

Representative Rebecca Himschoot

Angoon, Craig, Edna Bay, Elfin Cove, Hollis, Hoonah, Hydaburg, Kake, Kasaan, Klawock, Kupreanof, Naukati, Pelican, Petersburg, Port Alexander, Point Baker, Port Protection, Sitka, Tenakee Springs, Thorne Bay & Yakutat

Session

Alaska State Capitol
120 4th Street
Juneau, AK 99801
(907) 465-3732
(888) 461-3732
Rep.Himschoot@akleg.gov



Interim

201 Katlian Street Ste 103
PO Box 844
Sitka, AK 99835
(907) 747-4665
(877) 747-6276
Rep.Himschoot@akleg.gov

HOUSE BILL 93

“An Act changing the residency requirements for hunting, trapping, and sport fishing privileges; and providing for an effective date.”

WRITTEN TESTIMONY

Received by 3.19.26

1. Alaska Federation of Natives, Ben Mallott, President, March 18, 2026
2. Sitka Fish and Game Advisory Committee, Stacey Wayne, Chair, Sitka, February 25, 2026
3. Elfin Cove Fish and Game Advisory Committee, Patrick Baum, Chair, Elfin Cove, February 25, 2026
4. City of Kake, Lolanda Cavanaugh, Mayor, Kake, February 18, 2026
5. Anchorage Fish and Game Advisory Committee, Kevin Taylor, Chair, Anchorage, February 11, 2026
6. Norm Carson, Pelican, February 12, 2026
7. Shirley Perkins, Elfin Cove, January 29, 2026
8. Alliance of Sovereign Tribes of Southeast Alaska, January 22, 2026
9. Homer Fish and Game Advisory Committee, Douglas Malone, Chair, April 21, 2025
10. Tami Mulick, Juneau, April 21, 2025
11. Lance Kronerger, Freelance Outdoor Adventures, Unalakleet, Kodiak and Akiachak National Preserve, April 10, 2025
12. Cabot Pitts, Palmer, April 4, 2025
13. R Seal, April 2, 2025
14. Steve Miller, Port & Harbor Director, Wrangell, March 28, 2025
15. Mike Wood, Board of Fisheries Member, Talkeetna, March 27, 2025
16. Treasurer Hunter Lodge LLC, Kurt Whitehead, Klawock, March 26, 2025
17. City of Craig, Kasey Smith, Mayor, Craig, March 24, 2025
18. Ellen Hannan, Craig, March 24, 2025
19. City of Coffman Cove, Jack Mulcare, Coffman Cove, March 20, 2025
20. Organized Village of Kasaan, Michael Jones, Tribal Council President, Kasaan, March 16, 2025
21. Petersburg Flying Service LLC, Scott Newman, Petersburg, March 13, 2025
22. Joseph Johnson, March 13, 2025
23. Brian Castle, March 13, 2025
24. Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, Richard Peterson, President, Juneau, March 12, 2025
25. Wrangell Fish and Game Advisory Committee, Chris Guggenbickler, Chair, Wrangell, March 12, 2025
26. Mary Corcoran, Delta Junction, March 12, 2025
27. Delta Sportsmen's Association, Vern Aiton, Delta Junction, March 11, 2025

28. Leif Wilson, Tok, March 11, 2025
29. Craig Fish and Game Advisory Committee, Ellen Hannan, Secretary, Craig, March 11, 2025
30. Elijah Winrod, Klawock, March 11, 2025
31. Lena Hensley, March 11, 2026
32. Mark Tollfeldt, Klawock, March 11, 2025
33. Doug Rhodes, Craig, March 11, 2025
34. Michael Kampnich, Craig, March 10, 2025
35. Tanana Chiefs Conference, Brian Ridley, Chairman, Fairbanks, March 10, 2025
36. East Prince of Wales Island Fish and Game Advisory Committee, Amy Jennings, Chair, Thorne Bay, March 1, 2025
37. Jacob Combs, Tok, February 19, 2025
38. Colonel David Egeleston, Thorne Bay, February 17, 2026



March 18, 2026

Representative Rebecca Himschoot
State Capitol Room 409
Juneau Alaska, 99801
Representative.Rebecca.Himschoot@akleg.gov

Re: Support Letter for House Bill 93

Dear Representative Himschoot:

On behalf of the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN), I write to express strong support for [House Bill 93 \(HB 93\)](#), “An Act changing the residency requirements for hunting, trapping, and sport fishing privileges; and providing for an effective date.”

AFN represents Alaska Native peoples from across the state, many of whom rely on fish and wildlife resources for subsistence, cultural continuity, and food security. These resources are not only central to our traditions and identity, but also to the economic and physical well-being of our communities. Ensuring that resident hunting and fishing privileges are reserved for individuals who maintain a genuine, year-round connection to Alaska is both reasonable and necessary.

HB 93 strengthens residency standards in a manner that promotes fairness and responsible stewardship. Resident licenses provide significant benefits, including lower costs and broader access. It is appropriate that these privileges be limited to individuals who truly reside in and contribute to Alaska’s communities. Clearer and more meaningful residency requirements help protect the integrity of our licensing system and reduce pressure on fish and game populations.

This legislation also supports long-term sustainability. By aligning resident privileges with authentic residency, the State reinforces responsible resource management and helps safeguard Alaska’s fish and wildlife for future generations. For rural and Alaska Native communities, maintaining healthy populations of fish and game is essential to sustaining subsistence practices that have endured for thousands of years.

We respectfully urge support for HB 93 and its advancement through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

President
Alaska Federation of Natives

Feb 25, 2026

Support for HB 93 – Residency Requirements for Hunting, Trapping, and Sport Fishing

To the Chair and Members of the Committee,

The Elfin Cove Fish and Game Advisory Committee, comprised of commercial fishermen, charter fishermen, sport fishermen, subsistence users, and long-time Alaska residents, respectfully submits this letter in support of HB 93.

Our community depends directly on healthy and fairly managed fish and wildlife resources. We believe that clear, enforceable residency requirements are essential to protecting resident hunting, trapping, and sport fishing privileges and to maintaining public trust in Alaska's fish and game management system.

HB 93 moves state policy in the right direction by tightening and clarifying who qualifies as a resident for these privileges and by giving the Department of Fish and Game better tools to verify residency and apply the law consistently. We view this as a matter of basic fairness to true Alaska residents and an important step in safeguarding limited resources for those who make their lives here.

For these reasons, the Elfin Cove Fish and Game Advisory Committee strongly supports HB 93 and urges the Legislature to advance and pass this bill.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued work on behalf of Alaska's fish, wildlife, and rural communities.

Sincerely,

Patrick Baum, Chair

Elfin Cove Fish and Game Advisory Committee

February 25, 2026

Dear Senator or Representative,

The Sitka Fish and Game Advisory Committee is in support of HOUSE BILL NO.93. Our AC also supported the bill on the House side last legislative session.

The Sitka AC recognizes that residents rely on the harvest of fish and game as part of our subsistence lifestyles. We also support a balanced approach to harvest by non-residents, but feel the bill needs passing to ensure former residents, who do not live in Alaska enough months of the year to qualify for a permanent fund dividend, do take advantage of harvest opportunities meant to benefit those who live here year round. The Sitka AC over the years has been a proponent of a wise use of fish and game to ensure food security for our area.

Many other Advisory Committees in Southeast have voiced support for this bill, reflecting widespread concern for the problem the bill seeks to address.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stacey Wayne".

