



Sectional Summary

CSHB 267 (RES)

Release of Hunting and Sport Fishing Records to Municipalities

For boroughs and other municipalities that bring in revenues through levies on fish and game guiding, CSHB 267 (RES) will provide a tool to help confirm that activities within their jurisdictions subject to taxation are being accurately reported to them. The bill would allow municipalities access to certain records collected by the state that relate to big game hunters, guided hunts, and guided sport fishing for the purpose of verifying taxes payable. All such information would remain confidential.

The access that CSHB 267 (RES) permits municipalities is modeled after long-existing provisions in AS 16.05.815(a)(4) and AS 43.75.133, both of which allow local governments to review certain records, reports, and returns to verify payment of local commercial fishing taxes.

Section 1 amends statutes on the confidentiality of hunt records and activity reports to add municipalities to those entities already allowed access to such information. Section 1 also makes it explicit that municipalities would be required to maintain the confidentiality of the records, and the section limits municipalities' access to hunt records to those describing activities occurring within four calendar years preceding a request for them.

Section 2 gives the Department of Commerce authority to charge a municipality a fee for accessing hunt records, should expenses to the department warrant one.

Section 3 amends statutes on the confidentiality of records and reports required by the Department of Fish & Game to include that a municipality is allowed access to records and reports of guided sport fishing activities if the municipality levies a tax on such activities and requests the records for the purpose of verifying taxes payable. Section 3 also limits municipalities' access to sport fishing records to those describing activities occurring within four calendar years preceding the request.

Section 4 gives the Department of Fish & Game authority to charge a municipality a fee for accessing sport fishing records, should expenses to the department warrant one.

Section 5 provides for an immediate effective date.