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## **City of Unalaska Legislative Report** **3/27/22**

The House Finance Committee finalized its amendment process and passed the operating budget out. Expect it on the House Floor early next week, could be a long debate process- let's hope not.

Some noteworthy amendments that did pass are:

- An amendment from Rep. Johnson for \$495,000 to fund the settlements the Dunleavy administration agreed to for the API doctors who were fired passed 10-1.
- An amendment from Nikiski Republican Rep. Ben Carpenter to transfer \$250 million to the Constitutional Budget Reserve passed 6-5.
- An amendment from Anchorage Republican Rep. Sara Rasmussen to pay all the outstanding oil and gas tax credits, totaling around \$560 million, passed 7-4

Keep in mind, all these amendments can be reintroduced on the floor and the whole thing could change.

Senate finance subcommittees, meanwhile, are scheduled to start doing their operating budget closeouts next week.

The alcohol law rewrite, **SB 9**, is up for public testimony on Wednesday morning at 9 AM.. This may be the last chance to really influence this legislation if you are concerned about local control or population limits. The latter seems to be where there is most interest.

**SB 170**, Alaska Marine Highway Corporation Act bill, was heard twice last week and is up again in Senate Transportation on Tuesday and Thursday this week.

The House Labor and Commerce Committee moved **HB 363**, establishing a state broadband office, out of committee last week. It is now in the House Finance Committee. A state broadband office is a requirement for funding through the federal infrastructure bill and is a recommendation of the state broadband task force formed by the governor last year in Executive Order 322. The bill tasks the office with establishing procedures for grants, broadband serving mapping and standards for speed, latency, reliability, and ability to scale projects. Sources in the administration said the new office will be in the Dept. of Community, Commerce and Economic Development. There is a companion bill, SB 234 by the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee.

**SB 33**, Reestablishes a seafood facility investment tax credit. It would spur investment in new processing technologies to expand fisheries. A previously existing tax credit expired. Hearings on the bill have been scheduled and then canceled several times in House Finance. The bill appears hung up for reasons that are uncertain. It is scheduled again Tuesday, March 29.



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**HB 350**, which ends the moratorium on School Bond Debt Reimbursement, has moved out of House Education and is now in House Finance. This moratorium was put into place in 2015 and would end automatically in 2025, this would end it in late 2022.

### **Weekly Schedule**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Description</b>
Mon 3/28/22 1:30 PM	ADAMS 519 -HOUSE FINANCE += <b>HB 322 AK MARINE HWY SYSTEM VESSEL REPL. FUND</b> TELECONFERENCED += HB 246 ACCESS TO MARIJUANA CONVICTION RECORDS TELECONFERENCED + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled TELECONFERENCED
Tue 3/29/22 9:00 AM	ADAMS 519 -HOUSE FINANCE += <b>SB 33 SEAFOOD PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT TAX CREDIT</b> TELECONFERENCED + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled TELECONFERENCED
Tue 3/29/22 1:30 PM	BELTZ 105 (TSBldg) -SENATE TRANSPORTATION += <b>SB 170 MARINE HIGHWAY CORPORATION</b> TELECONFERENCED -- Public Testimony -- *+ HB 90 VEHICLE RENTALS & VEHICLE RENTAL NETWORKS TELECONFERENCED -- Invited & Public Testimony -- *+ SJR 21 URGE CANADA: ALLOW UNVACCINATED TRUCKERS TELECONFERENCED + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled TELECONFERENCED **Streamed live on AKL.tv**
Wed 3/30/22 1:30 PM	ADAMS 519 -HOUSE FINANCE += <b>HB 363 BROADBAND: OFFICE, GRANTS, PARITY</b> TELECONFERENCED += HB 60 PUBLIC SCHOOLS: MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION TELECONFERENCED + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled TELECONFERENCED
Thu 3/31/22 1:30 PM	BELTZ 105 (TSBldg) -SENATE TRANSPORTATION += <b>SB 170 MARINE HIGHWAY CORPORATION</b> TELECONFERENCED + Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled TELECONFERENCED **Streamed live on AKL.tv**

Here is the link to more information about the committee hearings, at this time of year it is good to check daily if you are watching a hearing as they change frequently.

