

GAVEL
ALASKA

2025 Legislative Update

Sen. Jesse Bjorkman
R - Nikiski (Dist. D)

Senate Floor Session

KTOO Wed. 4/23/25 11:25 am

SEN. YU

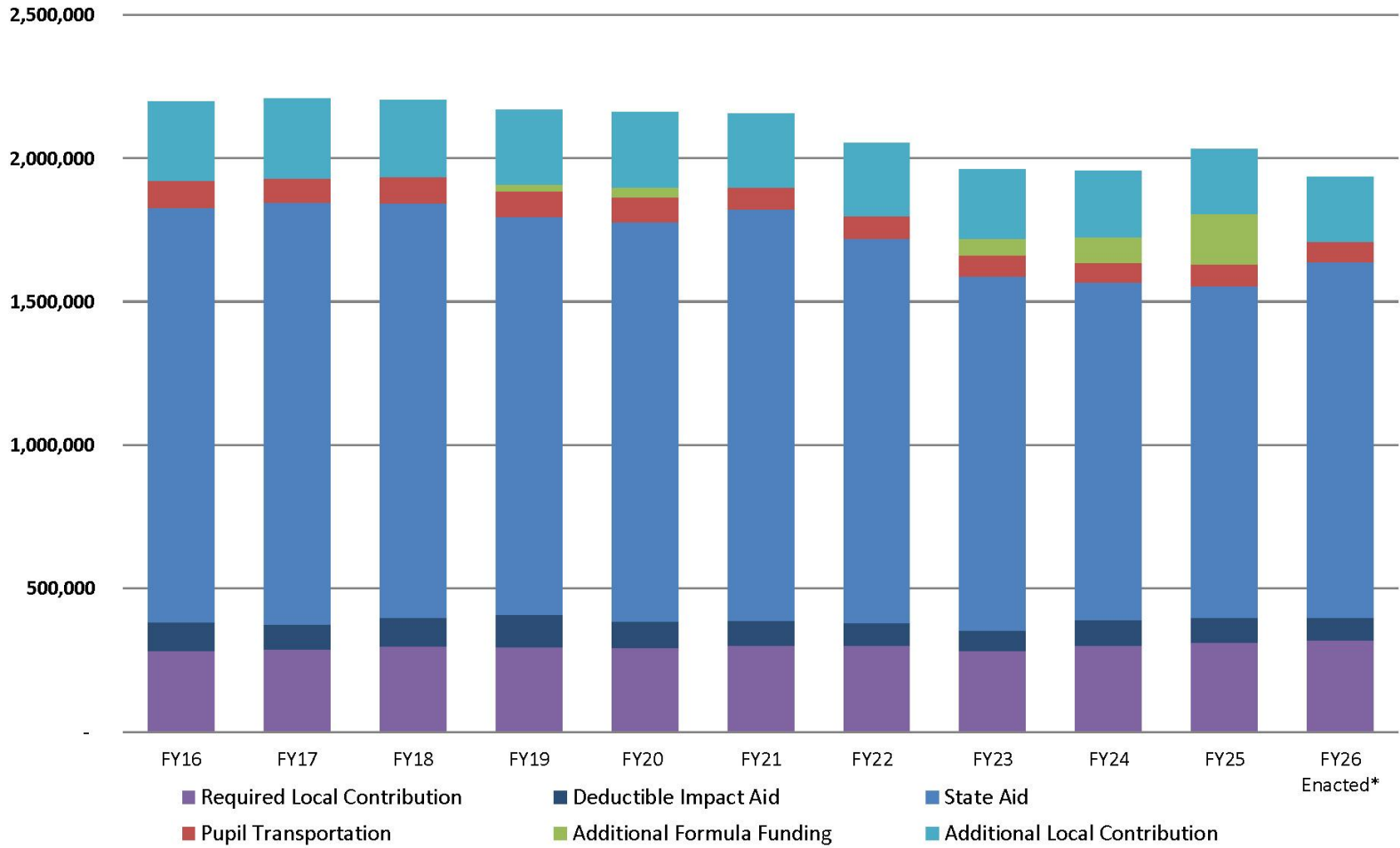
Education Funding and Reform

- HB 57 K12 Education Bill
 - Increases Base Student (BSA) Funding
 - Contains nine of the Governor's policy reforms
 - Reforms in bill include
 - Reduces barriers to new and continuing charter schools
 - Sets target class sizes
 - Creates school cell phone policy
 - Provides for reading grants
 - Provides for additional career and technical education

