNTS		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+ SB 19	PRISONERS: ELECTRONIC DEVICE ACCESS/USE		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+ SB 64	ELECTIONS		
	-- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
 Mar 13	 Thursday	 Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	 3:30 PM
+ SB 64	ELECTIONS		
	-- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --		
+ SB 49	WORKPLACE VIOLENCE PROTECTIVE ORDERS		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+ SB 120	CLIMATE CHANGE COMMISSION		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

TRANSPORTATION

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		

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TRANSPORTATION (continued)

Mar 11	Tuesday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
+	Port MacKenzie: Navigating Multimodal Transportation Infrastructure Development in the Point MacKenzie Region David Griffin, Port MacKenzie Operations Manager, Matanuska-Susitna Borough Meghan Clemens, External Affairs Director, Alaska Railroad Corporation		
Mar 13	Thursday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
+	Highway, Bike and Pedestrian Safety Pam Golden, P.E., State Traffic & Safety Engineer Shannon McCarthy, Communications Director Dan Smith, Director, Measurement Standards and Commercial Vehicle Compliance		

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES

ADMINISTRATION

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

COMMERCE, COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEV

Mar 14	Friday	Senate Finance 532	8:00 AM
+	Overview: FY26 Budget Items		

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EDUCATION & EARLY DEVELOPMENT

Mar 11	Tuesday	Senate Finance 532	5:15 PM
+			
Mar 18	Tuesday	Senate Finance 532	5:15 PM
+			
Mar 25	Tuesday	Senate Finance 532	5:15 PM
+			

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Mar 11	Tuesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	2:00 PM
+			
		Presentation: Division of Spill Prevention and Response (SPAR) & Clean Water Act Section 404	

FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Mar 13	Thursday	Senate Finance 532	3:30 PM
+			
		Overview: Requested FY26 Budget Items **Streamed live on AKL.tv**	

FISH & GAME

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

HEALTH

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

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LABOR & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Mar 10	Monday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
+	Presentation: Alaska Vocational Technical Center Director Cory Ortiz, PhD Presentation: State Training Employment Program Paloma Harbour, Training Services Director Dirk Craft, Alaska Workforce Investment Board Director		

PUBLIC SAFETY

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

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		
Mar 13	Thursday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
+	Presentation: Arctic Affairs in Alaska Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **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 17	Monday	Butrovich 205	12:00 PM
	Lunch & Learn Presentation: So there's a disaster in my district: what the heck do I do now? Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management Bryan Fisher, Director Angela Laflamme, Legislative Liaison Sponsored by Senator Kiehl		
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		

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MISCELLANEOUS MEETINGS (continued)

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			