<http://w3.legis.state.ak.us/index.php?tab2=type%3DAll%26com%3D%26startDate%3D03%2F27%2F2022%26endDate%3D04%2F04%2F2022%26chamber%3D#tab2>



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### Bills of Interest

Bill	Short Title	Prime Sponsors	Current Status	Status Date
<a href="#">HB 28</a>	Registration Of Boats: Exemption	HOUSE FISHER-IES	(S) FIN	2/23/22
<a href="#">HB 30</a>	Workers' Comp: Death; Perm Partial Impair	JOSEPHSON	(S) L&C	3/23/22
<a href="#">HB 55</a>	Peace Officer/firefighter Retire Benefits	JOSEPHSON	(S) L&C	1/18/22
<a href="#">HB 56</a>	Power Cost Equalization	FOSTER	(H) CRA	2/18/21
<a href="#">HB 64</a>	Fishery Development Assoc.; Assessments	STUTES	(H) RLS	3/2/22
<a href="#">HB 75</a>	Employer Contributions To Pers	RULES	(H) FIN	5/1/21
<a href="#">HB 88</a>	Equal Pay & Minimum Wage Act	TARR	(H) STA	2/18/21
<a href="#">HB 134</a>	Amhs Operation & Planning Board	RULES	(H) TRA	3/10/21
<a href="#">HB 135</a>	Geothermal Resources	RULES	(H) FIN	1/27/22
<a href="#">HB 225</a>	Municipal Property Tax Senior Exemption	GILLHAM	(H) CRA	1/18/22
<a href="#">HB 227</a>	Muni Energy Improvemnt Assessment Program	SCHRAGE	3RD RDG, 3/28 CAL(H)	3/22/22
<a href="#">HB 247</a>	Power Cost Equalization Fund	THOMPSON	(H) ENE	1/18/22
<a href="#">HB 322</a>	AK Marine Hwy System Vessel Repl. Fund	HOUSE TRANSPORTATION	(H) FIN	3/2/22
<a href="#">HB 350</a>	School Bond Debt Reimbursement	DRUMMOND	(H) AWAIT NEXT COM	3/24/22
<a href="#">HB 363</a>	Broadband: Office, Grants, Parity	EDGMON	(H) FIN	3/18/22
<a href="#">HB 370</a>	AK Energy And Broadband Authority	TUCK	(H) L&C	2/22/22
<a href="#">HB 371</a>	Broadband Cost Equalization Fund	TUCK	(H) L&C	2/22/22
<a href="#">HB 378</a>	Municipal Property Tax Assessments	EASTMAN	(H) CRA	2/22/22
<a href="#">HB 393</a>	Fishery Landing Tax Surcharge	MCCABE	(H) FSH	2/22/22
<a href="#">HB 395</a>	Funds: AK Marine Hwy System	RULES	(H) FIN	3/9/22
<a href="#">HJR 6</a>	Const. Am: Approp Limit; Budget Reserve	RULES	(H) W&M	3/24/21
<a href="#">SB 6</a>	Rip For Public Employees/teachers	KAWASAKI	(S) FIN	4/19/21



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<b>Bill</b>	<b>Short Title</b>	<b>Prime Sponsors</b>	<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Status Date</b>
<a href="#"><u>SB 9</u></a>	Alcoholic Beverage Control; Alcohol Reg	MICCICHE	(H) FIN	2/22/22
<a href="#"><u>SB 11</u></a>	Community Property Trusts	BEGICH	(H) RLS	3/14/22
<a href="#"><u>SB 15</u></a>	Open Meetings Act; Penalty	COSTELLO	(S) FIN	4/21/21
<a href="#"><u>SB 17</u></a>	Energy Efficiency & Policy: Pub. Bldgs	BEGICH	(S) FIN	5/3/21
<a href="#"><u>SB 33</u></a>	Seafood Product Development Tax Credit	STEVENS	(H) FIN	2/16/22
<a href="#"><u>SB 37</u></a>	Teachers & Pub Employee Retirement Plans	KIEHL	(S) L&C	1/25/21
<a href="#"><u>SB 41</u></a>	Health Insurance Info.; Incentive Program	HUGHES	(S) L&C	1/25/21
<a href="#"><u>SB 100</u></a>	State Income Tax	BEGICH	(S) STA	3/10/21
<a href="#"><u>SB 170</u></a>	Marine Highway Corporation	SENATE TRANSPORTATION	(S) TRA	1/21/22
<a href="#"><u>SB 172</u></a>	Property Tax Exemption	WIELECHOWSKI	(S) CRA	1/26/22
<a href="#"><u>SB 226</u></a>	Funds: AK Marine Hwy System	RULES	(S) TRA	3/9/22