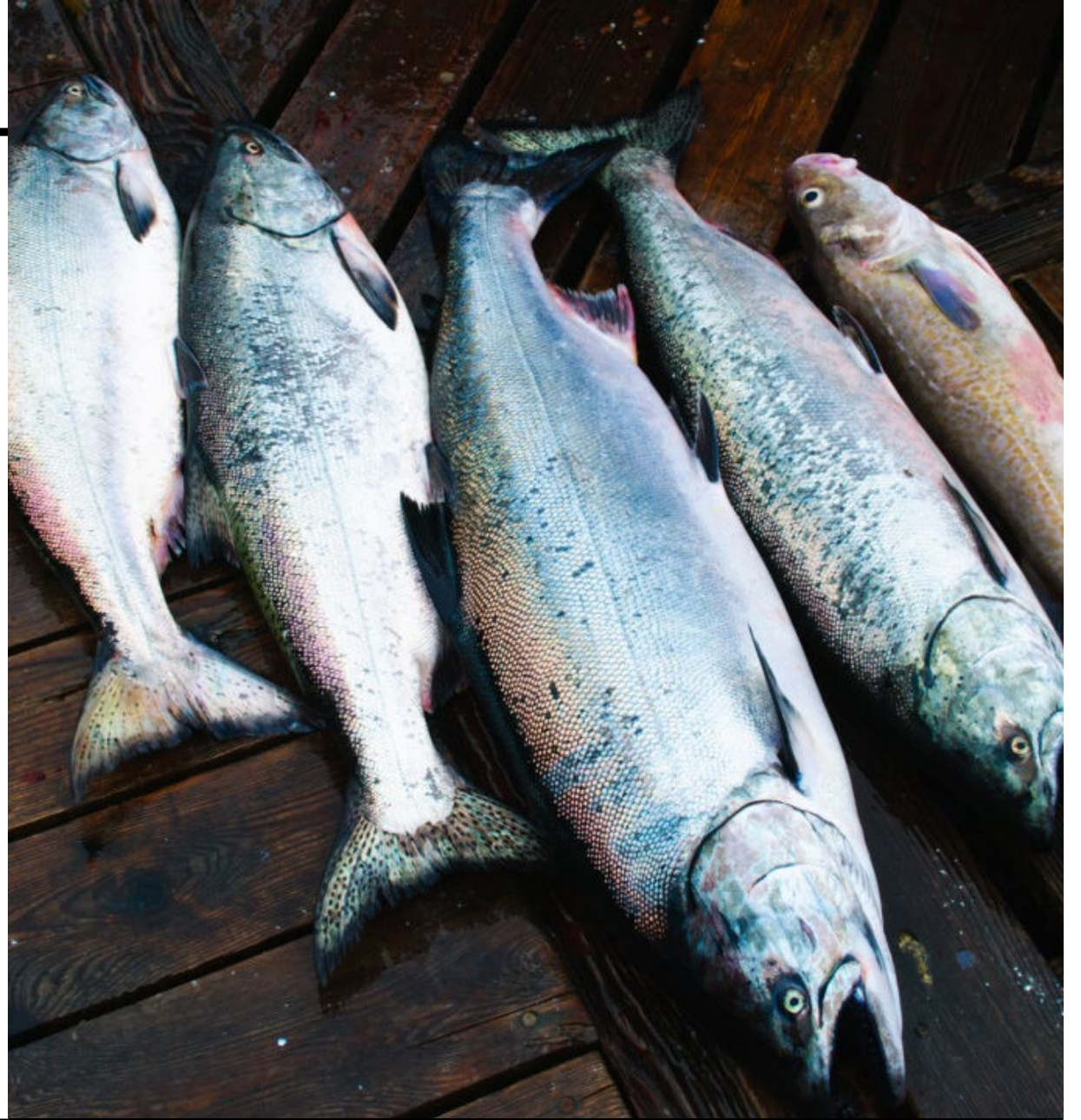

HB 93

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

Sponsored by
Representative Rebecca
Himschoot



CURRENT REQUIREMENTS TO QUALIFY FOR A RESIDENT LICENSE

1. Physical presence in the state with the intent to remain in the state indefinitely and to make a home in the state.
2. Maintenance of a domicile in the state for the 12 consecutive months immediately preceding the application for a license.
3. No claim of residency in another state, territory, or country.

AS 16.05.940 (11) “domicile” means the true and permanent home of a person from which the person has no present intention of moving and to which the person intends to return whenever the person is away.

HB 93

- Closes an existing loophole by closely aligning the requirements to get a resident hunting, trapping or sport fishing license with the requirements to get a permanent fund dividend.
- The current definition is largely dependent on intent and domicile.
- It is extremely difficult to prove someone's intent and a domicile can be a room you rent in someone's house.
- We have chosen to provide more liberal bag limits for fish and game and reduced fees for residents.





