

SENATE JOURNAL
ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION

Juneau, Alaska

Monday

March 2, 2026

Forty-second Day

Pursuant to adjournment the Senate was called to order by President Stevens at 11:03 a.m.

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

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

Having respect for the faith traditions of all Alaskans,
I pray according to my faith.

Heavenly Father, in Jesus' Name, I come to You.
Lifting up the Alaska Senate, I ask You to expand the
understanding of each Senator that they may know
what is best for Alaskans.

May you bless the Senators with the knowledge and
heart necessary for each to effectively execute their
Office.

May they be a blessing to You, a blessing to one
another, and a blessing to Alaskans all.

Thank You for all Your work. In Jesus' Name I pray,
Amen.

Senator Gray-Jackson led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Certification

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

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent Senators Olson, Wielechowski be excused from a call of the Senate. Without objection, Senators Olson, Wielechowski were excused.

Messages from the House

Message dated February 27 was read stating the House passed and transmitted for consideration:

First Reading and Reference of House Bills**HB 47**

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 47(JUD) am BY THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, entitled:

"An Act relating to distribution of a forged digital likeness; relating to crime and criminal procedure; relating to distribution of a generated sexual depiction; relating to generated obscene child sexual abuse material; relating to teaching certificates; relating to licensing of school bus drivers; relating to civil penalties for an organization that facilitates the generation of child sexual abuse material; relating to social media and minors; and providing for an effective date."

was read the first time and referred to the Community and Regional Affairs and Judiciary Committees.

HB 184

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 184(CRA) BY THE HOUSE COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, entitled:

"An Act relating to financing by the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority for workforce housing development projects."

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

Communications

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

Department of Education and Early Development
School Capital Project Funding under SB 237
Annual Report
in accordance with AS.14.11.035

Alaska Mental Health Board
Statewide Suicide Prevention Council
2025 Annual Report
in accordance with AS 44.29.360

Consideration of the Calendar

Second Reading of Senate Bills

SB 89

SENATE BILL NO. 89 "An Act relating to physician assistants; relating to collaborative agreements between physicians and physician assistants; relating to the practice of medicine; relating to health care providers; and relating to provisions regarding physician assistants in contracts between certain health care providers and health care insurers" was read the second time.

Senator Bjorkman, Chair, moved and asked unanimous consent for the adoption of the 2d Labor and Commerce Committee Substitute offered on page 1772. Without objection, CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 89(2d L&C) was adopted.

President Stevens stated CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 89(2d L&C) will advance to third reading on the March 4 calendar.

SB 140

SENATE BILL NO. 140 "An Act relating to a matching grant program for fire station construction and renovation; 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 1712. Without objection, CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 140(FIN) was adopted.

President Stevens stated CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 140(FIN) will advance to third reading on the March 4 calendar.

Citations

Honoring – Tyler Aklestad & Nick Olstad (Team 7) 2026 Iron Dog Champions
Senator(s) Tilton, Rauscher

Honoring – Interior Grappling Academy & Student Wrestler Development Program
Representative(s) Tomaszewski, Prax
Senator(s) Myers

In Memoriam – Melissa & Mark Hortman
Senator(s) Tobin, Dunbar
Representative(s) Josephson

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

In Memoriam – Craig Johnson
Senator(s) Tilton, Rauscher

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**HB 48**

President Stevens removed the Judiciary Committee referral to HOUSE BILL NO. 48 "An Act relating to appropriations to the civil legal services fund."

The bill was referred to the Finance Committee.

SB 154

Senators Giessel, Tobin moved and asked unanimous consent to be shown as cosponsors on SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 154 "An Act establishing the Home Care Employment Standards Advisory Board; relating to payment for personal care services; and providing for an effective date." Without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Tilton moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate from afternoon plane time, March 5 through morning plane time, March 7. Without objection, Senator Tilton was excused.

