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### **Legislative Report: March 9 – March 13**

Last week in Juneau, significant attention was directed toward the FY26 supplemental budget, a crucial financial plan that allocates funds to address current fiscal year shortfalls due to funding deficiencies or unexpected costs. The Senate amended bill notably includes provisions for disaster funding, wildfire management, and critical funding to fulfill the state's matching requirements for federal construction dollars. This year, it was initially projected that fulfilling these financial needs would necessitate a draw from the constitutional budget reserve (CBR), requiring three quarters vote to tap into the fund. The Senate managed to meet that requirement, achieving a unanimous vote of 20-0.

Conversely, the House unanimously passed HB289; however, the vote to fully fund the supplemental budget saw a division along party lines, resulting in failure to fund HB289. The House Majority opted to return the bill to the Rules Committee rather than advancing an unfunded proposal. This procedural move highlights the ongoing polarization regarding fiscal strategies in the legislature.

A focal point of discussion amid these budgetary concerns was the release of the state's spring revenue forecast, which updates the revenue outlook based on current and projected oil prices. With the ongoing war in Iran and disruptions in global oil supply, lawmakers awaited insights on how elevated oil prices would impact state finances.

The recently announced revenue adjustment was substantially higher than prior projections, with an increase of \$545 million for FY2026 and \$510 million for FY2027. The revised forecast is based on an oil price of \$91.09 per barrel for the remainder of FY2026 and an anticipated average of \$75 for FY2027. This financial update has positive implications, as it appears sufficient to eliminate the current year's deficit, even considering known supplemental requests, ultimately leaving a modest surplus of \$44 million.

However, this forecast has generated some questions. Earlier in March, Legislative Finance Director Alexei Painter indicated that oil prices would need to average \$105 per barrel to entirely close the current year's deficit, utilizing price sensitivity tables previously established by the Department of Revenue. In essence, the current forecast surpasses projections by approximately \$150-\$200 million, prompting an expectation for more comprehensive information to substantiate these revised figures.

The implications of this revenue forecast for HB 289 are significant. The House Majority is now positioned to enact a balanced budget without dependence on minority votes. The leverage sought by minority members, who withheld their approval of the CBR draw for the supplemental budget, has effectively diminished. Nevertheless, should oil prices experience a sharp decline before the conclusion of the legislative session, the necessity for a CBR vote pertaining to the supplemental budget could re-emerge, prompting renewed debates about fiscal strategies and priorities.

This week's developments underscore the complex interplay between legislative decision-making and external economic factors, highlighting the challenges faced by lawmakers in navigating fiscal responsibilities while addressing the needs of their constituents. It will be interesting to see the next steps for HB289, timing is of the essence because of the Meet the Match dollars.

## **COMMITTEE HEARINGS OF INTEREST**

**Mar 16, 2026**

**House FINANCE**

Mar 16, 2026 09:00am | ADAMS 519

[Committee Page](#)

-- Please Note Time Change --; ELECTIONS; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**Bills:**

- [SB 64](#)

**House FINANCE**

Mar 16, 2026 01:30pm | ADAMS 519

[Committee Page](#)

ELECTIONS; APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET;AMEND;SUPP; APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET; Presentation: Spring Revenue Forecast by; Department of Revenue; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**Bills:**

- [SB 64](#)
- [HB 263](#)
- [HB 265](#)

**Mar 17, 2026**

**House FINANCE**

Mar 17, 2026 09:00am | ADAMS 519

[Committee Page](#)

-- Please Note Time Change --; APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET;AMEND;SUPP; APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET; Presentation: FY27 Governor's

Amendments by; Office of Management and Budget; MINORS & PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**Bills:**

- [HB 263](#)
- [HB 265](#)
- [HB 52](#)

**Senate FINANCE**

Mar 17, 2026 09:00am | SENATE FINANCE 532

[Committee Page](#)

ELIMINATE TAX DISCOUNTS; -- Invited & Public Testimony --; TRS CONTR RATE; PERS/TRS SOC SECUR OR SBS; -- Testimony --; CONST. AM: EDUCATION FUND; -- Invited & Public Testimony --; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled; \*\*Streamed live on AKL.tv\*\*

