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Legislative Report: February 9 - February 13

The Alaska Legislature is currently engaged in a detailed examination of Governor Dunleavy's fiscal plan, which comprises several controversial budget proposals, particularly concerning tax policies and state spending. Lawmakers are expressing skepticism regarding the sustainability and implications of these proposals, primarily focusing on two tax bills, HB 284 and SB 227, which have ignited significant debates within legislative circles.

Key Components of the Fiscal Plan

1. Tax Compact and Sales Tax Proposals

HB 284 and SB 227

These are focused on restructuring tax mechanisms in Alaska, particularly regarding oil and gas taxation. The proposals have faced considerable backlash from lawmakers, raising concerns about potential economic repercussions and the effectiveness of the new tax structures.

2. Capping State Spending Growth

HB 275 and SB 223

A cap on annual state spending growth at 1%, without adjustments for inflation. Lawmakers worry this measure could jeopardize essential public services and hinder the government's ability to respond to economic fluctuations or emergencies, risking the long-term sustainability of state-funded programs.

3. Agency Sunset Reviews

HB 274 and SB 222

Establishment of a legislative committee to conduct "sunset reviews" of government agencies every six years. Agencies would require a legislative vote for continuation or termination.

4. Permanent Fund Constitutional Amendment

HJR 30 and SJR 23

A multipronged amendment that aims to, merge the Permanent Fund's two accounts into one, cap the annual draw from the fund at 5% and allocate half of the annual draw for dividends to eligible Alaskans. Lawmakers question the long-term viability of the fund and the impact of the proposed changes on dividend distributions and state revenue.

The ongoing discussions within the Alaska Legislature reveal a critical need for careful evaluation of Governor Dunleavy's fiscal strategies. The contentious elements, particularly those involving taxation and state spending caps, underscore the complexities of developing a balanced and effective fiscal policy responsive to the needs of Alaskans while ensuring economic stability. As lawmakers proceed with their review, the next steps will be decisive in shaping the state's financial future.

Meet the Match Initiative Update

On Friday, the House Finance Committee advanced a Committee Substitute for HB 289, which primarily consolidates Governor Dunleavy's supplemental budget requests with modifications. This initiative is designed to address various funding needs, including those related to recent emergencies and to mitigate potential financial uncertainties in the construction industry. An additional allocation of \$30 million is included in the bill to create a financial buffer, referred to as "head space." This funding is intended to provide flexibility for unknown or unanticipated budget shortfalls, particularly in relation to fluctuations in oil prices.

The Committee Substitute for HB 289 will continue through the legislative process, where it will undergo much scrutiny and discussion. The goal is to fast track this bill to ensure the funds are available for a healthy summer season.

Extension of Disaster Declaration

The Alaska Legislature has voted to extend the state of disaster related to the 2025 West Coast Storm until early March, reflecting ongoing challenges from the natural disaster that struck the region.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) estimates that the total costs related to the storm could reach at least \$125 million when accounting for both federal and state expenses, indicating that further budgetary discussions will likely be necessary.

Rural Health Transformation Project (RHTP)

Huge topic, \$272 million for 2026 to be distributed in grants by October 1, 2026.

Through the RHTP, Alaska providers and clinics, hospitals, non-profits, community organizations and tribal organizations will have the opportunity to put forth their creative ideas to improve, innovate and expand the services they provide to better serve Alaskans.

This is an exciting new opportunity to improve health care access and quality of care for Alaskans. If you want to stay up to date on the progress of the RHTP, you can access a wealth of information on the Alaska Department of Health RHTP website. Here is the [RHTP website](#).

- Timeline
- Letters of Interest must be submitted between Feb. 17 – March 11
- Readiness and Planning Grants expected to be awarded in April
- Full implementation proposals are expected to be awarded in May

Things are already moving quickly, to stay current on bills moving and committee hearings you can go to the [Alaska State Legislature](#) page where you will find the most up to date information.

Unalaska Hearing Schedule

House FINANCE

Feb 16, 2026 01:30pm ADAMS 519

APPROP: SUPPLEMENTAL; APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET;AMEND;SUPP; APPROP: CAPITAL/FUNDS/SUPP/REAPPROP; APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET; Overview: FY27 Governor s Budget Overview by; Judiciary; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

Website

AK 34 HB 289	HOUSE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	House, Feb 18, 2026: (H) -- Please Note Time Change --	HB0289A, AM HB 289, introduced 02/04/2026
AK 34 HB 263	HOUSE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	House, Feb 20, 2026: (H) FINANCE at 01:30 PM ADAMS 519	HB0263A, AM HB 263, introduced 01/23/2026
AK 34 HB 264	HOUSE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	House, Feb 16, 2026: (H) FINANCE at 01:30 PM ADAMS 519	HB0264A, AM HB 264, introduced 01/23/2026
AK 34 HB 265	HOUSE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	House, Feb 20, 2026: (H) FINANCE at 01:30 PM ADAMS 519	HB0265A, AM HB 265, introduced 01/23/2026

Senate RESOURCES

Feb 16, 2026 03:30pm BUTROVICH 205

LNG IMPORT FACILITIES; -- Public Testimony --; TAX COMPACT; SALES TAX; OIL & GAS TAX; -- Invited & Public Testimony --; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled; **Streamed live on AKL.tv**

Website

AK 34 SB 227	SENATE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	Senate, Feb 18, 2026: (S) RESOURCES at 03:30 PM BUTROVICH 205	SB0227A, AM SB 227, introduced 01/26/2026
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House FINANCE

Feb 17, 2026 01:30pm ADAMS 519

APPROP: SUPPLEMENTAL; APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET;AMEND;SUPP; APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET; Overview: FY27 Governor s Budget Overview by; Department of Law; Overview: FY27 Governor s Budget Overview by; Department of Public Safety; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

