

HB

232

HFIN

FILE

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Chair
FISHERIES

Vice-Chair
EDUCATION

Member
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Member
STATE AFFAIRS



REPRESENTATIVE PAUL SEATON
House District 35

Session:
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Homer, Alaska 99603
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Sponsor Statement

HB 232

"An Act relating to mercury classics; and providing for an effective date."

House Bill 232 will allow the Homer Chapter of the Kenai Peninsula Boys and Girls Club to operate and implement the "Homer Mercury Classic." As you may know, classics are not permitted under a gaming permit without legislation allowing a specific group or area to conduct one. There are many classics in Alaskan Statute, ranging from ice classics to a canned salmon classic. Currently, the Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce is the only organization allowed under Alaskan law to conduct a "mercury classic."

The "Homer Mercury Classic" will be held bi-annually, with winnings awarded in the spring to the person who most accurately guesses when the temperature reaches 55 degrees Fahrenheit. The other cash prize will be given to the person who most closely guesses the time and date that the mercury drops to 15 degrees Fahrenheit each fall. Each entry into the classic will cost \$2. The proceeds from the classic will be divided evenly between the Boys and Girls Club of Homer and the classic winner.

Members of the Boys and Girls Club, who already have the necessary equipment and expertise to manage the operation, will monitor the temperature hourly through a weather station at the Homer Clubhouse. The program that inspired this classic is called GLOBE, which stands for Global Learning and Observation to Benefit the Environment. GLOBE is an international program in association with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, National Science Foundation, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. State Department. The data collected from schools and other groups around the world are deposited into a database that is accessed by the aforementioned organizations to assist atmospheric scientists in their work. This program allows children to participate in scientific processes, while earning money for their program in a fun, non-competitive and educational way.

Three hundred, primarily seven to twelve year-olds, are involved in the Homer Chapter of the Boys and Girls Club. The "Clubhouse" provides an excellent place for kids to "hang-out" in a safe and learning friendly environment. In light of dwindling



FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2002 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 1
 Bill Version: HB 232
 (H) Publish Date: 4/28/2003

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Revenue
 Title: Homer Mercury Classic BRU: Revenue Operations
 Component: _____
 Sponsor: Representative Seaton
 Requester: House Labor & Commerce Component No. _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type--Do not abbreviate)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2002) cost: 0.0
 Check this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2003 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This legislation has no fiscal impact on state spending.

Prepared by: Representative Tom Anderson Phone: _____
 Division: Chair, House Labor & Commerce Committee Date/Time: 4/28/03 11:42 AM
 Approved by: Representative Tom Anderson Date: 4/28/2003
 Agency: House Labor & Commerce Committee

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State revenues, this will be a valuable fundraiser when other sources of monetary support cannot be guaranteed. The "Homer Mercury Classic" will help to ensure funds that will allow the Club to stay open and fully staffed for years to come.



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Sectional Analysis

HB 232

"An Act relating to mercury classics; and providing for an effective date."

***Section 1.**

- (a) Amends Alaska Statute (AS 05.15.690(27)), by expanding the statute to allow the Boys and Girls Club of the Kenai Peninsula to conduct a mercury classic under their existing gaming permit.
- (b) This mercury classic will be called the "Homer Mercury Classic."

***Section 2.**

Provides the effective date of January 1, 2004 for the act to take effect under AS 01.10.070(c).





Office of the Mayor

(907) 235-8121

Fax 235-3140

Jack Cushing

Homer City Hall 491 E. Pioneer Avenue • Homer, Alaska 99603-7624

April 7, 2003

Honorable Representative Paul Seaton
State Capital Room 428
Juneau, AK 99802

Honorable Representative Seaton:

Thank you for sponsoring House Bill 232 for the Homer Mercury Classic.

On behalf of the City of Homer, Homer City Council and Homer's citizenry. I submit this letter in support of House Bill 232 authorizing the Homer Mercury Classic, which will be operated and administered by the Boys and Girls Club of the Kenai Peninsula.

