

HB

165

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



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Representative Gabrielle LeDoux

SPONSOR STATEMENT FOR HB 165

"An Act relating to providing field accommodations for big game hunters."

This act takes care of an unintended consequence created by prior legislation to establish definitions and laws for licensed guides, outfitters, and transporters of big game hunters.

This legislation will make Section 08.54.785 inapplicable to a person providing, for compensation or with the intent to receive compensation, only accommodations to a big game hunter in the field at a permanent lodge, house, or cabin on private land owned by the person.

The act will also exempt a state or federal cabin on state or federal land.

Suzanne Hancock

.m: Alitakrat@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2007 11:16 AM
To: Suzanne Hancock
Subject: Re: Cabin rental bill

To whom it concerns

When the Legislature re authorized the Statutes pertaining to big game guiding and transporter services to be overseen by the BGCSB some unintended consequences came to light. One of which was the rental of private cabins to hunters.

A small change in previous wording gave enforcement impetus for new emphasis on the statute. This caused undue hardship on people like myself who by all intentions had made every available effort to be legal in renting their cabins.

I have worked extensively with the BGCSB and Rep. Le Douex's office to find remedies to this situation. The bill Rep. Le Douex is sponsoring is a result of this effort and has the unanimous support of ail involved.

Thanks for your consideration

Rick Metzger
PO Box 5043
Akhiok AK 99615

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This is a fairly straightforward issue, and problem, and I hope the legislature will move this bill through committee quickly and pass it so that other important issues before the House can be heard and addressed.

Thank you for allowing ABHA to comment on this bill, and for your service to the state and your constituents.

Sincerely,

Mark Richards

Co-chair Alaska Backcountry Hunters and Anglers

Suzanne Hancock, Chief of Staff
Rep Gabrielle LeDoux
Alaska State Capital Building
District 36
Juneau, AK 99801-1121

March 5, 2007

Re: HB 165

Dear Rep LeDoux,

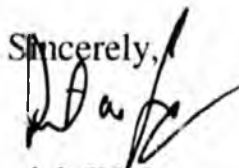
I am writing to encourage you to support HB165. While I understand the concerns the guiding hunting industry has in opposing this on economic grounds, and that the State of Alaska may oppose because of hunter safety, I feel a sizeable sector of the hunting public may only be able to afford the wonders of Alaska on an unguided or limited outfitted trip.

I made my first hunting trip to Alaska in 2005 and currently have one planned for 2007, and hopefully several more in the future. I am fully capable of hunting in your great state with limited assistance for many species. And also realize that I will need to include the services of a licensed guide/outfitter for others. However, I would like to be able to continue to have the option to decide what would be best for my planned adventure.

I were not able to experience Alaska on a limited outfitted trip in 2005, I may not have been able to go at all. And may not ever get there or only once in my lifetime. Several of my hunting friends that had given up on ever going there because of the costs, are now interested in going because of the lower costs of a partially outfitted trip. I believe that these types of hunters have more to offer the hunting economy of Alaska than only the few that can afford fully guided and outfitted trips.

Thank you for your time, and I urge you to support HB165.

Sincerely,



Rick W. Lange
Prairie du Chien, WI

Suzanne Hancock

From: Tom Tempie [tom@satterberg.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 07, 2007 11:09 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux
Subject: I support HB 165

Hi Ms. LeDoux;

I wanted to thank you for your support of HB 165. I also support this fair and commonsense legislation.

Allowing private property owners to rent their remote cabins to anyone, including big game hunters, not only makes good sense, but is constitutionally required.

When the regulations were recently altered, in effect changing what constitutes "in the field," I doubt anyone suspected that a government taking of private property rights would be the result. Many property owners, such as Rick Metzger on Kodiak Island, have been adversely affected by the change through lost income from the rental of his cabin to hunters. Meanwhile, the State and Feds are free to rent similarly situated cabins to hunters, without competition from private property owners.

Approving HB 165 will correct an unjust situation that was unintentional, but damaging nonetheless. It will not harm guides or those who choose to hunt without a guide, but will provide more opportunities for Alaskans to enjoy the Great Land.

Tom Tempie
Attorney
907/452-4454

Suzanne Hancock

From: Tom Streifel [tomstreifel@gci.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 07, 2007 8:05 PM
To: Suzanne Hancock
Subject: HB 165

Suzanne,

Please pass on to Gabrielle that myself and a lot of other folks that hunt and fish here in Kodiak would appreciate every effort she could put into passing HB 165. The bill, as you know, concerns folks being able to rent a cabin in the field to hunt from. Makes good sense to me and other folks.

