

# BLUMER AND ASSOCIATES

## City of Unalaska Legislative Report

4/11/21

It is the second week of April and it is painfully obvious that we will be in Juneau until, at the very least, mid-May. No matter what side of the aisle you are, most folks believe that the overall budget will likely be a status quo from last year, not a lot of cuts and not a lot of additions. The House is tentatively scheduled to vote on the budget during the week of April 19, and after that, it would advance to the Senate.

While things are moving at a reduced pace this week, there is still a great deal of work left in order to pass a budget that properly funds essential state services. Now, a large part of that equation is the federal stimulus dollars the state is set to receive from the federal government next month. As the appropriating body, the legislature must decide how to best allocate those funds.

At this point the funding guidelines have not been defined and likely won't be understood or decided within the timeline of a 121 session, and the Legislature doesn't want to adjourn and leave Juneau with the governor having the autonomy to make those decisions.

**HB 76** regarding extending the COVID-19 disaster emergency was scheduled to be taken up in Senate Finance on Tuesday, was later removed and not heard. It is rescheduled for Monday the 12<sup>th</sup>. Likely we will see a "watered down" version of the original bill.

**HB 30**, which addresses workers compensation, death and partial impairment, passed out of the House Labor & Commerce committee this week with five "do pass" and one no recommendation. The next committee of referral is Finance. There continues to be concern with this bill, specifically, section 4 of the bill which moves responsibility to an employer, who's employee dies on the job, to provide notification of the worker's death to the worker's estate personal representative, extending the death benefits to the worker's dependents through age 23 which is a significant jump from the current age of 19, creating a significant increase in liability and premium costs. Also, section 2 of the bill increases the employee's whole-body valuation, paid in the event of permanent disability or death, all of these changes particularly at once could be rather costly to employers.

**CSSB 17**, relating to energy efficiency and policy in public building was heard in Senate Community and Regional Affairs this week. Sen. Begich recapped the intention of the which bill does two things. Takes a 2010 bill, that had two major factors, regarding setting policy around clean energy and setting policy around retrofitting buildings. This bill lowers the threshold from 10K sf to 5K sf and includes other buildings in the mix such as schools that are perhaps larger but part of PCE and aligning current terminology for clean energy. The bill passed out of committee with "do pass" Gray-Jackson; no recommendation, Hughes, Myers. The next committee of referral is Senate Labor and Commerce.

There have been dueling meetings this week on the legislation related to the Alaska Marine Highway(AMHS) operations board make-up. **HB 63** by Speaker Stutes was heard for the second time in House State Affairs, looks like there will be amendments taken up, particularly to an earlier effective date.

**SB 103**, the Governor’s version of the AMHS Operation and Planning Board under-went several amendments in Senate Transportation this week, primarily related to board appointment and separation of powers issues. One thing for sure is both bodies are looking to get politics out of the equation and create a board that will look for sustainable long-term planning and fiscal structure.

### Weekly Schedule

Time	Description
Mon 4/12/21 9:00 AM	HB 76 - Extending Covid 19 Disaster Emergency
Mon 4/12/21 1:00 PM	SENATE FINANCE 532 - SENATE FINANCE HB 66 - Elections, Voting, Ballots
Mon 4/12/21 1:30 PM	GRUENBERG 120 - HOUSE JUDICIARY SB 15 - Open Meetings Act; Penalty
Mon 4/12/21 1:30 PM	BUTROVICH 205 - SENATE JUDICIARY SB 9 - Alcoholic Beverage Control; Alcohol Reg
Mon 4/12/21 1:30 PM	BUTROVICH 205 - SENATE JUDICIARY HB 69 - Approp: Operating Budget/loans/funds
Tue 4/13/21 9:00 AM	ADAMS 519 - HOUSE FINANCE HB 79 - Saltwater Sportfishing Operators/guides
Tue 4/13/21 11:30 AM	ADAMS 519 - HOUSE FINANCE HJR 1 - Const Am: Permanent Fund; Pomv;earnings
Tue 4/13/21 1:30 PM	DAVIS 106 - HOUSE WAYS & MEANS HB 79 - Saltwater Sportfishing Operators/guides
Tue 4/13/21 3:00 PM	ADAMS 519 - HOUSE FINANCE SB 21 - License Mobile Intensive Care Paramedics
Tue 4/13/21 3:00 PM	DAVIS 106 - HOUSE HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES HB 55 - Peace Officer/firefighter Retire Benefits
	GRUENBERG 120 - HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS

