

SENATE JOURNAL
ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION

Juneau, Alaska

Wednesday

April 8, 2026

Seventy-ninth Day

Pursuant to adjournment the Senate was called to order by President Stevens at 11:04 a.m.

The roll showed twenty members present.

The prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Senior Pastor Tim Harrison, Chapel by the Lake. Senator Hoffman moved and asked unanimous consent the prayer be spread. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Gracious God, Once again, I am in awe of the power of your creation, as winter fades into spring. And so, we anticipate new birth and a new season of fruitful times here in Southeast Alaska.

On this day when we celebrate that humankind has gone further into space than ever before, I praise you for the ingenuity and creativity of humankind. And yet, it also seems that peace here on Earth seems to elude us.

On this day, I pray that you would extend the peace that has been brokered with Iran so that it might turn into a lasting peace and fruitful future for all of humankind, all over the globe.

I thank you for the willingness of these men and women who serve our nation and our state. I pray that you bless them with extraordinary wisdom and patience and that all who witness the work of the Senate give thanks for our system of democracy. I offer these prayers in Jesus' name, Amen.

Senator Cronk led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Certification

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

Consideration of the Calendar

Second Reading of Senate Bills

SB 41

SENATE BILL NO. 41 "An Act relating to mental health education" was read the second time.

President Stevens stated SENATE BILL NO. 41 will advance to third reading on the April 10 calendar.

Third Reading of Senate Resolutions

SJR 30

CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 30(STA) Expressing gratitude for the United States military and supporting increased defense readiness through infrastructure development and public-military partnerships, was read the third time.

The question being: "Shall CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 30(STA) Expressing gratitude for the United States military and supporting increased defense readiness through infrastructure development and public-military partnerships, pass the Senate?" The roll was taken with the following result:

CSSJR 30(STA)

Third Reading - Final Passage

YEAS: 20 NAYS: 0 EXCUSED: 0 ABSENT: 0

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

and so, CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 30(STA) passed the Senate and was referred to the Secretary for engrossment.

Special Order of Business

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

Citation Calendar

Honoring – Douglas Island Pink and Chum Hatchery 50th Anniversary
 Senator(s) Kiehl
 Representative(s) Hannan, Story

Honoring – Kelly Auer
 Representative(s) Eischeid
 Senator(s) Dunbar, Wielechowski

Honoring – The 103rd Civil Support Team Alaska Army National Guard
 Representative(s) Eischeid
 Senator(s) Wielechowski

Honoring – John S. Hagen
 Representative(s) Eischeid
 Senator(s) Wielechowski

Honoring – Master Sergeant Ryan Brennan
 Representative(s) Tomaszewski, Prax
 Senator(s) Myers

Honoring – Master Sergeant Spencer Watson
 Representative(s) Tomaszewski, Prax
 Senator(s) Myers

Honoring – Major Daniel “Thrash” Brom
Representative(s) Tomaszewski, Prax
Senator(s) Myers

Honoring – Captain Jeffrey “Freud” Weingast
Representative(s) Tomaszewski, Prax
Senator(s) Myers

Honoring – Mayor Mark Jensen
Senator(s) Stedman
Representative(s) Himschoot

Honoring – Shaktoolik Boys Basketball Team 2026 Alaska State 1A
Champions
Representative(s) Foster
Senator(s) Olson

Honoring – Stephen “Sam” McPhetres
Representative(s) Story, Hannan
Senator(s) Kiehl

Honoring – Emmonak 1A Boys Basketball Team 2026 Alaska State
Tournament
Representative(s) Foster
Senator(s) Olson

Honoring – Scammon Bay 1A Boys & Girls Basketball Teams 2026
Alaska State Tournament
Representative(s) Foster
Senator(s) Olson

Honoring – Shaktoolik 1A Girls Basketball Team 2026 Alaska State
Tournament
Representative(s) Foster
Senator(s) Olson

Honoring – Shishmaref 1A Boys Basketball Team 2026 Alaska State
Tournament
Representative(s) Foster
Senator(s) Olson

Honoring – Shishmaref 1A Girls Basketball Team 2026 Alaska State
Tournament

Representative(s) Foster

Senator(s) Olson

Honoring – St. Mary’s 1A Girls Basketball Team 2026 Alaska State
Tournament

Representative(s) Foster

Senator(s) Olson

Honoring – Unalakleet 2A Girls Basketball Team 2026 Alaska State
Tournament

Representative(s) Foster

Senator(s) Olson

Honoring – Unalakleet 2A Boys Basketball Team 2026 Alaska State
Tournament

Representative(s) Foster

Senator(s) Olson

Honoring – Alaska School Activities Association 2026 High School
Hall of Fame Inductees

