

# Representative Rebecca Himschoot

Angoon, Craig, Edna Bay, Elfin Cove, Hollis, Hoonah, Hydaburg, Kake, Kasaan, Klawock, Kupreanof, Naukati, Pelican, Petersburg, Port Alexander, Point Baker, Port Protection, Sitka, Tenakee Springs, Thorne Bay & Yakutat

## *Session*

Alaska State Capitol  
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## *Interim*

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**Rep.Himschoot@akleg.gov**

## HOUSE BILL 93

“An Act changing the residency requirements for hunting, trapping, and sport fishing privileges; and providing for an effective date.”

### SPONSOR STATEMENT

House Bill 93 updates the requirements for resident sport fishing, hunting and trapping licenses with the goal of ensuring resident license holders are full-time residents of the State of Alaska. With the pressure on our finite fish and game resources, this legislation is needed to strengthen our residency requirements for the purpose of obtaining a sport fishing, hunting or trapping license.

Under existing law, you can qualify for a resident license and still be indefinitely absent if you meet the low threshold of intending to remain in Alaska, maintaining a domicile in Alaska, and not establishing residency elsewhere. Currently, individuals who only spend a few months of the year in Alaska, but still meet the low bar of residency for licensing purposes, can enjoy our generous resident bag and possession limits as well as reduced license and tag fees.

House Bill 93 will close this loophole by closely aligning the requirements for an individual to receive a resident hunting, trapping, or sport fishing license with the residency requirements to receive a permanent fund dividend (PFD). With this legislation the allowable absences will be the same as they currently are for an individual to receive a PFD, but there is no requirement that you receive dividend or that you meet all the PFD qualification requirements. While the requirements will not be exactly the same as they are to receive a PFD, this bill strengthens the residency requirements for sport fishing, hunting and trapping licenses and reduces the pressure on our fish and game resources by individuals who only spend a few months of the year in the state.

Importantly, this bill does not change the bag and possession limits for out-of-state hunters or fishermen who come to Alaska to participate in the state’s well-managed hunts and fisheries. Under this legislation, visitors will still be able to obtain non-resident permits without additional restrictions. In addition, the important guided hunting and fishing industries will not be impacted by this bill.

House Bill 93 helps guarantee the individuals who qualify for resident hunting, trapping or sport fishing licenses are in fact year-round residents of Alaska who deserve the privileges of increased bag limits and reduced license costs. This in turn will preserve the privileges of a resident license for year-round residents of Alaska who invest in their communities in all seasons and depend most on our fish and game resources to put food on the table.

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### SECTIONAL ANALYSIS

Version N

**Section 1** amends AS 16.05.400 by adding a new subsection that requires a permanent identification card holder to meet the updated residency requirements in the bill.

**Section 2** amends AS 16.05.415(a) bringing up to date the requirements for an individual to qualify for a resident sport fishing, hunting, or trapping license. A new subsection, AS 16.05.415(a)(3), is added which stipulates an individual must be physically present at all times in Alaska during the 12 months preceding the application for a resident license, or if absent, only absent as allowed for someone who is eligible for a permanent fund dividend (AS 43.23.0008).

**Section 3** amends AS 16.05.415(e) specifying an alien must meet the same residency requirements in section 2 of the bill to qualify for a resident sport fishing, hunting or trapping license.

**Section 4** adds a new subsection to AS 16.05.415 directing the commissioner to adopt regulations under AS 44.62 for determining eligibility of a person to receive a resident sport fishing, hunting or trapping license.

**Section 5** establishes a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027, for the bill.

# Fiscal Note

State of Alaska  
2025 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	HB 93
Fiscal Note Number:	1
(H) Publish Date:	2/24/2025

Identifier: HB093-DFG-DAS-2-15-25  
 Title: RESIDENCY REQ: HUNTING, TRAPPING,  
 FISHING  
 Sponsor: HIMSCHOOT  
 Requester: (H)Fisheries

Department: Department of Fish and Game  
 Appropriation: Statewide Support Services  
 Allocation: Administrative Services  
 OMB Component Number: 479

**Expenditures/Revenues**

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2026	Included in	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
	Appropriation Requested	Governor's FY2026 Request	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>					
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

**Fund Source (Operating Only)**

None							
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

**Positions**

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

**Change in Revenues**

None							
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

**Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2025) cost:** 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*

**Estimated CAPITAL (FY2026) cost:** 0.0 *(separate capital appropriation required)*

**Does the bill create or modify a new fund or account?** No  
*(Supplemental/Capital/New Fund - discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)*

**ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS**

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? Yes  
 If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? 01/01/26

**Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:**

Not applicable; initial version.

