

# BLUMER AND ASSOCIATES

## City of Unalaska Legislative Report

4/18/21

While we should be wrapping up, instead we are hoping for an adjournment on May 19th. The House Finance Committee wrapped up public budget hearings last week and a committee substitute is being prepared for HB 69, the operating budget. Meanwhile, committees conducted more interviews with the governor's nominees to boards and commissions. It is rumored that the Legislature is aiming at the third week of April for confirmations in a joint session.

Senate Finance rolled out a committee substitute for HB76, the COVID-19 disaster declaration. This is a stripped-down version that contains considerable limits on how the Governor can spend the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) and the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding without approval of the full Legislature and barring the use of the Legislature's interim budgeting process also known as the revised program legislative (RPL) process. The bill passed out of committee and now heads to the Senate Floor.

The House Finance committee continued to hear more details about ARPA this week. With a sizeable amount of federal dollars headed to Alaska, learning as much as possible about plans for appropriation is essential in the budget preparation.

**SB 23**, a bill that would reform Alaska's ballot measure rules to more closely reflect voter intent, seems to be on a fast track. It was heard and passed out of Senate State Affairs on Tuesday and is scheduled in Senate Judiciary on Monday the 19th. Currently, the law allows the court system to make changes to ballot measure language after voters have signed on to it. The supporters indicate that changes in the initiative process should produce more transparency and better public policy in a comprehensive and balanced manner equally benefiting both voters and the legislative process. **HB 174**, the House companion, was introduced this week and has been schedule for a hearing Friday in House Judiciary.

**SB55**, this bill allows the state to pass along payments toward the PERS unfunded liability to state payroll that is paid by federal projects and programs. While the PERS employer contribution paid by the state goes from 22 percent to 31 percent of payroll the payments paid by federal receipts will also incur that added cost. There is no change to payments made by all the other PERS employers (such as municipal governments). The state pays around \$325 million a year toward the defined benefit unfunded liabilities now, and at some point in the near future that amount will likely rise to as much as \$450 million in an attempt to catch up with the growing liability.

**SB 15**, relating to the Open Meetings Act and establishing a civil penalty for violations of the open meeting requirements by members of governmental bodies was amended and has passed out of Community and Regional Affairs and now heads to the Judiciary Committee.

### Weekly Schedule

Time	Description
Mon 4/19/21 8:00 AM	SB 32 - College Credit For High School Students
Mon 4/19/21 9:00 AM	DAVIS 106 - HOUSE EDUCATION SB 55 - Employer Contributions To Pers
Mon 4/19/21 9:00 AM	SENATE FINANCE 532 - SENATE FINANCE SB 20 - Out Of State Teacher Reciprocity
Mon 4/19/21 1:00 PM	SENATE FINANCE 532 - SENATE FINANCE HB 66 - Elections, Voting, Ballots
Mon 4/19/21 1:30 PM	GRUENBERG 120 - HOUSE JUDICIARY SB 23 - Initiative Severability
Mon 4/19/21 1:30 PM	BUTROVICH 205 - SENATE JUDICIARY SB 19 - Extend Special Education Service Agency
Mon 4/19/21 1:30 PM	ADAMS 519 - HOUSE FINANCE SB 15 - Open Meetings Act; Penalty
Mon 4/19/21 3:15 PM	BUTROVICH 205 - SENATE JUDICIARY HB 75 - Employer Contributions To Pers
Tue 4/20/21 9:00 AM	BARNES 124 - HOUSE LABOR & COMMERCE SB 25 - State Gov't Finances: Website
Tue 4/20/21 9:00 AM	SENATE FINANCE 532 - SENATE FINANCE SB 10 - Free/reduced Tuition For Essential Worker
Tue 4/20/21 9:00 AM	SENATE FINANCE 532 - SENATE FINANCE HB 79 - Saltwater Sportfishing Operators/guides
Tue 4/20/21 10:00 AM	ADAMS 519 - HOUSE FINANCE HB 64 - Fishery Development Assoc.; Assessments
	GRUENBERG 120 - HOUSE FISHERIES

