

S B

369

SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

BILL NUMBER SS SB 369

SPONSOR: Rules/Governor

BILL TITLE: Members of the boards of fisheries
and games

DATE REFERRED 3.26.90

HEARING SCHEDULED 4.11.90

FISCAL NOTE PREPARED

SPONSOR CONTACTED - Molly 4100

INTERESTED PARTIES CONTACTED

Laird Jones - Dir. of Div. of Boards

See Gov's letter in bill file

OTHER

Date of 5-Day Notice: 1-18-90
(in accordance with Uniform Rule 23)

DATE TURNED INTO OFFICE: 3-26-90

Resources _____ Committee considered _____ SSSB 369 _____

Relating to the members of the boards of fisheries and game.

and recommended:

replace with CS SSB 369 (RES) same title
 new title

attached amendment(s)

CS SSB 369 (RES) letter of intent adopted

do pass

do not pass

no recommendation

individual recommendations

further referral to _____

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department(s)/Date:

Department(s)/Date:

fiscal note(s) FTG

zero fiscal note(s)

appropriation-no fiscal note

Governor's bill w/fiscal note

SIGNING DO PASS:

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]

Artis Stupulski Acting Chair Do Pass
Chair: Signature and Recommendation

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSICNER

STEVE COWPER, GOVERNOR

P.O. BOX 3-2000
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99802-2000
PHONE: (907) 465-4100

March 30, 1990

The Honorable Pat Pourchot
Chairman
Senate State Affairs Committee
Alaska State Legislature
P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator Pourchot:


You now have in your committee SB 369, introduced by the Governor, which concerns the Boards of Fisheries and Game. This bill received extensive work in the Senate Resources Committee and does three things:

1. It requires a member of either board to disclose any interest they might have, financial or otherwise, in a business or organization relating to fish or game resources.
2. It makes clear that the Governor has the authority to remove a board member if that member has been convicted of violating a statute or regulation on fish or game.
3. It increases the compensation that board members receive to the federal per diem rate (currently \$125 a day for Anchorage) and \$150 a day honorarium for each meeting day. Board members currently receive \$150 a day per diem for regulatory meetings and \$100 a day for nonregulatory meetings.

I would greatly appreciate your scheduling a hearing on this bill as soon as possible. No other board or commission in the state meets for the length of time that these boards meet, nor does any other board have the responsibility for regulating an industry that is literally worth billions of dollars.

If you need any information on this legislation, do not hesitate to contact the department's legislative liaison, Molly McCammon, at 465-4100. Thank you.

Sincerely,


Don W. Collinsworth
Commissioner

Wednesday, April 11

CS SB 369, boards of fish and game.

TO TESTIFY;

Laird Jones, Director of Division of Boards

NOTES;

1. Fish and Game will bring a new LOWER fiscal note to the hearing.

2. There is a similar house bill, HB 476 which compensates the board members at a similar rate by establishing them in Range 22/Step A positions. This would allow them to receive increases whenever state employees do. Fish and Game is not proposing amendments to match that though they are comfortable with either the senate or the house approach.

3. This bill has received extensive review and change in Senate Resources.

4. See letter of intent.

Alaska State Legislature

Senate Resources Committee

Senator Betty Fahrenkamp, Chairman
Senator Jay Kerttula, Vice Chairman
Senator Dick Liason
Senator Steve Frank
Senator Rick Halford
Senator Arliss Sturgulewski
Senator Fred Zharoff



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

SENATE RESOURCES COMMITTEE LETTER OF INTENT CS SS SB 369 (RES)

In passing CS SB 369, 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, CSSB 369 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.

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____
 Title: "An act relating to members of the Boards of Fisheries and Game."
 Sponsor: Governor
 Requestor: _____

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

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL	145.1	145.1	145.1	145.1	145.1	145.1
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	145.1	145.1	145.1	145.1	145.1	145.1
CAPITAL						
REVENUE						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	145.1	145.1	145.1	145.1	145.1	145.1
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

No FY 90 impact.

