## Alaska State Legislature House of Representatives Minority Leader

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## Representative Ethan Berkowitz District 13

News from Juneau

February 6, 1999

## **Berkowitz Bulletin Volume 3, #2**

Greetings from Juneau where budget issues continue to occupy most of the legislature's attention. On Tuesday, February 9, Governor Knowles and the legislature will host a State of the Economy forum at Centennial Hall in Juneau from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The goals of the forum are:

- Gain a clearer picture of the state's overall economic forecast and differences with the situation in the mid-80's.
- Gain a clearer economic picture of what various Alaska industries forecast in the next two to five years.
- Seek industry support in helping to educate Alaskans about the state's fiscal and economic situation.
- Alert and educate Alaskans about the state's fiscal situation.

Gavel-to-Gavel, cable channel 46, will broadcast the forum on a two hour tape delay. If you have the opportunity to tune in I encourage you to do so.

Secondly, the Anchorage caucus will meet in the Assembly chambers at the Loussac Library on Saturday, February 13 from 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. I plan to be there for most of the day (assuming my plane can take off) and everyone is invited to attend. A public comment period lasts from 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. Unfortunately each person gets only two minutes to speak and you must sign up before 2:30.

Thank you for the suggestions I received on how to bridge our fiscal gap -- keep those ideas coming! If you have any questions or opinions about any topic be sure to contact me. As always, I will do my best to keep you informed.

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