
Legislative Report

From Dianne Blumer <dianneblumer@gmail.com>

Date Sun 2/8/2026 10:31 AM

To Jackie Wilde <jwilde@whittieralaska.gov>

Cc City Clerk <cityclerk@whittieralaska.gov>

 1 attachment (179 KB)

City of Whittier Report-2026-02-08.pdf;

Alaska State Legislature Update February 2–6, 2026

Overview

This report covers the key activities, legislative discussions, and noteworthy developments that occurred in the Alaska State Legislature during the week of February 2–6, 2026.

House Finance Committee Deliberations

The House Finance Committee convened three separate hearings on House Bill 284, Governor Dunleavy's fiscal plan bill. These sessions included testimony from the Department of Revenue, which spoke in support of the Governor's proposal. In contrast, the Alaska Municipal League outlined a range of basic and technical logistical and legal concerns with the fiscal plan. The committee also held an evening session for public testimony, where the general sentiment was opposition to a statewide sales tax, especially if the plan involved taxing residents to fund the Permanent Fund Dividend (PFD).

Additionally, economists from the University of Alaska Anchorage's Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER) presented an analysis of several strategies to address Alaska's ongoing fiscal crisis. Their findings indicated that further service cuts or reductions to the PFD would have a greater negative impact on jobs and income than measures to increase state revenue. The ISER presentation is available for review and may be beneficial as the Legislature evaluates the Governor's fiscal plan and other proposals. Access the report [here](#) and view a video of the presentation [here](#).

Release of the Supplemental Budget

On February 3, coinciding with the statutory deadline, Governor Dunleavy released his supplemental budget. The supplemental budget is designed to address immediate state needs that were not anticipated when the FY2026 budget was signed in the previous year.

In December, with the proposed budget for fiscal year 2027, the Governor requested funding for several urgent fiscal year 2026 items, such as allocations for the state's transportation improvement program. The recent supplemental budget includes additional funding needs that, while not as urgent, are still important for supporting ongoing state operations.

The Meet the Match conversations for the DOTPF federal highway funds are continuing as a high priority, however due to the three-quarter votes minimum that is required to draw funds from the Constitutional Budget Reserve (CBR), politics continue to be an issue. Also of note, DOT's roll out of their organization restructure raised many questions and concerns from committee members, more hearings to come on this issue.

Like last week, this week Committees will continue to focus on the LNG pipeline, the Governors supplemental budget, the Governors fiscal plan, and the federal funding for Rural Health Transformation.

Notably for the City of Whittier, the Transfer of Railroad Land to Whittier bills, HB 216 and SB191, passed out of the respective transpirations committees and will be heard in Community and Regional Affairs committees on Tuesday. This is a huge accomplishment. Thank you to City Manager, Jackie Wilde. for her presence and testimony in support of these bills last week.

Whittier Hearing Schedule

Feb 09, 2026 01:30pm ADAMS 519

APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET;AMEND;SUPP; APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET; Presentation: Medicaid Rate Review Study by; Guidehouse; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=House FINANCE&com_date=2026-02-09T13:30:00

AK	HOUSE	House •
34	RULES BY	Feb 11,
	REQUEST	2026:
HB	OF THE	(H)
263	GOVERNOR	FINANCE
		at 01:30
		PM

		ADAMS 519
AK 34 HB 265	HOUSE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	House • Feb 11, 2026: (H) FINANCE at 01:30 PM ADAMS 519

Senate FINANCE

Feb 09, 2026 01:30pm SENATE FINANCE 532

-- Please Note Time Change --; RETIREMENT SYSTEMS; DEFINED BENEFIT OPT.; -- Testimony --; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled; **Streamed live on AKL.tv**[https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=Senate FINANCE&com_date=2026-02-09T13:30:00](https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=Senate%20FINANCE&com_date=2026-02-09T13:30:00)

AK 34 HB 78	HOUSE FINANCE	Senate • Feb 9, 2026: (S) - - Testimony Invitation Only -- -- Please Note Time Change --
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Senate LABOR & COMMERCE

Feb 09, 2026 01:30pm BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)

HEALTH INSURANCE ALLOWABLE CHARGES; -- Public Testimony --; PUBLIC EMPLOYER PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS; -- Public Testimony --; **Streamed live on AKL.tv** [https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=Senate LABOR COMMERCE&com_date=2026-02-09T13:30:00](https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=Senate%20LABOR%20COMMERCE&com_date=2026-02-09T13:30:00)

