

**ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE  
HOUSE JUDICIARY STANDING COMMITTEE**

March 28, 2003

1:05 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Representative Lesil McGuire, Chair  
Representative Tom Anderson, Vice Chair  
Representative Jim Holm  
Representative Dan Ogg  
Representative Ralph Samuels  
Representative Gara  
Representative Gruenberg

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

All members present

**COMMITTEE CALENDAR**

DEPARTMENT OF LAW: BRIEFING ON LITIGATION

[For the regular meeting minutes, see the 1:47 p.m. minutes for this date.]

**TAPES**

03-24, SIDE A

**CHAIR LESIL MCGUIRE** convened the meeting of the House Judiciary Standing Committee at 1:05 p.m. Representatives McGuire, Holm, Ogg, Samuels, Gara, and Gruenberg were present at the call to order. Representative Anderson arrived as the meeting was in progress.

**SUMMARY OF INFORMATION**

STEPHEN WHITE, Assistant Attorney General, Natural Resources Section, Civil Division (Juneau), Department of Law (DOL), presented a briefing on the Carlson v. State of Alaska, Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission case. He spoke about the different aspects of this 19-year-old class action lawsuit, which centers on whether Alaska can charge nonresidents more for commercial fishing licenses than it charges residents. He described how fees were originally charged, and what the courts have decided is the appropriate formula for determining fees; the different issues that were initially raised, and the

different aspects of the case that have been appealed; and how much potential liability the state might incur dependant upon the final outcome of the case and any forthcoming appeals, and how any money owed might be distributed. In addition to providing the committee with his verbal presentation, he used a PowerPoint presentation to highlight issues, and both during and after his presentation he responded to questions from committee members.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

#### **COMMITTEE ACTION**

The committee took no action.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The House Judiciary Standing Committee took an at-ease at 1:43 p.m. in order to prepare for the regular meeting. [For the regular meeting minutes, see the 1:47 p.m. minutes for this date.]

NOTE: The meeting was recorded and handwritten log notes were taken. A copy of the tape(s) and log notes may be obtained by contacting the House Records Office at State Capitol, Room 3, Juneau, Alaska 99801 (mailing address), (907) 465-2214, and after adjournment of the second session of the 23 Alaska State Legislature this information may be obtained by contacting the Legislative Reference Library at (907) 465-3808.