

SENATE JOURNAL
ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION

Juneau, Alaska

Monday

February 16, 2026

Twenty-eighth Day

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

The roll showed twenty members present.

The prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Pastor Greg Weinert, Emmanuel Baptist Church. Senator Hoffman moved and asked unanimous consent the prayer be spread. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Father, magnificent God, You are the creator and provider of all the abundance of our state. I praise Your name!

This morning, I lift up the men and women of this chamber. You have placed a heavy and sacred duty on their shoulders. Allow them to hear Your still small voice in the midst of the clatter and cacophony of the politic arena. You have called them to a higher standard. Send Your Holy Spirit to grant them discernment. Strengthen these servants of the people to seek Your wisdom first in all their decisions and obligations. Give them the courage to hold to their convictions and the humility to treat those with opposing views with civility and respect in their discourse, as well as a spirit of cooperation in the face of adversity. May they be endowed with the ability to inspire the best in all those who call themselves Alaskans.

I lift up too their families, many who have sacrificed separation by great distances so that their loved ones may serve the needs of the people. Protect them and comfort them.

On this Presidents' Day, I am reminded too of our national leaders, some who served brilliantly and many who missed the mark, but all who strived to attain the high ideals and standards which You placed in the hearts of our founders. Shield them from partisan pettiness and guide them.

This I humbly petition, not to our glory, Lord, but to You and You alone. I pray in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, Amen.

Senator Wielechowski led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Certification

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

Messages from the Governor

SCR 12

Message dated February 13 was read stating the Governor noted the following resolution and transmitted the engrossed and enrolled copies to the Lieutenant Governor's Office for permanent filing:

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 12
Extending the governor's October 9, 2025, declaration of a disaster emergency in response to the 2025 West Coast Storm; and approving an amended financing plan.

Communications

The following reports are on file in the Office of the Secretary of the Senate:

Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development
National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska
Impact Mitigation Grant Program Report
January 2026
in accordance with AS 37.05.530

Department of Education and Early Development
State Board of Education and Early Development
Annual Report
January 2026
in accordance with AS 14.07.168

Introduction and Reference of Senate Bills

SB 244

SENATE BILL NO. 244 BY THE SENATE LABOR AND
COMMERCE COMMITTEE, entitled:

"An Act relating to travel insurance."

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

Consideration of the Calendar

Second Reading of Senate Bills

SB 146

SENATE BILL NO. 146 "An Act relating to the regional educational
attendance area and small municipal school district fund; relating to
Mt. Edgecumbe High School; and relating to teacher housing" was
read the second time.

Senator Wielechowski moved and asked unanimous consent the following fiscal information be adopted:

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

Senator Cronk objected, then withdrew his objection. There being no further objection, Fiscal Note No. 2 was adopted.

President Stevens stated SENATE BILL NO. 146 will advance to third reading on the February 18 calendar.

Citations

Honoring – Education Trust of Alaska 25th Anniversary
Representative(s) Carrick

Honoring – Chief Greg Coon
Representative(s) Carrick, Schrage, Prax

Honoring – Basset Army Community Hospital
Representative(s) Stapp, Gray

Honoring – Gene's Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram 80th Anniversary
Senator(s) Myers
Representative(s) Tomaszewski, Stapp

Honoring – Valley Performing Arts Golden 50th Season
Senator(s) Tilton

In Memoriam – Dr. David Alan Stech
Senator(s) Myers
Representative(s) Carrick, Stapp

In Memoriam – John Paul Immel
Senator(s) Myers
Representative(s) Tomaszewski, Stapp

In Memoriam – Dr. Mohabbat Ahmadi
Senator(s) Myers
Representative(s) Carrick

In Memoriam – Chad Rick Cameron
Senator(s) Tilton
Representative(s) Johnson

In Memoriam – William Francis Ho’opai III
Representative(s) Mina
Senator(s) Dunbar, Tobin

In Memoriam – John “JC” Clark
Representative(s) Galvin, Fields

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 – University of Alaska Fairbanks College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences 65th Anniversary
Representative(s) 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

Senator Kaufman moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate from 1:00 p.m. plane time, February 20 through 1:00 p.m. plane time, February 22. Without objection, Senator Kaufman was excused.