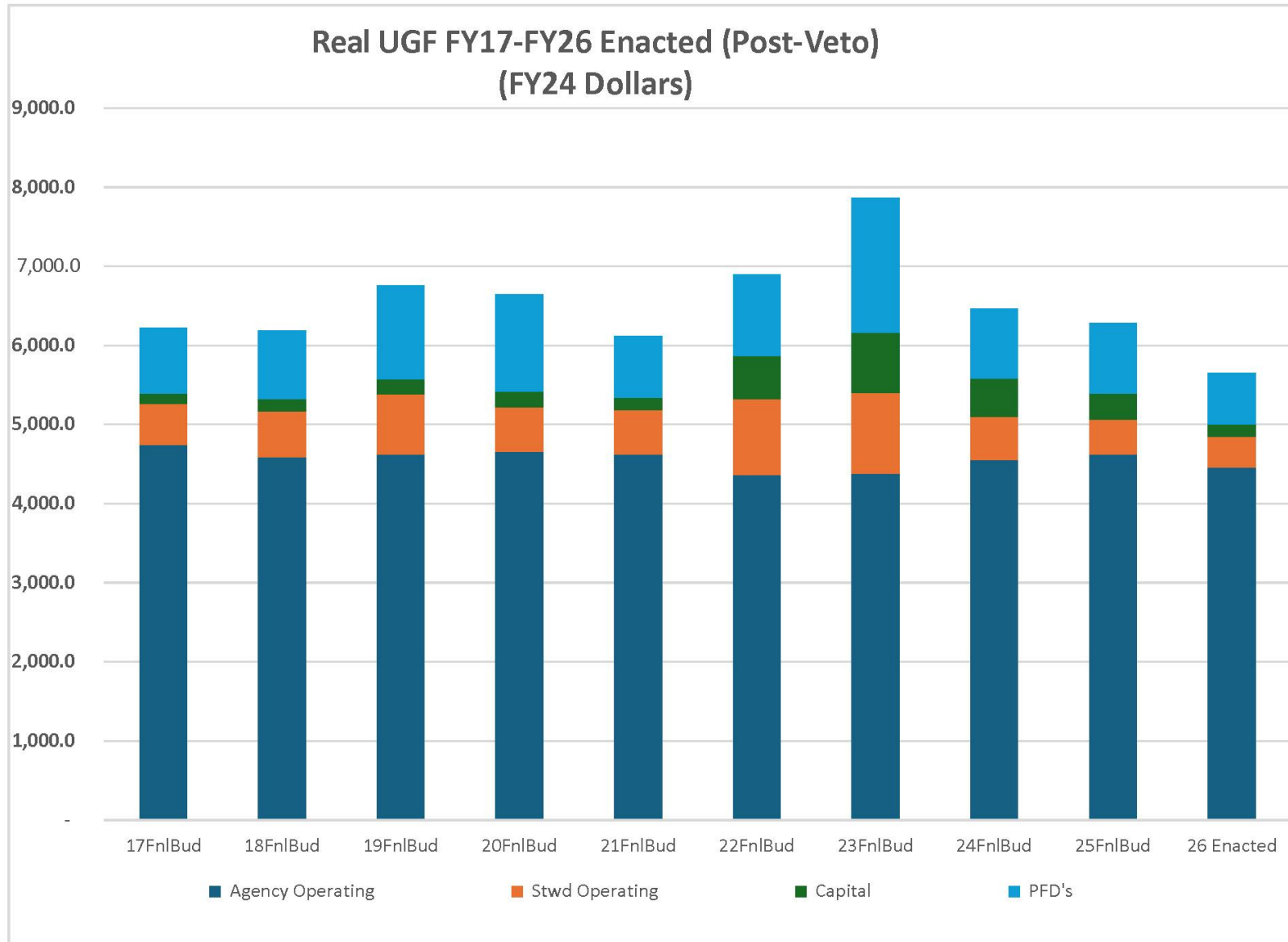
Education spending projected to be lower in FY26 than in FY25 due to Governor's vetoes and lower enrollment

-2.5%

State and Local Education Funding, FY99-FY26 Enacted
(FY24 Dollars)



*FY26 amounts are projected. FY26 Enacted amounts are after vetoes and assume the State is able to deduct eligible federal Impact Aid.