Senators Stedman, Hoffman, Tobin moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate on March 5 and March 6. Without objection, Senators Stedman, Hoffman, Tobin were excused.

Senator Claman moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate on March 13. Without objection, Senator Claman was excused.

HB 26

Senator Kawasaki moved and asked unanimous consent to be shown as a cross sponsor on CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 26(TRA) am "An Act relating to the duties of the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities; and relating to a statewide public and community transit plan." Without objection, it was so ordered.

HB 47

Senators Bjorkman, Tilton moved and asked unanimous consent to be shown as cross sponsors on CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 47(JUD) am "An Act relating to distribution of a forged digital likeness; relating to crime and criminal procedure; relating to distribution of a generated sexual depiction; relating to generated obscene child sexual abuse material; relating to teaching certificates; relating to licensing of school bus drivers; relating to civil penalties for an organization that facilitates the generation of child sexual abuse material; relating to social media and minors; and providing for an effective date." Without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Yundt moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate on March 6. Without objection, Senator Yundt was excused.

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 4, 2026. Without objection, the Senate adjourned at 11:24 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

- | | | | |
|---------------|----------------|--|----------------|
| Mar 03 | Tuesday | Beltz 105 (tsbldg) | 1:30 PM |
| + = | HB 126 | REINSTATEMENT NATIVE CORP/RELIGIOUS CORP | |
| | | -- Testimony <Invitation Only> -- | |
| + = | SB 191 | TRANSFER OF RAILROAD LAND TO WHITTIER | |
| | | -- Invited & Public Testimony -- | |
| + = | SB 235 | AUTOMATED TRAFFIC SAFETY CAMERAS | |
| | | -- Testimony <Invitation Only> -- | |
| + | HB 13 | MUNICIPAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS | |
| | | -- Testimony <Invitation Only> -- | |
| + | SB 259 | PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT INCREASES | |
| | | -- Testimony <Invitation Only> -- | |
| + | SB 255 | MUNI GRANT LAND; MAT-SU BOROUGH TRANSFER | |
| | | -- Testimony <Invitation Only> -- | |
| | | **Streamed live on AKL.tv** | |

EDUCATION

- | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|--|----------------|
| Mar 02 | Monday | Beltz 105 (tsbldg) | 3:30 PM |
| + = | SB 110 | MUSEUM CONSTRUCTION GRANTS | |
| | | -- Invited & Public Testimony -- | |
| + | SB 238 | LIBRARY MATERIALS POLICIES; CENSORSHIP | |
| | | -- Invited & Public Testimony -- | |
| | | Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled | |
| | | **Streamed live on AKL.tv** | |

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FINANCE (continued)

- Mar 04 Wednesday Senate Finance 532 9:00 AM**
 + SB 178 EXPAND EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
- + SB 93 EARLY EDUCATION PROGRAMS
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

- Mar 04 Wednesday Senate Finance 532 1:30 PM**
 -- Please Note Time Change --
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

- Mar 05 Thursday Senate Finance 532 9:00 AM**
 No Meeting Scheduled

- Mar 05 Thursday Senate Finance 532 1:30 PM**
 -- Please Note Time Change --
 No Meeting Scheduled

- Mar 06 Friday Senate Finance 532 9:00 AM**
 No Meeting Scheduled

- Mar 06 Friday Senate Finance 532 1:30 PM**
 -- Please Note Time Change --
 No Meeting Scheduled

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

- Mar 03 Tuesday Butrovich 205 3:30 PM**
 + Presentation: Office of Children's Services
 Audit Review by
 Kim Guay, Director, OCS
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

- Mar 05 Thursday Butrovich 205 3:30 PM**
 + Presentation: Covenant House Youth Advisory Board
 += SB 193 PRACTICE OF NATUROPATHY
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

