

SB

253

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Senate District H
600 E. Railroad Avenue
Wasilla AK 99654
907-376-4866
907-373-4724 :Fax



State Capitol
Juneau AK 99801-1182
907-465-3878
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Charlie Huggins Senator

SPONSOR STATEMENT: SENATE BILL 253

"An Act relating to the appointment of members of the Board of Game; and providing for an effective date."

Senate Bill 253, if enacted, would change the expiration date for the terms for members of the Alaska Board of Game from March 1 to July 1.

The Board of Game is the regulatory authority that passes regulations to conserve and develop Alaska's wildlife resources. The Board, which has seven members, each appointed by the governor for a three year term, is charged with making allocative and regulatory decisions. The Board generally meets two or three times a year between the months of November and April.

Current law has a different starting date for terms of members appointed to the Board of Fisheries from those members appointed to the Board of Game. Under AS 16.05.221(d), terms for members of the Board of Fisheries begin on July 1; however, under AS 39.05.053, terms for the members of the Board of Game start March 1.

The statute change will

- prevent problems that arise from the short time frame for newly-appointed members to prepare for the large regulatory board meetings that occur near the beginning of March every year;
- reduce confusion among the public over which board member to contact on issues; and
- bring the terms in line with those of the state's Board of Fisheries.

I urge your support of this statute change.

Contact: Jody Simpson
907.465.2661
Version 25-LS1370 \ A
January 28, 2008

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 1
 Bill Version: SB 253
 (S) Publish Date: 2/19/08

Identifier (file name): SB253-DFG-BSS-02-12-08 Dept. Affected: Fish and Game
 Title: Board of Game RDU: Administration and Support
 Sponsor: Senator Huggins Component: F&G Boards & Advisory Committees
 Requester: Senate Resources Committee Component Number: 2825

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2009	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
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	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE								
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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 Interagency Receipts								
TOTAL		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2008) cost: _____

POSITIONS

Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)
 Passage of this bill will have no fiscal impact on the Department of Fish and Game.

Prepared by: Kristy Tibbles, Executive Director, Board of Game
 Division: Boards Support Section
 Approved by: Tom Lawson, Director
Division of Administrative Services, Department of Fish and Game

Phone 465-6098
 Date/Time 2/12/08 10:00 AM
 Date 2/12/2008

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME BOARD OF GAME

SARAH PALIN, GOVERNOR

ADF&G
P.O. BOX 115526
JUNEAU, AK 99801-5526
PHONE: (907) 465-4110
FAX: (907) 465-6094

January 30, 2008

Senator Charlie Huggins
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Room # 126
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Huggins:

The Alaska Board of Game unanimously supports Senate Bill 253, an act relating to the appointment of members of the Board of Game. If passed, this legislation will better facilitate the state's hunting and trapping regulatory process by giving new members adequate time to prepare for important regional meetings and by depoliticizing the legislative confirmation process.

Senate Bill 253 will help to avoid the problems that can arise with the current system of having two or three of the seven board members serving in an "unconfirmed" status during the large regulatory meetings that occur near the beginning of March each year. New members voting records during the spring meetings can be the focus of the legislative confirmation process rather than the nominee's overall qualifications. The current process has also been disruptive in the past because new board members have been appointed by the serving Governor or rejected by the legislature less than a week prior to these large meetings, and at times, during the meetings. In these instances, new members were given very little time to be prepared to make important regulatory decisions on hundreds of proposals.

The legislation provides consistency with the term appointment and expiration dates for the Board of Fisheries. In 1996, legislation was signed into law to change the term and appointment dates in for the Board of Fisheries for the same reasons mentioned above. Having consistency between the two boards will help to avoid public confusion over the appointment process.

Thank you for your support to the Board of Game by sponsoring this legislation. Please let us know how we can assist you with this effort.

Sincerely,



Cliff Judkins, Chairman
Board of Game

STATE OF ALASKA

SARAH PALIN, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME BOARD OF FISHERIES AND GAME

ADF&G
P.O. BOX 115526
JUNEAU, AK 998011-5526
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February 16, 2008

Senator Charlie Huggins
Mail Stop 3100
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

re: Support of Senate Bill 253 (Board of Game Term Dates)

Dear Senator Huggins,

The Department of Fish and Game is in support of Senate Bill 253. The bill makes a simple adjustment in the expiration date for the terms of future Board of Game members and brings the Board of Game terms in line with the Board of Fisheries terms. The change will result in an improved process for appointing, confirming, and preparing board appointees for service on this important regulatory body.