Thanks again,
Tom Streifel

Sonya Hymer

From: Brad Underwood [bradkay@alaska.net]

Sent: Wednesday, March 07, 2007 6:55 PM

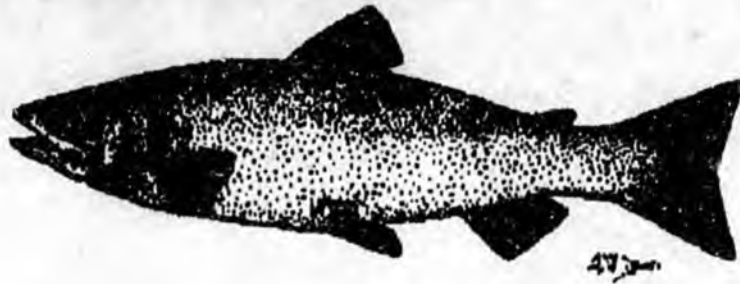
To: Sonya Hymer

Subject: HB 165

Sonya, could you please forward this to Gabrielle? Thank you. Brad and Kay Underwood

Dear Gabrielle/Suzanne - Kay and I would like to lend our support of HB 165. As private property owners in a couple of remote areas on Kodiak we are concerned that some of our options may be restricted and in jeopardy. Rick Metzger has brought to our attention the recently changed regulations. We are hopeful that HB 165 will be approved by the legislature. It seems fair and reasonable and will probably clear up some unintended consequences. Thanks for you efforts on this. Brad and Kay Underwood

Fox Island Set Net Camp



Jim & Kim Peterson*Owners/Operators

P.O. Box 240102
Douglas, Alaska 99824
(907)364-3643
sockeye7@acsalaska.net

3/8/07

Honorable Gabrielle Le Doux,

We are writing to you today to show support for HB 165. My family owns 7 acres on the south end of Kodiak Island in Deadman Bay. I am a lifelong Alaskan and started fishing down in the Alitak Bay District in 1965. Over the years I have seen many people from all walks of life travel to Kodiak to enjoy the scenic beauty, wildlife and the beautiful country that our Island affords. A lot of times people don't have the money to hire a guide or stay in some big fancy lodge and being able to rent a cabin for a few days gives them a chance to experience and appreciate Kodiak Island. Thank-you for your time and consideration of our opinion.

Jim & Kim Peterson

Suzanne Hancock, Chief of Staff
Representative Gabrielle LeDoux
State Capitol
District 36
Juneau, AK 99801-1121

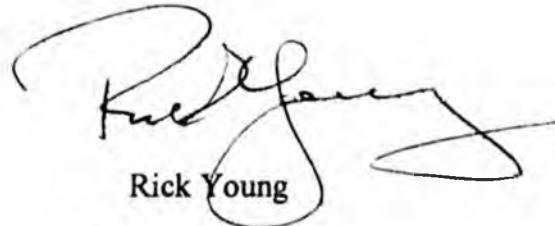
Dear Representative LeDoux:

I am writing you in support of HB 165 and with some serious threats that I think your guided hunting business is having on the average hunter.

I have always enjoyed hunting by doing it myself, successful or not I derive more pleasure from a hunt knowing I did it myself. I have enjoyed coming to Alaska on numerous occasions and have spent tens of thousands of dollars on licenses, hotels, car and cabin rental, meals and air taxi services. It is all a part of the experience that I have come to enjoy, an average wage earner carving out a special hunting experience.

Now these special interest groups want to restrict me (even further) by denying me access to remote cabins and some of the simple privileges that I have worked hard to research and realize. I work in an industry that is dedicated to recruiting new hunters. I know for a fact that the more common these restrictive practices become, the more fragile our hunter based conservation heritage becomes and the more difficult recruitment and retention become. At a time when we should be exploring every opportunity to recruit new hunters we can not afford these types of self serving interests.

Thank you for your support of HB 165.



Rick Young

"I should much regret to see grow up in this country a system of large private game preserves kept for the enjoyment of the very rich. One of the chief attractions of the life of the wilderness is its rugged and stalwart democracy. There every man stands for what he actually is and can show himself to be."

Theodore Roosevelt

Cc: BGCSB

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Representative Gabrielle LeDoux

MEMO

DATE: 3/2/2007
TO: HOUSE RESOURCE
REPRESENTATIVE CRAIG JOHNSON CHAIRMAN
FROM: REPRESENTATIVE GABRIELLE LEDOUX *GL*
RE: HEARING REQUEST FOR HB 165, AN ACT RELATING TO PROVIDING
FIELD ACCOMMODATIONS FOR BIG GAME HUNTERS

I respectfully request that House Bill 165 be scheduled for a hearing in the House Resources.

Attached you will find:

- Current version of House Bill 165
- Sponsor Statement
- Additional documentation relating to the bill
- There will possibly be some people who want to either testify at the Kodiak LIO and/or off-net as well as people who may attend in Juneau
- My staff member assigned to this legislation is Suzanne Hancock, direct line 465-4230.

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Representative Gabrielle LeDoux

MEMO

DATE: 3/1/2007
TO: HOUSE RESOURCE
REPRESENTATIVE CARL GATTO CHAIRMAN
FROM: REPRESENTATIVE GABRIELLE LEDOUX *GL*
RE: HEARING REQUEST FOR HB 165, AN ACT RELATING TO PROVIDING
FIELD ACCOMMODATIONS FOR BIG GAME HUNTERS

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