**Bills:**

- [SB 55](#)

**House FINANCE**

Mar 17, 2026 01:30pm | ADAMS 519

[Committee Page](#)

-- Please Note Time Change --; AK INNOVATION COUNCIL; MARIJUANA: TAX/RETAIL STORES/REGISTRATION; -- Public Testimony --; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**Bills:**

- [HB 34](#)
- [HB 91](#)

**Senate COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS**

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

[Committee Page](#)

MUNICIPAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS; -- Public Testimony --; MUNI GRANT LAND; MAT-SU BOROUGH TRANSFER; -- Public Testimony --; MUNICIPAL SCHOOL BOARD TERMS; PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT INCREASES; -- Public Testimony --; GENERATED OBSCENE CHLD SEX ABUSE MATERIAL; -- Testimony --; CONTRACT: LICENSING SOFTWARE APPLICATIONS; -- Testimony --; \*\*Streamed live on AKL.tv\*\*

**Bills:**

- [HB 13](#)
- [SB 255](#)
- [SB 143](#)
- [SB 259](#)
- [SB 247](#)
- [SB 258](#)

Mar 18, 2026

**Senate TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC FACILITIES**

Mar 18, 2026 07:30am | SENATE FINANCE 532

[Committee Page](#)

FY27 Request, FY26 Update, & Major Issues

**Bills:**

- *(None)*

**House FINANCE**

Mar 18, 2026 01:30pm | ADAMS 519

[Committee Page](#)

APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET;AMEND;SUPP; APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET; Presentation: Leases by Department of; Transportation and Public Facilities; UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS; PAID PARENT LEAVE; -- Public Testimony --; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**Bills:**

- [HB 263](#)
- [HB 265](#)
- [HB 193](#)

**Mar 19, 2026**

**Senate FINANCE**

Mar 19, 2026 09:00am | SENATE FINANCE 532

[Committee Page](#)

COMPLEX CARE RESIDENTIAL HOMES; -- Testimony --; COMPLEX CARE RESIDENTIAL HOMES; -- Testimony --; FISHERIES PROD DEVELOPMENT TAX CREDIT; -- Testimony --; CONST. AM: EDUCATION FUND; Invited Testimony; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled; \*\*Streamed live on AKL.tv\*\*

**Bills:**

- [SB 130](#)

**House FISHERIES**

Mar 19, 2026 10:00am | GRUENBERG 120

[Committee Page](#)

Consideration of Governor s Appointees;; -Fishermen's Fund Advisory and Appeals Council;; Renee Alward; -- Public Testimony --; Presentation: Update on Alaska Invasive Species; -- Testimony --; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**Bills:**

- *(None)*

**House FINANCE**

Mar 19, 2026 01:30pm | ADAMS 519

[Committee Page](#)

APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET;AMEND;SUPP; APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET; Presentation: Alaska Energy Authority; PEACE OFFICERS/FIREFIGHTERS: DISABILITY; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

**Bills:**

- [HB 263](#)
- [HB 265](#)
- [HB 210](#)

**Senate COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS**

Mar 19, 2026 01:30pm | BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)

[Committee Page](#)

GENERATED OBSCENE CHLD SEX ABUSE MATERIAL; -- Invited & Public Testimony --; CONTRACT: LICENSING SOFTWARE APPLICATIONS; -- Invited & Public Testimony --; SICK LEAVE EXEMPTION: FISH PROCESSORS; -- Testimony --; PUBLIC MEETINGS: EXEMPT MUNI SVC AREA BDS; -- Testimony --; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled; \*\*Streamed live on AKL.tv\*\*

**Bills:**

- [SB 247](#)
- [SB 258](#)
- [SB 268](#)
- [SB 153](#)

**Senate TRANSPORTATION**

Mar 19, 2026 01:30pm | BUTROVICH 205

[Committee Page](#)

Overview: Alaska Marine Highway System; \*\*Streamed live on AKL.tv\*\*

**Bills:**

- *(None)*

**Mar 20, 2026**

**House FINANCE**

Mar 20, 2026 09:00am | ADAMS 519

[Committee Page](#)

