

SENATE JOURNAL
ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION

Juneau, Alaska

Monday

May 4, 2026

One Hundred Fifth Day

Pursuant to adjournment the Senate was called to order by President Stevens at 10:32 a.m.

The roll showed nineteen members present. Senator Hoffman was absent.

The prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Adam Bauer, Juneau Bahá'í Assembly. Senator Kiehl 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 praiseworthy 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. *'Abdu'l-Bahá.*

Senator Stedman led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Certification

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the journal for the one hundred second through one hundred fourth legislative days be approved as certified by the Secretary. Without objection, it was so ordered.

The presence of Senator Hoffman was noted.

Messages from the House**HB 26**

Message dated May 1 was read stating the House concurred in the Senate amendment to CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 26(TRA) am, thus adopting:

SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL
NO. 26(TRA) "An Act relating to the duties of the
Department of Transportation and Public Facilities;
and relating to a statewide public and community
transit plan."

Message dated May 1 was read stating the House passed and transmitted for consideration:

**First Reading and Reference of
House Resolutions****HJR 45**

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 45 BY THE HOUSE
EDUCATION COMMITTEE,

Urging the United States Congress to fully fund the
Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

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

First Reading and Reference of House Bills

HB 211

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 211(L&C) BY THE HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE, entitled:

"An Act relating to prepaid legal plans."

was read the first time and referred to the Labor and Commerce Committee.

HB 217

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 217(CRA) am BY THE HOUSE COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, entitled:

"An Act relating to commercial motor vehicle licensing examinations; regulating autonomous vehicles; and providing for an effective date."

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

HB 298

HOUSE BILL NO. 298 BY REPRESENTATIVES GALVIN, McCabe, entitled:

"An Act relating to the Legislative Ethics Act; relating to legislative subpoenas; relating to the jurisdiction of the office of the ombudsman; and providing for an effective date."

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

HB 314

HOUSE BILL NO. 314 am BY REPRESENTATIVES PRAX, Stapp, Tomaszewski, Galvin, entitled:

"An Act relating to registered interior designers and interior design; relating to project costs for the construction, enlargement, or improvement of airports; extending the termination date of the State

Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors; relating to the State Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors; establishing requirements for the practice of registered interior design; relating to the practice of architecture, engineering, land surveying, landscape architecture, and registered interior design; relating to the scope of the certification requirements for architects, engineers, land surveyors, landscape architects, and registered interior designers; relating to immunity for design professionals; relating to the cost of construction for recreation centers; relating to liens for labor or materials furnished; relating to the procurement of landscape architectural and interior design services; relating to the cost of construction of safe water and hygienic sewage disposal facilities in villages; and providing for an effective date."

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

Standing Committee Reports

Report dated May 1 was read stating:

In accordance with Article III, Section 25 of the Alaska Constitution and AS 39.05.080, the Judiciary Committee held a hearing on the following appointee. 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 during any further sessions.

Attorney General, Department of Law

Stephen Cox

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

SB 207

The Judiciary Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 207 "An Act relating to the removal of unlawful occupants from residential real property; relating to the crimes of trespass, forgery, and deceptive business practices; and amending Rules 82 and 85(a), Alaska Rules of Civil Procedure" and recommended it be replaced with

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 207(JUD) "An Act relating to the removal of unlawful occupants from residential real property; and relating to the crimes of forgery and deceptive business practices."

Signing no recommendation: Senator Claman, Chair; Senators Kiehl, Tobin, Stevens. Signing amend: Senator Tilton.

The following fiscal information was published today:

Fiscal Note No. 1, Department of Administration
Fiscal Note No. 2, zero, Department of Public Safety
Fiscal Note No. 3, zero, Department of Law
Fiscal Note No. 4, Department of Administration

The bill was referred to the Labor and Commerce Committee.

SB 262

The Labor and Commerce Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 262 "An Act relating to social media and minors; and providing for an effective date" and recommended it be replaced with

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 262(L&C)

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, zero, Department of Law

The bill was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Consideration of the Calendar**Second Reading of Senate Bills****SB 200**

SENATE BILL NO. 200 "An Act relating to municipal assessments of farm or agricultural land; and providing for an effective date" was read the second time.

