

HB

520

Alaska State Legislature

Senate Chairman
House Chairman



P O BOX V
JUNEAU ALASKA 99811
(907) 465-4907

Senate Committee on Resources

TO: Senate Resources Committee Members April 11, 1986
FROM: Senate Resource Committee Staff
RE: Sponsor Substitute for House Bill 510 "An Act relating to
game farming."

This bill would reduce the biennial license fee for game bird farming from \$200 to \$20.

Fiscal notes from the Departments of Fish and Game and Revenue and a position paper from Fish and Game are attached. Also attached are some additional supporting letters supplied by the sponsor.

STATE OF ALASKA 1985 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: _____

REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No.: SSHB 510
 Title: An Act relating to game farming
 Sponsor: Larson and Jenkins
 Requestor: _____
 Date of Request: February 18, 1986

FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected: Department Fish & Game
 Program Category Affected: _____
 BRU, Program or Subprogram(s) Affected: Game

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90
OPERATING						
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 SUPPLIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS						
800 MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

CAPITAL						
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REVENUE						
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME		NONE				
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page if necessary

The Department of Revenue is preparing a separate fiscal note. Game farming license receipts are deposited into the general fund, not into the Fish and Game Fund. Consequently, while there would be no fiscal impact on the department, there would be an impact on the State. The actual extent of that impact may be difficult to estimate, because an unknown number of game bird farmers are operating in the state without a game farming license.

Prepared By: Phil Koehl Phone: 465-4190
 Division: _____ Date: _____

Approved by Commissioner: _____ Date: _____
 Agency: Department of Fish and Game

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):

Legislative Finance
 Legislative Sponsor
 Requestor
 Office of Management and Budget
 Impacted Agency(ies)

7/1/84

SELECT - QUERY
00002 ALL ROOT = HB0510

SSH510 DOCUMENT= 2 OF 2

BILL = SSH510
ROOT = HB0510

BILL ROOT:
HB0510

BILL NUMBER:
SSH510

INTRODUCED:
2/14/86

REFERRED: Resources
and Finance

ORIG SPONSOR:
BY LARSON AND JENKINS

BILL HEADING:
IN THE HOUSE
SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 510
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION
A BILL

TITLE: For an Act entitled:
"An Act relating to game farming."
TEXT: BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:
* Section 1. AS 16.05.340(a)(14) is amended to read:
(14) Fish OOR GAMEE farming biennial
license..... 200
* Sec. 2. AS 16.05.340(a) is amended by adding a new
paragraph to read: (18) Game farming:
(A) Game mammal or game reptile
farming biennial license
..... 200
(B) Game bird farming biennial license
..... 20

OF * END OF DOCUMENTS IN LIST - ENTER RETURN OR ANOTHER COMMAND.

STATE OF ALASKA 1986 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: _____

REQUEST
Bill/Resolution No: SSHB 510
Title: An Act relating to fish or game farming.
Sponsor: Larson and Jenkins
Requestor: Senate Resources
Date of Request: 2/18/86

FISCAL DETAIL
Agency Affected: Revenue
BRU: Public Services
Components: Public Services Operating

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91
PERSONAL SERVICES	-	-	-	-	-	-
TRAVEL	-	-	-	-	-	-
CONTRACTUAL	-	-	-	-	-	-
SUPPLIES	-	-	-	-	-	-
EQUIPMENT	-	-	-	-	-	-
LAND & STRUCTURES	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRANTS/CLAIMS	-	-	-	-	-	-
MISCELLANEOUS	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL OPERATING	-	-	-	-	-	-

CAPITAL	-	-	-	-	-	-
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REVENUE	(.9)	-	(.9)	-	(.9)	-
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	-	-	-	-	-	-
FEDERAL FUNDS	-	-	-	-	-	-
OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-	-

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	-	-	-	-	-	-
PART-TIME	-	-	-	-	-	-
TEMPORARY	-	-	-	-	-	-

ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page if necessary

Prepared by: Sally Smith
 Division: Public Services

Phone: 465-2392
 Date: February 19, 1986

Approved by: [Signature]
 Commissioner: [Signature]
 Agency: Revenue

Date: 2/21/86

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management & Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)

CONTINUATION OF FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

For Bill/Resolution No. SSHB 510

It is estimated that there are perhaps five game bird farms operating in Alaska. If each of these farms purchased a game bird farm biennial license at a cost of \$20.00 instead of the current \$200.00, there would be an estimated loss of \$900.00 to the general fund every other year.



STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
BILL ANALYSIS

DEPARTMENT Fish and Game	DIVISION Game	BILL NUMBER SSHB 510	SPONSOR Larson and Jenkins
DEPARTMENT POSITION Neutral—passage of this bill would have no effect on the Department of Fish and Game.			
PREPARED BY Phil Koehl	DATE 2/17/86	COMMISSIONER'S SIGNATURE <i>[Signature]</i>	DATE 2/18/86

SUMMARY

OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED BY BILL Department of Revenue	CONSTITUENT GROUP(S) AFFECTED BY BILL Game farmers
ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT FOR BILL Unknown	ORGANIZATIONAL OPPOSITION TO BILL Unknown

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE FISCAL NOTE ATTACHED

BACKGROUND/LEGISLATIVE INTENT
The intent of this bill is to reduce the license requirement for game bird farming from \$200 to \$20.

ANALYSIS OF BILL/PROGRAM EFFECTS
Game farming license receipts are deposited directly into the general fund. If this bill becomes law, the cost of a game bird farming license will become nominal, gross receipts to the general fund will be reduced, and the costs of administering the game farm licensing program may exceed license revenue.
As presently written, the bill language may be unnecessarily confusing in distinguishing among mammal, reptile, and game bird farming. Fur farming is addressed elsewhere in statutes. However, because "fur bearers" are also "game mammals," this bill may have the effect of reinstating the license fee for fur farming that the legislature repealed in 1983. Because non-"domestic" mammals (i.e. wild game) may not be farmed or propagated for commercial purposes and venomous reptiles may not be imported into the state, game farming in Alaska essentially applies only to "game bird farming." Therefore, a separate fee structure for game, reptile and game bird farming will have no effect on license receipts.
(continued on following page)

AMENDMENTS PROPOSED
To simplify the bill without affecting revenues and to eliminate possible confusion over licensing requirements for fur farmers, the bill could be reworded to read:
(14) Fish or game farming:
 (A) Fish farming biennial license 200
 (B) Game farming biennial license 20

PLEASE ATTACH A SEPARATE SHEET FOR ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR ANALYSIS.

ANALYSIS OF BILL/PROGRAM EFFECTS (continued)

Reducing licensing fees for game bird farming may result in administrative costs exceeding license receipts. Because very few game farmers purchase licenses, little revenue is generated in any case. The program, nevertheless, has value to the Department.

Game farmers are required by statute (AS 16.05.940(12)) to keep their animals "under positive control, as in a pen...which is completely enclosed by a generally escape-proof barrier." Because the license identifies game farmers and the law requires adequate fencing, the state can retain some control of the introduction and release to the wild of many exotic animals. License fees are one means of funding the appropriate agency (DNR, DPS) for the cost of inspecting facilities.

Alaska State Legislature



Session Address:
STATE CAPITOL BUILDING

POUCH V
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
(907) 465-3727

Home Address:

BOX 53
PALMER, ALASKA 99645
(907) 745-3826

Representative Ron T. Larson
District 16 B

March 13, 1986

NOTE

To: Rep. Ron Larson

From: Gene Annas,
Staff Assistant

Re: HB 510 - Game Bird Farming

I notified Judi Rivard on Monday, March 10th about HB 510 being placed on the House Finance calendar for Friday March 14, 1986.

She did mention that she had recently talked to Mr. Lewis Pamplin, Director of Game, Dept. of Fish and Game in Anchorage, and that he had told her there would probably be no opposition from the Dept. of Fish and Game on HB 510. This statement by Mr. Pamplin is somewhat contradictory to the Bill Analysis sent to our office on February 17, 1986. This analysis stated opposition to the bill and a suggestion for clarification.

Judi Rivard indicated previously that she may be flying to Juneau to testify for HB 510. However, since she had talked to Mr. Pamplin who gave her a favorable comment on the bill, she probably will not be coming to Juneau to testify.

Tragopan and
Eared Pheasants
Grouse
Bantams

Judi & Ken Rivard
P.O. Box 871842
Wasilla, Ak. 99687
(907) 376-2140



February 10, 1986

Representative Ron L. Larson
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Ron,

We proposed changes in the statutes in reference to game farming as we felt that the term "game" was used to liberally. We are interested in separating game birds from the term game so they may be treated on an individual basis. The popularity of raising game birds in captivity in Alaska is on a steady increase and it is definitely time for both the state statutes and the game regulations to reflect this increase in interest. At the same time the biennial fee of \$200. for a Fish and Game Farming License is absurd and unduly harsh to those people raising \$15.00 birds. We have made a study of the game regulations of several other states and have found they charge between \$10 and \$15 annually for a game bird farming license. This is a more realistic figure and will encourage more people to obtain the license and operate within the law.