Prepared By:	Joseph Felkl, Legislative Liaison	Phone:	(907)465-6137
Division:	Office of the Commissioner	Date:	02/15/2025 08:00 AM
Approved By:	Bonnie Jensen, Administrative Services Director	Date:	02/15/25
Agency:	Department of Fish and Game		

## FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA  
2025 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**Analysis**

This legislation amends Fish and Game residency determination statutes under AS 16.05.415(a) for licensing of sport fishing and hunting by requiring a person be physically present in the state at all times during the current requirement under AS 16.05.415(a)(2) to maintain a domicile in the state for 12 consecutive months immediately preceding the application of a license. This applies to all provisions under AS 16.05.330 – AS 16.05.430, which includes licenses, tags, subsistence permits, special licenses and permits such as Permanent Identification Cards (PIDs), auctions/raffles, and other provisions applicable to a qualified resident.

If enacted, a person may only be absent during that 12-month period as allowed under Permanent Fund Dividend (PFD) allowable absence statutes AS 43.23.008 to qualify as a resident for licensing purposes. If a person is absent from the state more than 180 days and does not qualify for an additional allowable absence, they would no longer be considered a resident for purposes under AS 16.05.330 - 16.05.430.

The Department of Fish and Game has regulations in place setting out qualifications for resident licenses and proof of residency under 5 AAC 93.510. Regulations specify that an applicant has the burden of proving they are entitled to a resident license. Current regulations enable the department or a license vendor to accept as adequate proof of residency the applicant's Alaska driver's license, voter registration card, school records, proof of home ownership or rental receipts, tax records, employment records, or court or other governmental agency records showing to the satisfaction of the department or license vendor that the applicant meets the residency requirements.

Resident license applicants certify, under penalty of unsworn falsification provided in AS 11.56.210, AS 16.05.420, and AS 16.05.665, they meet the legal requirements for residency as defined in statute. With the certification, licenses require minimal staff time to process. This legislation does not change the department's ability to allow for a certification at the time of application in lieu of providing proof of eligibility. The department's online application will need to be updated to be consistent with the statutory changes, and updates to regulations may also be needed. Any potential costs to update the online application and regulations can be absorbed by the department.

