

Upcoming Session

*By Senator Ben Stevens, Senate District F
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The second session of the 22nd Alaska State Legislature convenes January 14, 2002 and I am looking forward to representing District F in the Senate with great excitement and enthusiasm. I realize many of you do not know much about me yet, so I encourage you to contact me, ask me questions, give me your opinions, and let me know your thoughts on issues that will impact you and your family.

During session (January – May) the legislative offices in Anchorage will be closed, but you can contact me in Juneau, toll free, at 866-465-4993 or send a letter to me at the State Capitol, Juneau Alaska, 99801. You may also email me at Senator_Ben_Stevens@legis.state.ak.us, or send a public opinion message through the Anchorage Legislative Office at 269-0111. If I am not available, my staff is eager to answer questions about the legislative process and to provide you with any state related information.

If you would like to follow the progress of the 22nd Legislature, many of the legislative hearings and meetings will be broadcasted on KTOO-TV Gavel-to-Gavel Alaska on Channel 46 in Anchorage. The schedule of the meetings can be viewed at www.ktoo.org/gavel. Hearings and meetings are also teleconferenced at the Anchorage Legislative Information Office (LIO) for the public to listen in or testify on any of the issues. The purpose of teleconferencing to Anchorage and other areas of the state is for legislators to hear the views of Alaskans. The LIO has a helpful brochure on the legislative information and teleconferencing that offer guidelines for speaking at committee meetings.

There are also a few websites, which are excellent sources for legislative and state information. The state legislative web page is www.legis.state.ak.us and has links to legislative information such as bill status and action, committee meeting schedules, legislators, and the directory of state officials. There is also more detailed information about legislators, bills, press releases and legislative surveys at www.akrepublicans.org. This site also links to the Alaska Constitution, Statutes, and Administrative Code, and to state budget data and reports. Finally, the State of Alaska home page is www.state.ak.us and provides immense information on state services and all the departments of government, the court system, the University of Alaska, and general information about Alaska.

This position, State Senator, is a privilege. It requires listening, learning and acting; I will look to your input for when and where action is needed. I encourage constituents to stay informed on the issues and again, please feel free to contact me with your questions and concerns.

My family and I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season!