Senator Myers moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate from afternoon plane time, March 13 through evening plane time, March 15. Without objection, Senator Myers was excused.

SB 243

Senators Tilton, Bjorkman, Myers, Cronk moved and asked unanimous consent to be shown as cosponsors on SENATE BILL NO. 243 "An Act removing devices designed, made, or adapted to muffle the report of a firearm from the definition of 'prohibited weapon.'" Without objection, it was so ordered.

Announcements

Announcements are at the end of the journal.

Adjournment

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the Senate stand in adjournment until 10:30 a.m., February 18, 2026. Without objection, the Senate adjourned at 11:22 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

Feb 17	Tuesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
+ =	HB 33	CONFLICT OF INTEREST: BDS FISHERIES/GAME	
+ =	SB 200	FARM & AGRICULTURAL LAND ASSESSMENTS	
+	SB 230	JONESVILLE PUBLIC USE AREA	
		-- Invited & Public Testimony --	
		Streamed live on AKL.tv	

EDUCATION

Feb 16	Monday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+	SB 210	INDIGENOUS CULTURAL HERITAGE EDUCATION	
		-- Invited & Public Testimony --	
		Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled	
		Streamed live on AKL.tv	

Feb 18	Wednesday	Davis 106	8:00 AM
		-- Please Note Time & Location Change --	
		-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --	
+		Meeting jointly with the House Education Committee	
		Presentation: Alaska Municipal Leaders Education Priorities by	
		Participants in the Alaska Municipal League	
		2026 Winter Legislative Conference	
		Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled	
		Streamed live on AKL.tv	

Feb 20	Friday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
		No Meeting Scheduled	

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FINANCE

Feb 16 Monday Senate Finance 532 9:00 AM
 + Presentation: Order of Operations by
 Department of Revenue
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

Feb 16 Monday Senate Finance 532 1:30 PM
 -- Please Note Time Change --
 + Presentation: Alaska Retirement Management Board
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

Feb 17 Tuesday Senate Finance 532 9:00 AM
 += SJR 2 CONST. AM: VOTES NEEDED FOR VETO OVERRIDE
 += SB 104 VEHICLES/BOATS: TRANSFER ON DEATH TITLE
 += SB 140 FIRE STATION GRANT PROGRAM
 + SB 21 AK WORK & SAVE PROGRAM; RETIRE. SAVINGS BD
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 + SB 211 EXTEND OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING BOARDS
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

Feb 18 Wednesday Senate Finance 532 9:00 AM
 + Presentation: 2025 Statewide Salary Report
 Update by
 Department of Administration
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

Feb 18 Wednesday Senate Finance 532 1:30 PM
 -- Please Note Time Change --
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

Feb 19 Thursday Senate Finance 532 9:00 AM
 + Presentation: Amendments by
 Office of Management and Budget
 Presentation: Response to Committee Questions by
 Office of Management and Budget
 Department of Transportation
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

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FINANCE (continued)

Feb 19	Thursday	Senate Finance 532	1:30 PM
	-- Please Note Time Change --		
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Feb 20	Friday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
	No Meeting Scheduled		

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Feb 17	Tuesday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+= HB 27	MEDICAL MAJOR EMERGENCIES		
	-- Public Testimony --		
+ HB 14	REPEAL CATASTROPHIC ILLNESS/MED ASSIST		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
+ SB 193	PRACTICE OF NATUROPATHY		
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Feb 19	Thursday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
	Presentation: Alaska Community Foundation		
	Alex McKay, CEO, Alaska Community Foundation		
	Megan Cacciola, Vice President of Programs &		
	Grants, Alaska Community Foundation		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

JUDICIARY

Feb 16	Monday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
+ HB 93	RESIDENCY REQ: HUNTING, TRAPPING, FISHING		
	-- Invited & Public Testimony --		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		
Feb 18	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
+= SB 212	NUMBER OF SUPERIOR COURT JUDGES		
	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled		
	Streamed live on AKL.tv		

