

SENATE JOURNAL

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

Juneau, Alaska

Monday

April 7, 2025

Seventy-seventh Day

Pursuant to adjournment the Senate was called to order by President Stevens at 11:01 a.m.

The roll showed twenty members present.

The prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Secretary of the Bahá'í Assembly Adam Bauer, Juneau Bahá'í Assembly. Senator Hoffman moved and asked unanimous consent the prayer be spread. Without objection, it was so ordered.

O Thou kind Lord! This gathering is turning to Thee.

These hearts are radiant with Thy love. These minds and spirits are exhilarated by the message of Thy glad tidings. O God! Let this American democracy become glorious in spiritual degrees even as it has aspired to material degrees and render this just government victorious. Confirm this revered nation to upraise the standard of the oneness of humanity, to promulgate the Most Great Peace, to become thereby most glorious and praise worthy among all the nations of the world. O God! This American nation is worthy of Thy favors and is deserving of Thy mercy. Make it precious and near to Thee through Thy bounty and bestowal. Amen.

Senator Yundt led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Certification

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

Communications

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

Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development
Division of Insurance
2024 Annual Report
in accordance with AS 21.06.110

Disclosure letters received from the Select Committee on Legislative Ethics, in accordance with AS 24.60, will be published in Senate Journal Supplement No. 4.

Standing Committee Reports

Report dated April 4 was read stating:

In accordance with AS 44.64.010 and 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.

Chief Administrative Law Judge
Joan Wilson

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

SB 11

The Labor and Commerce Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 11 "An Act relating to flood insurance; relating to property insurance; establishing the Alaska Flood Authority and the Alaska flood insurance fund; and providing for an effective date."

Signing do pass: Senator Bjorkman, Chair; Senator Dunbar. Signing no recommendation: Senators Merrick, Gray-Jackson.

The following fiscal information was published today:

Fiscal Note No. 1, indeterminate, Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

Fiscal Note No. 2, Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

Fiscal Note No. 3, Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

Fiscal Note No. 4, indeterminate, Department of Revenue

The bill was referred to the Finance Committee.

SB 122

The Health and Social Services Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 122 "An Act relating to insurance; establishing standards for health insurance provider networks; and providing for an effective date" and recommended it be replaced with

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 122(HSS)

Signing do pass: Senator Dunbar, Chair; Senators Claman, Giessel. Signing do not pass: Senator Hughes. Signing no recommendation: Senator Tobin.

The following fiscal information was published today:

Fiscal Note No. 1, Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

The bill was referred to the Labor and Commerce Committee.

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SB 132

The Labor and Commerce Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 132 "An Act relating to insurance; and providing for an effective date" and recommended it be replaced with

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 132(L&C)

Signing do pass: Senator Bjorkman, Chair; Senator Gray-Jackson.
Signing no recommendation: Senators Dunbar, Merrick.

The following fiscal information was published today:

Fiscal Note No. 1, Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

The bill was referred to the Finance Committee.

SJR 15

The Health and Social Services Committee considered SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 15 Calling on the state's congressional delegation to oppose cuts to federal spending on Medicaid, and recommended it be replaced with

CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION
NO. 15(HSS)

Signing do pass: Senator Giessel, Vice chair; Senators Claman, Tobin.
Signing do not pass: Senator Hughes.

The following fiscal information was published today:

Fiscal Note No. 1, zero, Legislative Agency

The resolution was referred to the Rules Committee.

Introduction and Reference of Senate Bills**SB 158**

SENATE BILL NO. 158 BY SENATOR BJORKMAN, entitled:

"An Act relating to administrative areas for regulation of certain commercial set net entry permits; and providing for an effective date."

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

SB 159

SENATE BILL NO. 159 BY THE SENATE LABOR & COMMERCE COMMITTEE, entitled:

"An Act increasing contributions to the Department of Labor and Workforce Development for the State Training and Employment Program."

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

Consideration of the Calendar**Citations**

Honoring - Gene Stone

Senator(s) Olson

Representative(s) Foster, Burke

Honoring - The New York Café 100th Anniversary

Senator(s) Stedman

Representative(s) Bynum

Honoring - South Anchorage Civic Leadership Program

Representative(s) Holland, Coulombe

Senator(s) Giessel

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Honoring - Dr. Lewis Pagel
Representative(s) Burke
Senator(s) Olson

In Memoriam - Sean Griffin
Senator(s) Stedman
Representative(s) Bynum

In Memoriam - Richard "Dick" Olson
Senator(s) Kawasaki
Representative(s) Dibert, Prax

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

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the following citation be made a special order of business. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Special Order of Business

Honoring - Alaska Folk Festival 50th Anniversary
Representative(s) Hannan, Story
Senator(s) Kiehl

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

Announcements

Announcements are at the end of the journal.

