

BLUMER AND ASSOCIATES

City of Unalaska Legislative Report

1/29/21

The Legislature continues to be off to a very slow start, particularly the House of Representatives. They remain unorganized and are split 20/20, they have even been unsuccessful in electing a pro tem speaker. Nominations have been made twice and both times the vote was 20/20, which results in a failed vote. This puts them in a position where absolutely no work can be conducted.

The Senate Finance committee started holding committee hearings this week, primarily with overviews from the Department of Natural Resources, Office of Management and Budget and the Department of Revenue. As you can imagine, the focus is on the operation and capital budgets along with the deficit facing the State.

Both of the Senate Finance Co-chairs have signaled a desire to get the budget process completed by mid-March and perhaps work on personal legislation over the interim or reconvene once more folks are vaccinated, eliminating the strict testing and limited access requirements currently in place at the Capitol Building.

Governor Dunleavy gave the State of the State address in a live broadcast from Anchorage Thursday evening, the first time the speech hasn't been given in person. While there was not much in breaking news, he discussed the need to become more self-reliant and has charged his administration with researching how Alaskans can become more self-reliant within the framework of federalism.

The governor pushed back against federal regulation of Alaska's lands, saying the state had a constitutional obligation to develop its resources. He said the state's potential to generate its own energy is unlimited and his administration will pursue alternative forms of energy such as tidal and geothermal, while at the same time he reaffirmed the state's commitment to fossil fuels.

A large portion of his speech focused on the need for economic recovery. He reiterated his previous proposal for a \$5 billion draw from the Earnings Reserve Account to pay large Permanent Fund Dividend checks. He also supports bringing gambling to the state to create revenue.

The full speech can be found [here](#)

The Legislative Finance Division has released an overview of the Governor's budget, a statutorily required publication that provides an overview of the State's fiscal situation and the Governor's budget submission. It is available at

<https://www.legfin.akleg.gov/Overview/Overview2022.pdf> for those of you interested.

Weekly Schedule

Time	Description
Mon 2/1/21 9:00 AM	SENATE FINANCE 532 -SENATE FINANCE + - Continuation of OMB Presentation from 1/29/2021 TELECONFERENCED by Neil Steininger, OMB + - Legislative Finance Division - FY22 Fiscal TELECONFERENCED Overview by Alexei Painter, Director
Mon 2/1/21 1:30 PM	BUTROVICH 205 -SENATE JUDICIARY + Disaster Declaration, Extensions - Relating to TELECONFERENCED COVID -- Testimony -- + Department of Health & Social Services TELECONFERENCED**Streamed live on AKL.tv**
Tue 2/2/21 9:00 AM	SENATE FINANCE 532 -SENATE FINANCE + Savings Accounts & Budget Reserves by TELECONFERENCED Pam Leary, Treasury Director + State Debt & Investment Funds Update by TELECONFERENCED Deven Mitchell, Debt Manager
Tue 2/2/21 1:30 PM	SB 56 - Extending Covid 19 Disaster Emergency
Tue 2/2/21 1:30 PM	BUTROVICH 205 - SENATE HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES BUTROVICH 205 -SENATE HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES *+ SB56 EXTENDING COVID 19 DISASTER EMERGENCY TELECONFERENCED-Invited Testimony Followed by Public Testimony- **Streamed live on AKL.tv**
Tue 2/2/21 3:30 PM	SB 43 - Elections, Voting, Campaign Finance
Tue 2/2/21 3:30 PM	BUTROVICH 205 - SENATE STATE AFFAIRS SB 25 - State Gov't Finances: Website
Tue 2/2/21 3:30 PM	BUTROVICH 205 - SENATE STATE AFFAIRS BUTROVICH 205 -SENATE STATE AFFAIRS *+ SB43 ELECTIONS, VOTING, CAMPAIGN FINANCE TELECONFERENCED*+ SB25 STATE GOV'T FINANCES: WEBSITE TELECONFERENCED+= SB39 BALLOT CUSTODY/TAMPERING; VOTER REG; MAIL TELECONFERENCED

