
Navigate AK Legislative Update — Week of April 27 — City of Whittier

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NAVIGATE AK

City of Whittier

WEEK OF APRIL 27

NAVIGATE AK

WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Budget Process Status

The Legislature has completed its annual budget handoff. The Senate has passed its version of the Capital Budget, which is now under consideration in the House. This follows the House's passage of its version of the Operating Budget to the Senate last week. The Senate capital package prioritizes critical deferred maintenance, economic and workforce development, and meeting the required match to secure federal highway funding for the upcoming fiscal year.

Capital Budget Highlights (Senate Version)

- **\$88 million for K–12 deferred maintenance:** Includes \$57 million for the first 15 projects on the statewide school deferred maintenance list. Remaining funds are directed to specific projects statewide, including \$13.4 million for the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District, \$8.3 million for North Pole High School, and \$5.1 million for Arctic Lights Elementary School.

- **\$17 million for University of Alaska deferred maintenance:** Sustains investment to address the University’s multibillion-dollar deferred maintenance backlog.
- **\$4 million for Alaska Travel Industry Association tourism marketing:** Supports statewide marketing efforts that help drive visitor spending and strengthen local economies.
- **Workforce development investments:** Provides \$2 million for the Fairbanks Pipeline Training Center and \$3 million for the Alaska Vocational and Technical Education Center (AVTEC) in Seward to strengthen training capacity and support Alaska’s workforce needs.
- **Federal highway match and transportation infrastructure:** Positions the state to leverage \$1.5 billion in federal highway funds to build and maintain roads and highways statewide.

Looking ahead, it remains early to determine which issues and bills will define the end-of-session agenda; however, budget negotiations are expected to be among the most actively debated items in Juneau.

Outlook and Key Deadlines

The constitutional deadline to adjourn is 121 days after the Legislature convenes; this year, that date falls on May 20. As we enter the final month of session, the pace accelerates and priorities can shift quickly. The 90th day of session was last Sunday.

Post-Day 90 Activity

After day 90, the Legislature typically shifts into several time-sensitive processes. A Joint Session is held to consider the Governor’s appointments to state boards and commissions, as well as departmental leadership positions. While a small number of nominees are often rejected, the majority are confirmed.

In parallel, both bodies move quickly to finalize the operating and capital budgets. Finance committees in the House and Senate will continue intensive work to complete budget deliberations. The Operating Budget is expected to pass the Senate within the next couple of weeks and then be referred to a conference

committee, where House and Senate members will negotiate a final package before the Legislature takes final action.

Legislative Closeout and Special Session Authority

As the 34th Legislature nears its conclusion, any bills that do not pass by the end of the regular session will expire and must be reintroduced in the next Legislature. As a result, the final weeks also bring an accelerated push to advance priority legislation alongside the budget process. Following constitutional adjournment, the Governor has one hour to call the Legislature into special session if deemed necessary. If no special session is called within that hour, a 30-day notice is required.

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HEARINGS OF INTEREST

Monday, April 27

House Resources Committee

1:00 PM | BARNES 124

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

Testimony – Invitation Only

Senate Labor & Commerce Committee

1:30 PM | BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)

- **SB 259 – PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT INCREASES**

Public Testimony – Time Limit May Be Set

Senate Resources Committee

3:30 PM | BUTROVICH 205

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

Testimony – Invitation Only

Tuesday, April 28

Senate Resources Committee

9:00 AM | BUTROVICH 205

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

Testimony – Invitation Only

Senate State Affairs Committee

3:30 PM | BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)

- **HB 13 – MUNICIPAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS**

Testimony – Invitation Only

Wednesday, April 29

House Resources Committee

1:00 PM | BARNES 124

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

Invited & Public Testimony

Senate Resources Committee

3:30 PM | BUTROVICH 205

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

Testimony – Invitation Only

Thursday, April 30

Senate Resources Committee

9:00 AM | BUTROVICH 205

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

Testimony – Invitation Only

Senate Community & Regional Affairs Committee

1:30 PM | BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)

- **HB 216 – TRANSFER OF RAILROAD LAND TO WHITTIER**

Invited & Public Testimony

Friday, May 1

House Resources Committee

1:00 PM | BARNES 124

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

Invited & Public Testimony

Senate Resources Committee

3:30 PM | BUTROVICH 205

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

Saturday, May 2

Senate State Affairs Committee

3:30 PM | BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)

- **HB 13 – MUNICIPAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS**

Public Testimony

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BILL TRACKING LOG**

BILL	SPONSORS	TITLE	LAST ACTION	LATEST VERSION
HB 1	MCCABE Underwood Johnson	An Act relating to specie as legal tender in the state; and relating to borough and city sales and use taxes on specie. teleconferenced • House FINANCE Apr 30, 2026 01:30pm ADAMS 519	House, Apr 30, 2026: (H) FINANCE at 01:30 PM ADAMS 519	HB0001B, AM CSHB 1(STA), introduced 05/18/2025
HB 13	GRAY Eischeid Fields	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. teleconferenced • Senate STATE AFFAIRS Apr 28, 2026 03:30pm BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)	Senate, May 2, 2026: (S) -- Public Testimony -- -- Please Note Time Change --	HB0013D, AM SCS CSSSHB 13(CRA), introduced 03/18/2026
HB 18	G.NELSON Rauscher Johnson	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	HB0018A, AM HB 18, introduced 01/22/2025

