



THE ALASKA BUSINESS REPORT CARD

29th Legislature

At the beginning of the 29th Legislature, each legislator and the Governor received a letter outlining the policy priorities and the leadership attributes the Alaska Business Report Card (ABRC) group would use to develop its consensus report card. Collectively, the ABRC group represents hundreds of firms and tens of thousands of employees from every major industry in Alaska. ABRC members include the Alaska Chamber, the Alaska Support Industry Alliance, Prosperity Alaska, and the Resource Development Council for Alaska, Inc.

The ABRC believes Alaska is in urgent need of strategic leadership to address the state fiscal crisis that is equally or more alarming as that faced by our federal government. With the Trans Alaska Pipeline System three-fourths empty, the low oil prices we have endured over the last 18 months, and state spending at levels that are unsustainable, Alaskans face tough times ahead unless decisive action is taken.

The ABRC grades recognize policymakers who understand and promote decisive action on Alaska's twin economic imperatives of managing state spending down and, simultaneously, stimulating private sector investment in our basic natural resource industries. The policy priorities used to grade policymakers include strategic leadership, fiscal responsibility, maintaining stable oil taxes, encouraging efficient permitting and regulations, prudent planning for in-state infrastructure, and supporting a positive general business climate. ■

Learn more at alaskabusinessreportcard.com

House

Mike	Chenault	B+
Matt	Claman	F
Jim	Colver	D
Harriet	Drummond	F
Bryce	Edgmon	D+
Neal	Foster	D
Les	Gara	F
Lynn	Gattis	A-
David	Guttenberg	F
Mike	Hawker	*
Bob	Herron	B
Shelley	Hughes	B+
Craig	Johnson	B+
Andrew	Josephson	F
Scott	Kawasaki	F
Wes	Keller	B-
Sam	Kito III	F
Jonathan	Kreiss-Tomkins	F
Gabrielle	LeDoux	D+
Bob	Lynn	B-
Charisse	Millett	B
Cathy	Munoz	C+
Ben	Nageak	B+
Mark	Neuman	B-
Kurt	Olson	A-
Dan	Ortiz	F
Lance	Pruitt	A-
Lora	Reinbold	B
Dan	Saddler	A-
Paul	Seaton	D-
Ivy	Spohnholz	*
Louise	Stutes	D
Dave	Talerico	A-
Geran	Tarr	F
Steve	Thompson	B+
Cathy	Tilton	B
Chris	Tuck	F
Liz	Vazquez	B+
Tammie	Wilson	B+
Adam	Wool	F

Senate

Click	Bishop	A-
John	Coghill, Jr.	A
Mia	Costello	A-
Mike	Dunleavy	A
Dennis	Egan	D
Johnny	Ellis	F
Berta	Gardner	F
Cathy	Giessel	A+
Lyman	Hoffman	A-
Charlie	Huggins	A-
Pete	Kelly	A
Anna	MacKinnon	A
Lesil	McGuire	B+
Kevin	Meyer	A-
Peter	Micciche	A
Donald	Olson	C
Bert	Stedman	B+
Gary	Stevens	B
Bill	Stoltze	B-
Bill	Wielechowski	F

*Not enough information to grade | Grades issued and released July 29, 2016

Dear Alaska Policy Maker:

The undersigned business organizations, working together as the Alaska Business Report Card group, represent hundreds of firms and tens of thousands of employees from every major industry in Alaska. These groups will be working together to compile an Alaska Business Report Card (ABRC) for the 29th Alaska Legislature.

This letter is to share with you the policy priorities we will be emphasizing, and the leadership we will be looking for, in developing our consensus report card grades. This year, more than ever, Alaska is in urgent need of leadership. Due to falling oil prices and declining oil production, we face a fiscal cliff here in Alaska that, if not addressed decisively, is a real threat to the livelihoods of all Alaskan families.

In light of these newly urgent realities, we have grouped our grading criteria under two simple headings:

RESPONSIBLE BUDGETING

- Budget policy should focus first and foremost on reversing the unsustainable state budget growth of the past decade. A multi-year series of annual reductions in the state operating budget - including entitlement returns - will be required.
- Only after reducing general fund spending to sustainable levels should revenue options be considered.

PRIVATE SECTOR GROWTH

- Now more than ever, pro-growth policies designed to stimulate and expand Alaska's private sector are critically important. Top priorities include:
 - Continue to progress the Alaska LNG pipeline by achieving the milestones set forth in SB 13.
 - Maintain a stable business climate for Alaska's oil and gas industry. Resist the decision of Alaska voters and government to raise taxes.
 - Expand transportation, education, and other infrastructure investments.
 - Reduce state and local government spending and debt.

February 18, 2016

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- Create an endowment model or similar framework to use the Permanent Fund earnings to support essential services, and do so in a timely manner (2016) to avoid liquidating excessive amounts of state financial reserves.
- Only after a reduction in spending and use of the permanent fund earnings should other revenue be considered.

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