Senator Giessel, Chair, moved and asked unanimous consent for the adoption of the Resources Committee Substitute offered on page 2072. Without objection, CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 200(RES) was adopted.

President Stevens stated CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 200(RES) will advance to third reading on the May 6 calendar.

Second Reading of House Bills**HB 48**

HOUSE BILL NO. 48 "An Act relating to appropriations to the civil legal services fund" was read the second time.

President Stevens stated HOUSE BILL NO. 48 will advance to third reading on the May 6 calendar.

Unfinished Business**SB 200**

Senators Myers, Rauscher moved and asked unanimous consent to be shown as cosponsors on SENATE BILL NO. 200 "An Act relating to municipal assessments of farm or agricultural land; and providing for an effective date." Without objection, it was so ordered.

HB 48

Senator Claman moved and asked unanimous consent to be shown as a cross sponsor on HOUSE BILL NO. 48 "An Act relating to appropriations to the civil legal services fund." Without objection, it was so ordered.

Announcements**HB 298**

Senator Claman, Chair, moved and asked unanimous consent Uniform Rule 23 be waived on HOUSE BILL NO. 298 "An Act relating to the Legislative Ethics Act; relating to legislative subpoenas; relating to the jurisdiction of the office of the ombudsman; and providing for an effective date" for the Judiciary Committee meeting on May 6. Without objection, it was so ordered.

HJR 45

Senator Tobin, Chair, moved and asked unanimous consent Uniform Rule 23 be waived on HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 45 Urging the United States Congress to fully fund the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, for the Education Committee meeting today. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Announcements are at the end of the journal.

Recess

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the Senate stand in recess to the Joint Session. Without objection, the Senate recessed at 10:48 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 11:00 a.m.

The purpose of the Joint Session was to consider the Governor's veto of HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 64(FIN) am H (ELECTIONS).

The roll of the Senate was called and showed twenty members present.

The roll of the House was taken and showed forty members present.

SB 64

Senator Giessel moved HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 64(FIN) am H "An Act relating to elections; relating to voters; relating to voting; relating to voter registration; relating to election administration; relating to campaign contributions; relating to write-in candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States; relating to the crimes of unlawful interference with voting in the first degree, unlawful interference with an election, and election official misconduct; relating to voter registration on permanent fund dividend applications; relating to the duties of the commissioner of revenue; and providing for an effective date" become law notwithstanding the Governor's veto.

Representative Saddler rose to a point of order. President Stevens cautioned members to proceed in order.

The question being "Shall HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 64(FIN) am H "An Act relating to elections; relating to voters; relating to voting; relating to voter registration; relating to election administration; relating to campaign contributions; relating to write-in candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States; relating to the crimes of unlawful interference with voting in the first degree, unlawful interference with an election, and election official misconduct; relating to voter registration on permanent fund dividend applications; relating to the duties of the commissioner of revenue; and providing for an effective date" become law notwithstanding the Governor's veto?" The roll of the House was taken with the following result:

HCS CSSB 64(FIN) am H
Veto Override

YEAS: 23 NAYS: 17 EXCUSED: 0 ABSENT: 0

Yeas: Carrick, Dibert, Edgmon, Eischeid, Fields, Foster, Frier, Galvin, Gray, Hall, Hannan, Himschoot, Holland, Jimmie, Josephson, Kopp, McCabe, Mears, Mina, Schrage, Story, Stutes, Vance

Nays: Allard, Bynum, Costello, Coulombe, Elam, Johnson, Moore, D.Nelson, G.Nelson, Prax, Ruffridge, Saddler, Schwanke, St. Clair, Stapp, Tomaszewski, Underwood

The roll of the Senate was called with the following result:

SENATE
HCS CSSB 64 (FIN) am H
Veto Override

YEAS: 15 NAYS: 5 EXCUSED: 0 ABSENT: 0

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

Nays: Kaufman, Myers, Rauscher, Stedman, Tilton

TOTALS YEAS: 38 NAYS: 22 EXCUSED: 0 ABSENT: 0

and so, lacking the necessary 40 votes to override, the Governor's veto was sustained.

