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**For Immediate Release: February 21, 2025**

Good afternoon,

It is day thirty-two and we are one-fourth of the way through this session. This week, the Senate Finance Committee received the following presentations from: the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA), from the department of law regarding Cases, Judgments and Settlements, budget overview from the University, and the issues and concerns from the Alaska Municipal League on behalf of Alaska’s cities. In addition, the committee held its first hearing on SB 72: Railroad Corp, Financing, which authorizes the company to issue revenue bonds to build a tourist passenger dock in Seward.

This week, the Legislature met in a joint session to hear the first address to us from US Representative Nick Begich. Numerous Representatives and Senators requested information on the federal firings of staff and on the frozen federal funds for programs. I don’t believe any questions received a clear answer.

Next week, the Senate Finance committee will be accepting public testimony on the FY 26 Operating, Capital, Mental Health and FY25 Supplemental budgets. See schedule below for dates and times to testify for our region.

**Public Testimony: Budgets**

Please go to your local Legislative Information office (Bethel & Dillingham).

Off net sites can call into **1-844-586-9085**

**Thursday, February 27, 2025** – Bethel, Unalaska, Dillingham, Offnets  
9:00-11:00 (sign up to testify by 10:15)

**PFD Deadline to apply**

**Is March 31, 2025**

**[CLICK HERE](#)**

**Left: Tom Bell, Unalaska Mayor Tutitakoff & City Manager Bill Homka**

**Middle: City of Bethel—Mark Springer, Rose Henderson, Lori Strickler, Pam Conrad**

**Right: Aleutian East Borough Mayor Alvin Osterback & City Admin. Anne Bailey with Mark Hickey**