Website

AK 34 HB 289	HOUSE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	House, Feb 18, 2026: (H) -- Please Note Time Change --	HB0289A, AM HB 289, introduced 02/04/2026
AK 34 HB 263	HOUSE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	House, Feb 20, 2026: (H) FINANCE at 01:30 PM ADAMS 519	HB0263A, AM HB 263, introduced 01/23/2026
AK 34 HB 265	HOUSE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	House, Feb 20, 2026: (H) FINANCE at 01:30 PM ADAMS 519	HB0265A, AM HB 265, introduced 01/23/2026

Senate COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS

Feb 17, 2026 01:30pm BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: BDS FISHERIES/GAME; FARM & AGRICULTURAL LAND ASSESSMENTS; JONESTOWN PUBLIC USE AREA; -- Invited & Public Testimony --; **Streamed live on AKL.tv**

Website

AK 34 HB 33	STUTES Himschoot Hannan	Senate, Feb 17, 2026: (S) COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS at 01:30 PM BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)	HB0033A, AM HB 33, introduced 01/22/2025, passed House 05/13/2025
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Senate TRANSPORTATION

Feb 17, 2026 01:30pm BUTROVICH 205

Presentation: Typhoon Halong Response by; Deputy Commissioner Katherine Keith,; Department of Transportation & Public Facilities; Merle Sena, Department of Transportation & Public; Facilities; **Streamed live on AKL.tv**

Website

House FINANCE

Feb 18, 2026 09:00am ADAMS 519

-- Please Note Time Change --; APPROP: SUPPLEMENTAL; APPORTION TAXABLE INCOME; DIGITAL BUSINESS; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

Website

AK 34 HB 289	HOUSE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	House, Feb 18, 2026: (H) -- Please Note Time Change --	HB0289A, AM HB 289, introduced 02/04/2026
AK 34 HB 280	HOUSE RULES	House, Feb 18, 2026: (H) -- Public Testimony -	HB0280A, AM HB 280, introduced 01/23/2026

House FINANCE

Feb 18, 2026 01:30pm ADAMS 519

APPORTION TAXABLE INCOME; DIGITAL BUSINESS; -- Public Testimony --; APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET; AMEND; SUPP; APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET; Overview: FY27 Governor's Budget Overview by; Department of Health; Update: H.R.1 SNAP and Medicaid Implementation,; Department of Health; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

Website

AK 34 HB 280	HOUSE RULES	House, Feb 18, 2026: (H) -- Public Testimony --	HB0280A, AM HB 280, introduced 01/23/2026
AK 34 HB 263	HOUSE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	House, Feb 20, 2026: (H) FINANCE at 01:30 PM ADAMS 519	HB0263A, AM HB 263, introduced 01/23/2026
AK 34 HB 265	HOUSE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	House, Feb 20, 2026: (H) FINANCE at 01:30 PM ADAMS 519	HB0265A, AM HB 265, introduced 01/23/2026

Senate RESOURCES

Feb 18, 2026 03:30pm BUTROVICH 205

LNG IMPORT FACILITIES; BIG GAME HUNTING PERMITS; ; -- Invited & Public Testimony --; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled; TAX COMPACT; SALES TAX; OIL & GAS TAX; **Streamed live on AKL.tv**

Website

AK 34 SB 227	SENATE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	Senate, Feb 18, 2026: (S) RESOURCES at 03:30 PM BUTROVICH 205	SB0227A, AM SB 227, introduced 01/26/2026
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House FINANCE

Feb 19, 2026 01:30pm ADAMS 519

Overview: Governor s Budget Amendments by; Office of Management and Budget; Overview: Zero-Based Budgeting by Office of; Management and Budget; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

Website

Senate TRANSPORTATION

Feb 19, 2026 01:30pm BUTROVICH 205

Presentation: Anchorage Pedestrian Safety by; Municipality of Anchorage,; Anchorage Police Department, Department of; Transportation and Public Facilities; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled; **Streamed live on AKL.tv**

Website

House FINANCE

Feb 20, 2026 01:30pm ADAMS 519

APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET;AMEND;SUPP; APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET; Overview: Alaska Permanent Fund by Alaska; Permanent Fund Corporation; Overview: FY27 Governor s Budget Overview by; Department of Revenue; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

Website

AK 34 HB 263	HOUSE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	House, Feb 20, 2026: (H) FINANCE at 01:30 PM ADAMS 519	HB0263A, AM HB 263, introduced 01/23/2026
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AK 34 HB 265	HOUSE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	House, Feb 20, 2026: (H) FINANCE at 01:30 PM ADAMS 519	HB0265A, AM HB 265, introduced 01/23/2026
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City of Unalaska

