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Greetings,

Today is the eleventh day of the second session of the 34th Alaska State Legislature. This week, the Senate Finance Committee heard an overview from the Governor's Office of Management and Budget and our Legislative Finance Division regarding the FY 27 Operating, Capital, Mental Health, and Supplemental budget requests. In addition, we also had an overview of the Governor's vetoes on the FY26 budgets. As presented, the Governor's budgets do not balance. The Legislature has a lot of work to do!

This week, the Legislature received an overview from University of Alaska Anchorage – Institute of Social and Economic Research (UAA/ISER) on Alaska's Fiscal Options. The State faces persistent budget challenges, resulting from declining oil prices and production. ISER researchers evaluated 11 primary fiscal options and 3 variations. These include changes to state spending, broad taxes, and business taxes. Any option implemented will have impacts on Alaska's economy and people both in the short and long run. Failing to address fiscal challenges creates uncertainty.

Next week, the Senate Finance Committee, on Monday, will be hearing an overview on the Alaska Marine Highway. On Thursday, the committee will receive a presentation on Savings, Reserves, and Investment funds by the Department of Revenue.

Alaska Innovation Summit – Pitch Contest Applications

Alaska Airlines Pitch Contest brings aspiring entrepreneurs who pitch their business venture to a panel of experts and Innovation Summit attendees

Pitch contestants will have 5-6 minutes to “pitch” their business plan in front of attendees who will crowdfund a cash prize for the winner to take home at the end of the session.

Contestants will have access to materials and resources on how to make a pitch as well the opportunity to be coached by a seasoned entrepreneur.

Application deadline: February 1st 2026

Apply Here: <https://www.jedc.org/innovation/pitch-contest/>

Alaska Energy Authority – Renewable Energy - Village Energy Efficiency Program: Round 3 Request for Application

Applications for the 3rd round are now open. The program is designed to help rural Alaska communities reduce energy consumption and costs. Eligible entities may apply for grants supporting building scale renewable energy, energy efficiency, and conservation projects in public buildings and facilities across rural Alaska.

For full program details and application materials, please visit the [RE-VEEP Program Page](#). Questions may be directed to (907) 771-3000 or grants@akenergyauthority.org.

Apply for your 2026 Permanent Fund Dividend.

Deadline to apply is March 31st, 2026.

[Click Here](#)