

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



## Senate Bipartisan Working Group

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### **Senate Passes FY2013 Capital Budget**

*Budget creates jobs while targeting transportation, health care, and energy statewide*

JUNEAU – Today, the Senate passed the state’s FY 2013 Capital Budget, [Senate Bill 160](#). The budget appropriates \$2.63 billion, including \$1.8 billion in state funds and \$830 million in federal funds. The bill is one of the most important documents considered by the Legislature during Session.

“This budget strikes a good balance between building our economy through capital projects and keeping state spending in check,” said Senator Bert Stedman, Co-Chair of the Senate Finance Committee. “The Senate worked hard to ensure all regions of the state benefited from the budget and improved the quality of life for all Alaskans through creating jobs.”

The Senate addressed five important issues in this year’s budgets: Savings, Transportation, Energy, Education, and Health Care. The Senate also worked closely with Governor Sean Parnell and House Leadership to ensure that spending goals were met.

In the Capital Budget, the Senate Bipartisan Working Group advanced its goals by appropriating an estimated \$710 million for transportation, \$340 million to improve schools and education across the state, \$190 million projects to reduce energy costs statewide, and \$70 million to improve the health care in Alaskans.

The Senate also achieved its priority of ensuring savings before spending by adding four dollars to state savings for each dollar that is spent on capital projects. Since 2007, under the leadership of the Senate, Alaska’s savings have grown by over \$10 billion.

Over the past three months, the Senate Finance Committee led a thorough and public review of the Capital Budget. This included thoroughly vetting requests from Governor Parnell and individual departments, as well as scrutinizing mega-projects as well as bond projects. The Committee, co-chaired by Senators Bert Stedman and Lyman Hoffman, held 17 hearings and heard from more than 200 Alaskans who testified in person and by phone.

For highlights of selected projects, please see the attached fact sheet.

To see the Senate’s version of the Capital Budget, click [here](#).

The Capital Budget now heads to the House for further consideration.

For more information, contact [Weston Eiler](#) in Senator Stedman’s office at (907)465-3873.

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