Bill	Sponsors	Title	Last Action	Latest Version
AK 34 HB 1	MCCABE Underwood Johnson	<p>An Act relating to specie as legal tender in the state; and relating to borough and city sales and use taxes on specie.</p> <p>The bill amends existing laws regarding the treatment of specie as legal tender in Alaska, specifically addressing borough and city sales and use taxes on specie. It introduces new provisions that prohibit boroughs and cities from levying or collecting sales or use taxes on the value of gold or silver contained within specie during its sale or exchange. This applies to both home rule and general law municipalities. Additionally, the bill updates the definitions of legal tender to include specie issued by the federal government, recognized foreign governments, and the state government under certain conditions. Furthermore, the bill mandates the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee to study the feasibility of establishing additional forms of legal tender for debts owed to the state, as well as consumer protections related to the sale and use of specie. The committee is tasked with preparing legislation if it finds that additional forms of tender are practical and beneficial. The amendments also clarify the definition of "legal tender" and "specie," ensuring that the legal framework surrounding these terms is comprehensive and up-to-date. Statutes affected: HB0001A, AM HB 1, introduced 01/10/2025: 29.10.200, 29.45.650, 29.45.700, 04.21.010, 29.45.750, 44.12.400 HB0001B, AM CSHB 1(STA), introduced 05/18/2025: 29.10.200, 29.45.650, 29.45.700, 04.21.010, 29.45.750, 44.12.400</p>	House, Jan 2, 2026: (H) COSPONSOR(S): NELSON	HB0001B, AM CSHB 1(STA), introduced 05/18/2025
AK 34 HB 13	GRAY Eischeid Fields	<p>An Act relating to optional municipal property tax exemptions for certain long-term rental units, certain mobile home parks, real property rented to low-income families, real property owned and occupied as a permanent place of abode, and real property owned by first-time homebuyers.</p> <p>This bill proposes amendments to AS 29.45.050, allowing municipalities in Alaska to implement optional property tax exemptions for various types of residential properties. Specifically, it introduces provisions for the exemption or partial exemption of structures converted from short-term to long-term rental units, mobile home parks for up to ten years post-construction or renovation, and real property rented to low-income families, provided the rent does not exceed 30% of the family's income. Additionally, the bill allows for exemptions on properties owned and occupied as a permanent residence by local residents and those owned by first-time homebuyers. The bill defines key terms such as "long-term rental unit" and "short-term rental unit," clarifying the duration of rental agreements that qualify for these exemptions. It also specifies that certain types of short-term rentals, such as hotels and government-operated temporary housing, are excluded from this definition. Overall, the legislation aims to support affordable housing initiatives and encourage long-term rental options within municipalities. Statutes affected: HB0013A, AM HB 13, introduced 01/10/2025: 29.45.050 HB0013B, AM SSSH 13, introduced 03/10/2025: 29.45.050 HB0013C, AM CSSH 13(CRA), introduced 04/25/2025: 29.45.050</p>	Senate, May 13, 2025: (S) Referred to COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS	HB0013C, AM CSSH 13(CRA), introduced 04/25/2025, passed House 05/12/2025
AK 34 HB 18	G.NELSON Rauscher Johnson	<p>An Act relating to the transfer of a title on the death of the owner; and providing for an effective date.</p> <p>This bill introduces provisions for the transfer of boat and vehicle titles upon the death of the owner in Alaska. It amends existing statutes to allow owners to obtain a "transfer on death" title for their boats and vehicles, which designates a beneficiary to receive the title automatically upon the owner's death. The bill outlines the process for obtaining such a title, including the requirement for an application to the Department of Administration, the designation of one or two beneficiaries, and the necessary fees. It also specifies that the transfer is effective without the need for notice or acceptance by the beneficiary and can be revoked or changed by the owner at any time during their life. Additionally, the bill clarifies that the transfer on death title is a nontestamentary transfer, meaning it does not require probate proceedings. It includes provisions for the rights and responsibilities of designated beneficiaries, including the handling of any claims against the owner's estate. The bill also allows the Department of Administration to adopt regulations to implement these changes. The effective date for the majority of the provisions is set for July 1, 2025, while certain regulatory provisions take effect immediately. Statutes affected: HB0018A, AM HB 18, introduced 01/10/2025: 13.33.401, 13.33.101, 13.12.203, 13.12.803, 13.12.804, 05.25.055, 05.25.056, 28.10.201, 13.48.110, 28.10.211, 28.10.271</p>	House, Feb 13, 2026: (H) PRIME SPONSOR CHANGED: G.NELSON REPLACED RAUSCHER	HB0018A, AM HB 18, introduced 01/22/2025
AK 34 HB 26	MINA Burke Bynum	<p>An Act relating to the duties of the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities; and relating to a statewide public and community transit plan.</p> <p>The bill amends AS 44.42.020(a) to enhance the responsibilities of the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities in Alaska. Key additions include the requirement for the department to study and improve public, tribal, and community transit programs, as well as to develop a comprehensive, long-range intermodal transportation plan that incorporates these transit programs. The bill also emphasizes the need to study alternative transportation methods in urban, rural, and remote areas, and to coordinate with various stakeholders, including local governments and transit operators, to improve transportation systems. Additionally, the bill introduces a new mandate for the department to develop a statewide public and community transit plan in collaboration with metropolitan planning organizations, local governments, communities, tribal entities, and public and community</p>	Senate, Feb 4, 2026: (S) Referred to TRANSPORTATION	HB0026D, AM CSHB 26(TRA) am, introduced 04/30/2025, passed House 05/02/2025