Stacey Wayne, Chair of the Sitka Fish and Game Advisory Committee

City of Kake

"HOME OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST TOTEM POLE"

P.O. BOX 500
KAKE, AK 99830
PHONE: (907) 785-3804
FAX: (907) 785-4815

CITY OF KAKE

Resolution Number 2026-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF KAKE SUPPORTING ALASKA HOUSE BILL 93,
"AN ACT CHANGING THE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR HUNTING, TRAPPING,
AND SPORT FISHING PRIVILEGES; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE"

WHEREAS, passage of HB 93 will benefit all Alaskans by:

1. Limiting the amount of time and reasons one can be absent from the state and still qualify for a resident license;
2. Making residency requirements easier to comprehend and enforce;
3. Protecting subsistence resources for year-round Alaska residents;
4. Decreasing illegal guiding;
5. Increasing funding for the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the statute changes proposed in HB 93 will ensure that Alaskans who qualify for a resident hunting, trapping, and sport fishing license are in fact year-round residents of Alaska who deserve the increased bag limits that are the privilege of state residents;

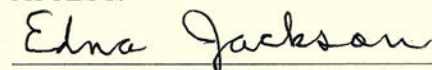
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the council of the City of Kake supports House Bill No. 93 in the legislature of the State of Alaska; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the council of the City of Kake that we urge the Alaska Legislature to pass HB 93 into Alaska law.

PASSED AND APPROVED by a duly constituted quorum of the City Council this 18th day of February, 2026.


Lolanda Cavanaugh, Mayor

ATTEST:


Edna Jackson, Acting City Clerk



Voting:

Jordana Grant	Yea ☒ /Nay ☐
Monica Ashenfelter	Yea ☒ /Nay ☐
Henry Copsey	Yea ☒ /Nay ☐
Kelli Jackson	Yea ☒ /Nay ☐
Ashley Padgett	Yea ☐ /Nay ☐
Tessa Rostad	Yea ☒ /Nay ☐

absent



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY

Anchorage Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Kevin Taylor, Chair

7221 Setter Drive
Anchorage, AK 99502
907-243-1983

February 11, 2026

**RE: Anchorage Fish and Game Advisory Committee
Partial Support for HB 93 – Residency Requirements for Hunting, Trapping, and Fishing
Licenses**

Dear Senators and Representatives,

The Anchorage Fish and Game Advisory Committee (AC) writes to express our partial and strong support for House Bill 93, which seeks to clarify and strengthen the residency requirements for obtaining Alaska Resident hunting, trapping, and sport fishing licenses.

At the outset, we want to remind you that any infringement on an Alaska resident's right to hunt, trap and/or fish implicates Article VIII, Sections 3, 15, and 17 of the Alaska Constitution and the Alaska Supreme Court's case law construing these provisions. Otherwise known as the equal access clauses, these provisions require the Alaska Legislature to ensure that our State's fish and wildlife is reserved to all Alaskans for their common use and that laws regulating the use of fish and wildlife shall apply equally to all persons similarly situated. This means that Alaska residents have constitutional rights with respect to the use of fish and wildlife in Alaska and that any law infringing on this right is required to be narrowly tailored to accomplish its legislative purpose without overly infringing on the rights of Alaska residents to hunt, trap, and/or fish in Alaska. We members of the AC fully and passionately support these rights of Alaskans to have equal access to our fish and wildlife under the Alaska Constitution.

As a committee representing one of the largest concentrations of Alaska residents in the State, we believe this legislation is a necessary step in protecting Alaska's fish and wildlife resources for those who truly live here. Current law contains a loophole that allows individuals who spend minimal time in the state—sometimes as little as a few weeks—to claim residency simply by maintaining a "domicile." This has led to increased pressure on our fish and wildlife and has created an uneven playing field for year-round Alaskans.

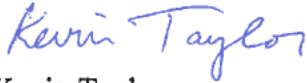
However, while we support the spirit of this legislation, we have concerns about this legislation resulting in unintended and unconstitutional consequences for some Anchorage and Alaska residents who could lose their resident hunter and fisher status should this bill be adopted into law as written. Key Alaskans who could be impacted by this bill include pilots and wildland firefighters. One member of our AC provided an example of a pilot who does not claim residency in any other state, has a home in Anchorage, children enrolled in and attending Anchorage schools, and owns a remote hunting cabin, but has a work schedule that is 4 days on, 3 days off flying out of the state. In this person's case, even though he has a remote hunting cabin and his entire nuclear family is entitled to receive the Permanent Fund Dividend, this person would not be considered an Alaska Resident hunter, trapper, or fisher within the requirements set out in HB 93. In this person's and other cases, work may take residents out of the state for more than 180 days and would thus disqualify them for resident hunting and fishing licenses. Thus, to ensure that this legislation protects the Article VIII rights of Alaska residents, we suggest that there be an exemption for pilots, traveling nurses, wildland firefighters, mariners, long-haul truckers,

Department of Defense civilians and contractors, and other professions who have work schedules that take them out of the State of Alaska for more than 180 days each year, disqualifying them for receipt of the Permanent Fund Dividend, but who are Alaska residents in every other way respect both personally and legally because their home is located in Alaska.

At our February 2026 Advisory Committee meeting, we discussed the Bill and voted to submit this letter of support, contingent upon the above concerns being considered and added by the Alaska Legislature. We recognize the importance of the existing exemptions included for military service members, students, and those receiving medical care outside the state. We seek that this list be expanded slightly to include other professions whose work schedules may disqualify them for hunting and fishing residency. The Anchorage AC believes that being a "resident" should mean more than just owning property or intending to return; it should reflect a commitment to living in and supporting this great state. We seek to ensure that our wildlife management remains sustainable and fair for all Alaskans.

Please let us know if you have any questions or require any additional information.

Sincerely,



Kevin Taylor

Chairperson, Anchorage Fish and Game Advisory Committee



Members of the Alaska State Legislature
Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska

Re: HB 93, Residency Requirements

Dear Legislator:

This bill will tighten up the requirements for a person to receive a resident hunting, sport fishing, or trapping license. Once passed this bill will require an applicant to meet the same in state time of residency as if they were applying for a PFD. Once a resident license is obtained the holder may not be absent for more than 180 days annually.

Why is HB 93 important? I have hunted and sport fished out of Pelican, Alaska since 1966 and my wife and I have resided there continually for over 30 years. In my early years at Pelican the number of participants hunting and sport fishing was a relatively small number. With the advent of better transportation, communications, and the exposure of the area by tourism the number of participants has greatly increased.

We have witnessed more pressure on fish numbers, especially king salmon, halibut, and other slow maturing bottom fish. The ease of acquiring a resident sport fishing license now allows a greater number of participants utilizing the benefit of resident bag limits. In a time of smaller and fewer king salmon, halibut, and other fish there is a need for smaller bag limits for all part time residents.

I recommend HB 93 be passed and enacted.

Sincerely,

Lang. H. Cochrane

Larry N. Carson

Pelican, AK 99832 — —

CC: Sen. Bert Stedman, Rep. Rebecca Himshoot

From: SHIRLEY PERKINS [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2026 3:30 PM
To: Rep. Rebecca Himschoot <Rep.Rebecca.Himschoot@akleg.gov>
Subject: upcoming. bill

Dear Members of the Legislature,

I am writing to submit public comment in support of HB 93.

As a year-round Alaska resident, I strongly support efforts to clarify and strengthen what it means to be an Alaska resident when it comes to access to our fish and wildlife resources. HB 93 is an important step toward restoring fairness and integrity to residency-based privileges.

In many Alaska communities, particularly coastal and rural ones, residents are increasingly frustrated by individuals who live in Alaska only part of the year yet operate fishing or tourism-related businesses, claim resident benefits, and exert influence over resources they do not rely on year-round. These individuals are often absent during the winter months, yet continue to benefit from resident access while permanent residents shoulder the full economic, social, and infrastructural costs of living here.

