

## Legislative Wrap-up

We delayed publishing this newsletter for session end, and, in the chance that at least some of the bills would do something, but alas, most of the bills didn't move out of committees.

### *What to know: End of Session Summary*

With a special session, the only item under discussion is the budget. So these bills will wait until next year. Only one, HB61 Firearms, is going to the Governor.

**SB 52 Increase Base Student Allocation.** This bill was passed by the Senate and sent to the House. It is currently in House Finance. While there is increased funding for education in the budget being discussed during the special session, there will not be a bill to support it in the future. This will be a topic for next session. Some House members are saying that they did support an increase, but actually it is a one time budget item.

**SB 138 Elections: Voter Reg; Campaigns.** This bill moved to Senate Finance and a hearing was held on May 12th. From the fiscal note of over \$5 million, the majority of the costs are for the signature verification system. From the fiscal note -the items impacting the Division of Elections are:

“Significant changes include changes to rules for determining residence of voters, ability to challenge residence, designing and implementing risk limiting audits, counting absentee ballots before election day, implementing an online ballot tracking system, establishing procedures for curing uncounted ballots, providing postage-paid return envelopes, modifying the voter registration system for language preference, drop boxes for by-mail elections and implementing a signature verification system.”

All was for naught, as the bill made it to the Senate floor where it was returned to Rules Committee.

**SB 61 US PRESIDENT ELECT. POPULAR VOTE COMPACT** almost made it to the floor but it was left in Rules.

**A couple of new bills - SB 99 Financial Literacy Course in Schools -** was passed by the Senate and sent to House Finance, **and SB 140 - Internet for Schools - (passed 20-0 in the Senate).** It was sent to the House and ended up in House Finance.

You can see by the dates below which bills even had hearings this year. If it was January, they weren't even discussed.

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## House bills – status

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<b>BILL</b>	<b>SHORT TITLE</b>	<b>PRIME SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE</b>	<b>DATE</b>
HB 1	REPEAL BALLOT MEASURE 2 VOTING CHGS	RAUSCHER	(H) STA	01/19/23
HB 4	ELECTIONS:REPEAL RANK CHOICE/OPEN PRIMARY	VANCE	(H) JUD	05/10/23
HB 24	GOV APPOINT BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF AK BAR	RAUSCHER	(H) STA	01/19/23
HB 34	CONFIRMATION/QUALIFICATIONS OF JUDGES	RAUSCHER	(H) STA	01/19/23
HB 36	APOC; REFERENDA/RECALL; CONTRIBUTIONS	SCHRAGE	(H) STA	01/19/23
HB 37	ELECTIONS, VOTING, BALLOTS	SCHRAGE	(H) STA	01/19/23
HB 61	LIMITATIONS ON FIREARMS RESTRICTIONS*	TILTON	(H)PASSED	05/16/23
HB 65	INCREASE BASE STUDENT ALLOCATION	ORTIZ	(H) FIN	03/27/23
HB 82	SELECTION AND REVIEW OF JUDGES	RAUSCHER	(H) JUD	02/27/23
HB 105	SEX/REPRODUCTION EDUC; SCHOOLS RLS	REQ/ GOV	(H) JUD	04/28/23
HB 106	TEACHER RECRUITMENT; LUMP SUM PAYMENT RLS	REQ/GOV	(H) FIN	04/28/23
HB 129	VOTER REGISTRATION	JUDICIARY	(H) JUD	04/28/23
HB 130	ELECTION INTERFERENCE, FRAUD, MISCONDUCT	JUDICIARY	(H) STA	03/22/23
HB 131	VOTING MACHINES AND VOTE TALLY SYSTEMS	JUDICIARY	(H) STA	03/22/23
HB 132	ELECTIONS: BALLOT, VOTING, SECURITY	JUDICIARY	(H) STA	03/22/23
HB 165	CHARTER SCHOOLS; CORRESPONDENCE PROG	WAYS & MEANS	(H) EDC	05/08/23

