

**LOCAL EVENTS****Anchorage**

- Anchorage Home Show will be April 13 - 15
- Spring Preview of Homes will be held April 21 & 22
- Poker Tournament is May 4
- Golf Tournament at AGC on July 19

For more information, visit:

[www.ahba.net](http://www.ahba.net)

**Northern SEABIA**

- Alaska Home and Lifestyle Fair is scheduled for April 27th - 29th

For more information, visit

[www.seabia.com](http://www.seabia.com)

**Interior Alaska Building Association**

- IABA's Home Show will be held March 23rd - 25th
- Membership Mixer on April 5th
- Cornhole Tourney at Florcraft Carpet One on April 27

For more information, visit:

[www.interioralaskabuilders.com](http://www.interioralaskabuilders.com)

**2018 ASHBA Legislative Update**

The Alaska State Home Building Association (ASHBA) and its board of directors met in Juneau on February 5th and 6th. For two full days, we marched up and down hills and stairs to 42 legislative appointments, a reception at the Governor's House, a BUILD-PAC fund raiser at the Shoefly store, and multiple social events. Conversations with our lawmakers were an opportunity to express concerns about the housing market, the cost of doing business, and resolving our state's budget problems. Likewise, we heard from legislators on their views toward the state's fiscal situation. Here's some summary takeaways from all the conversations:

Legislators want to solve the budget problem, but there are clear differences on both sides of the aisles.

Earnings from the Permanent Fund will be integral for balancing the budget this session. A statewide tax (EG. a state income or sales tax) is being discussed, but political pressure and the 2018 elections will likely prevent any major new tax proposals from passing this session.

Our own members have different views on how to best fix the state's budget, but everyone agreed that a solution is needed to help stabilize the state economy.

Here are some of the bills we're watching this session.

Senate Bill 45, sponsored by the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee, would require an unlicensed "owner-builder" who lists or sells a new home within two years after starting construction to disclose that they don't have a contractor's license. This bill passed the Senate last year by a vote of 19 - 0, and is currently waiting a hearing in the House Labor & Commerce Committee.

<http://www.legis.state.ak.us/PDF/30/Bills/SB0045B.PDF>

House Bill 359, sponsored by the House Labor & Commerce Committee, would establish the 2012 International Residential Code (IRC) as the state's residential building code within the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC). There are no new inspection requirements or enforcement measures beyond any that already exist. HB359 is currently waiting a hearing in the House Community & Regional Affairs Committee.

<http://www.legis.state.ak.us/PDF/30/Bills/HB0359A.PDF>

House Bill 142, sponsored by Rep. Chris Tuck (D-Anchorage), would increase the weekly benefit for unemployment from \$370 to \$510 over the next two years. By increasing unemployment benefits, there will be a corresponding increase in payroll contributions from employers and employees.

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**LOCAL EVENTS****MatSu Home Builders Association**

- MatSu Home Show will be held April 27th - 29th
- Spring Preview of Homes is April 28th and 29th
- Membership Meeting with Enstar Gas on May 17th
- Golf Tournament for charity is on July 13th

For more information, visit:  
[www.matsuhomebuilders.com](http://www.matsuhomebuilders.com)

**Southern SEABIA**

For more information, visit:  
[www.sealaskabuilders.com](http://www.sealaskabuilders.com)

**Kenai Peninsula Builders Association**

- KPBA Membership Meeting on March 22nd
- KPBA Home Show will be held on April 7th and 8th at the Soldotna Regional Sports Complex
- Annual KPBA Wine Tasting is June 2nd

For more information, visit:  
[www.kenaipeninsula.builders.com](http://www.kenaipeninsula.builders.com)

**2018 ASHBA Legislative Update Continued**

HB142 has moved to the Rules Committee, where it is waiting to be scheduled for a vote on the House Floor.

<http://www.legis.state.ak.us/PDF/30/Bills/HB0142C.PDF>

House Bill 199, sponsored by Rep. Louise Stutes (R-Kodiak), would establish a permit requirement for certain activities that impact fish habitat. This bill is modeled after a citizen's initiative to put the question on the ballot at the next statewide election. The proposal to create a new permitting system has pitted the interests of protecting habitat for fish (IE streams and rivers) against the concerns of those who develop projects near Alaska's inland and coastal waterways. If HB199 does not pass this session, this proposal will be on the ballot for a public vote. Currently the bill is in the Fisheries Committee.

<http://www.legis.state.ak.us/PDF/30/Bills/HB0199A.PDF>

Last, there are multiple bills addressing the issue of workers' compensation insurance in Alaska. In each of the two major bills, there is a new definition of the term "independent contractor" for exemptions from workers' compensation. House Bill 79 appears it will be the vehicle, since it has advanced to the Rules Committee in the House.

A link to the bill is below, and the "independent contractor" definition is on page 17 of the bill. The language includes recognition for incurring the expense of tools, labor, and providing building materials and supplies.

