

## NAVIGATE AK

City of Unalaska

WEEK OF MAY 11TH

NAVIGATE AK

### WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

**Session constitutionally must adjourn by May 20 — nine days away. The Legislature is in its final sprint with the budget, LNG tax bills, and dozens of outstanding bills still unresolved.**

#### Alaska LNG / SAGA Act

Three competing versions of the LNG property tax bill remain unresolved, and the outcome is far from certain heading into the final week. The governor's original proposal would have replaced the existing municipal property tax on the Alaska LNG pipeline with a flat 6¢/mcf volumetric tax — a roughly 90% tax reduction. Both chambers have since rewritten it significantly. The House sets rates at 5¢/mcf for the treatment plant and pipeline, and 10¢/mcf for the liquefaction facility, for a total of 20¢/mcf. The Senate Resources version goes much higher: 15¢ each for the plant and pipeline and 25¢ for the liquefaction facility, totaling 55¢/mcf. Senate President Gary Stevens said last week he is "doubtful" a deal can be reached before adjournment. Governor Dunleavy is personally lobbying in Juneau, calling the tax relief essential to keep the project alive.

#### Budget

The Senate passed a \$13.9 billion operating budget with a \$1,150 Permanent Fund dividend — \$1,000 base dividend plus a \$150 energy relief rebate — in a 17–3 vote. The House earlier passed its own version with a \$1,500 PFD. A conference committee will need to reconcile the two this week. The education funding boost included in the House version — roughly \$82 million in one-time funding for schools — is a significant sticking point in negotiations. A final budget must pass before adjournment, or the state faces a funding gap. The House Finance Committee passed the capital budget largely intact from the Senate version, and it is expected to reach the House floor for a full vote this week.

#### Education

The education funding debate continues on two tracks. HB 261, which is in hearings this week, would change how school districts calculate their average daily membership student count, allowing them to use the higher of the

current year or a three-year rolling average — a stabilization measure for districts experiencing enrollment swings. Separately, HB 374 proposes increasing the base student allocation by \$630 per student, from \$6,660 to \$7,290. Both bills reflect sustained pressure from school districts across the state that are reporting structural deficits heading into the next fiscal year.

#### Behavioral health

SB 196 and its companion HB 138 would establish a 98¢-per-month surcharge on all phone lines to fund a dedicated Behavioral Health Crisis Services Fund, generating an estimated \$6 to \$8 million annually for the 988 hotline, crisis response teams, and outreach programs. Advocates and youth groups have been lobbying hard in Juneau throughout the session. As of March, the bills had not advanced from committee, but the final session push may give them new momentum. HB 52, the Minors and Psychiatric Hospitals bill, which advanced out of the House this spring, is also on the Finance agenda this week.

#### Labor & construction

HB 260, the Construction Project Wages and Liability bill, is in House Finance this week. It would make project owners jointly liable for unpaid wage violations by subcontractors — a significant exposure concern for any entity that hires contractors on public or private projects. Separately, SB 268 would exempt seafood processing workers from the paid sick leave requirement passed by voters under Ballot Measure 1 in 2024. Senate Labor and Commerce take up SB 268 on Friday.

SB 251 would repeal the Workers' Compensation Appeals Commission, routing appeals directly to Superior Court. Contractors and employers have raised concerns about potential cost increases and delays under the new structure. The bill has been in Senate Finance but has not yet moved to the floor.

#### Energy & Utilities

SB 250, the Data Centers and Utilities bill, would establish energy supply and reliability requirements for large data center operations in Alaska — a growing issue as AI infrastructure demand increases across the state. HB 385 would simplify the rate filing process for utilities, reducing regulatory burden for electric cooperatives and other providers. Both bills are in committee this week.

