The following list of committee meetings address issues and bills important to municipalities for the upcoming week. For a complete list of bills visit the BASIS web site. Most of these meetings are teleconferenced. They also started to video stream all committee meetings in the state capitol. Check it out at http://akl.tv.

It is best if you go through your local LIO office. If you are unable to go through your local LIO office, you must call the Chair of the Committee in which the bill is being heard for "authorization" and the new off-net call in number.

**Monday, March 3rd, 2014**
- **SB139** – Education: Funding/Tax Credits/Programs – 8:00 A.M. (S) Education
- **SB138** – Gas Pipeline; AGDC; Oil & Gas Prod. Tax – 9:00 A.M. (S) Finance

**Tuesday, March 4th, 2014**
- **SB138** – Gas Pipeline; AGDC; Oil & Gas Prod. Tax – 9:00 A.M. (S) Finance

**Wednesday, March 5th, 2014**
- **HB278** – Education: Funding/Tax Credits/Programs – 8:00 A.M. (H)
- **SB138** – Gas Pipeline; AGDC; Oil & Gas Prod. Tax – 9:00 A.M. (S) Finance
- **HB152** – PERS Termination Costs – 3:15 P.M. (H) Labor & Commerce

**Thursday, March 6th, 2014**
- **SB138** – Gas Pipeline; AGDC; Oil & Gas Prod. Tax – 9:00 A.M. (S) Finance

**Friday, March 7th, 2014**
- **SB138** – Gas Pipeline; AGDC; Oil & Gas Prod. Tax – 9:00 A.M. (S) Finance
- **HB247** – Peace Officer/ Firefighter Retirement – 3:15 P.M. (H) Labor & Commerce
HB278 - TITLE: "An Act increasing the base student allocation used in the formula for state funding of public education; repealing the secondary student competency examination and related requirements; relating to high school course credit earned through assessment; relating to a college and career readiness assessment for secondary students; relating to charter school application appeals and program budgets; relating to residential school applications; increasing the stipend for boarding school students; extending unemployment contributions for the Alaska technical and vocational education program; relating to earning high school credit for completion of vocational education courses offered by institutions receiving technical and vocational education program funding; relating to education tax credits; making conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date."

This bill would increase the Base Student Allocation (BSA) in FY15 by $85 per student to $5,765, FY16 by $58 per student to $5,823 and FY17 by $58 per student to $5,881. It will also remove the High School Exit Exam, require that a school district provide a high school student an opportunity to “test out” of a class and allow students to earn course credits in math, language arts, science, social studies, and world languages by demonstrating mastery of content through a district-approved assessment. This bill will give tax credits to a private sector business for partnering with a local school district to provide scholarships to students earning dual credits. It will extend the sunset date of the technical vocational education program until 2024. This bill will also require a school board to provide a written approval or denial of a charter school application with relevant findings and allow the denied applicant to appeal the denial to the commissioner for reconsideration. Lastly, this bill would require the Department of Education and Early Development to open an annual application period for Residential Schools. This bill was heard and held in House Education.

HB245 – TITLE: "An Act repealing the required local contribution to school funding; making conforming changes; and providing for an effective date."

This bill would amend existing statutes requiring a mandatory local contribution by borough or city school for operation of the public school system. The mandatory contribution requirement of 2.65 mill equivalent would no longer be required. The State would be responsible for the costs that were formally funded by the mandatory contributions. This bill was heard and held in House Judiciary.

HB199 - TITLE: "An Act relating to Department of Public Safety regulations allowing village public safety officers to carry firearms."

This bill will establish the legislature’s intent that Village Public Safety Officers (VPSOs) by allowed to carry firearms. Under the legislation, VPSOs equipped with firearms would have to meet satisfactory standards. This bill was moved out of House Finance.

HB234 - TITLE: "An Act extending the termination date of the Regulatory Commission of Alaska; and providing for an effective date."

This bill would extend the termination date of the Regulatory Commission of Alaska until June 30, 2022, in accordance with the recommendation of the Legislative Auditor. This bill was heard and moved out of House Finance.

HJR26 - TITLE: Urging the United States Congress to provide a means for consistently and equitably sharing with all oil and gas producing states adjacent to federal outer continental shelf areas a portion of revenue generated from oil and gas development on the outer continental shelf to ensure that those states develop necessary infrastructure to support outer continental shelf development and preserve environmental integrity.

