



NEWS FROM THE ALASKA CAPITOL

City of Whittier

The Alaska Legislature is on a brief recess for the Easter holiday, with no committee hearings scheduled for Friday or Monday. Before the break, the House Finance Committee advanced the Fiscal Year 2027 operating budget late Wednesday evening.

FY27 Budget Highlights

The House Finance Committee budget includes the following priorities:

- Full funding for Community Jails
- Maximum Community Assistance payments of \$30 million for the current year
- Recapitalization of the Community Assistance Fund, ensuring a \$20 million allocation for FY28
- Full funding for school bond debt reimbursement
- A one-time increase in school funding
- Inclusion of a full Permanent Fund Dividend (PFD)

Despite these wins, the budget reflects a misalignment between revenue and expenditures, setting the stage for substantive floor debate. The bill now moves to the Senate, where continued advocacy will be critical.

The Senate Finance Committee is expected to release a capital budget this week, with reports suggesting a range of \$400 to \$450 million. There is a significant deferred maintenance backlog for schools and state facilities, and funding levels will be closely watched. Discussions around the Governor's proposed gas pipeline legislation are also ongoing.

COMMITTEE HEARINGS OF INTEREST

Apr 09, 2026

Senate FINANCE

09:00am | SENATE FINANCE 532

[Committee Page](#)

APPROP: CAPITAL/FUNDS/SUPP/REAPPROP; -- Testimony --; Overview: Bond Reimbursement and Grant Review; Board by; Department of Education and Early Development; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled; ****Streamed live on AKL.tv****

Bills:

- [SB 214](#)

House FINANCE

01:30pm | ADAMS 519

[Committee Page](#)

APPROP: CAPITAL/FUNDS/SUPP/REAPPROP; Presentation: Bond Reimbursement & Grant Review; Committee by Department of Education and Early; Development; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

Bills:

- [HB 264](#)

Senate FINANCE

01:39pm | SENATE FINANCE 532

[Committee Page](#)

-- Please Note Time Change --; RETIREMENT SYSTEMS; DEFINED BENEFIT OPT.; -- Testimony --; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled; ****Streamed live on AKL.tv****

Bills:

- [HB 78](#)

How to Watch Live Committee Meetings

1. Go to AKLEG.GOV at the time of your desired committee hearing
2. Click on the 5th tab to the right, "Live Now"
3. Scroll down to your meeting and select "Watch Now"

Call-In Numbers

- From Anchorage and Juneau: (907) 586-9085
- From anywhere else around the state (toll free): 1-844-586-9085
- Let the operator know which committee hearing you need to be connected to.

How to Watch Previous Committee Meetings

1. Go to AKLEG.GOV
2. Click on 4th tab to the right, "Meetings"
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.