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**HEARINGS OF INTEREST**

**Monday, May 11**

**House Finance Committee**

9:00 AM | ADAMS 519

- **HB 195 – PHARMACIST PRESCRIPTION AUTHORITY**

*Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled*

- **SB 130 – FISHERIES PROD DEVELOPMENT TAX CREDIT**

*Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled*

**House Finance Committee**

1:30 PM | ADAMS 519

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

*Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled*

**Senate Resources Committee**

3:30 PM | BUTROVICH 205

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

*Testimony – Invitation Only*

**Tuesday, May 12**

**Senate Resources Committee**

9:00 AM | BUTROVICH 205

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

*Testimony – Invitation Only*

**House Finance Committee**

1:30 PM | ADAMS 519

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

*Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled*

- **HB 193 – UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS; PAID PARENT LEAVE**

*Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled*

**Senate Resources Committee**

3:30 PM | BUTROVICH 205

- **HB 117 – COMMERCIAL FISHING; SET GILLNET COOP**

*Invited & Public Testimony*

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

*Testimony – Invitation Only*

**Wednesday, May 13**

**Senate Resources Committee**

9:00 AM | BUTROVICH 205

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

*Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled*

**House Finance Committee**

1:30 PM | ADAMS 519

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

*Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled*

- **SB 211 – EXTEND OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING BOARDS**

*Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled*

**Senate Resources Committee**

3:30 PM | BUTROVICH 205

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

*Invited & Public Testimony*

**Thursday, May 14**

**Senate Resources Committee**

9:00 AM | BUTROVICH 205

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

*Testimony – Invitation Only*

### **House Finance Committee**

1:30 PM | ADAMS 519

- **[HB 381 – OIL & GAS PROPERTY TAX: MUNI TAX](#)**

*Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled*

**Friday, May 15**

### **Senate Labor & Commerce Committee**

1:30 PM | BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)

- **[SB 268 – SICK LEAVE EXEMPTION: FISH PROCESSORS](#)**

*Testimony – Invitation Only*

- **[SB 283 – MINIMUM NURSING STAFF LEVELS IN HOSPITALS](#)**

*Testimony – Invitation Only*

### **House Finance Committee**

1:30 PM | ADAMS 519

- **[HB 381 – OIL & GAS PROPERTY TAX: MUNI TAX](#)**

*Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled*

### **Senate Resources Committee**

3:30 PM | BUTROVICH 205

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

*Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled*

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**BILL TRACKING LOG**

| BILL                           | SPONSORS                                     | TITLE   | LAST ACTION  | LATEST VERSION  |
|--------------------------------|--|---|--|---|
| AK 34<br><a href="#">HB 1</a>  | <a href="#">MCCABE Underwood 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.   | Senate, May 11, 2026: (S) RULES TO CALENDAR 5/11/2026                      | <a href="#">HB0001B, AM CSHB 1(STA), introduced 05/18/2025, passed House 05/07/2026</a> |
| AK 34<br><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, May 2, 2026: (S) Heard & Held -- Please Note Time Change --        | <a href="#">HB0013D, AM SCS CSSSHB 13(CRA), introduced 03/18/2026</a>                   |
| AK 34<br><a href="#">HB 18</a> | G.NELSON<br><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, AM HB 18, introduced 01/22/2025</a>                                |
| AK 34<br><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.   | House, May 8, 2026: (H) DUE BACK FROM GOVERNOR 5/26/26                     | <a href="#">HB0026Z, AM Enrolled HB 26, introduced 05/01/2026</a>                       |
| AK 34<br><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, AM Enrolled HB 31, introduced 05/20/2025</a>                       |
| AK 34<br><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.   | House, Apr 30, 2026: (H) EFFECTIVE DATE(S) OF LAW 4/30/26                  | <a href="#">HB0033Z, AM Enrolled HB 33, introduced 04/24/2026</a>                       |
| AK 34<br><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>                       |
| AK 34<br><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. | House, Apr 30, 2026: (H) MANIFEST ERROR(S)                                 | <a href="#">HB0078Z, AM Enrolled HB 78, introduced 04/29/2026</a>                       |