\*passed both House and Senate, awaiting transmittal to the Governor

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## Senate bills – status

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B 1	ELECTIONS: BALLOT, VOTING, SECURITY	SHOWER	(S) STA	01/18/23
SB 2	REPEAL BALLOT MEASURE 2 VOTING CHGS	SHOWER	(S) STA	01/18/23
SB 5	VOTER REGISTRATION	SHOWER	(S) STA	01/18/23
SB 6	VOTING MACHINES AND VOTE TALLY SYSTEMS	SHOWER	(S) STA	01/18/23
SB 7	ELECTION INTERFERENCE, FRAUD, MISCONDUCT	SHOWER	(S) STA	01/18/23
SB 17	CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS	KAWASAKI	(S) JUD	05/08/23
SB 19	ELECTIONS; BALLOTS	KAWASAKI	(S) STA	01/18/23
SB 29	CIVICS EDUCATION*	STEVENS	(H) EDC	05/08/23
SB 31	SELECTION AND REVIEW OF JUDGES	SHOWER	(S) STA	03/08/23
SB 52	EDU INFO;INCREASE BASE STUDENT ALLOCATION*	EDUCATION	(H) FIN	05/12/23
SB 61	US PRESIDENT ELECT. POPULAR VOTE COMPACT	WIELECHOWSKI	(S) RLS	05/03/23
SB 63	LIMITATIONS ON FIREARMS RESTRICTIONS	KAWASAKI	(S) JUD	03/22/23
SB 96	SEX/REPRODUCTION EDUCATION; SCHOOLS	RLS BY REQ/ GOV	(S) JUD	03/08/23
SB 97	TEACHER RECRUITMENT; LUMP SUM PAYMENT	RLS BY REQ/ GOV	(S) EDC	03/08/23
SB 99	FINANCIAL LITERACY PROGRAM IN SCHOOLS*	WIELECHOWSKI	(H) FIN	05/15/23
SB 138	ELECTIONS; VOTER REG.; CAMPAIGNS	STATE AFFAIRS	(S) RLS	05/15/23
SB 140	INTERNET FOR SCHOOLS	HOFFMAN	(H) FIN	05/16/23

\*passed the Senate, not passed in the House

Committees: STA=State Affairs, JUD=Judiciary, EDC=Education, FIN=Finance, RLS=Rules (final stop before floor vote)

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## Legislative Calendar and Events

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Calendar:

- 30 day Special session starting May 18th.

They will do budget only.

## Wrap Up

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*Keep in touch with your local league! This newsletter will return again in January, 2024.*

### *How are we doing?*

We have received word that some League members across the state are not receiving this newsletter. If you hear from anyone who isn't seeing these, please have them send an email to our [lwwak@lwvalaska.org](mailto:lwwak@lwvalaska.org) email and we'll look into it. Remember, these are also posted on [VotingRightsAlaska.org](http://VotingRightsAlaska.org) as well.

**The League always needs volunteers!** Writing letters, talking to your legislators, and helping out by giving us your feedback - it doesn't have to be a total commitment. We would LOVE to hear from you. Please encourage others to take action by sharing this Legislative Newsletter, Action Alerts, and Calendar Events. Contact us at [lwwak@lwvalaska.org](mailto:lwwak@lwvalaska.org), and/or work to get the word out with your local leagues.

Expanding the League's impact helps us to **Empower Voters and Defend Democracy** as a community! We'll keep these links accessible here for you.

- Alaska State Legislature website, [akleg.gov](http://akleg.gov)
- Alaska State's Gavel to Gavel public affairs TV network, [www.ktoo.org/gavel/](http://www.ktoo.org/gavel/)

### League of Women Voters of Alaska

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**Email us at [lwwak@lwvalaska.org](mailto:lwwak@lwvalaska.org)**  
[www.lwvalaska.org](http://www.lwvalaska.org)

**To see the bills we are tracking and where they are in the process, check the details on [the VotingRightsAlaska.org Legislation page](http://VotingRightsAlaska.org).**