

BLUMER AND ASSOCIATES

City of Unalaska Legislative Report

2/5/21

Things are still moving relatively slow in Juneau. The House of Representatives remains unorganized. However, on Thursday by a unanimous vote of 39-0, Representative Tarr was absent, Rep. Josiah Patkotak was appointed speaker pro tempore. In this position Patkotak has very limited authority, he may preside over the House and can oversee the nomination and voting process to select a permanent house speaker, but not much more.

The Senate continues its work holding committee hearings. Senate Finance being the most active with in-depth overviews of the Governor's proposed operating and capital budgets and all it entails.

Wednesday was Capitol Budget day, OMB Director Neil Steininger gave an overview of SB 50, with a total appropriation of \$1.5 billion, of which federal funds are \$1.2 billion and the 2021 Capital Budget supplemental appropriation of \$85 million, with federal funds of \$56 million. Capital budgets have been around this amount for each of the last few years.

A few other noteworthy items, AHFC bond proceeds for the Capital Budget total \$101 million of nonfederal funds, normally this appropriation would be from the General Fund. The Administration put forward a \$350 million general obligation bond package, however, it was said those bonds are not likely to be sold until 2023 or later, with debt service to begin about six months after the date of the bonds.

Another issue receiving statewide attention is SB 56, introduced by the Governor relating to the extension of the public health disaster issued on January 15, 2021. This bill would extend the public health disaster emergency period to the end of the federal fiscal year, September 30, 2021, or until the commissioner of the Department of Health and Social Services certifies to the governor that there is no longer an outbreak of COVID-19 or an imminent threat of an outbreak in the State of Alaska, whichever is earlier.

Some Legislators are adamantly against the emergency declaration extension for a variety of reasons, however, some health care facilities and local governments fear that absent an emergency declaration Alaska may not be eligible for federal relief funds and in some cases could be out of compliance with current laws.

Governor Dunleavy has appointed Treg Taylor as Attorney General for the Alaska Department of Law and will submit his name for confirmation to the Alaska Legislature this session.

Senate Concurrent Resolution Number 1 (SCR 1) passed the Senate this week. SCR 1 authorizes presiding officers to allow members of the legislature to attend sessions by videoconference due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It must also pass the house before they would be able to implement the resolution.

Two bills were introduced Friday morning (as I was finalizing this report) that may be of interest:

- SB 74 - [GO Bond Package](#) introduced by the Governor
- SB 75 - [Appropriation Limit](#) introduced by Sen. von Imhof

Weekly Schedule

Time	Description
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 TELECONFERENCED COVID -- Invited & Public Testimony -- + Confirmation Hearings: TELECONFERENCED To be Announced + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled TELECONFERENCED
Mon 2/8/21 9:00 AM	SB 68 - Approp: Supp; Reapprop; Amending; Cbr
Mon 2/8/21 9:00 AM	SENATE FINANCE 532 - SENATE FINANCE SENATE FINANCE 532 -SENATE FINANCE *+ SB68 APPROP: SUPP; REAPPROP; AMENDING; CBR TELECONFERENCED + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled TELECONFERENCED
Mon 2/8/21 1:30 PM	SB 56 - Extending Covid 19 Disaster Emergency
Mon 2/8/21 1:30 PM	BELTZ 105 (TSBldg) - SENATE LABOR & COMMERCE SB 24 - Virtual Meetings For Corporations
Mon 2/8/21 1:30 PM	BELTZ 105 (TSBldg) - SENATE LABOR & COMMERCE SB 10 - Free/reduced Tuition For Essential Worker BELTZ 105 (TSBldg) - SENATE LABOR & COMMERCE