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

**Bills:**

- [HB 280](#)

**Senate RESOURCES**

Mar 20, 2026 03:30pm | BUTROVICH 205

[Committee Page](#)

BOARD OF FISHERIES; -- Testimony --; CONFLICT OF INTEREST: BDS FISHERIES/GAME; -- Public Testimony --; NATURAL GAS PROJECTS/INCOME TAX/SURCHARGE; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled; \*\*Streamed live on AKL.tv\*\*

**Bills:**

- [HB 33](#)

**How to Watch Live Committee Meetings**

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3. Scroll down to your meeting and select "Watch Now"

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3. Click on "Both Schedule" from the menu on the left
4. Make sure your date range is properly reflected in the date boxes on the right side of the screen.
5. Scroll down, find your meeting and click on the "Audio/Video" option on the right side of the screen.

**BILL TRACKING LOG**

Bill	Sponsors	Title	Last Action	Latest Version
<a href="#">HB 1</a>	<a href="#">MCCABE</a> <a href="#">Underwood</a> <a href="#">Johnson</a>	An Act relating to specie as legal tender in the state; and relating to borough and city sales and use taxes on specie.	House, Jan 2, 2026: (H) COSPONSOR(S): NELSON	<a href="#">HB0001B, AM CSHB 1(STA), introduced 05/18/2025</a>
<a href="#">HB 13</a>	<a href="#">GRAY</a> <a href="#">Eischeid</a> <a href="#">Fields</a>	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.  <b>teleconferenced, previously heard • <a href="#">Senate COMMUNITY &amp; REGIONAL AFFAIRS</a></b>  Mar 17, 2026 01:30pm  BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)	Senate, Mar 17, 2026: (S) -- Public Testimony --	<a href="#">HB0013C, AM CSSH 13(CRA), introduced 04/25/2025, passed House 05/12/2025</a>

<a href="#">HB 18</a>	G.NELSON <a href="#">Rauscher</a> <a href="#">Johnson</a>	An Act relating to the transfer of a title on the death of the owner; and providing for an effective date.	House, Feb 13, 2026: (H) PRIME SPONSOR CHANGED: G.NELSON REPLACED RAUSCHER	<a href="#">HB0018A, AM HB 18, introduced 01/22/2025</a>
<a href="#">HB 26</a>	MINA <a href="#">Burke</a> <a href="#">Bynum</a>	An Act relating to the duties of the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities; and relating to a statewide public and community transit plan.	Senate, Mar 2, 2026: (S) CROSS SPONSOR(S): KAWASAKI	<a href="#">HB0026D, AM CSHB 26(TRA) am, introduced 04/30/2025, passed House 05/02/2025</a>
<a href="#">HB 31</a>	STUTES <a href="#">Kopp</a> <a href="#">Himschoot</a>	An Act relating to the registration of commercial vessels; and relating to the derelict vessel prevention program fund.	House, Jul 30, 2025: (H) EFFECTIVE DATE(S) OF LAW 10/22/25	<a href="#">HB0031Z, AM Enrolled HB 31, introduced 05/20/2025</a>
<a href="#">HB 33</a>	STUTES <a href="#">Himschoot</a> <a href="#">Hannan</a>	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.  <b>teleconferenced, previously heard • <a href="#">Senate RESOURCES</a></b>  Mar 20, 2026 03:30pm  BUTROVICH 205	Senate, Mar 20, 2026: (S) -- Public Testimony --	<a href="#">HB0033A, AM HB 33, introduced 01/22/2025, passed House 05/13/2025</a>
<a href="#">HB 53</a>	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.	Senate, Jan 20, 2026: (S) DPS INTENT LANGUAGE REPORT	<a href="#">HB0053Z, AM Enrolled HB 53, introduced 05/20/2025</a>
<a href="#">HB 78</a>	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.	Senate, Mar 12, 2026: (S) Heard & Held -- Please Note Time Change --	<a href="#">HB0078D, AM SCS CSHB 78(L&amp;C), introduced 02/02/2026</a>
<a href="#">HB 125</a>	JIMMIE <a href="#">Foster</a> <a href="#">Kopp</a>	An Act relating to membership of the Board of Fisheries.	Senate, May 19, 2025: (S) Referred to COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS	<a href="#">HB0125C, AM CSHB 125(RES), introduced 05/07/2025</a>
<a href="#">HB 169</a>	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.	House, Apr 2, 2025: (H) Referred to COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS	<a href="#">HB0169A, AM HB 169, introduced 04/02/2025</a>