QUALIFYING FOR A RESIDENT LICENSE WITH HB 93

1. Physical presence in the state with the intent to remain in the state indefinitely and to make a home in the state.
2. Maintenance of a domicile in the state for the 12 consecutive months immediately preceding the application for a license.
3. No claim of residency in another state, territory, or country.
4. **Physical presence in the state at all times during the 12 consecutive months preceding the application for a license unless the absence was an allowable absence consistent with the permanent fund dividend allowable absences ([AS 43.23.008](#)).**

SUMMARY OF ALLOWABLE ABSENCES

- **General:** Absences up to 180 days (subject to certain limits based on other allowable absences claimed) consistent with the individual's intent to remain an Alaska resident.
 - **Education-Related:** Full-time secondary or post-secondary education or other full-time education program not available in Alaska.
 - **Military Service:** Serving on active duty in the U.S. armed forces or accompanying a family member who is serving and is eligible for a dividend.
 - **Merchant Marine Service:** Serving under foreign or coastal articles of employment aboard a U.S. oceangoing vessel or training to become a merchant mariner.
 - **Medical Treatment:** Receiving continuous medical treatment recommended by a licensed physician or convalescing as recommended by the physician.
 - **Caregiving:** Providing care for a critically ill family member, or for a terminally ill family member.
 - **Settling an Estate:** Managing the estate of a deceased family member, as long as the absence doesn't exceed 220 cumulative days.
 - **Congressional Service:** Serving as a member of the U.S. Congress or on the staff of an Alaskan member of Congress.
 - **State Employment:** Working as a state employee in a field office or another location outside Alaska.
 - **Accompanying a Minor or Eligible Resident:** Accompanying a minor or another eligible resident who is absent for certain allowable reasons.
 - **Peace Corps and Olympic Training:** Serving in the federal Peace Corps or training or competing as a member of the U.S. Olympic Team.
 - **Student Fellowships with U.S. Department of Education or Department of State:** Participating for educational purposes.
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EXAMPLES OF THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SPORT FISHING REGULATIONS FOR RESIDENTS AND NON-RESIDENTS

Species/Fishery/Area	Resident	Non-Resident
Personal Use Fisheries	Yes, you can participate	No, you cannot participate
King Salmon – Southeast Alaska, 2026 unless changed by Emergency Order	2 per day, 2 in possession, and no annual limit.	1 per day, 1 in possession -Annual limit January 1 – June 30: 3 -Annual Limit July 1 through December 31: 1
Coho, Chum, Pink, and Sockeye Salmon less than 16 inches	10 of each species per day, 10 of each species in possession	10 of each species per day, 10 of each species in possession
Tanner and Dungeness Crab	Tanner Crab: 30 legal males, Dungeness Crab: 20 legal males	Tanner and Dungeness Crab: 3 legal males in combination
Shrimp	No limit	3 pounds or quarts

EXAMPLES OF THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN HUNTING REGULATIONS FOR RESIDENTS AND NON-RESIDENTS

Species/Unit	Resident	Non-Resident
Black Bear/Unit 1	2 bears	1 bear
Grizzly Bear/Unit 1	1 bear	1 bear*
Deer/Chichagof Island east of Port Frederick and north of Tenakee Inlet in Unit 4	3 deer total	2 bucks
Goat/Unit 4	1 goat	1 goat*
Sheep/Unit 9	1 ram with full-curl horn or larger	1 ram with full-curl horn or larger every four regulatory years*
Wolf/Unit 11	5 wolves	5 wolves
Caribou/north of the Golsovia river drainage in Unit 22A	15 caribou total (only one cow) by permit	1 bull

* Must be accompanied in the field by an Alaska-licensed guide or resident relative with second-degree of kindred, age 19 or older, who possesses a valid Alaska hunting license.

EXAMPLES OF THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN LICENSE AND TAG FEES FOR RESIDENTS AND NON-RESIDENTS

License	Resident	Non-Resident
Annual Sport Fishing License	\$20.00	\$100.00
Annual Sport Fishing and Hunting License	\$60.00	\$260.00
Annual Sport Fishing, Hunting and Trapping License	\$85.00	N/A
Annual Hunting (all game)	\$45.00	\$160.00
Hunting and Trapping	N/A	\$405.00
Annual King Salmon Stamp	\$10.00	\$100.00
Brown/Grizzly Bear Tag	\$25.00	\$1,000.00*
Deer Tag	N/A	\$300.00
Goat Tag	N/A	\$600.00*
Moose Tag	N/A	\$800.00
Sheep Tag	N/A	\$850.00*

* Must be accompanied in the field by an Alaska-licensed guide or resident relative with second-degree of kindred, age 19 or older, who possesses a valid Alaska hunting license.

SOME OF THE SUPPORT RECEIVED FOR HB 93 (34TH LEGISLATURE) AND HB 201 / SB 171 DURING (33RD LEGISLATURE)

- **Organizations:** Alaska Federation of Natives, Tanana Chiefs Conference, Alaska Regional Coalition, Organized Village of Kasaan, City of Kake, Craig Tribal Association, Alliance of Sovereign Tribes of Southeast Alaska, Delta Sportsmen's Association, Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska and Board of Game.
- **Fish and Game Advisory Committees:** Anchorage, Sitka, Upper Tanana/Forty-mile, Ketchikan, Craig, East Prince of Wales, Minto/Nenana, Juneau / Douglas, Eagle, Wrangell and Homer.

HB 93 CLARIFIES LAW, BUT DOES NOT CHANGE LICENSING PROCESS OR NONRESIDENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Residency requirements will be clear and enforceable.
- More liberal bag limits and reduced cost licenses and tags will be preserved for residents who spend at least 180 days in state or are absent for an allowable reason and depend on our fish and game resources to put food on the table.
- Licenses will be issued the same way they are today. Residents will simply need to self certify that they meet the new residency requirements at the time they purchase a license.
- Bag limits and hunting and fishing opportunities for nonresidents will not be impacted.



THANK YOU

Representative Rebecca Himschoot
House District 2
