

From: ALLEN DUBORD [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 8:52 PM
To: House Resources
Subject: Trap Line Cabin Permits
Attachments: 1-09-2122.jpg

Most Honorable House Members,

I am writing you today to encourage you to do the Right thing and

Vote in favor of HB 125.

The Trap Line Cabin Permit System has work Good for many years.

Without a cabin in these remote areas it is near impossible to survive while pursuing Our Way of Life.

See attache picture of thermometer last winter for 8 days (below -60 below).

There is no way this old man could survive in a tent in those temperatures,

and even if a trapper could afford it - there is NO land to be bought where most trap lines are. If there is land to buy under state systems - then there's a hoard of other people around.

I personally depend solely on my Permitted Trapping Cabins !

Individuals that have these Permitted Cabins are NOT the want a bee's along the road that catch dogs etc.

As you know Trapping and the Fur Industry brings Millions of Dollars into Alaska, even if it is unseen or not talked about. It helps the Little Guy !!!

Even the DNR is in favor of passing HB 125

Thank You for your time
Allen Dubord

Ed King

From: CLARK SMITH [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 7:21 PM
To: House Resources
Subject: Trapping Cabin Bill HB125

House Resource Committee,

I would like to call on you as those who represent the residents of Alaska, to consider enacting HB125. This bill is no doubt a benefit to a handful of people who trap for a living and for recreation.

Those who trap for a living are currently being put at risk because of the lack of basic shelters on their trap lines. The ban on any cabin building on state or federal land prohibits construction of durable shelters in which these folks could seek shelter while on their trap lines. This also limits the range in which trappers might enjoy because of the lack of shelters.

It always amazes me, Alaska is 2 and 1/2 times the size of Texas and yet the enumerable restrictions that are put on all that land is astounding! How many trappers would it take to have even have the minutest effect on the state as a whole. Let the trappers build cabins on their trap lines as they see fit and let them enjoy the benefits. These cabins would provide emergency shelters for lost or wayward snomachiners, hunters, hikers, survivors of plane crashes, the list could go on.

The cabins would not cost the state anything, in fact the trappers would be paying for them and the fees associated. Trappers provide quality animal conservation, they bring reports back as to what is going on in the wilderness, Fish and Game receive much of their needed information from trappers, these are just a few of the advantages of having trappers.

There are so few trappers in the state, we need every one of them! Let's not hinder them, but assist them, in their efforts as they carry on a great American and especially, Alaskan tradition.

Thank you,

Clark L Smith
[REDACTED]
Willow, Alaska 99688

[REDACTED]

Ed King

From: Taylor Gustafson [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 5:53 PM
To: House Resources
Subject: Trapping cabin bill HB125

Hello,

My name is Taylor Gustafson. I moved to Alaska in 2019 to pursue my love for hunting and fishing. As well as to explore my budding curiosity around trapping. I had been up here a decade earlier and spent about a year exploring the state. During that time I became very interested in trapping. Specifically in running a remote line, far from any road or town. I lamented (and still do) that I was not allowed to go out into the bush and homestead as others had done not so long ago. My hope was rekindled however. When I discovered the trapline cabin permit through DNR. This knowledge bounced around in my mind for the next ten years while I was busy with life down in the lower 48. Upon returning to Alaska I turned my attention once again to the possibility for me to trap remotely. Specifically due to the fact that DNR offers such a permit. This last winter was my first season running my own trapline and I can assure you that I am thoroughly hooked! I am asking you, House resources committee (hope I'm addressing you correctly) to ensure that this permit remains available to folks like myself who are actively looking for a remote trapline. As well as correct some oversights that were previously made. Specifically around the ability to renew a permit or pass it on to a trapping partner.

Thank you for your time and for considering my request.

Sincerely,

Taylor Gustafson

Ed King

From: Justin M [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 3:25 PM
To: House Resources
Subject: HB125 trapping cabin permits

Good afternoon,

This email is in support of any bill that continues to allow the use of permitted trapping cabins built on State land.

Trapping is an Alaskan tradition, and these cabins help keep that old Alaska tradition alive. They provide safety and shelter during the darkest months of the year when we are running our lines and using a wildlife resource.

I would suggest amending the bill to allow for the transfer of existing permitted cabins to other trappers at the request of the original permittee and if the new permittee meets the requirements for a permit.

Thanks,
Justin

Sent from my iPhone

Ed King

From: Jarl Gustafson [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 10:39 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: HB 125

Re HB 125, Trapping cabin permits. I strongly urge support for this bill. The current program works well and this bill has support from DNR. Trapline cabins are essential and a matter of survival in remote areas. Restrictions in place to limit size, usage, and stewardship of the land insure that these permits are not abused.