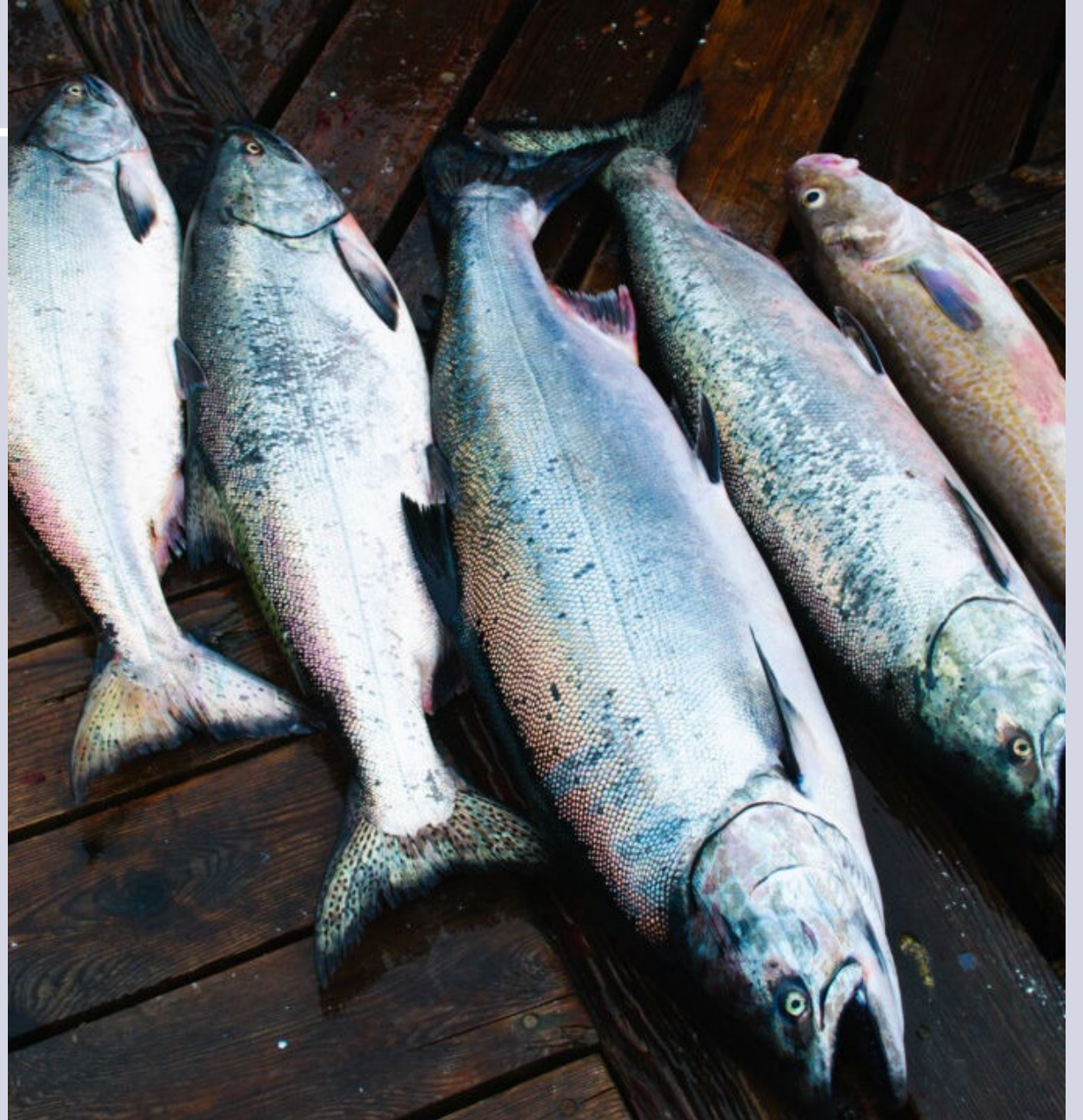
The changes resulting from this bill would have an impact on a small percentage of customers but would not have an impact on the department procedurally, and the department does not anticipate much, if any, change in licensing revenues. Overall, the changes are expected to have a minimal fiscal and programmatic impact on the department. Therefore, the department submits a zero fiscal note.

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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 sport fishing, hunting, or trapping 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 to take advantage of our generous resident bag limits and reduced license fees.
- This impacts Alaskans who live here year-round and depend the most on our fish and game resources.



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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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# 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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# PERMANENT FUND DIVIDEND REQUIREMENTS YOU WILL **NOT NEED TO MEET** TO GET A RESIDENT LICENSE WITH HB 93

1. Physically present in the state at all times during the entire qualifying year or, if absent, the absence was an allowable absence (AS 43.23.008).
2. Physically present in the state for at least 72 consecutive hours at some time during the prior two years before the current dividend year.
3. Compliance with military selective service registration requirements.
4. Not sentenced as a result of a state felony conviction during the qualifying year.
5. Not incarcerated as a result of the conviction in this state of:
  - (A) felony; or
  - (B) misdemeanor if the individual has been convicted of
    - (i) a prior felony as defined in AS 11.81.900; or
    - (ii) two or more prior misdemeanors as defined in AS 11.81.900.

# 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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# SUPPORT FOR HB 201 DURING THE 33<sup>RD</sup> LEGISLATURE

- **Communities:** Petersburg Borough Assembly, City and Borough of Sitka Assembly, City of Craig, Yakutat City and Borough, City of Kasaan, City of Coffman Cove, City of Thorne Bay, and City of Pelican
- **Organizations:** Alaska Federation of Natives, Resident Hunters of Alaska, Tanana Chiefs Conference, and Craig Tribal Association.
- **Fish and Game Advisory Committees:** Ketchikan Fish and Game Advisory Committee, Craig Fish and Game Advisory Committee, East Prince of Wales Fish and Game Advisory Committee, Upper Tanana Forty-mile Fish and Game Advisory Committee, Minto/Nenana Fish and Game Advisory Committee, Juneau Douglas Advisory Committee, and Eagle Fish and Game Advisory Committee.

