

**SENATE JOURNAL**  
**ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE**  
**THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE**  
**FIRST SESSION**

**Juneau, Alaska**

**Monday**

**March 17, 2025**

**Fifty-sixth Day**

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

The roll showed seventeen members present. Senator Claman was excused from a call of the Senate. Senators Hughes, Stedman were absent.

The prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Pastor Trenton Cooper, Glacier Valley Baptist Church. Senator Hoffman moved and asked unanimous consent the prayer be spread. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Lord, Your Word says in Psalm 128, "How happy is everyone who fears the Lord, who walks in His ways! They will surely eat what their hands have worked for. They will be happy and it will go well for them." That is my prayer today. I pray that I will learn to fear and honor You. I pray that our leaders will do the same.

Father, I believe You have brought everyone here for a purpose. It is You who establishes earthly authority. I pray that our leaders here would recognize this blessing that comes from Your hand; that they have a chance to serve our great state and her people at Your behest. May they carry out this important task with dignity, honor, and wisdom. Cause them to carry out justice and to love mercy.

And Lord, please bless them and their efforts. Bless their families, their spouses, their children, and their grand children. Bless their friends. Lord cause Your face to shine upon them. I ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

Senator Kaufman led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Certification**

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

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

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

### **Standing Committee Reports**

#### **SB 97**

The Resources Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 97 "An Act establishing a big game guide concession area permit program on land in the state; relating to the duties of the Big Game Commercial Services Board, the Board of Game, the Department of Fish and Game, and the Department of Natural Resources; requiring the Board of Game to establish an initial big game guide concession area; and providing for an effective date."

Signing do pass: Senator Giessel, Chair; Senator Claman. Signing do not pass: Senator Myers. Signing no recommendation: Senators Wielechowski, Dunbar. Signing amend: Senators Hughes, Kawasaki.

The following fiscal information was published today:

Fiscal Note No. 1, Department of Fish and Game

Fiscal Note No. 2, Department of Fish and Game

Fiscal Note No. 3, Department of Natural Resources

The bill was referred to the Finance Committee.

### **Introduction and Reference of Senate Bills**

#### **SB 133**

SENATE BILL NO. 133 BY THE SENATE LABOR & COMMERCE COMMITTEE, entitled:

"An Act relating to prior authorization requests for medical care covered by a health care insurer; relating to a prior authorization application programming interface; relating to step therapy; and providing for an effective date."

was read the first time and referred to the Labor and Commerce and Finance Committees.

### **Consideration of the Calendar**

#### **Third Reading of Senate Bills**

#### **SB 50**

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 50(L&C) "An Act relating to the comprehensive plans of first and second class boroughs" was read the third time.

The question being: "Shall CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 50(L&C) "An Act relating to the comprehensive plans of first and second class boroughs" pass the Senate?" The roll was taken with the following result:

CSSB 50(L&C)

Third Reading - Final Passage

**YEAS: 17 NAYS: 0 EXCUSED: 3 ABSENT: 0**

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

Excused: Claman, Hughes, Stedman

and so, CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 50(L&C) passed the Senate and was referred to the Secretary for engrossment.

### **Third Reading of Senate Resolutions**

#### **SJR 10**

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 10 Encouraging the United States Congress to award Hmong veterans of the Vietnam War the Congressional Gold Medal, was read the third time.

The question being: "Shall SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 10 Encouraging the United States Congress to award Hmong veterans of the Vietnam War the Congressional Gold Medal, pass the Senate?"  
The roll was taken with the following result:

#### **SJR 10**

Third Reading - Final Passage

**YEAS: 17 NAYS: 0 EXCUSED: 3 ABSENT: 0**

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

Excused: Claman, Hughes, Stedman

and so, SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 10 passed the Senate and was referred to the Secretary for engrossment.

### **Citations**

Honoring - Urbach's Clothier

Senator(s) Stevens

Representative(s) Stutes

Honoring - 2025 Alaska Journal of Commerce Top 40 Under 40  
Recipients  
Senator(s) Kawasaki

Honoring - Ticasuk Brown Elementary School  
Representative(s) Stapp, Dibert  
Senator(s) Kawasaki

In Memoriam - Trygve "Trig" Bjorklund  
Representative(s) Allard, Saddler

In Memoriam - James Martin Lindoff Jr., L'too da xaan  
Representative(s) Himschoot  
Senator(s) Kiehl, Stedman

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.

### **Engrossment**

#### **SB 50**

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 50(L&C) "An Act relating to the comprehensive plans of first and second class boroughs" was engrossed, signed by the President and Secretary and transmitted to the House for consideration.

