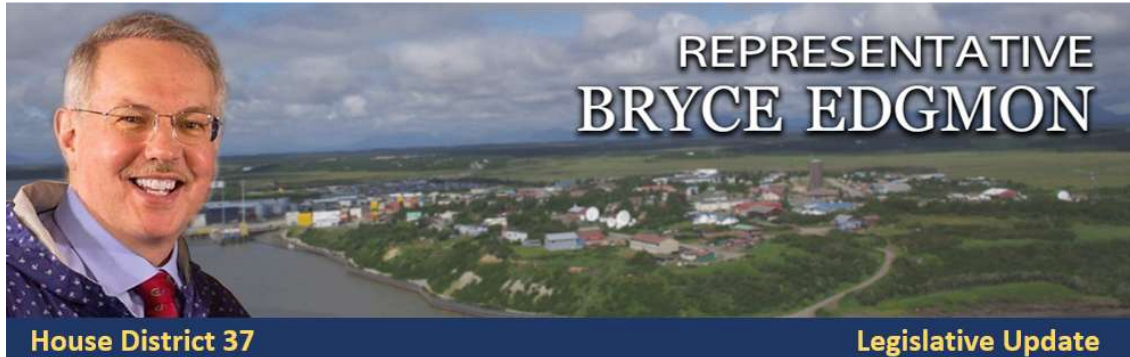

Representative Edgmon's Newsletter: April 24th, 2026

From Representative Edgmon's Office <edgmonnewsletter@157917482.mailchimpapp.com>

Date Fri 4/24/2026 4:35 PM

To DLG City Clerk <cityclerk@dillinghamak.us>



April 24th, 2026

Greetings Friends and Neighbors,

It is day 95 of the legislative session. We have 25 days left in the 120-day session.

It was a busy week on the House floor. This morning we passed another resolution extending the disaster declaration for the 2025 West Coast Storm for 30 more days, keeping critical recovery funding flowing to our communities in Western Alaska.

The House also passed bills protecting our environment from Styrofoam pollution, increasing oversight of minors in psychiatric facilities, and adding a superior court judge to the judicial district that serves most communities in our region.

The House Energy Committee held a hearing on the fuel supply crisis facing rural Alaska. Fuel prices have already risen sharply because of the conflict in the Middle East. Whether our communities will have



Visiting with Marie Kasagnaaluk Greene, President of the Inuit Circumpolar Council Alaska

enough fuel heading into winter is an issue that keeps me up at night. This a main focus as we finalize the budget.

Budget Progress

With the passage of the operating budget, House Bill 263, out of the House, we exchanged budgets with the Senate. The Senate Finance committee this week introduced its version of the operating budget. They built on the strengths of the budget that the House passed last week, fully funding Power Cost Equalization, heating assistance, the Bulk Fuel Revolving Loan Program, the state's Disaster Relief Fund, and community assistance distributions. The Senate will hear the operating budget on the Senate floor as early as next week.

The House Finance Committee will hold hearings on the capital budget, Senate Bill 214, next week, with an opportunity for public testimony scheduled for Wednesday, April 29th, 4:30–6:30pm.

Halong Disaster Declaration Extension

The House this morning passed a concurrent resolution extending the disaster declaration for the 2025 West Coast Storm and approving the Governor's amended financing plan for recovery. This ensures that recovery efforts in Western Alaska can continue without interruption. The total plan is \$62.8 million, with \$25.1 million in federal authority and \$37.7 million from the state Disaster Relief Fund.



Hearing the disaster declaration on the House floor

Alaskans are still recovering, and communities still need housing, services, and security to rebuild their lives. Timely action is critical to avoid delays that would increase costs and slow progress. The Disaster Relief Fund has a sufficient balance to cover these costs, and I will continue working with the Dunleavy administration and our federal partners to make sure our communities get the support they need.

