

SB

394

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

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M E M O R A N D U M

To: Members of the Senate Resource Committee

From: Senator Coghill

Re: SB 394, "An Act relating to appointments to the boards of fisheries and game."

Date: February 10, 1988

SB 394 establishes notice procedures and standards for the appointment of fish and game board members by the Governor. Presently, there are no statutory public notice requirements on appointments prior to appointment.

This issue was brought to my attention by advisory committee members in my district who perceived that legitimate fish and game management needs were not considered when making appointments to the boards.

I think it is important to inform the public of whom the executive is proposing for appointment. We all have received many calls and letters asking who the governor is appointing and when the appointment is being referred to the legislature for confirmation. With this bill the interested public would know that they have 30 days to comment on an appointment.

Another important provision in this bill would require that members appointed to the board have knowledge about the allocation and use of fish and game resources. While I do not believe that proposed members have to be professionals, they should have some experience dealing with fish and game issues.

We have active advisory committees around the state that feel they been ignored when board appointments are made. In many cases this may stem from past appointments where members had no fish and game experience. The legislature should take the opportunity to reinstate this criteria that was inadvertently repealed several years ago and address the public's concerns that political considerations take precedence over the needs of fish and game users.

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____ Agency Affected: Office of the Governor
 Title: An Act relating to appointments to the boards of fisheries and game BRU: Executive Operations
 Sponsor: Coghill/Fanning Components: Executive Office
 Requestor: Coghill/Fanning

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93
PERSONAL SERVICES	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.5
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.6

CAPITAL						
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REVENUE						
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.6
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.6

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	-0-	-0-	-0-	- -	-0-	-0-
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

See attachment.

Prepared by: SPN Michael A. Nizich, Director
 Division: Division of Administrative Services

Phone: 465-3616
 Date: 2/9/88

Approved by Commissioner: [Signature]
 Agency: Office of the Governor

Date: 2/9/88

Distribution (by preparer):

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CONTINUATION of FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

For Bill/Resolution No. SB394

SB 394 would require the Office of the Governor to advertise the names of proposed nominees to the Board of Fisheries and Board of Game in newspapers in all sections of Alaska at least 30 days prior to making an appointment. The Office of the Governor is also required to accept public comment on the fitness of the proposed nominee to sit on the board.

Since the publication of names of nominees and review of resulting public comment are an addition to current Boards and Commissions notification and review activities, analysis assumes these additional requirements will have a fiscal impact on the Office of the Governor.

Personal Services Costs are for overtime for existing administrative support staff in the Boards and Commissions Office for analysis of public input, preparation of recommendations to the Governor, and correspondence and other communications related to the public responses. Increasing costs in future fiscal years assume merit increases based on current salary levels. Overtime requirements for one recruitment per year would be as follows:

30 hours, Administrative Assistant, Range 16
60 hours, Executive Secretary I, Range 12

Contractual Services costs are for one-time publication of a five-inch advertisement in 30 newspapers. These figures are based on current advertising rates for existing newspapers in communities in all sections of Alaska, publishing in the paper with the least expensive advertising rates in those communities in which more than one daily or weekly newspaper is published.



STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
JUNEAU

February 10, 1988

POSITION PAPER

RE: Senate Bill 394

SPONSOR: Senators Coghill and Fanning

Comments

SB 394 contains language which allows for public comment before a gubernatorial appointment is made to the Boards of Fisheries and Game. Additionally it specifies that appointments be made from specific geographic locations.

The process Governor Cowper's Boards and Commissions Office follows meets the same objective--that is, public comment is solicited, obtained and considered. Letters requesting resumes, endorsements, and comments with respect to Board of Fisheries and Game candidates are sent to resource user groups, councils and associations around the state. The candidates and endorsements are then considered; additionally, staff conduct reference checks on the finalists. By the end of the process a great deal of information about the finalists' fitness is compiled, analyzed and evaluated.

While geographic location is considered in these appointments, the Governor places strong emphasis and importance upon the (appointees'-candidates') competence, knowledge of the resource, freedom from personal/financial interest, and relative immunity to political influence or special interest. The requirement to appoint members from a particular region unnecessarily limits proper consideration of these factors.

For the above-stated reasons, we do not support SB 394.

Sheila K. Gottehrer

Sheila K. Gottehrer, Director
Boards and Commissions
Office of the Governor