At this time we recommend that AS16.05.340(a)(14) be amended to read:

- (14) Fish or Game Farming:
 - (A) Fish, game mammal, or game reptile farming biennial license..... 200
 - (B) Game Bird Farming biennial license.. 20

Thank you for your assistance.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judi".

Judith A. Rivard
Wild Acres Farm

Tragopan and
Eared Pheasants
Grouse
Bantams

Judi & Ken Rivard
P.O. Box 871842
Wasilla, Ak. 99687
(907) 376-2140



February 26, 1986

Representative Ron Larson
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Ron,

We received your recent letters today, thank you for keeping us informed. If HB 510 becomes law it should not substantially reduce the gross receipts to the general fund nor should the costs of administering the game licensing program exceed the license revenue. In 1982 the receipts from game farming licenses issued were \$100., in 1983 they were \$100., in 1984 they were zero, and as of July, 1985 they were \$200. for the 1985/86 license period. That totals \$400. in revenue received for game farming over a five year period, 1982 thru 1986. These figures were made available to us on July 31, 1985, by the Fish and Game Licensing Section of the Department of Revenue.

The costs of administering the game licensing program are very nominal and will remain that way no matter how much the license fee. As far as we can determine the only cost to the state for this program is the time and material necessary for the Dept. of Revenue to issue the license. At present there appears to be no provision for the inspection of facilities or other administrative functions that would cost the state under this program. The ADF&G inspected us once when we originally applied for a permit to capture native grouse. As far as we have been able to find out the fish and game has no regulations governing game farming, especially game bird farming.

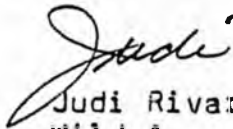
We would have no problem with the proposed amendment prepared by Phil Koehl; (14) Fish or Game Farming; (A) Fish farming and (B) Game farming. We did not propose this above change as the ADF&G non game dept. felt it would be advisable for future use to keep the mammals and reptiles under the more expensive license. Venomous reptiles may not be imported into the state but there are other numerous non-venomous species of reptiles that one can have in the state.

We would appreciate being informed as soon as possible the date that HB 510 will go before the Finance Committee and when testimony will be taken. There is a possibility that one of us may be able to appear.

We were quite distressed recently when we found out that there are absolutely no laws or regulations in effect for fur farming. Neither a license or a permit is required and there are no guidelines for control of escapes. Which will do more damage to native wildlife and domestic livestock, an escaped game bird or an escaped fox?

Thank you for all your time and assistance.

Sincerely,



Judi Rivard
Wild Acres Farm

cc: Senator Paul Fischer

Enc. Copy of our letter on February 24, 1986, to the Alaska Gamebird Association in reference to HB 510.

NOTE OF INTEREST: THE ALASKA GAMEBIRD ASSOCIATION NOW HAS 20 PLUS FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS. THIS IS JUST ABOUT A THIRD OF THE PEOPLE WHO ARE RAISING ONE OR MORE SPECIES OF GAME BIRDS IN ALASKA.



Tragopan and
Eared Pheasants
Grouse
Bantams

Judi & Ken Rivard
P.O. Box 871842
Wasilla, Ak. 99687
(907) 376-2140



February 24, 1986

To the Alaska Gamebird Association

Dear Member,

I do apologize for the form letter; however, time is of the essence and this is the fastest way to go. I am sure you are aware that Ken and I have been working to change state statutes and regulations pertaining to game bird farming. Please, we need your help NOW!!

Alaska statute AS 16.05.340, License and Tag Fees presently reads, section (14) Fish or Game Farming Biennial License.....200. Representative Ron Larson has introduced a house bill, HB 510, in an attempt to lower the license fee for game bird farming. His bill would change AS 16.05.340 to read as follows:

- (14) Fish or Game Farming:
 - (A) Fish, game mammal, or game reptile farming biennial license.....200
 - (B) Game Bird Farming biennial license....20

The only change here is the amount you and I will have to pay for a license to legally sell game birds in Alaska. We feel \$200. every two years is far to much for any game bird hobbyist/breeder to pay. For some reason the Department of Fish and Game is opposing this change. Representative Larson needs the support of all of us and our friends if he is to get this bill through the House of Representatives. If you agree with this statute change you can send a POM (Public Opinion Message) of up to 50 words free through your local legislative information office. If that is not possible please send a note directly to Representative Ron Larson as soon as possible.

Representative Ron L. Larson
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Phone #(907)465-3727

We support HB 510 as it effectively reduces the biennial license fee for a game bird farm from \$200. to \$20. This reduction will make the license more readily affordable to the hobbyist and breeder.

Thank you for your help and support!