

*Dianne Blumer*

*Lobbying and Governmental Affairs*

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**MEMORANDUM**

To: Vince Tutiakoff, Mayor  
Erin Reinders, City Manager

RE: Legislative Report

Date: February 16, 2020

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**Overview:**

Most of this week was busy with departmental subcommittee closeouts for House Finance. Those closeouts are anticipated to be complete next week. Standing committees are beginning to hear other bills and strategize on issues of interest for the remainder of the session, as we all know the elephant in the room is the Permanent Fund Dividend, the theories and ideas for resolution on this matter range far and wide.

Governor Dunleavy introduced a bill to initiate a state lottery this week. The bill would establish a lottery corporation that would have the authority to conduct any kind of lottery game, including in-state and multi-state draw games, such as Powerball or Mega Millions, scratch-offs, sports betting, and games through use of any media. At this point the estimated revenue is in the neighborhood of \$5-\$10 million. As more games are added that amount would grow. The bill will receive its first hearing this week. Alaska is one of five states that doesn't have a lottery. The bill is met with mixed feeling by legislators.

Friday the Alaska Supreme Court overturned previous rulings and will allow the signature gathering for the recall of the Governor to commence. The arguments over the legality of the recall is scheduled to take place March 25<sup>th</sup>.

In committee hearings this week:

- The Transportation subcommittee added \$18.7 million for AMHS operations.
- The Public Safety subcommittee added \$1.0 million for the VPSO program, to partially restore funds that were vetoed in FY20.
- House Energy heard HB 232- Municipal Tax Credits, which allows local governments to offer municipal tax credits for home and business owners who invest in property improvements which result in increased energy efficiency or improve local air quality. This bill does not mandate any action by municipalities. Public testimony will be Thursday February 20<sup>th</sup> (See details below).

- Senate Finance took up HB 106- School Bond Debit Reimbursement, which extends the current moratorium for an additional 5 years. This is problematic, currently there is zero funding for school construction or major maintenance in the Governors FY21 budget.
- SB 74- Internet for Schools, was passed out of House Finance and is currently in rules waiting to be scheduled on the House floor.

Keep in mind that any action by the subcommittees is subject to change as it is taken up in House Finance. Also, please note scheduled public testimony on the budget bills below.

### Weekly Schedule:

(H)RESOURCES Feb 17 Monday 1:00 PM += <a href="#">HB 138</a>  +	Standing Committee* BARNES 124 NATIONAL RESOURCE WATER DESIGNATION -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --  Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
(H)FINANCE Feb 17 Monday 1:30 PM += <a href="#">HB 205</a> += <a href="#">HB 206</a> + +	Standing Committee* ADAMS ROOM 519 APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUNDS APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET Subcommittee Closeouts Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
(S)RESOURCES Feb 17 Monday 3:30 PM += <a href="#">SB 145</a>  += <a href="#">SB 70</a>  +  +	Standing Committee* BUTROVICH 205 REGISTRATION OF BOATS: EXEMPTION -- Public Testimony -- REPEAL IND. OCEAN POLLUTION MONITORS/FEE -- Testimony <Invitation Only> -- Presentation: The Spill Prevention & Response (SPAR) Program by the Department of Environmental Conservation -- Testimony <Invitation Only> -- **Streamed live on AKL.tv** Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
(H)FINANCE Feb 18 Tuesday 9:00 AM	Standing Committee* ADAMS ROOM 519

+ = [HB 205](#) APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUNDS  
 + = [HB 206](#) APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET  
 + Subcommittee Closeouts  
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

(H)FINANCE Standing Committee\*  
 Feb 19 Wednesday 1:30 PM ADAMS ROOM 519  
 + = [HB 205](#) APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUNDS  
 + = [HB 206](#) APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET  
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

(H)FINANCE Standing Committee\*  
 Feb 19 Wednesday 5:00 PM ADAMS ROOM 519  
 + = [HB 205](#) APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUNDS  
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit 2 Minutes> --  
 + = [HB 206](#) APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET  
 -- Public Testimony <Time Limit 2 Minutes> --  
 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. \* Juneau  
 6:45 - 8:00 p.m. \* Sitka, Petersburg, Delta  
 Junction, Unalaska, Dillingham, Glennallen & Tok  
 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. \* Off Net