#### **SJR 10**

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 10 Encouraging the United States Congress to award Hmong veterans of the Vietnam War the Congressional Gold Medal, 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 10:45 a.m., March 18, 2025. Without objection, the Senate adjourned at 11:28 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**

<b>Mar 18</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Beltz 105 (tsbldg)</b>	<b>1:30 PM</b>
+ SB 102	ELIMINATE DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
+ SB 26	ELIMINATE DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	**Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

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**EDUCATION**

<b>Mar 17</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Beltz 105 (tsbldg)</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
	Presentation: UAA Teacher Apprenticeship Solutions		
	UAA Provost Dr. Denise Runge		
+ HB 69	EDUCATION FUNDING: INCREASE BSA		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	**Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

  

<b>Mar 19</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Beltz 105 (tsbldg)</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
+ HB 69	EDUCATION FUNDING: INCREASE BSA		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	**Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

**EDUCATION (continued)**

<b>Mar 21</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Beltz 105 (tsbldg)</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
<b>+ = HB 69</b>	<b>EDUCATION FUNDING: INCREASE BSA</b>		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	**Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

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**FINANCE**

<b>Mar 17</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>
<b>+</b>	Presentation: Governor's Amendments		
	Office of Management and Budget		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	**Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

<b>Mar 18</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>
<b>+</b>	Overview: Deferred Maintenance		
	University of Alaska		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	**Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

<b>Mar 19</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>
<b>+</b>	Presentation: Three Year Budget Outlook Update		
	Legislative Finance Division		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	**Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

<b>Mar 20</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>
<b>+ SB 31</b>	<b>ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY PROGRAM</b>		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
<b>+ SB 39</b>	<b>LOANS UNDER \$25,000; PAYDAY LOANS</b>		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	**Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

<b>Mar 21</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>
	No Meeting Scheduled		

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**HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES**

**Mar 18      Tuesday      Butrovich 205      3:30 PM**  
 No Meeting Scheduled

**Mar 20      Thursday      Butrovich 205      3:30 PM**  
 += SB 122 HEALTH INSURANCE NETWORK STANDARDS  
 <Bill Hearing Canceled>  
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --  
 += SB 90 MINOR MENTAL HEALTH: AGE OF CONSENT  
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --  
 += SB 88 CHILD PLACEMENT; DILIGENT SEARCH  
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --  
 += SB 121 HEALTH INSURANCE ALLOWABLE CHARGES  
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --  
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled:  
 SENATE RESOLUTION: MEDICAID  
 <Pending Introduction & Referral>

**JUDICIARY**

**Mar 17      Monday      Butrovich 205      1:30 PM**  
 No Meeting Scheduled

**Mar 19      Wednesday      Butrovich 205      1:30 PM**  
 + Consideration of Governor's Appointees: Daniel Carothers, Alaska Police Standards Council  
 Consideration of Governor's Appointees: David Ross, Alaska Police Standards Council  
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --  
 Presentation: Criminal Division of the Department of Law  
 John Skidmore, Deputy Attorney General, Criminal Division  
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled  
 \*\*Streamed live on AKL.tv\*\*

Mar 21	Friday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
+	Consideration of Governor's Appointees: Timothy Collins, Alaska Police Standards Council Consideration of Governor's Appointees: Bill Satterberg, Commission on Judicial Conduct -- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+=	SJR 6	WASHINGTON D.C. STATEHOOD Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**	

Mar 17	Monday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
+	Presentation: UAA Workforce Solutions in Alaska UAA Provost Dr. Denise Runge Dr. Debbie Craig, Dean - UAA College of Health Ray Weber, Dean - UAA Community & Technical College Dr. Cheryl Siemers, Director - Kenai Peninsula College (KPC)		
+	SB 99	CPA AS PRIVATE PROFESSIONAL CONSERVATORS -- Testimony <Invitation Only> -- **Streamed live on AKL.tv**	

<b>Mar 19</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Beltz 105 (tsbldg)</b>	<b>1:30 PM</b>
+	SB 132	OMNIBUS INSURANCE BILL	
		-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --	
+	SB 133	INSURANCE; PRIOR AUTHORIZATIONS	
		-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --	
		**Streamed live on AKL.tv**	

Mar 21	Friday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
+ SB 28	RETIREMENT SYSTEMS; DEFINED BENEFIT OPT. -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
+ SB 4	HEALTH CARE PRICES AND INCENTIVE PROGRAMS -- Testimony <Invitation Only> -- **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

**RESOURCES**

**Mar 17      Monday                                      Butrovich 205                      3:30 PM**

**+= SB 105** STATE LAND FOR RECREATIONAL CABIN SITES  
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --  
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled  
 \*\*Streamed live on AKL.tv\*\*