Time	Description
Wed 2/3/21 9:00 AM	SB 50 - Approp: Cap; Reapprop; Supp; Amend
Wed 2/3/21 9:00 AM	SENATE FINANCE 532 - SENATE FINANCE SENATE FINANCE 532 -SENATE FINANCE *+ SB50 APPROP: CAP; REAPPROP; SUPP; AMEND TELECONFERENCED+ Capital Budget Presentation by Neil Steininger, TELECONFERENCEDOMB Director
Wed 2/3/21 1:30 PM	BUTROVICH 205 -SENATE JUDICIARY + Disaster Declaration, Extensions &Liability TELECONFERENCED Relating to COVID *+ SB14 SELECTION AND REVIEW OF JUDGES TELECONFERENCED-- Testimony -- **Streamed live on AKL.tv**
Thu 2/4/21 3:30 PM	SB 53 - Perm Fund; Advisory Vote
Thu 2/4/21 3:30 PM	BUTROVICH 205 - SENATE STATE AFFAIRS BUTROVICH 205 -SENATE STATE AFFAIRS *+ SB53 PERM FUND; ADVISORY VOTE TELECONFERENCED*+ SJR6 CONST. AM: PERM FUND & PFDS TELECONFERENCED*+ SJR5 CONST. AM: APPROP LIMIT; BUDGET RESERVE TELECONFERENCED*+ SJR7 CONST. AM: STATE TAX; VOTER APPROVAL TELECONFERENCED
Fri 2/5/21 9:00 AM	SB 19 - Extend Special Education Service Agency
Fri 2/5/21 9:00 AM	BUTROVICH 205 - SENATE EDUCATION SENATE FINANCE 532 -SENATE FINANCE + PERS/TRS Update, FY22 Payment by: TELECONFERENCED- Ajay Desai, Director of the Division of Retirement & Benefits - Jim Puckett, Deputy Director - Emily Ricci, Chief Health Policy Administrator - Kevin Worley, Chief Financial Officer
Fri 2/5/21 1:30 PM	BUTROVICH 205 -SENATE JUDICIARY + Disaster Declaration, Extensions - Relating to TELECONFERENCEDCOVID -- Invited & Public Testimony -- + Confirmation Hearings: TELECONFERENCED To be Announced + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled TELECONFERENCED

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%3DAI%26com%3D%26startDate%3D01%2F29%2F2021%26endDate%3D02%2F06%2F2021%26chamber%3D#tab2>

Bills of Interest

Bill	Short Title	Prime Sponsors	Current Status	Status Date
HB 1	Audit Of Cares Act Funds	RAUSCHER	PREFILE RELEASED	1/8/2021
HB 2	Minimum Age To Sell Tobacco/nicotine	RAUSCHER	PREFILE RELEASED	1/8/2021
HB 3	Definition Of "disaster": Cybersecurity	JOHNSON	PREFILE RELEASED	1/8/2021
HB 4	Business/prof. License Immunity Covid-19	JOHNSON	PREFILE RELEASED	1/8/2021
HB 9	Income Tax; Pfd Payment/credit	HANNAN	PREFILE RELEASED	1/8/2021
HB 11	Defensive Display Of Firearm	RAUSCHER	PREFILE RELEASED	1/8/2021
HB 12	Hold Legislative Sessions In Anchorage	RAUSCHER	PREFILE RELEASED	1/8/2021
HB 15	Temp Permits & Licenses; Military License	THOMPSON	PREFILE RELEASED	1/8/2021
HB 16	Search And Rescue Surplus State Property	JOHNSON	PREFILE RELEASED	1/8/2021
HB 18	Teachers: National Board Certification	KREISS- TOMKINS	PREFILE RELEASED	1/8/2021
HB 23	Ballot Custody/tamper; Voting; Voter Reg	RAUSCHER	PREFILE RELEASED	1/8/2021

Bill	Short Title	Prime Sponsors	Current Status	Status Date
HB 26	Conflict Of Interest: Bd Fisheries/game	STUTES	PREFILE RELEASED	1/8/2021
HB 28	Registration Of Boats: Exemption	STUTES	PREFILE RELEASED	1/8/2021
HB 30	Workers' Comp: Death; Perm Partial Impair	JOSEPHSON	PREFILE RELEASED	1/8/2021
HB 31	Observe Daylight Saving Time All Year	ORTIZ	PREFILE RELEASED	1/8/2021
HB 37	Income Tax; Permanent Fund; Earnings Res.	WOOL	PREFILE RELEASED	1/8/2021
HB 41	Shellfish Projects; Hatcheries; Fees	ORTIZ	PREFILE RELEASED	1/8/2021
HB 45	Workers' Comp. And Contagious Diseases	JOSEPHSON	PREFILE RELEASED	1/8/2021
HB 50	Municipal Regulation Of Trapping	JOSEPHSON	PREFILE RELEASED	1/8/2021
HB 55	Peace Officer/firefighter Retire Benefits	JOSEPHSON	PREFILE RELEASED	1/15/2021
HB 56	Power Cost Equalization	FOSTER	PREFILE RELEASED	1/15/2021
HB 57	Funds Subject To Cbr Sweep Provision	JOSEPHSON	PREFILE RELEASED	1/15/2021
HB 63	Alaska Marine Highway Operations Board	STUTES	PREFILE RELEASED	1/15/2021
HB 64	Fishery Development Assoc.; Assessments	STUTES	PREFILE RELEASED	1/15/2021
HB 65	Boards Of Fisheries And Game Confirmation	STUTES	PREFILE RELEASED	1/15/2021