<b>Time</b>	<b>Description</b>
Tue 4/20/21 11:30 AM	HJR 1 - Const Am: Permanent Fund; Pomv;earnings
	DAVIS 106 - HOUSE WAYS & MEANS
Tue 4/20/21 3:00 PM	
	GRUENBERG 120 - HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS
Tue 4/20/21 3:00 PM	HB 73 - Perm Fund; Advisory Vote
	GRUENBERG 120 - HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS
Wed 4/21/21 9:00 AM	SB 34 - State-tribal Education Compact Schools
	BUTROVICH 205 - SENATE EDUCATION
Wed 4/21/21 9:00 AM	HB 55 - Peace Officer/firefighter Retire Benefits
	ADAMS 519 - HOUSE FINANCE
Wed 4/21/21 1:30 PM	SB 53 - Perm Fund; Advisory Vote
	BUTROVICH 205 - SENATE JUDICIARY
Wed 4/21/21 1:30 PM	HB 69 - Approp: Operating Budget/loans/funds
	ADAMS 519 - HOUSE FINANCE
Wed 4/21/21 1:30 PM	HB 41 - Shellfish Projects; Hatcheries; Fees
	ADAMS 519 - HOUSE FINANCE
Thu 4/22/21 9:00 AM	HB 69 - Approp: Operating Budget/loans/funds
	ADAMS 519 - HOUSE FINANCE
Thu 4/22/21 9:00 AM	HB 28 - Registration Of Boats: Exemption
	ADAMS 519 - HOUSE FINANCE
Thu 4/22/21 1:30 PM	HB 69 - Approp: Operating Budget/loans/funds
	ADAMS 519 - HOUSE FINANCE
Fri 4/23/21 9:00 AM	HB 69 - Approp: Operating Budget/loans/funds
	ADAMS 519 - HOUSE FINANCE
Fri 4/23/21 1:00 PM	HB 135 - Geothermal Resources
	BARNES 124 - HOUSE RESOURCES
Fri 4/23/21 1:30 PM	
	BELTZ 105 (TSBldg) - SENATE LABOR & COMMERCE
Fri 4/23/21 1:30 PM	HB 69 - Approp: Operating Budget/loans/funds
	ADAMS 519 - HOUSE FINANCE

Time	Description
Fri 4/23/21 3:30 PM	SB 44 - Personal Use Fishing Priority
Sat 4/24/21 11:00 AM	BUTROVICH 205 - SENATE RESOURCES HB 69 - Approp: Operating Budget/loans/funds
Sat 4/24/21 3:00 PM	ADAMS 519 - HOUSE FINANCE HB 95 - Elections; Election Investigations
	GRUENBERG 120 - HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS

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%3D04%2F18%2F2021%26endDate%3D04%2F26%2F2021%26chamber%3D#tab2>

### Bills of Interest

Bill	Short Title	Prime Sponsors	Current Status	Status Date
HB 2	Minimum Age To Sell Tobacco/nicotine	RAUSCHER	(H) CRA	2/18/2021
HB 3	Definition Of "disaster": Cybersecurity	JOHNSON	(H) CALENDAR 4/19	4/16/2021
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

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Short Title</b>	<b>Prime Sponsors</b>	<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Status Date</b>
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) RLS	4/16/2021
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
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) FIN	4/16/2021
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

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Short Title</b>	<b>Prime Sponsors</b>	<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Status Date</b>
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
HB 75	Employer Contributions To Pers	RULES	(H) L&C	2/18/2021
HB 76	Extending Covid 19 Disaster Emergency	RULES	(S) RLS	4/16/2021
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

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Short Title</b>	<b>Prime Sponsors</b>	<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Status Date</b>
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 & Pfds	RULES	(H) STA	2/18/2021
HJR 8	Const. Am: State Tax; Voter Approval	RULES	(H) STA	2/18/2021
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) AWAIT NEXT COM	4/16/2021

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Short Title</b>	<b>Prime Sponsors</b>	<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Status Date</b>
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) FIN	4/14/2021
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
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) L&C	4/16/2021
SB 23	Initiative Severability	REVAK	(S) JUD	4/14/2021
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

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Short Title</b>	<b>Prime Sponsors</b>	<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Status Date</b>
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
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

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Short Title</b>	<b>Prime Sponsors</b>	<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Status Date</b>
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
SJR 9	Urge Exemption For Cruise Ships	KIEHL	LEGIS RESOLVE 1	4/9/2021