

SB

177

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

First Committee of Referral

DATE: 4/1/09

FURTHER: Finance

Date of 5-Day Notice: _____
(in accordance with Uniform Rule 23)

DATE TURNED
IN TO OFFICE: _____

Resources Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 177

SB 177 NO REPEAL OF SPORT FISH GUIDE LICENSING

"An Act repealing the termination of licensing and regulation of sport fishing operators and sport fishing guides and licensing and registration of sport fishing vessels; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends:

- [] be replaced with [] SCS or [] CS SB 177 (RES)
- [] adopt previous [] SCS or [] CS _____ ()
- [] attached amendment(s)
- [] adopt _____ Letter of Intent
- [] further referral to _____ Committee

SENATE BILL:	
[]	Same Title
[<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>]	New Title
<hr/>	
HOUSE BILL:	
[]	Same Title
[]	Technical Title Change
[]	New Title w/ SCR # _____

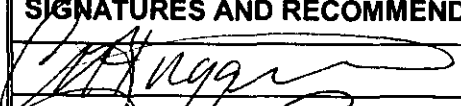
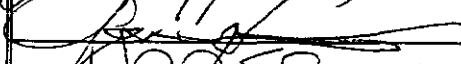

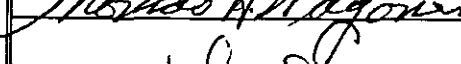


NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN#
DF&G	04/03	✓			

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN#

[] APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:	PRINTED LAST NAME	DO PASS	DO NOT PASS	NO REC	AMEND
	HIGGINS			X	
	STEVENS			X	
	French			X	
	WAGONER				
CO-CHAIR: 	Melville	✓			
CO-CHAIR: 	Wielechowski			X	

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2009 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 1
 Bill Version: HB 143
 (H) Publish Date: 3/12/09

Identifier (file name): HB143-DFG-SFD-02-27-09 Dept. Affected: ADF&G
 Title An act repealing the termination of the sport fish operator/guide/vessel program RDU Sport Fisheries
 Component Sport Fisheries
 Sponsor House Fisheries
 Requester House Fisheries Component Number 464

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

	Appropriation Required	Information					
		FY 2010	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
OPERATING EXPENDITURES							
Personal Services		344.5	344.5	344.5	344.5	344.5	344.5
Travel		10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
Contractual		100.7	100.7	100.7	100.7	100.7	100.7
Supplies		7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0
Equipment							
Land & Structures							
Grants & Claims							
Miscellaneous							
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	462.2	462.2	462.2	462.2	462.2	462.2

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

CHANGE IN REVENUES ()

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts							
1003 GF Match							
1004 GF							
1005 GF/Program Receipts							
1037 GF/Mental Health							
1024 Fish/Game		462.2	462.2	462.2	462.2	462.2	462.2
TOTAL	0.0	462.2	462.2	462.2	462.2	462.2	462.2

Estimate of any current year (FY2009) cost: 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)
 The division has budgeted \$462.2 in the FY10 Governor's budget to administer the Sport Fish operator/guide/vessel program. The program generates estimated Fish & Game Fund revenues of \$256.0, with the balance covered by other Fish & Game Funds.

Prepared by: Charles O. Swanton, Director Phone 465-6184
 Division Sport Fisheries Date/Time 2/27/09, 8:00 am
 Approved by: Tom Lawson, Director Date 2/27/2009
Administrative Services

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2009 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 1
 Bill Version: CSHB 134(CRA)
 (H) Publish Date: 2/18/09

Identifier (file name): HB134-DEC-WQ-02-13-09 Dept. Affected: Environ. Conservation
 Title Cruise Ship Wastewater Discharge Permits RDU Division of Water
 Component Water Quality
 Sponsor Representative Harris
 Requester House Community and Regional Affairs Committee Component Number 2062

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2010	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
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 (FY2009) cost: 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

HB 134 has no fiscal impact on the Department of Environmental Conservation.

Prepared by: Lynn J. Tomich Kent
 Division Water
 Approved by: Dan Easton
Deputy Commissioner

Phone (907) 269-7599
 Date/Time 2/13/09 3:00 PM
 Date 2/13/2009

April 3rd, 2009

Senator Kevin Meyer
26th Alaska legislature

**RE: SUPPORT SB 177
SENATE RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

Dear Senator Meyer,

The Petersburg Charter Boat Association (PCBA) represents 17 individual charter and lodge businesses operating 22 active vessels in the sportfishing industry. We have been an active association since 1991.

The original legislation authorizing the guide license and logbook program has been an extremely valuable tool in aiding the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the State of Alaska, in the collection of data necessary to identify not only who the charter industry is but how they interact with other user groups. This information is important for the management of Alaska's resources and resource users, both sport and commercial.

PCBA supported the original bill and we fully support SB 177 complete with the associated fees necessary to fund this ongoing program.

Sincerely,

Stan Malcom
President
Petersburg Charter Boat Association

Note: sent via email to Senator_Kevin_Meyer@legis.state.ak.us
Cc: Christine_marasigan@legis.state.ak.us

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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Senator_Kevin_Meyer@legis.state.ak.us



Session:
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Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
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SENATOR KEVIN MEYER
SENATE DISTRICT O

SPONSOR STATEMENT FOR SB 177

"An Act repealing the termination of licensing and regulation of sport fishing operators and sport fishing guides and licensing and registration of sport fishing vessels; and providing for an effective date."