Prepared by: Beverly D. Reaume *Beverly Reaume*
 Division: Administration

Phone: 465-6120
 Date: 3-21-90

Approved by Commissioner: Walter J. Peltola *Walter Peltola*
 Agency: Fish and Game

Date: 2/22/90

Distribution (by preparer):

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

SB 359 BOARDS OF FISHERIES AND GAME

BOARD OF FISHERIES - 7 MEMBERS

CURRENT

83 DAYS AT \$150 PER DAY	\$87,150	
22 DAYS AT \$100 PER DAY	\$15,400	
TOTAL		\$102,550

PROPOSED

105 DAYS AT \$150 PER DAY HONORARIUM	\$110,250	
105 DAYS AT \$125 PER DAY PER DIEM	\$91,875	
TOTAL		\$202,125

INCREASED COSTS RESULTING FROM SB 369 FOR BOARD OF FISHERIES \$99,575

BOARD OF GAME - 7 MEMBERS

CURRENT

38 DAYS AT \$150 PER DAY	\$39,900	
10 DAYS AT \$100 PER DAY	\$7,000	
TOTAL		\$46,900

PROPOSED

48 DAYS AT \$150 PER DAY HONORARIUM	\$50,400	
48 DAYS AT \$125 PER DAY PER DIEM	\$42,000	
TOTAL		\$92,400

INCREASED COSTS RESULTING FROM SB 369 FOR BOARD OF GAME \$45,500

GRAND TOTAL \$145,075

STATE OF ALASKA

STEVE COWPER, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

P.O. BOX 3-2000
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99802-2000
PHONE: (907) 465-4100

March 30, 1990

The Honorable Pat Pourchot
Chairman
Senate State Affairs Committee
Alaska State Legislature
P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator Pourchot:


You now have in your committee SB 369, introduced by the Governor, which concerns the Boards of Fisheries and Game. This bill received extensive work in the Senate Resources Committee and does three things:

1. It requires a member of either board to disclose any interest they might have, financial or otherwise, in a business or organization relating to fish or game resources.
2. It makes clear that the Governor has the authority to remove a board member if that member has been convicted of violating a statute or regulation on fish or game.
3. It increases the compensation that board members receive to the federal per diem rate (currently \$125 a day for Anchorage) and \$150 a day honorarium for each meeting day. Board members currently receive \$150 a day per diem for regulatory meetings and \$100 a day for nonregulatory meetings.

I would greatly appreciate your scheduling a hearing on this bill as soon as possible. No other board or commission in the state meets for the length of time that these boards meet, nor does any other board have the responsibility for regulating an industry that is literally worth billions of dollars.

If you need any information on this legislation, do not hesitate to contact the department's legislative liaison, Molly McCammon, at 465-4100. Thank you.

Sincerely,


Don W. Collinsworth
Commissioner

Alaska State Legislature

Sen. Pat Pourchot, Chairman

Sen. Jan Faiks, Vice Chairman

Sen. Al Adams

Sen. Tim Kelly

Sen. Rick Uehling



P.O. Box V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811

907-465-3712

Senate State Affairs Committee

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senate State Affairs Committee Members

FROM: Senator Pat Pourchot

RE: Wednesday, April 11 Committee Hearing

DATE: April 10, 1990

On Wednesday, April 10 at 1:30 p.m. in the Beltz Room the Senate State Affairs Committee will hear the following bills:

SS SB 394. An Act relating to eligibility to participate in the state group insurance for certain licensees in vocational rehabilitation programs.

Second Hearing. Sponsored by Senator Fahrenkamp, this bill would allow the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) to include blind and severely disabled people in business as vendors in the group health insurance program. DVR is currently required to provide insurance for these vendors from the proceeds from vending machines in government buildings which are deposited in the Small Business Enterprise Revolving Fund, at a current cost of \$14,772 per year. Including the five vendors in group health would create a savings to the revolving fund of \$5,100 per year and the vendors would receive more comprehensive insurance than they presently have. At the committee's request, DVR has provided results of a current study on comparative rates for disabled versus non-disabled individuals which generally says that there are no increases in insurance compensation costs nor lost-time injuries.

CS HB 224. An Act creating preferences in state employment for prisoners of war and for certain rehabilitated veterans and prisoners of war; and allowing repeated use of the state employment preference by certain veterans and prisoners of war for applications for nonpermanent positions.