Senator(s) Cronk

Honoring – Sandy Snodgrass

Senator(s) Wielechowski

Honoring – Jill Marie Parson

Representative(s) McCabe

In Memoriam – William “Bill” Edward Milks

Senator(s) Kiehl

Representative(s) Hannan, Story

In Memoriam – Natalia “Natasha” Kozyreva

Representative(s) Carrick

In Memoriam – Jeff Young

Representative(s) Galvin, Fields

Senator(s) Claman

In Memoriam – Bruce Delano Christensen
Senator(s) Giessel, Stedman
Representative(s) Ruffridge

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

Unfinished Business

SB 41

Senators Tobin, Kawasaki moved and asked unanimous consent to be shown as cosponsors on SENATE BILL NO. 41 "An Act relating to mental health education." Without objection, it was so ordered.

HB 53

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the Thirty-Fourth Alaska State Legislature delegate to the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee the full authority to initiate, appeal, and take all action necessary to direct litigation regarding the veto of section 51 in chapter 10, SLA 2025, and that the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee be authorized to make all decisions concerning the objectives, scope, and means of pursuing this litigation, including the settlement, compromise, and appeal. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Claman moved and asked unanimous consent to be excused from a call of the Senate on April 9 and April 10. Without objection, Senator Claman was excused.

HB 26

Senator Giessel 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.

Announcements

Announcements are at the end of the journal.

Engrossment**SJR 30**

CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 30(STA) Expressing gratitude for the United States military and supporting increased defense readiness through infrastructure development and public-military partnerships, 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 10:30 a.m., April 10, 2026. Without objection, the Senate adjourned at 11:29 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

- Apr 09 Thursday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 1:30 PM**
- + SB 247 GENERATED OBSCENE CHLD SEX ABUSE MATERIAL
 - + HB 47 CHLD SEX ABUSE MAT; GEN IMAGES; SOC MEDIA
 - Invited & Public Testimony --
 - Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled:
 - + SB 259 PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT INCREASES
 - **Streamed live on AKL.tv**

EDUCATION

- Apr 08 Wednesday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 3:30 PM**
- + HB 28 TEACHER/STATE EMPLOYEE STUDENT LOAN PRGRM
 - Invited & Public Testimony --
 - + SB 278 LOCAL CONTRIBUTIONS BY SCHOOL DISTRICTS
 - Invited & Public Testimony --
 - + HJR 39 WAIVE VISA FEES FOR TEACHERS
 - Invited & Public Testimony --
 - + SB 204 SUB. TEACHING; SCHOOL BOARD ELIGIBILITY
 - Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 - + HB 176 UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FEES
 - Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 - **Streamed live on AKL.tv**
- Apr 10 Friday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 3:30 PM**
- No Meeting Scheduled

FINANCE

- Apr 08 Wednesday Senate Finance 532 9:00 AM**
 -- MEETING CANCELED --
 += SB 227 TAX COMPACT; SALES TAX; OIL & GAS TAX
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv
- Apr 08 Wednesday Senate Finance 532 1:30 PM**
 -- MEETING CANCELED --
 -- Please Note Time Change --
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv
- Apr 09 Thursday Senate Finance 532 9:00 AM**
 += SB 214 APPROP: CAPITAL/FUNDS/SUPP/REAPPROP
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 Overview: Bond Reimbursement and Grant Review
 Board by
 Department of Education and Early Development
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv
- Apr 09 Thursday Senate Finance 532 1:30 PM**
 -- Please Note Time Change --
 += HB 78 RETIREMENT SYSTEMS; DEFINED BENEFIT OPT.
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv
- Apr 10 Friday Senate Finance 532 9:00 AM**
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv
- Apr 10 Friday Senate Finance 532 1:30 PM**
 -- Please Note Time Change --
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Apr 09 Thursday Butrovich 205 3:30 PM
 += SB 281 HEALTHCARE COMPACTS; RURAL HEALTH PROGRAM
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

JUDICIARY

Apr 08 Wednesday Butrovich 205 1:45 PM
 -- Please Note Time Change --
 -- Delayed to 2:30 pm --
 + HB 239 CRIM. NEG. HOMICIDE; FAILURE TO ASSIST
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

Apr 10 Friday Butrovich 205 1:30 PM
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

