



House Speaker Bryce Edgmon's *Legislative Update*



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March 2nd, 2018

Public Testimony on Operating Budget On-Going in House Finance



The House Finance Committee began taking public testimony on HB 286—the Operating Budget—and HB 285—the Mental Health Budget—yesterday. We in the Alaska House Majority Coalition support an FY19 budget that upholds the quality of the services and programs the state provides for its citizens.

This spending plan is a slight increase over last year's but is still \$850 million less than the state's Operating Budget in FY15. The modest increments are designed to ensure our most important services remain effective and economically beneficial. For example, additional funding for the University of Alaska helps train Alaskans for good jobs, supports valuable research that benefits Alaskan businesses, and helps leverage more Outside grant money. Funding added for commercial fishing management projects allows ADF&G to maximize fishing opportunities, increasing economic activity in our coastal communities. More funding for state prosecuting attorneys helps the state in its fight against crime in our communities.

Public testimony will continue through tomorrow. For details on how to get your point of view to the Finance Committee, go to my [Facebook page](#).



At work in House Finance, L to R: Co-Chair Paul Seaton (R-Homer), Co-Chair Neal Foster (D-Nome), and Vice-Chair Les Gara (D-Anchorage) .

Dispatches from the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference Annual Summit

Speaker Edgmon joined municipal leaders from many regions of House District 37 this week at SWAMC's annual summit. Today, along with Sen. Lyman Hoffman (D-Bethel), Sen. Gary Stevens (R-Kodiak), and Rep. Louise Stutes (R-Kodiak), he participated on a panel discussing this session's major legislative issues. They touched on the state's fiscal woes and the budget, as well as concerns regarding the Marine Highway System, public safety and drug abuse in our communities, and important commercial fisheries issues.

The annual meeting featured many meaningful and informative presentations and discussions, including effective state and community-based initiatives to fight the opioid epidemic, exciting possibilities for increasing broadband communications in Southwest Alaska, and furthering economic development of commercial fisheries in the Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, and Bristol Bay.

See below for photos from the summit (with apologies for less than ideal picture quality).

Southwest Alaskans from Kodiak to Adak Convene in Anchorage



Speaker Edgmon addressing the summit during the panel discussion with, L to R, Sen. Gary Stevens (R-Kodiak), Sen. Lyman Hoffman (D-Bethel), and Rep. Louise Stutes (R-Kodiak).

Local Leaders United for Shared Community Interests



Rep. Edgmon with Ounalashka Corp Board Member Patty Lekanoff-Gregory.



Aleut Corporation Board Vice President Dick Jacobsen, left, of Sand Point, with King Cove Mayor Henry Mack.



Daily Schaack, left, Cold Bay's vice mayor, with Rep. Edgmon and Candace Schaack, right, Cold Bay's current mayor.



Former Aleutians East Borough Mayor (and current Aleut Corporation Board Member) Stanley Mack, left, with Unalaska City Council Member Dennis Robinson, center, and Rep. Edgmon.



Aleknagik Mayor Kay Andrews with Rep Edgmon at the summit.



Former Edgmon Office staffer Kristina Andrew, center, is at SWAMC in her capacity as Economic Development Coordinator for BBNA. Also pictured are partner Matthew and son Kevin.

On Deck Next Week...

MONDAY

(H)RESOURCES Standing Committee*
Mar 05 Monday 1:00 PM

Presentation: How do we use AK's rich resources to create jobs, promote health & healthy communities & keep our food traditions & cultures alive?

- Dr. Gary Ferguson
- Danny Consenstein
- Ken Meter

(H)FINANCE Standing Committee*

Mar 05 Monday 1:30 PM

HB 286 APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUNDS

HB 285 APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET

(S)JUDICIARY Standing Committee*

Mar 05 Monday 1:30 PM

Presentation: Village Public Safety Officer Program

- Victor Joseph, Chief, Tanana Chiefs Conference
- Richard Peterson, Chief, Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska

(H)LABOR & COMMERCE

Mar 05 Monday 3:15 PM

HB 309 REJECT OFFICERS COMP. COMMIS-

SION REPORT; HB 277 BROADBAND INTERNET: NEUTRALITY; HB 353 MARITAL & FAMILY THERAPY LIC. & SERVICES

TUESDAY

(H)COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS

Mar 06 Tuesday 8:00 AM

HCR 19 GOVERNOR: AK NATIVE LANGUAGES EMERGENCY

(H)ARCTIC POLICY, ECONOMIC DEV., & TOURISM

Mar 06 Tuesday 11:30 AM

HJR 33 DEVELOP ARCTIC INFRASTRUCTURE & DEFENSE; HB 383 TOURISM MARKETING:BOARD;ASSESSMENT;FUND

(H)HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Mar 06 Tuesday 3:00 PM

HB 351 JUVENILES: JUTICE, FACILITES, TREATMENT; HB 290 CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION: MEMBERSHIP; HB 268 OPIOID PRESCRIPTION INFORMATION

WEDNESDAY

(H)RESOURCES Standing Committee*

Mar 07 Wednesday 1:00 PM

Presentation: Economic Benefits of Public Lands in AK for Small Business Development; HB 272 TANGLE LAKES STATE GAME REFUGE

(S)RESOURCES

Mar 07 Wednesday 3:30 PM

Consideration of Governor's Appointees Big Game Commercial Services Board

- Mr. Adam Trombley

Regulatory Commission of Alaska:

- Commissioner Janis Wilson

SJR 13 URGING CO-MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR SEA OTTERS

THURSDAY

(H)FISHERIES

Mar 08 Thursday 10:00 AM

HB 354 DIVE FISHERY ASSESSMENTS TELECONFERENCED; HB 379 COMM FISHERMEN'S FUND:VESSEL OWNER CLAIMS Confirmation Hearings:

- Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission

- Fishermen's Fund Advisory and Appeals Council

(H)TRANSPORTATION

Mar 08 Thursday 1:15 PM

Presentation: Proposal of Committee Sponsored Bill Regarding AK Marine Highway/ Public Corp.

FRIDAY

(H)RESOURCES Standing Committee*

Mar 09 Friday 1:00 PM

HB 27 HIGH-RISK CHEMICALS FOR CHILD EXPOSURE

HB 330 DNR: DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL INFO

Keep in Contact

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