

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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House Budget Sub Committees on:
- Department of Administration
- Department of Labor and Workforce
Development



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Sponsor Statement

HCR 25, Wildlife & Sport Fish Restoration Program

American hunters and anglers were some of the first conservationists to realize the importance of our natural resources and that without their support they would be in peril if not properly managed. They understood the necessity to regulate harvests and preserve habitat.

Throughout the history of the conservation movement, hunters and anglers have led the way in supporting legislation to stop excessive harvest of fish and wildlife, and establish federal and state fish and game agencies to protect fish, wildlife, and habitat.

The revenue generated from the purchases of hunting and fishing licenses fund agencies efforts to conserve natural resources for future generations.

Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Programs began 75 years ago with the passage of the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act of 1937. Thirteen years later in 1950, the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act created an effective "user pay - public benefit" system.

Since 1939, contributions to state fish and wildlife agencies by wildlife and sport fish restoration programs have exceeded \$13,000,000,000. This represents the greatest single conservation effort in the history of the United States and the nation's primary means of funding conservation.

The Alaska State Legislature, on the 75th anniversary of the nation's greatest conservation story, recognizes the leading roles of hunters, anglers, boaters, recreational shooters, industry, state fish and wildlife agencies, and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service in restoring healthy populations of fish, wildlife, and other natural resources, both game and nongame, to the abundance enjoyed today.

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