



# Alaska State Legislature

## Representative Matt Claman

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*Serving the Sand Lake, Spenard, and Turnagain Communities*

## April 2022 Community Council Update

**Constituent Survey Results** — Thank you to everyone who completed this year's constituent survey. We have compiled the information and analyzed the results. You can see the comprehensive survey results here: [www.repmattclaman.com](http://www.repmattclaman.com). Here are some of the highlights:

- 72% of West Anchorage constituents gave the Governor's FY2022 budget proposal a failing grade (D or F).
- 72% support using Permanent Fund earnings to help pay for essential services.
- 82% believe we should not pay a statutory dividend and 75% chose increasing the dividend payment as their last choice for using any new revenue.
- 82% of West Anchorage constituents believe Alaska should continue to fully support Medicaid expansion.

**Remembering Don Young & Special Election** — In April we lost a tireless champion for Alaska. Representative Don Young spiritedly served our state for 49 years. Alaskans continue to reflect on his record of public service and the impact of his advocacy. [Click here](#) to read a series of condolences and remembrances from colleagues, friends, Alaskans, and others.

The Division of Elections and governor announced a few updates related to the passing of Don Young and subsequent vacancy in his seat as Alaska's Representative in the United States Congress. Here's what we know so far:

- **Candidates have filed.** View candidate list [here](#).
- **A special primary election will be held on Saturday, June 11, 2022.** Ballots for this election will be mailed automatically to all registered voters at least 30 days before the election. On this ballot, **voters will choose one candidate and the top four will proceed** to the August 16 special election. Read more about the decision to make the special primary a mail-in election [here](#).
- **A special election will be held on Tuesday, August 16, 2022.** This election will occur on the same ballot as the regular primary election. This election will be the first to use the ranked-choice voting system that was approved by voters in 2020 via [Ballot Measure 2](#). The winner of the special election will then represent Alaska in the U.S. House of Representatives until the winner of the November general election is sworn in.

Stay tuned for more updates about the special election, ranked choice voting, and voter registration ahead of the 2022 statewide election.

**Operating Budget** — Our focus remains on the budget. Last month, House Finance Subcommittees finished their work and forwarded their recommendations to the full House Finance Committee for further review. The House Finance committee worked on the budget before approving a bill for consideration by the full House. After the House approves the budget, including any amendments that may be added on the floor, the bill will go to the Senate for its consideration.