The change from the current March 1 term expiration date to June 30 avoids several problems. The current short time-frame between new member appointments, typically made in February, and the major spring meeting, typically held in early March, results in:

- a) new members having little time to prepare for the March meeting;
- b) last minute uncertainty over reappointment for existing members; and
- c) little time for scheduling new member orientation sessions with Fish and Game and Department of Law staff.

The change would also avoid problems with having two or three of the seven members serving in an "unconfirmed" status during the March meeting. New members are aware their March meeting voting record will be examined during their legislative confirmation hearings, and there can be undue scrutiny on a single vote instead of looking at a nominee's overall qualifications. The proposed legislation also would clarify a time by which appointments should be made.

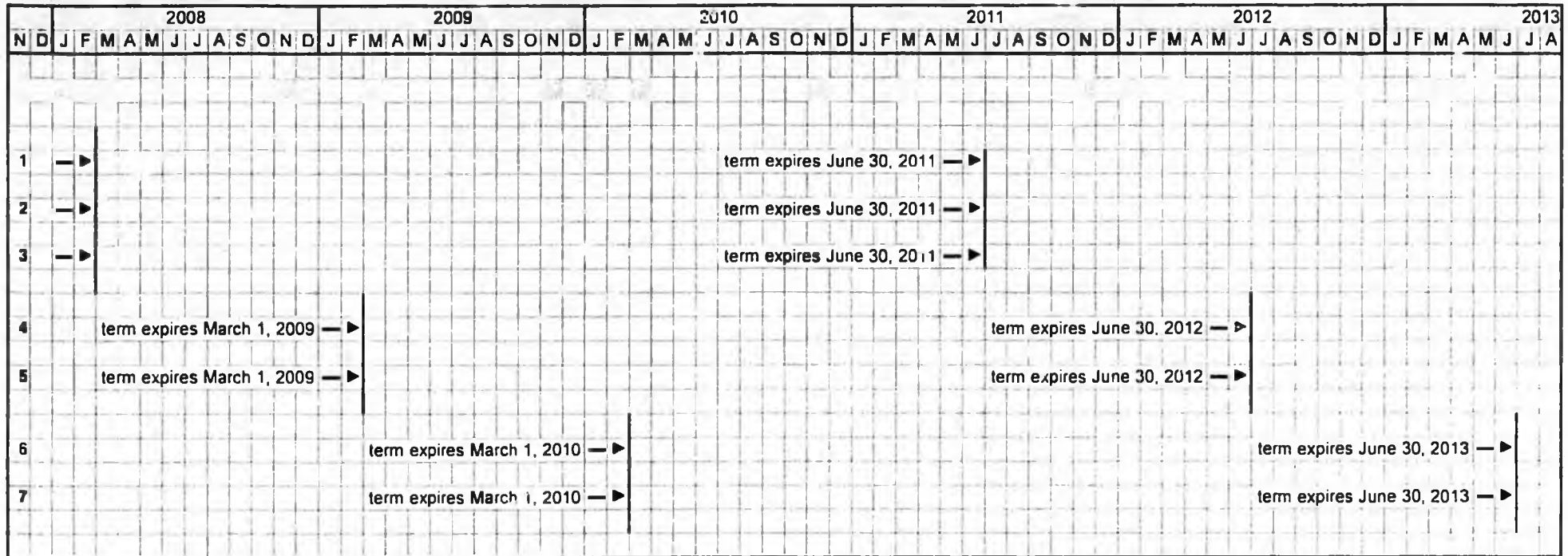
This proposed adjustment in the term expiration date recognizes the importance of the Board of Game and the complexity of issues that come before it.

Sincerely,



Jim Marcotte
Director, Boards Support Section
Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Transition period for Board of Game term expiration date change - SB 253



Sec. 16.05.221. Boards of fisheries and game.

(a) For purposes of the conservation and development of the fishery resources of the state, there is created the Board of Fisheries composed of seven members appointed by the governor, subject to confirmation by a majority of the members of the legislature in joint session. The governor shall appoint each member on the basis of interest in public affairs, good judgment, knowledge, and ability in the field of action of the board, and with a view to providing diversity of interest and points of view in the membership. The appointed members shall be residents of the state and shall be appointed without regard to political affiliation or geographical location of residence. The commissioner is not a member of the Board of Fisheries, but shall be ex officio secretary.