Fuel Supply and Prices

The House Energy Committee held a hearing this week on the fuel supply crisis facing rural Alaska. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East and the disruption of shipping through the Strait of Hormuz are driving up fuel prices worldwide, but the impact on our communities is far more severe than the rest of the country. Much of the fuel consumed in Western Alaska comes from Asian refineries whose supply chains run directly through the Strait. Fuel prices have already risen dramatically, and there are real concerns about whether enough fuel will make it to some communities before winter.

I spoke at the hearing about what the Legislature is doing, including fully funding Power Cost Equalization, putting \$17.5 million into the Alaska Heating Assistance Program, and working to expand the Bulk Fuel Revolving Loan Fund. But I was direct with the committee about the stakes. "We're not going to be able to meet this thing head on if the worst outcome materializes," I said. "If we don't get fuel and it's another cold winter, it can be apocalyptic." This is an issue that keeps me awake at night, and I will continue to work with the Congressional delegation and colleagues in the Legislature to prepare our communities for what lies ahead.

(You can [watch a replay of the hearing here](#), and [hear my full comments here](#).)



Addressing the House Special Committee on Energy on the fuel supply crisis facing rural Alaska

Bills Passed by the House This Week

Among the bills the House passed this week, House Bill 25 bans polystyrene foam containers from restaurants, protecting our waterways and ecosystems from a material that never breaks down. House Bill 52 increases oversight of minors in psychiatric facilities by requiring annual reports and unannounced inspections, after a federal investigation found that Alaska institutionalizes young people at higher rates and for longer periods than other states. House Bill 262 adds a superior court judge in Palmer to address the busiest caseload in the state, serving a judicial district that also includes most communities in our region.

Fantastic Performances at 2026 Native Youth Olympics

Statewide Senior NYO Games were held in Anchorage last weekend. House District 37 athletes took home more than 10% of the total medals, astounding given that we are only about 2% of Alaska. Congratulations to all the top-five finishers from District 37:



Deserette Quebrar of Unalaska took first place in Dene Stick Pull (photo courtesy of Genee Shaishnikoff)

Wrist Carry

Girls 1st – Jaida Downey, Tristan Tilden, Jake Neketa, Dillingham, 307' 7½"

Boys 2nd – Deklan Nettleton, Andrew Toledo, Rogue Hemany, Unalaska, 433' 11½"

Boys 5th – Kayonte Simmons, Boyuk Marsden, Maearius Evans, Nanwalek, 350' 4½"

Inuit Stick Pull

Girls 4th – Rhozalita Moonin, Nanwalek

Boys 5th – Khoi (Sonny) Nguyen, Unalaska

Dene Stick Pull

Girls 1st – Deserette Quebrar, Unalaska

Girls 4th – Harleigh Romanoff-Moonin, Nanwalek

Boys 3rd – Jaime Mosquito, Paluwik-Arllut

Alaskan High Kick

Girls 3rd – Ida Lester, Lake and Peninsula, 68"

One-foot High Kick

Girls 5th – Lucy Baglew, Unalaska, 85"

Boys 4th – Macarius Evans, Nanwalek, 104"

Two-foot High Kick

Boys 3rd — Kayonte Simmons, Nanwalek, 92"

Seal Hop

Girls 2nd – Hawaii Maynard Gumbs, Unalaska, 97' 4 3/4"

As always, thank you for your continued support and for staying engaged in what's happening in Juneau. It's my honor and privilege to represent you. My office is here to help — please do not hesitate to reach out.



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Coming Up

Follow all the Legislature's proceedings on [Gavel Alaska](#).

