

Newly Elected Officials

Reviewing the Fundamentals of Elected Office:

Lobbying Effectively



Alaska Municipal League

December 2022

Jordan Marshall

AML Lobbyist

Lobbying Effectively: **LOBBYING**

- Definition: “**Influencing legislative or administrative action**” means to communicate directly for the purpose of introducing, promoting, advocating, supporting, modifying, opposing or delaying any legislative or administrative action.
- Definition: “**Communicating directly**” means to speak with a legislator, legislative employee, or public official.
- Lobbying is part of your job
- You are allowed to lobby



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Lobbying Effectively: LOBBYING

- Local Government Legislative Priorities / Resolutions
- AML can help

Sec. 24.45.161. Exemptions.

(a) This chapter does not apply to

(1) an individual

(A) who lobbies without payment of compensation or other consideration and makes no disbursement or expenditure for or on behalf of a public official to influence legislative or administrative action other than to pay the individual's reasonable personal travel and living expenses; and

(B) who limits lobbying activities to appearances before public sessions of the legislature, or its committees or subcommittees, or to public hearings or other public proceedings of state agencies;

(2) an elected or appointed state or municipal public officer or an employee of the state or a municipality acting in an official capacity or within the scope of employment;



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December 2022

Lobbying Effectively: LOBBYING

- Lobbyists are regulated by Alaska Public Offices Commission (APOC)
- Questions:
 - Call Juneau Office 907-465-4864
 - <https://doa.alaska.gov/apoc/>



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December 2022

Lobbying Effectively: RESOURCES

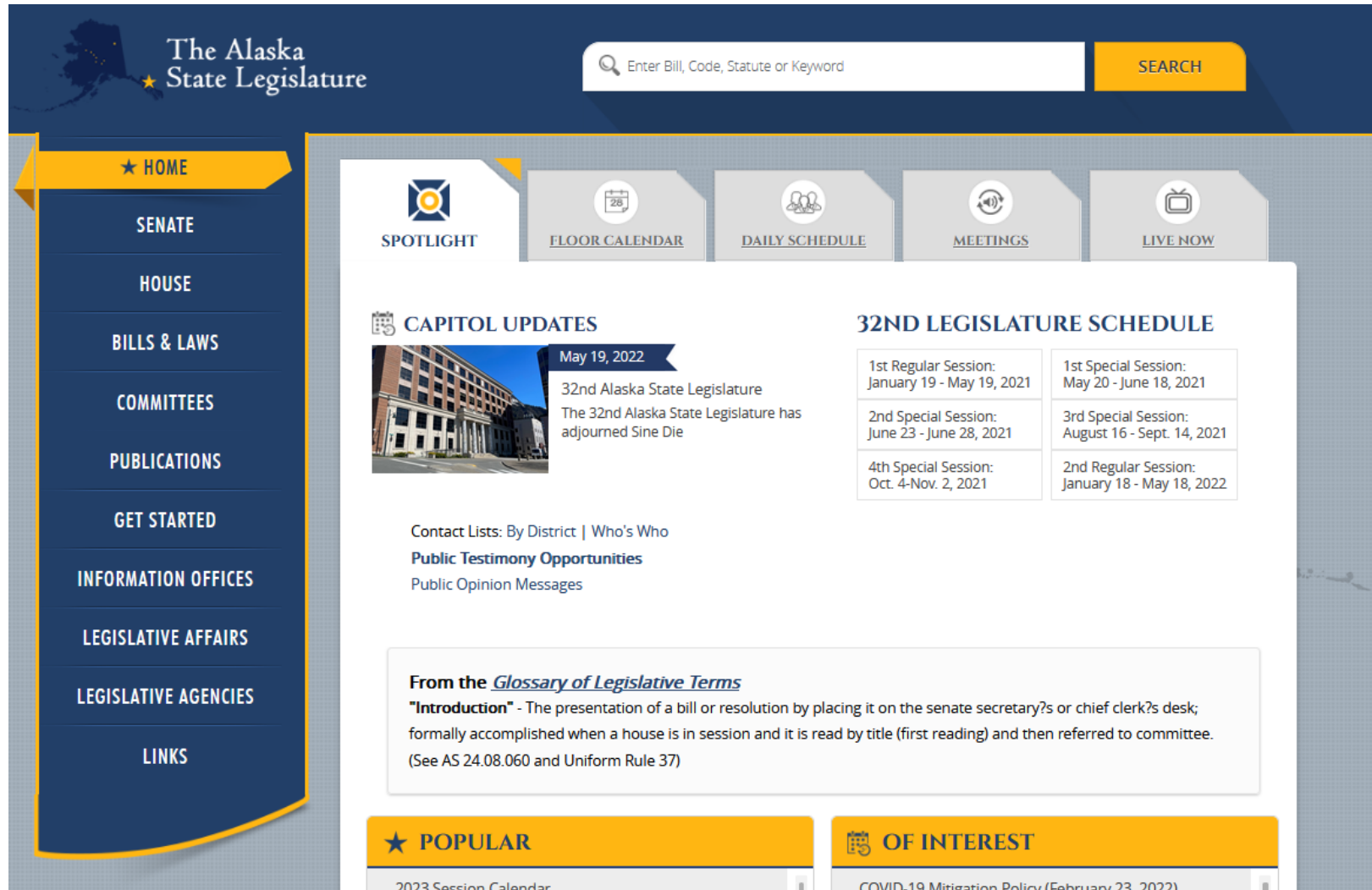
- AML: legislative tracker, weekly calendar, website
- The Alaska State Legislative Website: BASIS
(Bill Action and Status Information System) www.akleg.gov
- Office of Management & Budget
- Legislative Finance Division
- Community & Regional Affairs (DCRA)
- Publications:
 - Alaska Legislative Directory
 - Directory of State Officials
 - A Layman's Guide to the Budget Process
 - The Legislative Process in Alaska
 - Steps in Passage of a Bill



