



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY

Alaska State Commission for Human Rights

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Alaska State Commission for Human Rights to Discuss Legislative Priorities, Discrimination Survey, and Regulatory Reform in Kotzebue on June 29

June 22, 2026 (Anchorage, Alaska) – The Alaska State Commission for Human Rights (“ASCHR” or the “Commission”) will hold its next meeting in Kotzebue, at the Youth Center (Boys & Girls Club) located at 946 Wanda Street, on June 29th at 12:30 pm. Public testimony is scheduled for 12:45 pm.

The Commission’s agenda primarily consists of three things. The first will be a discussion of the Commission’s legislative priorities for the 2027 legislative session. After four years of effort, the Commission saw HB 23, consisting entirely of its own legislative requests, vetoed by Governor Dunleavy after passing both the Alaska House and the Alaska Senate unanimously and without any public opposition.

The second item will be discussing an analysis undertaken by the University of Alaska, Anchorage’s Institute for Social and Economic Research of a statewide discrimination survey that the Commission conducted earlier, and what recommendations the Commission may adopt as its own.

The third point on the agenda will be the Commission’s contribution to the regulatory reform initiative from Governor Dunleavy’s Administrative Order 360. The Commission previously posted its current guidance documents on the Alaska Online Public Notice System and subsequently deleted pandemic related guidance. The Governor’s Office also credited ASCHR with removing the LGBTQ+ guidance document which remains under review by the Alaska Department of Law. The Commission will now be considering its portion of the regulatory reform plan for the Office of the Governor regulations. The Commission solicited comments to its current regulations earlier this year. The Commission does not issue permits.

The Commission is an independent quasi-judicial state agency that aims to eliminate discrimination and support Alaskans when they face discrimination in the workplace, places of public accommodation, housing, credit and financing, and government practices. The Commission consists of seven volunteers who are appointed by the governor and confirmed by the legislature for rotating five-year terms. The Commission consists of Chairperson Dorene Lorenz (Juneau), Vice Chairperson Jessie Ruffridge (Soldotna), William Craig (Sitka), Rebecca Carrillo (Juneau), and Grace Salazar (Anchorage); two seats are currently vacant.

Commission staff is available for assistance directly to the business community, either through speaking engagements to organizations, reviewing non-discrimination policies and procedures, and providing copies of its guidance documents, which are also available on its website:

<https://humanrights.alaska.gov/publications/other-aschr-publications/>

For more information about the agency, please visit <https://humanrights.alaska.gov>. To talk about discrimination experiences directly to an investigator, call (800)-478-4692 or (907)-274-4692.