<b>Time</b>	<b>Description</b>
Tue 4/13/21 3:30 PM	SB 23 - Initiative Severability
Wed 4/14/21 9:00 AM	BUTROVICH 205 - SENATE STATE AFFAIRS SB 55 - Employer Contributions To Pers
Wed 4/14/21 1:00 PM	SENATE FINANCE 532 - SENATE FINANCE HB 26 - Conflict Of Interest: Bd Fisheries/game
Wed 4/14/21 1:30 PM	BARNES 124 - HOUSE RESOURCES SJR 1 - Const Am: Guarantee Perm Fund Dividend
Wed 4/14/21 1:30 PM	BUTROVICH 205 - SENATE JUDICIARY HB 69 - Approp: Operating Budget/loans/funds
Thu 4/15/21 11:00 AM	ADAMS 519 - HOUSE FINANCE HB 64 - Fishery Development Assoc.; Assessments
Thu 4/15/21 1:30 PM	GRUENBERG 120 - HOUSE FISHERIES HB 69 - Approp: Operating Budget/loans/funds
Thu 4/15/21 3:00 PM	ADAMS 519 - HOUSE FINANCE HB 63 - Alaska Marine Highway Operations Board
Fri 4/16/21 1:30 PM	GRUENBERG 120 - HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS HB 69 - Approp: Operating Budget/loans/funds
	ADAMS 519 - HOUSE FINANCE

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%2F11%2F2021%26endDate%3D04%2F19%2F2021%26chamber%3D#tab2>

<b><u>Bills of Interest</u></b>				
<b>Bill</b>	<b>Short Title</b>	<b>Prime Sponsors</b>	<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Status Date</b>
HB 2	Minimum Age To Sell Tobacco/nicotine	RAUSCHER	(H) CRA	2/18/2021

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Short Title</b>	<b>Prime Sponsors</b>	<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Status Date</b>
HB 3	Definition Of "disaster": Cybersecurity	JOHNSON	(H) RLS	3/20/2021
HB 4	Business/prof. License Immunity Covid-19	JOHNSON	(H) L&C	2/18/2021
HB 9	Income Tax; Pfd Payment/credit	HANNAN	(H) STA	2/18/2021
HB 11	Defensive Display Of Firearm	RAUSCHER	(H) CRA	2/18/2021
HB 12	Hold Legislative Sessions In Anchorage	RAUSCHER	(H) CRA	2/18/2021
HB 15	Temp Permits & Licenses; Military License	THOMPSON	(H) L&C	2/18/2021
HB 16	Search And Rescue Surplus State Property	JOHNSON	(H) CRA	2/18/2021
HB 18	Teachers: National Board Certification	KREISS- TOMKINS	(H) EDC	3/10/2021
HB 23	Ballot Custody/tamper; Voting; Voter Reg	RAUSCHER	(H) STA	2/18/2021
HB 26	Conflict Of Interest: Bd Fisheries/game	HOUSE FISHERIES	(H) RES	3/20/2021
HB 28	Registration Of Boats: Exemption	HOUSE FISHERIES	(H) FIN	3/31/2021
HB 30	Workers' Comp: Death; Perm Partial Impair	JOSEPHSON	(H) FIN	4/7/2021
HB 31	Observe Daylight Saving Time All Year	ORTIZ	(H) STA	2/18/2021
HB 37	Income Tax; Permanent Fund; Earnings Res.	WOOL	(H) CRA	2/18/2021
HB 41	Shellfish Projects; Hatcheries; Fees	ORTIZ	(H) FIN	3/31/2021

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Short Title</b>	<b>Prime Sponsors</b>	<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Status Date</b>
HB 45	Workers' Comp. And Contagious Diseases	JOSEPHSON	(H) FIN	3/20/2021
HB 50	Municipal Regulation Of Trapping	JOSEPHSON	(H) RES	2/18/2021
HB 55	Peace Officer/firefighter Retire Benefits	JOSEPHSON	(H) STA	2/18/2021
HB 56	Power Cost Equalization	FOSTER	(H) CRA	2/18/2021
HB 57	Funds Subject To Cbr Sweep Provision	JOSEPHSON	(H) FIN	4/5/2021
HB 59	Workplace Violence Protective Orders	CLAMAN	(H) STA	2/18/2021
HB 63	Alaska Marine Highway Operations Board	STUTES	(H) STA	3/20/2021
HB 64	Fishery Development Assoc.; Assessments	STUTES	(H) FSH	2/18/2021
HB 65	Boards Of Fisheries And Game Confirmation	STUTES	(H) FSH	2/18/2021
HB 66	Elections, Voting, Ballots	TUCK	(H) JUD	4/9/2021
HB 67	Approp: K-12 Acad. Recovery From Covid-19	STORY	(H) EDC	2/18/2021
HB 68	Approp: Supplemental; Amending	RULES	(H) FIN	2/18/2021
HB 69	Approp: Operating Budget/loans/funds	RULES	(H) FIN	2/18/2021
HB 70	Approp: Cap; Reapprop; Supp; Amend	RULES	(H) FIN	3/31/2021
HB 72	Approp: Era For Payment Of Pfd	RULES	(H) FIN	2/18/2021
HB 73	Perm Fund; Advisory Vote	RULES	(H) STA	2/18/2021

