

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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**SENATOR KEVIN MEYER**  
SENATE DISTRICT O

## SPONSOR STATEMENT FOR SB 177

*"An Act repealing the termination of licensing and regulation of sport fishing operators and sport fishing guides and licensing and registration of sport fishing vessels; and providing for an effective date."*

SB 177 will ensure the continuation of Alaska's sport fish guide licensing and reporting program, which has proven beneficial to both the sport fishing industry and resource managers.

Legislation authorizing the program was passed in 2004 for a number of purposes. The Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G) sought more comprehensive and credible information on guide numbers and guiding activities. ADF&G also wanted to create basic standards for sport fish business operators and guides, including minimum liability insurance coverage, first aid certification, and in some cases U.S. Coast Guard vessel licensing.

Many stakeholders who were initially skeptical of these measures now acknowledge their role in advancing the guiding profession. This increased level of professionalism has helped raise the standing of the sport fish industry across the state.

Many also agree that data collected through the program is an important tool in ADF&G's mission to develop and sustain healthy sport fisheries. The data is of great value not only to the ADF&G's fisheries biologists but also to the Alaska Board of Fisheries, the International Pacific Halibut Commission, and the North Pacific Fishery Management Council.

Sport fish data collection also contributes to Alaska's exemption from the recently instituted National Saltwater Angler Registry. NOAA exempts states from this federal registry and data collection system if they have programs in place to provide angler information. Sport fishers would otherwise be required by 2011 to purchase a certificate of registration for \$15 to \$25.

Passing SB 177 will permit the ADF&G to continue to foster high standards in Alaska's sport fishing industry. It will also enable the ADF&G to continue collecting important data for management decisions benefitting both the state's fisheries resources and their stakeholders.

**SENATE BILL NO. 177**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

**BY SENATOR MEYER**

**Introduced: 4/1/09**

**Referred: Resources, Finance**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act repealing the termination of licensing and regulation of sport fishing operators**  
2 **and sport fishing guides and licensing and registration of sport fishing vessels; and**  
3 **providing for an effective date."**

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

5 **\* Section 1.** Section 8, ch. 70, SLA 2004, is repealed.

6 **\* Sec. 2.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009

Senator Kevin Meyer  
26<sup>th</sup> Alaska legislature

**RE: SUPPORT SB 177  
SENATE RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

Dear Senator Meyer,

The Petersburg Charter Boat Association (PCBA) represents 17 individual charter and lodge businesses operating 22 active vessels in the sportfishing industry. We have been an active association since 1991.

The original legislation authorizing the guide license and logbook program has been an extremely valuable tool in aiding the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the State of Alaska, in the collection of data necessary to identify not only who the charter industry is but how they interact with other user groups. This information is important for the management of Alaska's resources and resource users, both sport and commercial.

PCBA supported the original bill and we fully support SB 177 complete with the associated fees necessary to fund this ongoing program.

Sincerely,

Stan Malcom  
President  
Petersburg Charter Boat Association

Note: sent via email to [Senator\\_Kevin\\_Meyer@legis.state.ak.us](mailto:Senator_Kevin_Meyer@legis.state.ak.us)  
Cc: [Christine\\_marasigan@legis.state.ak.us](mailto:Christine_marasigan@legis.state.ak.us)

# FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**2009 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Fiscal Note Number: 1  
 Bill Version: HB 143  
 (H) Publish Date: 3/12/09

Identifier (file name): HB143-DFG-SFD-02-27-09 Dept. Affected: ADF&G  
 Title An act repealing the termination of the sport fish operator/guide/vessel program RDU Sport Fisheries  
 Component Sport Fisheries  
 Sponsor House Fisheries  
 Requester House Fisheries Component Number 464

**Expenditures/Revenues** (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

|                               | Appropriation<br>Required | Information  |              |              |              |              |              |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|                               |                           | FY 2010      | FY 2011      | FY 2012      | FY 2013      | FY 2014      | FY 2015      |
| <b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b> |                           |              |              |              |              |              |              |
| Personal Services             |                           | 344.5        | 344.5        | 344.5        | 344.5        | 344.5        | 344.5        |
| Travel                        |                           | 10.0         | 10.0         | 10.0         | 10.0         | 10.0         | 10.0         |
| Contractual                   |                           | 100.7        | 100.7        | 100.7        | 100.7        | 100.7        | 100.7        |
| Supplies                      |                           | 7.0          | 7.0          | 7.0          | 7.0          | 7.0          | 7.0          |
| Equipment                     |                           |              |              |              |              |              |              |
| Land & Structures             |                           |              |              |              |              |              |              |
| Grants & Claims               |                           |              |              |              |              |              |              |
| Miscellaneous                 |                           |              |              |              |              |              |              |
| <b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>        | <b>0.0</b>                | <b>462.2</b> | <b>462.2</b> | <b>462.2</b> | <b>462.2</b> | <b>462.2</b> | <b>462.2</b> |

|                             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| <b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b> |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

|                               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| <b>CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )</b> |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

**FUND SOURCE** (Thousands of Dollars)

|                          |            |              |              |              |              |              |              |
|--------------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1002 Federal Receipts    |            |              |              |              |              |              |              |
| 1003 GF Match            |            |              |              |              |              |              |              |
| 1004 GF                  |            |              |              |              |              |              |              |
| 1005 GF/Program Receipts |            |              |              |              |              |              |              |
| 1037 GF/Mental Health    |            |              |              |              |              |              |              |
| 1024 Fish/Game           |            | 462.2        | 462.2        | 462.2        | 462.2        | 462.2        | 462.2        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>             | <b>0.0</b> | <b>462.2</b> | <b>462.2</b> | <b>462.2</b> | <b>462.2</b> | <b>462.2</b> | <b>462.2</b> |

Estimate of any current year (FY2009) cost: 0.0

**POSITIONS**

|           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Full-time |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Part-time |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Temporary |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**ANALYSIS:** (Attach a separate page if necessary)

The division has budgeted \$462.2 in the FY10 Governor's budget to administer the Sport Fish operator/guide/vessel program. The program generates estimated Fish & Game Fund revenues of \$256.0, with the balance covered by other Fish & Game Funds.

Prepared by: Charles O. Swanton, Director Phone 465-6184  
 Division Sport Fisheries Date/Time 2/27/09, 8:00 am  
 Approved by: Tom Lawson, Director Date 2/27/2009  
Administrative Services