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## HB 93 WILL ENSURE OUR FISH AND GAME RESOURCES GO TO THOSE WHO NEED THEM THE MOST

- Residency requirements will be clear and enforceable.
- Generous 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.
- Bag limits and hunting and fishing opportunities for non-residents will not be impacted.



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# THANK YOU

Representative Rebecca Himschoot  
House District 2

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## HOUSE BILL 93

“An Act changing the residency requirements for hunting, trapping, and sport fishing privileges; and providing for an effective date.”

### REQUIREMENTS TO QUALIFY FOR AN ALASKA RESIDENT SPORT FISHING, HUNTING OR TRAPPING LICENSE

With the passage of HB 93, to qualify as an Alaska resident for the purpose of obtaining a hunting, trapping or sport fishing license there will be four general requirements as well as the existing alternative requirements for an active member, or dependent of an active member, of the military service or United States Coast Guard.

#### The four general requirements to qualify for an Alaska resident hunting, trapping or sport fishing 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<sup>1</sup> 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](#)).<sup>2</sup>

#### Allowable Absences

- **General Allowable Absences:** Absences consistent with the individual's intent to remain an Alaska resident, subject to certain day limits (up to 180 days) based on the nature of other claimed absences.

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> This is the additional requirement that HB 93 would add to the existing requirements an individual needs to meet to qualify for a resident hunting, trapping or sport fishing license.



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- **Education-Related Absences:** These include receiving secondary or post-secondary education on a full-time basis, or full-time vocational, professional, or other specific education for which a comparable program is 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, provided the treatment isn't for climatic change.
- **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 for medical treatment or another eligible resident who is absent for an allowable reason.
- **Peace Corps and Olympic Training:** Serving in the federal Peace Corps or training/competing as a member of the U.S. Olympic Team.
- **Student Fellowships:** Participating in a student fellowship for educational purposes sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education or the U.S. Department of State.

## **Alternative residency requirements for an active member, or dependent of an active member, of the military service or United States Coast Guard:**

- A member of the military service or the United States Coast Guard that has been stationed in the state for the 12 consecutive months immediately preceding the application for a license and you are not maintaining residency in another state.
- A dependent of a resident member of the military service or the United States Coast Guard who has lived in the state for the 12 consecutive months immediately preceding the application for a license and you are not maintaining residency in another state.

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## HOUSE BILL 93

“An Act changing the residency requirements for hunting, trapping, and sport fishing privileges; and providing for an effective date.”

### **REQUIREMENTS TO QUALIFY FOR AN ALASKA RESIDENT SPORT FISHING, HUNTING OR TRAPPING LICENSE COMPARED WITH REQUIREMENTS TO GET A PERMANENT FUND DIVIDEND.**

With the passage of House Bill 93, a sportsmen will need to meet many of the qualifications an individual needs to meet to get their permanent fund dividend, but there are some exceptions. The table below illustrates the different requirements.

<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Resident License (with passage of HB 93)</b>	<b>Permanent Fund Dividend</b>
Physical presence in the state 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 the 12 consecutive months immediately preceding the application for a license.	✓	
No claim of residency in another state, territory, or country.	✓	✓
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).	✓	
State resident on the date of application.	✓	✓
State resident during the entire qualifying year.		✓

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## REQUIREMENTS TO QUALIFY FOR AN ALASKA RESIDENT SPORT FISHING, HUNTING OR TRAPPING LICENSE COMPARED WITH REQUIREMENTS TO GET A PERMANENT FUND DIVIDEND CONTINUED.

