

Session:
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801
(907) 465-6944

**Alaska State Senate
Senator Forrest Dunbar**



Interim:
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Session 2024 April Community Council Update

Legislative Updates

SCR 9: MENTAL HEALTH/SUBSTANCE ASSISTANCE PARITY passed the Senate. This resolution urges the state to adopt behavioral health parity standards, ensuring behavioral health treatment has the same access and coverage as physical health treatments.

Four pieces of my legislation are waiting to be brought to the House Floor for a final vote:

SJR 13: AMEND NATIVE CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT expresses the legislature's support for federal legislation seeking to return lands to Alaska Native communities.

SB 159: ALASKA VETERANS' POPPY DAY designates the Friday before Memorial Day as "Alaska Veterans' Poppy Day." Red poppies would be worn in gratitude for the sacrifices of those who served in wars.

SB 77: MUNI PROP TAX EXEMPTION/TAX BLIGHTED PROP updates municipal property tax laws, including provisions for designating blighted properties and tax incentives for redevelopment.

SB 103: PEER SUPPORT COUNSELING PROGRAM establishes confidential counseling programs to provide emotional and moral support to first responder personnel who have experienced traumatic incidents in the line of duty.

Two pieces of legislation are waiting for a hearing on the Senate floor:

SB 56: AK PERFORMANCE SCHOLARSHIP; ELIGIBILITY updates the current Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS), increasing access to postsecondary education in Alaska.

SB 166: MENTAL HEALTH/PSYCHADELIC MED. TASK FORCE prepares Alaska for the potential medicalization of psychedelic medicines at the federal level.

Need help with Taxes?

United Way of Anchorage offers free tax preparation help through April 15th. Call 2-1-1 or 1-800-478-2221 to make an appointment. For more information, visit the United Way of Anchorage website.

PFD Assistance

The PFD deadline has passed, but if you need assistance with your application, give our office a call at 907-465-6944.

<https://tinyurl.com/SenDunbar-Newsletter>

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE REPRESENTATIVE STANLEY WRIGHT

Rep.Stanley.Wright@AKLeg.GOV

Committees:

Vice Chair [House State Affairs](#)

Chair [House Military & Veterans' Affairs](#)

Member [House Resources](#)

Member [House Labor & Commerce](#)

Member [House Joint Armed Services Committee](#)

Member [House Energy](#)



Juneau, Alaska 99801 (Jan. -April)
State Capitol, Room 412
907.465.2095

Legislative Update from the Office of Representative Stanley Wright

Dear Community Council Members,

I regretfully couldn't attend tonight's meeting due to ongoing deliberations on the state budget on the House Floor. However, I wanted to provide you with an update on the status of important legislation that I've been working on:

- HB 28 – Marijuana Record Concealment: Awaiting its 2nd hearing in Senate Judiciary.
- HB 57 – EMS Quality Assurance Program: Passed the House and now awaiting in Senate Rules to be heard on the Floor.
- HB 126 – Associate Counselor Designation: Passed the House and is awaiting its first hearing in Senate Finance.
- HB 137 & 138 – PT & Audiologists/Speech Pathologists Compact: Awaiting hearings in House Finance
- HB 145 – Payday Loans Regulation: Awaiting its 2nd Hearing in House Finance.
- HB 157 – Juneteenth Day: Awaiting Hearing in House Finance
- HB 161 – Alaska Legal Services Funding: Awaiting Hearing in House Finance
- HB 179 – Employee Rights/Speech: Awaiting its 2nd Hearing in House Labor & Commerce and is set to be a ballot initiative in this November's Election.
- HB 253 – Refrigerants Transition: Awaiting 1st hearing in Senate Labor & Commerce.
- HB 291 – ANCSA Reporting Requirements: Awaiting first hearing in House Finance.
- HB 292 – AHFC Building Purchase: Awaiting first hearing in House Finance.

Please feel free to contact my office at 907-465-2095 or via email at rep.stanleywright@akleg.gov if you have any questions or would like to discuss anything further. Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stanley Wright".

Representative Stanley Wright