JUDICIARY (continued)

Feb 20 Friday Butrovich 205 1:30 PM
 + Presentation: Report on Recommendations to
 Reduce the Overrepresentation of Alaska Native
 People in the Criminal Justice System by
 Department of Corrections, Alaska Federation of
 Natives, UAF Center for Alaska Native Health
 Research, and UAA Justice Center
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

LABOR & COMMERCE

Feb 16 Monday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 1:30 PM
 + SB 16 REFUSE UTILITY REGULATIONS
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 + SB 217 EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

Feb 18 Wednesday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 1:30 PM
 += SB 150 NET METERING PROGRAM & FUND
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 + SB 218 TAX: ELECTRIC COOPS/GENERATION/STORAGE
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

Feb 20 Friday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 1:30 PM
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

RESOURCES

Feb 16 Monday Butrovich 205 3:30 PM
 += SB 180 LNG IMPORT FACILITIES
 -- Public Testimony --
 += SB 227 TAX COMPACT; SALES TAX; OIL & GAS TAX
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

RESOURCES (continued)

Feb 18	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+ SB 180	LNG IMPORT FACILITIES		
SB 216	BIG GAME HUNTING PERMITS <Bill Hearing Rescheduled to 02/20/26> -- Invited & Public Testimony -- Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled:		
+ SB 227	TAX COMPACT; SALES TAX; OIL & GAS TAX **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		
 Feb 20	 Friday	 Butrovich 205	 3:30 PM
+ SB 216	BIG GAME HUNTING PERMITS -- Invited & Public Testimony -- **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

STATE AFFAIRS

Feb 17	Tuesday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	3:30 PM
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		
 Feb 19	 Thursday	 Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	 3:30 PM
+	Presentation: Alaska Native Incarceration by Kendra Kloster, Alaska Federation of Natives -- Testimony <Invitation Only> -- Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

TRANSPORTATION

Feb 17	Tuesday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
+	Presentation: Typhoon Halong Response by Deputy Commissioner Katherine Keith, Department of Transportation & Public Facilities Merle Sena, Department of Transportation & Public Facilities **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

Feb 19	Thursday	Butrovich 205	1:30 PM
+	Presentation: Anchorage Pedestrian Safety by Municipality of Anchorage, Anchorage Police Department, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

Feb 19	Thursday	Beltz 105 (tsbldg)	1:30 PM
+	Presentation: Alaska Chadux Network by Buddy Custard, President & Chief Executive Officer, Alaska Chadux Network **Streamed live on AKL.tv**		

Mar 31	Tuesday	House Chamber	11:00 AM
+	Annual Address by Lisa Murkowski, U.S. Senator		

Feb 17	Tuesday	Davis 106	12:00 PM
Lunch & Learn Presentation: Nonprofits: Partners in a Strong Economy Laurie Wolf, President/CEO, The Foraker Group Sponsored by Senator Dunbar			

MISCELLANEOUS MEETINGS
(continued)

Feb 18	Wednesday	Davis 106	12:00 PM
	Lunch & Learn Presentation: Commercial Interior Design; Advocating for Health, Safety, and Public Well-Being Presenters: American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) & AK Professional Design Council (APDC) Casey Kee Mary Knof Sponsored by Senator Kaufman		
Feb 23	Monday	Butrovich 205	12:00 PM
	Lunch & Learn Presentation: Alaska Trucking Industry Alaska Trucking Association Sponsored by Senator Myers		
Feb 24	Tuesday	Butrovich 205	12:00 PM
	Lunch & Learn Presentation: AWAIC: Abused Women's Aid in Crisis Services Provided by AWAIC and Statewide Impact Randi Beager, Executive Director, AWAIC Sponsored by Senator Tobin		
Feb 25	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	12:00 PM
	Lunch & Learn Presentation: An Overview of Alaska's Workforce Future Mariko (Mari) Selle Executive Director of the Alaska Workforce Alliance Sponsored by Senator Merrick		