<a href="#">HB 184</a>	<a href="#">STORY</a>  <a href="#">Hall</a>  <a href="#">Mina</a>	An Act relating to financing by the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority for workforce housing development projects.	Senate, Mar 2, 2026: (S) Referred to FINANCE	<a href="#">HB0184B, AM CSHB 184(CRA), introduced 05/16/2025, passed House 02/27/2026</a>
<a href="#">HB 203</a>	<a href="#">MCCABE</a>  <a href="#">Foster</a>  <a href="#">Tomaszewski</a>	An Act relating to the use of certain trawl or dredge fishing gear in state water; and providing for an effective date.	House, Mar 5, 2026: (H) COSPONSOR(S): ST. CLAIR	<a href="#">HB0203A, AM HB 203, introduced 04/22/2025</a>
<a href="#">HB 254</a>	<a href="#">VANCE</a>  <a href="#">Coulombe</a>	An Act relating to increases in property assessments.	House, Jan 23, 2026: (H) COSPONSOR(S): COULOMBE	<a href="#">HB0254A, AM HB 254, introduced 01/20/2026</a>
<a href="#">HB 264</a>	HOUSE 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.	House, Mar 3, 2026: (H) Heard & Held	<a href="#">HB0264A, AM HB 264, introduced 01/23/2026</a>
<a href="#">HB 280</a>	HOUSE RULES	An Act relating to the Multistate Tax Compact; relating to apportionment of income to the state; relating to highly digitized businesses subject to the Alaska Net Income Tax Act; and providing for an effective date.  <b>teleconferenced, previously heard • <a href="#">House FINANCE</a></b>  Mar 20, 2026 09:00am  ADAMS 519	House, Mar 20, 2026: (H) -- Please Note Time Change --	<a href="#">HB0280A, AM HB 280, introduced 01/23/2026</a>
<a href="#">HB 286</a>	<a href="#">ELAM</a>	An Act relating to an optional municipal tax exemption for the homes of volunteer firefighters and volunteer providers of emergency medical services or mobile intensive care paramedic services; and providing for an effective date.  <b>teleconferenced, previously heard • <a href="#">House COMMUNITY &amp; REGIONAL AFFAIRS</a></b>  Mar 19, 2026 08:00am  BARNES 124	House, Mar 19, 2026: (H) -- Testimony Invitation Only --	<a href="#">HB0286A, AM HB 286, introduced 01/28/2026</a>
<a href="#">SB 10</a>	<a href="#">DUNBAR</a>	An Act relating to family leave wage replacement coverage.	Senate, Jan 22, 2025: (S) Referred to LABOR & COMMERCE	<a href="#">SB0010A, AM SB 10, introduced 01/22/2025</a>
<a href="#">SB 14</a>	<a href="#">DUNBAR</a>	An Act relating to the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority; and relating to workforce housing development projects.	Senate, May 1, 2025: (S) Minutes (SFIN)	<a href="#">SB0014A, AM SB 14, introduced 01/22/2025</a>
<a href="#">SB 50</a>	<a href="#">DUNBAR</a>  <a href="#">Josephson</a>	An Act relating to the comprehensive plans of first and second class boroughs.	Senate, Jul 30, 2025: (S) EFFECTIVE DATE(S) OF LAW 10/14/25	<a href="#">SB0050Z, AM Enrolled SB 50, introduced 05/16/2025</a>