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JUDICIARY

- Mar 02 Monday Butrovich 205 1:30 PM**
 -- Please Note Time Change --Delayed to 1:45 PM
 += SB 251 REPEAL WORKERS' COMP APPEALS COMMISSION
 += SB 190 UNIFORM ACT: GUARDIANSHIP/CONSERVATORSHIP
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv
- Mar 04 Wednesday Davis 106 1:30 PM**
 -- Please Note Location Change --
 + Meeting Jointly with the Senate State Affairs
 Committee
 Hearing on Dissemination of Voter Information
 to the U.S. Department of Justice
 Streamed live on AKL.tv
- Mar 06 Friday Butrovich 205 1:30 PM**
 No Meeting Scheduled

LABOR & COMMERCE

- Mar 02 Monday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 1:30 PM**
 += SB 164 ELIMINATE TAX DISCOUNTS
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
 += SB 233 CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
 + HB 50 SNOW CLASSICS Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 + SB 249 VIRTUAL CURRENCY KIOSKS
 Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled**Streamed live on AKL.tv**
- Mar 04 Wednesday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 1:30 PM**
 += SB 35 DELIVERY NETWORK COMPANIES
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 += SB 205 PEACE OFFICERS/FIREFIGHTERS: DISABILITY
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
 + SB 180 LNG IMPORT FACILITIES Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled**Streamed live on AKL.tv**
- Mar 06 Friday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 1:30 PM**
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

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RESOURCES

- Mar 02 Monday Butrovich 205 3:30 PM**
+ Presentation: Bonding Authority of AIDEA by Randy Ruaro, Executive Director, Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority
Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled:
+= SB 158 COOK INLET: NEW ADMIN AREA
-- Public Testimony --Streamed live on AKL.tv**
- Mar 04 Wednesday Butrovich 205 3:30 PM**
+ SB 253 SULFUR CONTENT OF MARINE FUEL
-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
+= SB 161 PROHIBIT BOTTOM TRAWLING
-- Invited & Public Testimony --
Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled**Streamed live on AKL.tv**
- Mar 06 Friday Butrovich 205 3:30 PM**
-- MEETING CANCELED --
+ HB 79 NAMING VIC FISCHER SHOUP BAY MARINE PARK
-- Invited & Public Testimony --
+= SB 230 JONESVILLE PUBLIC USE AREA
-- Invited & Public Testimony --
Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
Streamed live on AKL.tv

STATE AFFAIRS

- Mar 03 Tuesday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 3:30 PM**
+= SB 237 DATA SHARING; SOCIAL SECURITY
-- Invited & Public Testimony --
Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
Streamed live on AKL.tv
- Mar 04 Wednesday Davis 106 1:30 PM**
-- Please Note Time Change --
-- Please Note Location Change --
+ Meeting Jointly with the Senate Judiciary Committee
Hearing on Dissemination of Voter Information to the U.S. Department of Justice
Streamed live on AKL.tv

STATE AFFAIRS (continued)

Mar 05 Thursday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 3:30 PM
 += SB 203 PROHIBITED WEAPONS/FIREARM CONVERT DEVICE
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
 + SB 243 DEFINITION OF PROHIBITED WEAPON
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 += SB 126 CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES; PLACEMENT
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

TRANSPORTATION

Mar 03 Tuesday Butrovich 205 1:30 PM
 + Presentation: Use of Advanced Construction
 Funds and Federal Funds for State Projects by
 Department of Transportation and Public
 Facilities
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

Mar 05 Thursday Butrovich 205 1:30 PM
 No Meeting Scheduled

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES

ADMINISTRATION

Mar 02 Monday Senate Finance 532 5:15 PM
 + Administration Subcommittee

Mar 09 Monday Senate Finance 532 5:15 PM
 + Administration Subcommittee

Mar 16 Monday Senate Finance 532 5:15 PM
 + Administration Subcommittee

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CORRECTIONS

Mar 06 **Friday** **Beltz 105 (tsbldg)** **8:00 AM**
-- MEETING CANCELED --
+ Department of Corrections - Budget Overview