Monday, April 27

- **House Education** 8:00 AM – Presentation: Celebrating Excellence in Education; [HB 237](#) Mathematics Instruction; [SB 187](#) School Nutrition/Meal: Prohibit Food Dyes
- **House Finance** 9:00 AM – Presentation: Governor's Amendments by Office of Management & Budget; [SB 214](#) Capital Budget
- **Senate Finance** 9:00 AM – [SB 208](#) Agricultural Land Leases; [SB 174](#) Invasive Species Management
- **House Judiciary** 1:00 PM – [HB 384](#) Definition of 'Victim Counseling Center'
- **House Resources** 1:00 PM – [HB 381](#) Oil & Gas Property Tax; Municipal Tax
- **House Finance** 1:30 PM – [HB 261](#) Education Funding (Public Testimony, 2-Minute Limit, Ends at 3:30 PM)
- **Senate Judiciary** 1:30 PM – Consideration of Governor's Appointees: Violent Crimes Compensation Board
- **Senate Labor & Commerce** 1:30 PM – Consideration of Governor's Appointees to Various Boards; [SB 259](#) Property Tax Assessment Increases; [SB 234](#) Uniform Fiduciary Income & Principal Act; [HB 126](#) Reinstatement Native Corporation/Religious Corporation
- **House Labor & Commerce** 3:15 PM – Presentation: State Strategies for Addressing the Affordability Crisis in the Commercial Market; [HB 338](#) Retirement Savings Program; [SB 252](#) UCC: Secured Transactions; Electronic Records
- **Senate Education** 3:30 PM – [SB 66](#) State-Tribal Education Compacts; [SB 232](#) Personal Collection of Certain Fossils
- **Senate Resources** 3:30 PM – [SB 280](#) Oil & Gas Property Tax; Municipal Tax

Tuesday, April 28

- **House Community & Regional Affairs** 8:00 AM – [SB 192](#) Evacuation Designation Levels

- **House Finance** 9:00 AM – SB 214 Capital Budget
- **Senate Finance** 9:00 AM – HB 263 Operating Budget; HB 265 Mental Health Budget
- **Senate Resources** 9:00 AM – SB 280 Oil & Gas Property Tax; Municipal Tax
- **House Energy** 1:00 PM – Presentations: Geothermal Energy in Alaska; Geologic Hydrogen in Alaska
- **House Transportation** 1:00 PM – HB 302 Travel Insurance; SB 104 Vehicles/Boats: Transfer on Death Title
- **House Finance** 1:30 PM – SB 86 Money Transmission; Virtual Currency; HB 77 Mail Theft; SB 214 Capital Budget
- **Senate Finance** 1:30 PM – HB 48 Civil Legal Services Fund; HB 39 Education for Deaf & Hard of Hearing
- **House Health & Social Services** 3:15 PM – SB 272 Health Information Exchange; HB 270 Opioid Overdose Drug Prescription
- **House State Affairs** 3:15 PM – Presentation: Data Centers by NCSL; HB 377 Public Records: Audio & Video; Municipal Costs; SB 237 Data Sharing; Social Security
- **Senate Health & Social Services** 3:30 PM – SB 261 Unhoused Young Adults: IDs, Birth Certificates; Presentation: Addressing the Affordability Crisis in the Commercial Market
- **Senate State Affairs** 3:30 PM – Consideration of Governor's Appointee: Alaska Police Standards Council; HB 25 Disposable Food Service Ware; HB 13 Municipal Property Tax Exemptions; HB 278 Economic Development: Alaska-Ireland Trade Commission

Wednesday, April 29

- **House Education** 8:00 AM – Presentations: Teacher Education Programs; Teacher Certification Process
- **House Finance** 9:00 AM – SB 130 Fisheries Product Development Tax Credit
- **Senate Finance** 9:00 AM – HB 263 Operating Budget; HB 265 Mental Health Budget
- **House Judiciary** 1:00 PM – Consideration of Governor's Appointee: Alaska Judicial Council
- **House Resources** 1:00 PM – HB 381 Oil & Gas Property Tax; Municipal Tax
- **House Finance** 1:30 PM – HB 210 Peace Officers/Firefighters: Disability; SB 214 Capital Budget
- **Senate Finance** 1:30 PM – SB 217 Employer Contributions; SB 251 Repeal Workers' Compensation Appeals Commission
- **Senate Judiciary** 1:30 PM – HB 239 Criminal Negligent Homicide; Failure to Assist