While HB 93 applies specifically to sport fishing, hunting, and trapping, it addresses a broader and deeply felt issue: residency should reflect actual physical presence and long-term commitment to Alaska, not seasonal convenience. Requiring twelve consecutive months of presence and prohibiting simultaneous residency claims elsewhere helps ensure that resident privileges are reserved for people who truly live in Alaska and contribute to their communities year-round.

This bill does not unfairly exclude new residents or those with legitimate temporary absences. Instead, it closes loopholes that have allowed residency to be treated as a box to check rather than a responsibility. For communities already struggling with limited access to resources, housing pressure, and seasonal overuse, this distinction matters.

HB 93 sets an important precedent. It reinforces the principle that Alaska's fish and wildlife resources should primarily benefit Alaskans who live here full time, not those who extract value while maintaining primary lives elsewhere. I hope the Legislature views this bill as part of a larger effort to protect local access, community stability, and long-term stewardship.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and for your consideration of this bill.

Shirley Perkins

Sent from my iPhone



ANCESTRAL TREE
BY MICHAEL MILNE

Alliance of Sovereign Tribes of Southeast Alaska

January 22, 2026

Alaska State Legislature
House of Representatives
1500 W Benson Blvd
Anchorage, AK 99503

Dear Members of the Alaska House of Representatives,

On behalf of the Alliance of Sovereign Tribes of Southeast Alaska, we write in support of House Bill 93, which strengthens Alaska's residency requirements for hunting, trapping, and sport fishing. HB 93 provides an important tool for protecting our subsistence resources by ensuring that resident harvest privileges are reserved for true Alaska residents, not individuals who reside out of state for most of the year while claiming residency benefits.

For Tribes, subsistence is not a recreational activity—it is a core expression of our sovereignty, identity, and food security. Our citizens rely on salmon, deer, shellfish, and other traditional foods for their wellbeing, and these resources are increasingly strained by population pressure, habitat destruction, and nonresident competition. By aligning residency requirements for hunting and fishing with those used for the Permanent Fund Dividend, HB 93 helps ensure that access to these resources is fair, accurate, and truly reflective of Alaska residency.

We believe this legislation will:

- Reduce misuse of resident hunting and fishing licenses by individuals who reside outside Alaska but claim residency for lower fees and higher harvest limits.
- Protect subsistence resources by ensuring that resident harvest opportunities are not diluted by nonresidents taking advantage of loopholes.

Alliance of Sovereign Tribes of Southeast Alaska



ANCESTRAL TREE
BY MICHAEL MILNE

Alliance of Sovereign Tribes of Southeast Alaska

- Support rural and Tribal communities, who depend on these resources for nutritional, cultural, and economic survival.
- Strengthen conservation efforts by creating clearer, enforceable residency standards for wildlife management.

We respectfully request that the Legislature continue to work closely with Tribes to ensure that implementation of HB 93 aligns with federal trust obligations, respects Alaska Native subsistence rights, and incorporates Tribal knowledge in wildlife management.

Thank you for your thoughtful attention to this bill and for your commitment to protecting the traditional foods and cultural lifeways of Alaska Natives. We look forward to continued partnership as HB 93 moves forward.

In unity,

Alliance of Sovereign Tribes of Southeast Alaska



ANCESTRAL TREE
BY MICHAEL MILNE

Alliance of Sovereign Tribes of Southeast Alaska

DocuSigned by: <i>Clinton Cook</i> 9215B887811540D...	Title: Tribal President
Signature: _____ Tribe: Craig Tribal Association	Date: <u>1/22/2026</u>
DocuSigned by: <i>Jaime Bricker</i> BE85CA3C9B534B8...	Title: Tribal President & Chair
Signature: _____ Tribe: Skagway Village dba Skagway Traditional Council	Date: <u>1/27/2026</u>
Signed by: <i>Mike Jones</i> E2FFFDC879034AF...	Title: Tribal President
Signature: _____ Tribe: The Organized Village of Kasaan	Date: <u>1/23/2026</u>
Signed by: <i>[Signature]</i> E4E24D1A61AD4F9...	Title: President
Signature: _____ Tribe: Ketchikan Indian Community	Date: <u>1/23/2026</u>
Signed by: <i>Joel Jackson</i> 277114ED8AA04B4...	Title: President
Signature: _____ Tribe: Organized Village of Kake	Date: <u>1/22/2026</u>
Signed by: <i>Joseph Williams, Jr.</i> 8C7645E0E601482...	Title: President
Signature: _____ Tribe: Organized Village of Saxman	Date: <u>1/26/2026</u>
Signed by: <i>Richard Peterson</i> BF8D2E5CA3964D2...	Title: President
Signature: _____ Tribe: Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska	Date: <u>1/22/2026</u>
Signature: _____	Title: _____
Tribe: _____	Date: _____
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ANCESTRAL TREE
BY MICHAEL MILNE

Alliance of Sovereign Tribes of Southeast Alaska

Signature: _____

Tribe: _____

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Tribe: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

The Honorable Representative Sarah Vance
Alaska State Capital
Juneau, AK
99801-1182

From the Homer ADFG Advisory Committee

Dear Representative Vance,

We, the members of the Homer ADFG Advisory Committee urge you to support House Bill 93, the "Seasonal Resident" bill. We discussed this at our last meeting and voted unanimously to write you on this topic.

Many of us have witnessed flagrant violations of persons who claim to be residents of Alaska in order to receive better pricing on fishing/ hunting licenses, to qualify for Personal Use fisheries, or to be able to receive resident- only hunting permits, even Tier I offerings. One particularly egregious example is those who claim residency to fish in the Kenai/ Kasilof dipnet fisheries. We have all seen these folks... out of state plates on the beach at Kenai, nets in the water... when they get a couple of drinks in them, they openly boast of "beating the system." Even worse is profiteering off of this- one of our members even witnessed a nonresident selling Cook Inlet salmon at a flea market in the Lower 48, while bragging about how he caught the fish himself in a dipnet in the Kenai River. Selling or bartering fish from a Personal Use fishery is blatantly illegal. These types of violations are without a doubt happening; the many submitted testimonies from diverse sectors and locales in support of HB 93 from across the state speak loudly to it. It is a slap in the face to the people who do make their true homes here, contribute to communities and the economy, grow families here and genuinely love being Alaskan.

The way the law is currently written, it is very difficult to prosecute violators. HB 93 aims to fix this and we urge you to

support it. As it moves through committees and the amendment process, we have a few suggestions you may wish to consider: Tying the resident license to the PFD rolls seems clean on its face, given the Division's arguably strict qualification process. However, there are some legitimate residents, many of them older who lived here most of their lives who forgo the PFD in favor of wintering in a warmer locale. In the event of using PFD eligibility, you may need some kind of exception for these residents; same for those Outside for an extended period caring for sick family, deployed overseas, etc. Another area of abuse we have witnessed is those in possession of a PID license (over 65 year old permanent license) These folks need a periodic accounting to see if they are in fact still residents. Perhaps a driver license check with Alaska or other states to see if they still maintain residency here. Just some thoughts to consider as you and your colleagues work on HB 93.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of supporting HB 93, and your continued hard work on behalf of your District 6 constituents.