(H)ENERGY Special Committee\*  
 Feb 20 Thursday 10:15 AM CAPITOL 17  
 -- Teleconference <Listen Only> --  
 + = [HB 151](#) ELECTRIC RELIABILITY ORGANIZATIONS  
 -- Public & Invited Testimony --  
 + = [HB 232](#) MUNICIPAL TAX CREDITS  
 -- Public & Invited Testimony --  
 + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled  
 \*\*Streamed live on AKL.tv\*\*

(H)TRANSPORTATION Standing Committee\*  
 Feb 20 Thursday 1:00 PM BARNES 124  
 \*+ "An Act relating to the Alaska marine highway system; establishing the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation; and providing for an effective date."  
 <Pending Introduction & Referral>  
 -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --

(H)FINANCE  
Feb 20 Thursday 5:00 PM  
+= [HB 205](#)

+= [HB 206](#)

Standing Committee\*  
ADAMS ROOM 519  
APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUNDS  
-- Public Testimony <Time Limit 2 Minutes> --  
APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET  
-- Public Testimony <Time Limit 2 Minutes> --  
5:00 - 6:30 p.m. \* Fairbanks  
6:45 - 8:00 p.m. \* Homer, Kenai, Ketchikan,  
Kodiak, Mat-Su & Seward  
5:00 - 8:00 p.m. \* Off Net

(H)FINANCE  
Feb 21 Friday 5:00 PM  
+= [HB 205](#)

+= [HB 206](#)

Standing Committee\*  
ADAMS ROOM 519  
APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUNDS  
-- Public Testimony <Time Limit 2 Minutes> --  
APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET  
-- Public Testimony <Time Limit 2 Minutes> --  
5:00- 6:45 p.m. \* Anchorage  
7:00 - 8:00 p.m. \* Bethel, Cordova, Kotzebue,  
Nome, Valdez, Wrangell & Utqiagvik  
5:00 - 8:00 p.m. \* Off Net

Here is the link to more information about the committee hearings, at this time of year it is good to check daily if you are watching a hearing as they change frequently.

<http://w3.legis.state.ak.us/index.php?tab2=type%3DAll%26com%3D%26startDate%3D04%2F22%2F2019%26endDate%3D04%2F27%2F2019%26chamber%3D#tab2>

### **Bills of Interest:**

<b>BILL</b>	<b>SHORT TITLE</b>	<b>PRIME SPONSOR(s)</b>	<b>CURRENT STATUS</b>	<b>STATUS DATE</b>
HB 6	DISPLAY OF STATE AND NATIONAL MOTTOS	RAUSCHER	(H) STA	02/20/19
HB 7	SEX EDUCATION	RAUSCHER	(H) EDC	02/20/19
HB 11	PEACE OFFICER RETIREMENT BENEFITS	RAUSCHER	(H) L&C	02/20/19

HB 17	REPEAL CERTIFICATE OF NEED PROGRAM	RAUSCHER	(H) HSS	02/20/19
HB 23	SNOWMOBILE REGISTRATION FEES	NEUMAN	(H) FIN	04/17/19
HB 24	LIMITED TEACHER CERTIFICATES; LANGUAGES	KREISS-TOMKINS	(H) L&C	04/05/19
HB 25	PRIVATE POLICE ORGANIZATIONS	SULLIVAN-LEONARD	(H) CRA	02/20/19
HB 27	REGULATION OF FLAME RETARDANT CHEMICALS	TARR	(H) L&C	02/07/20
HB 28	EQUAL PAY & MINIMUM WAGE ACT	TARR	(H) STA	02/20/19
HB 39	APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUNDS	RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	CHAPTER 1 FSSLA 19	06/28/19
HB 40	APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET	RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	CHAPTER 2 FSSLA 19	06/28/19
HB 41	SHELLFISH PROJECTS; HATCHERIES; FEES	ORTIZ	(S) FIN	05/06/19
HB 42	OUTDOOR ADVERTISING SIGNS	RAUSCHER	(H) TRA	02/20/19
HB 46	APPROP: ERA FOR PAYMENT OF PFD	RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	(H) STA	02/20/19
HB 47	PFD SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENT	RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	(H) STA	02/20/19
HB 61	REPEAL DEBT REIMBURSEMENT: CAP. PROJECTS	RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	(H) EDC	02/20/19
HB 64	ALCOHOL TAX: APPROP TO COMMUNITY ASSIST.	RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	(H) HSS	02/20/19
HB 65	FISH TAX: REPEAL MUNI REFUNDS/REV. SHARE	RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	(H) FSH	02/20/19
HB 66	REPEAL STATE DEBT REIMBURSE. FOR SCHOOLS	RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	(H) CRA	02/20/19
HB 69	REPEAL AK PUBLIC BROADCASTING COMM.	RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	(H) CRA	02/20/19
HB 79	PEACE OFFICER/FIREFIGHTER RETIRE BENEFITS	KOPP	(H) FIN	04/03/19
HB 84	WORKERS' COMP: POLICE, FIRE, EMT, PARAMED	JOSEPHSON	(H) L&C	04/26/19