- **Senate Labor & Commerce** 1:30 PM – SB 266 Insurance Reimbursement Rates; SB 262 Social Media/Minors
- **House Labor & Commerce** 3:15 PM – SB 21 Alaska Work & Save Program; Retirement Savings Board; SB 258 Contract: Licensing Software Applications; HB 325 Industrial Hemp; HB 234 PERS: Emergency Dispatchers; HB 350 Qualified Entity Income Tax
- **Senate Resources** 3:30 PM – SB 280 Oil & Gas Property Tax; Municipal Tax
- **Task Force on Education Funding** 3:30 PM – Presentations: Shared Responsibility in Education Funding; Overview of Required Local Contribution; Local Contribution and Mill Rate; Federal Education Funding in Alaska; Impact Aid Transition in New Mexico
- **House Finance** 4:30 PM – SB 214 Capital Budget (Public Testimony, 2-Minute Limit, Ends at 6:30 PM)

Thursday, April 30

- **House Community & Regional Affairs** 8:00 AM – SB 192 Evacuation Designation Levels
- **House Finance** 9:00 AM – SB 214 Capital Budget
- **Senate Finance** 9:00 AM – SB 206 School Suicide Policies; Firearm Storage
- **Senate Resources** 9:00 AM – SB 280 Oil & Gas Property Tax; Municipal Tax
- **House Military & Veterans' Affairs** 10:15 AM – SJR 30 Support Military & Increase Infrastructure; HB 343 Right to Attend School; Military Transfer
- **House Energy** 1:00 PM – Presentation: The Regulatory Commission of Alaska
- **Senate Community & Regional Affairs** 1:30 PM – HB 216 Transfer of Railroad Land to Whittier; SB 16 Refuse Utility Regulations
- **House Finance** 1:30 PM – HB 193 Unemployment Benefits; Paid Parental Leave; HB 1 Specie as Legal Tender
- **Senate Finance** 1:30 PM – SB 221 Restricting State Fund Fiduciary
- **House Health & Social Services** 3:15 PM – Consideration of Governor's Appointee: State Medical Board
- **House State Affairs** 3:15 PM – HB 379 Service Area Elections; HB 281 Cash Transactions: Rounding; HB 218 Tanana Valley State Forest; HB 187 Members Legislative Council; Legislative Budget & Audit
- **Senate Health & Social Services** 3:30 PM – Consideration of Governor's Appointee: State Medical Board; SB 281 Healthcare Compacts; Rural Health Program
- **Senate State Affairs** 3:30 PM – Consideration of Governor's Appointee: Attorney General Designee Stephen Cox; SB 169 Welcoming Alaska Office

Friday, May 1

- **House Education** 8:00 AM – Presentations: Overview and History of Regional Education Attendance Areas; Mt. Edgecumbe High School Status Update; [HB 231](#) Education: Reports; Teacher Retention; Retirement
 - **House Finance** 9:00 AM – Presentation: Housing and Homelessness by Alaska Housing Finance Corporation; [SB 214](#) Capital Budget
 - **House Judiciary** 1:00 PM – [HB 299](#) Veterans; Sentence Program; Criminal Procedure; [SJR 2](#) Constitutional Amendment: Votes Needed for Veto Override
 - **House Resources** 1:00 PM – [SB 230](#) Jonesville Public Use Area; [HB 381](#) Oil & Gas Property Tax; Municipal Tax
 - **House Finance** 1:30 PM – [HB 261](#) Education Funding
 - **Senate Judiciary** 1:30 PM – Consideration of Governor's Appointee: Attorney General Designee Stephen Cox; [SB 207](#) Property Possession and Property Crimes
 - **Senate Labor & Commerce** 1:30 PM – [SB 262](#) Social Media/Minors; [SB 150](#) Net Metering Program & Fund
 - **House Labor & Commerce** 3:15 PM – [HB 386](#) Gaming; Electronic Pull-Tabs; [SJR 28](#) Supporting J-1 & H-1B Visa Programs; [SB 35](#) Transportation/Delivery Network Companies
 - **Senate Education** 3:30 PM – Consideration of Governor's Appointees
 - **Senate Resources** 3:30 PM – [SB 280](#) Oil & Gas Property Tax; Municipal Tax
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