Sincerely,

Douglas Malone, Chairman

On behalf of the Homer ADFG Advisory Committee

From: Paul Johnson [REDACTED] >

Sent: Monday, April 21, 2025 7:25 PM

To: Rep. Rebecca Himschoot <Rep.Rebecca.Himschoot@akleg.gov>

Subject: HB93

I am writing this letter in support of HB93. I'm in support of increasing the requirement for Alaska resident hunting/fishing/trapping licenses to mirror the PDF requirements. I have lived in Alaska for over 40 years and I've seen the abuse of our natural resources from sheep hunting in the Brooks Range to razor clam digging on the Kenai Peninsula to halibut and salmon fishing in Southeast Alaska. I've seen many non-residents claim they are residents when actually they only live in Alaska for a few weeks or months. This has got to stop!!! I am in full support of this bill Sincerely, Tami Mulick

[REDACTED]

Juneau AK

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Please call or email me for questions or concerns



FREELANCE

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES



April 10, 2025

Dear Alaska State Legislatures,

My name is Lance Kronberger. I have been a resident of Alaska for over twenty years. I am a lifelong hunting and fishing guide who has raised my family in Alaska and solely supported them through the Alaskan guiding industry. I guide hunters out of Unalakleet, Kodiak Island, and operate a hunting and fishing lodge in Akiachak National Preserve on the Alaska Peninsula.

I am in full support of HB 93. I have seen this loophole abused for years. I have witnessed outdoorsman openly discuss how to get around the guide required hunting restrictions for Sheep, Goats, and Brown Bears. Our Alaskan resources are too valuable to allow non-residents to take advantage of a very questionable loophole.

I am in full support of people moving to Alaska and making it their permanent residence. Alaska is a great place to live and raise a family. But I strongly oppose non-residents working the system to get the benefits that are to be enjoyed by full time residents of the great state of Alaska.

Sincerely,

Lance Kronberger

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Rep. Rebecca Himschoot](#)
Cc: [Thatcher Brouwer](#)
Subject: Support for HB93
Date: Friday, April 4, 2025 1:03:12 PM

Dear Representative Himschoot,

My name is Cabot Pitts and I am a resident of Palmer, Alaska. I am a hunting outfitter and air taxi operator. I was just informed from a good friend of mine Kurt Whitehead of Kalwock, Alaska about HB93 and aligning the Alaska residency requirements for resident and non-resident Hunting and Fishing licenses to mimic more of the PFD requirements on being an Alaskan Resident.

I can attest and speak deeply about this issue. Part of being an Alaskan resident is the investment one takes into actually living in Alaska full time, to benefit from the privileges we are allowed. In this case I am speaking about our wildlife resources.

It's important for residents of Alaska to truly live in and contribute to the state in order to fully benefit from everything it offers—especially when it comes to unique privileges like hunting and fishing rights. Alaska's resources and opportunities, including subsistence and resident hunting and fishing access, are reserved for those who are actively part of the community and economy. Simply holding an address here isn't enough; genuine residency means supporting local businesses, paying state taxes, engaging with the community, and investing in the future of the state. These benefits are designed to support those who call Alaska home—not just on paper, but in practice. The policies need to change, this is why I am in support of HB93. I thank you for your time and hearing my concerns.

Sincerely,
Cabot Pitts

Cabot Pitts
(907) 414-5434

-----Original Message-----

From: r sea [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, April 2, 2025 7:03 AM

To: Rep. Rebecca Himschoot <Rep.Rebecca.Himschoot@akleg.gov>

Subject: Bill HB93

Dear rep. Himschoot ! Please do all you can yo support this bill as you know by the information supplied by Kirk whitehead there are hundreds of non resident people fishing under the resident umbrella and it's very disturbing to actually have them even state they don't care right me a ticket my lawyer will pay the fine. As a pilot I have actually flown 32 fish box's for one person !

Sent from my iPhone

Dear Members of the Alaska State Legislature,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 93, which seeks to clearly define and enforce residency requirements for the purpose of state benefits and programs.

As a municipal official in a small coastal community, I see how crucial it is that state resources are allocated fairly and equitably to individuals who are truly invested in and contributing to the wellbeing of Alaska communities. HB 93 helps protect the integrity of residency-based qualifications by establishing clearer guidelines and enforcement tools to ensure that only legitimate residents are eligible for programs such as the Fish and Game resources and other state-supported benefits.

This legislation is particularly important for communities like Wrangell, where limited resources must be directed to those who genuinely live, work, and participate in civic life here. We support efforts to prevent abuse of residency definitions, which can ultimately dilute support for full-time Alaskans and strain local systems.

I commend the sponsors of HB 93 for their leadership on this issue and urge the legislature to pass this bill in support of Alaskan residents and communities.

Sincerely,
Steve Miller
Port Director
Wrangell Port & Harbors

STEVE MILLER
Port & Harbor Director
CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL



-----Original Message-----

From: Mike Wood [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2025 9:49 AM

To: Rep. Rebecca Himschoot <Rep.Rebecca.Himschoot@akleg.gov>

Subject: Mike Wood current BOF member

Dear Rep. Himschoot,

I am writing in full support of HB 093.

In the past two years on the Board of Fisheries i have had the privilege of seeing how the State uses its funds to best sustain our fish and wildlife resources.

This begins with the staff at ADFG that work to help with public outreach and run our unique board meetings all the way to the biology staff and commissioner who make decisions based on the best available science at hand. All this requires money from the people who are privileged to access this valuable state resource.

HB 093 addresses this growing problem fairly and head on. Please make the use of our limited fish and wildlife resources more equitable to the residents of Alaska and ensure we All value the resource in a monetarily equitable system.

Sincerely, Mike Wood

Sent from my iPad

Hello,

My name is Kurt Whitehead.

My wife, Trina Nation, and I own and operate Treasure Hunter Lodge in Klawock, AK. We are year round residents and offer fully guided charter fishing trips and black bear hunts. We have operated from the Klawock harbor since 2007. I am also the Secretary of the East Prince of Wales AC, the Klawock AC and the Craig AC.

House Bill 93 originally started in the East PoW AC meeting on Dec. 13, 2018. That meeting was the first meeting for the AC since 2009 and 10 representatives from Kasaan, Whale Pass, Coffman Cove, Hollis and Thorne Bay are all currently on the AC. There are also 5 at large members. Incidentally, there are 84 ADFG Advisory Committees in the state but not all are active.

At that 2018 meeting, the roughly 15 members in attendance agreed that the number one issue on PoW was Seasonal Residents. Four years ago at the Board of Fish meeting, the East PoW AC submitted proposals to change the definition of the word 'domicile' as well as a proposal to increase the requirements to purchase a resident hunting fishing, trapping license. The BoF correctly ruled that both of these would take a statute change.

Representatives Himschoot and Hannan have again graciously sponsored this bill.

I bought the ADFG public file of every hunting/fishing/trapping/commercial license that AK sold so we could cross reference the Seasonal Residents in our communities that we thought were purchasing resident licenses just so they could increase their harvest, participate in personal use and/or subsistence fisheries and in general take more than their fair share of resources. With this file, we identified many of these folks.

In Ketchikan there are multiple 'residents' using the same address for their Alaskan 'domicile' but it is really a private mail box forwarding business in the Plaza Mall.

In Craig, AK one of them shipped over 840lbs of frozen fish to his real home in the lower 48 at the end of a summer. He entertains a steady stream of friends in the process. He has been doing this for years and we see him on the water regularly in the summer.

In the Klawock harbor there is an individual that has claimed residency for 25+ years and comes up for a few weeks every year with "friends" to catch as many fish as possible and return as little as possible back to the community. You will have an in depth letter about him in the coming weeks. He is one of many.

I spoke with the Klawock City Administrator about Seasonal Residents and we discussed all the properties in town that have their utilities turned on just during the summer.

Many Seasonal Residents also hunt in AK and pay \$0 for their licenses and tags. The state is missing a windfall of money on license fees and big game locking tag fees as well as missing out on the 3 to 1 federal matching funds from both the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act and the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act.

In Coffman Cove, 102 of 197 are Seasonal Residents.