		transit operators. This comprehensive approach aims to ensure that transportation planning in Alaska is inclusive and considers the diverse needs of its residents, ultimately enhancing the state's transportation infrastructure and services.Statutes affected: HB0026A, AM HB 26, introduced 01/10/2025: 44.42.020HB0026B, AM CSHB 26(CRA), introduced 03/21/2025: 44.42.020 HB0026C, AM CSHB 26(TRA), introduced 04/11/2025: 44.42.020HB0026D, AM CSHB 26(TRA) am, introduced 04/30/2025, passed House 05/02/2025: 44.42.020		
AK 34 HB 31	STUTES Kopp Himschoot	An Act relating to the registration of commercial vessels; and relating to the derelict vessel prevention program fund. The bill amends existing laws regarding the registration of commercial vessels and the management of the derelict vessel prevention program fund in Alaska. It introduces a new exemption for commercial vessels that possess a valid certificate of documentation from the United States Coast Guard and a license issued under specific state statutes. Additionally, the bill modifies the allocation of proceeds from the sale of impounded vessels, directing that any remaining balance after paying administrative costs and lienholders will now be deposited into the general fund instead of the previously established derelict vessel prevention program fund. Furthermore, the bill repeals certain sections of the law related to the derelict vessel prevention program fund and establishes a transition provision that allows any remaining balance in the fund to lapse into the general fund, subject to appropriation. This legislative change aims to streamline the registration process for commercial vessels while reallocating funds to the general fund, thereby eliminating the specific derelict vessel prevention program fund.Statutes affected: HB0031A, AM HB 31, introduced 01/10/2025: 05.25.055, 16.05.490, 16.05.530, 30.30.055, 30.30.096, 30.30.095, 37.05.146 HB0031Z, AM Enrolled HB 31, introduced 05/20/2025: 05.25.055, 16.05.490, 16.05.530, 30.30.055, 30.30.096, 30.30.095, 37.05.146	House, Jul 30, 2025: (H) EFFECTIVE DATE(S) OF LAW 10/22/25	HB0031Z, AM Enrolled HB 31, introduced 05/20/2025
AK 34 HB 33	STUTES Himschoot Hannan	An Act relating to participation in matters before the Board of Fisheries and the Board of Game by the members of the respective boards; and providing for an effective date. This bill amends existing laws regarding the conduct of public officers, specifically focusing on members of the Board of Fisheries and the Board of Game. It introduces a new provision that allows these board members to disclose personal or financial interests related to their involvement in matters concerning fish or game resources without being disqualified from participating in discussions or deliberations. However, if it is determined by the supervisor or a majority of board members that their continued involvement would violate ethical standards, they will be prohibited from voting on the matter. Additionally, the bill modifies existing regulations by clarifying that public officers cannot take or withhold official action to influence matters in which they have a personal or financial interest, except as specified in a new provision. It also removes a clause that previously suggested that actions taken for the public interest would not be considered partisan political purposes. The bill is set to take effect immediately upon enactment.Statutes affected: HB0033A, AM HB 33, introduced 01/10/2025: 39.52.120, 39.52.220, 39.52.110, 39.52.190 teleconferenced, previously heard • Senate COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS Feb 17, 2026 01:30pm BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)	Senate, Feb 17, 2026: (S) COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS at 01:30 PM BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)	HB0033A, AM HB 33, introduced 01/22/2025, passed House 05/13/2025
AK 34 HB 53	HOUSE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	An Act making appropriations for the operating and loan program expenses of state government and for certain programs; capitalizing funds; amending appropriations; making supplemental appropriations; and providing for an effective date. The bill is an appropriation act for the fiscal year 2026, detailing funding allocations for various state departments and programs in Alaska, which runs from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026. It includes significant appropriations for departments such as the Department of Administration, Department of Education, and Department of Health, among others. The bill emphasizes operational efficiencies, requiring departments to submit reports on fund utilization and potential institution closures by December 20, 2025. Notably, it allows the Commissioner of the Department of Family and Community Services to transfer up to \$7,500,000 between appropriations, and the Department of Health can transfer up to \$10,000,000, with both required to report on these transfers. Additionally, the bill outlines specific funding for essential services, including \$3,005,954,700 for Medicaid Services, with restrictions on the use of funds for non-mandatory abortion services. It mandates the use of zero-based budgeting principles for one agency in the FY27 budget preparation and includes provisions for the Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation regarding its Anchorage office. The bill also addresses various funding sources, including federal receipts and specific taxes, to support initiatives in education, housing, and economic development. Overall, the act aims to provide a structured financial framework while ensuring accountability and transparency in the use of state funds.Statutes affected: HB0053A, AM...	Senate, Jan 20, 2026: (S) DPS INTENT LANGUAGE REPORT	HB0053Z, AM Enrolled HB 53, introduced 05/20/2025
AK 34 HB 78	HOUSE FINANCE	An Act relating to the public employees' retirement system and the teachers' retirement system; and providing certain employees an opportunity to choose between the defined benefit and defined contribution plans of the public employees' retirement system and the teachers' retirement system. This bill amends Alaska's public employees' retirement system and teachers' retirement system, allowing eligible employees to choose between defined benefit and defined contribution plans. Key changes include the repeal and reenactment of AS 14.25.009, which clarifies retirement provisions for teachers not in the defined contribution plan. The bill introduces new subsections enabling active members of the defined benefit plan to participate solely in that plan if also employed in the public	Senate, Feb 9, 2026: (S) Heard & Held -- Please Note Time Change --	HB0078D, AM SCS CSHB 78(L&C), introduced 02/02/2026