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| AK 34<br><a href="#">HB 125</a> | <a href="#">JIMMIE Foster Kopp</a>        | An Act relating to membership of the Board of Fisheries.  | Senate, Apr 20, 2026: (S) CROSS SPONSOR(S): DUNBAR                | <a href="#">HB0125C, AM CSHB 125(RES), introduced 05/07/2025</a>                          |
| AK 34<br><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>                                 |
| AK 34<br><a href="#">HB 184</a> | <a href="#">STORY Hall Mina</a>           | An Act relating to financing by the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority for workforce housing development projects.  | Senate, May 5, 2026: (S) Moved SCS CSHB 184(FIN) Out of Committee | <a href="#">HB0184B, AM CSHB 184(CRA), introduced 05/16/2025, passed House 02/27/2026</a> |
| AK 34<br><a href="#">HB 203</a> | <a href="#">MCCABE Foster 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>                                 |
| AK 34<br><a href="#">HB 254</a> | <a href="#">VANCE 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>                                 |
| AK 34<br><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>                                 |
| AK 34<br><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.  | Senate, May 14, 2026: (S) -- Testimony Invitation Only --         | <a href="#">HB0280B, AM CSHB 280(FIN), introduced 03/27/2026, passed House 04/01/2026</a> |
| AK 34<br><a href="#">HB 286</a> | <a href="#">ELAM Carrick</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, May 6, 2026: (H) COSPONSOR(S): CARRICK                     | <a href="#">HB0286A, AM HB 286, introduced 01/28/2026</a>                                 |
| AK 34<br><a href="#">HB 291</a> | <a href="#">COULOMBE G.Nelson Bynum</a>   | An Act relating to municipal exemptions from fees for landfills or dumping areas; and relating to optional municipal property tax exemptions.   | House, Apr 23, 2026: (H) Heard & Held                             | <a href="#">HB0291A, AM HB 291, introduced 02/04/2026</a>                                 |

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| <a href="#">AK 34 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="#">AK 34 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="#">AK 34 SB 50</a>  | <a href="#">DUNBAR 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="#">AK 34 SB 55</a>  | <a href="#">STEDMAN Myers 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, AM CSSB 55(L&amp;C), introduced 03/26/2025</a>                        |
| <a href="#">AK 34 SB 78</a>  | <a href="#">DUNBAR</a>   | An Act relating to disclosure of information regarding employee compensation by employers, employees, and applicants for employment.  | Senate, Apr 8, 2026: (S) Heard & Held                         | <a href="#">SB0078A, AM SB 78, introduced 01/29/2025</a>                                   |
| <a href="#">AK 34 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="#">AK 34 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="#">AK 34 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, May 11, 2026: (H) -- Please Note Time Change - -       | <a href="#">SB0130D, AM CSSB 130(FIN), introduced 03/25/2026, passed Senate 04/01/2026</a> |
| <a href="#">AK 34 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="#">AK 34 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>                           |

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|---------------------------------|---|--|---|--|
| AK 34<br><a href="#">SB 161</a> | <a href="#">CRONK 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>                                  |
| AK 34<br><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>                                  |
| AK 34<br><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; amending appropriations; and providing for an effective date.  | House, May 9, 2026: (H) -- Please Note Time Change --     | <a href="#">SB0214B, AM CSSB 214(FIN), introduced 04/16/2026, passed Senate 04/21/2026</a> |
| AK 34<br><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, May 14, 2026: (S) -- Testimony Invitation Only -- | <a href="#">SB0227B, AM CSSB 227(RES), introduced 02/19/2026</a>                           |
| AK 34<br><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.   | Senate, May 4, 2026: (S) Heard & Held                     | <a href="#">SB0259C, AM CSSB 259(L&amp;C), introduced 04/28/2026</a>                       |
| AK 34<br><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, May 15, 2026: (S) Pending Referral                | <a href="#">SB0268A, AM SB 268, introduced 02/23/2026</a>                                  |

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