

I was corresponding w my friend on this new bill and we came up with some additional info we think supports changes that might really benefit the state:

Arguments to consider regarding problems with the over 60 permanent license:

A) Another argument is that since we don't buy licenses, we aren't included in the Pitman - Robertson /Dingell -Johnson [Wallop Breaux] Federal Aid calculations. The federal funding that the state DOES NOT receive because we aren't counted as licensed hunters/fishers is likely considerable. That might be worth pointing out to legislators.

It is our understanding too that the over 60 licensees are not surveyed for the statewide harvest survey that is used to estimate effort, catch and harvest in the sport fishery for the entire state. I might be mistaken on this. But if not, this seems to me to be a significant omission - especially if its true that the over 60 demographic is as large as we believe.

B) Something else than can be addressed is the deferred fees for king salmon and waterfowl stamps for anyone over age 60. Anyone out sport fishing for kings can certainly afford the price of a king stamp. Might be a little harder argument for the state waterfowl stamp, as someone could claim they're subsistence hunting. But for either stamps, there is the provision for the low income license and stamp exception.

If you want to know more about Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration

Act: <https://www.fws.gov/laws/lawsdigest/FASPORT.HTML>

C) Another thought:

It actually might not be all that hard to calculate the amount of "forgone harvest" of federal aid dollars. I don't know what the formula is to determine the amount/license, but the ADF&G federal aid staff would know. Tricky part might be coming up with the number of Permanent Licenses- especially active ones. I do know that the number of hunters using Permanent Licenses in the local registration moose hunts {Bristol Bay} have been increasing, and is quite substantial.

Adding to the list of active hunters and anglers by raising the age to start the "permanent license" could add to the hunting and angling data base AND bring in more Federal funds badly needed for all the ADFG programs.

best wishes

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