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Lobbying and Governmental Affairs

MEMORANDUM

To: Vince Tutiakoff, Mayor
Erin Reinders, City Manager

RE: Legislative Report

Date: February 23, 2020

Overview:

This week was all about subcommittee close outs and public testimony before House Finance on the operating budget. The process is moving much faster than last year and the House is striving to have the operating budget to the Senate the first week in March.

Sub-committee close out highlights include;

- Restoration of the Ocean Ranger program
- Funding for commercial shellfish PSP testing
- Restored cuts made to the Division of Commercial Fisheries
- Restored the Online with Libraries (OWL) program
- Allocated \$1 million for public broadcasting grants
- Added \$18.7 million to Alaska Marine Highway System

Remember, this is the beginning of the budget process, there are several iterations before we know if these changes will remain in the final budget proposed to the Governor.

The Governor's deadline for submitting budget amendments was Wednesday. He proposed a number of amendments including restoration of the controversial \$334,700 to the appellate courts that he voted last year over the Supreme Court decisions on abortion, which he disagreed with.

The amendment most notable was the proposed supplemental check in the amount of \$1304.00 to retroactively pay all Alaskans the permanent fund dividend amount prescribed in the 1982 formula. This proposed supplemental would cost about \$815.9 million to be paid from the permanent fund earnings. This proposal does not appear to be popular with most Legislators.

The Governor also introduced [HB 270 / SB 217](#), would allow dividend-eligible Alaskans the option to receive a voucher worth twice the monetary value of the statutory dividend calculation

to be applied toward purchase of state land. The PFD land vouchers would be transferable, would not expire, could be combined for purchase of a single parcel, and could be used along with the state veterans' land sales programs.

Also introduced by the Governor was a States lands bill which would seek to open up state lands for sale and development. The bill would create a new statute for leasing state lands for commercial or industrial development, reverse regulations designating certain rivers in Southcentral as "recreation" waters in an effort to open up such areas to sales and development and allow the state additional power in constructing access roads related to state land sales.

House Republicans voted to confirm Glenn "Mike" Prax to a seat vacated when longtime Rep. Tammie Wilson resigned last month.

Senator Bishop's motor fuel tax bill passed out of Senate Finance on Friday and will head to the full Senate for a vote before being passed over to the House.

Weekly Schedule:

(H)RESOURCES Feb 24 Monday 1:00 PM += HB 138 +	Standing Committee* BARNES 124 NATIONAL RESOURCE WATER DESIGNATION -- Testimony <Invitation Only> -- Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
(H)FINANCE Feb 24 Monday 1:30 PM += HB 205 += HB 206 += HB 234 +	Standing Committee* ADAMS 519 APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUNDS APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET APPROP: SUPP; REAPPROP; CAP; AMEND; CBR Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
(H)COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS Feb 25 Tuesday 8:00 AM +	Standing Committee* BARNES 124 Presentation: "The Community Services Fund; A Concept" by Nils Andraessen, Exec. Dir., Alaska Municipal League
(H)TRANSPORTATION Feb 25 Tuesday 1:00 PM *+ HB 253	Standing Committee* BARNES 124 SALE, TRANSFER, OR DISPOSAL OF FERRIES -- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
(H)FINANCE Feb 25 Tuesday 1:30 PM	Standing Committee* ADAMS 519

+ = HB 205	APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUNDS
+ = HB 206	APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 (H)FINANCE	Standing Committee*
Feb 26 Wednesday 9:00 AM	ADAMS 519
+ = HB 205	APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUNDS
+ = HB 206	APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 (H)FINANCE	Standing Committee*
Feb 26 Wednesday 1:30 PM	ADAMS 519
+ = HB 205	APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUNDS
+ = HB 206	APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 (H)LABOR & COMMERCE	Standing Committee*
Feb 26 Wednesday 3:15 PM	BARNES 124
+	HB 27
	REGULATION OF FLAME RETARDANT CHEMICALS
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
+ = HB 84	WORKERS' COMP: POLICE, FIRE, EMT, PARAMED
	-- Public Testimony --
+	HB 232
	MUNICIPAL TAX CREDITS
	-- Testimony <Invitation Only> --
 (H)FINANCE	Standing Committee*
Feb 27 Thursday 9:00 AM	ADAMS 519
+ = HB 205	APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUNDS
+ = HB 206	APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled
 (S)FINANCE	Standing Committee*
Feb 27 Thursday 9:00 AM	SENATE FINANCE 532
+	OMB Review of Governor's FY 21 & FY 20
	Supplemental Amendments
*+ SB 152	APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUNDS
*+ SB 153	APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET
*+ SB 154	APPROP: CAPITAL; SUPP; OTHER APPROP.
+ = SB 174	APPROP: SUPP; REAPPROP; CAP; AMEND; CBR
+	Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

(H)FINANCE
Feb 27 Thursday 1:30 PM
+= [HB 205](#)
+= [HB 206](#)
+
Standing Committee_
ADAMS 519
APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUNDS
APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET
Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

(H)FINANCE
Feb 28 Friday 9:00 AM
+= [HB 205](#)
+= [HB 206](#)
+
Standing Committee_
ADAMS 519
APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUNDS
APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET
Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

(S)FINANCE
Feb 28 Friday 9:00 AM
+ [SB 50](#)
+
Standing Committee_
SENATE FINANCE 532
EMPLOYMENT TAX FOR EDUCATION FACILITIES
-- Public Testimony --
Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

(H)FINANCE
Feb 28 Friday 1:30 PM
+= [HB 205](#)
+= [HB 206](#)
+
Standing Committee_
ADAMS 519
APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUNDS
APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET
Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

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:

BILL	SHORT TITLE	PRIME SPONSOR(s)	CURRENT STATUS	
			STATUS	DATE
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 194	SCHOOL DISTRICT CONSOLIDATION	VANCE	(H) CRA	01/21/20
HB 232	MUNICIPAL TAX CREDITS	HOPKINS	(H) L&C	02/21/20
HB 234	APPROP: SUPP; REAPPROP; CAP; AMEND; CBR	RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	(H) FIN	02/05/20
HB 249	MARINE HIGHWAY CORPORATION	STUTES	(H) TRA	02/17/20
HB 253	SALE, TRANSFER, OR DISPOSAL OF FERRIES	KREISS-TOMKINS	(H) TRA	02/17/20
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) FIN	02/17/20
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 136	STATE-TRIBAL EDUCATION COMPACT SCHOOLS	STEVENS	(S) EDC	01/21/20
SB 145	REGISTRATION OF BOATS: EXEMPTION	MICCICHE	(S) RES	01/21/20
SB 204	STATE LAND SALES; PLATS; RIVERS	RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	(S) RES	02/19/20
SB 205	SUPPLEMENTAL PFD FOR 2019 RECIPIENTS	RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	(S) FIN	02/19/20

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
 - *Senate* - <http://www.alaskasenate.org/>
- Minority Press Releases
 - *House* - <http://alaskahouserepublicans.org/>
 - *Senate* - <http://alaskasenedems.com/>