



Alaska CHARR Update: February 17

Bills of Interest Introduced this Week

HB 75/SB 70 – OWNER & CONTRACTOR CONTROLLED INSURANCE

2/15/23 – Introduced; referred to the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee, by the Governor

HB 75 & SB 70 amends AS 21.36.475(b) by allowing “INSURANCE POLICIES ENDORSED TO NAME ONE OR MORE PERSONS AS ADDITIONAL INSURED” to be an owner or contractor-controlled insurance program. This is currently not allowed.

SENATE LABOR & COMMERCE

Feb 20 Monday 1:30 PM

SB 70 – OWNER & CONTRACTOR CONTROLLED INSURANCE

-- Invited and Public Testimony --

Committee Meetings Next Week

House Labor and Commerce

Feb 20 Monday 3:15 PM

HB 75 - OWNER & CONTRACTOR CONTROLLED INSURANCE

Feb 22 Wednesday 3:15 PM

Consideration of Governor’s Appointees: Alaska Workers' Compensation Board - Steven Heidemann and Marc Stemp; Real Estate Commission- Devon Thomas Durand

Feb 24 Friday 3:15 PM

HB 73 – DCCED LICENSING INVESTIGATIONS

Senate Labor and Commerce

Feb 20 Monday 1:30 PM

80th Percentile Presentation from Lori Wing-Heier Director, Division of Insurance
SB 70 – OWNER & CONTRACTOR CONTROLLED INSURANCE -- Invited and Public
Testimony --
SB 55 – EXTEND STATE MEDICAL BOARD

Feb 22 Wednesday 1:30 PM

Workforce Challenges from the Oil and Gas, Resource Development and Tourism
Industry Perspective

Feb 24 Friday 1:30 PM

Workforce Challenges in Alaska Presenters to be announced

House Judiciary

Feb 20 Monday 1:30 PM

Presentation: Adverse Childhood Experiences by Alaska Children's Trust

Feb 22 Wednesday 1:00 PM

Overview: Department of Public Safety Operations

Feb 24 Friday 1:30 PM

Overview: Department of Law Criminal Division

Senate Judiciary

Feb 20 Monday 1:30 PM

Bills Previously Heard/Scheduled

Feb 22 Wednesday 1:30 PM BUTROVICH 205

Consideration of Governor's Appointees: Alaska Police Standards Council Bryan Barlow –
Anchorage -- Invited & Public Testimony --
Presentation: Proposal for Alaska-specific Police Policy Manual

Feb 24 Friday 1:30 PM

No Meeting Scheduled

Other Happenings & Hearings of Interest

Representative Peltola comes to Juneau

US Representative Mary Peltola gave an address to the legislature during a joint session today. She highlighted her pride in Alaska's tradition of bipartisanship and collaboration to do what is best for Alaska and Alaskans. Her speech focused on the need to focus on the future and making investments in Alaskan families, jobs and infrastructure.

Representative Peltola called lawmakers to action by asking them to quickly pass a resolution supporting the permitting of the Willow project on the North Slope. She highlighted her efforts to educate other legislators and the administration on the importance of project to Alaska.

The survival of Alaskan fisheries was also a highlight of the representative's speech. She remains committed to ensuring that Federal oversight and resources are committed to combating bycatch waste and fishery mismanagement.

Bills of Interest in Committee

Today was the first hearing for HB 63: REPEAL WORKERS' COMP APPEALS COMMISSION. The House Labor & Commerce committee heard from the bill's sponsor, Representative George Rauscher (R), Sutton. Rep Rauscher thinks that HB 63 will make

the workers compensation appeals process more efficient by giving the authority of workers comp appeals back to the Superior Court. During the presentation Rep Rauscher also pointed out that there was about a 10% increase in the number of appeals that were taken up to the Alaska Supreme Court since the inception of the Workers Compensation Appeals Commission in 2005.

The Court System also provided some information on how the department would absorb the work if the bill was to pass. During their testimony the Court System explained that these kinds of cases are among the most difficult that a Superior Court Judge would have to handle. Workers' compensation appeals are highly technical and time consuming which was the reasoning for the creation of the commission. So even though the court does not believe that there would be additional costs, there would be a trade off in regard to time because a judge would spend time on a worker's compensation appeal instead of working on another case.

Upcoming Fly-ins and Conferences

Alaska Primary Care Association Fly-in: Feb Feb 21st – Feb 23rd

Anchorage Chamber of Commerce Fly-in: Feb Feb 22nd – Feb 23rd

Alaska Municipal League/Conference of Mayors Fly-in: Feb Feb 22nd – Feb 24th

**More on CHARR Government
Affairs**

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