

HB

476

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 5/1/90

FURTHER:

DATE TURNED INTO OFFICE: _____

The Finance Committee considered

CSHB 476 (Resources)

"An Act relating to members of the Board of Fisheries and the Board of Game."

NO ACTION TAKEN BY SFC.

and recommended:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> replace with _____ CS _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> same title |
| <input type="checkbox"/> or adopt _____ CS _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> new title |
| <input type="checkbox"/> attached amendment(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> technical title change (HB only) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> _____ letter of intent adopted | |

do pass

do not pass

no recommendation

individual recommendations

further referral to _____

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

APPROVES PREVIOUS:

fiscal note(s) _____ Dept/Date: _____

fiscal note(s) _____ Dept/Date: _____

zero fiscal note(s) _____

zero fiscal note(s) _____

appropriation-no fiscal note

SIGNING DO PASS:

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. _____

2. _____

Co-Chairs: Signatures and Recommendations

Original sponsor(s): REP. DAVIDSON, Ulmer

1 IN THE HOUSE BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 476 (Resources)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to members of the Board of Fisheries
7 and the Board of Game."

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

9 * Section 1. AS 16.05.221 is amended by adding a new subsection to
10 read:

11 (c) A member of the Board of Fisheries or the Board of Game who
12 has an interest, financial or otherwise, in a business or organization
13 relating to fish or game resources, shall disclose that interest in
14 the manner provided for in AS 39.52.220.

15 * Sec. 2. AS 16.05.280 is amended to read:

16 Sec. 16.05.280. REMOVAL OF BOARD MEMBERS. The governor may
17 remove a board member for inefficiency, neglect of duty, [OR] miscon-
18 duct in office, or because the member has been convicted of violating
19 a statute or regulation related to fish or game, by delivering to the
20 member a written copy of the charges and giving the member an oppor-
21 tunity to be heard in person or through counsel at a public hearing
22 before the governor or a designee upon at least 10 days' notice by
23 registered mail. The member may confront and cross-examine adverse
24 witnesses. Upon removal, the governor or a designee shall file in the
25 proper state office the findings and a complete statement of all
26 charges made against the member.

27 * Sec. 3. AS 16.05.290 is amended to read:

28 Sec. 16.05.290. COMPENSATION OF BOARD MEMBERS. Each member of a
29 board is entitled to compensation at a rate equal to Step A, Range 22,

1 of the salary schedule in AS 39.27.011(a) for Juneau, Alaska, [TRAVEL
2 EXPENSES AND \$150 PER DIEM] for each day going to and from and for
3 each day in actual attendance at board meetings. For other meetings
4 or conferences authorized by a board a member shall receive compensa-
5 tion at a rate equal to one-half of Step A, Range 22, of the salary
6 schedule in AS 39.27.011(a) for Juneau, Alaska, for each [\$100 PER]
7 day going to and from and for each day in actual attendance. Each
8 member of a board is also entitled to travel expenses and per diem
9 authorized for boards and commissions under AS 39.20.180.

SENATE RESOURCES COMMITTEE LETTER OF INTENT
CS HB 476 (Resources)

In passing CS HB 476 (Res), the Senate Resources Committee acknowledges the serious situation which has evolved regarding the personal sacrifices required of those who serve on the Alaska Boards of Fish and Game, and our desire to find ways to ease this situation.

The Resources Committee supports Alaska's system of strong, autonomous, lay Boards of Fish and Game. The state has been very fortunate that dedicated qualified individuals have always been willing to serve on the Boards of Fish and Game. But serving on these two boards is so different from serving on other state boards and commissions, and the demands of time, stress and personal expense are becoming so extreme, that a number of measures will need to be taken in order to make it possible for these boards to continue to function effectively as lay boards.

By slightly increasing the compensation received by the board members, CSHB 476 begins to address part of the hardship created by the very long regulatory meetings of the boards, and the large number of total days members must be away from home and jobs, and paying for hotels and restaurants. However, we believe that increased monetary compensation for board members is only one step towards solving the hardships that extended meetings cause to the board members, the public, and governmental staff and operations.

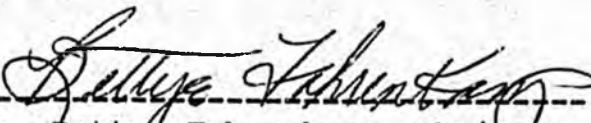
We urge the Boards of Fish and Game to pursue methods of "streamlining" their functions in ways which will not damage the quality of their decision-making or the public input process. The following are several areas which we would encourage the boards to consider:

- * The Board of Fish might be able to revise the schedule under which they consider regulatory areas to a minimum three year cycle, instead of the current two-year cycle. This may be effective in reducing the average number of meeting days required per year. It would be especially important to maintain a very clear and workable method for taking particular issues up earlier if the need (not necessarily an emergency) arises, and to assure the public that this mechanism is in place.
The Board of Game currently has a fairly well established set of regulatory cycles, but may benefit from reviewing them to see if any could be extended.