Thank you for your time. Jarl Gustafson, Homer AK

Sent from my iPhone

To Whom it may concern,

My name is Ray Heuer, I have lived in Alaska since 1997. It is an 80–100-mile roundtrip to check my trapline, depending on what section of the line we have opened for the year. We always check the forecast prior to leaving town. Many times, we have been expecting -14ish temperatures only to reach the trap cabin and have the mercury read -40ish temperatures. We try not to expose ourselves to temperatures colder than -30.

When we decided to expand our trapline we filed for a trapline permit. As written this program should have been very easy to navigate (In fact as I understand it did work extremely well when the statute was followed between 1983-2015). However, the staff at DNR had begun to augment the trapping cabin statute with requirements from other statutes for mining, land use, and other activities. Nowhere in the trap cabin permit is a trapper required to surrender a surety bond, but we were required to put up a \$1,200 surety bond for our permit. Not sure if anyone else was required to do this, but we defiantly were.

I would also ask for reconsideration of this no hanging moose within a mile of our cabin during a general moose hunting season and no occupying the cabin if a general moose hunting season is open. Beaver trapping season runs from 15 Sep – 10 Jun, Moose season runs from 1 Sep -25 Sep. There are beaver on the lake that my trapping cabin is near as well as in the slough that runs to the south of it, but according to my permit I cannot be at my trapping cabin for the first 10 days of the trapping season. Additionally, my area only has a subsistence moose hunting season, there is no general moose hunting season in that subunit. That said, in my area both moose hunting and trapping are subsistence activities. I would like the statute to allow all subsistence activities year-round. Why would you want to prevent a guy from harvesting the resources he spend 6 months of the year trying to protect. Many times, at extreme financial investment and much risk to their own property and wellbeing. Allowing subsistence activity would allow us to occupy the cabin to cut firewood for the season, conduct repairs on the cabin, dig an outhouse, pick up items that have been dropped during the trapping season, and yes harvest a bear or a moose if they were to present themselves.

This bill was developed by trappers working with DNR staff. This bill is supported by the DNR. There is no realistic way to trap remote Alaska without issuing trappers cabin permits. Not only are these cabins a safety issue they are also and economical issue. Trapping would only happen around towns and villages if a trapper had to drive these distances only to turn around to seek shelter back in towns and villages. As I have experienced the cabin size appears to be appropriately regulated. I support the permit fee increase that the ATA requested. I would also like to see an option to transfer the permit to another trapper or to my son when he comes of age.

Many people forget that it was trappers and miners that opened this state for travel. And it is trappers and miners that many time maintain this right of ways still.

V/R

Ray Heuer

[REDACTED]

Fairbanks Alaska, 99712

Ed King

From: George Hobson [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 9:23 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: Trapping cabins

Please pas HB125
Our cabins are a must for long trapping lines.

George Hobson
[REDACTED]
Fairbanks, AK 99708

Ed King

From: scottwade6490 [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 7:05 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: HB125

To Whom It May Concern,

The importance of "Trapper's Cabins" cannot be understated. We all have heard the stories of trappers running into trouble while in the field and being saved by stumbling upon a well-stocked cabin. Without the ability to maintain a cabin, most of the available land in the state becomes inaccessible simply because of the risks that arise from venturing so far from help, without a viable shelter available.

The trapper's cabin system with the DNR has worked for decades and afforded generations of trappers the ability to trap in the remote backcountry. The system must remain in place or the alaska heritage of trapping will begin to die. The long-liners of the trapping world provides great inspiration to young and old trappers alike.

Please consider allowing the use of trapper cabins with restrictions. Cabins should be used for what they are intended (i.e. trapping, trap line preparation, and survival).

Thank you for your time.

Scott Wade
North Pole, Alaska

Ed King

From: Bob Lopetrone [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 6:31 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: Trapping Cabins

Hello, Trapping cabins for myself and my partner are a matter of life and death. At 50 below zero we cannot just pitch a tent and go to sleep. We are over 50 miles from the highway and at very low temperatures we can't make a round trip. Thank you Bob Lopetrone ATA member

Sent from my iPhone

Ed King

From: Richard Guhl [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 9:48 PM
To: House Resources
Subject: Trapping Cabin Bill (HB125)

As a trapper and 52 year Alaska resident, I fully support this bill developed by the Dept. of Natural Resources in collaboration with the Alaska Trapper's Association.

Respectfully,
Richard Guhl

Ed King

From: Jeff Murtiff [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 3:48 PM
To: House Resources
Subject: Trapping Cabin

I support the Trapping cabin program

Jeffrey T Murtiff
[REDACTED]

Ed King

From: Richard Henderson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 3:05 PM
To: House Resources
Subject: HB 125 Trapping Cabin Bill

As an Alaskan trapper of almost 50 years, HB125 is relevant to fellow trappers and myself.