HB 138	NATIONAL RESOURCE WATER DESIGNATION	KOPP	(H) RES	04/17/19
HB 185	REGISTRATION OF BOATS: EXEMPTION	STUTES	(H) TRA	02/07/20
HB 232	MUNICIPAL TAX CREDITS	HOPKINS	(H) ENE	02/03/20
SB 1	REPEAL CERTIFICATE OF NEED PROGRAM	WILSON	(S) FIN	04/10/19
SB 5	PERM. FUND CORP TO MANAGE MUNI ASSETS	STEVENS	(S) CRA	01/16/19
SB 6	PRE-K/ELEM ED PROGRAMS/FUNDING; READING	BEGICH	(S) EDC	01/21/20
SB 19	APPROP: CAPITAL BUDGET; SUPPLEMENTAL	RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	CHAPTER 3 FSSLA 19	07/08/19
SB 20	APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUNDS	RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	(S) FIN	02/13/19
SB 26	EQUAL PAY & MINIMUM WAGE ACT	BEGICH	(S) L&C	01/18/19
SB 50	EMPLOYMENT TAX FOR EDUCATION FACILITIES	BISHOP	(S) FIN	01/31/20
SB 57	REPEAL MUNI LEVY OF O&G TAX/CREDIT	RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	(S) CRA	02/13/19
SB 59	REPEAL DEBT REIMBURSEMENT: CAP. PROJECTS	RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	(S) FIN	02/13/19
SB 62	ALCOHOL TAX: APPROP TO COMMUNITY ASSIST.	RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	(S) CRA	02/18/19
SB 63	FISH TAX: REPEAL MUNI REFUNDS/REV. SHARE	RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	(S) CRA	02/18/19
SB 64	REPEAL STATE DEBT REIMBURSE. FOR SCHOOLS	RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	(S) FIN	04/19/19
SB 74	INTERNET FOR SCHOOLS	HOFFMAN	(H) RLS	02/14/20
SB 103	PFD APPROPRIATIONS; EARNING RESERVE	FINANCE	RETURNED TO (S) RLS	05/02/19
SB 104	APPROPRIATION LIMIT	FINANCE	(S) FIN	04/05/19
SB 130	SEAFOOD PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT TAX CREDIT	STEVENS	(S) RES	01/21/20
SB 145	REGISTRATION OF BOATS: EXEMPTION	MICCICHE	(S) RES	01/21/20

## **Resources:**

In order to testify, it is best to go to a Legislative Information Office (LIO) if you have one close to you or call one of the numbers below.

Link to LIO offices <http://akleg.gov/lios.php> - for addresses and phone numbers.

Off net:

Juneau - 586-9085 - for all phone numbers originating in Juneau

Anchorage - 563-9085 - for all phone number originating in Anchorage

Other, 1-844-586-9085 - for all phone numbers not originating in Juneau or Anchorage

Please note that if you are in an "Other" community and your phone number originates in Juneau or Anchorage, the 1-844-586-9085 will not work. You must use the Juneau or Anchorage number.

Here are a couple of links to websites that report on Juneau activities which you may find interesting:

- Governor's office press releases.  
<https://gov.alaska.gov/newsroom/>
- Majority Press Releases
  - *House* – [akhouse.org](http://akhouse.org)
  - *Senate* - <http://www.alaskasenate.org/>
- Minority Press Releases
  - *House* - <http://alaskahouserepublicans.org/>
  - *Senate* - <http://alaskasenedems.com/>