

SENATE JOURNAL

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

Juneau, Alaska

Thursday

March 20, 2025

Fifty-ninth Day

Pursuant to adjournment the Senate was called to order by President Stevens at 10:46 a.m.

The roll showed twenty members present.

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.

Psalm 1 says, "How happy is the one who does not walk in the advice of the wicked or stand in the pathway with sinners or sit in the company of mockers! Instead, his delight is in the Lord's instruction, and he meditates on it day and night. He is like a tree planted beside flowing streams that bears its fruit in its season, and its leave does not wither. Whatever he does prospers."

Lord, I pray this over our leaders today. I pray that they will not walk in the advice of the wicked or stand in the pathway with sinners, but instead delight in Your wisdom and instruction. Lord, may they be planted like trees near the streams of Your truth.

As our leaders deliberate, Lord, grant them a measure of grace. Keep them from temptation and deliver them from evil. Protect their health, minds, friends, and families so that they can continue to focus on their work to serve the people of this state.

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And lastly, Lord, I pray a blessing on this beautiful state You've allowed us to steward. Bless her people and resources so that generations after us can continue to enjoy this wonderful place. I ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

Senator Merrick led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Certification

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the journal for the fifty-eighth legislative day be approved as certified by the Secretary. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Communications

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

Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development
Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA)
2024 Annual Report
in accordance with AS 44.88.210

Standing Committee Reports

Report dated March 19 was read stating:

In accordance with AS 39.05.080, the Judiciary 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.

Alaska Police Standards Council

Daniel Carothers

David Ross

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Signing the report: Senator Claman, Chair; Senators Stevens, Tobin, Myers, Kiehl.

Report dated March 19 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.

Regulatory Commission of Alaska

John Springsteen

Steven Devries

Mark Johnston

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

Consideration of the Calendar

Second Reading of Senate Bills

SB 80

SENATE BILL NO. 80 "An Act extending the termination date of the Big Game Commercial Services Board; extending the termination date of the Board of Massage Therapists; extending the termination date of the Marijuana Control Board; and providing for an effective date" was read the second time.

Senator Hoffman, Cochair, moved and asked unanimous consent for the adoption of the Finance Committee Substitute offered on page 489. Without objection, CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 80(FIN) "An Act extending the termination date of the Big Game Commercial Services Board; extending the termination date of the Board of Massage Therapists; extending the termination date of the Alaska Commission on Aging; extending the termination date of the Marijuana Control Board; and providing for an effective date" was adopted.

President Stevens stated CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 80(FIN) will advance to third reading on the March 24 calendar.

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Citations

Honoring - The Breast Cancer Detection Center of Alaska 50th

Anniversary

Senator(s) Kawasaki

Representative(s) Dibert, Carrick

Honoring - Fairbanks Montessori School 60th Anniversary

Senator(s) Kawasaki

Representative(s) Dibert

Honoring - May Ramirez-Xiong

Representative(s) Eischeid

Senator(s) Wielechowski

Honoring - Ron Meehan

Representative(s) Eischeid, Mina

Senator(s) Wielechowski

Honoring - Brandon Boylan

Representative(s) Carrick

Honoring - Northland Youth Choir 25th Anniversary

Representative(s) Tomaszewski, Prax

Senator(s) Cronk

Honoring - Alaska Literacy Program (ALP) 50th Anniversary

Representative(s) Mina, Gray

Senator(s) Dunbar

Honoring - Kueni Ma'ake

Representative(s) Story, Hannan

Senator(s) Kiehl

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

Unfinished Business**SB 31**

Senators Kaufman, Dunbar moved and asked unanimous consent to be shown as cosponsors on SENATE BILL NO. 31 "An Act relating to the duties of the Department of Administration; creating an address confidentiality program; and providing for an effective date." Without objection, it was so ordered.

Recess

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the Senate stand in recess to the Joint Session. Without objection, the Senate recessed at 10:56 a.m.