My trapping partner of almost 50 years and I have found that the trapping cabin procedures with DNR has worked well in the past. (1983-2105))

While working on our more remote trap lines, long-line cabins were important to our survival. They are usually very small and used only during the trapping season. At one of our remote cabins, a friend fell through the ice. He was thankful that there was shelter and warmth!

Now we trap close enough to Fairbanks that our need for a cabin is not as essential, but we are aware that there are cabins in our trapping area, should the need arise.

I support a fee for permits be increased, as was requested by ATA- (Alaska Trappers Association).

Let's correct the error that DNR is not allowed to renew existing cabins permits!

Richard Henderson- Life-time member of the National Trapper's Association and life-time member of the Alaska Trappers Association.

As an aside, I am always astonished by the numbers of trappers who attend the monthly ATA meetings in Fairbanks. The meetings are held in the dog musher's hall **to a packed room at every meeting!** I know organizations that would like to know the approach this organization uses to attract so many attendees, even on the coldest interior winter nights! Could it be that we are serious about trapping fur bearers, a valuable renewable resource, and find enjoyment in sharing our experiences in the Alaska wilderness? .

We encourage our legislatures to attend an ATA meeting.

Ed King

From: Seth Haines [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 12:09 PM
To: House Resources
Subject: Trapping Cabin Bill - HB125

Dear Legislators,

I am emailing both as a trapper and an Alaska certified teacher who is involved in supporting trapper education in Alaska through my school district and statewide correspondence program. With the long history of trapping Alaska, the importance of trapping cabins, especially for long line trappers, cannot be overstated. The use and placement of these cabins is not a luxury - it is a matter of survival.

Trapping in Alaska is not only the continuation a millennia-old tradition, it is also a vital part of wildlife management. If the continued use of trapping cabins is put in jeopardy, the tradition of trapping and the resulting wildlife management effects will also suffer greatly.

Your support of the Trapping Cabin Bill, House Bill 125, is greatly appreciated and vitally important for the preservation of trapping in Alaska.

Thank you.

Seth Haines

Advisory Teacher, FOCUS Fairbanks
Chugach School District
Office: 907-[REDACTED]
Cell: 907-[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@chugachschools.com

From: Mike Christenson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 11:39 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: Trapping cabins

Greetings

I am in favor of passing this bill H125, because;

- **Trapping cabin procedures within DNR worked well for about 30 years (1983 – 2015), then started to falter.**
- **New bill was developed by working with DNR, and has DNR's support.**
- **For long-line trappers, these cabins are a matter of survival.**
- **Not every trapper needs a cabin; for those who do, it is essential. Not a luxury.**
- **Cabin size is strictly limited.**
- **Cabins can only be used for trapping or related activities (cutting firewood; repairing cabin, etd).**
- **Due to oversight when original bill was written, DNR is not allowed to renew existing cabin permits. Let's correct that error.**

Thank you,
Mike Christenson
Sent from my iPhone

Ed King

From: David Doudna [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 10:39 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: HB 125

Re: HB 125

I am writing in support of HB 125, and I urge the House Resources Committee to do the same. The State of Alaska DNR fully supports HB 125, as they were heavily consulted while developing it. I have been in Alaska for 38 years, and a member of the Alaska Trappers Association the entire time, obtaining my first trapping license as a non resident. While I have not trapped during this entire time frame, nor made a living from trapping, I still fully support this way of life for those who continue to do so. I have trapped in remote locations, and I know first hand how valuable these remote trapping cabins can be. These are not typically the cute little mountain chalet cabins that most envision. More often than not, these are crude hovels with cold dirt floors, a small wood stove, and a leaky roof. And yet at -30F these shelters are life savers. In remote areas, the Code of the North still reigns as the norm, and these cabins remain unlocked and open for other users. On more than one occasion a remote trapping cabin has been used as an emergency shelter for other outdoor enthusiasts who have found themselves in an unplanned predicament. These are not large structures with fancy furnishings meant for family get-a ways, but small cabins, restricted in size and intended for a single use. Most weekend trappers who originate from the major population centers around the state will not need an emergency shelter like this, but for the remote long-line trapper, these are essential. I sincerely urge the members of the House Resources Committee to support HB 125.

Thank you for your time.
David Doudna

Ed King

From: D. Fuelling [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 10:40 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: HB125

My name is Richard Fuelling, 76 years old and have been trapping in AK for 50 plus years. Like many trappers in Alaska, I like to trap in more remote areas. To trap in remote areas of AK with the severe weather and great distances to travel, some sheltering is a must for survival. In most historical accounts of trappers and miners, a cabin was essential. In the early days, one could build and live in a cabin almost anywhere in remote Alaska without any issue with the public or government agencies as it was understood as a necessity for survival and economic growth. These cabins have also saved lives of others and provided stations to fight forest fires. In today's Alaska, that has changed. If a trapper wants to establish a remote trap line and build a trapping cabin, private land is scarce and there is no legal means or process to do that on government lands. This bill, HB 125, would provide a means and process to do that.