Many of them return with a new batch of "friends" every week and whack and stack fish. Some of them even launch and haul their entire boat out of the water every single day so the rest of people on the dock can't see the fish. Who does that? Illegal guides certainly do it.

The definition of illegal guiding is being “compensated” for your services. This doesn’t mean a monetary transaction has to take place, but this is often the case.

If the ‘friend’ pays for more than 50% of the food, fuel, bait, etc. for a trip it is illegal guiding.

If the ‘friend’ leaves you a tent after the hunt, it is illegal guiding.

If the ‘friend’ barbers anything for a fishing/hunting trip, it is illegal guiding.

Many Seasonal Residents fall into this category either knowingly or unknowingly.

Many of them trade a fishing trip for a business dealing or straight up for cash.

Many of the Seasonal Residents also take advantage of the Permanent ID license once they reach 60 years of age so they are not paying the state a single nickel for their hunting/fishing/trapping license.

Seasonal Residents that purchase non-resident licenses are not the issue.

Non-resident clients legally hunting, trapping or fishing with guides are not the issue.

Passage of this bill will make the residency requirements easier to comprehend and enforce, decrease illegal guiding, increase funding to the state, leave more fish/game in the water and on the land for true year-round residents and in general, improve our lives, our communities and our state.

Prince of Wales and all of Alaska sincerely appreciates your help on this important issue.

Thank you!

Kurt Whitehead
Treasure Hunter Lodge LLC

[REDACTED]

Klawock, AK 99925

[REDACTED]



March 24, 2025

Dear Legislators of the 34th Alaska Legislature,

The City of Craig supports Alaska House Bill 93 sponsored by Representatives Himschoot, Hannan, and Burke. This bill will change the residency requirements for hunting, trapping, and sport fishing privileges to align with the requirements to receive a Permanent Fund Dividend (AS 43.23).

Passage of HB 93 will benefit all Alaskans by:

1. Limiting the amount of time and reasons one can be absent from the state and still qualify for a resident license;
2. Making residency requirements easier to comprehend and enforce;
3. Protecting subsistence resources for year-round Alaska Residents;
4. Decreasing illegal guiding;
5. Increasing funding for the State of Alaska.

The statute changes proposed in HB93 will ensure that Alaskans who qualify for a resident hunting, trapping, and sport fishing license are in fact year-round residents of Alaska who deserve the increased bag limits that are the privilege of state residents.

We urge the Alaska Legislature to pass HB 93 into Alaska law.

Respectfully,

Kasey Smith
Mayor, City of Craig

March 24, 2025

Alaska State Legislators
Juneau, AK

Dear Alaska State Legislators,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on HB93.

As a lifelong Alaskan I believe we now, more than ever need to protect our resources for the people who live in Alaska year round.

These are a few of the many reasons I support HB93.

- It will improve our lives and better protect our subsistence resources for those who need them most.

- It will generate additional revenue for the state and ADFG.

- It will improve enforcement and deter criminal activity.

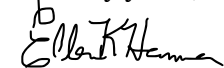
- Limiting the amount of time and reasons one can be absent from the state and still qualify for a resident license.

- The proposed statute changes in HB 93, will ensure that Alaskans who qualify for a resident hunting, trapping or sport fishing license are in fact year-round residents of Alaska who deserve the increased bag limits, that are a privilege of state residents. Alaska is becoming an increasing popular seasonal recreation spot for a lot of people with a second home. They are here for a short time, and because they own a home here, can qualify for our resident hunting, fishing and trapping privileges. Our Alaska constitution states that the resources of Alaska will be protected for Alaskans first.

I urge the 34th Legislature to pass HB93 into Alaska Law.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ellen Hannan", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ellen Hannan

CITY OF COFFMAN COVE, ALASKA
RESOLUTION 25 13

A RESOLUTION BY THE COFFMAN COVE CITY COUNCIL SUPPORTING PASSAGE
OF HB 93 AN ACT CHANGING THE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR HUNTING, TRAPPING,
AND SPORT FISHING PRIVILEGES; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City Council is the governing body for the City of Coffman Cove; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 93 RESIDENCY REQ: HUNTING, TRAPPING, FISHING amends AS 16.05.415(a)(3) and (e)(3) to read: "has been physically present in the state at all times during the 12 consecutive months under (2) of this subsection or, if absent, was absent only as allowed in AS 43.23.008"; and

WHEREAS, AS 43.23.008 Allowable absences lists the conditions under which an Alaska resident may be physically absent from the state but still qualify for a Permanent Fund Dividend; and

WHEREAS, Article VI", Section 2 of the Alaska Constitution requires that "The legislature shall provide for the utilization, development, and conservation of all natural resources belonging to the State, including land and waters, for the maximum benefit of its people"; and,

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the State of Alaska and its people to ensure that those who enjoy the lower cost and increased bag limits associated with a resident license are, in fact, full-time residents of the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, AS 16.05.415 Determination of residency is currently too broad, vague and subject to judicial interpretation to be equitably enforceable under either the Equal Protection Clause Of the 14th Amendment to the United States Constitution or Article I Section 1 Inherent Rights declaration of the Alaska Constitution; and

WHEREAS, AS 43.23.008 Allowable absences has withstood judicial review;

BE IT RESOLVED The Coffman Cove City Council hereby supports passage of HB 93.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Coffman Cove Council this 20th day of March
2025.

Mayor / Vice Mayor:



ATTEST: City Clerk





RESOLUTION OVK 25-03-016

Supporting State of Alaska House Bill (HB) 93, changing State of Alaska's residency requirements for hunting, trapping, and sport fishing license(s).

WHEREAS the Organized Village of Kasaan is a federally recognized Tribe organized pursuant to the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984) and May 1, 1936 (49 Stat. 1250); and

WHEREAS, the Corporate Charter of the Organized Village of Kasaan (Ratified October 15, 1938) states in its Purpose and Existence, "In order to further the economic development of the Indians residing in the neighborhood of Kasaan, Alaska, by conferring upon the Organized Village of Kasaan corporate rights and powers; and to enable this Village and its members to undertake enterprises designed to secure for the members of the corporation an assured economic independence..." and

WHEREAS, the Organized Village of Kasaan (hereinafter "OVK") is governed by a Council of elected representatives composed of a President and six members who act in accordance with the powers granted to it by its Constitution and By-Laws (Ratified on October 15, 1938); and

WHEREAS, the OVK Tribal Membership is dependent on abundant sustainable natural resources stretching from the pristine mountain tops to the coastal waters of Southeast Alaska for harvest, consumption, distribution and barter; and,

WHEREAS, OVK formally supports the State of Alaska's House Bill 93, which is sponsored by State Representatives Himschoot and Hannan, which will change residency requirements for the State of Alaska's Hunting, Trapping, and Sport Fishing privileges to align with the requirements to receive a Permanent Fund Dividend (AS 43.23), and

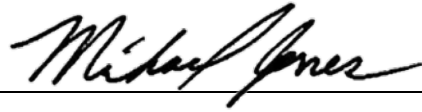
WHEREAS, State of Alaska's House Bill 93 will benefit year round Alaskans by limiting the amount of time and reasons one can be absent from the state and still qualify for a resident license; making Alaska residency requirements easier to enforce; protecting customary & traditional resources for year-round Alaska residents, and

WHEREAS, the statute changes proposed in House Bill 93 will ensure that all "true Alaskans" who qualify for a resident hunting, trapping, and sport fishing license are in fact year-round Alaska residents who rightfully deserve the increased bag limits that are a privilege of state residents, and

WHEREAS, the Organized Village of Kasaan formally supports State of Alaska House Bill 93, changing State of Alaska's residency requirements for hunting, trapping, and sportfishing license(s), and

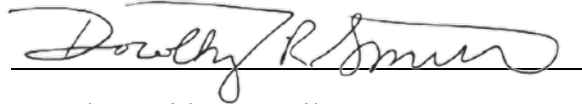
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Organized Village of Kasaan formally supports the State of Alaska’s House Bill 93 that will change the residency requirements for hunting, trapping, and sport fishing licenses to align with the requirements to receive a Permanent Fund Dividend.