AK 34 SB 81	STEDMAN	Senate • Feb 9, 2026: (S) - - Public Testimony Time Limit May Be Set --
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Senate RESOURCES

Feb 09, 2026 03:30pm

LNG IMPORT FACILITIES; -- Testimony --; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled; **Streamed live on AKL.tv** [https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=Senate RESOURCES&com_date=2026-02-09T15:30:00](https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=Senate%20RESOURCES&com_date=2026-02-09T15:30:00)

House COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS

Feb 10, 2026 08:00am

SENIOR CITIZEN GRANTS DIVIDEND RAFFLE; -- Public Testimony --; TRANSFER OF RAILROAD LAND TO WHITTIER; -- Testimony --; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled [https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=House COMMUNITY REGIONAL AFFAIRS&com_date=2026-02-10T08:00:00](https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=House%20COMMUNITY%20REGIONAL%20AFFAIRS&com_date=2026-02-10T08:00:00)

BUTROVICH 205

AK 34 SB 180	SENATE RESOURCES	Senate • Feb 9, 2026: (S) - - Testimony Invitation Only --
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BARNES 124

AK 34 HB 255	STAPP	House • Feb 10, 2026: (H) -- Public Testimony Time Limit May Be Set --
AK 34 HB 216	HOLLAND	House • Feb 10, 2026: (H) -- Testimony Invitation Only -- -- Public Testimony Time

	Limit May Be Set –
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House FINANCE

Feb 10, 2026 01:30pm ADAMS 519

APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET;AMEND;SUPP; APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET; Overview: FY27 Governor's Budget Overview by; Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority; APPROP: SUPPLEMENTAL; APPROP: SUPPLEMENTAL; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=House FINANCE&com_date=2026-02-10T13:30:00

AK 34 HB 263	HOUSE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	House • Feb 11, 2026: (H) FINANCE at 01:30 PM ADAMS 519
AK 34 HB 265	HOUSE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	House • Feb 11, 2026: (H) FINANCE at 01:30 PM ADAMS 519
AK 34 HB 283	HOUSE FINANCE	House • Feb 13, 2026: (H) FINANCE at 01:30 PM ADAMS 519
AK 34 HB 289	HOUSE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	House • Feb 13, 2026: (H) FINANCE at 01:30

		PM ADAMS 519
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Senate COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS

Feb 10, 2026 01:30pm BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)

FARM & AGRICULTURAL LAND ASSESSMENTS; -- Public Testimony --; EVACUATION DESIGNATION LEVELS; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled;;
TRANSFER OF RAILROAD LAND TO WHITTIER; **Streamed live on AKL.tv**

[https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=Senate COMMUNITY REGIONAL AFFAIRS&com_date=2026-02-10T13:30:00](https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=Senate%20COMMUNITY%20REGIONAL%20AFFAIRS&com_date=2026-02-10T13:30:00)

AK 34 SB 200	BJORKMAN
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	Senate • Feb 10, 2026: (S) -- Public Testimony --
AK 34 SB 192	BJORKMAN

	Senate • Feb 10, 2026: (S) COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS at 01:30 PM BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)	
AK 34 SB 191	GIESSEL	Senate • Feb 10, 2026: (S) **Streamed live on AKL.tv**

Senate TRANSPORTATION

Feb 10, 2026 01:30pm BUTROVICH 205 No Meeting Scheduled

[https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=Senate TRANSPORTATION&com_date=2026-02-10T13:30:00](https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=Senate%20TRANSPORTATION&com_date=2026-02-10T13:30:00)

House FINANCE

Feb 11, 2026 09:00am ADAMS 519

-- Please Note Time Change --; APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET;AMEND;SUPP; APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET; Committee Substitute;

Overview: Veto of Repealed Appropriations by; Legislative Legal Services; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=House FINANCE&com_date=2026-02-11T09:00:00

AK 34 HB 263	HOUSE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	House • Feb 11, 2026: (H) FINANCE at 01:30 PM ADAMS 519
AK 34 HB 265	HOUSE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	House • Feb 11, 2026: (H) FINANCE at 01:30 PM ADAMS 519

Senate FINANCE

Feb 11, 2026 09:00am SENATE FINANCE 532

APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET;AMEND;SUPP; APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET; CS Zero; Overview: Veto of Repealed Appropriations;

Legislative Legal Services; Presentation: Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled; **Streamed live on AKL.tv**

https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=Senate FINANCE&com_date=2026-02-11T09:00:00