I urge you to pass HB 125 for the future of trapping and mining in Alaska.

Respectfully,
Richard Fuelling
2018 ATA Trapper of the Year
Fairbanks, AK

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

Ed King

From: Suzy Ruchti [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 10:02 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: HB125 support

House Resources Committee,
Thank you for taking the time to read my letter of support for Trapping Cabin Bill HB125.

I am new to trapping and am in support of Trapping Cabin Bill HB125. It is my understanding the trapping cabin procedures within the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) worked well for about 30 years and then started to falter. This bill is an effort to correct errors and bring the bill up to current times. The new bill was developed by working with DNR and it has DNR's support.

When I prepare to go trapping I have to make sure that I have all the survival gear needed, with me. Having a cabin available in the event of emergency is a matter of survival, especially for long-line trappers. The areas that I have considered trapping that are out a ways, either have a cabin, or would need one in order to survive in the fast changing weather of Alaska.

The permit fee has been increased at the request of the Alaska Trappers Association and I'm sure would have the support of many, to keep the system running smoothly in our changing times. As a whole, trappers in Alaska respect the land, and animals and work to conserve both in order to continue trapping. This is also evident in the dates of the year we are able to trap different animals. In conservation, the cabin sizes are strictly limited to keep the impact of use at a minimum. The use of these cabins is also limited for trapping, cutting wood or repairing the cabin. These are not luxury cabins, they are survival cabins.

It is my understanding Trapping Cabin Bill HB125 will also correct the error of not allowing DNR to renew existing cabin permits.

Thank you again for your time and consideration for Trapping Cabin Bill HB125.

Suzy Ruchti
cell: 907 [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
North Pole, AK 99705

Ed King

From: Terry Anaruk [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 9:59 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: Trapping Cabin Bill (HB125)

To the committee

As a lifelong Alaskan born in the Alaska Territory, I'm writing to you in support of this bill. To start with let me tell you that I'm a Native Alaskan and a veteran of the US Army having served from 3/72 through 12/73 and discharged honorably. I state this because some like myself have been left out, unfairly in my opinion, of several land programs that could have been used for purposes such as trapping. Both federal programs but nonetheless. There was the Native Viet Nam Era veterans land program because you had to have served by the end of 1971, as I stated I entered service on 3/3/1972 I was deemed ineligible. There were many service men in Viet Nam well through the end of 1971 and I started most of my days at the 690th Medical Company 34th Medical Battalion, Ft Benning, Georgia by visiting my First Sergeant and trying to convince him to facilitate my transfer to Viet Nam, young dumb and full.. well you know.

The other was the Alaska Native Allotment program that because I was away in the Army I missed the deadline for. About the trapping cabin program, it has been quite successful and to the best of my knowledge used just for that purpose because of the cabin size limitations and restrictions on use for trapping and trapping related activities and this program worked well to support trappers for 30 years from 1983 through 2015 ?.

The new bill has been written with help from and in collaboration with DNR. The bill mostly targets long line trappers who depend on having shelter available when out in the woods traveling long distances for survival. There is nothing luxurious about them and not just every trapper needs one. There is language in the bill to increase the fees as these trappers are aware that is only right. This bill is only needed because of oversight when the original bill was written did not include language for renewal. I urge you to give this bill your full support and show you do support Alaskans that their heritage and way of life is important to the government of Alaska and that it truly does work for them.

Sincerely and thankfully

Terry E Anaruk
[REDACTED]
Big Lake, AK 99652
907 [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Ed King

From: Terry Anaruk [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 9:41 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: Trapping Cabin Bill (HB125)

To the committee

As a lifelong Alaskan born in the Alaska Territory, I'm writing to you in support of this bill. To start with let me tell you that I'm a Native Alaskan and a veteran of the US Army having served from 3/72 through 12/73 and discharged honorably. I state this because some like myself have been left out, unfairly in my opinion, of several land programs that could have been used for purposes such as trapping. Both federal programs but nonetheless. There was the Native Viet Nam Era veterans land program because you had to have served by the end of 1971, as I stated I entered service on 3/3/1972 I was deemed ineligible. There were many service men in Viet Nam well through the end of 1971 and I started most of my days at the 690th Medical Company 34th Medical Battalion, Ft Benning, Georgia by visiting my First Sergeant and trying to convince him to facilitate my transfer to Viet Nam, young dumb and full.. well you know. The other was the Alaska Native Allotment program that because I was away in the Army I missed the deadline for. About the trapping cabin program, it has been quite successful and to the best of my knowledge used just for that purpose because of the cabin size limitations and restrictions on use for trapping and trapping related activities.

