

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 125(RES)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Offered: 5/7/25

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES JIMMIE, Foster, Kopp, Burke, Dibert, Story, Galvin, Carrick

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to membership of the Board of Fisheries; and relating to the definitions**
2 **of 'subsistence fishing' and 'subsistence uses.'"**

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

4 *** Section 1.** AS 16.05.221(a) is amended to read:

5 (a) For purposes of the conservation and development of the fishery resources
6 of the state, there is created the Board of Fisheries composed of seven members
7 appointed by the governor, subject to confirmation by a majority of the members of
8 the legislature in joint session. The governor shall appoint each member on the basis
9 of interest in public affairs, good judgment, knowledge, and ability in the field of
10 action of the board, and with a view to providing diversity of interest and points of
11 view in the membership. The appointed members shall be residents of the state and
12 shall be appointed without regard to political affiliation or geographical location of
13 residence. The commissioner is not a member of the Board of Fisheries, but shall be
14 ex officio secretary. **The governor shall appoint the members as follows:**

1 **(1) two members who represent commercial fishing and have**
 2 **knowledge of and experience in the commercial fishing industry;**

3 **(2) two members who represent sport fishing and have knowledge**
 4 **of and experience in sport fishing;**

5 **(3) two members who represent subsistence fishing and have**
 6 **knowledge of and experience in subsistence fishing;**

7 **(4) one member of the scientific community who has knowledge of**
 8 **and experience in fisheries management.**

9 * **Sec. 2.** AS 16.05.940(32) is amended to read:

10 (32) "subsistence fishing" means the taking of, fishing for, or
 11 possession of fish, shellfish, or other fisheries resources by a resident [DOMICILED
 12 IN A RURAL AREA] of the state for subsistence uses with gill net, seine, fish wheel,
 13 long line, or other means defined by the Board of Fisheries;

14 * **Sec. 3.** AS 16.05.940(34) is amended to read:

15 (34) "subsistence uses" means the noncommercial, customary and
 16 traditional uses of wild, renewable resources by a resident [DOMICILED IN A
 17 RURAL AREA] of the state for direct personal or family consumption as food,
 18 shelter, fuel, clothing, tools, or transportation, for the making and selling of handcraft
 19 articles out of nonedible by-products of fish and wildlife resources taken for personal
 20 or family consumption, and for the customary trade, barter, or sharing for personal or
 21 family consumption; in this paragraph, "family" means persons related by blood,
 22 marriage, or adoption, and a person living in the household on a permanent basis;

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

25 TRANSITION. A person who is a member of the Board of Fisheries on the day before
 26 the effective date of this Act continues to serve until the expiration of the member's term. An
 27 appointment for a vacancy that occurs on or after the effective date of this Act shall be in
 28 accordance with AS 16.05.221(a), as amended by sec. 1 of this Act.