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## 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





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## HB 93

Closely aligns the requirements to get a resident hunting, trapping or sport fishing license with the requirements to get a permanent fund dividend.

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# THE CURRENT RESIDENT REQUIREMENTS ARE DIFFICULT TO ENFORCE

- This allows individuals who are only here a few months of the year, or even less time, to take advantage of our preferential resident bag limits and reduced license fees.



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# 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.

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# UPDATING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A RESIDENT LICENSE IS IN THE STATE'S INTEREST

- 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 or trailer in a friend's yard.
- We have chosen to provide more liberal bag limits for fish and game and reduced fees for residents.
- With the existing definition it is difficult to prove who is a resident.

# EXAMPLES OF THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SPORT FISHING REGULATIONS FOR RESIDENTS AND NON-RESIDENTS

<b>Species/Fishery/Area</b>	<b>Resident</b>	<b>Non-Resident</b>
Personal Use Fisheries	Yes, you can participate	No, you cannot participate
King Salmon – Southeast Alaska, 2024 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 July 15: 2 -Annual Limit July 16 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

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

<b>Species/Unit</b>	<b>Resident</b>	<b>Non-Resident</b>
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.

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

<b>License</b>	<b>Resident</b>	<b>Non-Resident</b>
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.

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# 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](#)).**



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# 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.
- **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 PERMANENT FUND DIVIDEND AND RESIDENT LICENSE (WITH PASSAGE OF HB 93) REQUIREMENTS

REQUIREMENTS	Resident License (with passage of HB 93)	Permanent Fund Dividend
Physical present in the state when purchasing / applying for a license with the intent to remain in the state indefinitely and to make a home in the state.	✓	
Maintenance of a domicile in the state for 12 consecutive months immediately preceding the purchase / application for a license.	✓	
No claim of residency in another state, territory, or country.	✓	✓
Physical presence in the state at all times during the <b>12 consecutive months preceding the purchase / application</b> for a license unless the absence was an allowable absence consistent with the permanent fund dividend allowable absences (AS 43.23.008).	✓	
Physically present in the state at all times during the <b>qualifying calendar year</b> or, if absent, the absence was an allowable absence (AS 43.23.008).		✓
In compliance during the qualifying year with the military selective service registration requirements.		✓
During the qualifying year the individual was not sentenced as a result of a conviction in this state of a felony.		✓
State resident on the date of application.	✓	✓

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

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

Alaskans from around the state have supported this legislation because they believe that individuals who live here most of the year, volunteer in their communities, shovel snow in the winter and depend on the fish and game to feed their families should have more liberal bag limits and reduced fees.

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

- Residency requirements will be clear and enforceable.
- More liberal bag limits will be preserved for year-round residents who depend on our fish and game resources to put food on the table. Residents will continue to enjoy reduced cost licenses and tags.
- 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.



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**THANK YOU**

Representative Rebecca Himschoot  
House District 2

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