Second Hearing. Sponsored by Representative Kubina, this bill changes statute to allow for repeated use of state employment preference by eligible veterans and prisoners of war for nonpermanent positions. It does have one exception for veterans or prisoners of war who were terminated because of a service related disability and who have not worked in a permanent position for two years. These people, with medical certification, are entitled to receive a preference for a permanent position. We have requested Legal to draft an amendment specifying that POWs be "Alaskans". Legal will respond with a paragraph on the "constitutionality" of a residency requirement.

CSSSHB 218. An Act extending the authority of the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation to assist in the development of congregate housing and directing the Alaska State Housing Authority to develop a pilot program for

congregate housing; and providing for an effective date. Second Hearing. Based on committee concerns, a proposed CS has been developed which requires AHFC to operate within prudent lending guidelines, clarifies that no subsidies will be authorized, defines congregate housing and identifies Alaska State Housing Authority role in the pilot program. Your packet contains the CS, a memo from Representative Ulmer highlighting the changes and an explanation of "layered financing".

CSSS SB 369, An Act relating to members of the boards of fisheries and game; and providing for an effective date. Sponsored by Rules at request of the Governor, this bill requires members of the Board of Fisheries or the Board of Game to disclose any interests in organizations relating to fish and game resources. Language in the CS clarifies the Governor's authority to remove board members convicted of violating a statute or regulation on fish or game and increases board compensation to the federal per diem rate (currently \$125 per day for Anchorage) and an honorarium of \$150 for each meeting day. Senate Resources attached a Letter of Intent which states support for increased compensation for board members and urges "streamlining" their functions to reduce hardships to members, the public and government staff.

SB 106, An Act relating to school boards in regional educational attendance areas. Sponsored by Senator Coghill, this bill amends AS 14.08.051(b), relating to the school board sections of statutes on education in the unorganized borough. It provides that a petition to divide a regional educational attendance area (REAA) into sections to recast section boundaries, or a petition to elect REAA school board members, must contain signatures of qualified voters in the area equal to eight percent (reduced from 15%) of the total vote cast in the most recent regional school board election.



STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

BILL ANALYSIS

DEPARTMENT Fish and Game	DIVISION Boards	BILL NUMBER CSSSSB 369	SPONSOR Governor
SHORT TITLE OF BILL "An act relating to members of the boards of fisheries and game."			
DEPARTMENT POSITION Support			
PREPARED BY Laird A. Jones	<i>Laird A. Jones</i>	DATE 04/13/90	COMMISSIONER'S SIGNATURE <i>[Signature]</i>
		DATE 04/13/90	

SUMMARY

OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED BY BILL None	CONSTITUENT GROUP(S) AFFECTED BY BILL Those members of the public affected by quality of regulation promulgated by the boards.
ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT FOR BILL	ORGANIZATIONAL OPPOSITION TO BILL

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE FISCAL NOTE ATTACHED (Amended)

BACKGROUND/LEGISLATIVE INTENT

The Board of Fisheries meets approximately 89 days and the Board of Game meets approximately 45 days per year. The fourteen volunteer board members are unable to sustain themselves away from home at the current compensation rate.

ANALYSIS OF BILL/PROGRAM EFFECTS

Section 1 requires board members to disclose financial or other interests in a business or organization relating to fish or game resources. Section 2 provides the governor the ability to remove a board member who has been convicted of violating a fish or game statute or regulation. Section 3 provides board members with per diem and honorarium of \$150 per day for any board approved meetings or conferences.

AMENDMENTS PROPOSED

PLEASE ATTACH A SEPARATE SHEET FOR ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR ANALYSIS.

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____
 Title: "An act relating to members of
 the Boards of Fisheries and Game."
 Sponsor: Governor
 Requestor: _____

Agency Affected: Fish and Game
 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	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
CAPITAL						
REVENUE						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

No FY90 impact. See attached.