(b) For purposes of the conservation and development of the game resources of the state, there is created a Board of Game composed of seven members appointed by the governor, subject to confirmation by a majority of the members of the legislature in joint session. The governor shall appoint each member on the basis of interest in public affairs, good judgment, knowledge, and ability in the field of action of the board, and with a view to providing diversity of interest and points of view in the membership. The appointed members shall be residents of the state and shall be appointed without regard to political affiliation or geographical location of residence. The commissioner is not a member of the Board of Game, but shall be ex officio secretary.

(c) Members of the Board of Game serve staggered terms of three years and, except as provided in AS 39.05.080 (4), each member serves until a successor is appointed. An appointment to fill a vacancy in the membership of the Board of Game shall be made in the same manner as the original appointment and, except as provided in AS 39.05.080 (4), an appointment to fill a vacancy is for the balance of the unexpired term.

(d) Members of the Board of Fisheries serve staggered terms of three years. The terms of members of the board begin on July 1. Notwithstanding AS 39.05.080 (1), by April 1 of the calendar year in which the term expires, the governor shall appoint a person to fill the vacancy that will arise on the board due to expiration of the term of a member of the board and submit the name of the person to the legislature for confirmation. If a vacancy arises on the board, the governor shall, within 30 days after the vacancy arises, appoint a person to serve the balance of the unexpired term and submit the name of the person to the legislature for confirmation. A person appointed to fill the balance of an unexpired term shall serve on the board from the date of appointment until the earlier of the expiration of the term or the failure of the legislature to confirm the person under AS 39.05.080.

ALASKA BOARD OF GAME

Revised February 21, 2007

MEMBER'S NAME AND ADDRESS	TERM EXPIRES
Cliff Judkins, Chairman PO Box 874124 Wasilla, Alaska 99687	3/1/2009
Ted Spraker, Vice Chairman 49230 Victoria Ave. Soldotna, Alaska 99669	3/1/2008
Ben Grussendorf 1221 Halibut Point Rd. Sitka, AK 99835	3/1/2010
Richard Burley 1165 Coppet Street Fairbanks, Alaska 99709	3/1/2009
Paul Johnson PO Box 329 Unalakleet, AK 99684	3/1/2008
Bob Bell 801 West Fireweed Lane Anchorage, AK 99503	3/1/2010
Ron Somerville 4506 Robbie Road Juneau, Alaska 99802	3/1/2008

Alaska Board of Game members may also be reached at:

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Boards Support Section

P.O. Box 115526

Juneau, AK 99811-5526

PHONE: (907) 465-4110 FAX: (907) 465-6094

ALASKA BOARD OF GAME MEETING CYCLE

The board meeting cycle generally occurs from October through March. The board considers changes to regulations on a region-based schedule. Each region will be discussed on a two-year cycle. When the regional area is before the board, the following regulations are open for consideration within that region:

- Trapping Seasons and Bag Limits -- All species
- General and Subsistence Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits -- All species
(Except antlerless moose hunts as noted below)
- Wolf Control Implementation Plans
- Bag Limit for Brown Bears
- Areas Closed To Hunting
- Closures and Restrictions in State Game Refuges
- Management Areas
- Controlled Use Areas
- Areas Closed To Trapping

Regulations specific to an area (e.g., Permits for Access to Round Island) will be taken up when the board is scheduled to consider regulations in that region.

Proposals for changes to regulations pertaining to reauthorization of antlerless moose hunts, 5 AAC 85.045, and brown bear tag fee exemptions, 5 AAC 92.015, will be taken up annually, at spring meetings.

The Board of Game does not consider proposals to statewide regulations in every meeting cycle. Instead, the Board of Game reviews statewide regulations on a four-year cycle, distributed between fall meetings, every other year. The list of statewide regulations and the associated "Cycle A" and "Cycle B" meeting schedule is set forth on the next page of this publication.

