

# NAVIGATE AK

City of Unalaska

WEEK OF APRIL 20

NAVIGATE AK

## WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

### **FY 2027 Operating Budget**

The House passed its version of the FY 2027 operating budget on Monday by a narrow 21-19 vote along caucus lines, with all 21 members of the Democrat-led bipartisan majority in favor and all 19 minority Republicans opposed. The passage concluded several days of contentious floor debate centered primarily on the size of the Permanent Fund Dividend and overall spending levels.

Key amendments adopted during floor debate include a reduction to the PFD, which was set at \$1,500 per eligible Alaskan under the final House version. The budget also includes \$148 million in new funding for public schools and \$11 million for student transportation. The bill now moves to the Senate, which will develop its own version before the two chambers negotiate a final product that will head to the Governor before of the session's May 20 adjournment.

### **FY 2027 Capital Budget**

The Senate Finance Committee introduced an expanded capital budget this week, growing the proposal to \$247 million in state general funds, up \$88 million from Governor Dunleavy's initial request of \$159 million. The bulk of the additions are directed toward K-12 school maintenance funding, reflecting the bipartisan Senate majority's stated priority of addressing Alaska's deferred maintenance backlog, which stands in the billions of dollars. The capital budget is expected to grow further as it moves through the House.

The expansion in capital spending has created direct tension with the House's operating budget. Because the House built certain spending assumptions into its version of the operating budget, the increased capital investment leaves the combined budget with a deficit of more than \$200 million, even accounting for the roughly \$500 million in new revenue projected by the Department of Revenue last month due to elevated, war-driven oil prices.

## **Additional Legislative Updates**

### *Alaska LNG Tax Exemption (SB 381 / HB 280)*

Governor Dunleavy has proposed eliminating property taxes for the Alaska LNG project to incentivize development of the \$46 billion gas line and export facilities. Introduced March 20, the bills would exempt the project from local property and sales taxes during its development phase, replacing them with a volume-based tax once the pipeline reaches significant production capacity. The Alaska Department of Revenue estimates the proposal would result in a 90% reduction in property tax revenue at full capacity. Municipal governments stand to be most affected: under current tax law, they would collect an estimated \$13 billion in additional revenue through 2062, or approximately \$360 million annually.

### *Elections Bill (SB 64)*

The House passed Senate Bill 64 on Monday by a 23-16 bipartisan vote. The elections bill is designed to streamline Alaska's voting process and update voter rolls. If signed into law, it would implement a new ballot tracking system, provide prepaid postage for absentee mail-in ballots, and introduce provisions to accelerate election results, among other changes.

## **Articles of Interest**

- [\*\*Alaska House passes budget with \\$1,500 PFD and education boosts — Alaska Public Media\*\*](#)
- [\*\*House advances budget draft with \\$1,500 dividend — Anchorage Daily News\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Rural Health Transformation bills introduced — Alaska's News Source\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Alaska lawmakers focus on healthcare, budget, energy — Your Alaska Link\*\*](#)

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**HEARINGS OF INTEREST**

**Monday, April 20**

**Senate Labor & Commerce Committee**

1:30 PM | BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)

- **SB 259 – PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT INCREASES**
- **SB 272 – HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE**

**Tuesday, April 21**

**Senate Resources Committee**

9:00 AM | BUTROVICH 205

- **HB 117 – COMMERCIAL FISHING; SET GILLNET COOP**
- **SB 280 – OIL & GAS PROPERTY TAX: MUNI TAX**

**Wednesday, April 22**

**House Resources Committee**

1:00 PM | BARNES 124

- **HB 381 – OIL & GAS PROPERTY TAX: MUNI TAX**

**Senate Resources Committee**

3:30 PM | BUTROVICH 205

- **SB 280 – OIL & GAS PROPERTY TAX: MUNI TAX**

**Thursday, April 23**

**House Community & Regional Affairs Committee**

8:00 AM | BARNES 124

- [SB 63 – LOCAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION](#)
- [HB 291 – MUNICIPAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS](#)
- [HB 255 – SENIOR CITIZEN GRANTS DIVIDEND RAFFLE](#)

