

Alaska State Legislature

Office of Senator Löki Gale Tobin

Legislative Update

By the time you read this, the House is expected to have completed its work on the Operating Budget (*HB 39*) and the Mental Health Budget (*HB 41*). In the coming weeks, expect the Senate Finance Budget Subcommittees to wrap up their work. With recent news about Saudi Arabia reducing its oil production and several revenue bills being introduced in recent weeks (*e.g SB 107*, *SB 114* and *SB 122*), there is a lot of energy I am seeing around the *Capitol* for tackling the state's structural deficit in a real and lasting way.

To follow along, watch Live Floor Sessions and Finance Committee hearings at AKL.tv.

In an exciting news, my first bill designating March as Brain Injury Awareness Month (SB 46) unanimously passed the Senate last Friday. On Friday, I also had the great fortunate of presenting my first collaborative bill (SJR6/HJR4) with Representative Mina at a special performance at the Atwood Concert Hall, celebrating the music and dance of Korea.

Bills to Track

- *SB 52* increases the Base Student Allocation by \$1,000 in FY24, \$348 in FY25, and inflation based on the consumer price index in FY26.
- *SB 100* a bill to remove low-level marijuana convictions from CourtView
- *SB 101* which establishes a renewable standard portfolio for rail belt utilities
- *SB 109* permits employees to leave "captive audience" meetings, often used as a union prevention tactic by employers

Team Tobin Stats

This past week, we had 17 in-person constituent meetings, 8 committee hearings, consumed 16 pots of coffee, and recorded 2 podcasts (Click here to go listen to the podcast).

