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Good afternoon,

It's day eleven as the 34th Alaska State Legislature settles into its routine. Budgets and department overviews have started. And this week, Governor Dunleavy gave his State of the State address.

Senate Finance Committee has heard the following presentations: Office of Management and Budget on the Governor's proposed FY 26 Operating budget and our Division of Finance on the same topic. If the Legislature approved the Governor's proposed budget today, the state would be \$1.5 billion in the red, the constitutional budget reserve account would be emptied, programs would have to be cut or eliminated. And it remains to be seen if the Governor plans on introducing any new revenue bills. The finance committees have their work cut out for them this session!

On Wednesday, the Governor drew the winners for the 2025 PFD Education Raffle. This year, the top winner won more than \$80,000. The program continues to grow as more Alaskans opt to purchase a raffle when they file for their PFD. Only Alaskans can participate. It costs \$100 per raffle (taken from your PFD). Funds raised are split between the Education Endowment funds and the raffle. Four winners are drawn every January.

RAHI 2025 –

Applications are now open for 2025 UAF - Rural Alaska Honors Institute. RAHI is a competitive college preparation program at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. The program will run from May 27 to July 11th, applications are due by Saturday March 1.

Alaska Native and Rural Alaska students with at least a 3.0 GPA following the completion of their junior and senior year of high school are eligible. The program aims to help students thrive academically by exposing them to life on campus and help them develop a statewide community of peers and mentors.

Approximately 50 students will live on UAF's Troth Yeddha' Campus in Fairbanks. They will earn an average of nine college credits in courses that cover a wide array of subjects. Students will spend weekends volunteering for local organizations and exploring the outdoors in Interior Alaska. The entire experience is offered at no cost to students, includes room and board and travel to and from Fairbanks.

RAHI is in its 43rd year and has seen 1,948 participants from 232 communities. Participants have gone on to earn 1,461 credentials, ranging from occupational endorsements to doctorates. Most are putting their education to work in Alaska.

Additional information and application forms can be found [HERE](#)
Point of Contact: Brianna Pauling, 907-474-6886, bpaulin1@alaska.edu

February 1st is National Unclaimed Property Day.
Look yourself up on the Department of Revenue.
<https://unclaimedproperty.alaska.gov/>

2025 PFD Deadline to apply is March 31, 2025

<https://mypfd.alaska.gov/>