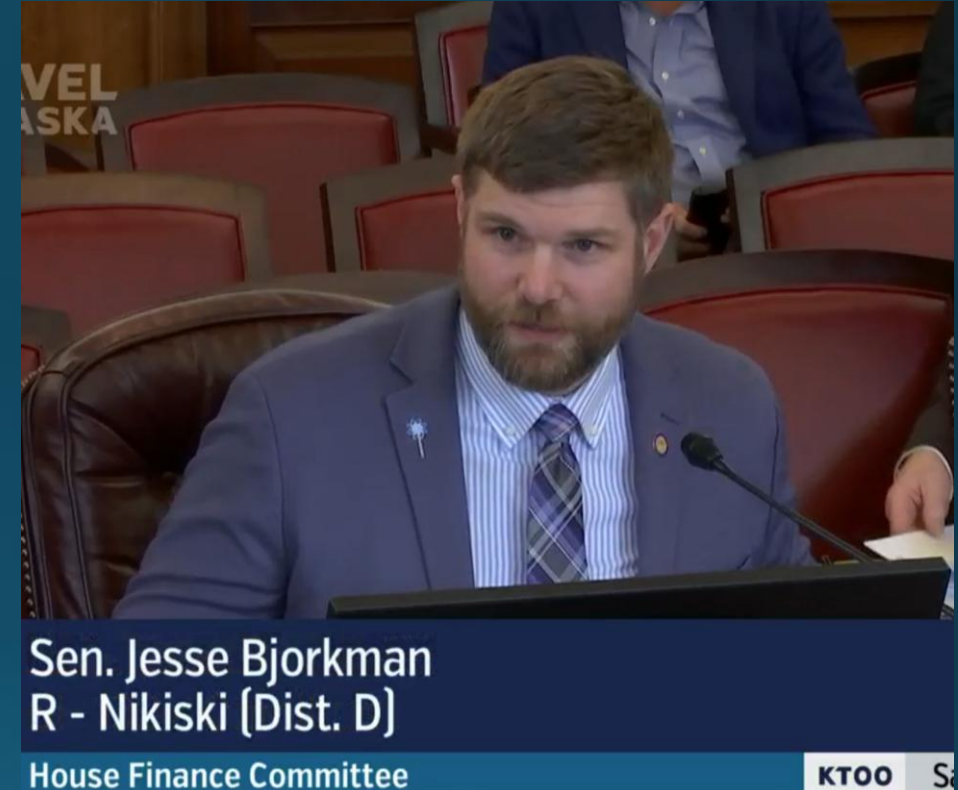
Insurance Reforms

- **SB 132 “Insurance Omnibus”**

- Better consumer protection for a range of insurance products
- Combine construction policies for lower building costs of major housing projects
- Curtails Pharmacy Benefit Managers

- **SB 133 “Prior Authorization”**

- Swift approvals for medical care
- Long term approvals for chronic illness treatment
- Requires online portals for faster, secure approvals



Legislation in Process

- SB 158 East Side Set fishery administrative area
- Streamline agriculture leasing of State land
- Compensation for seizure of lawfully-harvested game
- Student proficiency certification
- School attendance standards



Labor and Commerce Committee

- Insurance coverage and consumer protection
- Prescription costs and PBM regulation
- Healthcare and Veterinarians
- Protecting financial customers
- Professional Boards and Commissions

SB 136 “The Firearm Financial Privacy Act”
Would prohibit financial services companies from discriminating against firearm retailers including tracking firearm transactions. Gun sales have been denied service by financial services and credit card companies.