<a href="#">SB 55</a>	<a href="#">STEDMAN</a> <a href="#">Myers</a> <a href="#">Shower</a>	An Act relating to employer contributions in the teachers' retirement system; relating to supplemental employee benefits; and providing for an effective date.  <b>teleconferenced, previously heard • <a href="#">Senate FINANCE</a></b>  Mar 17, 2026 09:00am  SENATE FINANCE 532	Senate, Mar 17, 2026: (S) -- Testimony Invitation Only --	<a href="#">SB0055B, AM CSSB 55(L&amp;C), introduced 03/26/2025</a>
<a href="#">SB 79</a>	SENATE LABOR & COMMERCE	An Act relating to wage payments.	House, May 18, 2025: (H) Referred to FINANCE	<a href="#">SB0079B, AM HCS SB 79(L&amp;C), introduced 05/18/2025</a>
<a href="#">SB 81</a>	<a href="#">STEDMAN</a>	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.	Senate, Feb 11, 2026: (S) Referred to FINANCE	<a href="#">SB0081B, AM CSSB 81(L&amp;C), introduced 02/11/2026</a>
<a href="#">SB 130</a>	SENATE RULES BY REQUEST OF TASK FORCE EVAL ALASKA SEAFOOD INDUSTRY	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.  <b>teleconferenced, previously heard • <a href="#">Senate FINANCE</a></b>  Mar 19, 2026 09:00am  SENATE FINANCE 532	Senate, Mar 19, 2026: (S) -- Testimony Invitation Only --	<a href="#">SB0130C, AM CSSB 130(RES)(Corrected), introduced 03/05/2026</a>
<a href="#">SB 131</a>	SENATE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	An Act relating to the duties of the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute; and relating to the seafood marketing assessment.	Senate, May 7, 2025: (S) Referred to FINANCE	<a href="#">SB0131B, AM CSSB 131(RES), introduced 05/07/2025</a>
<a href="#">SB 135</a>	SENATE RULES BY REQUEST OF TASK FORCE EVAL ALASKA SEAFOOD INDUSTRY	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.	Senate, Apr 15, 2025: (S) Referred to FINANCE	<a href="#">SB0135B, AM CSSB 135(RES), introduced 04/15/2025</a>
<a href="#">SB 161</a>	<a href="#">CRONK</a> <a href="#">Yundt</a>	An Act relating to the use of certain trawl or dredge fishing gear in state water; and providing for an effective date.	Senate, Mar 4, 2026: (S) Heard & Held	<a href="#">SB0161A, AM SB 161, introduced 04/09/2025</a>
<a href="#">SB 213</a>	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.	Senate, Feb 27, 2026: (S) Minutes (SFIN)	<a href="#">SB0213A, AM SB 213, introduced 01/21/2026</a>

<a href="#">SB 214</a>	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.	Senate, Feb 27, 2026: (S) Minutes (SFIN)	<a href="#">SB0214A, AM SB 214, introduced 01/21/2026</a>
<a href="#">SB 227</a>	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.  <b>teleconferenced • <a href="#">Senate FINANCE</a></b>  Mar 18, 2026 09:00am  SENATE FINANCE 532	Senate, Mar 18, 2026: (S) -- Testimony Invitation Only --	<a href="#">SB0227B, AM CSSB 227(RES), introduced 02/19/2026</a>
<a href="#">SB 259</a>	<a href="#">BJORKMAN</a>	An Act relating to an optional municipal limit to increases of the full and true value of property owned and occupied as a permanent place of abode by a resident.  <b>teleconferenced, previously heard • <a href="#">Senate COMMUNITY &amp; REGIONAL AFFAIRS</a></b>  Mar 17, 2026 01:30pm  BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)	Senate, Mar 17, 2026: (S) -- Public Testimony --	<a href="#">SB0259A, AM SB 259, introduced 02/23/2026</a>
<a href="#">SB 268</a>	<a href="#">STEVENS</a>	An Act relating to minimum paid sick leave requirements for individuals employed in seafood processing.  <b>first hearing, teleconferenced • <a href="#">Senate COMMUNITY &amp; REGIONAL AFFAIRS</a></b>  Mar 19, 2026 01:30pm  BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)	Senate, Mar 19, 2026: (S) -- Testimony Invitation Only --	<a href="#">SB0268A, AM SB 268, introduced 02/23/2026</a>