Time	Description
Mon 2/8/21 1:30 PM	BUTROVICH 205 -SENATE JUDICIARY + COVID-19 Disaster Declaration, Extensions, TELECONFERENCED Vaccine Liability + TBA - Department of Health & Social Services& TELECONFERENCED Department of Administration -- Testimony -- **Streamed live on AKL.tv**
Tue 2/9/21 7:30 AM	SENATE FINANCE 532 -SENATE LABOR & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT Synopsis on Subcommittee Binders - FY22 Agency Budget Highlights - Challenges & Successes **Streamed live on AKL.tv**
Tue 2/9/21 9:00 AM	SB 49 - Approp: Operating Budget/loans/funds
Tue 2/9/21 9:00 AM	SENATE FINANCE 532 - SENATE FINANCE SENATE FINANCE 532 -SENATE FINANCE *+ SB49 APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUNDS TELECONFERENCED *+ SB51 APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET TELECONFERENCED + CARES Act Funding Update TELECONFERENCED + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled TELECONFERENCED
Tue 2/9/21 1:30 PM	SB 56 - Extending Covid 19 Disaster Emergency
Tue 2/9/21 1:30 PM	BUTROVICH 205 - SENATE HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES BUTROVICH 205 -SENATE HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled: TELECONFERENCED += SB56 EXTENDING COVID 19 DISASTER EMERGENCY TELECONFERENCED -- Public Testimony -- **Streamed live on AKL.tv**
Tue 2/9/21 3:30 PM	SJR 1 - Const Am: Guarantee Perm Fund Dividend
Tue 2/9/21 3:30 PM	BUTROVICH 205 - SENATE STATE AFFAIRS SB 53 - Perm Fund; Advisory Vote BUTROVICH 205 - SENATE STATE AFFAIRS

Time	Description
Wed 2/10/21 9:00 AM	SENATE FINANCE 532 -SENATE FINANCE + CARES Act Funding Update (continued) TELECONFERENCED + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled TELECONFERENCED
Thu 2/11/21 3:30 PM	SJR 1 - Const Am: Guarantee Perm Fund Dividend
Thu 2/11/21 3:30 PM	BUTROVICH 205 - SENATE STATE AFFAIRS SB 53 - Perm Fund; Advisory Vote
Thu 2/11/21 3:30 PM	BUTROVICH 205 - SENATE STATE AFFAIRS SB 43 - Elections, Voting, Campaign Finance
Thu 2/11/21 3:30 PM	BUTROVICH 205 - SENATE STATE AFFAIRS SB 25 - State Gov't Finances: Website
Thu 2/11/21 3:30 PM	BUTROVICH 205 - SENATE STATE AFFAIRS BUTROVICH 205 -SENATE STATE AFFAIRS += SB39 BALLOT CUSTODY/TAMPERING; VOTER REG; MAIL TELECONFERENCED -- Testimony -- += SB43 ELECTIONS, VOTING, CAMPAIGN FINANCE TELECONFERENCED += SB25 STATE GOV'T FINANCES: WEBSITE TELECONFERENCED += SJR5 CONST. AM: APPROP LIMIT; BUDGET RESERVE TELECONFERENCED += SJR6 CONST. AM: PERM FUND & PFDS TELECONFERENCED += SJR7 CONST. AM: STATE TAX; VOTER APPROVAL TELECONFERENCED += SB53 PERM FUND; ADVISORY VOTE TELECONFERENCED += SJR1 CONST AM: GUARANTEE PERM FUND DIVIDEND TELECONFERENCED
Fri 2/12/21 1:30 PM	-- Testimony -- **Streamed live on AKL.tv** + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled TELECONFERENCED SB 9 - Alcoholic Beverage Control; Alcohol Reg BELTZ 105 (TSBldg) - SENATE LABOR & COMMERCE

Time	Description
Fri 2/12/21 1:30 PM	BELTZ 105 (TSBldg) -SENATE LABOR & COMMERCE *+ SB9 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL; ALCOHOL REG TELECONFERENCED -- Invited & Public Testimony -- + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled TELECONFERENCED **Streamed live on AKL.tv**

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%3D02%2F05%2F2021%26endDate%3D02%2F13%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

Bill	Short Title	Prime Sponsors	Current Status	Status Date
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
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

Bill	Short Title	Prime Sponsors	Current Status	Status Date
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
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

Bill	Short Title	Prime Sponsors	Current Status	Status Date
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
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

Bill	Short Title	Prime Sponsors	Current Status	Status Date
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
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
SB 68	Approp: Supp; Reapprop; Amending; Cbr	RULES	(S) FIN	2/3/2021

Bill	Short Title	Prime Sponsors	Current Status	Status Date
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