Requirement	Resident License (with passage of HB 93)	Permanent Fund Dividend
Physically present in the state for at least 72 consecutive hours at some time during the prior two years before the current dividend year.		✓
Physically present in the state at all times during the qualifying year 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.		✓
During all or part of the qualifying year, the individual was not incarcerated as a result of the conviction in this state of a (A) felony; or (B) misdemeanor if the individual has been convicted of (i) a prior felony as defined in AS 11.81.900; or (ii) two or more prior misdemeanors as defined in AS 11.81.900.		✓
(A) a citizen of the United States; (B) an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States; (C) an alien with refugee status under federal law; or (D) an alien that has been granted asylum under federal law;		✓

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## HOUSE BILL 93

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### EXAMPLES OF RESIDENT AND NON-RESIDENT SALTWATER SPORT FISHING REGULATIONS IN SOUTHEAST ALASKA

Species/Fishery/Area	Resident	Non-Resident
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
Dolly Varden	10 per day, 10 in possession	10 per day, 10 in possession
Sablefish	4 per day, 4 in possession	4 per day, 4 in possession, 8 fish annual limit
Sharks	1 per day, 1 in possession, 2 shark annual limit	1 per day, 1 in possession, 2 shark annual limit
Lingcod/Northern Southeast	1 per day, 2 in possession	1 per day, 1 in possession, size limits, and 2 fish annual limit
Halibut - Unguided	2 per day, 4 in possession	2 per day, 4 in possession
Halibut – Guided	1 per day, with additional restrictions	1 per day with additional restrictions.
Demersal Shelf Rockfish	1 per day, 2 in possession	No retention
Pelagic Rockfish	5 per day, 10 in possession	5 per day, 10 in possession

# Representative Rebecca Himschoot

Angoon, Craig, Edna Bay, Elfin Cove, Hollis, Hoonah, Hydaburg, Kake, Kasaan, Klawock, Kupreanof, Naukati, Pelican, Petersburg, Port Alexander, Point Baker, Port Protection, Sitka, Tenakee Springs, Thorne Bay & Yakutat

## *Session*

Alaska State Capitol  
120 4th Street  
Juneau, AK 99801  
(907) 465-3732  
(888) 461-3732  
[Rep.Himschoot@akleg.gov](mailto:Rep.Himschoot@akleg.gov)



## *Interim*

201 Katlian Street Ste 103  
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Sitka, AK 99835  
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## EXAMPLES RESIDENT AND NON-RESIDENT SPORT FISHING REGULATIONS IN SOUTHEAST ALASKA CONTINUED

Species	Resident	Non-Resident
King Crab	Open under personal use regulations	No retention
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
Razor Clams	No limit	10 Razor Clams
Scallops	Rock Scallops: 5 Weathervane Scallops: 10	Rock Scallops: 5 Weathervane Scallops: 10
Geoducks	6 Geoducks	No retention
Abalone	5 Abalone	No retention



# Representative Rebecca Himschoot

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## HOUSE BILL 93

“An Act changing the residency requirements for hunting, trapping, and sport fishing privileges; and providing for an effective date.”

### EXAMPLES OF RESIDENT AND NON-RESIDENT HUNTING BAG LIMITS IN ALASKA

Species/Unit	Resident	Non-Resident
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
Bison/East of the Edgerton Highway in Unit 13D	1 bison every ten regulatory years	1 bison per lifetime
Moose/Unit 16B	1 bull by permit or 1 bull with spike fork antlers or 50 inch or antlers with 3 or more brow tines on at least one side. Longer seasons.	1 bull with spike fork antlers or 50-inch antlers or antlers with 3 or more brow tines on at least one side.
Muskox/Nelson Island in Unit 18	1 bull or cow by permit	1 bull or cow by permit
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.

# Representative Rebecca Himschoot

Angoon, Craig, Edna Bay, Elfin Cove, Hollis, Hoonah, Hydaburg, Kake, Kasaan, Klawock, Kupreanof, Naukati, Pelican, Petersburg, Port Alexander, Point Baker, Port Protection, Sitka, Tenakee Springs, Thorne Bay & Yakutat

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## HOUSE BILL 93

“An Act changing the residency requirements for hunting, trapping, and sport fishing privileges; and providing for an effective date.”

### ALLOWABLE ABSENCES

Under AS 43.23.008, an individual can be absent from the state for more than 180 days and still qualify as a resident of Alaska under the following circumstances:

- **Education-Related Absences:** These include receiving secondary or post-secondary education on a full-time basis, or full-time vocational, professional, or other specific education for which a comparable program is 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, provided the treatment isn't for climatic change.
- **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 for medical treatment or another eligible resident who is absent for an allowable reason.
- **Peace Corps and Olympic Training:** Serving in the federal Peace Corps or training/competing as a member of the U.S. Olympic Team.
- **Student Fellowships:** Participating in a student fellowship for educational purposes sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education or the U.S. Department of State.
- **Additional Absences:** Absences consistent with the individual's intent to remain an Alaska resident, subject to certain day limits based on the nature of other claimed absences.