CERTIFICATION APPROVED, PASSED AND ADOPTED by a duly constituted quorum of the Organized Village of Kasaan’s Tribal Council on this 10th day of March, 2025: Della Coburn, Vice President, Yes; Glenn “Stormy” Hamar, Treasurer, Yes; Stephanie Hamar, Tribal Council Member At-Large, Yes; George Nix, Sergeant-At-Arms, Yes; Elizabeth Wadsworth, Tribal Council Member At-Large, Excused; Dorothy Smith, Secretary, Yes.



Michael Jones, Tribal Council President

Attested:



Dorothy Smith, Council Secretary

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Thatcher Brouwer](#); [Rep. Rebecca Himschoot](#)
Subject: Scott Newman HB 93 letter
Date: Thursday, March 13, 2025 7:27:55 AM

Hi Thatcher and Rebecca

Here is my updated letter of support for HB 93.

Thanks

Scott

Hello,

My name is Scott Newman. I am a lifelong Alaskan, born and raised in Petersburg where I have raised my family of four with my wife Cindy, who I have been married to for 34 years. I grew up commercial fishing and have fished the Bering sea, Gulf of Alaska, Bristol bay and all of SE Alaska. I am a Master hunting guide and had my own guide service for over 30 years. I currently own and operate Petersburg Flying Service LLC flying a DeHavilland Beaver as a part 135 air taxi with an FAA Air Carrier Certificate. I am also currently serving as an Assembly member on the Petersburg Borough Assembly.

I support HB 93 because the issue of residency requirements and specifically maintaining that requirement is overdue. In fact it is absent. For decades now I have personally witnessed people who have moved to Alaska for work and lived here for a period of years and then retired or moved back to their home state. These people will come back during the summer months to fish and hunt and claim residency because according to them they have paid their dues. I have always wondered how these people could get away with paying resident license fees when they clearly are no longer Alaska residents. When confronted with the issue their first reply is that they do not claim the Permanent fund dividend. The implication is that they're not taking money from the State of Alaska. When in reality, they actually are, because they are not paying their fair share to access Alaska's fish and wildlife resources. The real reason they are not claiming the PFD is that under PFD program regulations, there is a requirement for maintaining Alaska residency and they do not meet it. They also know that the PFD program definition of residency is the 'tool in the toolbox' that enables enforcement to effectively determine and hold people accountable for their claim of residency. Enforcement has all but given up on going after these people, because the current weak definition doesn't hold up in court. HB 93 will align with the residency requirement of the PFD program, and effectively give enforcement the means necessary to ensure actual Alaska residents receive the benefits of maintaining residency, while non residents pay their fair share to support Alaska's management of the fish and wildlife resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Scott Newman
Petersburg Flying Service LLC
[REDACTED]

Petersburg, AK 99833



From: Joseph Johnson [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2025 5:25 PM

To: Rep. Rebecca Himschoot <Rep.Rebecca.Himschoot@akleg.gov>; Representative Rebecca Himschoot <rep.himschoot-akleg.gov@shared1.ccsend.com>

Cc: Kurt Whitehead [REDACTED]

Subject: HB93

Thank you for the opportunity to tell my story.

I was originally born and raised in southern Utah. When I was about 15, a man who was friends with my father at the time asked if he could take me to Alaska for the summer. It was an opportunity of a lifetime for me. This man brought me to Alaska and had me help him build a house. He also took me fishing a few times that summer. I developed a relationship with this man and I also developed a love for Alaska. He brought me back to Alaska multiple Summers starting the summer of 2000. This man makes his living putting on multi-day equestrian events. He holds multiple events every year. He always offered dinners at the end of every day at these events usually the last day of an event he will offer Alaskan halibut or salmon. He always made sure to let everybody know that this was fish that he caught himself. This man has maintained an Alaska residency for well over 25 years now. Never once has he spent more than 3 months in the state of Alaska. He has all his vehicles registered in Alaska and almost none of them have ever even been in the state of Alaska. I no longer associate myself with this man for many reasons. I'm not an avid fisherman. I didn't know what the regulations and rules were for fishing. I have now lived full time on Prince of Wales Island for over 5 years now. Over the last 5 years, I have learned a lot about fishing and hunting. Several years ago it finally dawned on me what this man was doing. He was sport fishing as a resident and he was bringing kids like me and friends to Alaska every single summer to go fishing. I wasn't big into eating fish so I never questioned where my fish was going. In hindsight, I never put a single fish that I caught over all of those years in my own freezer, it was always in his. Looking back on it, this man has hauled a lot of fish down to the lower 48 and sold it for a profit. This is my personal experience. I have been on both ends in regards to where this man caught his fish and where he sold it and I have seen it with my own eyes. From what I can tell, he is definitely not the exception to the rule. It is clear as day to me now that people and corporations from all over the world are taking advantage of Alaska's weak regulations.

Alaska's resources are being plundered via loopholes. I ask that you act on this bill and take steps towards closing some of these loopholes.

Sincerely

Joseph M Johnson.

March 13, 2025

Alaska State Legislators
Juneau, AK

Dear Alaska State Legislators,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on HB93.
As a lifelong Alaskan I believe we now more than ever need to protect our resources for the people who live in Alaska year round.

I have listed a few of the many reasons I support HB93.

-It will improve our lives and better protect our subsistence resources for those who need them most.

-It will generate additional revenue for the state and ADFG.

-It will improve enforcement and deter criminal activity.

-Limiting the amount of time and reasons one can be absent from the state and still qualify for a resident license.

-The proposed statute changes in HB 93, will ensure that Alaskans who qualify for a resident hunting, trapping or sport fishing license are in fact year-round residents of Alaska who deserve the increased bag limits, that are a privilege of state residents. Alaska is becoming an increasing popular seasonal recreation spot for a lot of people with a second home. They are here for a short time, and because they own a home here, can qualify for our resident hunting, fishing and trapping privileges. That is not fair for the people who live here year round. Our Alaska constitution states that the resources of Alaska will be protected for Alaskans first.

I urge the 34th Legislature to pass HB93 into Alaska Law.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Brian Castle- Resident as long Alaska has been a state



Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska

907.586.1432 • 800.344.1432

PO Box 25500 • Juneau, Alaska 99802

TlingitandHaida.gov

March 12, 2025

Representative Himschoot
State Capitol Room 411
Juneau AK, 99801

RE: Support for HB 93

On behalf of the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Tlingit & Haida), I write in support of HB 93.

Tlingit & Haida believes that the management of resources in our State must be improved, especially when it comes to ensuring a rural subsistence priority for residents. Many of our citizens rely on a subsistence lifestyle, harvesting local fish and game not just for cultural continuity, but as a necessity to offset the exorbitant cost and limited availability of groceries in rural Alaska. Tlingit & Haida believes that House Bill 93 is instrumental in protecting local resources for those who live here year-round and contribute to the stewardship of these resources through taxes and other means. This legislation helps prevent out-of-state individuals from disproportionately benefiting from local resources without contributing to their preservation.

Current loopholes allow seasonal workers to claim residency despite only coming to the state during peak months of harvest. This exploitation skews resource access and increases competition for local harvesters while undermining the intent of state residency requirements.

Many rural communities in Alaska have deep cultural ties to hunting and fishing, often passed down through generations. Strengthening residency requirements helps preserve these traditions by ensuring that locals have continued access to the resources they rely on for cultural practices and identity.