This House Joint Resolution urges the United States Congress to extend outer continental shelf (OCS) revenue sharing to all coastal states, including Alaska, where OCS and gas development could occur. Oil and Gas developed in federal areas, regardless of whether onshore, near-shore, or offshore, requires additional infrastructure and increase demand on state and local government resources. OCS revenue sharing would help provide funding for Alaska to build that infrastructure. This resolution was heard and moved out of Senate Resources.
SB138 - **TITLE:** "An Act relating to the purposes of the Alaska Gasline Development Corporation to advance to develop a large-diameter natural gas pipeline project, including treatment and liquefaction facilities; establishing the large-diameter natural gas pipeline project fund; creating a subsidiary related to a large-diameter natural gas pipeline project, including treatment and liquefaction facilities; relating to the authority of the commissioner of natural resources to negotiate contracts related to North Slope natural gas projects, to enter into confidentiality agreements in support of contract negotiations and implementation, and to take custody of gas delivered to the state under an election to pay the oil and gas production tax in kind; relating to the sale, exchange, or disposal of gas delivered to the state under an election to pay the oil and gas production tax in kind; relating to the duties of the commissioner of revenue to direct the disposition of revenues received from gas delivered to the state in kind and to consult with the commissioner of natural resources on the custody and disposition of gas delivered to the state in kind; relating to the authority of the commissioner of natural resources to propose modifications to existing state oil and gas leases; making certain information provided to the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Revenue exempt from inspection as a public record; making certain tax information related to an election to pay the oil and gas production tax in kind exempt from tax confidentiality provisions; relating to establishing under the oil and gas production tax a gross tax rate for gas after 2021; making the alternate minimum tax on oil and gas produced north of 68 degrees North latitude after 2021 apply only to oil; relating to apportionment factors of the Alaska Net Income Tax Act; authorizing a producer's election to pay the oil and gas production tax in kind for certain gas and relating to the authorization; relating to monthly installment payments of the oil and gas production tax; relating to interest payments on monthly installment payments of the oil and gas production tax; relating to settlements between producers and royalty owners for oil and gas production tax; relating to annual statements by producers and explorers; relating to annual production tax values; relating to lease expenditures; amending the definition of gross value at the 'point of production' for gas for purposes of the oil and gas production tax; adding definitions related to natural gas terms; clarifying that credit may not be taken against the in-kind levy of the oil and gas production tax for gas for purposes of the exploration incentive credit, the oil or gas producer education credit, and the film production tax credit; making conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date."

This bill lays out all of the “workings” between the partners in the advancement of a large-diameter natural gas pipeline. It deals with: what funding may be used for this pipeline; the creation of subsidiaries for the pipeline project; the creation of a public corporation; defines a subsidiary board for the pipeline; allocates certain powers to those board members; allowing for the share of royalty gas leases; the confidentiality of tax information; the authority of the Revenue Commissioner and the DNR Commissioner. This bill was heard and moved out of Senate Resource with a committee substitute and is currently being hear in Senate Finance.

SB177 - **TITLE:** "An Act relating to the registration and marking of towers; relating to the duties of the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities; and providing for an effective date."

This bill will define Alaska tower visibility requirements, registration requirements and define available thru a public website on tower structures. This bill was heard and held in Senate Transportation.

HB223 - **TITLE:** "An Act authorizing municipalities to exempt or partially exempt for up to 10 years property in a military facility zone that creates or supports industry, development, or educational or training opportunities."

This bill gives authority for a local government to seek up to 10 years of full or partial property tax exemptions in a Military Facility Zone that creates or supports industry, development, educational or training opportunities related to defense activities in Alaska. It allows broad authority for local property tax exemptions to be specifically defined by individual local communities, providing the maximum benefit to their region. This bill was heard and moved out of Senate Community & Regional Affairs.

SB139—**TITLE:** "An Act increasing the base student allocation used in the formula for state funding of public education; repealing the secondary student competency examination and related requirements; relating to high school course credit earned through assessment; relating to a college and career readiness assessment for secondary students; relating to charter school application appeals and program budgets; relating to residential school applications; increasing the stipend for boarding school students; extending unemployment contributions for the Alaska technical and vocational education program; relating to earning high school credit for completion of vocational education courses offered by institutions receiving technical and vocational education program funding; relating to education tax credits; making conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date."

Companion bill to HB278. This bill was heard and held in Senate Education.
SB98 - **TITLE:** "An Act relating to Department of Public Safety regulations allowing village public safety officers to carry firearms."
A companion bill to HB199, this bill was heard and held in Senate State Affairs.

SB147 - **TITLE:** "An Act increasing and providing an inflation adjustment to the base student allocation used in the formula for state funding of public education; and providing for an effective date."
A companion bill to HB245, this bill was heard and held in Senate Education.

HJR10 - **TITLE:** Proposing amendments to the Constitution of the State of Alaska creating a transportation infrastructure fund.
This bill will put a constitutional amendment before voters to amend the Alaska constitution to reinstate a dedicated fund for transportation projects. If passed by the voters, the Alaska Transportation Infrastructure Fund (ATIF) will dedicate transportation user fees and taxes to transportation projects. This bill was heard and moved out of House Finance.

### Bills Introduced this Week

**HB350** - **TITLE:** "An Act relating to the registration and marking of towers; relating to the duties of the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities; relating to the duties of the University of Alaska Fairbanks; and providing for an effective date.

**SB205** - **TITLE:** "An Act requiring municipalities to prohibit elected municipal officials and municipal employees from engaging in partisan political activity while traveling on municipal business and prohibiting state public officials and employees from engaging in partisan political activity while traveling on state business."

**SB208** - **TITLE:** "An Act increasing the school construction debt reimbursement percentage for certain municipalities; and providing for an effective date."

**HB331** - **TITLE:** "An Act requiring school districts to provide a plan for hiring principals of excellence; relating to identifying and recognizing principals of excellence; relating to adjusting the base student allocation used in the formula for state funding of public education to account for education staff losses since fiscal year 2011 and to account for inflation in the future; and providing for an effective date."

**HB337** - **TITLE:** "An Act relating to the establishment of a central Internet website for public access to the public records of state agencies and municipalities; and providing for an effective date."