Prepared by: Laird A. Jones
 Division: Boards

Phone: 465-4110
 Date: 04/13/90

Approved by Commissioner: _____
 Agency: Fish and Game

Date: 04/13/90

Distribution (by preparer):

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

CSSSSB 369 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

Proposal

92 DAYS AT \$150 PER DAY HONORARIUM	\$ 96,600
92 DAYS AT \$100 PER DAY PER DIEM	64,400

TOTAL \$161,000

Increased costs resulting for Board of Fisheries \$ 65,500

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

Proposal

48 DAYS AT \$150 PER DAY HONORARIUM	\$ 50,400
48 DAYS AT \$100 PER DAY PER DIEM	33,600

TOTAL \$ 84,000

Increased costs resulting for Board of Game \$ 34,650

GRAND TOTAL \$100,150

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____
 Title: "An act relating to members of the Boards of Fisheries and Game."
 Sponsor: Governor
 Requestor: _____

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

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL	145.1	145.1	145.1	145.1	145.1	145.1
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	145.1	145.1	145.1	145.1	145.1	145.1
CAPITAL						
REVENUE						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	145.1	145.1	145.1	145.1	145.1	145.1
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

No FY 90 impact.

Prepared by: Beverly D. Reaume *Beverly D. Reaume* Phone: 565-4120
 Division: Administration Date: 3-21-90
 Approved by Commissioner: Warren W. Jensen Date: 3/22/90
 Agency: Fish and Game

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

SB 369 BOARDS OF FISHERIES AND GAME

BOARD OF FISHERIES - 7 MEMBERS

CURRENT

83 DAYS AT \$150 PER DAY	\$87,150
22 DAYS AT \$100 PER DAY	\$15,400

TOTAL	\$102,550
-------	-----------

PROPOSED

105 DAYS AT \$150 PER DAY HONORARIUM	\$110,250
105 DAYS AT \$125 PER DAY PER DIEM	\$91,875

TOTAL	\$202,125
-------	-----------

INCREASED COSTS RESULTING FROM SB 369 FOR BOARD OF FISHERIES	\$99,575
--	----------

BOARD OF GAME - 7 MEMBERS

CURRENT

38 DAYS AT \$150 PER DAY	\$39,900
10 DAYS AT \$100 PER DAY	\$7,000

TOTAL	\$46,900
-------	----------

PROPOSED

48 DAYS AT \$150 PER DAY HONORARIUM	\$50,400
48 DAYS AT \$125 PER DAY PER DIEM	\$42,000

TOTAL	\$92,400
-------	----------

INCREASED COSTS RESULTING FROM SB 369 FOR BOARD OF GAME	\$45,500
---	----------

GRAND TOTAL	\$145,075
-------------	-----------

PROPOSED CS FOR SB369 (RES)

SUB-COMMITTEE PROPOSAL FOR SB369

PROPOSE AMENDING THE BILL TO ACCOMPLISH THE FOLLOWING CHANGES IN COMPENSATION FOR BOARD MEMBERS:

- * Currently members receive \$150/ day per diem for regulatory meetings, and \$100/ day per diem for other meetings.
- * This CS proposes that members will receive the federal rate of per diem (currently \$125/day in Anchorage where most board meetings take place), PLUS an honorarium of \$150 for ALL meetings.

Federal tax law allows a person to collect the amount equal to federal rate of per diem without reporting it as income. This amount is proposed in the CS as it will simplify paperwork and reporting requirements for board members.

- * Net gain in total compensation for members over what they receive now is about \$125 per day during regulatory meetings, and about \$175 per day during other meetings.

PROPOSE ADOPTION OF A LETTER OF INTENT SUPPORTING AND ENCOURAGING EFFORTS BY THE BOARDS TO FIND APPROPRIATE WAYS TO SHORTEN THE NUMBER OF MEETING DAYS REQUIRED. LETTER SUGGESTS PARTICULAR AREAS THEY MIGHT LOOK AT.

draft.