<u>Regulations for:</u>	<u>Will be considered:</u>		
SOUTHEAST REGION Game Management Units: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Fall 2008	Fall 2010	Fall 2012
SOUTHCENTRAL & SOUTHWEST REGIONS Game Management Units: 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 All GMUs: Brown Bear Tag Fees Reauthorization of Antlerless Moose Hunts	Spring 2009	Spring 2011	Spring 2013
ARCTIC AND WESTERN REGIONS Game Management Units: 18, 22, 23, 26A	Fall 2009	Fall 2011	Fall 2013
INTERIOR REGION Game Management Units: 12, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26B, 26C All GMUs: Brown Bear Tag Fees Reauthorization of Antlerless Moose Hunts	Spring 2008	Spring 2010	Spring 2012

BOARD OF GAME MEETINGS, SINCE 1994

Date	Location	Topics
March 26-April 5, 1994	Anchorage	Bear, Statewide
November 4-9, 1994	Juneau	Trapping
December 2-3, 1994	Anchorage	Work Session: Intensive management
January 21-25, 1995	Kenai	Trapping
March 18-31, 1995	Fairbanks	Caribou, Moose
April 11-12, 1995	Juneau	Worksession: Board procedures
June 6, 1995	teleconference	Tier II, Petitions
October 21-28, 1995	Anchorage	Statewide, Fortymile caribou, schedule
January 20-27, 1996	Anchorage	Sheep, Statewide
March 23-29, 1996	Fairbanks	Interior Region
April 17-18, 1996	Juneau	16B moose
June 18, 1996	teleconference	Arctic fox, Unit 9B caribou, Unit 16B moose
October 25-30, 1996	Sitka	Southeast Region
December 16, 1996	teleconference	Wolf initiative, misc.
March 7-8, 1997		Worksession: misc. topics
March 14-23, 1997	Anchorage	Southcentral/Southwest Regions
April 18-20, 1997	Juneau	Misc.
August 1, 1997	teleconference	Muskoxen
October 24-30, 1997	Nome	Arctic/Western Regions
November 14-16, 1997	Anchorage	ORV use in Unit 13
January 17-21, 1998	Bethel	Statewide ("A" list)
March 21-30, 1998	Fairbanks	Interior Region
August 19, 1998	teleconference	Unit 9 Caribou, Unit 24 Moose
August 28, 1998	teleconference	Emergency moose seasons
October 23-28, 1998	Ketchikan	Southeast Region
February 16, 1999	teleconference	Moose season extension
March 5-15, 1999	Anchorage	Southcentral/Southwest Regions
October 25-29, 1999	Barrow	Arctic/Western Regions
January 14-19, 2000	Anchorage	Statewide ("B" list)
March 3-13, 2000	Fairbanks	Interior Region
September 28, 2000	teleconference	Moose season extension
November 1-9, 2000	Juneau	Southeast Region
March 2-12, 2001	Anchorage	Southcentral/Southwest Regions
May 20-21, 2001	Fairbanks	Unit 19D Intensive management; Denali buffer
November 2-6, 2001	Anchorage	Arctic/Western Regions
January 18-23, 2002	Anchorage	Statewide ("A" list)
March 8-18, 2002	Fairbanks	Interior Region
April 28, 2002	teleconference	Unit 17B&C caribou season
August 23, 2002	teleconference	Unit 1C black bear; Unit 18 moose
October 10-11, 2002	Anchorage	Denali wolf buffer
November 1-7, 2002	Juneau	Southeast Region
January 24, 2003	teleconference	Board committee assignments
February 11, 2003	teleconference	Unit 19D predator management
March 6, 2003	Anchorage	Unit 19D East hearing
March 7-15, 2003	Anchorage	Southcentral/Southwest Regions
April 24, 2003	teleconference	Unit 19D East wolf season extension
May 22, 2003	teleconference	Intensive Management Objectives
June 17, 2003	teleconference	Tier II permit point system
June 30, 2003	teleconference	Meeting Schedule/Budget Reductions
November 1-4, 2003	Anchorage	Southcentral
December 15, 2003	teleconference	Continue southcentral after 2 nd public input
Feb 26 - March 10, 2004	Fairbanks	Interior Region
June 11, 2004	teleconference	Tier II Point System

