



Representative Andi Story

Alaska State Legislature

Sectional Analysis

House Bill 115 (version W.A)

House District 34

Sunny Point
Airport Neighborhood
Mendenhall Valley
Auke Bay
Out the Road

House Committee

Membership

Co-Chair
Education Committee

Member
State Affairs Committee

Member
Fisheries Committee

Member
Military and Veterans
Affairs Committee

Member
Way and Means Committee

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"An Act relating to aquatic farming and hatchery site leases; and requiring the director of the division of lands to provide the legislature with an annual report relating to aquatic farming and hatchery site leases."

Section 1: Amends AS 38.05.035(a) to require the Director of the Division of Mining, Land, and Water to submit an annual report to the legislature, in electronic form, primarily detailing aquatic farm and hatchery site leases pending with the department.

Section 2: Amends AS 38.05.070(e) by adding AS 38.05.083 (aquatic farm leasing statute) to the general leasing renewal section of law. This change allows the director to renew an aquatic farm lease under general lease renewal procedure.

- A technical amendment on lines 20-21 specifies which types of leases may be renewed under this procedure.

Section 3: Amends AS 38.050.083(a) by deleting the term "or renew" from this section of statute. This removes the requirement that the renewal procedure for an aquatic farm or hatchery undergo the more detailed AS 38.05.945 adjudication process.

Section 4: Amends AS 38.050.083(b) by deleting the term "or renewal" from this section of statute. This removes the renewal procedure from the aquatic farm leasing statute.

Section 5: Adds new subsections to AS 38.050.083, including:

- (g): stating the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources may renew an aquatic farm lease under the general leasing renewal procedure;
- (h): explicitly states ecotourism and educational purposes are allowable uses for aquatic farming and hatchery sites; and
- (i): explicitly prohibits the charging of an additional fee to aquatic farming and hatchery sites for the use of, or passage, across these sites.

Section 6: Adds a new section to uncodified law to require Director of the Division of Mining, Land, and Water to submit an initial report to the legislature, in electronic form, detailing aquatic farm and hatchery site leases pending with the department, estimates of economic impact if all the leases were granted, and recommendations by DNR and other state agencies to streamline the lease approval process.