

SENATE BILL NO. 212

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE RULES COMMITTEE BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR

Introduced: 1/26/24

Referred: Resources, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act establishing the sport fishing angler access account; establishing the sport**
2 **fishing angler access surcharge; and providing for an effective date."**

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

4 * **Section 1.** AS 16.05.130 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

5 (i) Money accruing to the state from the sport fishing angler access surcharge
6 imposed by AS 16.05.340(*l*) shall be deposited in a separate account known as the
7 sport fishing angler access account within the fish and game fund. The department
8 shall allocate money in the angler access account to programs intended to directly
9 benefit license purchasers through the development and improvement of access to and
10 services and facilities for lakes, ponds, or waterways not related to motor or power
11 boat use.

12 * **Sec. 2.** AS 16.05.340(i) is amended to read:

13 (i) If the commissioner determines that residents of the state are entitled to
14 obtain licenses for sport fishing, including sport fishing for anadromous king salmon,

in Yukon, Canada, for the same fees that are charged to residents of Yukon for comparable sport fishing licenses, the commissioner may adopt regulations authorizing residents of Yukon to receive

(1) nonresident annual sport fishing licenses for the fees charged to residents under (a) and (l) of this section for a resident sport fishing license; and

(2) nonresident anadromous king salmon annual tags for the fee charged to residents under (a) of this section for a resident anadromous king salmon tag.

* **Sec. 3.** AS 16.05.340 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(l) In addition to the fees for a sport fishing license set out in (a) and (d) of this section, each person who purchases a sport fishing license shall pay a sport fishing angler access surcharge as set out in this subsection. The purpose of the surcharge is to provide funding for angler access of sport fisheries not related to motor or power boat use. A person who is eligible for a \$5 resident hunting, trapping, and sport fishing license under (a)(6) of this section or a free license under AS 16.05.341 is exempt from payment of the surcharge imposed under this subsection. The surcharge authorized by this subsection shall take effect on the date established by regulation by the commissioner. The amount of the surcharge attached to each sport fishing license must be clearly disclosed on the sport fishing license. The amount of the sport fishing angler access surcharge to be paid under this subsection for each sport fishing license is as follows:

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) resident sport fishing license | \$4 |
| (2) resident hunting and sport fishing license | 4 |
| (3) resident hunting, trapping, and sport fishing license | 4 |
| (4) nonresident 14-day sport fishing license | 25 |
| (5) nonresident seven-day sport fishing license | 20 |
| (6) nonresident three-day sport fishing license | 10 |
| (7) nonresident one-day sport fishing license | 5 |
| (8) nonresident annual sport fishing license | 40 |
| (9) special nonresident military small game and sport fishing license ... | 4 |
| (10) special nonresident military sport fishing license | 4. |

1 * **Sec. 4.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
2 read:

3 TRANSITION: REGULATIONS. The commissioner of fish and game may proceed to
4 adopt regulations necessary to implement the changes made by this Act. The regulations take
5 effect under AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act), but not before the law implemented by
6 the regulations.

7 * **Sec. 5.** Section 4 of this Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

8 * **Sec. 6.** Except as provided in sec. 5 of this Act, this Act takes effect January 1, 2025.