		employees' retirement plan, and it outlines conditions for teachers to make a one-time election to switch from the defined contribution plan to the defined benefit plan upon reemployment. Additionally, it adjusts contribution rates for members who joined after June 30, 2006, and establishes a framework for transferring contributions and service credits between plans. Further amendments include the introduction of irrevocable elections for eligible employees to participate in the defined benefit plan, with retroactive enrollment to their hire date. The bill specifies the process for transferring contributions and investment earnings to the pension fund and mandates adjustments to employee contribution rates, particularly for those who first participate after June 30, 2006. It also clarifies eligibility criteria for retirement benefits and medical insurance, ensuring that members who joined after the specified date must participate in a defined benefit plan if employed by a public organizat...		
AK 34 HB 125	JIMMIE Foster Kopp	An Act relating to membership of the Board of Fisheries. This bill amends the composition and appointment process of the Board of Fisheries in Alaska, establishing specific representation requirements for its seven members. The governor is required to appoint two members each from the commercial fishing, sport fishing, and subsistence fishing sectors, along with one member from the scientific community with expertise in fisheries management. This change aims to ensure that the board reflects a diverse range of interests and expertise relevant to fisheries management. Additionally, the bill clarifies that the commissioner will serve as the ex officio secretary but will not be a voting member of the board. The bill also revises the definitions of "subsistence fishing" and "subsistence uses" by removing the requirement that individuals must be domiciled in a rural area to engage in these activities. "Subsistence fishing" is defined as the taking or possession of fish and other fisheries resources by a resident of the state for subsistence purposes, while "subsistence uses" encompasses noncommercial and traditional uses of renewable resources for personal or family consumption. The bill includes a transition provision allowing current board members to serve until their terms expire, with future appointments adhering to the new requirements established in the legislation. Statutes affected: HB0125A, AM HB 125, introduced 03/05/2025: 16.05.221HB0125B, AM CSHB 125(FSH), introduced 04/09/2025: 16.05.221 HB0125C, AM CSHB 125(RES), introduc...	Senate, May 19, 2025: (S) Referred to COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS	HB0125C, AM CSHB 125(RES), introduced 05/07/2025
AK 34 HB 169	TOMASZEWSKI	An Act relating to a municipal property tax exemption for real property owned and occupied as the primary residence and permanent place of abode by a resident 65 years of age or older, a disabled veteran, or the widow or widower of a resident 65 years of age or older or a disabled veteran; and providing for an effective date. This bill proposes an amendment to the municipal property tax exemption for certain residents in Alaska. Specifically, it increases the exemption amount from \$150,000 to \$250,000 for real property owned and occupied as the primary residence by residents who are 65 years of age or older, disabled veterans, or widows or widowers of such individuals. Additionally, the bill allows municipalities to grant exemptions to widows or widowers under 60 years of age of disabled veterans or those who died from service-connected causes while serving in the armed forces. The legislation also stipulates that municipalities may provide exemptions beyond the new \$250,000 threshold in cases of hardship, following departmental regulations. It maintains that only one exemption can be granted per property and outlines the process for determining eligibility and application procedures. The bill clarifies the definition of "widow or widower" and establishes that the assessor can deny exemptions if the property was primarily conveyed to obtain the exemption. The act is set to take effect immediately upon passage. Statutes affected: HB0169A, AM HB 169, introduced 04/02/2025: 29.45.030	House, Apr 2, 2025: (H) Referred to COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS	HB0169A, AM HB 169, introduced 04/02/2025
AK 34 HB 203	MCCABE Foster Tomaszewski	An Act relating to the use of certain trawl or dredge fishing gear in state water; and providing for an effective date. This bill amends Alaska's fishing regulations by introducing a new section that prohibits the use of trawl or dredge fishing gear that makes substantial bottom contact with the seafloor in state waters. The determination of what constitutes "substantial bottom contact" will be made by the Department of Fish and Game. Additionally, the bill mandates a comprehensive study to assess the health of seafloor ecosystems and fish habitats affected by such fishing practices. The findings of this study, which must be reported to the legislature by January 1, 2027, will include information on the impact of these fishing methods on fishery resources, bycatch statistics, and recommendations regarding the potential prohibition or limitation of this fishing gear. The bill also specifies that the new regulations will take effect on January 1, 2028, while other provisions will be enacted immediately. This legislative action aims to protect marine ecosystems and ensure sustainable fishing practices in Alaska's waters. Statutes affected: HB0203A, AM HB 203, introduced 04/17/2025:	House, May 5, 2025: (H) COSPONSOR(S): TOMASZEWSKI	HB0203A, AM HB 203, introduced 04/22/2025
AK 34 HB 254	VANCE Coulombe	An Act relating to increases in property assessments. This bill amends AS 29.45.110 to introduce a new provision that limits the increase in assessed value of real property. Specifically, it states that an assessor cannot raise the assessed value by more than five percent compared to the previous year's assessment unless the increase is justified by improvements made to the property or new information that was not available during the last assessment. The intent of this legislation is to provide property owners with more predictability regarding their property tax assessments, ensuring that any significant increases are based on tangible changes to the property or relevant new data. This measure aims to protect property owners from sudden and potentially burdensome increases in their property taxes. Statutes affected: HB0254A, AM HB 254, introduced 01/16/2026: 29.45.110	House, Jan 23, 2026: (H) COSPONSOR(S): COULOMBE	HB0254A, AM HB 254, introduced 01/20/2026