After Recess**Joint Session in the House**

Speaker Edgmon called the House to order and in accordance with Uniform Rule 51 turned the gavel over to President Stevens, who called the Joint Session to order at 11:08 a.m.

The purpose of the Joint Session was to hear an address by the Honorable Dan Sullivan, U.S. Senator.

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the roll call of the Senate be waived and all members be shown as present. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Representative Kopp moved and asked unanimous consent the roll call of the House be waived and all members be shown as present. Without objection, it was so ordered.

President Stevens appointed Senator Cronk and Representative Schwanke to escort U.S. Senator Dan Sullivan to the Joint Session.

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The Senate Sergeant at Arms, Matt Simpson, announced the Honorable Dan Sullivan's entrance to the House Chamber.

Senator Sullivan was escorted to the rostrum and welcomed by President Stevens and Speaker Edgmon.

Senator Sullivan delivered his address. This address appears in House and Senate Joint Journal Supplement No. 7.

Following his address, there was a question and answer period. Senator Sullivan received a standing ovation.

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the Joint Session stand in adjournment. Without objection, President Stevens adjourned the Joint Session at 12:46 p.m.

After Recess

In the Senate

The Senate reconvened at 12:50 p.m.

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 24, 2025. Without objection, the Senate adjourned at 12:50 p.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 25	Tuesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
+ =	SB 26	ELIMINATE DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME -- Public Testimony --	
+ =	SB 102	ELIMINATE DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME -- Public Testimony --	
+ =	SB 111	DIGITAL PRODUCT REPAIR -- Invited & Public Testimony -- **Streamed live on AKL.tv**	

EDUCATION

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

Mar 24	Monday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+		Presentation: Capital Needs for School Facilities Alaska Department of Education and Early Development	
+ =	HB 69	EDUCATION FUNDING: INCREASE BSA -- Testimony <Invitation Only> -- Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**	

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EDUCATION (continued)

Mar 26	Wednesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+ SB 20	CPR CURRICULUM		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+ SB 118	ADD FACULTY MEMBER UNIV BOARD OF REGENTS		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+= HB 69	EDUCATION FUNDING: INCREASE BSA		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Mar 28	Friday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

FINANCE

Mar 20	Thursday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+ SB 31	ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY PROGRAM		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+ SB 39	LOANS UNDER \$25,000; PAYDAY LOANS		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Mar 21	Friday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
	No Meeting Scheduled		
Mar 24	Monday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+= SJR 14	CONST AM: PERMANENT FUND; POMV;EARNINGS		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Mar 25	Tuesday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+	Presentation: Alaska Broadband Office		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Mar 26	Wednesday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+	Presentation: Alaska Energy Authority		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

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FINANCE (continued)

Mar 27	Thursday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+= SB 30	STATE PARK PERMITS FOR DISABLED VETERANS		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+= SB 54	EXT ARCH, ENG, SURVEY BRD; REG INT DESIGN		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+= SB 61	ELECTRONIC DEVICE RECYCLING		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Mar 28	Friday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
	No Meeting Scheduled		

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

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:		
+= SJR 15	OPPOSE MEDICAID CUTS		
	<Bill Hearing Canceled>		

Mar 25	Tuesday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+	SB 95	CHILD CARE: ASSISTANCE/GRANTS	
+=	SCR 2	SUPPORT CRISIS CARE & MEDICAID REFORM	
		Presentation: All Alaska Pediatric Partnership	
+=	SJR 15	OPPOSE MEDICAID CUTS	
		Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled	

Mar 27	Thursday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+= SB 122	HEALTH INSURANCE NETWORK STANDARDS		
+= SB 95	CHILD CARE: ASSISTANCE/GRANTS		
+= SB 88	CHILD PLACEMENT; DILIGENT SEARCH		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

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JUDICIARY

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 24	Monday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
+	Consideration of Governor's Appointees: Leitoni Tupou, State Board of Parole		
	Robert Urata, Violent Crimes Compensation Board		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+= SB 17	CRIME COUNTERFEIT/NONFUNCTIONING AIRBAG		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Mar 26	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
	Consideration of Governor's Appointees: Donald Handeland, Board of Governors of the Alaska Bar		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+= SB 78	DISCLOSURE OF WAGE INFORMATION		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Mar 28	Friday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

