

BLUMER AND ASSOCIATES

City of Unalaska Legislative Report

1/31/22

Last week saw plenty of finance sub-committee hearings and more presentations on the Governors proposed budget from both the Office of Management and Budget and Legislative Finance.

The Governor delivered his 4th the State of the State last Tuesday which was very optimistic regarding the State's fiscal future. With oil prices hovering in the higher \$80 per barrel and high market performance, this year's budgeting will not compare to the previous years where we started with a huge deficit.

The Governor indicated that he envisioned the state being a leader in renewable energy, providing energy costs among the lowest in the nation. He also talked about developing the vast stores of natural gas on the North Slope, although no detail was provided on how that would be realized.

The General Obligation Bond bills were heard in Senate Transportation (SB 166) and House Finance (HB 285), based on the questions and comments, there is plenty of work to be done before any possible movement.

With several Legislators and Staff out sick over the last week, it is unclear when the finance sub committees will wrap up, once that occurs, we will likely see things start moving at a faster pace.

Weekly Schedule

Time	Description
Thu 2/3/22 12:00 PM	ADAMS 519 -HOUSE TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC FACILITIES -- Testimony -- + Presentation: AMHS TELECONFERENCED **Streamed live on AKL.tv**

Time	Description
Fri 2/4/22 9:00 AM	GRUENBERG 120 -HOUSE LABOR & COMMERCE
	-- Please Note Time & Location Change --
	+ Overview: Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act
	TELECONFERENCED
	-- Testimony --
	+ 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%2F31%2F2022%26endDate%3D02%2F08%2F2022%26chamber%3D#tab2>

Bills of Interest

Bill	Short Title	Prime Sponsors	Current Status	Status Date
HB 28	Registration Of Boats: Exemption	HOUSE FISHERIES	(S) RES	5/17/21
HB 30	Workers' Comp: Death; Perm Partial Impair	JOSEPHSON	(H) FIN	4/7/21
HB 55	Peace Officer/firefighter Retire Benefits	JOSEPHSON	(S) L&C	1/18/22
HB 56	Power Cost Equalization	FOSTER	(H) CRA	2/18/21
HB 64	Fishery Development Assoc.; Assessments	STUTES	(H) FIN	4/21/21
HB 75	Employer Contributions To Pers	RULES	(H) FIN	5/1/21
HB 88	Equal Pay & Minimum Wage Act	TARR	(H) STA	2/18/21
HB 134	Amhs Operation & Planning Board	RULES	(H) TRA	3/10/21
HB 135	Geothermal Resources	RULES	(H) FIN	1/27/22

Bill	Short Title	Prime Sponsors	Current Status	Status Date
HB 225	Municipal Property Tax Senior Exemption	GILLHAM	(H) CRA	1/18/22
HB 227	Muni Energy Improvemnt Assessment Program	SCHRAGE	(H) AWAIT NEXT COM	1/27/22
HB 247	Power Cost Equalization Fund	THOMPSON	(H) ENE	1/18/22
HJR 6	Const. Am: Approp Limit; Budget Reserve	RULES	(H) W&M	3/24/21
SB 6	Rip For Public Employees/teachers	KAWASAKI	(S) FIN	4/19/21
SB 9	Alcoholic Beverage Control; Alcohol Reg	MICCICHE	(S) FIN	4/14/21
SB 11	Community Property Trusts	BEGICH	(H) L&C	5/18/21
SB 15	Open Meetings Act; Penalty	COSTELLO	(S) FIN	4/21/21
SB 17	Energy Efficiency & Policy: Pub. Bldgs	BEGICH	(S) FIN	5/3/21
SB 37	Teachers & Pub Employee Retirement Plans	KIEHL	(S) L&C	1/25/21
SB 41	Health Insurance Info.; Incentive Program	HUGHES	(S) L&C	1/25/21
SB 100	State Income Tax	BEGICH	(S) STA	3/10/21
SB 170	Marine Highway Corporation	SENATE TRANSPORTATION	(S) TRA	1/21/22
SB 172	Property Tax Exemption	WIELECHOWSKI	(S) CRA	1/26/22