AK 34 HB 264	HOUSE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	<p>An Act making appropriations, including capital appropriations, supplemental appropriations, and reappropriations; making appropriations to capitalize funds; and providing for an effective date.</p> <p>This bill proposes a comprehensive budget for the State of Alaska, focusing on capital appropriations, supplemental appropriations, and reappropriations across various state departments. It outlines specific funding allocations for projects and grants, including significant amounts for the Department of Environmental Conservation, which receives \$272.5 million for Village Safe Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Projects, and the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, which is allocated over \$1.5 billion for various federal programs and infrastructure improvements. The total budget proposed in the bill amounts to approximately \$2.04 billion. Additionally, the bill includes provisions for reappropriating unexpended funds from previous appropriations, such as \$650,000 for the Alaska Energy Authority's Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Plan. It also establishes guidelines for the handling of federal receipts and insurance claims, ensuring that any excess funds received during the fiscal year are appropriated in compliance with existing laws. The bill specifies that certain appropriations will lapse unless otherwise noted, and it sets effective dates for various sections, with most provisions taking effect on July 1, 2026.</p> <p>first hearing, teleconferenced • House FINANCE</p> <p>Feb 16, 2026 01:30pm ADAMS 519</p>	House, Feb 16, 2026: (H) FINANCE at 01:30 PM ADAMS 519	HB0264A, AM HB 264, introduced 01/23/2026
AK 34 SB 10	DUNBAR	<p>An Act relating to family leave wage replacement coverage.</p> <p>The bill establishes the Alaska Paid Family Leave Plan, which mandates the procurement of a family leave insurance plan by the commissioners of labor and workforce development and administration. This plan will provide wage replacement coverage for qualified state employees, enrolled employees of political subdivisions, and private employers who opt into the plan. The insurance plan must offer 100% wage replacement up to \$3,000 per week, with no minimum duration for family leave required for coverage. The bill also outlines eligibility criteria, enrollment processes, and the responsibilities of participating employers, including maintaining health insurance coverage for employees on family leave. Additionally, the bill amends existing laws to ensure that family leave can be taken for various reasons, including pregnancy, childbirth, adoption, or foster care, and it specifies that employees are not required to use accrued paid leave during this time. It introduces a family leave insurance tax credit for employers who pay for coverage, and establishes a purchasing pool for employees of smaller employers who do not offer equivalent benefits. The bill sets a timeline for the implementation of the insurance plan and purchasing pool, with a target date of January 1, 2027, for full operational status. Statutes affected: SB0010A, AM SB 10, introduced 01/10/2025: 23.10.700, 23.10.790, 23.10.720, 23.10.730, 23.10.710, 39.20.305, 39.20.500, 23.10.740, 21.09.210, 23.10.750, 23.10.760, 2...</p>	Senate, Jan 22, 2025: (S) Referred to LABOR & COMMERCE	SB0010A, AM SB 10, introduced 01/22/2025
AK 34 SB 50	DUNBAR Josephson	<p>An Act relating to the comprehensive plans of first and second class boroughs.</p> <p>The bill amends AS 29.40.030(a) to enhance the comprehensive plans of first and second class boroughs in Alaska. It specifies that these plans are to include a compilation of policy statements, goals, standards, and maps aimed at guiding the physical, social, and economic development of the boroughs. Notably, the amendment introduces a new requirement for a housing development plan to be included in the comprehensive plan, which was not previously specified. Additionally, the bill removes the conjunction "AND" that previously connected the transportation plan to the list of required components of the comprehensive plan. It also adds a new item (6) that calls for recommendations for the implementation of the comprehensive plan, thereby expanding the scope and detail of the planning requirements for boroughs. Statutes affected: SB0050A, AM SB 50, introduced 01/17/2025: 29.40.030SB0050B, AM CSSB 50(CRA), introduced 02/12/2025: 29.40.030 SB0050C, AM CSSB 50(L&C), introduced 03/10/2025: 29.40.030SB0050Z, AM Enrolled SB 50, introduced 05/16/2025: 29.40.030</p>	Senate, Jul 30, 2025: (S) EFFECTIVE DATE(S) OF LAW 10/14/25	SB0050Z, AM Enrolled SB 50, introduced 05/16/2025
AK 34 SB 55	STEDMAN Myers Shower	<p>An Act relating to employer contributions in the teachers' retirement system; relating to supplemental employee benefits; and providing for an effective date.</p> <p>This bill amends existing laws regarding supplemental employee benefits in Alaska, specifically focusing on contributions to the employee annuity accounts for those in the public employees' retirement system and the teachers' retirement system. It establishes that participating employers in these retirement systems must contribute an amount equal to 6.13 percent of employee wages up to the taxable wage base in the federal social security system. Additionally, the bill outlines a phased contribution schedule from the department for the teachers' retirement system, where the department will cover 100 percent of the contribution for fiscal years 2027-2029, decreasing to 66 and two-thirds percent for 2030-2033, and finally to 33 and one-third percent for 2034-2037. The bill also clarifies the definition of a "participating employer" to include those in either the teachers' or public employees' retirement systems that do not participate in the federal social security system. It removes previous conditions for becoming a participating employer and simplifies the criteria for eligibility. The effective date for this act is set for July 1, 2026. Statutes affected: SB0055A, AM SB 55, introduced 01/22/2025: 14.25.070, 14.20.136, 14.25.173, 14.25.350, 39.30.170, 39.30.150, 39.30.180 SB0055B, AM CSSB 55(L&C), introduced 03/26/2025: 39.30.150, U.S.C, 39.30.180, 39.30.170</p>	Senate, Apr 14, 2025: (S) Minutes (SFIN)	SB0055B, AM CSSB 55(L&C), introduced 03/26/2025

