



# Lyman F. Hoffman

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**For Immediate Release: February 20th, 2026**

*Good morning,*

*Today is day thirty-two of this session. This week, the Senate Finance Committee received the following presentations, Order of Operations by the Department of Revenue, a presentation from the Alaska Retirement Management Board, a presentation on the 2025 Statewide Salary Report from the Department of Administration, the Governor's budget amendments from the Office of Management and Budget.*

*In addition, the Senate Finance Committee heard the following bills, SJR2: Constitutional Amendment, Votes Needed for Veto Override, SB 104: Vehicles/Boats; Transfer on Death Title, SB 21: Alaska Work & Save Program; Retire, Savings Board, SB 211: Extend Occupational Licensing Boards. These bills were heard and held in committee. The committee moved SB 140: Fire Station Grant Program. This bill moves to the Senate Rules Committee for consideration to be calendared before the Senate.*

*The Senate approved SB 146: REAA Fund; Mt. Edgecumbe and Teacher Housing. This bill has been transferred to the House for their consideration.*

*This week, the Legislature met in a joint session to hear the annual address from US Senator Dan Sullivan.*

*Everyone have a fun and safe weekend!*

## **Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP)**

The Alaska Department of Health announced that the first letter of interest (LOI) registration period for Alaska's Rural Health Transformation Program is now open. The LOI gives organizations a chance to briefly describe their ideas for improving rural health care in Alaska. Organizations may submit an LOI through March 11, 2026.

The first year of the program, Alaska is awarded **\$272,174,856** pending approval of the revised budget. The program aims to invest in improvement of access of care, strengthen the health care workforce, modernize care delivery systems, and promote long term sustainability across Alaska's health system.

Organizations must begin by registering and submitting a Letter of Interest through Alaska Community Foundation's online portal: <https://www.grantinterface.com/Opportunity/Catalog?urlkey=alaska>

Funding awards are expected to begin in Spring 2026, following review and approval processes.

For Program questions, please contact [RHTP@alaska.gov](mailto:RHTP@alaska.gov)

Applicants are encouraged to sign up for RHTP updates to receive information about webinars, timelines, and program guidance. <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/AKDHSS/signup/48430>



Senators Hoffman, Stedman, Olson, Cronk visited Mt. Edgecumbe in Sitka to access the condition of the school

**Apply for your 2026 Permanent Fund Dividend.**

**Deadline to apply is March 31st, 2026.**

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