**Senate Resources Committee**

9:00 AM | BUTROVICH 205

- [SB 280 – OIL & GAS PROPERTY TAX: MUNI TAX](#)

Friday, April 24

**Senate Finance Committee**

9:00 AM | SENATE FINANCE 532

- [SB 78 – RETIREMENT SYSTEMS; DEFINED BENEFIT OPT.](#)

**Senate Resources Committee**

3:30 PM | BUTROVICH 205

- [SB 280 – OIL & GAS PROPERTY TAX: MUNI TAX](#)

NAVIGATE AK

**BILL TRACKING LOG**

BILL	SPONSORS	TITLE	LAST ACTION	LATEST VERSION
<a href="#"><u>HB 1</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>MCCABE</u></a> <a href="#"><u>Underwood</u></a> <a href="#"><u>Johnson</u></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, Mar 27, 2026: (H) COSPONSOR(S): SCHWANKE	<a href="#"><u>HB0001B</u></a> , <a href="#"><u>AM CSHB</u></a> <a href="#"><u>1(STA)</u></a> , <a href="#"><u>introduced</u></a> <a href="#"><u>05/18/2025</u></a>

<a href="#">HB 13</a>	<a href="#">GRAY Eischeid 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.	Senate, Mar 18, 2026: (S) Referred to STATE AFFAIRS	<a href="#">HB0013D</a> , <a href="#">AM SCS CSSSHB 13(CRA)</a> , <a href="#">introduced 03/18/2026</a>
<a href="#">HB 18</a>	G.NELSON <a href="#">Rauscher 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</a> , <a href="#">AM HB 18</a> , <a href="#">introduced 01/22/2025</a>
<a href="#">HB 26</a>	<a href="#">MINA Burke 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, Apr 8, 2026: (S) CROSS SPONSOR(S): GIESSEL	<a href="#">HB0026E</a> , <a href="#">AM SCS CSHB 26(TRA)</a> , <a href="#">introduced 03/25/2026</a>
<a href="#">HB 31</a>	<a href="#">STUTES Kopp 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</a> , <a href="#">AM</a> <a href="#">Enrolled HB 31</a> , <a href="#">introduced 05/20/2025</a>
<a href="#">HB 33</a>	<a href="#">STUTES Himschoot 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.	Senate, Mar 27, 2026: (S) Referred to RULES	<a href="#">HB0033A</a> , <a href="#">AM HB 33</a> , <a href="#">introduced 01/22/2025</a> , <a href="#">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</a> , <a href="#">AM</a> <a href="#">Enrolled HB 53</a> , <a href="#">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.  <b>teleconferenced, previously heard •</b> <a href="#">Senate FINANCE</a>  Apr 24, 2026 09:00am SENATE FINANCE 532	Senate, Apr 24, 2026: (S) -- Testimony Invitation Only --	<a href="#">HB0078D</a> , <a href="#">AM SCS CSHB 78(L&amp;C)</a> , <a href="#">introduced 02/02/2026</a>
<a href="#">HB 125</a>	<a href="#">JIMMIE Foster Kopp</a>	An Act relating to membership of the Board of Fisheries.	Senate, Apr 16, 2026: (S) Heard & Held	<a href="#">HB0125C</a> , <a href="#">AM CSHB 125(RES)</a> , <a href="#">introduced 05/07/2025</a>