The City of Homer and greater Homer Community is very supportive of the Homer Boys and Girls Club as well as the Kenai Peninsula Boys and Girls Club.

The Homer City Council has continually voiced their support of the Boys and Girls Club and authorized a lease for use of one of the City Facilities.

Sincerely,

CITY OF HOMER

Jack Cushing, Mayor of the City of Homer

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FOLLOWING
DOCUMENT(S)
ARE
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BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS

of the Kenai Peninsula, Kenai Unit
705 Frontage Road, Suite B

Kenai, Alaska 99611

e-mail: info@positiveplaceforkids.com

Website: positiveplaceforkids.com

(907) 283-2682

(907) 283-8190 fax

April 9, 2003

Representative Paul Seaton
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 428
Juneau, Alaska 99802

Dear Representative Seaton:

The Board of Directors of the Boys & Girls Club of the Kenai Peninsula strongly supports the staff of our Homer Unit in their efforts to hold Mercury Classic fundraisers at their Club site. Our Homer Unit has a weather station and all the equipment necessary to measure the exact time and date the temperature reaches a certain temperature. Homer Club members of all ages will be actively involved in accurately recording the time and temperature changes. This educational component of the Classic was the main reason this fundraiser was chosen by the Homer Club staff over other fundraising activities.

At the December 4, 2002 Boys & Girls Club of the Kenai Peninsula Board of Directors' Meeting, our Board of Directors voted unanimously to support the motion "to allow the Homer Unit staff to proceed with the steps necessary to hold a Mercury Classic." Therefore, we respectfully request that you support House Bill No. 232 and allow the Boys & Girls Club of the Kenai Peninsula's Homer Unit to conduct a Mercury Classic.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Mike Navarre
Immediate Past President
Boys & Girls Club Board of Directors

Peter Micciche
Board President
Boys & Girls Club Board of Directors

MN/PM:kwl

The Positive Place For Kids





BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS

of the Kenai Peninsula - Homer

PO Box 2570

Homer, AK 99803 907-235-2772 fax 907-235-2956

For 140 years, the Boys & Girls Clubs of America have existed "To inspire and enable all young people, especially those from disadvantaged circumstances, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens."

The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Kenai Peninsula opened the doors of its Homer Unit just over 3 years ago. Since that time we have grown to accommodate over 300 members, and support a staff of nine part time employees. This is an expensive stretch for a non-profit budget that has six clubs to support within the Kenai Peninsula.

To assist in the financing of the overall budget, and specifically our local Club, the Homer Unit is seeking to create a fundraising program that would generate a continual influx of income. After two years of speculation and research, it was decided that holding a bi-annual "Mercury Classic" was a good choice for the Boys & Girls Club of Homer because the Club members themselves could become an integral part of the process, including monitoring the weather station, collecting and downloading data onto the computer, and graphing ongoing temperature fluctuations. The Homer Clubhouse Director has completed the required training for "GLOBE," which is an organization that collects, records, and posts weather data on an international level. In addition, the Homer Clubhouse already has the equipment necessary to support the scientifically accurate collection of data required.

Logistically, temperatures will be automatically recorded every hour of every day, and downloaded into the database. For the Autumn Mercury Classic, participants will pay \$2 to guess when the temperature will first reach +15 degrees. For the Spring Mercury Classic, the \$2 will buy the chance to guess when the temperature will first reach +55 degrees.

The prize money, after expenses, will be split 50-50 between the winning participant(s) and the Club. All aspects of the contest will be run in a responsible and professional manner, and all financial records and scientific data will be available for public access and review.

We propose that the existing permit belonging to the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Kenai Peninsula be amended to include a Mercury Classic. It is understood that this permit would allow ANY of the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Kenai Peninsula to hold a Mercury Classic. The Homer Unit may merely be the first.

Supporting the Boys & Girls Clubs is an investment in the future of our children, our families and our community. Please help us attain this important funding source.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

DeWaine Tollefsrud - Clubhouse Director
Boys and Girls Club of the Kenai Peninsula - Homer Unit