# Representative Rebecca Himschoot

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## HOUSE BILL 93

“An Act changing the residency requirements for hunting, trapping, and sport fishing privileges; and providing for an effective date.”

### RESIDENT AND NON-RESIDENT LICENSE FEES

License	Resident	Non-Resident
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
Annual Trapping	\$25.00	N/A
Hunting and Trapping	N/A	\$405.00
Annual King Salmon Stamp	\$10.00	\$100.00
Brown/Grizzly Bear Tag	\$25.00	\$1,000.00*
Black Bear Tag	N/A	\$450.00
Bison Tag	N/A	\$900.00
Caribou Tag	N/A	\$650.00
Deer Tag	N/A	\$300.00
Elk Tag	N/A	\$600.00
Goat Tag	N/A	\$600.00*
Moose Tag	N/A	\$800.00
Muskox – Bull Tag	\$500.00	\$2,200.00
Muskox – Cow Tag	\$25.00	\$2,200.00
Sheep Tag	N/A	\$850.00*
Wolf Tag	N/A	\$60.00
Wolverine Tag	N/A	\$350.00

\* 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.

March 10, 2025

Representative Himshoot  
State Capitol, Room 411  
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: Support for HB93: An Act changing the residency requirements for hunting, trapping, and sport fishing privileges; and providing for an effective date.

Representative Himshoot and members of the House Resources Committee,

The Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) writes in support of HB93. TCC is a Tribal consortium made up of 42 members, including 39 villages and 37 federally recognized Tribes. Our region covers an area of 235,000 square miles in Interior Alaska. TCC provides a unified voice in advancing sovereign Tribal governments through the promotion of physical and mental wellness, education, socioeconomic development, and culture of the Interior Alaska Native people.

TCC and our member Tribes have been leading the fight to keep salmon in Alaska rivers. We feel the loss of our food resources more acutely in our rural communities than many others. With the increased pressure on our limited fish and game resources, it is essential to ensure that those who enjoy the lower cost and increased bag limits associated with a resident license are, in fact, full-time residents of the State of Alaska. Allowing greater access to fish and game resources for year-round residents of Alaska who invest in their communities in all seasons will ensure that individuals and communities who depend most on the resource will have access.

Thank you for your work for Alaskans.

Sincerely,



Brian Ridley  
Chief/Chairman  
Tanana Chiefs Conference

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## RESOLUTION OVK 25-03-016

### Supporting State of Alaska House Bill (HB) 93, changing State of Alaska's residency requirements for hunting, trapping, and sport fishing license(s).

**WHEREAS** the Organized Village of Kasaan is a federally recognized Tribe organized pursuant to the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984) and May 1, 1936 (49 Stat. 1250); and

**WHEREAS**, the Corporate Charter of the Organized Village of Kasaan (Ratified October 15, 1938) states in its Purpose and Existence, "In order to further the economic development of the Indians residing in the neighborhood of Kasaan, Alaska, by conferring upon the Organized Village of Kasaan corporate rights and powers; and to enable this Village and its members to undertake enterprises designed to secure for the members of the corporation an assured economic independence..." and

**WHEREAS**, the Organized Village of Kasaan (hereinafter "OVK") is governed by a Council of elected representatives composed of a President and six members who act in accordance with the powers granted to it by its Constitution and By-Laws (Ratified on October 15, 1938); and

**WHEREAS**, the OVK Tribal Membership is dependent on abundant sustainable natural resources stretching from the pristine mountain tops to the coastal waters of Southeast Alaska for harvest, consumption, distribution and barter; and,

**WHEREAS**, OVK formally supports the State of Alaska's House Bill 93, which is sponsored by State Representatives Himschoot and Hannan, which will change residency requirements for the State of Alaska's Hunting, Trapping, and Sport Fishing privileges to align with the requirements to receive a Permanent Fund Dividend (AS 43.23), and