<a href="#">HB 169</a>	<a href="#">TOMASZEWSKI</a>	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, Apr 15, 2026: (S) Heard & Held	<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 25, 2026: (H) COSPONSOR(S): G.NELSON	<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, Apr 9, 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, including the apportionment of income of broadcasters, financial institutions, and telecommunications service providers; and providing for an effective date.  <b>first hearing, teleconferenced • <a href="#">Senate FINANCE</a></b>  Apr 21, 2026 01:30pm SENATE FINANCE 532	Senate, Apr 21, 2026: (S) -- Invited & Public Testimony -- -- Please Note Time Change --	<a href="#">HB0280B, AM CSHB 280(FIN), introduced 03/27/2026, passed House 04/01/2026</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.	House, Mar 20, 2026: (H) Referred to FINANCE	<a href="#">HB0286A, AM HB 286, introduced 01/28/2026</a>
<a href="#">HB 291</a>	<a href="#">COULOMBE</a> <a href="#">G.Nelson</a> <a href="#">Bynum</a>	An Act relating to municipal exemptions from fees for landfills or dumping areas; and relating to optional municipal property tax exemptions.  <b>teleconferenced, previously heard • <a href="#">House COMMUNITY &amp; REGIONAL AFFAIRS</a></b>  Apr 23, 2026 08:00am BARNES 124	House, Apr 23, 2026: (H) -- Testimony Invitation Only --	<a href="#">HB0291A, AM HB 291, introduced 02/04/2026</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</a> , <a href="#">AM SB 10</a> , <a href="#">introduced</a> <a href="#">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</a> , <a href="#">AM SB 14</a> , <a href="#">introduced</a> <a href="#">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</a> , <a href="#">AM</a> <a href="#">Enrolled SB 50</a> , <a href="#">introduced</a> <a href="#">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.	Senate, Mar 26, 2026: (S) Moved CSSB 55(FIN) Out of Committee	<a href="#">SB0055B</a> , <a href="#">AM CSSB 55(L&amp;C)</a> , <a href="#">introduced</a> <a href="#">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</a> , <a href="#">AM HCS SB 79(L&amp;C)</a> , <a href="#">introduced</a> <a href="#">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</a> , <a href="#">AM CSSB 81(L&amp;C)</a> , <a href="#">introduced</a> <a href="#">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.	House, Apr 8, 2026: (H) Referred to FINANCE	<a href="#">SB0130D</a> , <a href="#">AM CSSB 130(FIN)</a> , <a href="#">introduced</a> <a href="#">03/25/2026</a> , <a href="#">passed</a> <a href="#">Senate</a> <a href="#">04/01/2026</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</a> , <a href="#">AM CSSB 131(RES)</a> , <a href="#">introduced</a> <a href="#">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</a> , <a href="#">AM CSSB 135(RES)</a> , <a href="#">introduced</a> <a href="#">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</a> , <a href="#">AM SB 161</a> , <a href="#">introduced</a> <a href="#">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</a> , <a href="#">AM SB 213</a> , <a href="#">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.  <b>teleconferenced • <a href="#">House FINANCE</a></b>  Apr 23, 2026 09:00am ADAMS 519	House, Apr 24, 2026: (H) Pending Referral -- Please Note Time Change --	<a href="#">SB0214B</a> , <a href="#">AM CSSB 214(FIN)</a> , <a href="#">introduced 04/16/2026</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.	Senate, Apr 8, 2026: (S) -- Testimony Invitation Only -- - MEETING CANCELED --	<a href="#">SB0227B</a> , <a href="#">AM CSSB 227(RES)</a> , <a href="#">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 LABOR &amp; COMMERCE</a></b>  Apr 20, 2026 01:30pm BELTZ 105 (TSBIIdg)	Senate, Apr 20, 2026: (S) -- Public Testimony Time Limit May Be Set --	<a href="#">SB0259B</a> , <a href="#">AM CSSB 259(CRA)</a> , <a href="#">introduced 04/13/2026</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.	Senate, Mar 19, 2026: (S) Heard & Held	<a href="#">SB0268A</a> , <a href="#">AM SB 268</a> , <a href="#">introduced 02/23/2026</a>