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December 2022

Lobbying Effectively: RESOURCES



The screenshot displays the official website of the Alaska State Legislature. The header features the state's name and a search bar. A left-hand navigation menu lists various sections, with 'HOME' highlighted. The main content area includes a 'SPOTLIGHT' section with a calendar icon, a 'FLOOR CALENDAR' with a calendar icon, a 'DAILY SCHEDULE' with a group of people icon, 'MEETINGS' with a speaker icon, and 'LIVE NOW' with a TV icon. Below these, the 'CAPITOL UPDATES' section features a photo of the capitol building and a date banner for May 19, 2022, announcing the adjournment of the 32nd Alaska State Legislature. To the right, the '32ND LEGISLATURE SCHEDULE' is presented in a table format. At the bottom, there are two sections: 'POPULAR' featuring the 2023 Session Calendar and 'OF INTEREST' featuring the COVID-19 Mitigation Policy.

The Alaska State Legislature

Enter Bill, Code, Statute or Keyword SEARCH

★ HOME

SENATE

HOUSE

BILLS & LAWS

COMMITTEES

PUBLICATIONS

GET STARTED

INFORMATION OFFICES

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

LEGISLATIVE AGENCIES

LINKS

SPOTLIGHT

FLOOR CALENDAR

DAILY SCHEDULE

MEETINGS

LIVE NOW

CAPITOL UPDATES

May 19, 2022

32nd Alaska State Legislature
The 32nd Alaska State Legislature has adjourned Sine Die

32ND LEGISLATURE SCHEDULE

1st Regular Session: January 19 - May 19, 2021	1st Special Session: May 20 - June 18, 2021
2nd Special Session: June 23 - June 28, 2021	3rd Special Session: August 16 - Sept. 14, 2021
4th Special Session: Oct. 4-Nov. 2, 2021	2nd Regular Session: January 18 - May 18, 2022