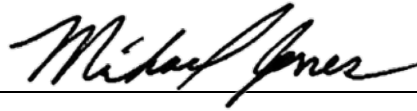
**WHEREAS**, State of Alaska's House Bill 93 will benefit year round Alaskans by limiting the amount of time and reasons one can be absent from the state and still qualify for a resident license; making Alaska residency requirements easier to enforce; protecting customary & traditional resources for year-round Alaska residents, and

**WHEREAS**, the statute changes proposed in House Bill 93 will ensure that all "true Alaskans" who qualify for a resident hunting, trapping, and sport fishing license are in fact year-round Alaska residents who rightfully deserve the increased bag limits that are a privilege of state residents, and

**WHEREAS**, the Organized Village of Kasaan formally supports State of Alaska House Bill 93, changing State of Alaska's residency requirements for hunting, trapping, and sportfishing license(s), and

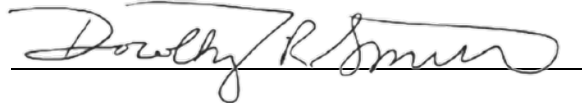
***NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED***, the Organized Village of Kasaan formally supports the State of Alaska’s House Bill 93 that will change the residency requirements for hunting, trapping, and sport fishing licenses to align with the requirements to receive a Permanent Fund Dividend.

***CERTIFICATION APPROVED, PASSED AND ADOPTED*** by a duly constituted quorum of the Organized Village of Kasaan’s Tribal Council on this 10th day of March, 2025: Della Coburn, Vice President, Yes; Glenn “Stormy” Hamar, Treasurer, Yes; Stephanie Hamar, Tribal Council Member At-Large, Yes; George Nix, Sergeant-At-Arms, Yes; Elizabeth Wadsworth, Tribal Council Member At-Large, Excused; Dorothy Smith, Secretary, Yes.



Michael Jones, Tribal Council President

Attested:



Dorothy Smith, Council Secretary

March 11, 2025

Alaska State Legislators  
Juneau, AK

Dear Alaska State Legislators,

The ADFG Craig Advisory Committee is pleased to offer its unanimous SUPPORT for House Bill 93.

The Craig AC is a diverse group of 15 members from the Craig area in Southern Southeast Alaska.

Below, we have listed a few of the many reasons we support HB93.

-It will improve our lives and better protect our subsistence resources for those who need them most.

-It will generate additional revenue for the state and ADFG.

-It will improve enforcement and deter criminal activity.

-Limiting the amount of time and reasons one can be absent from the state and still qualify for a resident license.

-The statute changes proposed in HB 93 will ensure that Alaskans who qualify for a resident hunting, trapping or sport fishing license are in fact year-round residents of Alaska who deserve the increased bag limits that are a privilege of state residents.

We urge the 34th Legislature to pass HB93 into Alaska Law.

Sincerely yours,

Ellen Hannan

Chair of Craig Fish and Game Advisory Committee

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Thatcher Brouwe](#)  
**Subject:** HB93  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 11, 2025 8:59:04 AM

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Please take note that as a resident of Klawock I support HB93.

Mark Tollfeldt

[REDACTED]  
Klawock, AK 99925

[REDACTED]



Please accept my input regarding Alaska HB 93, an Act changing the residency requirements for hunting, trapping, and sport fishing privileges.

My name is Leif Wilson, I am 61 years old and a lifelong Alaskan, one of 5 generations of my family currently living in Alaska.

I am in support of HB 93 because I feel that the current law allows the people of Alaska, and the State as a whole, to be taken advantage of.

In the area that I live in, Big Game hunting is a big draw for people in Alaska. I am one of the owner operators of 40-Mile Air in Tok. We are Big Game Transporters. I have personally been flying hunters into the field for 31 years.

I know of numerous people that come to Alaska every year for a month or less specifically to hunt. The current law allows them to claim Alaska residency, but they do not live here and have not lived here; in some cases, for 20 years or even for only 1 year in the last 70. In some instances, they bring up family members from down south to hunt guide required species under the second degree of Kindred Law. This is big money! It makes the money that our Alaska residents collect as a dividend look like chump change, yet we offer it much more protection.

