

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Interim:

716 West 4th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
Phone (907) 269-0200
Fax (907) 269-0204
Rep.Craig.Johnson@legis.state.ak.us



Session:

State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska
99801-1182
Phone (907) 465-4993
Fax (907) 465-3872

REPRESENTATIVE CRAIG JOHNSON
RULES COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

SPONSOR STATEMENT FOR HB 97

This bill will allow the Commissioner of Natural Resources to keep employed a state coordinator to manage and educate the citizens of Alaska on the subject of noxious weeds, invasive terrestrial plants, and agricultural pests. This coordinator works through the Division of Agriculture along with other state departments, agencies and institutions. This person brings together the aforementioned entities in addition to the University of Alaska Cooperative Extension Service and the Alaska Association of Conservation Districts.

Through this coordination the State of Alaska has begun to develop a strategic plan and requested Federal funding for survey projects. More importantly, a start toward limiting economic loss and adverse effects to the state's agricultural, natural, and human resources because of the presence and spread of noxious weeds, invasive terrestrial plants, and agricultural pests, in the state.

This bill repeals the sunset date of June 30, 2011.