Overall, HB 93 is a necessary step in ensuring that state residency requirements for fish and game licensing are enforced properly and play a vital role in protecting resources for locals, supporting rural subsistence priorities, and ensuring the sustainable management of wildlife populations and ecosystems. This legislation creates clear and enforceable standards for the people who depend upon our resources the most.

Gunalchéesh, Háw'aa, thank you for introducing this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Peterson,
President

WRANGELL FISH & GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE

P.O. Box 1491, Wrangell AK 99929

March 12, 2025

Re: HB93

Dear Alaska State Legislatures,

The Wrangell Fish and Game Advisory Committee (AC) unanimously supports the passage of House Bill 93 (HB93): **An Act changing the residency requirements for hunting, trapping, and sport fishing privileges; and providing for an effective date.**

On Tuesday March 11 the Wrangell AC met and discussed HB93. We accept the Alaska residency requirements for fishing/hunting/trapping should be similar to the residence requirements for the Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend. We support the bill because it would provide a consistent definition for Alaska residence. We agree that persons enjoying hunting, trapping, and sport fishing privileges needs to have been physically present and maintained their domicile in the state for the 12 consecutive months or, if absent, was absent only as allowed in AS 43.23.008.

The Wrangell AC is an elected group from Wrangell with an interest in Fish and Wildlife issues who are charged to provide recommendations to the Alaska Boards of Fish and Game as well as a forum to discuss recommendations to relevant agencies.

Thank you for your time. If you have any questions or if you would like to discuss the reasons for our support of HB93 request, I am available to talk with you. My e-mail address is: ccgugg@gci.net, and my cell 907-305-0531.

Respectfully,



Chris Guggenbickler
Chairperson

Cc: Senator Bert Stedman, Representative Jeremy Bynum

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Date: FW: Public Testimony HB93
Wednesday, March 12, 2025 10:38:07 AM

From: Mary Corcoran [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2025 9:48 AM
To: House Resources <House.Resources@akleg.gov>
Cc: Rep. Rebecca Himschoot <Rep.Rebecca.Himschoot@akleg.gov>
Subject: Public Testimony HB93

To House Resources Committee Co-Chairs Representative Burke and Representative Dibert and Committee members,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on HB93. I urge you to support this bill as presented. I am a 47+ year resident of the state and a person who highly values our fishery and game resources. I have seen more than my share of people who have “stretched” the definition of resident for the purposes of harvesting as much as they can in-season and then promptly leaving Alaska in order to fill their freezers in the Lower 48.

With the pressures on our resources and the importance of food security for Alaska residents who have truly made this their home, this bill is needed without delay. Additionally, this bill affects ALL residents as State coffers would be increased when appropriate license and tag fees are collected.

Please do support its passage out of committee and on the House Floor.

Thank you for your work and crafting this bill.

Sincerely,
Mary Corcoran
Delta Junction, Alaska
Ellamar, PWS Alaska

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: HB 93 comments.
Date: Tuesday, March 11, 2025 3:11:52 PM

Delta Sportsmans Assn is in favor of tightening residency requirements for Alaska Resident Hunting and Fishing Licenses.

Minimum requirements should be the same as PFD requirements. Law Officers can easily verify that the individual has qualified and applied for PFD. False PFD applications are a felony.

Vern Aiton
Delta Junction Alaska

March 11, 2025

Alaska State Legislators
Juneau, AK

Dear Alaska State Legislators,

The ADFG Craig Advisory Committee is pleased to offer its unanimous SUPPORT for House Bill 93.

The Craig AC is a diverse group of 15 members from the Craig area in Southern Southeast Alaska.

Below, we have listed a few of the many reasons we support HB93.

- It will improve our lives and better protect our subsistence resources for those who need them most.

- It will generate additional revenue for the state and ADFG.

- It will improve enforcement and deter criminal activity.

- Limiting the amount of time and reasons one can be absent from the state and still qualify for a resident license.

- The statute changes proposed in HB 93 will ensure that Alaskans who qualify for a resident hunting, trapping or sport fishing license are in fact year-round residents of Alaska who deserve the increased bag limits that are a privilege of state residents.

We urge the 34th Legislature to pass HB93 into Alaska Law.

Sincerely yours,



Ellen Hannan

Chair of Craig Fish and Game Advisory Committee

From:

Subject:

Date:

HB93 support comment

Tuesday, March 11, 2025 4:45:47 PM

Dear representatives,

My name is Elijah Winrod,

I am a 38yr resident of Prince of wales island (currently Klawock).

I am a long time charter boat captain.

I strongly support HB 93 as I believe it will help to better define residency requirements that affect fish and game harvesting regulations.

This is especially important as many harvest species have declined, and as competition for these resources increase .

I believe implementing HB93 will help alleviate additional pressure on resources by

Seasonal residents, some of whom are currently harvesting under resident & subsistence fish and game harvest regulations during harvest months, and then live elsewhere than Ak for the remainder of the year,

Thank you all for your work & consideration.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

March 11, 2025

Alaska State Legislators
Juneau, AK

Dear Alaska State Legislators,

Below, we have listed a few of the many reasons we support HB93.

- It will improve our lives and better protect our subsistence resources for those who need them most.

- It will generate additional revenue for the state and ADFG.

- It will improve enforcement and deter criminal activity.

- Limiting the amount of time and reasons one can be absent from the state and still qualify for a resident license.

- The statute changes proposed in HB 93 will ensure that Alaskans who qualify for a resident hunting, trapping or sport fishing license are in fact year-round residents of Alaska who deserve the increased bag limits that are a privilege of state residents.

We urge the 34th Legislature to pass HB93 into Alaska Law.

Sincerely yours,

Lena Hensley

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Thatcher Brouwe](#)
Subject: HB93
Date: Tuesday, March 11, 2025 8:59:04 AM

Please take note that as a resident of Klawock I support HB93.

Mark Tollfeldt

[REDACTED]
Klawock, AK 99925

[REDACTED]

Please accept my input regarding Alaska HB 93, an Act changing the residency requirements for hunting, trapping, and sport fishing privileges.

My name is Leif Wilson, I am 61 years old and a lifelong Alaskan, one of 5 generations of my family currently living in Alaska.

I am in support of HB 93 because I feel that the current law allows the people of Alaska, and the State as a whole, to be taken advantage of.

In the area that I live in, Big Game hunting is a big draw for people in Alaska. I am one of the owner operators of 40-Mile Air in Tok. We are Big Game Transporters. I have personally been flying hunters into the field for 31 years.

I know of numerous people that come to Alaska every year for a month or less specifically to hunt. The current law allows them to claim Alaska residency, but they do not live here and have not lived here; in some cases, for 20 years or even for only 1 year in the last 70. In some instances, they bring up family members from down south to hunt guide required species under the second degree of Kindred Law. This is big money! It makes the money that our Alaska residents collect as a dividend look like chump change, yet we offer it much more protection.

The only argument that I have heard when I talk to people that are against this change is that they either are or may want to be snowbirds and still want to take advantage of Alaska resident hunting privileges. In my opinion they are willing to allow most Alaska residents and the State as a whole, to be taken advantage of for their own personal gain. I am hopeful that there are not any elected officials in our legislature that would support that argument. Actually living in the state for 6 months out of a year to be eligible for these benefits is a still a low bar to set. I do not care if you have been an Alaska resident for 60 years or not.

Leif Wilson

Tok Alaska

March 11, 2025

Dear House Resources Committee Members:

My name is Doug Rhodes and I have lived on Prince of Wales Island for over 40 years. I have been a commercial fisherman in Alaska for over 50 years, am an avid sport fisherman and hunter. I also operate a small fish processing facility and provide boxes and other materials for sale seasonally.

