



Alaska State Legislature

Representative Matt Claman

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Serving the Sand Lake, Spenard, and Turnagain Communities

January 2023 Community Council Update

Pre-Session Constituent Meeting — Please join me for food, beverages, and an opportunity to discuss the upcoming legislative session before we return to Juneau.

When: Wednesday, January 11, 5:30 to 6:30 pm

Where: Anchorage Legislative Information Office (LIO), 1500 W Benson Blvd.

For more information and to RSVP, visit: <https://fb.me/e/2c6gWjiZp>.

Budget — The governor has [proposed a budget for FY24](#) that reduces the budget by \$460 million from FY23 and pays a dividend totaling approximately \$3,900 per person. [Paying dividends as proposed will cost \\$2.4 billion.](#)

The FY24 operating, mental health and capital budget totals \$4.5 billion in Unrestricted General Funds (UGF), \$845 million in Designated General Funds (DGF), \$775 million in Other State Funds, and \$3.1 billion in federal funding. The proposed FY24 budget remains largely unchanged from the current fiscal year, but with some reductions. The governor's budget also calls for a draw from the state's Constitutional Budget Reserve (CBR) and \$20 million from the Statutory Budget Reserve (SBR) amid a drop in oil prices, with a proposed deficit of \$265 million. The combined balance for the CBR and SBR account is \$2.1 billion.

The following are some of the spending increases in the governor's FY24 proposed budget:

- **\$3.3 million** for 30 new technical and **administrative support staff positions for the Department of Public Safety**, including: criminal justice technicians, forensic technicians and fingerprint technicians; a VPSO Policy & Programs Director to improve rural public safety response and outcomes; a new mental health clinician to expand the wellness program; and support staff for Troopers
- **\$2.5 million** to **modernize the Alaska State Defense Force** into a professional, full time emergency response and disaster assistance organization within DMVA
- **\$9.5 million** to the Department of Health for **the Healthy Families Initiative** to: fund syphilis and tuberculosis treatment programs, extend postpartum Medicaid coverage, and recruit and retain health professionals in Alaska
- **\$1.2 million** to the Department of Public Safety **to enhance community-based domestic violence and sexual assault prevention and intervention programs**
- **\$523,000** to the Department of Health **to create the Office of Health Savings**
- **\$800,000** for Competency Restoration and Jail Based Restoration at **Alaska Psychiatric Institute (API)**
- **\$2 million** to expand the UAA **WWAMI program**
- **\$800,000** to restore and maintain **Bristol Bay Science and Research Institute Watershed projects**