Sent from my iPhone

Ed King

From: Laramy Paulson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 9:34 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: Trappers cabins

Trapping cabins within the DNR have been around and worked for many decades. It is recently becoming a issue which the trappers haven't changed. I myself don't have one but for a long line trapper they're essential. Things happen out in the bush and these cabins are a survival tool more than anything. The cabin holders are willing to pay more to keep trappers cabins around. If you have never spent many nights in a tent when it's single digits or below 0 than you should cause you would understand why these crude little cabins are better than a tent

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Ed King

From: Rod Arno [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 6:55 AM
To: House Resources
Cc: Rep. George Rauscher
Subject: Alaska Outdoor Council support for HB125 -Trapping Cabins on State Lands

Representative Tom McKay Chairman H(Res) and Committee members,

The Alaska Outdoor Council (AOC) strongly supports HB125, Trapping Cabins on State Lands.

AOC is a statewide conservation organization representing thousands of Alaskans who hunt, trap, fish, and recreate on state public lands. AOC has participated in the regulatory process of advocating for managed trapping opportunities in Alaska for decades.

Trapper cabins are not a luxurious opportunity to have special cabins on state owned lands. Those cabins are a necessity for the safety of trappers who operate on remote state lands during what sometimes can be harsh winter conditions. The Alaska Trappers Association has worked diligently with Alaska's department of natural resources (DNR) to come up with statutes providing the opportunity for trappers to build and maintain cabins for their safety on State Lands while conducting their profession as Alaska trappers.

AOC thanks Rep. Tom McKay for introducing HB125 and urge passage of the bill out of Committee.

Thank you,
Rod Arno
Public Policy Director
Alaska Outdoor Council

Sent from Rod Arno's iPad.

Ed King

From: Nicholas Peters [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, March 26, 2023 9:27 PM
To: House Resources
Subject: HB 125 Support

Hello and hopefully this email finds everyone well this Spring.

My name is Nicholas Peters and I'm writing in support of HB125 and the Trapping Cabin Permit program.

I am a lifelong trapper, hunter, fisherman, life member of the Alaska Trappers Association, pilot, and owner/operator of a small air taxi. My winter months are spent in remote areas of the state trapping and living a subsistence lifestyle plying a trade that is integral to Alaska's rich history as well as its future.

The ability to have shelter cabins in my trapping area is not that of luxury, but of the utmost necessity. It is not possible to run my trapline during the severity of the winter months without the aid of a cabin structure to provide shelter.

This trapline cabin Bill that was drawn up with the support of DNR, is for structures, strictly limited by size, to provide Trapline Cabin permit holders a way to operate their traplines in the remote areas of Alaska. The system worked well for thirty years (1983-2015) and with an increase of the renewal fees, as well as correcting the original oversight inhibiting the DNR from renewing pre-existing trapline cabin permits. This critical bill should pass so that Alaskans may continue to enjoy the freedoms and live our unique Alaskan lives that keep our state as one of the best in the union.

As a brief recap:

- cabins are limited to square footage generally 10x12', usually built with local materials. Very low impact.
- Cabins are used seasonally to trap from. Hunting is not allowed from trapline permit cabins during fall hunting season.
- HB125 has the support of the DNR
- permit fees should be increased to offset the cost of manpower to process permits at the request of the Alaska Trappers Association.
- Permits must be allowed to be renewed and also renewed by up and coming trappers to help promote the subsistence lifestyle and rich heritage that citizens of Alaska live every day.

Thank you for your time and consideration for this important bill!

Sincerely,

Nicholas Peters

907-[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Ed King

From: Robert Tracey [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, March 26, 2023 12:28 PM
To: House Resources
Subject: Trapping cabin bill hb125

Bill hb 125 would allow us trappers who have not had the chance to build a trapping cabin emergency shelter while out on the trapline to have an opportunity to do so. Just the piece of mind knowing you have a cabin / shelter to get warm dry out regroup. The safety factor is what would give the trapper that piece of mind. I've been trapping in Alaska since 1973 and would dearly love to have this opportunity for a trapping cabin.

Bob Tracey
Nondalton Alaska

Ed King

From: jim firmin [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, March 26, 2023 9:23 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: HB125

Dears Sirs,

I'm writing to inform you that I support HB125.

I am a resident of Alaska since birth and Alaskan trapper and a registered voter in the State of Alaska.