Bill	Short Title	Prime Sponsors	Current Status	Status Date
HB 66	Elections, Voting, Ballots	TUCK	PREFILE RELEASED	1/15/2021
HB 67	Approp: K-12 Acad. Recovery From Covid-19	STORY	PREFILE RELEASED	1/15/2021
HJR 1	Const Am: Permanent Fund; Pomv; Earnings	KREISS-TOMKINS	PREFILE RELEASED	1/8/2021
HJR 2	Const. Am: 90 Day Regular Session	CLAMAN	PREFILE RELEASED	1/15/2021
SB 1	Chokehold Ban	GRAY-JACKSON	(S) STA	1/22/2021
SB 2	Peace Officers: De-escalation, Misconduct	GRAY-JACKSON	(S) STA	1/22/2021
SB 3	Police Officers: Oral Warning/de-escalate	GRAY-JACKSON	(S) STA	1/22/2021
SB 4	Prohibit Peace Off. Shoot Moving Vehicle	GRAY-JACKSON	(S) STA	1/22/2021
SB 6	Rip For Public Employees/teachers	KAWASAKI	(S) EDC	1/22/2021
SB 7	State Trooper Policies: Public Access	GRAY-JACKSON	(S) STA	1/22/2021
SB 8	Pre-k/elem Ed Programs/funding; Reading	BEGICH	(S) EDC	1/22/2021
SB 9	Alcoholic Beverage Control; Alcohol Reg	MICCICHE	(S) L&C	1/22/2021
SB 10	Free/reduced Tuition For Essential Worker	BEGICH	(S) L&C	1/22/2021
SB 11	Community Property Trusts	BEGICH	(S) L&C	1/22/2021
SB 12	Military Spouse Courtesy License	KAWASAKI	(S) STA	1/22/2021
SB 15	Open Meetings Act; Penalty	COSTELLO	(S) CRA	1/22/2021

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SB 16	Equal Pay/ Living Wage Act; Sex Discrim.	BEGICH	(S) L&C	1/22/2021
SB 17	Energy Efficiency & Policy: Pub. Bldgs	BEGICH	(S) CRA	1/22/2021
SB 18	Class Size Reduction Grant Program	BEGICH	(S) EDC	1/22/2021
SB 19	Extend Special Education Service Agency	STEVENS	(S) EDC	1/22/2021
SB 20	Out Of State Teacher Reciprocity	STEVENS	(S) EDC	1/22/2021
SB 21	License Mobile Intensive Care Paramedics	REVAK	(S) HSS	1/22/2021
SB 23	Initiative Severability	REVAK	(S) STA	1/22/2021
SB 24	Virtual Meetings For Corporations	WILSON	(S) L&C	1/22/2021
SB 25	State Gov't Finances: Website	WIELECHOWSKI	(S) STA	1/22/2021
SB 29	Cook Inlet: New Admin Area; Permit Buyback	MICCICHE	(S) RES	1/22/2021
SB 30	Colorectal Cancer Screen Coverage	BEGICH	(S) HSS	1/25/2021
SB 31	Prohibiting Binding Caucuses	SHOWER	(S) STA	1/25/2021
SB 32	College Credit For High School Students	STEVENS	(S) EDC	1/25/2021
SB 33	Seafood Product Development Tax Credit	STEVENS	(S) RES	1/25/2021
SB 34	State-tribal Education Compact Schools	STEVENS	(S) EDC	1/25/2021
SB 37	Teachers & Pub Employee Retirement Plans	KIEHL	(S) L&C	1/25/2021

Bill	Short Title	Prime Sponsors	Current Status	Status Date
SB 41	Health Insurance Info.; Incentive Program	HUGHES	(S) L&C	1/25/2021
SB 43	Elections, Voting, Campaign Finance	HUGHES	(S) STA	1/25/2021
SB 44	Personal Use Fishing Priority	KAWASAKI	(S) RES	1/25/2021
SB 48	Approp: Supplemental; Amending	RULES	(S) FIN	1/25/2021
SB 49	Approp: Operating Budget/loans/funds	RULES	(S) FIN	1/25/2021
SB 50	Approp: Cap; Reapprop; Supp; Amend	RULES	(S) FIN	1/25/2021
SB 52	Approp: Era For Payment Of Pfd	RULES	(S) FIN	1/25/2021
SB 53	Perm Fund; Advisory Vote	RULES	(S) STA	1/25/2021
SB 54	Ahfc Water & Sewer Bonds/transportation	RULES	(S) L&C	1/25/2021
SB 55	Employer Contributions To Pers	RULES	(S) L&C	1/25/2021
SB 56	Extending Covid 19 Disaster Emergency	RULES	(S) HSS	1/25/2021
SJR 1	Const Am: Guarantee Perm Fund Dividend	WIELECHOWSKI	(S) STA	1/22/2021
SJR 3	Const. Am. Prohibiting Binding Caucuses	SHOWER	(S) STA	1/22/2021