The only argument that I have heard when I talk to people that are against this change is that they either are or may want to be snowbirds and still want to take advantage of Alaska resident hunting privileges. In my opinion they are willing to allow most Alaska residents and the State as a whole, to be taken advantage of for their own personal gain. I am hopeful that there are not any elected officials in our legislature that would support that argument. Actually living in the state for 6 months out of a year to be eligible for these benefits is a still a low bar to set. I do not care if you have been an Alaska resident for 60 years or not.

Leif Wilson

Tok Alaska

March 10, 2025

Dear Legislators of the 34th Alaska

I support House Bill 93 sponsored by Representatives Himschoot and Hannan, which will change the residency requirements for hunting, trapping and sport fishing privileges to align with the requirements to receive a Permanent Fund Dividend (AS 43.23).

Passage of HB 93 will benefit all Alaskans by:

1. limiting the amount of time and reasons one can be absent from the state and still qualify for a resident license;
2. making residency requirements easier to enforce; and
3. protecting subsistence resources for year-round Alaska residents.

The statute changes proposed in HB 93 will ensure that Alaskans who qualify for a resident hunting, trapping or sport fishing license are in fact year-round residents of Alaska who deserve the increased bag limits that are a privilege of state residents.

I urge the 34th Legislature to pass HB 93.

Respectfully,

Michael Kampnich

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Michael Kampnich.

Craig, Alaska

Honorable Members of the House Fisheries Committee,

I am David Egelston of Thorne Bay. I am a retired Colonel from the New York State Environmental Conservation Police, the Brown Shirts in New York State. I am a member of the East Prince of Wales Advisory Committee. and secretary of the Thorne Bay Fisheries Association. I am also the one to suggest linking the PFD requirements to residency in Alaska, my only home since 2011.

I strongly support Representative Himschoot's House Bill 93. I could spend half an hour telling you about my experiences dealing with residency in New York and Alaska. But I don't want to lose you.

Bottom line is that our resources are being stolen by people who purport to be residents because they own property or leave a camper trailer here and claim residency. If nothing else, you should be concerned with the loss of revenue to ADF&G. If this bill passes and enforced there will be increased revenue measured in hundreds of thousands of dollars as the fake resident purchase non-resident licenses.

Passage of this bill would also decrease the take of many trophy species that residents may take at very reasonable costs. Residents have bag and possession limits that are much more liberal than non-residents. We real residents depend on the fish and game taken for our tables. I have a problem with fakes coming into our state to steal game under the flag of residency. Too many of our real state residents are fighting to maintain subsistence lifestyles while fakes are taking boxes of fish and game south to distribute to friends or freezer burn.

I ask that you vote to move this bill forward to save our resources, increase funds to ADF&G and make it easier for our Wildlife Troopers to remove the weeds from the garden.

Thank you for your consideration,

Colonel David Egelston  
NYS Environmental Conservation Police (retired)

[REDACTED]  
Thorne Bay, AK 99919  
[REDACTED]

February 19, 2025

To whom it may concern,

I fully support and agree with the basis of HB 93. With more people, better technology and generally less resources in the state than in the past I think this is a vital time to take measures to ensure the people that actually reside in the State of Alaska have the resources they need.

I feel that spending 6 months here to continue to have all the privileges that a resident receives is still an overall low standard. On the average I would say a person may have to endure 30 days of non-optimum temperatures or conditions to meet their required time here in the summer months. This is very little to ask of a person for the benefits they receive to maintain their resident privileges.

The privileges of resident hunting/fishing benefits far outweigh the benefits of the PFD for an individual. The same can be said for the negative effect to the State of Alaska. Yet the PFD program has a mechanism so that residents of the state are the ones receiving it. The monetary loss for the state and gain for the individual is hard to quantify but here is a small example.

If a non-resident hunted in Alaska for moose alone they would pay roughly \$1200 in license and fees. That seems to be a fairly average PFD payment. This is a 1 species hunt that meets or exceeds the normal monetary value of the PFD. This doesn't factor in extra species of hunting big game, fishing or waterfowl, or the potential of second degree kindred as well. The monetary value of resident hunting and fishing far exceeds the PFD in my opinion.

Why does the PFD have a mechanism and the hunting/fishing not have any mechanism for protection against blatant abuse?

Bottom line is the state should not allow a system that people are abusing and using for their personal gain over the resources of the state.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns

Respectfully submitted

Jacob Combs

[REDACTED]

Tok, AK 99780

[REDACTED]