SB 177 will ensure the continuation of Alaska's sport fish guide licensing and reporting program, which has proven beneficial to both the sport fishing industry and resource managers.

Legislation authorizing the program was passed in 2004 for a number of purposes. The Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G) sought more comprehensive and credible information on guide numbers and guiding activities. ADF&G also wanted to create basic standards for sport fish business operators and guides, including minimum liability insurance coverage, first aid certification, and in some cases U.S. Coast Guard vessel licensing.

Many stakeholders who were initially skeptical of these measures now acknowledge their role in advancing the guiding profession. This increased level of professionalism has helped raise the standing of the sport fish industry across the state.

Many also agree that data collected through the program is an important tool in ADF&G's mission to develop and sustain healthy sport fisheries. The data is of great value not only to the ADF&G's fisheries biologists but also to the Alaska Board of Fisheries, the International Pacific Halibut Commission, and the North Pacific Fishery Management Council.

Sport fish data collection also contributes to Alaska's exemption from the recently instituted National Saltwater Angler Registry. NOAA exempts states from this federal registry and data collection system if they have programs in place to provide angler information. Sport fishers would otherwise be required by 2011 to purchase a certificate of registration for \$15 to \$25.

Passing SB 177 will permit the ADF&G to continue to foster high standards in Alaska's sport fishing industry. It will also enable the ADF&G to continue collecting important data for management decisions benefitting both the state's fisheries resources and their stakeholders.

2009 Board Members

Richard Erkenoff
Board Chair
Owner - Kenai River Raven

Eldon Mulder
Vice Chair
President - The Mulder Company

Kevin Branson
Secretary and Treasurer
CPA - Thomas, Head & Griscen

Ron Rainey
Vice President
Ron's Alaska Lodge - Retired

Jim Golden
Vice President
Owner - The Sports Den

Ed Bryson
Vice President Field Operations
Alaska Communications Systems

Rik Bucy
General Manager
Tesoro Northstores - Retired

Bill Eckhardt
President
Alaska USA Federal Credit Union

Ben Ellis
Managing Director
Institute of the North

Mark Hamilton
President
University of Alaska

Reuben Hanke
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Bill MacKay
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Darwin Peterson
Legislative Aide
Senator Stedman's Office

Karen Rey
Registered Nurse
ANS Territory Manager, Alaska

Gary Turner
Director
Kenai Peninsula College



KENAI RIVER SPORTFISHING
ASSOCIATION

April 3, 2009

Senator Kevin Meyer
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: SB 177

Dear Senator Kevin Meyer:

Kenai River Sportfishing Association (KRSA) is a 501(c) 3 charitable non-profit dedicated to fishery conservation on the Kenai River and in Alaska. Our programs focus on habitat conservation, fisheries management, research and education.

KRSA is in full support of SB 177, which would repeal the sunset of the sport fish guide licensing program through ADFG. We feel that the sport fish guide licensing program is an essential component of fisheries management that should continue without sunset. The program provides sport fish guides with minimum professional standards and gathers valuable information on the numbers of guides, clients, and harvest levels and patterns, which can be used in sound management of our recreational fisheries.

We support timely reporting requirements of log book information from guides, and the efforts of ADFG process such information into real-time data that then can be used in a timely manner by fisheries managers.

We would like to see implementation of an electronic based log book reporting system, which would remove the current bottleneck of having to enter the paper-based log book information into an electronic database management system. Access to and the ability to use data from the log books should mirror the timeframe of the weekly guide reporting requirements. Unfortunately at this time with the paper-based system that is not possible. This leaves fisheries managers in the position of having to use forecast or past trend data instead of real time data in their in-season decision making.

We support a fee structure that covers the full costs of the program, with the understanding that the goal of being able to provide real-time data from the

Dedicated to preserving the greatest sportfishing river in the world, the Kenai.

Post-It™ brand fax transmittal memo 7871		# of pages
To	Sen. Meyer	2
From	K.R.S.A.	
Co.	AK Capitol	
Dept.		
Phone #		
Fax #	907-465-3476	

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Senator Kevin Meyer
April 3, 2009
Re: SB 177
Page 2

log books to fisheries managers is a priority for the department and gets implemented in a timely fashion.

In summary, KRSA supports the continuation of the sport fish guide licensing program as an essential component of responsible fisheries management. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on this issue.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dick Erkeneff", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dick Erkeneff, Board Chair
Kenai River Sportfishing Association



April 3, 2009

Senator Kevin Meyer
Capitol Building Room 101
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: Support for SB-177

Dear Senator Meyer:

The Southeast Alaska Guides Organization (SEAGO) represents 26 sport fishing guides and lodges throughout Southeast Alaska with more than 100 active vessels. Information provided to ADF&G for reporting and analysis under this legislation is of great value and continuation of this program is beneficial to multiple user groups.

This program is one of the best tools that ADF&G has to identify who is involved in the charter/lodge industry and provides important data used to establish levels of harvest, effort, identification of clients, as well as species targeted. The money collected is used for issuing licenses and for sport fishing logbook data collection and reporting expenses.

Our members support extension of the current law with the fees at their levels as originally passed in 2004.

Sincerely,

John Blair, Executive Director

Note: sent via email to: christine_marasigan@legis.state.ak.us