**Mar 19      Wednesday                                      Butrovich 205                      3:30 PM**

**+** Consideration of Governor's Appointees:  
 Regulatory Commission of Alaska  
 John Springsteen  
 Steven Devries  
 Mark Johnston  
 -- Public Testimony --  
**+ SJR 8** INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN  
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --  
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled  
 \*\*Streamed live on AKL.tv\*\*

**Mar 21      Friday                                      Butrovich 205                      3:30 PM**

**+** **SB 114** GAS PIPELINE FAIRBANKS SPUR  
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --  
**+** **SB 125** AK GASLINE FINANCE CORPORATION  
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --  
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled  
 \*\*Streamed live on AKL.tv\*\*

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**STATE AFFAIRS**

**Mar 18      Tuesday                                      Beltz 105 (tsbldg)                      3:30 PM**

**+= SB 64** ELECTIONS  
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --  
**+** **SB 35** DELIVERY NETWORK COMPANIES  
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --  
**+** **SB 34** REPEAL 90 DAY SESSION LIMIT  
 -- Public Testimony --  
**+** **SB 37** STRATEGIC PLANS FOR STATE AGENCIES  
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --  
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled  
 \*\*Streamed live on AKL.tv\*\*

STATE AFFAIRS (continued)

<b>Mar 20</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Beltz 105 (tsbldg)</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
+ SB 120	CLIMATE CHANGE COMMISSION		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+ SB 107	ALASKA SUNSET COMMISSION		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+ SB 25	JUDICIAL RETENTION ELECTION INFORMATION		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+ SJR 13	APPOINTMENT OF STATE JUDGES		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	**Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

TRANSPORTATION

<b>Mar 18</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>1:30 PM</b>
	No Meeting Scheduled		

  

<b>Mar 20</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>1:30 PM</b>
+ SJR 12	NOAA BUOY OUTAGES		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
+ SB 104	VEHICLES/BOATS: TRANSFER ON DEATH TITLE		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
+ SJR 11	JONES ACT WAIVER FOR LNG SHIPS		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
	**Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES

ADMINISTRATION

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

EDUCATION & EARLY DEVELOPMENT

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

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## EDUCATION & EARLY DEVELOPMENT (continued)

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

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## HEALTH

<b>Mar 18</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>3:30 PM</b>
+	Presentation: Update from the Division of Public Assistance Deb Etheridge, Director **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

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## REVENUE

<b>Mar 20</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Senate Finance 532</b>	<b>5:15 PM</b>
+	Revenue Subcommittee		

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## SPECIAL COMMITTEES

### SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ARCTIC AFFAIRS

<b>Mar 20</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Beltz 105 (tsbldg)</b>	<b>1:30 PM</b>
+	-- MEETING CANCELED -- Presentation: Arctic Affairs Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

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## OTHER MEETINGS

### JOINT SESSION

<b>Mar 18</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>House Chamber</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>
+	Annual Address by Lisa Murkowski, U.S. Senator		

**OTHER MEETINGS (continued)**

**JOINT SESSION (continued)**

<b>Mar 19</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>House Chamber</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>
+	Consideration of Senate Special Concurrent Resolution 1 Regarding Executive Order 136		
SSCR 1	DISAPPROVE EO 136		
<b>Mar 20</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>House Chamber</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>
+	Annual Address by Dan Sullivan, U.S. Senator		

**MISCELLANEOUS MEETINGS**

<b>Mar 17</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>12:00 PM</b>
	Lunch & Learn Presentation: So, There's a Disaster in Your District: What the Heck Do You Do Now? Bryan Fisher, Director, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management Angela Laflamme, Legislative Liaison, Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Sabrina Grubitz, Incident Commander, Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska Robert Barr, Deputy City Manager, City and Borough of Juneau Sponsored by Senator Kiehl		
<b>Mar 19</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>12:00 PM</b>
	Lunch & Learn Presentation: Alaska Travel and Tourism Alaska Travel Industry Association Sponsored by Senator Merrick		
<b>Mar 19</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Davis 106</b>	<b>12:00 PM</b>
	Lunch & Learn Presentation: Discrimination in Alaska: A Snapshot of Alaskans' Perspectives Rob Corbisier, Alaska State Commission for Human Rights Blake Bennett, Alaska Survey Research Sponsored by Senator Myers		

**MISCELLANEOUS MEETINGS (continued)**

<b>Mar 31</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>12:00 PM</b>
	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		
<b>Apr 01</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>12:00 PM</b>
	Lunch & Learn Presentation: Alaska is an Aerospace State Dr. Bob McCoy, Director, UAF Geophysical Institute Sponsored by Senator Kawasaki		
<b>Apr 02</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>12:00 PM</b>
	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		
<b>Apr 09</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Butrovich 205</b>	<b>12:00 PM</b>
	Lunch & Learn Presentation: Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education Sponsored by Senator Tobin		