LABOR & COMMERCE

Apr 08 Wednesday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 1:30 PM
 += SB 258 CONTRACT: LICENSING SOFTWARE APPLICATIONS
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
 += SJR 28 SUPPORTING J-1 & H-1B VISA PROGRAMS
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
 Consideration of Governor's Appointees:
 Regulatory Commission of Alaska - Julie Vogler
 += SB 62 BOARD OF PAROLE: MEMBERSHIP, REPORT
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 += SB 78 DISCLOSURE OF WAGE INFORMATION
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

SENATE JOURNAL

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TRANSPORTATION

Apr 09 **Thursday** **Butrovich 205** **1:30 PM**
No Meeting Scheduled

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEES

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Apr 14 **Tuesday** **Butrovich 205** **1:40 PM**
+ Overview: Department of Environmental
Conservation
Senate Finance Subcommittee Close Out

FISH & GAME

Apr 15 **Wednesday** **Senate Finance 532** **8:00 AM**
+ Budget Close Out

LABOR & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Apr 15 **Wednesday** **Beltz 105 (tsbldg)** **1:30 PM**
+ Budget Close Out
Streamed live on AKL.tv

MILITARY & VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Apr 14 **Tuesday** **Butrovich 205** **1:30 PM**
+ Overview: Department of Military and
Veterans Affairs
Senate Finance Subcommittee Close Out

NATURAL RESOURCES

Apr 14 **Tuesday** **Butrovich 205** **1:50 PM**
+ Overview: Department of Natural Resources
Senate Finance Subcommittee Close Out

TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC FACILITIES

Apr 08 +	Wednesday AMHS	Senate Finance 532	7:30 AM
Apr 15 +	Wednesday Budget Close Out	Senate Finance 532	7:30 AM

JOINT COMMITTEES

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Apr 15 +	Wednesday -- Teleconference <Listen Only> -- AGENDA I. Call to Order II. Approval of the Agenda III. Approval of Minutes a. March 18, 2025, Meeting Minutes IV. Sanctioning of Charitable Events a. Kenai River Junior Classic Ted Stevens Kenai River Classic Kenai River Women’s Classic b. Stevens-Hoffman ‘Adios’ Retirement Roast & Toast benefiting i. Food Bank of Alaska ii. Kodiak Women’s Resource Center iii. Tundra Women’s Coalition V. Committee Business a. Bethel LIO Lease Renewal No. 1 b. Legislative Procurement Procedures Amendment c. Computer Equipment Hardware Refresh d. Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance Update VI. Executive Session a. RFP 681—Chambers Lighting VII. Adjourn **Streamed live on AKL.tv**	Adams 519	5:15 PM
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TASK FORCE ON EDUCATION FUNDING

Apr 10 +	Friday	Davis 106	3:30 PM
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Presentation: An Overview of Required Local Contribution by
 Conor Bell, Analyst, Legislative Finance Division
 Presentation: Local Contribution and Mill Rate by
 Nils Andreassen, Executive Director,
 Alaska Municipal League
 Presentation: Federal Education Funding in Alaska
 Kelly Manning, Deputy Director
 Deb Riddle, Operations Manager
 Courtney Preziosi, Elementary and Secondary
 Education Administrator
 Monique Siverly, Operations Manager
 Heather Heineken, Director,
 Finance and Support Services,
 Department of Education and Early Development
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

OTHER MEETINGS

MISCELLANEOUS MEETINGS

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

Apr 08	Wednesday	Butrovich 205	12:01 PM
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Lunch & Learn Presentation:
 Life Center Northwest
 Ashlei Lind, Director, External Affairs
 Sponsored by Senator Claman

**MISCELLANEOUS MEETINGS
(continued)**

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| Apr 09 | Thursday | Butrovich 205 | 12:00 PM |
| | -- MEETING CANCELED -- | | |
| | Lunch & Learn Presentation:
Updates on Recent Developments Surrounding the
Port of Alaska by
Terry Unatum, Director, Port of Alaska
Sponsored by Senator Kaufman | | |
| Apr 10 | Friday | Butrovich 205 | 12:00 PM |
| | Lunch & Learn Presentation:
Looking Back at the History on the Global
Perspective of Oil & Gas
Sponsored by Senator Giessel and
Representative Mears | | |
| Apr 13 | Monday | Butrovich 205 | 12:00 PM |
| | Lunch & Learn Presentation:
Alaska Youth for Environmental Action:
Eva Meyer, Siena Farr, Maddie Bass, and
Atagan Hood
Sponsored by Senator Dunbar | | |