AK 34 SB 79	SENATE LABOR & COMMERCE	<p>An Act relating to wage payments.</p> <p>This bill introduces new regulations regarding interchange fees on tax and gratuity amounts in electronic payment transactions, as well as provisions for wage payments via payroll card accounts. Specifically, it prohibits payment card networks from charging merchants interchange fees on tax or gratuity amounts if the merchant provides the necessary documentation during the transaction process. If documentation is not provided at the time of the transaction, merchants have up to 180 days to submit it and receive a credit for the interchange fee charged. Additionally, the bill establishes civil penalties for payment card networks that violate these provisions and clarifies the responsibilities of various entities involved in electronic payment transactions. Furthermore, the bill allows employers to credit employee wages to payroll card accounts, provided that employees voluntarily authorize this method of payment. Employers must inform employees about their wage payment options, the terms and conditions of the payroll card, and any associated fees. The bill mandates that payroll card accounts offer at least one cost-free withdrawal per week and prohibits fees for various services related to the payroll card. It also ensures that funds in payroll card accounts are insured and does not limit employees' rights to negotiate for better payment mechanisms. Lastly, the bill includes a severability clause to maintain the validity of the remaining provisions if any part is found invali...</p>	House, May 18, 2025: (H) Referred to FINANCE	SB0079B, AM HCS SB 79(L&C), introduced 05/18/2025
AK 34 SB 81	STEDMAN	<p>An Act relating to employer contribution rates in the teachers' retirement system and the Public Employees' Retirement System of Alaska; and providing for an effective date.</p> <p>The bill amends existing laws regarding employer contribution rates in the teachers' retirement system and the Public Employees' Retirement System of Alaska. Specifically, it establishes that the annual employer contribution rate must be sufficient to cover three key components: (1) the employer's normal cost, (2) an amount calculated based on a certified rate for liquidating past service liability, and (3) the employer contributions required under specified sections of the law. These amendments are made to AS 14.25.070(d) and AS 39.35.255(d). The bill emphasizes the importance of ensuring that employer contributions are adequate to meet the financial obligations of the retirement systems. It is designed to enhance the stability and sustainability of these systems by mandating that contributions not fall below a certain threshold. The act is set to take effect immediately upon passage. Statutes affected: SB0081A, AM SB 81, introduced 01/31/2025: 14.25.070, 37.10.220, 14.25.350, 39.30.370, 39.35.255</p>	Senate, Feb 11, 2026: (S) Referred to FINANCE	SB0081B, AM CSSB 81(L&C), introduced 02/11/2026
AK 34 SB 130	SENATE RULES BY REQUEST OF TASK FORCE EVAL ALASKA SEAFOOD INDUSTRY	<p>An Act relating to the fisheries product development tax credit; providing for an effective date by amending the effective date of sec. 2, ch. 31, SLA 2022; and providing for an effective date.</p> <p>This bill amends the fisheries product development tax credit provisions in Alaska law, specifically updating definitions and procedures related to tax credits for fisheries businesses. Key changes include the clarification that the number of recipients and total tax credits claimed will be reported by species of eligible fish, rather than by type. The bill also mandates that the Department of Fish and Game must make a preliminary determination on whether a proposed investment qualifies for the tax credit within 60 days of submission. Additionally, the definition of "eligible fish" is expanded to include any species of fish or shellfish, moving away from a limited list that previously included only specific types like salmon and herring. Further amendments refine the definition of "qualified investment" to emphasize investments that enhance the quality and value of eligible fish products, and introduce new terms such as "used predominantly," which is defined as being used 51 percent or more of the time. The bill also includes a retroactive provision, making it effective from January 1, 2025, and allows for immediate implementation upon passage. Overall, these changes aim to streamline the process for fisheries businesses to access tax credits while ensuring transparency in reporting. Statutes affected: SB0130A, AM SB 130, introduced 03/12/2025: 43.75.037, 43.05.230, 43.75.130 SB0130B, AM CSSB 130(RES), introduced 04/15/2025: 43.05.230, 43.75.037, 40.25.100</p>	Senate, Apr 15, 2025: (S) Referred to FINANCE	SB0130B, AM CSSB 130(RES), introduced 04/15/2025
AK 34 SB 131	SENATE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	<p>An Act relating to the duties of the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute; and relating to the seafood marketing assessment.</p> <p>The bill amends the duties of the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute by updating the language to enhance its focus on seafood marketing and quality standards. Specifically, it adds the term "or harvest" to the handling recommendations for seafood, emphasizing the importance of quality from capture to distribution. Additionally, the definition of "seafood" is expanded to include "mariculture products," which aligns with the definition of "aquatic farm product" as specified in existing law. The previous language that excluded aquatic farm products has been removed, thereby broadening the scope of what is considered seafood under the law. These changes aim to strengthen the marketing and promotion of Alaska's seafood industry by ensuring that all relevant products, including those from mariculture, are recognized and promoted effectively. The bill also maintains the existing responsibilities of the board, such as conducting educational programs, developing quality specifications, and preparing market research, while enhancing the overall framework for seafood marketing in the state. Statutes affected: SB0131A, AM SB 131, introduced 03/14/2025: 16.51.100, 17.20.066, 16.51.180 SB0131B, AM CSSB 131(RES), introduced 05/07/2025: 16.51.100, 17.20.066, 16.51.180</p>	Senate, May 7, 2025: (S) Referred to FINANCE	SB0131B, AM CSSB 131(RES), introduced 05/07/2025
AK 34 SB 135	SENATE RULES BY REQUEST OF TASK FORCE EVAL ALASKA SEAFOOD INDUSTRY	<p>An Act relating to the sharing of tax revenue from the fisheries business tax and fishery resource landing tax with municipalities; relating to municipal reports on the shared tax revenue; and providing for an effective date.</p> <p>This bill aims to amend the distribution of tax revenue from the fisheries business tax and fishery resource landing tax to municipalities in Alaska. It introduces new provisions that require municipalities to use a portion of the additional revenue for</p>	Senate, Apr 15, 2025: (S) Referred to FINANCE	SB0135B, AM CSSB 135(RES), introduced 04/15/2025

