



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

Governor

Bill Walker**	D
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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 reform – 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:
 - Continuing to improve the Alaska LNG pipeline by accelerating the rulemaking set forth in SB139.
 - Attracting a multi-billion dollar investment in Alaska's oil and gas industry. Reverse the decision of the Alaska Supreme Court prior to 2012 that is making it difficult to attract investment in the oil and gas industry.



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February 18, 2016

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RESPONSIBLE BUDGETING

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

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

**Governor's grade released September 13, 2016