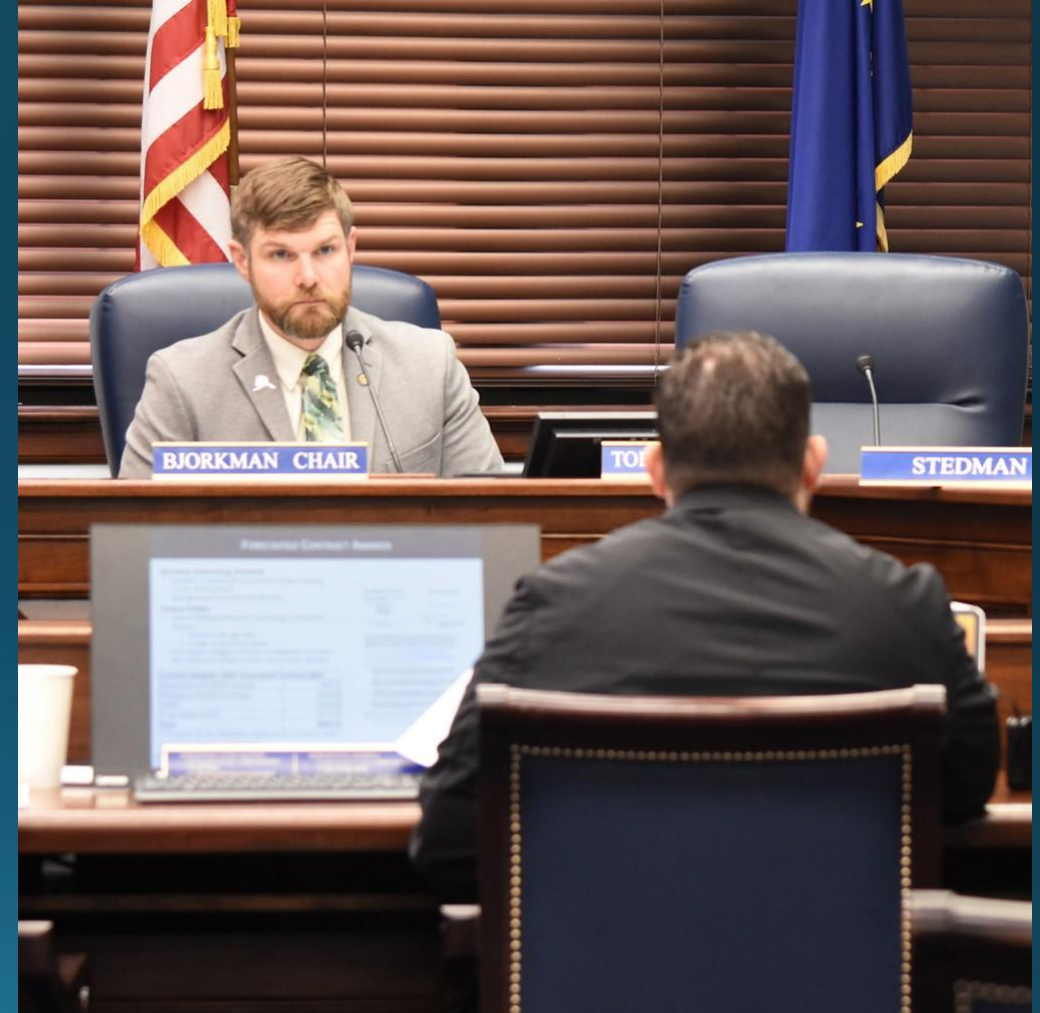


Transportation Committee

- Oversee air, rail, vessel, and road transportation issues
- Commercial, private, and public vehicles, structures, and infrastructure

Issues this year included:

- DOT's proposed STIP and concerns over project output
- Alaska Marine Highway workforce issues and Long-Range Plan
- Vehicle and vessel title transfers on death
- Derelict vessels



The Roads Ahead



Monitor progress on
Cooper Landing Bypass
Kenai Spur Highway
Sterling Safety Corridor
Continue K-Beach Flood
Mitigation
Pursuing elimination of
road brine

Opportunities to see recommended design, make comments and ask questions:
Soldotna Wednesday Market - June 25th – August 6th

FY 2026 Budgets

The Legislature passed austere budgets that spend within our means and prepare for even lower revenue in FY2027.

The Legislature's FY2026 Operating Budget:

- Denied Gov's new spending requests and made noticeable cuts to programs
- Provides a \$1,000 PFD
- Limits shortfall to \$200 million in FY25

The Legislature's FY2026 Capital Budget is very limited. Including Federal Match and Reappropes, Gov's vetoes totaled over \$119 million.

FY25 – FY26 Comparison

FY2025		FY2026	
Revenue (3/12 Forecast)		Revenue (3/12 Forecast)	
POMV	3,657.3	POMV	3,798.9
Traditional	2,604.1	Traditional	2,329.7
Total UGF Revenue	6,261.4	Total UGF Revenue	6,128.6
Expenditures		Expenditures	
Operating	5,093.2	Operating	5,023.1
Capital	330.7	Capital	173.4
Transfers	4.3	Transfers	0.3
PFD	914.3	PFD	685.3
Supplementals	111.8	Fiscal Notes	190.6
Total	6,454.2	Total	6,072.7
Surplus/(Deficit)	(192.8)	Surplus/(Deficit)	55.9

UGF Spend - Adjusted for Inflation

	Fiscal Year	CPI Deflator	Real Total UGF	% Change	
	2017	1.195	6,222.708		
	2018	1.19	6,186.827	-0.6%	
	2019	1.154	6,759.632	9.3%	
	2020	1.139	6,647.514	-1.7%	
	2021	1.151	6,122.852	-7.9%	
	2022	1.098	6,898.233	12.7%	
	2023	1.015	7,868.941	14.1%	
	2024	1	6,465.741	-17.8%	
	2025	0.976	6,292.604	-2.7%	
	2026	0.952	5,773.501	-8.2%	

How can I help?

- Please let me know if there is anything that I can do to assist you!

Contact Me:



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