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Short Title</b>	<b>Prime Sponsors</b>	<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Status Date</b>
HB 75	Employer Contributions To Pers	RULES	(H) L&C	2/18/2021
HB 76	Extending Covid 19 Disaster Emergency	RULES	(S) FIN	3/29/2021
HB 79	Saltwater Sportfishing Operators/guides	RULES	(H) FIN	3/3/2021
HB 82	Gas Leases; Renewable Energy Grant Fund	RULES	(H) FSH	3/1/2021
HB 84	Approp: Supp; Reapprop; Amending; Cbr	RULES	(H) FIN	2/18/2021
HB 88	Equal Pay & Minimum Wage Act	TARR	(H) STA	2/18/2021
HB 93	G.o. Bonds: State Infrastructure Projects	RULES	(H) FIN	2/18/2021
HB 95	Elections; Election Investigations	RULES	(H) STA	2/18/2021
HB 96	Elections; Voting; Ballot Reqs	RULES	(H) STA	2/18/2021
HB 134	Amhs Operation & Planning Board	RULES	(H) TRA	3/10/2021
HB 135	Geothermal Resources	RULES	(H) RES	3/10/2021
HJR 1	Const Am: Permanent Fund; Pomv; Earnings	KREISS- TOMKINS	(H) W&M	3/10/2021
HJR 2	Const. Am: 90 Day Regular Session	CLAMAN	(H) JUD	4/9/2021
HJR 6	Const. Am: Approp Limit; Budget Reserve	RULES	(H) W&M	3/24/2021
HJR 7	Const. Am: Perm Fund & Pfd	RULES	(H) STA	2/18/2021
HJR 8	Const. Am: State Tax; Voter Approval	RULES	(H) STA	2/18/2021

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Short Title</b>	<b>Prime Sponsors</b>	<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Status Date</b>
HJR 13	Urge Exemption For Cruise Ships	ORTIZ	(H) TRA	3/1/2021
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) L&C	3/24/2021
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) JUD	3/15/2021
SB 10	Free/reduced Tuition For Essential Worker	BEGICH	(S) FIN	3/24/2021
SB 11	Community Property Trusts	BEGICH	(S) JUD	3/22/2021
SB 12	Military Spouse Courtesy License	KAWASAKI	(S) STA	1/22/2021
SB 15	Open Meetings Act; Penalty	COSTELLO	(S) JUD	3/10/2021
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) L&C	4/9/2021
SB 18	Class Size Reduction Grant Program	BEGICH	(S) EDC	1/22/2021

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Short Title</b>	<b>Prime Sponsors</b>	<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Status Date</b>
SB 19	Extend Special Education Service Agency	STEVENS	(H) FIN	3/31/2021
SB 20	Out Of State Teacher Reciprocity	STEVENS	(S) FIN	3/19/2021
SB 21	License Mobile Intensive Care Paramedics	REVAK	(H) HSS	3/24/2021
SB 23	Initiative Severability	REVAK	(S) STA	1/22/2021
SB 24	Virtual Meetings For Corporations	WILSON	CHAPTER 1 SLA 21	3/31/2021
SB 25	State Gov't Finances: Website	WIELECHOWSKI	(S) FIN	4/9/2021
SB 29	Cook Inlet: New Admin Area; Permit Buyback	MICCICHE	(S) FIN	3/10/2021
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	(H) EDC	4/9/2021
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) JUD	2/22/2021
SB 44	Personal Use Fishing Priority	KAWASAKI	(S) RES	1/25/2021
SB 48	Approp: Supplemental; Amending	RULES	(S) FIN	1/25/2021

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Short Title</b>	<b>Prime Sponsors</b>	<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Status Date</b>
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) JUD	2/24/2021
SB 54	Ahfc Water & Sewer Bonds/transportation	RULES	(S) FIN	3/5/2021
SB 55	Employer Contributions To Pers	RULES	(S) FIN	3/5/2021
SB 56	Extending Covid 19 Disaster Emergency	RULES	(S) FIN	2/12/2021
SB 68	Approp: Supp; Reapprop; Amending; Cbr	RULES	(S) FIN	2/3/2021
SB 73	Anticipation Of Revenue; Borrowing; Credit	RULES	(S) FIN	2/5/2021
SB 74	G.o. Bonds: State Infrastructure Projects	RULES	(S) FIN	3/24/2021
SB 75	Appropriation Limit	VON IMHOF	(S) FIN	2/5/2021
SB 76	Abandoned Vehicles; Private Property	KIEHL	(S) STA	2/10/2021
SB 83	Elections; Voting; Ballot Reqs	RULES	(S) STA	2/12/2021
SB 100	State Income Tax	BEGICH	(S) STA	3/10/2021
SJR 1	Const Am: Guarantee Perm Fund Dividend	WIELECHOWSKI	(S) JUD	3/3/2021
SJR 3	Const. Am. Prohibiting Binding Caucuses	SHOWER	(S) STA	1/22/2021

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Short Title</b>	<b>Prime Sponsors</b>	<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Status Date</b>
SJR 9	Urge Exemption For Cruise Ships	KIEHL	TRANSM TO GOVERNOR	4/8/2021