SB 369 BOARDS OF FISHERIES AND GAME

3/15/90

CURRENT (14 BOARD MEMBERS)

65 DAYS AT \$150 PER DAY \$136,500

15 DAYS AT \$100 PER DAY \$21,000

TOTAL \$157,500

PROPOSED (14 BOARD MEMBERS)

80 DAYS AT \$150 PER DAY HONORARIUM \$168,000

80 DAYS AT \$125 PER DAY PER DIEM \$140,000

TOTAL \$308,000

INCREASED COSTS RESULTING FROM SB 369

\$150,500

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____ Agency Affected: Fish and Game
 Title: "An act relating to members of
the Boards of Fisheries and Game." BRU: Boards of Fish and Game
 Sponsor: Governor Components: _____
 Requestor: _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL	150.5	150.5	150.5	150.5	150.5	105.5
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	150.5	150.5	150.5	150.5	150.5	150.5
CAPITAL						
REVENUE						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	150.5	150.5	150.5	150.5	150.5	150.5
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	150.5	150.5	150.5	150.5	150.5	150.5

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

No FY 90 impact.

Prepared by: Beverly D. Reaume *Beverly Reaume* Phone: 465-4120
 Division: Administration Date: 3-15-90

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

Distribution (by preparer):

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

LETTER OF INTENT OF THE SENATE RESOURCES COMMITTEE
CS SB 369 RES
AN ACT RELATING TO THE BOARDS
OF FISH AND GAME

In passing CS SB 369, 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, CSSB 369 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

Original sponsor(s): Rules/Governor

1 IN THE SENATE

2 CS FOR SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 369 ()

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 the members of the boards of
7 fisheries and 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 on fish or game, by delivering to the member a
20 written copy of the charges and giving the member an opportunity to be
21 heard in person or through counsel at a public hearing before the
22 governor or a designee upon at least 10 days' notice by registered
23 mail. The member may confront and cross-examine adverse witnesses.
24 Upon removal, the governor or a designee shall file in the proper
25 state office the findings and a complete statement of all charges made
26 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 travel expenses and [\$150] per diem at a rate

1 equal to that paid to federal employees in the state by the federal
2 government, for each day going to and from and for each day in actual
3 attendance at board meetings or other meetings or conferences author-
4 ized by a board. In addition, each member is entitled to an honorar-
5 ium of \$150 for each day in actual attendance at board meetings or
6 [FOR] other meetings or conferences authorized by a board [A MEMBER
7 SHALL RECEIVE \$100 PER DAY].
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____
 Title: "An act relating to members of the Boards of Fisheries and Game."
 Sponsor: Governor
 Requestor: _____

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

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL	145.1	145.1	145.1	145.1	145.1	145.1
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	145.1	145.1	145.1	145.1	145.1	145.1
CAPITAL						
REVENUE						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	145.1	145.1	145.1	145.1	145.1	145.1
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

No FY 90 impact.

Prepared by: Beverly D. Reaume *Beverly Reaume*
 Division: Administration

Phone: 465-4120
 Date: 3-21-90

Approved by Commissioner: Walter J. Leavelle *Walter Leavelle*
 Agency: Fish and Game

Date: 7/22/90

Distribution (by preparer):

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

SB 369 BOARDS OF FISHERIES AND GAME

BOARD OF FISHERIES - 7 MEMBERS

CURRENT

83 DAYS AT \$150 PER DAY	\$87,150
22 DAYS AT \$100 PER DAY	\$15,400

TOTAL	\$102,550
-------	-----------

PROPOSED

105 DAYS AT \$150 PER DAY HONORARIUM	\$110,250
105 DAYS AT \$125 PER DAY PER DIEM	\$91,875

TOTAL	\$202,125
-------	-----------

INCREASED COSTS RESULTING FROM SB 369 FOR BOARD OF FISHERIES	\$99,575
--	----------

BOARD OF GAME - 7 MEMBERS

CURRENT

38 DAYS AT \$150 PER DAY	\$39,900
10 DAYS AT \$100 PER DAY	\$7,000

TOTAL	\$46,900
-------	----------

PROPOSED

48 DAYS AT \$150 PER DAY HONORARIUM	\$50,400
48 DAYS AT \$125 PER DAY PER DIEM	\$42,000

TOTAL	\$92,400
-------	----------

INCREASED COSTS RESULTING FROM SB 369 FOR BOARD OF GAME	\$45,500
---	----------

GRAND TOTAL	\$145,075
-------------	-----------