

SB

129

Alaska State Legislature

Senate Resources Committee



Sen. John B. (Jack) Coghill, Chairman
Sen. Paul Fischer, Vice-Chairman
Sen. Lloyd Jones
Sen. Arliss Sturqulewski
Sen. Jim Duncan
Sen. Fred Zharoff
Sen. Dick Eliason

Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811
(907) 465-4907

TO: RESOURCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

FROM: COMMITTEE STAFF

RE: SB 129 "An act relating to sport fishing and hunting licenses, and providing for an effective date"

DATE: MARCH 9, 1987

Senate Bill 129 is a bill introduced by the Governor to raise the cost of resident sport fishing and hunting licenses.

The purpose of this action would be to generate additional revenue to offset the rising costs of managing the state's fish and wildlife resources.

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STEVE COWPER
GOVERNOR



STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
JUNEAU

February 12, 1987

The Honorable Jan Faiks
President of the Senate
Alaska State Legislature
P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator Faiks:

Under the authority of art. III, sec. 18, of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting a bill relating to sport fishing and hunting licenses. This bill would raise the cost of a resident sport fishing license by \$5. The cost of a resident hunting license and the combination hunting and trapping license would be raised by \$8. The cost of two other combination licenses covering both sport fishing and hunting would be raised by \$13.

These increases would generate additional revenue to offset the escalating costs of managing the state's fish and wild-life resources, and would provide for expansion of existing programs. Present technology still requires labor-intensive activities to acquire the necessary data for management, and operational costs of the Department of Fish and Game are expected to rise in order to meet those demands.

Money received from the sale of state sport fishing and hunting licenses is deposited in the Fish and Game Fund, which was created at statehood and is described in AS 16.-05.100 and 16.05.110. As a dedicated fund, it is addressed by the Alaska Constitution in art. IX, sec. 7:

The proceeds of any state tax or license shall not be dedicated to any special purpose, except as provided in section 15 of this article [the Permanent Fund] or when required by the federal government for state participation in federal programs. This provision shall not prohibit the continuance of any dedication for special purposes existing upon the date of ratification of this section by the people of Alaska.

The Fish and Game Fund was created after the date of ratification of art. IX, sec. 7 of the Alaska Constitution. However, it is protected under the federal-government-requirement exemption. A federal regulation, 50 C.F.R. sec. 80.2, adopted under the Pittman-Robertson Act, 16 U.S.C. secs. 669 -- 669i, and under the Dingell-Johnson Act, 16 U.S.C. secs. 777 -- 777k, prohibits "diversion" of fees

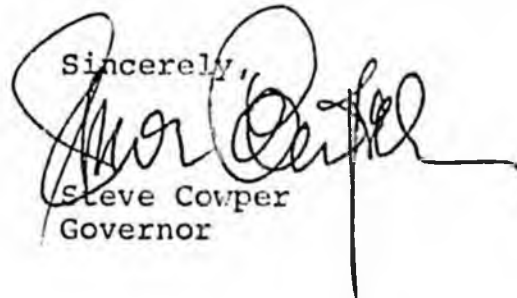
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collected from the sale of fishing and hunting licenses to purposes other than administering the state's fish and wildlife agency; this is a precondition to participation in federal fish and game grant programs. Since the federal law provides matching money for funds from the sale of fishing and hunting licenses, and does not specify the cost of those licenses, no problem of inconsistency with the federal requirement and thus no problem with the constitutional provision on dedicated funds will be encountered if these license fees are raised. In 1977, the fees for both licenses were increased; that is the only increase in residents' fees since statehood.

P.L. 98-369, July 18, 1984, expanded the Dingell-Johnson Act to make additional federal matching money available to the state. Some of this money must be utilized for motor boat access for sport fishing and support facilities, and additional state matching money will be required to optimize use of these three-for-one funds for capital projects.

In light of the availability of additional matching money, and the increasing management needs of the Department of Fish and Game, I urge your favorable consideration of this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Cowper", written over the typed name and title.

Steve Cowper
Governor

**STATE OF ALASKA 1986 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE**

Revision Date : _____

REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No. : SB 129
 Title : An Act relating to sport fishing and hunting licenses; and providing for an effective date.
 Sponsor : Governor
 Requestor : Dept. of Fish and Game
 Date of Request : _____

FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected : Dept. of Fish & Game
 BRU : Game Resource Conservation, Sport Fish and Fishery Resource Conservation.
 Components : _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES : (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

CAPITAL						
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REVENUE	1116.13*	1776.8	1866.4	1954.0	2024.5	2114.5
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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

* The license increase will take effect January 1. Therefore, revenues for the first year represent revenue for one-half of FY 88.

Prepared by : Roland Shanks
 Division : Commissioner's Office

Phone : 465-4100
 Date : September 30, 1986

Approved by Commissioner : *Orin Callensworth*
 Agency : Department of Fish and Game

Date : 9-30-86

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note) :

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