

HB

23

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Copies of minutes listed below were originally included in this file. The minutes are available on the legislative computer database. In order to save space copies of minutes have not been left in the files.

Mary Pagenkopf

Senate Rules Committee 5/1/97 10:51 am



Alaska State Legislature

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Beverly Masek

Official Business

State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801
(907) 465-2679

HB 23

SPONSOR STATEMENT

"ACCESS PROTECTION BILL"

House Bill 23 addresses an increasingly troublesome problem involving public policy relating to the ability of Alaskans to access and utilize common property resources. This legislation will allow the Legislature to address concerns over access to state lands and waters where proposed administrative action involves significant areas of public interest.

Currently the administration may close public access onto state lands and waters regardless of whether Alaskans agree with such policy actions. This situation has led to the exclusion of many traditional uses in areas of public interest when some members of the bureaucracy felt it necessary to impose restrictions on those uses they viewed as socially incompatible or unacceptable.

The legislature has traditionally been responsible for implementing statutes designed to protect lands, waters and resources. However, there are no statutes which provide for the protection of the public's ability to access these common property resources. I feel this is an important public policy question which should rightly come under legislative purview.

HB 23 will allow the administration to affect public access on small areas, or for short periods of time. However, larger areas (more than 640 acres), or restrictions lasting for long time periods (more than eight months in a three year period) would be subjected to legislative approval.

HB 23 includes language which will give the Legislature the authority to protect traditional access for traditional uses, including subsistence activities. Furthermore, this legislation was crafted so as not to impede land disposals, mining, timber harvest or other resource development. Language has been inserted which allows development interests for safety reasons to "control and direct public access through developed properties", and to provide for "reasonable access alternatives".

In addition to enthusiastic individual support, the following groups representing in excess of 25,000 Alaskan outdoor users support HB 23: Alaska Marine Dealers, Resource Development Council, Alaska Visitors Association, Alaska Air Carriers, Alaska Airmen's Association, Alaska Bow Hunters, Alaska Snowmobile Assoc., Alaska Boaters Assoc., Mat-Su Motor Mushers, Mat-Su Boaters, Alaska Outdoor Council, Territorial Sportsmen, Alaska Outdoor Council, Ketchikan Sport and Wildlife Club, and Mat Valley Sportsmen.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. 1
Bill Version: CSHB 23 (RES)
(H) Publish Date: 3/5/97

Date: 2/27/97
Title: An Act relating to traditional means
of Access...
Sponsor: Rep. Masek
Requestor: House Resources

Dept. Affected: DNR
BRU: _____
Components: _____
Serial #: _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

OPERATING	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Travel	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Contractual	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Supplies	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Equipment	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Land & Structures	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Grants, Claims	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CAPITAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
REVENUE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

FUNDING: (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

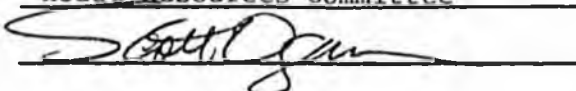
General Fund	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Federal Fund	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

POSITIONS:

Full-Time	0	0	0	0	0	0
Part-Time	0	0	0	0	0	0
Temporary	0	0	0	0	0	0

ANALYSIS: (ATTACH A SEPARATE PAGE IF NECESSARY)

see attached analysis

Prepared by: Co-Chairman Scott Ogan
House Resources Committee


Date: 2/27/97
Phone: 465-3715
Phone: _____