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Adjournment

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the Senate stand in adjournment until 11:00 a.m., April 9, 2025. Without objection, the Senate adjourned at 11:11 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

Apr 08	Tuesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
+ = HJR 5	SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS PROGRAM		
	-- Public Testimony --		
+ = SB 129	PAYMENT OF CONTRACTS		
	-- Public Testimony --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled:		
+ = SB 111	DIGITAL PRODUCT REPAIR		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

EDUCATION

Apr 07	Monday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+ =	Consideration of Governor's Appointees:		
	Professional Teaching Practices Commission		
	Angie Alston - Fairbanks		
	Kathryn Baird - Fairbanks		
	Patrick Frymark - Fairbanks		
	-- Public Testimony --		
+ = SB 13	SUMMER EBT BENEFITS FOR CHILDREN		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

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EDUCATION (continued)

Apr 09	Wednesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+ SB 8	EDUCATION FOR DEAF & HEARING IMPAIRED		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+ SB 143	MUNICIPAL SCHOOL BOARD TERMS		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Apr 11	Friday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+ SB 151	SCHOOL DISTRICT HEAD LICE POLICY		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+ SB 118	ADD FACULTY MEMBER UNIV BOARD OF REGENTS		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

FINANCE

Apr 07	Monday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+	Presentation: Defined Contribution Account Performance		
	Department of Administration, Division of		
	Retirement and Benefits		
+ SB 57	APPROP: CAPITAL/SUPPLEMENTAL/FUNDS		
+ HB 56	APPROP: SUPPLEMENTAL; FUND CAP		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Apr 07	Monday	Senate Finance 532	1:30 PM
+	-- MEETING CANCELED --		
	-- Please Note Time Change --		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Apr 08	Tuesday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+ SB 55	TRS CONTR RATE; PERS/TRS SOC SECUR OR SBS		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+ SB 57	APPROP: CAPITAL/SUPPLEMENTAL/FUNDS		
+ HB 56	APPROP: SUPPLEMENTAL; FUND CAP		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

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FINANCE (continued)

Apr 08	Tuesday	Senate Finance 532	1:30 PM
	-- Please Note Time Change --		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Apr 09	Wednesday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+=	SB 39	LOANS UNDER \$25,000; PAYDAY LOANS	
+	SB 64	ELECTIONS	
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+	SB 92	CORP. INCOME TAX; OIL & GAS ENTITIES	
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+=	HB 56	APPROP; SUPPLEMENTAL; FUND CAP	
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Apr 09	Wednesday	Senate Finance 532	1:30 PM
	-- Please Note Time Change --		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Apr 10	Thursday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+	SB 44	MINORS & PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS	
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+	SB 76	COMPLEX CARE RESIDENTIAL HOMES	
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+	SB 69	SEXUAL ASSAULT EXAMINATION KITS/TRACKING	
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+=	HB 56	APPROP; SUPPLEMENTAL; FUND CAP	
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Apr 10	Thursday	Senate Finance 532	1:30 PM
	-- Please Note Time Change --		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

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FINANCE (continued)

Apr 11	Friday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+ SB 63	LOCAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION -- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+= SB 54	EXT ARCH, ENG, SURVEY BRD; REG INT DESIGN		
+= SB 86	MONEY TRANSMISSION; VIRTUAL CURRENCY		
+= SB 29	BIG GAME COMMERCIAL SERVICES BOARD		
+= HB 56	APPROP: SUPPLEMENTAL; FUND CAP Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Apr 08	Tuesday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+ HB 36	FOSTER CHILDREN PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENT Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled:		
+= SB 88	CHILD PLACEMENT; DILIGENT SEARCH		
Apr 10	Thursday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+ SJR 16	FEDERAL ENSURING LASTING SMILES ACT -- Testimony <Invitation Only> -- Presentation: Citizen's Review Panel Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled:		
+= SB 45	MEDICAID MENTAL HEALTH PARITY		

JUDICIARY

Apr 07	Monday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
+ SCR 1	ART. II, SEC. 16, CONST: VETO RECON		
+= SB 78	DISCLOSURE OF WAGE INFORMATION <Bill Hearing Rescheduled to 04/11/25> Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		
Apr 09	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
+	Presentation: Alaska Department of Administration Public Defender Agency Overview Terrence Haas, Public Defender Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		

JUDICIARY (continued)

Apr 11 Friday Butrovich 205 1:30 PM
++ SB 9 SURRENDER OF INFANTS; INF. SAFETY DEVICE
++ SB 78 DISCLOSURE OF WAGE INFORMATION
Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
Streamed live on AKL.tv

