

**From:** Senator George Rauscher sen.george.rauscher-akleg.gov@shared1.ccsend.com  
**Subject:** The latest news for you  
**Date:** March 27, 2026 at 6:40 PM  
**To:** d29@mtaonline.net



**Senator**

## **Rauscher's Report**

**Senate District O – Alaska at its Best!**



### **The 34th Alaska State Legislative Session March 2026 Update**

**Sutton/ Valdez / Chickaloon / Eureka / Greater Farm Loop / Fishhook/  
Sheep Mountain / Glacier View / Kings Lake / Anderson-Clear / Big Lake/  
Cantwell/ Denali Park / East Schrock / Healy / Houston / Knik Goose Bay  
No. 4 / Trapper Creek / Susitna / Talkeetna / Willow**

Today marks the 67th Day of the legislative session. Earlier this week, the House and Senate voted on the supplemental budget that came out of the conference committee. The committee, composed of three House members and three Senate members, added all items back in from the original supplemental resulting in a total appropriation of \$449 million and CBR language providing \$20 million headroom. The Senate passed the supplemental 19-1 and the CBR language on a vote of 16-4, while the House passed the supplemental 40-0 and the CBR language 22-18. It has now been transmitted to the Governor and is due back April 14th. Also on the floor was SB 64 the Elections bill which passed the House 23-16 with 1 Excused and the Senate 16-4.

On the floor this week, HB 194, relating to an oil royalty contract with Marathon Petroleum, was before the Senate for a floor vote. When the bill came up, an amendment was offered to establish a new tax structure for certain privately held oil and gas companies and applying to S corps, LLCs, sole proprietorships, and partnerships. The amendment passed however, the effective date clause failed. I voted no on the amendment. A notice of reconsideration was given, so the bill will be on the Senate Floor again. If the bill passes the Senate, it will proceed to the House with a revised title, transforming the initial intent of the bill from a contract intended to provide a stable revenue stream into a tax bill targeting certain privately held oil and gas companies.

## **Senate Transportation**

Senate Transportation heard an update on the Alaska Marine Highway System where they discussed their operating budget and their four focus areas which are to provide safe and reliable service for communities, building and supporting a reliable workforce, modernizing their fleet/terminal assets/management system to promote resiliency and standardization and promoting financial efficiency and sustainability. We also heard an update from DOT on how they manage and collect Alaska's Transportation Assets including its pavement analysis practices which are critical for determining when roads repairs will need to occur. We also heard HB 26 which would create a statewide public & community transit plan and SB 239 regarding motor vehicle registration which would allow vehicles that are at least 25 years old and legally imported into the U.S. to be registered in Alaska without having to meet the current federal motor vehicle safety standards and would prevent the state from denying or revoking their title for that reason. Both bills were moved out of committee.

Read the presentations here:

[get\\_documents.asp](#)  
[get\\_documents.asp](#)

Read HB 26 here:

[HB0026E](#)

Read SB 239 here:

[SB0239A](#)

## **Senate Resources**

Senate Resources has been hearing multiple bills. We heard SB 200 Farm Tax Assessment which would tax farmland based on agricultural use rather than actual property value. SB 224 the Governor's state land sales bill was also heard which would allow the sale and lease of state land. The governor's SB 280 was heard today which would change the oil and gas property tax structure to payment of an alternative tax based on throughput volume for the AKLNG Project.

Read the bills here:

[SB0200C](#)  
[SB0224A](#)  
[SB0280A](#)

## **My Bills**

SB 230 Jonesville PUA was moved out of the Senate Resources Committee earlier this week and is now in Senate Rules. Once it passes the Senate, it will head over to the House where it has a House Community & Regional Affairs Committee referral and a House Resources Committee referral.

Read the bill here:

[SB0230B](#)

SB 228 Opioid Awareness Program had its first hearing last week in Senate Education. My office has been working with the committee Chair to hopefully pass it out of committee.

Read the bill here:

[SB0228A](#)

I will be speaking at a townhall next week on **Saturday, April 4th from 12-2 pm at the Mat-Su LIO in Wasilla**. If you have any questions or comments and want to know what's happening in Juneau, please come join me. I want to hear what's important to you.

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As always, my door is always open if you have any questions, concerns, or comments. If you want to set up a meeting, please contact my office at 907-465-4859 or send me an email to [sen.george.rauscher@akleg.gov](mailto:sen.george.rauscher@akleg.gov) .

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