Mar 11 **Wednesday** **Beltz 105 (tsbldg)** **7:30 AM**
+ Department of Corrections - Budget Overview

EDUCATION & EARLY DEVELOPMENT

Mar 04 **Wednesday** **Senate Finance 532** **5:15 PM**
+ Education & Early Development Subcommittee

Mar 11 **Wednesday** **Senate Finance 532** **5:15 PM**
+ Education & Early Development Subcommittee

Mar 18 **Wednesday** **Senate Finance 532** **5:15 PM**
+ Education & Early Development Subcommittee

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

HEALTH

Mar 04 **Wednesday** **Senate Finance 532** **7:30 AM**
+ Overview: FY2027 Budget and Audit Findings by
Heidi Hedberg, Commissioner
Emily Ricci, Deputy Commissioner
Pam Halloran, Assistant Commissioner
-- Teleconference <Listen Only> --
Streamed live on AKL.tv

JUDICIARY

Mar 04 **Wednesday** **Butrovich 205** **5:15 PM**
+ Courts - Budget Overview

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LAW

Mar 05 **Thursday** **Beltz 105 (tsbldg)** **5:15 PM**
+ Department of Law - Budget Overview

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mar 04 **Wednesday** **Beltz 105 (tsbldg)** **8:00 AM**
+ Department of Public Safety - Budget Overview

REVENUE

Mar 05 **Thursday** **Senate Finance 532** **5:15 PM**
+ Revenue Subcommittee

Mar 12 **Thursday** **Senate Finance 532** **5:15 PM**
+ Revenue Subcommittee

Mar 19 **Thursday** **Senate Finance 532** **5:15 PM**
+ Revenue Subcommittee

TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC FACILITIES

Mar 18 **Wednesday** **Senate Finance 532** **7:30 AM**
+ FY27 Request, FY26 Update, & Major Issues

Mar 25 **Wednesday** **Senate Finance 532** **7:30 AM**
+ Highways & State Equipment Fleet

Apr 01 **Wednesday** **Senate Finance 532** **7:30 AM**
+ Airports & DFS

Apr 08 **Wednesday** **Senate Finance 532** **7:30 AM**
+ AMHS

Apr 15 **Wednesday** **Senate Finance 532** **7:30 AM**
+ Closeout

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UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA

Mar 09 **Monday** **Senate Finance 532** **9:00 AM**
+ University of Alaska Subcommittee

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ARCTIC AFFAIRS

Mar 05 **Thursday** **Beltz 105 (tsbldg)** **1:30 PM**
+= SJR 24 HONORING RELATIONSHIP WITH GREENLAND
Streamed live on AKL.tv

OTHER MEETINGS

JOINT SESSION

Mar 10 **Tuesday** **House Chamber** **11:00 AM**
+ Annual Address by Nick Begich III, U.S. Representative

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

MISCELLANEOUS MEETINGS

Mar 25 **Wednesday** **Butrovich 205** **12:00 PM**
Lunch & Learn Presentation:
Presentation: Alaska Comprehensive Forensic
Training Academy
Dr. Angelia Trujillo

Mar 27 **Friday** **Butrovich 205** **12:01 PM**
Lunch & Learn Presentation:
The Importance of Energy Data
Diane Hirshberg Jeremy Kasper
Leasi Vanessa Lee Raymond
UAA's Institute of Social and Economic Research
and UAF's Alaska Center for Energy and Power
Sponsored by Senator Giessel

**MISCELLANEOUS MEETINGS
(continued)**

Apr 08	Wednesday	Davis 106	12:00 PM
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Lunch & Learn Presentation:
Arctic Winter Games 2026, Team Alaska Updates,
Photos, Achievements on Alaska's Performance at
Arctic Winter Games 2026
Nicole Morton-Johnson, President
Sponsored by Senator Cronk