LABOR & COMMERCE

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		

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LABOR & COMMERCE (continued)

Mar 24	Monday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
+ SB 137	EXTEND BOARDS: MIDWIVES, NURSING, PAROLE -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
+ SB 55	TRS CONTR RATE; PERS/TRS SOC SECUR OR SBS -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --		
+ SB 96	CHILD CARE: TAX CREDITS -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> -- Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		
Mar 26	Wednesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
+ SB 132	OMNIBUS INSURANCE BILL -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --		
+ SB 133	INSURANCE; PRIOR AUTHORIZATIONS -- Invited & Public Testimony -- Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		
Mar 28	Friday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
	No Meeting Scheduled		

RESOURCES

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**		
Mar 24	Monday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+	Presentation: Alaska Resource Education & Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

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RESOURCES (continued)

Mar 26	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+	Presentation: Alaska Critical Minerals Alaska Critical Minerals Collaborative University of Alaska Fairbanks Critical Mineral Research Initiatives Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		
Mar 28	Friday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+= SB 92	CORP. INCOME TAX; OIL & GAS ENTITIES -- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+ SB 128	CREATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE -- Invited & Public Testimony -- Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

STATE AFFAIRS

Mar 20	Thursday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+= 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**		
Mar 25	Tuesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+= SB 64	ELECTIONS -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --		
+= SB 120	CLIMATE CHANGE COMMISSION -- Public Testimony --		
+ SB 68	EMPLOYMENT OF MINORS -- Invited & Public Testimony -- Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

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STATE AFFAIRS (continued)

Mar 27	Thursday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+ SB 64	ELECTIONS		
	-- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --		
+ SB 77	PERM FUND; EMPLOYMENT; ELIGIBILITY		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+ SB 116	CAMPAIGN FINANCE, CONTRIBUTION LIMITS		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

TRANSPORTATION

Mar 20	Thursday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
+ 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		

Mar 25	Tuesday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
+ SJR 12	NOAA BUOY OUTAGES		
	-- Public Testimony --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

Mar 27	Thursday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
	No Meeting Scheduled		

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES

EDUCATION & EARLY DEVELOPMENT

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

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ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Apr 15 **Tuesday** **Beltz 105 (tsbldg)** **2:00 PM**
+ Overview: Department of Environmental
Conservation Senate Finance Subcommittee Close
Out

FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Mar 25 **Tuesday** **Senate Finance 532** **3:30 PM**
+ Presentation: FY26 Budget Request
Kim Koval, Commissioner
Marian Sweet, Assistant Commissioner
Clinton Lasley, Assistant Commissioner
Streamed live on AKL.tv

LABOR & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Apr 15 **Tuesday** **Beltz 105 (tsbldg)** **2:45 PM**
+ Overview: Department of Labor and Workforce
Development Senate Finance Subcommittee Close
Out

MILITARY & VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Apr 15 **Tuesday** **Beltz 105 (tsbldg)** **2:15 PM**
+ Overview: Department of Military and Veterans
Affairs Senate Finance Subcommittee Close Out

NATURAL RESOURCES

Apr 15 **Tuesday** **Beltz 105 (tsbldg)** **2:30 PM**
+ Overview: Department of Natural Resources
Senate Finance Subcommittee Close Out

REVENUE

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

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SPECIAL COMMITTEES

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ARCTIC AFFAIRS

Mar 20	Thursday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
+	-- MEETING CANCELED --		
	Presentation: Arctic Affairs		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Mar 27	Thursday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
+	Presentation: Update on Alaska Fisheries		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

OTHER MEETINGS

JOINT SESSION

Mar 20	Thursday	House Chamber	11:00 AM
+	Annual Address by Dan Sullivan, U.S. Senator		

MISCELLANEOUS MEETINGS

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	Davis 106	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			