Contact Lists: By District | Who's Who

Public Testimony Opportunities

Public Opinion Messages

From the [Glossary of Legislative Terms](#)

"Introduction" - The presentation of a bill or resolution by placing it on the senate secretary's or chief clerk's desk; formally accomplished when a house is in session and it is read by title (first reading) and then referred to committee. (See AS 24.08.060 and Uniform Rule 37)

★ POPULAR

2023 Session Calendar

OF INTEREST


COVID-19 Mitigation Policy (February 23, 2022)

Lobbying Effectively: RESOURCES

Student Art in the Capitol

Welcome to
The Alaska State Legislature

This web site is the place to [track bills](#), [locate](#) and contact your legislators , and access [committee information](#).
Questions? Try our [help wizard](#) or call 907-465-4648.



[Live Meetings](#)

- No live meetings.

SMS Bill Tracking! Text a bill number (ex: HB1) to 559-245-2529 to enroll in text alerts. You will receive an enrollment confirmation and instructions on how to stop receiving the alerts.

WHO REPRESENTS ME?

Enter Your Full Address here

FIND

Mobile Apps

Available on the iPhone
App Store

ANDROID APP ON
Google play

QUICK LINKS

- [Infobases](#)
- [Legislative Information Offices](#)
- [Districts](#)
- [Legislative Affairs Agency](#)
- [FAQ](#)
- [Public Opinion Messages](#)

LEGISLATIVE LINKS

- [Finance](#)
- [Ethics](#)
- [100 Years Centennial](#)
- [Audit](#)
- [LB&A](#)
- [Office of Victims' Rights](#)
- [Ombudsman](#)

SENATE

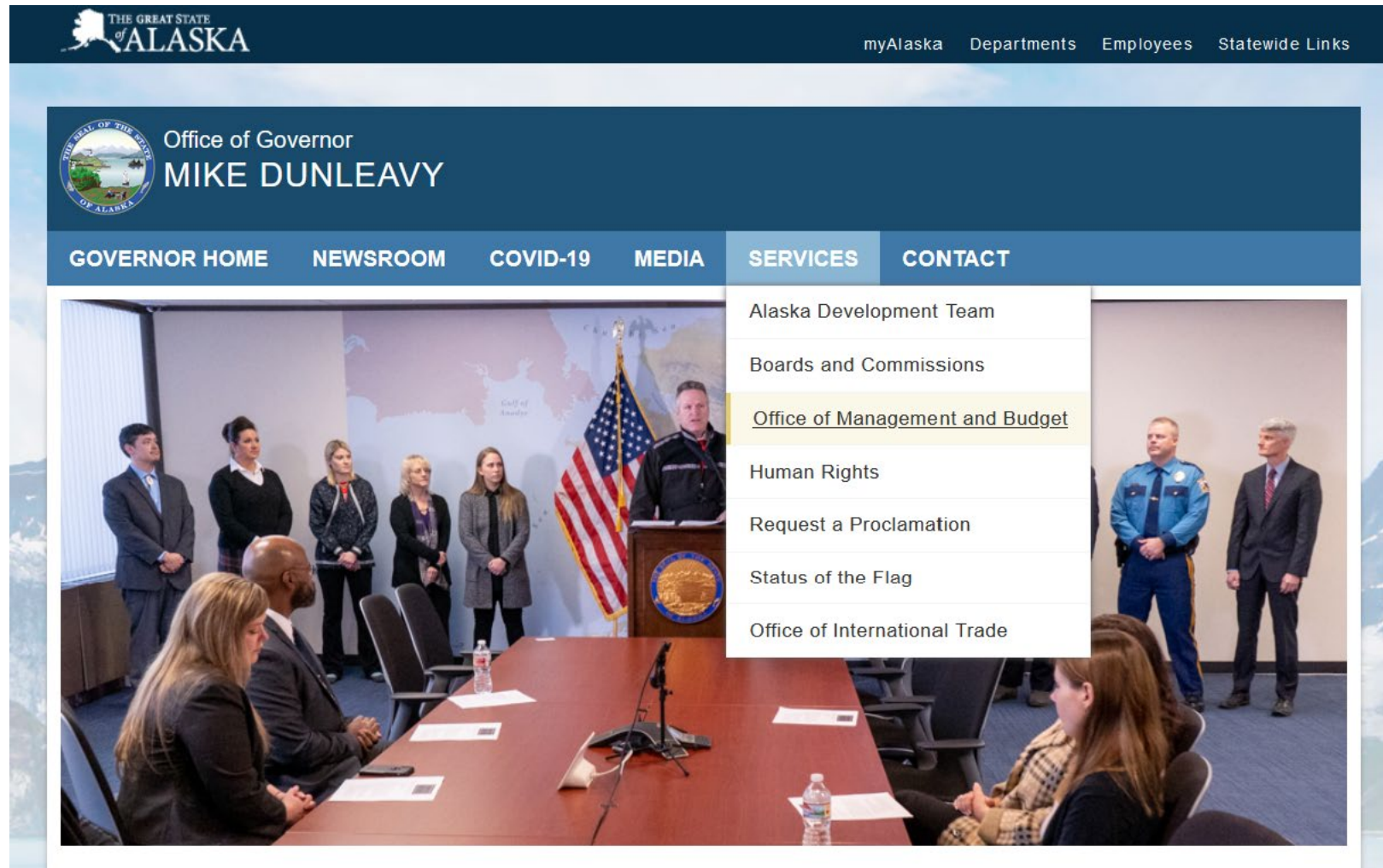
- [Majority](#)
- [Minority](#)