House FINANCE

Feb 11, 2026 01:30pm ADAMS 519

APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET;AMEND;SUPP; APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET; Overview: FY27 Governor's Budget Overview by; Department

of Health; Update: H.R.1 SNAP and Medicaid Implementation by; Department of Health; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=House FINANCE&com_date=2026-02-11T13:30:00

AK 34 SB 213	SENATE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	Senate • Feb 11, 2026: (S) FINANCE at 09:00 AM
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		SENATE FINANCE 532
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AK 34 HB 263	HOUSE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	House • Feb 11, 2026: (H) FINANCE at 01:30 PM ADAMS 519
AK 34 HB 265	HOUSE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	House • Feb 11, 2026: (H) FINANCE at 01:30 PM ADAMS 519

Senate FINANCE

Feb 11, 2026 01:30pm SENATE FINANCE 532

-- Please Note Time Change --; FIRE STATION GRANT PROGRAM; -- Invited & Public Testimony --; CIVICS EDUCATION; -- Invited & Public Testimony --; CONST. AM: VOTES NEEDED FOR VETO OVERRIDE; -- Invited &

Public Testimony --; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled; **Streamed live on AKL.tv**

[https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=Senate FINANCE&com_date=2026-02-11T13:30:00](https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=Senate%20FINANCE&com_date=2026-02-11T13:30:00)

Senate RESOURCES

Feb 11, 2026 03:30pm BUTROVICH 205

Presentation: Alaska Railroad Corporation by; Bill O'Leary - President, CEO, Alaska Railroad; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled; **Streamed live on AKL.tv**[https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=Senate RESOURCES&com_date=2026-02-11T15:30:00](https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=Senate%20RESOURCES&com_date=2026-02-11T15:30:00)

House COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS

Feb 12, 2026 08:00am BARNES 124 No Meeting Scheduled

[https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=House COMMUNITY REGIONAL AFFAIRS&com_date=2026-02-12T08:00:00](https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=House%20COMMUNITY%20REGIONAL%20AFFAIRS&com_date=2026-02-12T08:00:00)

AK		Senate •
34		Feb 11,
SB	STEDMAN	2026: (S) -
140		- Invited &
		Public
		Testimony
		-- Please
		Note Time
		Change --

House FINANCE

Feb 12, 2026 01:30pm

TAX COMPACT; SALES TAX; OIL & GAS TAX; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled [https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=House FINANCE&com_date=2026-02-12T13:30:00](https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=House%20FINANCE&com_date=2026-02-12T13:30:00)

Senate TRANSPORTATION

Feb 12, 2026 01:30pm

Overview: Cascade Point Project by; Department of Transportation & Public; Facilities Deputy Commissioner; Katherine Keith,; Alaska Marine Highway System Director,; Craig Tornga, and Southcoast Region Director,; Chris Goins; -- Testimony --; **Streamed live on AKL.tv**
[https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=Senate TRANSPORTATION&com_date=2026-02-12T13:30:00](https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=Senate%20TRANSPORTATION&com_date=2026-02-12T13:30:00)

House FINANCE

Feb 13, 2026 01:30pm ADAMS 519

APPROP: SUPPLEMENTAL; APPROP: SUPPLEMENTAL; APPORTION TAXABLE INCOME;DIGITAL BUSINESS; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled[https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=House FINANCE&com_date=2026-02-13T13:30:00](https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=House%20FINANCE&com_date=2026-02-13T13:30:00)

ADAMS 519

AK 34 HB 284	HOUSE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	House • Feb 12, 2026: (H) FINANCE at 01:30 PM ADAMS 519
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BUTROVICH 205

AK 34 HB 283	HOUSE FINANCE	House • Feb 13, 2026: (H) FINANCE at 01:30 PM ADAMS 519
AK 34 HB 289	HOUSE RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR	House • Feb 13, 2026: (H) FINANCE at 01:30 PM ADAMS 519

AK 34 HB 280	HOUSE RULES	House • Feb 13, 2026: (H) FINANCE at 01:30 PM ADAMS 519
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Senate RESOURCES

Feb 13, 2026 03:30pm BUTROVICH 205 COOK INLET: NEW ADMIN AREA; -- Invited & Public Testimony --; Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled; **Streamed live on AKL.tv** [https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=Senate RESOURCES&com_date=2026-02-13T15:30:00](https://w3.akleg.gov/index.php#tab4?com_name=Senate%20RESOURCES&com_date=2026-02-13T15:30:00)

AK 34 SB 158	BJORKMAN
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Senate • Feb 13, 2026: (S) -- Invited & Public Testimony --

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