BOARD OF GAME MEETINGS, SINCE 1994

> November 2-5, 2004	Juneau	Southeast (Region I)
March 4-13, 2005	Anchorage	Southcentral and Southwest Regions
June 4-5, 2005	Anchorage	Subsistence
September 7, 2005	<i>teleconference</i>	Skilak Lake small game hunting
November 11-14, 2005	Kotzebue	Arctic and Western Regions
January 25, 2006	<i>teleconference</i>	Emergency Predator Control
January 27-30, 2006	Anchorage	Statewide ("A" list)
> March 10-20, 2006	Fairbanks	Interior Region
October 2-9, 2006	Anchorage	Subsistence Hunting in Units 11 and 13
November 10-15, 2006	Wrangell	Southeast Region
> March 2-12, 2007	Anchorage	Southcentral and Southwest Regions
April 17, 2007	<i>Teleconference</i>	Skilak Loop small game regs
August 9, 2007	<i>Teleconference</i>	White-Phase black bear emergency petition
October 4, 2007	Anchorage	Skilak Loop Small Game Hunting & Guide Client Agreement for Certain Drawing Hunts
November 9-12, 2007	Bethel	Arctic/Western Region
January 25 - 28, 2008	Anchorage	Statewide ("B" list)
> Feb. 29-March 10, 2008	Fairbanks	Interior Region

List of Board of Game Members since 1976

Name	Town	Appointing Governor	Appoint Date	Served Until	Comments
Thomas Meacham	Anchorage	Jay Hammond	7/21/1975	7/1/1976	1976
Charles Evans	Anchorage	Jay Hammond	9/7/1976	7/1/1980	replaced Meacham 77-78
Darrell Farman	Anchorage	Jay Hammond	7/21/1977	7/1/1980	1976-1979
Urban "Pete" Nelson	Juneau	Jay Hammond	12/12/1978	7/1/1981	1976-1978
Clint Buckmaster	Sitka	Jay Hammond	7/17/1980	1/31/1983	1976-1982
Joel Bennett	Juneau	Jay Hammond	7/18/1980	1/31/1990	1979-1988
Richard Hensel	Anchorage	Jay Hammond	7/18/1980	1/13/1983	1982
Sidney Huntington	Galena	Jay Hammond	2/2/1981	1/31/1990	1976-1991
Jim Reardon	Homer	Jay Hammond	2/2/1981	1/31/1984	1976-1982, F&G brd 1974
John Hanson	Alakanuk	Jay Hammond	2/2/1981	1/31/1984	1979-1982
Sam Harbo	Fairbanks	Jay Hammond	2/5/1982	1/31/1985	1976-1984
John Shively	Anchorage	Bill Sheffield	2/8/1983	1/13/1986	1983
Brenda Johnson	Nome	Bill Sheffield	2/8/1983	1/31/1989	1984-1989
Kirk Gay	Anchorage	Bill Sheffield	2/8/1983	1/31/1986	1984-1985
Nick Jackson	Gakona	Bill Sheffield	2/23/1984	1/31/1990	1984-1989
Sara Scanlan	Anchorage	Bill Sheffield	2/23/1984	1/31/1989	1984-1989
Victor VanBallenberghe	Anchorage	Bill Sheffield	1/15/1985	1/31/1988	
Jay Massey	Girdwood	Steve Cowper	2/10/1986	1/31/1989	replaced Gay, 1987-1989
Samantha Castle	Fairbanks	Steve Cowper	2/26/1988	1/31/1991	1989-1990
Heinrich Springer	Anchorage	Steve Cowper	2/17/1989	1/31/1992	1989-1990
Ben Nageak	Barrow	Steve Cowper	2/17/1989	1/31/1992	
Jack Lentfer	Homer	Steve Cowper	2/17/1989	1/31/1992	
Skip Wallen	Juneau	Steve Cowper	1/31/1990	1/31/1993	
Rosemarie Maher	Northway	Steve Cowper	1/31/1990	1/31/1993	
Doug Pope	Anchorage	Steve Cowper	3/5/1990	1/31/1992	chair 1991
Dick Burley	Fairbanks	Walter Hickel	2/19/1991	1/31/1997	chair 1992-1996
Ken Johns	Copper Ct.	Walter Hickel	3/6/1992	1/31/1995	
Don Hankes	Eagle River	Walter Hickel	3/6/1992	1/31/1994	
Albert Franzmann	Soldotna	Walter Hickel	3/6/1992	1/31/1995	
Roger Huntington	Galena	Walter Hickel	4/14/1992	1/31/1996	resigned 4/94
Jack Didrickson	Palmer	Walter Hickel	5/27/1992	1/31/1994	same seat as Polly
Sue Entsminger	Tok	Walter Hickel	1/31/1993	1/31/1996	
Ann Ruggles	Fairbanks	Walter Hickel	1/31/1993	1/31/1996	replaced Wallen
Earnie Polly	Juneau	Walter Hickel	5/11/1993	1/31/1994	replaced Didrickson
Ed Grasser		Walter Hickel	6/2/1993	1/31/1995	completed Johns' term
Tommy Johnson	Nome	Walter Hickel	4/8/1994	1/31/1996	completed Huntington's term
Walter Sampson	Kotzebue	Tony Knowles	2/9/1995	1/31/2001	
Larry Holmes	Girdwood	Tony Knowles	2/9/1995	1/31/1998	chair 1996-1998
Greg Roczicka	Bethel	Tony Knowles	2/23/1996	1/31/2002	chair 2000-2002
Mike Fleagle	McGrath	Tony Knowles F Murkowski	10/20/1996 1/21/2003 5/4/2004	10/31/2006	replaced VanBallenberghe
Greg Streveler	Gustavus	Tony Knowles	10/20/1996	1/31/2002	replaced Ruggles
Lori Quakenbush	Fairbanks	Tony Knowles	2/18/1997	1/31/2001	chair 1998-2000
Nickole Whittington-Evans	Palmer	Tony Knowles	2/18/1997	1997	
Bob Churchill	Anchorage	Tony Knowles	9/23/1997	1/31/2000	replaced Whittington-Evans
Eric Williamson	Anchorage	Tony Knowles	3/19/1998	1/31/2001	replaced Holmes
Leo Keeler	Anchorage	Tony Knowles	2/23/2000	1/31/2003	replaced Churchill
Chip Dennerlein	Anchorage	Tony Knowles	10/20/2000	1/31/2003	replaced Keeler
Julie Maier	Fairbanks	Tony Knowles	1/24/2001	1/31/2003	replaced Quakenbush to 3/
Ben Grussendorf	Sitka	Tony Knowles F Murkowski Sarah Palin	1/24/01 5/04/04 2/23/07		replaced Williamson
George Matz	Anchorage	Tony Knowles	5/17/2001	3/1/2004	replaced Sampson
Dana Pruhs	Anchorage	Tony Knowles	5/17/2001	3/1/2003	replaced Dennerlein
Caleb Pungowiyi	Kotzebue	Tony Knowles	2/20/2002	5/1/2002	
Michelle Sparck	Bethel	Tony Knowles	2/20/2002	5/1/2002	

