

LEGAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF LEGAL AND RESEARCH SERVICES
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY
STATE OF ALASKA

(907) 465-2450
LAA.Legal@akleg.gov
120 4th Street, Room 3


State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
Deliveries to: 129 6th St., Rm. 329

MEMORANDUM

May 7, 2024

SUBJECT: Amendment adopted by House
(CSHB 19(FIN) am; Work Order No. 33-LS0251\B.A.1)

TO: Representative Louise Stutes
Attn: Donna Page

FROM: Alpheus Bullard 
Legislative Counsel

You asked for a brief explanation of the changes made to HB 19 by the amendment¹ adopted on the House Floor.

Prior to its amendment on the floor, HB 19 exempted a commercial vessel with a certificate of documentation issued by the United States Coast Guard under 46 U.S.C. 12101 - 12121 and a license issued under AS 16.05.490² or 16.05.530³ from state vessel numbering and registration requirements.⁴

The amendment added the words "the United States or" to AS 05.25.055(i)(5), changing that paragraph to exempt "a boat with a valid document to operate the boat that is issued by *the United States or* a foreign government[.]" The amendment restores the language of AS 05.25.055(i)(5) to how it read before it was amended by sec. 3, ch. 111, SLA 2018 (30th Legislature's HCS CSSB 92(FIN)).⁵

The exemption under the bill, as amended by B.1, for "a boat with valid document to operate issued by the United States" swallows the more limited exemption provided by the bill's AS 05.25.055(i)(7) for a commercial fishing vessel licensed under AS 16.05. If the substantive change made by the amendment is consistent with your intent, the bill

¹Work Order No. 33-LS0251\B.1, available at <https://www.akleg.gov/PDF/33/A/HB0019-H001.PDF>.

² AS 16.05.490 relates to the licensing of commercial fishing vessels.

³ AS 16.05.330 relates to the renewal of commercial fishing vessel licenses.

⁴ See the bill's AS 05.25.055(i)(7).

⁵ The "Derelict Vessel Bill."

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should be further amended to remove the bill's original more limited exemption for commercial vessels licensed under AS 16.05.

If it is your intent to exempt only commercial fishing vessels that are licensed under AS 16.05, the bill's AS 05.25.055(i)(5) should be amended to remove the word "the United States or[.]"

If you have questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

ALB:mjt

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Attachment