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the Joint Session stand in adjournment. Without objection, President Stevens adjourned the Joint Session at 12:09 p.m.

After Recess

In the Senate

The Senate reconvened at 12:13 p.m.

Unfinished Business (continued)

SB 64

The Governor's veto of HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 64(FIN) am H "An Act relating to elections; relating to voters; relating to voting; relating to voter registration; relating to election administration; relating to campaign contributions; relating to write-in candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States; relating to the crimes of unlawful interference with voting in the first degree, unlawful interference with an election, and election official misconduct; relating to voter registration on permanent fund dividend

applications; relating to the duties of the commissioner of revenue; and providing for an effective date" was sustained and the engrossed and enrolled copies were returned to the Office of the Governor at 1:03 p.m., May 4, 2026.

Enrollment

SCR 19

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 19 am H 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, was enrolled, signed by the President and Secretary, Speaker and Chief Clerk and the engrossed and enrolled copies transmitted to the Office of the Governor at 9:32 a.m., May 4, 2026.

Legislative Resolve No. 27

Adjournment

Senator Giessel moved and asked unanimous consent the Senate stand in adjournment until 11:00 a.m., May 6, 2026. Without objection, the Senate adjourned at 12:13 p.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

May 05 Tuesday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 1:30 PM
 -- MEETING CANCELED --
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

May 07 Thursday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 1:30 PM
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

EDUCATION

May 04 Monday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 3:30 PM
 + Consideration of Governor’s Appointees:
 Board of Education and Early Development
 Joy Cogburn-Smith
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
 + SB 257 EDUCATION FUNDING: RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 + HJR 45 SUPPORT SPECIAL EDUCATION FUNDING
 Uniform Rule 23 Waived
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

May 06 Wednesday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 3:30 PM
 No Meeting Scheduled

May 08 Friday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 3:30 PM
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

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FINANCE

May 04 Monday Senate Finance 532 9:00 AM

- + SB 162 SPECIE AS LEGAL TENDER
-- Invited & Public Testimony --
- + SB 259 PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT INCREASES
-- Invited & Public Testimony --
Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
Streamed live on AKL.tv

May 04 Monday Senate Finance 532 1:30 PM

- Please Note Time Change --
- += SB 208 AGRICULTURAL LAND LEASES
- += SB 174 INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT
Consideration of Governor's Appointees:
Jana Weltzin, State Assessment Review Board
Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
Streamed live on AKL.tv

May 05 Tuesday Senate Finance 532 9:00 AM

- += SB 196 BEH. HEALTH CRISIS SURCHARGE & FUND
- += SB 251 REPEAL WORKERS' COMP APPEALS COMMISSION
<Above Item Removed from Agenda>
- += HB 184 AIDEA FINANCE WORKFORCE HOUSING DEVELOP.
Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
Streamed live on AKL.tv

May 05 Tuesday Senate Finance 532 1:30 PM

- Please Note Time Change --
- + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
Streamed live on AKL.tv

May 06 Wednesday Senate Finance 532 9:00 AM

- + HB 36 FOSTER CHILDREN PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENT
-- Invited & Public Testimony --
- + HB 52 MINORS & PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS
-- Invited & Public Testimony --
Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
Streamed live on AKL.tv

May 06 Wednesday 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)

May 07	Thursday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+	HB 27	MEDICAL MAJOR EMERGENCIES -- Invited & Public Testimony --	
+	HB 133	PAYMENT OF CONTRACTS -- Invited & Public Testimony -- Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**	
May 07	Thursday	Senate Finance 532	1:30 PM
+		-- Please Note Time Change -- Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**	
May 08	Friday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+		Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**	
May 08	Friday	Senate Finance 532	1:30 PM
+		-- Please Note Time Change -- Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**	
May 09	Saturday	Senate Finance 532	9:00 AM
+		Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**	
May 09	Saturday	Senate Finance 532	1:30 PM
+		-- Please Note Time Change -- Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**	