List of Board of Game Members since 1976

Name	Town	Appointing Governor	Appoint Date	Served Until	Comments
Bruce Baker	Auke Bay	Tony Knowles	2/20/2002	5/1/2002	
Tim Towarak	Nome	Tony Knowles	7/1/2002	3/1/2004	
Rob Hardy	Wasilla	Tony Knowles	7/1/2002	3/1/2003	
Ron Somerville	Juneau	F Murkowski	1/21/03		
		F Murkowski	4/11/05	2/25/2008	
Cliff Judkins	Wasilla	F Murkowski	1/21/03		
		F Murkowski	3/3/06		
Ted Spraker	Soldotna	F Murkowski	3/1/2003		
		Sarah Palin	1/28/08		
Pete B ist	Fairbanks	F Murkowski	04/11/05	03/11/06	
Sharon McLeod-Everette	Fairbanks	F Murkowski	03/01/03	03/01/06	
Carl M. Morgan, Jr.	Aniak	F Murkowski	04/11/05	03/11/06	Resigned to run for public c
Richard Burley	Fairbanks	F Murkowski	03/03/06		Replaced McLeod-Everette
Paul Johnson	Unalakleet	F Murkowski	11/28/06	03/01/08	Replaced Morgan
Bob Bell	Anchorage	F Murkowski	11/28/2006		Replaced Fleagle
		Sarah Palin	2/23/2007		
Lewis Bradley	Palmer	Sarah Palin	01/28/08		
Teresa Sagar-Albaugh	Tok	Sarah Palin	01/28/08	na	Withdrew on 2/8/08
Craig Fleener	Ft. Yukon	Sarah Palin	02/08/08		