Sincerely,

James Firmin

Ed King

From: Kris Richard [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, March 26, 2023 6:02 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: Trapping Cabin Bill 125

I'm in support of this bill. Cabins are essential in providing safety and shelter for trappers in the winter months. Thank You. Kristopher Richard - Kasilof

Ed King

From: Christopher Tobias [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, March 25, 2023 11:57 PM
To: House Resources
Subject: Trapping Cabin Bill (HB 125)

Dear Honorable Members of the House Resources Committee,

As a trapper, and remote land owner in the state of Alaska, I believe it is imperative that HB125 is passed.

Without the passage of HB125, that was developed by working with DNR, the entire trapping cabin system within DNR could collapse. The bill is very limiting on the size and use of the trapping cabin, and is a lifeline for those of us that run longer traplines. Passage of HB125 would also encourage some trappers to run longer lines, knowing they will have shelter out on their line, allowing them to cover more area.

Trapping is a lifestyle for many Alaskan's and is rich in history for our beloved state. Trapping is also a vital tool for population management of predators. There is no other person that knows the land better than a trapper who is always out on the line, and no better stewards for conservation.

Not every trapper would need a trapping cabin, and it is unrealistic to believe this would all of a sudden become the case. An increase in the permit fee has been requested, as the price has not changed since the inception of the program. Also, because of oversight when the original bill was written, DNR is not allowed to renew existing permits. We can correct that error with HB125.

I hope you take the voices of Alaskan Trappers, as well as the DNR, into consideration when discussing HB125. It would be of great benefit to the state and long-line trappers for HB125 to be passed and signed into law.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter. Also, thank you for serving your constituents and the great state of Alaska.

Christopher Tobias

Owner
Roe Hard Guide Service, LLC
Alaska Licensed Guide
USCG Master Licensed

(907) [REDACTED]

Ed King

From: Art Mortvedt [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, March 25, 2023 9:33 PM
To: House Resources
Subject: HB125

Dear Sir/Madame,

I have been a trapper in a remote portion of the Upper Kobuk River valley for 40 years - and also, I have been a member of the Alaska Trappers Association nearly since it's inception in the 1970s.

In this time period, I have built and utilized three log cabins on State land under the Alaska Trapping Cabin permit program.

These cabins - and cabins like these in the remote Alaska bush - are extremely critical to the health and well being of trappers and their families. Over these 40+ years, a warm cabin has saved my life multiple times.

Furthermore, these cabins are safety backup locations for bush pilots randomly flying through these remote regions. Firewood and food are often cached in these cabins for any pilots in an emergency situation.

Please, do what is right - and pass HB125.

Sincerely,

Art Mortvedt

Sent from my iPad

Ed King

From: GORDON LINDGREN [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, March 25, 2023 7:58 PM
To: House Resources
Subject: Trapping Cabins

To whom it may concern,

I have been a trapper in Alaska for 38 years and still do at the age of 68. The importance of these cabins on the line is a matter of life and death.

A friend of mine trapped for over 50 years across the Copper River and had 3 cabins that he used and maintained on a line over 100 miles.

These cabins are a very essential part of life and what could be death.

He fell through an overflow one year and it was -30 degrees. The only thing that saved him was one of the cabins he could walk to before he froze to death.

He radioed for help the next day and his buddy flew in and helped him get the snowmobile out and back to the cabin.

Gordon Lindgren

[REDACTED]
Glennallen, Alaska

Ed King

From: Thomas Lees [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, March 25, 2023 5:28 PM
To: House Resources
Subject: HB125

To Whom it my concern,

The ability for a trapper in Alaska to build a remote cabin on the end of his or her line has been a traditional right since the beginning of the fur trade in Alaska. One could even say it is the right of the humans who lived here long before any fur trade reached Alaska to build a permanent structure in the pursuit of fur. The trapper cabin program through DNR has worked well for many years.

Please dont take this right away for us in the younger generations.

Sincerely

Thomas Lees

A born and raised 27 year old trapper.

Ed King

From: Rafe Johnson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, March 25, 2023 4:06 PM
To: House Resources
Subject: Trapping cabin

To whom this may concern,

My name is Rafe Johnson and I have a trapping cabin on the Kuskokwim River near Kalskag. We were granted a permit in 2013 and built our cabin in 2014. My trapline is 82 miles from my home in Bethel. Without the safety of the cabin, there is no way I could trap this area especially as I get older.

Our cabin is 16 x 16 building and is completely off grid. We have a woodstove and a couple of bunk bed cots. The local villages know where my cabin is located and have used it for survival in the past. We take great pride knowing we built this cabin ourselves and use it every year to trap. This is my renewal year and without HB 125, this will not be possible.

Sincerely,

Rafe Johnson

Alaska Department of Natural Resources Land Use Permit
ADL [REDACTED]

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Rafe Johnson
Gladys Jung PE/6th Grade Math Teacher
National Archery in the Schools Trainer and Coach

Ed King

From: Bill & Suz Kisken [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, March 25, 2023 11:02 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: Trapping bill

To whom it may concern,

I have trapped in Alaska for 45 years. Most of my trapping has been in the Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge, where I have 2 permitted USFW trapline cabins. It would be very difficult to trap this area without these cabins. I fully support the state having a similar system for trappers on state land.