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

May 05	Tuesday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+		Consideration of Governor's Appointees: State Medical Board: Robert Skala and Hannah Mielke Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled:	
+=	HB 14	REPEAL CATASTROPHIC ILLNESS/MED ASSIST -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> -- **Streamed live on AKL.tv**	
May 07	Thursday	Butrovich 205	3:30 PM
+		Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled **Streamed live on AKL.tv**	

LABOR & COMMERCE (continued)

May 08 Friday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 1:30 PM
 += HJR 20 HIRING OF APPRENTICES/VETERANS
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
 += HB 243 BARBERS & HAIRDRESSERS BD LICENSING
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
 + SB 194 MOBILE SPORTS WAGERING; TAX
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

RESOURCES

May 04 Monday Butrovich 205 3:30 PM
 += SB 280 OIL & GAS PROPERTY TAX; MUNI TAX
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

May 05 Tuesday Butrovich 205 9:00 AM
 -- Please Note Time Change --
 += SB 280 OIL & GAS PROPERTY TAX; MUNI TAX
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

May 06 Wednesday Butrovich 205 3:30 PM
 + HJR 44 SUPPORT NATIVE CORP BUSINESS DEVELOP PRGM
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 + HB 93 RESIDENCY REQ: HUNTING, TRAPPING, FISHING
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 + HB 79 NAMING VIC FISCHER SHOUP BAY MARINE PARK
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

May 07 Thursday Butrovich 205 9:00 AM
 -- Please Note Time Change --
 += SB 280 OIL & GAS PROPERTY TAX; MUNI TAX
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

RESOURCES (continued)

May 08 Friday Butrovich 205 3:30 PM
 + Consideration of Governor’s Appointees:
 Big Game Commercial Services Board
 State Assessment Review Board
 Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission
 Board of Fish
 Board of Game
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

STATE AFFAIRS

May 05 Tuesday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 3:30 PM
 + Consideration of Governor’s Appointees:
 Police Standards Council
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 += HB 25 DISPOSABLE FOOD SERVICE WARE
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
 += HB 278 ECONOMIC DEV:AK-IRELAND TRADE COMM.
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
 += HB 176 UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FEES
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit May Be Set> --
 + HB 214 MOTOR VEHICLES; PROOF OF INSURANCE
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 + SB 286 DALTON HIGHWAY TOLL
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

May 07 Thursday Beltz 105 (tsbldg) 3:30 PM
 + HB 214 MOTOR VEHICLES; PROOF OF INSURANCE
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 + HB 221 ARTS AND CULTURE DAY
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 += SB 204 SUB. TEACHING; SCHOOL BOARD ELIGIBILITY
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 + SB 286 DALTON HIGHWAY TOLL
 -- Invited & Public Testimony --
 Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 Streamed live on AKL.tv

TASK FORCE ON EDUCATION FUNDING

May 06 Wednesday Davis 106 3:30 PM

-- MEETING CANCELED --

-- Meeting Rescheduled from 4/29/26 --

+

Presentation: Shared Responsibility in Education Funding by

Peter Micciche, Mayor, Kenai Peninsula Borough

An Overview of Required Local Contribution by

Conor Bell, Analyst, Legislative Finance Division

Local Contribution and Mill Rate by

Nils Andreassen, Executive Director, Alaska

Municipal League

Federal Education Funding in Alaska by

Kelly Manning, Deputy Director; Deb Riddle,

Operations Manager; Courtney Preziosi,

Elementary and Secondary Education Act

Administrator; Monique Siverly, Operations

Manager; and Heather Heineken, Director,

Department of Education and Early Development

Impact Aid Transition in New Mexico by

John Sena, Executive Director, Legislative

Education Study Committee, New Mexico Legislature

Streamed live on AKL.tv

OTHER MEETINGS

JOINT SESSION

May 04 Monday House Chamber 11:00 AM

+

Consideration of the Governor's Veto of SB 64