

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Session: January – April

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Official Business

House Bill 125

Trapping Cabin Construction Permit (TCCP) Reform

SPONSOR STATEMENT

Alaska has a rich history of trapping which far pre-dates the founding of our state. Trappers who run long lines in remote areas need cabins for shelter. These cabins are small, basic domiciles which serve as shelter in Alaska's harsh weather conditions. Roughly three decades ago, trapper advocates worked with the legislature to implement a program which allowed for the construction of trapper cabins on state lands (AS 38.95.075 – AS 38.95.085). Over the years, issues have been identified with that program which require statutory amendments. This bill would address several problems relating to Trapping Cabin Construction Permits (TCCP).

HB 125 updates the outdated statutes associated with receiving a TCCP and incorporates the use of existing trapping cabins on State lands. Current Statute does not allow the Department to issue permits for already constructed cabins. This bill would close that gap so all permits will be issued as Trapping Cabin Permits, covering both construction of a new cabin and allowing the continued use for an existing cabin.

As Alaskans, we have a unique respect for traditional ways of life, such as trapping. I urge my fellow colleagues of the 33rd legislature to support this legislation to help Alaskan trappers.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tom W. McKay".