			REPLACED RAUSCHER	
HB 26	MINA Burke Bynum	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	HB0026E, AM SCS CSHB 26(TRA), introduced 03/25/2026
HB 31	STUTES Kopp Himschoot	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	HB0031Z, AM Enrolled HB 31, introduced 05/20/2025
HB 53	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	HB0053Z, AM Enrolled HB 53, introduced 05/20/2025
HB 65	STUTES Tomaszewski Prax	An Act authorizing the Alaska Railroad Corporation to issue revenue bonds to finance the replacement of the Alaska Railroad Corporation's passenger dock and related terminal facility in Seward, Alaska; and providing for an effective date.	House, Mar 10, 2025: (H) EFFECTIVE DATE(S) OF LAW 3/7/25	HB0065Z, AM Enrolled HB 65, introduced 02/26/2025
HB 78	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.	Senate, Apr 24, 2026: (S) Moved SCS CSHB 78(FIN) Out of Committee	HB0078D, AM SCS CSHB 78(L&C), introduced 02/02/2026
HB 80	HOUSE LABOR & COMMERCE	An Act relating to minimum standards for residential buildings; relating to construction contractors and residential contractor endorsements; establishing the Alaska State Residential Building Safety Council; and providing for an effective date.	House, Feb 12, 2025: (H) Minutes (HL&C)	HB0080A, AM HB 80, introduced 01/31/2025

HB 169	TOMASZEWSKI	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	HB0169A, AM HB 169, introduced 04/02/2025
HB 184	STORY Hall Mina	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	HB0184B, AM CSHB 184(CRA), introduced 05/16/2025, passed House 02/27/2026
HB 216	HOLLAND Josephson	An Act approving the transfer of land owned by the Alaska Railroad Corporation to the City of Whittier; and providing for an effective date. first hearing, teleconferenced • Senate COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS Apr 30, 2026 01:30pm BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)	Senate, Apr 30, 2026: (S) -- Invited & Public Testimony --	HB0216A, AM HB 216, introduced 05/02/2025, passed House 03/25/2026
HB 254	VANCE Coulombe	An Act relating to increases in property assessments.	House, Jan 23, 2026: (H) COSPONSOR(S): COULOMBE	HB0254A, AM HB 254, introduced 01/20/2026
HB 264	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	HB0264A, AM HB 264, introduced 01/23/2026
HB 280	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, Apr 21, 2026: (S) Heard & Held -- Please Note Time Change --	HB0280B, AM CSHB 280(FIN), introduced 03/27/2026, passed House 04/01/2026

HB 286	ELAM	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	HB0286A, AM HB 286, introduced 01/28/2026
HB 291	COULOMBE G.Nelson Bynum	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	HB0291A, AM HB 291, introduced 02/04/2026
SB 10	DUNBAR	An Act relating to family leave wage replacement coverage.	Senate, Jan 22, 2025: (S) Referred to LABOR & COMMERCE	SB0010A, AM SB 10, introduced 01/22/2025
SB 14	DUNBAR	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)	SB0014A, AM SB 14, introduced 01/22/2025
SB 50	DUNBAR Josephson	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	SB0050Z, AM Enrolled SB 50, introduced 05/16/2025
SB 55	STEDMAN Myers Shower	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	SB0055B, AM CSSB 55(L&C), introduced 03/26/2025
SB 79	SENATE LABOR & COMMERCE	An Act relating to wage payments.	House, May 18, 2025: (H) Referred to FINANCE	SB0079B, AM HCS SB 79(L&C), introduced 05/18/2025
SB 81	STEDMAN	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	SB0081B, AM CSSB 81(L&C), introduced 02/11/2026
SB 135	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	Senate, Apr 15, 2025: (S) Referred to FINANCE	SB0135B, AM CSSB 135(RES), introduced 04/15/2025

		providing for an effective date.		
SB 140	STEDMAN Tomaszewski Bynum	An Act relating to a matching grant program for fire station construction and renovation; and providing for an effective date.	House, Mar 20, 2026: (H) CROSS SPONSOR(S): BYNUM	SB0140B, AM CSSB 140(FIN) , introduced 02/18/2026 , passed Senate 03/04/2026
SB 191	GIESSEL	An Act approving the transfer of land owned by the Alaska Railroad Corporation to the City of Whittier; and providing for an effective date.	Senate, Mar 4, 2026: (S) Referred to RULES	SB0191A, AM SB 191 , introduced 05/09/2025
SB 213	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)	SB0213A, AM SB 213 , introduced 01/21/2026
SB 214	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. teleconferenced, previously heard • House FINANCE Apr 27, 2026 09:00am ADAMS 519	House, May 1, 2026: (H) -- Please Note Time Change --	SB0214B, AM CSSB 214(FIN) , introduced 04/16/2026 , passed Senate 04/21/2026
SB 227	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	Senate, Apr 8, 2026: (S) -- Testimony Invitation Only -- -- MEETING CANCELED --	SB0227B, AM CSSB 227(RES) , introduced 02/19/2026

		<p>maintenance surcharge on oil; establishing a pipeline corridor maintenance fund; and providing for an effective date.</p>		
<p>SB 259</p>	<p>BJORKMAN</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>teleconferenced, previously heard • Senate LABOR & COMMERCE</p> <p>Apr 27, 2026 01:30pm BELTZ 105 (TSBldg)</p>	<p>Senate, Apr 27, 2026: (S) -- Public Testimony Time Limit May Be Set --</p>	<p>SB0259B, AM CSSB 259(CRA), introduced 04/13/2026</p>

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