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Referred: Resources and
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1 IN THE SENATE

2 SENATE BILL NO. 397

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to public use cabins; and providing
7 for an effective date."

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 * Section 1. LEGISLATIVE PURPOSE. The legislature determines that it
10 is in the public interest to create the Alaska Public Use Cabin System and
11 place within that system all cabins owned or built by the state on the
12 reserved or unreserved public land of the state and that the system be
13 managed for the benefit of the residents of the state and visitors to the
14 state.

15 * Sec. 2. AS 41.21.020(a) is amended to read:

16 (a) The Department of Natural Resources shall

17 (1) develop a continuing plan for the conservation and
18 maximum use in the public interest of the scenic, historic, archaeo-
19 logic, scientific, biological, and recreational resources of the
20 state;

21 (2) plan for and develop a system of state parks and recre-
22 ational facilities, to be established as the legislature authorizes
23 and directs;

24 (3) acquire by gift, purchase, or transfer from state or
25 federal agencies, or from individuals, corporations, partnerships or
26 associations, land necessary, suitable and proper for roadside, pic-
27 nic, recreational, or park purposes;

28 (4) control, develop and maintain state parks and recre-
29 ational areas;

1 (5) provide for the acquisition, care, control, super-
2 vision, improvement, development, extension, and maintenance of public
3 recreational land, and make necessary arrangements, contracts, or
4 commitments for the improvement and development of land acquired under
5 AS 41.21.010 - 41.21.040;

6 (6) adopt, in accordance with this section and the Adminis-
7 trative Procedure Act (AS 44.62), regulations governing the use and
8 designating incompatible uses within the boundaries of state park and
9 recreational areas to protect the property and to preserve the peace;

10 (7) cooperate with the United States and its agencies and
11 local subdivisions of the state to secure the effective supervision,
12 improvement, development, extension, and maintenance of state parks,
13 state monuments, state historical areas, and state recreational areas,
14 and secure agreements or contracts for the purpose of AS 41.21.010 -
15 41.21.040;

16 (8) encourage the organization of state public park and
17 recreational activities in the local political subdivisions of the
18 state;

19 (9) provide for consulting service designed to develop
20 local park and recreation facilities and programs;

21 (10) provide clearing-house services for other state agen-
22 cies concerned with park and recreation matters; and

23 (11) perform other duties as are prescribed by executive
24 order or by law;

25 (12) maintain memorials to Alaska veterans located in state
26 parks;

27 (13) adopt, in accordance with the Administrative Procedure
28 Act (AS 44.62), regulations governing the use of the Chena River State
29 Recreation Area and designating incompatible uses within the

1 boundaries of the Chena River State Recreation Area in accordance with
2 AS 41.21.490;

3 (14) manage the cabins owned by the state under AS 41.-
4 21.880.

5 * Sec. 3. AS 41.21 is amended by adding a new section to article 7 to
6 read:

7 Sec. 41.21.880. PUBLIC USE CABINS. (a) There is established a
8 system of public use cabins to be managed by the commissioner and
9 called the Alaska Public Use Cabin System. The commissioner shall
10 publicize the existence of the public use cabins and shall establish a
11 reservation system for the cabins.

12 (b) The commissioner shall establish a fee schedule for the use
13 of the cabins. In establishing the fees, the commissioner shall
14 consider

15 (1) the cost to the state of building, renovating, and
16 maintaining the cabins;

17 (2) the cost of collecting the fees charged for use of the
18 cabins; and

19 (3) the public interest.

20 (c) Cabins that were constructed on public land without proper
21 authority and that have been or will be acquired by the state may be
22 renovated by the commissioner for inclusion in the Alaska Public Use
23 Cabin System. Within available appropriations, the commissioner may
24 build or acquire cabins for inclusion in the cabin system.

25 (d) The commissioner may cooperate with local groups and with
26 state and federal agencies to maintain and improve the cabin system.

27 (e) The commissioner shall make an annual report to the legisla-
28 ture on the costs, occupancy rates, fees collected, the number and
29 location of cabins in the system, and other information considered

1 relevant by the commissioner.

2 (f) As used in this section, "public use cabins" include

3 (1) cabins that were constructed on state land without
4 proper authority of law and that have been acquired by the state in
5 the past or that are acquired by the state in the future; and

6 (2) cabins owned by the state and used for temporary recre-
7 ational use.

8 * Sec. 4. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.-
9 10.070(c).