

SB

253

SB 253 Board of Game Term Start Date

Sponsors: Huggins

Referrals: Resources

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Board of Game letter

Wes Keller Press Release

SENATE BILL NO. 253

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY SENATOR HUGGINS

**Introduced: 1/28/08
Referred: Resources**

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

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

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 *** Section 1. AS 16.05.221(c) is amended to read:**

5 **(c) Members of the Board of Game serve staggered terms of three years. The**
6 **terms of the members of the board begin on July 1. Notwithstanding**
7 **AS 39.05.080(1), by April 1 of the calendar year in which the term expires, the**
8 **governor shall appoint a person to fill the vacancy that will arise on the board**
9 **because of the expiration of the term of a member of the board and submit the**
10 **name of the person to the legislature for confirmation. If a vacancy arises on the**
11 **board, the governor shall, within 30 days after the vacancy arises, appoint a**
12 **person to serve the balance of the unexpired term and submit the name of the**
13 **person to the legislature for confirmation. A person appointed to fill the balance**
14 **of an unexpired term shall serve on the board from the date of appointment until**

1 the earlier of the expiration of the term or the failure of the legislature to confirm
2 the person under AS 39.05.080 [AND, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN
3 AS 39.05.080(4), EACH MEMBER SERVES UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS
4 APPOINTED. AN APPOINTMENT TO FILL A VACANCY IN THE
5 MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD OF GAME SHALL BE MADE IN THE SAME
6 MANNER AS THE ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT AND, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED
7 IN AS 39.05.080(4), AN APPOINTMENT TO FILL A VACANCY IS FOR THE
8 BALANCE OF THE UNEXPIRED TERM].

9 * Sec. 2. The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
10 read:

11 TRANSITION. Notwithstanding AS 16.05.221(c), as amended by sec. 1 of this Act,
12 the expiration date of the term of a person serving on the Board of Game on January 1, 2008,
13 is March 1 of the calendar year in which the term expires.

14 * Sec. 3. This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: _____
 Bill Version: SB 253
 () Publish Date: _____

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

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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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

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME BOARD OF GAME

SARAH PALIN, GOVERNOR

ADF&G
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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

Jody Simpson

From: Will Vandergriff
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2008 3:10 PM
Subject: Press Release - Start Date for Board of Game Appointments to be Moved (HB 352)
Attachments: PR - Start Date for Board of Game Appointments to be Moved (HB 352).doc

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 6, 2008 **CONTACT:** Rep. Wes Keller (907) 465-2186

Start Date for Board of Game Appointments to be Moved **Keller Bill Would Make the Board of Game Same as Board of Fish**

Juneau- Representative Wes Keller (R-Wasilla) introduced HB 352 today, legislation that would move the start date for Board of Game appointees to July 1, rather than once they are appointed. Under a companion proposal introduced by Senator Charlie Huggins (R-Mat-Su Valley), SB 253, new appointees would take office on July 1.

"Currently, when a person is appointed to the Board of Game he or she immediately takes the position. Often there is a meeting within a couple of weeks after taking office and the new members have not had the time to get acquainted with the issues," said Rep. Keller. "This bill will allow for that transition and mirror the existing appointment language for the Board of Fish."

The bill does not change the cycle of appointments, as all members will still serve a staggered three-year term, with terms expiring for some members every year. "We do not want to disrupt the expertise obtained by experienced board members," added Rep. Keller.

House Bill 352 is scheduled for hearing in the House Resource Committee and the House Finance Committee. If the Senate version of the bill makes it over to the House it could make it easier for the same Committees to work on that language as they have already heard the version introduced by Rep. Keller.

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Alaska Board of Game Tentative Meeting Schedule 2007/2008 Cycle

Dates	Topics	Location
November 9 – 12, 2007 Proposal Deadline: August 17, 2007 Written Comments: October 26, 2007	Arctic/Western Region	Fall, 2007 Bethel
January 25 – 28, 2008 Proposal Deadline: November 2, 2007 Written Comments: January 11, 2008	Statewide Regulations Cycle B	Statewide, 2008 Anchorage
February 29 – March 10, 2008 Proposal Deadline: December 7, 2007 Written Comments: February 15, 2008	Interior Region	Spring, 2008 Fairbanks

For more information, contact Executive Director, Kristy Tibbles.

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BOG Chair Call Judine & other BOG members