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For Immediate Release:

Good afternoon,

Today is the one hundredth and ninth Legislative Day. We have less than two weeks left before final adjournment. This week, the Senate Finance Committee has been hearing SB 217: Integrated Transmission Systems and this afternoon will be the first hearing on HB 66: Controlled Substance: Homicide: Crimes: Sentencing (the omnibus crime bill).

This week, the Senate heard over 20 amendments (from the Minority) to HB 268: FY 25 Operating budget. No amendments received approval. The Senate passed its version of the operating budget. The bill goes back to the House for concurrence. There are several differences between the House and the Senate version. The bill most likely will not receive a concurrence vote and will be assigned to a Conference Committee. Once that happens, the Legislature moves into the 24-hour rule, meaning bills can be noticed, heard, and moved in one day.

Other bills the Senate approved this week are SB 134: Insurance: Data Security: Info Security Programs; SB 182: Extend Big Game Commission Services Board; SB 234: Extend Marijuana Control Board; SB 236: Grants to Disaster Victims; SB 131: Asian American/Pacific Islander Program; SB 174: Honor & Remember/Honor & Sacrifice: Flags; HJR 10: National Park Service: Hunting in Preserves and HCR 15: Mental Health Month: Tardive Dysk Week.

The House Finance Committee presented their first version of SB 187: FY25 Capital Budget. Once they have finished with their amendments, I will report on the final version and what projects are coming to Senate District S.

Spring has come to Alaska – enjoy everyone!

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Senator Hoffman speaking on SB 113 REAA Fund: Mt. Edgecumbe Teacher Housing. The bill equalizes construction and maintenance funding opportunities for Mt. Edgecumbe and allows for major maintenance grants for rural teacher housing



Senators Stedman , Hoffman, and Wielechowski have a conversation on the Senate Floor about the adoption of the committee substitute for SCS CSHB 268—Operating budget