



House Speaker Bryce Edgmon's *Legislative Update*



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House Continues Lengthy Debate over Operating Budget



For four straight days (and counting) the House has been debating several dozen proposed amendments to the FY19 Operating Budget. By far the greater number of them were brought forward by the House Republican caucus, and a large percentage of them have targeted funding for programs and services that, in my opinion, have already been cut to the bone in recent years.

Amendments voted down have included efforts to cut funding for Village Public Safety Officers and discussions on taking funds from the Commercial Fishing Revolving Loan program. One Minority amendment that was drafted but not offered would have eliminated the Commercial Fishing Entry Commission.



We will continue to defend the budget that was finalized by the House Finance Committee following many weeks of work during the subcommittee process. This proposed budget includes more funding for State Troopers, prosecutors, and other public safety measures, such as substance abuse treatment. Additional funding of nearly \$1 million for ADF&G's Commercial Fisheries Division is aimed at management projects that increase fishing opportunities. An increment of \$19 million for the University of Alaska is a sound investment in the state's economic future, in that it goes toward educating and training Alaskans for good jobs and rewarding professions.

Next week I hope to have more information for you on the budget we pass to the Senate and the steps to follow as we enter the final weeks of the statutory 90-day session.

Speaker Edgmon on the House Floor conferring with fellow Bush Representatives Neal Foster (D-Nome), left, John Lincoln (D-Kotzebue), center, and Tiffany Zulkosky (D-Bethel), right.

On Deck Next Week...

Monday

(S)FINANCE

Mar 26 Monday 9:00 AM
SB 116 EDUCATION TAX CRED-
ITS;SUNSET;REPEALS; SB 198 UAA
LONG-ACTING CONTRACEPTION STUDY

(H)FINANCE

Mar 26 Monday 1:30 PM
HB 282 APPROP: CAPITAL BUDGET CON-
TINGENT ON TAX; HB 284 AP-
PROP: CAPITAL BUDGET; HB 268 OPIOID
PRESCRIPTION INFORMATION

(S)JUDICIARY

Mar 26 Monday 1:30 PM
SB 175 DNR: DISCLOSURE OF CONFI-
DENTIAL INFO; SB 202 NATIVE CORP.
LIABILITY FOR CONTAMINATION

(S)RESOURCES

Mar 26 Monday 3:30 PM
Consideration of Governor's Appointees
Board of Game:
- Mrs. Teresa Sager-Albaugh, Tok
- Mr. Larry Van Daele, Kodiak

Tuesday

(S)FINANCE

Mar 27 Tuesday 9:00 AM
+HB 286 APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/
LOANS/FUNDS
Invited Testimony:
David Teal, Legislative Finance Division
Public Testimony - Written Comments for
the Official Public Record Can be Sent to:
Finance.Committee@akleg.gov
9:30 - 10:30: Juneau
10:30 - 11:00: Barrow, Tok, Delta Junction
11:00 - 11:30: Kenai, Kodiak, Dillingham
11:30 - 12:00: Ketchikan, Wrangell, Pe-
tersburg

(S)FINANCE

Mar 27 Tuesday 1:30 PM
+HB 286 APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/
LOANS/FUNDS
Public Testimony -
1:30 - 2:30: Bethel, Nome, Unalaska
2:30 - 3:00: Sitka, Cordova, Valdez
3:00 - 3:45: Fairbanks, Mat-Su

(H)STATE AFFAIRS

Mar 27 Tuesday 3:15 PM
-Presentations:
AK Permanent Fund Governance
- Fiscal Plans Overview
- Overview of Permanent Fund Proposals

Wednesday

(S)FINANCE

Mar 28 Wednesday 1:30 PM
HB 286 APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/
LOANS/FUNDS TELECONFERENCED
Public Testimony
1:30 - 2:00: Glennallen, Seward, Homer
2:00 - 3:00: Statewide Offnets
3:00 - 4:00: Anchorage

Thursday

(H)TRANSPORTATION

Mar 29 Thursday 1:15 PM
Presentation: Rural Airports in AK

(H)FINANCE

Mar 29 Thursday 1:30 PM
HB 305 OIL/HAZARDOUS SUB.:CLEANUP/
REIMBURSEMENT; HB 322 OIL SPILLS/
POLLUTION:PENALTIES;PREVENTION; HB
216 TRANSFERS FROM DIVIDEND FUND;
CRIMES

Friday

(H)FINANCE

Mar 30 Friday 1:30 PM
HB 212 REAA & SMALL MUNI SCHOOL
DISTRICT FUND
HB 231 CFEC: BD. SALARY;STAFF CLASSI-
FIED SERVICE
HB 316 RESTRICT ACCESS MARIJUANA
CRIME RECORDS

Keep in Contact

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