In the last 20 years I have seen a disturbing trend on our island and in our state in regards to tourists coming to Alaska for the summer claiming residency. I don't want to call them "fake residents" because the way the law is written they actually can claim residency. This is because our criteria for what constitutes a resident is weak and needs to be strengthened.

Why is this important? Well, these summer tourists are here for a few weeks and catch an obscene amount of fish daily. They then set subsistence skates to catch even more halibut and rockfish, get subsistence sockeye out of our streams and then fill their freezers with shrimp and crab! They ship it all south at the end of their stay to do whatever with it. They barter their fish, brag about what they are doing and attract others from down south to come and do the same. Because they claim residency, they are allowed to keep more than they would as non residents.

I ship out my commercially caught fish that are vacuum packed, frozen and boxed. Many times at the local airport I will see some of these so called "residents" shipping off more boxes of fish than I will! I know this because many of these people have actually purchased their boxes from me!

I believe that most Alaskans believe in conserving our resources, and HB 93 helps plug a loophole that exists, and tightens the requirements to be considered a resident. It seems as though our state is always making regulations to conserve our resources after the fact, and then it is too late. I have only taken the time to speak to the fisheries issues, but the hunting issues are just as concerning to residents!

I urge the committee to pass HB 93 and I hope to see it pass into law. Please understand the importance of this matter to those of us, especially in rural Alaska, that depend upon these resources.

Respectfully,

Doug Rhodes
Craig, Alaska

March 10, 2025

Dear Legislators of the 34th Alaska

I support House Bill 93 sponsored by Representatives Himschoot and Hannan, which will change the residency requirements for hunting, trapping and sport fishing privileges to align with the requirements to receive a Permanent Fund Dividend (AS 43.23).

Passage of HB 93 will benefit all Alaskans by:

1. limiting the amount of time and reasons one can be absent from the state and still qualify for a resident license;
2. making residency requirements easier to enforce; and
3. protecting subsistence resources for year-round Alaska residents.

The statute changes proposed in HB 93 will ensure that Alaskans who qualify for a resident hunting, trapping or sport fishing license are in fact year-round residents of Alaska who deserve the increased bag limits that are a privilege of state residents.

I urge the 34th Legislature to pass HB 93.

Respectfully,

Michael Kampnich

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of Michael Kampnich.

Craig, Alaska

March 10, 2025

Representative Himshoot
State Capitol, Room 411
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: Support for HB93: An Act changing the residency requirements for hunting, trapping, and sport fishing privileges; and providing for an effective date.

Representative Himshoot and members of the House Resources Committee,

The Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) writes in support of HB93. TCC is a Tribal consortium made up of 42 members, including 39 villages and 37 federally recognized Tribes. Our region covers an area of 235,000 square miles in Interior Alaska. TCC provides a unified voice in advancing sovereign Tribal governments through the promotion of physical and mental wellness, education, socioeconomic development, and culture of the Interior Alaska Native people.

TCC and our member Tribes have been leading the fight to keep salmon in Alaska rivers. We feel the loss of our food resources more acutely in our rural communities than many others. With the increased pressure on our limited fish and game resources, it is essential to ensure that those who enjoy the lower cost and increased bag limits associated with a resident license are, in fact, full-time residents of the State of Alaska. Allowing greater access to fish and game resources for year-round residents of Alaska who invest in their communities in all seasons will ensure that individuals and communities who depend most on the resource will have access.

Thank you for your work for Alaskans.

Sincerely,



Brian Ridley
Chief/Chairman
Tanana Chiefs Conference

East Prince of Wales Island Fish & Game Advisory Committee

Amy Jennings, Chair
Thorne Bay, Alaska

East Prince of Wales Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Thorne Bay, Alaska
March 1, 2025

Dear Legislators of the 34th Alaska Legislature,

The East POW AC supports House Bill 93 sponsored by Representatives Himschoot and Hannan, which will change the residency requirements for hunting, trapping and sport fishing privileges to align with the requirements to receive a Permanent Fund Dividend (AS 43.23).

Passage of HB 93 will benefit all Alaskans by:

1. Limiting the amount of time and reasons one can be absent from the state and still qualify for a resident license;
2. Making residency requirements easier to enforce; and
3. Protecting subsistence resources for year-round Alaska residents.

The statute changes proposed in HB 93 will ensure that Alaskans who qualify for a resident hunting, trapping or sport fishing license are in fact year-round residents of Alaska who deserve the increased bag limits that are a privilege of state residents.

We urge the 34th Legislature to pass HB 93 into Alaska law.

Respectfully,

The East Prince of Wales Fish & Game Advisory Committee

Amy Jennings-Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amy Jennings", written in a cursive style.

February 19, 2025

To whom it may concern,

I fully support and agree with the basis of HB 93. With more people, better technology and generally less resources in the state than in the past I think this is a vital time to take measures to ensure the people that actually reside in the State of Alaska have the resources they need.

I feel that spending 6 months here to continue to have all the privileges that a resident receives is still an overall low standard. On the average I would say a person may have to endure 30 days of non-optimum temperatures or conditions to meet their required time here in the summer months. This is very little to ask of a person for the benefits they receive to maintain their resident privileges.

The privileges of resident hunting/fishing benefits far outweigh the benefits of the PFD for an individual. The same can be said for the negative effect to the State of Alaska. Yet the PFD program has a mechanism so that residents of the state are the ones receiving it. The monetary loss for the state and gain for the individual is hard to quantify but here is a small example.

If a non-resident hunted in Alaska for moose alone they would pay roughly \$1200 in license and fees. That seems to be a fairly average PFD payment. This is a 1 species hunt that meets or exceeds the normal monetary value of the PFD. This doesn't factor in extra species of hunting big game, fishing or waterfowl, or the potential of second degree kindred as well. The monetary value of resident hunting and fishing far exceeds the PFD in my opinion.

Why does the PFD have a mechanism and the hunting/fishing not have any mechanism for protection against blatant abuse?

Bottom line is the state should not allow a system that people are abusing and using for their personal gain over the resources of the state.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns

Respectfully submitted

Jacob Combs

[REDACTED]

Tok, AK 99780

[REDACTED]

Honorable Members of the House Fisheries Committee,

I am David Egelston of Thorne Bay. I am a retired Colonel from the New York State Environmental Conservation Police, the Brown Shirts in New York State. I am a member of the East Prince of Wales Advisory Committee. and secretary of the Thorne Bay Fisheries Association. I am also the one to suggest linking the PFD requirements to residency in Alaska, my only home since 2011.

I strongly support Representative Himschoot's House Bill 93. I could spend half an hour telling you about my experiences dealing with residency in New York and Alaska. But I don't want to lose you.

Bottom line is that our resources are being stolen by people who purport to be residents because they own property or leave a camper trailer here and claim residency. If nothing else, you should be concerned with the loss of revenue to ADF&G. If this bill passes and enforced there will be increased revenue measured in hundreds of thousands of dollars as the fake resident purchase non-resident licenses.

Passage of this bill would also decrease the take of many trophy species that residents may take at very reasonable costs. Residents have bag and possession limits that are much more liberal than non-residents. We real residents depend on the fish and game taken for our tables. I have a problem with fakes coming into our state to steal game under the flag of residency. Too many of our real state residents are fighting to maintain subsistence lifestyles while fakes are taking boxes of fish and game south to distribute to friends or freezer burn.

I ask that you vote to move this bill forward to save our resources, increase funds to ADF&G and make it easier for our Wildlife Troopers to remove the weeds from the garden.

Thank you for your consideration,

Colonel David Egelston
NYS Environmental Conservation Police (retired)

[REDACTED]
Thorne Bay, AK 99919
[REDACTED]