HOUSE

- [Majority](#)
- [Minority](#)

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Lobbying Effectively: RESOURCES



Lobbying Effectively: PEOPLE

- People: Legislators and staff
- Do you know your legislator?
 - The importance of local government officials
 - Meet with them before January session
- Get to know staff
- Executive Branch
 - Need support of Governor and agencies
 - Aim to get into the Governor's Budget
 - Separate budget process in Summer and Fall



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December 2022

Lobbying Effectively: ORGANIZATION & PROCESS

- Each House organized by Majority and Minority
 - **Senate 2023** (20 Members: 17 Majority, 3 Minority)
 - **House 2023** – NOT YET organized (40 Members: 21 Republican, 13 Democratic, 6 Independent)... evenly split ideologically
- Majority Organization Holds Power:
 - Leadership & Committee Chairs
 - Set Agenda
 - Size of budget
 - Which bills pass
 - Negotiation with Governor
 - Bills sponsored by Majority members move



Newly Elected Officials

December 2022

Lobbying Effectively: ORGANIZATION & PROCESS

SENATE Majority Caucus

8 Republican

- Bert Stedman – Co.Ch. Fin.
- Gary Stevens – Sen. Pres.
- Jesse Bjorkman
- Cathy Giessel – Maj. Leader
- James Kaufman
- Kelly Merrick
- David Wilson
- Click Bishop – Maj. Whip

9 Democratic

- Jesse Kiehl

- Elvi Gray-Jackson
- Matt Claman
- Löki Tobin
- Forrest Dunbar
- Bill Wielechowski
- Scott Kawasaki
- Lyman Hoffman – Co.Ch. Fin.
- Donny Olson – Co.Ch. Fin.