<http://www.legis.state.ak.us/PDF/30/Bills/HB0079D.PDF>

These are some of the main bills we are watching in order to make sure the interests of our members are protected, and that we advocate to improve housing opportunities across the state.

Thank you to everyone who came to Juneau this year. It was hard work, but it was fun and exciting to see our organization play an active role toward improving Alaska's housing construction industry. **John Bitney**

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**FOR THE 2018 BUILD AK CONFERENCE**  
**AT THE ANCHORAGE EMBASSY SUITES**  
**NOVEMBER 1ST, 2ND AND 3RD**

## ASHBA 2017 Building Conference



**The 2017 Building Conference was held November 1st - 3rd at the beautiful Hotel Alyeska Resort in Girdwood.**

**Congratulations to the 2017 Builder of the Year, Past-President Aaron Welterlen and 2017 Associate of the Year, Wes Keller.**

**Thank you to Dean Mon, Third Vice Chair of the Board of the National Association of Home Builders for attending our conference and installing our 2018 President, Jim Dunlap.**

**Also thanks to Sherry Schwab, NAHB National Area Chairperson for Area 15, Alicia George, NAHB Field Representative for Region E and the board of the Cold Climate Housing Research Center for joining us for a great event full of education, networking, receptions, auctions and meetings.**

## MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to provide an organization wherein building contractors and persons engaged in a trade, industry or profession related to housing may meet to discuss various problems of common interest, particularly those related to labor, production and finance. To maintain high standards in the building industry, to support building contractors in efforts to rectify conditions of an unsatisfactory nature, to encourage those methods of contracting work which reduce the building contractors risks and to encourage sound business methods. We are an aggressive, service oriented Association run by and for the membership.

## FOLLOW US

**On the web at:**

[buildersofalaska.com](http://buildersofalaska.com)

**On Facebook at:**

**Alaska State Home Building Association**



## Raffle

The Alaska State Home Building Association will conduct a gun wall raffle with its gaming permit. The winning tickets will be drawn at the 2018 Building Conference, November 3rd in Anchorage. Contact a member or the executive officer of your local association to purchase a ticket.

## State Membership Summary

### Local Association Members on 1.31.2018

AHBA - 49 Builders & 155 Associates  
NSEABIA - 13 Builders & 28 Associates  
MAT-SU HBA - 41 Builders & 70 Associates  
KPBA - 38 Builders & 42 Associates  
IABA - 50 Builders & 81 Associates  
SSEABIA - 16 Builders & 31 Associates



The Member Rebate Program (MRP) is a free member benefit of the Alaska State Home Building Association available to all active Builder and Remodeler Members. With over 5,200 active members nationwide, MRP gave an average of \$1,206.93 to members in 2016 alone. ASHBA's Member Rebate Program lets builders and remodelers receive cash rebates for using certain manufacturers' products in the building and remodeling of homes. There are currently 50 participating manufacturers covering 35+ difference product categories.

**Alaska State Home Building Association**  
**P.O. Box 91444**  
**Anchorage, Alaska 99509**  
**907-644-4190**

We are on the Web at  
[www.buildersofalaska.com](http://www.buildersofalaska.com)  
and Facebook

## 2018 Board of Directors

Aaron Welterlen, Fairbanks - Past President  
Jim Dunlap, Anchorage - President  
Richard Carr, MatSu - Vice President & Leg. Co-Chair  
Victor Banaszak, Juneau - Treasurer & Finance Co-Chair  
Scott Cragun, Ketchikan - Secretary & Membership Co-Chair  
Carolyn Foelsch, Fairbanks - Associate Vice President  
Jeff Twait, Kenai - NAHB State Representative  
Clai Porter, Anchorage - NAHB Build-Pac Trustee  
Wes Keller, Anchorage - NAHB Associate Director and Membership Co-Chair  
Terry Duszynski, Fairbanks - State Build-PAC Chair  
Nigel Morton, Fairbanks - Director & Finance Co-Chair  
Jack Hebert, Fairbanks - Director  
Alan Wilson, Juneau - Director  
Dan Nelson, Kenai - Director  
Tom Seggerman, Kenai - Alternate Director  
Kelley Roth, Ketchikan - Director  
Chas Edwardson, Ketchikan - Alternate Director  
Robert Yundt II, MatSu - Director  
Maxwell Sumner, MatSu - Director  
John Anderson, Anchorage - Director  
Brandon Snodgrass, Anchorage - Director  
Paul Michelsohn, Anchorage - Director & State Build-PAC Vice-Chair  
Chuck Homan, Anchorage - Director  
Michael Droege, Anchorage - Director  
Karen Michelsohn, Anchorage - Alternate Director  
Jess Hall, MatSu - Legislative Co-Chair

### LOCAL ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Jessica Laine, Fairbanks  
Cindy Rombach, Kenai Sarah Collins, MatSu  
Bianca Jurczak, Ketchikan Nikki Giordano, Anchorage



**Alaska State  
Home Building Association**