Sincerely Bill Kisken

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This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.

[https://urldefense.com/v3/__http://www.avast.com__!!LdQKC6s!lib2GkfF9aOYPEg5vtqK9TR45ClwmR5l1WOrw2DIOzYXUy_mT4IC6qbujJlLp4RczDNclGNaAbJite1-mfWz33bm\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/__http://www.avast.com__!!LdQKC6s!lib2GkfF9aOYPEg5vtqK9TR45ClwmR5l1WOrw2DIOzYXUy_mT4IC6qbujJlLp4RczDNclGNaAbJite1-mfWz33bm$)

Ed King

From: sam fitzpatrick [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, March 25, 2023 10:03 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: Trapping cabin permits

To whom it may concern

I am a trapper who goes out in all winter elements to trap wolves to do my part to help with the serious decline in the moose population in 20a. This year alone I put on 700 miles on my snow machine and located 1 moose in the 2022/23 trapping season . I run a fairly short trapline, but I know others run very long lines to do the same wolf management that I participate in. The cabins are survival tools ! Trapping is very daunting, dangerous, and difficult. A small survival cabin is not asking much. They do need to be small, and regulated to only be used as designed. Trapping is necessary for Alaska, to keep predators at bay so the food resources (caribou moose sheep deer) may thrive.

Please add Sam Fitzpatrick's name to the support list for the Alaska Trappers Cabin Permit.

Sam Fitzpatrick
Fairbanks Alaska
907 [REDACTED]

Ed King

From: charlie jagow [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, March 25, 2023 9:27 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: Trapping Cabin Bill (HB125)

Trapping Cabin Bill (HB125)

Hello,

I am writing to show support for proposed trapping cabin bill (HB 125). This bill is important for trappers working in remote parts of Alaska. The ability to build and maintain line cabins is essential for the safety and success of those trappers covering large traplines. Without adequate winter structures those traveling beyond walking distance run the risk of weather related injuries or worse in the event of a breakdown. There are many parts of the state where trappers have to travel over a day beyond the road system just to reach their trapline. They would be unable to work these areas without the ability to spend nights in the field, this requires the construction of cabins.

Trapline cabins are also a important part of subsistence culture. For those with young families the ability to base out of a cabin, or use line cabins allows trappers to take there children along on the line at a much earlier age.

From an environmental standpoint permitted cabins should have negligible impacts. Cabin size is strictly limited. Use is also limited thus eliminating the worry that cabins would be misused or be established for other comercial purposes.

Charlie Jagow

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Ed King

From: Stephen Phillips [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, March 25, 2023 8:25 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: Please support House Bill 125 (Trapping Cabin Bill)

Committee Members—I'm Stephen Phillips, an Alaska trapper and a proud member of ATA. I'm a North Pole resident and spend much of the winter season tending to two trap lines. Though I would describe my trapping as 'modest,' I've befriended several trappers that still maintain the traditions and practices of a largely bygone era of trapping in Alaska.

I urge your support of HB125. It allows trappers to preserve an ability to continue their practices with minimal impact to our environment and to other users of the land. The fact that the proposal is supported by DNR underscores its legitimacy.

I believe that ATA and our advocacy partners have taken responsible steps in the development of this bill. That, coupled with the fact that this Bill has minimal impact beyond the small, special interest group that benefits from it, makes it clear that this should be an easy 'yea' vote for the committee.

Thanks in advance for your support. We look forward to the bill's passage...and to furthering opportunity to maintain trapping practices.

sincerely,
Stephen Phillips

Ed King

From: Terri Crowson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, March 25, 2023 5:44 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: HB 125

Please support HB 125. As a longtime trapping family, we can attest to the wisdom of permitting, and supporting the trapping cabins. It is a matter of safety for many trappers. Not only safety, but the ability to trap at all. This bill corrects some problems with the program. Vote to pass HB 125.