LABOR & COMMERCE

Apr 07 **Monday** **Beltz 105 (tsbldg)** **1:30 PM**
+= SB 21 AK WORK & SAVE PROGRM; RETIRE. SAVINGS BD
-- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
+ SB 83 TELEHEALTH REIMBURSEMENT RATES
-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
Streamed live on AKI.ty

Apr 11 **Friday** **Beltz 105 (tsbldg)** **1:30 PM**
+ Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

RESOURCES

Apr 07 **Monday** **Butrovich 205** **3:30 PM**
+ Presentation: Pegasus Update
+ Joe Miller - President & CEO, Pegasus
+ Jeremy Clark - Senior Vice President, Pegasus
+= SB 114 GAS PIPELINE FAIRBANKS SPUR
-- Invited & Public Testimony --
Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
Streamed live on AKL.tv

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RESOURCES (continued)

Apr 09	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+= SB 130	FISHERIES PROD DEVELOPMENT TAX CREDIT		
	-- Public Testimony --		
+= SB 135	REFUND OF FISH BUSINESS TAX TO MUNIS		
	-- Public Testimony --		
+= SB 67	PROCURE PREF: AGRIC. & FISH PRODUCTS		
	-- Public Testimony --		
+	SB 131 DUTIES OF ASMI BOARD; MEANING OF SEAFOOD		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Apr 11	Friday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+	Consideration of Governor's Appointees:		
	Big Game Commercial Services Board		
	-- Public Testimony --		
+= SB 128	CREATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+	SB 139 LAND; OWNERSHIP RESTRICTIONS; AG LAND		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
	SENATE BILL: STATE SHARE OF PROFITS ON OIL AND		
	NATURAL GAS		
	<Pending Introduction & Referral>		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

STATE AFFAIRS

Apr 08	Tuesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+	Consideration of Governor's Appointees:		
	Alaska Police Standards Council		
	Daniel Carothers		
	David Ross		
	Timothy Collins		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+= SB 62	BOARD OF PAROLE: MEMBERSHIP, REPORT		
	-- Public Testimony --		
+	SB 126 CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES; PLACEMENT		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

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STATE AFFAIRS (continued)

Apr 10	Thursday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+	Consideration of Governor's Appointees: Alaska Public Offices Commission Walter Monegan -- Invited & Public Testimony --		
+= SB 49	WORKPLACE VIOLENCE PROTECTIVE ORDERS -- Public Testimony --		
+ SB 53	LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY ACCREDITATION -- Invited & Public Testimony -- Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

TRANSPORTATION

Apr 08	Tuesday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
	No Meeting Scheduled		
Apr 10	Thursday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
+= SB 138	TAXATION: VEHICLE RENTALS, SUBPOENAS -- Public Testimony --		
+= SB 104	VEHICLES/BOATS: TRANSFER ON DEATH TITLE -- Public Testimony --		
+ SB 152	HAROLD ESMAILKA AIRPORT AT RUBY -- Testimony <Invitation Only> -- Presentation: Metropolitan Planning Organization Boundary Process and Considerations Katherine Keith, Deputy Commissioner, Dept. of Transportation and Public Facilities **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES

ADMINISTRATION

Apr 15	Tuesday	Senate Finance 532	5:50 PM
+	Senate Administration Finance Subcommittee Close Out		

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EDUCATION & EARLY DEVELOPMENT

Apr 15 **Tuesday** **Senate Finance 532** **5:30 PM**
+ Senate Education & Early Development Finance
Subcommittee Close Out

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

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

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

Apr 15 **Tuesday** **Senate Finance 532** **5:10 PM**
+ Senate Finance Revenue Subcommittee Close Out

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TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC FACILITIES

Apr 16 **Wednesday** **Senate Finance 532** **8:00 AM**
+ FY26 DOT Operating budget - Close Out

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ARCTIC AFFAIRS

Apr 10 **Thursday** **Beltz 105 (tsbldg)** **1:30 PM**
+ Presentation: Ted Stevens Center for Arctic Security Studies
Randy "Church" Kee - Director, Ted Stevens
Center for Arctic Security Studies
Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
Streamed live on AKL.tv

JOINT COMMITTEES

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET & AUDIT

Apr 09 **Wednesday** **Senate Finance 532** **5:30 PM**
+ -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
I. Call to Order
II. Approval of the Agenda
III. Approval of Minutes
a. February 26, 2025
b. March 4, 2025
IV. Presentation: Alaska Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Project
a. Randy Ruaro, Executive Director, Alaska
Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA)
b. Frank Richards, President, Alaska Gasline
Development Corp. (AGDC)
V. Adjourn

OTHER MEETINGS

MISCELLANEOUS MEETINGS

Apr 09 **Wednesday** **Butrovich 205** **12:00 PM**
Lunch & Learn Presentation:
Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education
Sponsored by Senator Tobin