		maintaining and improving harbor facilities if they operate such facilities. The bill also mandates that municipalities receiving tax revenue must submit annual reports to the legislature detailing how the funds were utilized, particularly for harbor maintenance or improvement projects. Notably, municipalities that receive less than \$10,000 in tax revenue are exempt from this reporting requirement. Key amendments include changes to the percentages of tax revenue allocated to various municipalities. For instance, the bill increases the percentage of tax revenue distributed to unified municipalities and cities in the unorganized borough from 50% to 60%, and to cities within boroughs from 25% to 35%. Additionally, it modifies the percentages for boroughs and cities incorporated after specific dates, adjusting the distribution rates to better reflect the needs of newly established municipalities. The bill also establishes a new requirement for municipalities to allocate a certain percentage of the funds received to support or enhance commercial fishing. The effective dates for various sections of the bill are staggered, with some provisions taking effect in 2026 and others in 2035. Statutes affected: SB0135A, AM SB 135, introduce...		
AK 34 SB 161	CRONK Yundt	An Act relating to the use of certain trawl or dredge fishing gear in state water; and providing for an effective date. This bill amends Alaska's fishing regulations by introducing a new section that prohibits the use of trawl or dredge fishing gear that makes substantial bottom contact with the seafloor in state waters. The determination of what constitutes "substantial bottom contact" will be made by the Department of Fish and Game. Additionally, the bill mandates the Department to conduct a comprehensive study on the health of seafloor ecosystems and fish habitats affected by such fishing practices. The findings of this study, including data on bycatch and recommendations regarding the potential prohibition or limitation of these fishing methods, must be reported to the legislature by January 1, 2027. The bill also specifies that the new regulations will take effect on January 1, 2028, while other provisions will become effective immediately. This legislative action aims to protect marine ecosystems and ensure sustainable fishery resources for the benefit of the state's residents. Statutes affected: SB0161A, AM SB 161, introduced 04/09/2025:	Senate, May 7, 2025: (S) Minutes (SRES)	SB0161A, AM SB 161, introduced 04/09/2025
AK 34 SB 213	SENATE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	An Act making appropriations for the operating and loan program expenses of state government and for certain programs; capitalizing funds; amending appropriations; making supplemental appropriations; making appropriations under art. IX, sec. 17(c), Constitution of the State of Alaska, from the constitutional budget reserve fund; and providing for an effective date. The bill proposes appropriations for the operating and loan program expenses of the state government for the fiscal year 2027, which spans from July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027. It allocates funds to various departments, including the Department of Administration, Department of Agriculture, and Department of Education and Early Development, while allowing for the transfer of unexpended and unobligated balances from previous fiscal years for specific programs. Notably, the bill includes provisions for the Department of Family and Community Services to transfer up to \$7,500,000 between appropriations and for the Department of Health to transfer up to \$15 million at the discretion of the Commissioner. The total budget is set at \$9,514,252,700, with specific allocations for federal receipts, unrestricted general fund receipts, and designated general funds. Additionally, the bill emphasizes the importance of maintaining operational funding for essential services such as public safety, education, and health care, while ensuring compliance with constitutional requirements regarding the Alaska Permanent Fund. It includes significant appropriations for the University of Alaska, the public employees' retirement system, and the teachers' retirement system, as well as provisions for salary and benefit adjustments for public officials and employees contingent upon collective bargaining agreements. The bill aims to provide a comprehensive financial framework for state operations and service...	Senate, Feb 11, 2026: (S) Heard & Held	SB0213A, AM SB 213, introduced 01/21/2026
AK 34 SB 214	SENATE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	An Act making appropriations, including capital appropriations, supplemental appropriations, and reappropriations; making appropriations to capitalize funds; and providing for an effective date. The bill titled "An Act making appropriations, including capital appropriations, supplemental appropriations, and reappropriations; making appropriations to capitalize funds; and providing for an effective date" outlines various appropriations for capital projects and grants across multiple state departments in Alaska. It specifies funding allocations from the general fund and other sources for agencies such as the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, the Department of Environmental Conservation, and the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, among others. The total budget proposed in the bill amounts to \$2,037,688,446, with detailed funding sources and amounts provided for each department. Additionally, the bill includes provisions for reappropriating unexpended balances from previous appropriations, such as the estimated \$650,000 from the Alaska Energy Authority for federal matching funds. It also addresses the handling of federal receipts and insurance claims, ensuring that any excess funds received during the fiscal year are appropriated in compliance with existing laws. The bill stipulates that certain appropriations will lapse unless otherwise noted, and it establishes effective dates for various sections, with most provisions taking effect on July 1, 2026.	Senate, Jan 21, 2026: (S) Referred to FINANCE	SB0214A, AM SB 214, introduced 01/21/2026
AK 34 SB 227	SENATE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	An Act relating to the Multistate Tax Compact; relating to apportionment of income to the state; establishing a state sales and use tax; relating to taxes levied by cities and boroughs; relating to the corporate income tax; authorizing the Department of Revenue to enter into the Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement or substantially similar agreement; relating to the oil and gas production tax; establishing an infrastructure maintenance surcharge on oil; establishing a pipeline corridor maintenance fund; and providing for an effective date.	Senate, Feb 18, 2026: (S) RESOURCES at 03:30 PM BUTROVICH 205	SB0227A, AM SB 227, introduced 01/26/2026

		<p>The proposed bill seeks to amend Alaska's tax laws, focusing on the Multistate Tax Compact, income apportionment, and local sales and use taxes. It establishes a state sales and use tax, authorizes the Department of Revenue to join the Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement, and allows boroughs to levy local sales taxes on personal property and services. The bill also clarifies tax assessment and collection processes for local governments, mandates public notice for tax levies, and aims to ensure fair tax liabilities for multistate taxpayers. Additionally, it introduces a new framework for income apportionment for water transportation carriers and oil and gas production, replacing the term "business income" with "apportionable income" to enhance clarity in tax obligations. Significant changes include the establishment of a zero percent sales tax rate on retail sales of personal property and services, replacing the previous tiered rates, and an increase in the minimum tax rate for oil production from leases north of 68 degrees North latitude. The bill also introduces a new infrastructure maintenance surcharge for oil production, clarifying that tax credits cannot reduce this surcharge liability. Furthermore, it outlines a structured tax environment for oil producers, including a tiered tax rate system based on oil prices, and establishes a pipeline corridor maintenance fund funded by the new surcharge. Overall, the legislation aims to streamline tax processes, enhance compli...</p> <p>teleconferenced, previously heard • Senate RESOURCES</p> <p>Feb 16, 2026 03:30pm BUTROVICH 205</p>		
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25 bills