

HOUSE BILL NO. 128

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE HOLLAND

Introduced: 3/10/25

Referred: Transportation, Resources

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to Chugach State Park; and providing for an effective date."**

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

3 * **Section 1.** AS 41.21.122 is amended to read:

4 **Sec. 41.21.122. Management responsibility. Except as provided by (b) and**
5 **(c) of this section, control, development, and maintenance of** [THE] state land and
6 water described in AS 41.21.121 as the Chugach State Park **and control of roadside**
7 **structures within the park** is assigned to the department [FOR CONTROL,
8 DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE, EXCEPT THAT THE DEPARTMENT
9 OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE
10 REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE OF ALL EXISTING PUBLIC ROADS WITHIN
11 THE PARK. THE CONTROL OF HIGHWAY ACCESS AND ROADSIDE
12 STRUCTURES WITHIN THE CHUGACH STATE PARK IS THE
13 RESPONSIBILITY OF THE DEPARTMENT]. The Department of Fish and Game
14 shall cooperate with the department to provide for those purposes under AS 41.21.121
15 relevant to the duties of the Department of Fish and Game. If, in the exercise of

1 management responsibility under this section, conflicts of land ownership,
 2 jurisdiction, or authority are unreconcilable or unmanageable other than at an
 3 unreasonable cost and expense to the state, the commissioner, after public hearing in
 4 accordance with AS 44.62, may modify, subject to the approval of the legislature, the
 5 boundaries of the Chugach State Park, not to exceed 20 percent of the total acreage
 6 described in AS 41.21.121.

7 * **Sec. 2.** AS 41.21.122 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

8 (b) The department may grant an easement or right-of-way within the
 9 Chugach State Park for the purposes of repairing, maintaining, and constructing roads
 10 and related facilities within the park to a municipality if

11 (1) the easement or right-of-way is requested by the municipality;

12 (2) the municipality bears any costs associated with the granted
 13 easement or right-of-way and facilities related to the easement or right-of-way;

14 (3) the municipality assumes the duty of maintaining the easement or
 15 right-of-way and any related constructed facilities for the duration of the grant;

16 (4) the easement or right-of-way sets out the period of its duration,
 17 whether temporary or perpetual;

18 (5) the department provides notice of the proposed grant in the manner
 19 provided by AS 44.62.190 and 44.62.200 and conducts at least one hearing in
 20 accordance with the provisions of AS 44.62.210; and

21 (6) the commissioner finds that granting the easement or right-of-way

22 (A) will improve, facilitate, or maintain public access to the
 23 park; and

24 (B) is in the public interest.

25 (c) The Department of Transportation and Public Facilities shall repair and
 26 maintain existing public roads within the Chugach State Park except for repairs and
 27 maintenance performed by a municipality under (b) of this section.

28 * **Sec. 3.** This Act takes effect July 1, 2025.