Minority (3 Republican)

- Shelley Hughes
- Robb Myers
- Mike Shower



Newly Elected Officials

December 2022

Lobbying Effectively: ORGANIZATION & PROCESS

House Organization – Caucuses TBD

21 Republican

- Jamie Allard
- Ben Carpenter
- Julie Coulombe
- Mike Cronk
- David Eastman*
- Craig Johnson
- DeLena Johnson
- Kevin McCabe
- Tom McKay*
- Mike Prax
- George Rauscher
- Justin Ruffridge

- Dan Saddler
- Laddie Shaw
- Will Stapp
- Louise Stutes
- Jesse Sumner
- Cathy Tilton
- Sarah Vance
- Stanley Wright
- Frank Tomaszewski

13 Democratic

- Jennie Armstrong*
- Ashley Carrick
- Maxine Dibert
- Zack Fields
- Neal Foster

- Andrew Gray
- Cliff Groh
- Sara Hannan
- Andy Josephson
- CJ McCormick
- Donna Mears
- Genevieve Mina
- Andi Story

6 Independent

- Bryce Edgmon
- Alyse Galvin
- Rebecca Himschoot
- Dan Ortiz
- Josiah Patkotak
- Calvin Schrage



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Lobbying Effectively: **PROCESS: COMMITTEES**

- Committees are an essential part of the legislative process:
 - Oversight, gather testimony, consider appointees, amend/advance/hold bills
- Committee hearings include introduction and sponsor statement, and invited and public testimony.
- Bills can be amended in committee and on the Floor.
- Standing Committees:
FIN, EDU, H&SS, JUD, L&C, C&RA, RES, STA, etc.



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Lobbying Effectively: **PROCESS: BUDGET**

- (1) State agencies prepare their budget requests July-August
 - (2) Requests are submitted in September to OMB for consideration by the director and Governor
 - (3) Final budget requests approved by OMB Director and Governor are submitted in December to the Legislature
 - (4) The bills are automatically referred to the Finance Committees in each body
 - (5) Finance Subcommittees are appointed to handle each department's budget request
 - (6) Each Subcommittee considers the budgets and makes recommendations
 - (7) The full Finance Committee considers the bill, debates, amends, and passes out of committee.
 - (8) The bills go to the floor ("second reading"). After amendments/discussion/debate, the bill is at "third reading" / final vote.
 - (9) The operating and capital budgets have to travel through both bodies and have concurrence from the originating body
- If the two bodies cannot agree on the budget, the items they cannot agree on will end up in conference committee.
- (10) When it is passed, it is transmitted to the Governor for his consideration and signature.

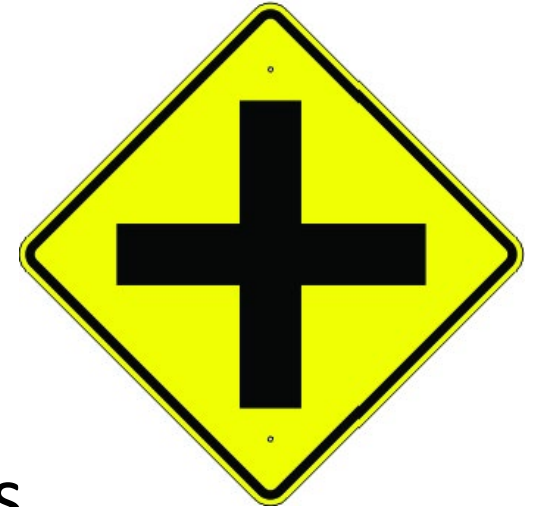


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Lobbying Effectively: **LOCAL / STATE INTERSECTIONS**

- Education: Base Student Allocation (BSA)
- Community Assistance (“Revenue Sharing”)
- School Bond Debt Reimbursement
- Power Cost Equalization (PCE)
- Public Safety: Troopers, VPSOs, community jails
- Infrastructure: roads, ports/harbors
- AML:
 - We track legislation and budget items
 - We can help you with talking points



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Lobbying Effectively: **ADVOCACY DO's**

- Call ahead for appointments
- Consistent messaging
- Prepare 5-minute explanation of request
- Document local support
 - Agency support is helpful too
- Leave written backup at office
- Know importance of staff
- Know who you are talking to (leadership, party, comm membership)



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Lobbying Effectively: **ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE**

- AML is here to help
- Legislative Committee – get involved
- Your visits to Juneau
- Statewide Issues
- Share – the more we know...
the better



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