Sincerely,

Wayne and Terri Crowson

[REDACTED]

Delta Junction, AK 99737

Sent from my iPhone

Ed King

From: SagDanny Cazac [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, March 25, 2023 12:18 AM
To: House Resources
Subject: Trappers cabin permits

So... I am part of a cabin on the Susitna flats at the mouth of the little Susitna River. Last year DNR raised the yearly fee to what the 5 year renewal fee used to be. I can deal with that. But what is going on with the traditional limited use seasonal trapping cabins that are a necessity for trappers to effectively run their line? I heard due to a glitch.... Or convenience for DNR, the future of these permits dwellings are going to become non renewable. The trappers assoc agreed to deal with rising permit fees, but not renewing them. That's not right and should be definitely addressed. These cabins are a tool of the trade and a part of survival in some cases. Not for recreational activities. I saw a case on the Dalton Highway at Hess creek, where DNR burned a trappers Dwelling while he was out on his line at -40 degrees (Larry Dodge) came back expecting to get shelter and found a pile of ashes. And I know there were extenuating circumstances here. But these cabins are the mainstay and a tool of seasonal use. Why would you not renew these permits? Somebody needs to pick up the ball they dropped and fix this.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

Ed King

From: jerry thomas [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2023 11:32 PM
To: House Resources
Subject: Trappers Cabin

Please pass the bill on these cabins for the true Alaskan

Sent from my iPhone

Ed King

From: Justin Maple [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2023 10:33 PM
To: House Resources
Subject: Comments on HB 125

Hello,

I wanted to write with comments on HB 125 that is scheduled to get a hearing in the House Resources Committee.

This trapping cabin bill is of very high importance to trappers around the state of Alaska and has been worked out over many years with DNR with their support. These cabins referenced in this bill are not luxury get away cabins but rather essential lodging for long-line trappers working in remote and harsh country. These cabins are and have been a matter of survival for these trappers. The size and usage of these cabins has been strictly outlined by DNR and the trappers using and needing them are fully aware and willing to work with DNR to observe these regulations. At the request of the Alaska Trappers Association, the cabin permit fees have been increased to catch up with modern times.

DNR is currently not allowed to renew existing cabin permits due to an oversight when the original bill was written. Now is the perfect time to correct that oversight. This whole system worked well from 1983 until about 2015 when things started to stumble. With this bill we have a chance to make a functional system for long-line trappers to pursue their livelihood and be safe while doing so.

Thank you,
Justin Maple
Fairbanks, AK

Ed King

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2023 6:16 PM
To: House Resources
Subject: Support HB 125
Attachments: 33-LS0497R - Trapper Cabins.pdf

Good afternoon,

I am emailing you today to request that you support HB 125.

Here are a few points to consider before making the decision.

- Trapping cabin procedures within DNR worked well for about 30 years (1983 – 2015), then started to falter.
- New bill was developed by working with DNR, and has DNR's support.
- For long-line trappers, these cabins are a matter of survival.
- Not every trapper needs a cabin; for those who do, it is essential. Not a luxury.
- Permit fee has been increased AT OUR REQUEST; it's only fair to pay more now than when the system was first created.
- Cabin size is strictly limited.
- Cabins can only be used for trapping or related activities (cutting firewood; repairing cabin, etc.).
- Due to oversight when original bill was written, DNR is not allowed to renew existing cabin permits. Let's correct that error.

If this bill does not pass the whole trapping cabin system within DNR could collapse.

Thank you,

Bob Hubble
JBER, AK

Ed King

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2023 6:11 PM
To: House Resources
Subject: HB 125
Attachments: 33-LS0497R - Trapper Cabins.pdf

Good afternoon,

I am emailing you today to request you support HB 125.

Here are some points to consider when you think about how to decide on this bill.

Ed King

From: Steve Potter [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2023 11:04 PM
To: House Resources
Subject: HB 125

To the honorable House Resource Committee, As an Alaskan trapper for 46 years, I am in favor of HB 125 for several reasons. A similar cabin use permit had been in use issued by DNR for a number of years that seemed to work well. Not only did it provide usage by trappers, but also provided a data base for DNR concerning the number of cabins issued, usage, and permittees names that had actually applied and lawfully used said permitted cabin.

Trapping has always been part of the rich heritage of Alaska's history and it would be a shame to see this opportunity for Alaskan trappers go away. Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Respectfully,
Steve Potter

[REDACTED]
Fairbanks, Alaska
99709

Sent from my iPhone

To Whom it may concern,

Please give your utmost attention to HB125 when it goes to committee. The trapping cabin program is essential in the interior for the safety of trappers especially long line trappers. My trapping cabin is key to my wellbeing and safety and I cannot imagine running my interior line without this important safety cabin. Distances are long and temperatures are extreme. Not every trapper needs a trapping cabin but for those that do it is essential and should not be considered a luxury. I don't mind paying an additional fee to ensure this program continues but it would be great to see a method for DNR to allow existing permits to be transferred when a new trapper takes over a trap line or a line is passed down inside of a family. Currently the program makes this difficult. This program limits cabin size and has strict terms of use. Although cabin size rules appear reasonable the rules on when a cabin can be used should be reconsidered. I feel the cabin should be able to be used whenever engaged in a subsistence activity (regardless of moose season).

Thank You for your time and consideration.

Adam Lammers



Fairbanks AK 99712

ATA Lifetime Member #330