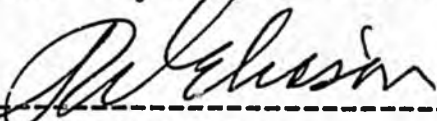
- * In recent years the boards have made an effort to set the submission deadlines for proposals as far in advance of regulatory meetings as feasible. We see that as an effective means of avoiding last minute "knee-jerk" proposals and encourage this practice whenever stable conditions make it appropriate.
- * When boards issue their "call for proposals" before a meeting, keep the scope of the areas to be considered as narrow and explicit as possible.
- * In conjunction with above item, the boards might consider prioritizing their work load by listing the areas of proposals to be taken up into categories ranging from crucial management issues down to very optional decisions. By giving notice of which category proposals will be in, the boards could take up the imperative categories for certain at the upcoming meeting, while retaining the option to simply not hear the lower priority items, or to hold them over for a future meeting, if time runs short.
- * Discontinue the practice of accepting and publishing proposals from lone individuals. Instead, for any proposal to be included in the process, require that it be sponsored either by a local Fish and Game advisory committee OR by 25 people. The names of all of the co-sponsors would then be printed with the proposal in the proposal book. This would ensure that there is a least a small constituency for every proposal before it is printed thousands of times, distributed statewide, and takes up the time of the board for consideration.
- * We recognize the potential benefits of board access to additional data for decision-making, particularly socio-economic data. This could be accomplished by either the creation of an additional staff position or with funding for contractual research. Either way, it would be desirable to have the research under the direction of the boards themselves. We would urge the boards to consider the value of such research, and how it might best be accomplished, and to report back to the Legislature.

We appreciate the dedication and hard work of past and present members of the Boards of Fish and Game, and encourage their efforts to seek ways to more efficiently handle their ever-increasing work load.

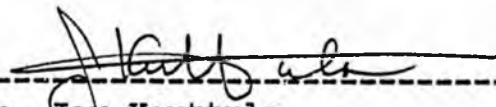
Signed,



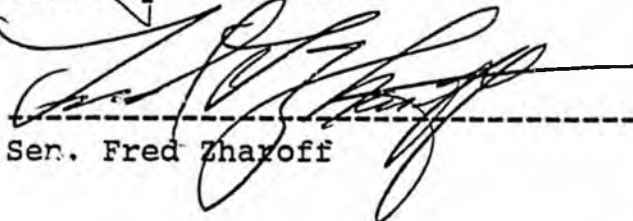
Sen. Bettye Fahrenkamp, Chairman



Sen. Dick Eliason

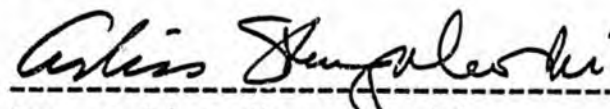


Sen. Jay Kerttula

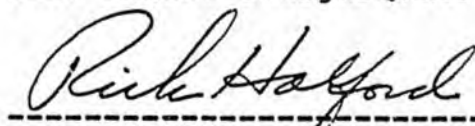


Sen. Fred Zharoff

Sen. Steve Frank



Sen. Arliss Sturgulewski



Sen. Rick Halford

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____
Title: "An act relating to members of
the Board of Fisheries and the Board..."
Sponsor: Davidson
Requestor: _____

Agency Affected: _____
BRU: Boards of Fisheries and Game
Components: _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL	134.0	134.0	134.0	134.0	134.0	134.0
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	134.0	134.0	134.0	134.0	134.0	134.0

CAPITAL						
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REVENUE						
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	134.0	134.0	134.0	134.0	134.0	134.0
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

No FY 90 impact. See attached.

Prepared by: Laird A. Jones
Division: Boards

Phone: 465-4110
Date: 04/11/90

Approved by Commissioner: [Signature]
Agency: Fish and Game

Date: 04/11/90

- Distribution (by preparer):
- Legislative Finance
 - Legislative Sponsor
 - Requestor
 - Office of Management and Budget
 - Impacted Agency(ies)

CSHB 476 BOARDS OF FISHERIES AND GAME

BOARD OF FISHERIES (7 MEMBERS)

Current

89 DAYS AT \$150 PER DAY	\$ 93,450
3 DAYS AT \$100 PER DAY	2,100

TOTAL	\$ 95,550
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Proposal

89 DAYS AT RANGE 22, STEP A - \$189	\$117,747
3 DAYS AT 1/2 RANGE 22, STEP A - \$95	1,995
92 DAYS AT \$100 PER DAY PER DIEM	64,400

TOTAL	\$184,142
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Increased costs resulting for Board of Fisheries	\$ 88,592
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BOARD OF GAME (7 MEMBERS)

Current

45 DAYS AT \$150 PER DAY	\$ 47,250
3 DAYS AT \$100 PER DAY	2,100

TOTAL	\$ 49,350
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Proposal

45 DAYS AT RANGE 22, STEP A - \$189	\$ 59,536
3 DAYS AT 1/2 RANGE 22, STEP A - \$95	1,995
48 DAYS AT \$100 PER DAY PER DIEM	33,600

TOTAL	\$ 95,131
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Increased costs resulting for Board of Game	\$ 45,781
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GRAND TOTAL	\$134,373
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