

**HOUSE BILL NO. 129**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE LEDOUX

Introduced: 4/11/19

Referred:

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act relating to fees charged to physically disabled state residents for hunting and**  
2 **fishing licenses and certain state park permits."**

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

4 **\* Section 1.** AS 16.05.340(a)(17) is amended to read:

5 (17) Waterfowl conservation tag ..... 10

6 (A) A person may not engage in waterfowl hunting without  
7 having the current year's waterfowl tag in the person's actual possession, unless  
8 that person

9 (i) qualifies for a \$5 license fee under (6) of this  
10 subsection;

11 (ii) is a resident under 18 years of age;

12 (iii) is 60 years of age or older and is a resident;

13 (iv) is [A DISABLED VETERAN] eligible for a free  
14 license under AS 16.05.341.

1 (B) The Board of Game shall by regulation exempt the  
 2 requirement of a waterfowl conservation tag for waterfowl hunting in areas of  
 3 the state not likely to benefit from programs described in AS 16.05.130(b)(2) -  
 4 (4).

5 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 16.05.340(a)(23) is amended to read:

6 (23) Resident anadromous king salmon tag ..... 10

7 A resident may not engage in sport fishing for anadromous king salmon without  
 8 having the current year's anadromous king salmon tag in the resident's actual  
 9 possession, unless that person

10 (A) qualifies for a 50 cent license fee under (1) of this  
 11 subsection;

12 (B) is under 18 years of age;

13 (C) is 60 years of age or older and has been a resident of the  
 14 state for at least one year;

15 (D) is [A DISABLED VETERAN] eligible for a free license  
 16 under AS 16.05.341; or

17 (E) qualifies for a \$5 license fee under (6) of this subsection.

18 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 16.05.341 is amended to read:

19 **Sec. 16.05.341. Free license for certain disabled residents and disabled**  
 20 **veterans and for active members of the Alaska National Guard and military**  
 21 **reserves.** A person may receive a resident hunting and sport fishing license under  
 22 AS 16.05.340(a)(5) without charge if the person

23 (1) **is a person with physical disabilities;**

24 (2) **has** been discharged from military service under honorable  
 25 conditions, is eligible for a loan under AS 18.56.101, and is certified by the United  
 26 States Department of Veterans Affairs as having incurred a 50 percent or greater  
 27 disability during military service;

28 (3) [(2)] served in the Alaska Territorial Guard, is eligible for a loan  
 29 under AS 18.56.101, and incurred a 50 percent or greater disability while serving in  
 30 the Alaska Territorial Guard; or

31 (4) [(3)] is an active member of the

- 1 (A) Alaska National Guard;  
 2 (B) United States Army reserves;  
 3 (C) United States Air Force reserves;  
 4 (D) United States Navy reserves;  
 5 (E) United States Marine Corps reserves; or  
 6 (F) United States Coast Guard reserves.

7 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 16.05.403(a) is amended to read:

8 (a) A resident hunting license, a resident sport fishing license, a resident  
 9 subsistence fishing permit, or a resident personal use fishing permit indicating that the  
 10 purchaser is blind may be obtained from the department upon payment of the fee, if  
 11 any, required under [PRESCRIBED IN] AS 16.05.330 - 16.05.430 and upon  
 12 presentation of either an affidavit of the applicant stating that the applicant cannot  
 13 distinguish light from darkness or an affidavit signed by a licensed physician or a  
 14 licensed optometrist stating that the applicant's central visual acuity does not exceed  
 15 20/200 in the better eye with correcting lenses or that the applicant's widest diameter  
 16 of visual field subtends an angle no greater than 20 degrees.

17 \* **Sec. 5.** AS 16.05.403(b) is amended to read:

18 (b) A resident who is a person with physical disabilities may obtain from the  
 19 department upon payment of the fee, if any, required under [PRESCRIBED IN]  
 20 AS 16.05.330 - 16.05.430 and upon submission of satisfactory proof of physical  
 21 disabilities a resident hunting license, a resident sport fishing license, a resident  
 22 subsistence fishing permit, or a resident personal use fishing permit indicating that the  
 23 purchaser is a person with physical disabilities.

24 \* **Sec. 6.** AS 16.05.797(c) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

25 (3) "person with physical disabilities" means a person who presents to  
 26 the department either written proof that the person receives at least 70 percent  
 27 disability compensation from a government agency for a physical disability or an  
 28 affidavit signed by a physician licensed to practice medicine in the state stating that  
 29 the person is at least 70 percent physically disabled.

30 \* **Sec. 7.** AS 16.05.940(26) is amended to read:

31 (26) "person with physical disabilities" means a person who presents to

1 the department either written proof that the person receives at least **50** [70] percent  
 2 disability compensation from a government agency for a physical disability or an  
 3 affidavit signed by a physician licensed to practice medicine in the state stating that  
 4 the person is at least **50** [70] percent physically disabled;

5 \* **Sec. 8.** AS 41.21.026(d) is amended to read:

6 (d) **Upon request, the** [THE] department shall issue [FREE OF CHARGE TO  
 7 DISABLED VETERANS OF THIS COUNTRY] an annual state park developed  
 8 campsite permit **at no charge to a disabled resident or disabled veteran**. The permit  
 9 shall allow a disabled **resident or disabled** veteran to use a state park developed  
 10 campsite for personal recreation use without a charge or fee under (a)(2) of this  
 11 section. While utilizing a developed campsite [WITHOUT CHARGE] under this  
 12 subsection, **a** [THE] disabled **resident or disabled** veteran shall comply with all other  
 13 statutes or regulations pertaining to the use of the developed campsite. The department  
 14 shall provide a form for use by a disabled **resident or disabled** veteran when applying  
 15 for a permit under this section. Not later than February 1 of each year, the department  
 16 shall prepare a report on the number of permits issued [TO DISABLED VETERANS]  
 17 under this subsection during the previous calendar year and notify the legislature that  
 18 the report is available.

19 \* **Sec. 9.** AS 41.21.026(e) is amended to read:

20 (e) In this section,

21 **(1)** "developed campsite" means a campsite having access to the  
 22 following public facilities:

23 **(A)** [(1)] restrooms;

24 **(B)** [(2)] a picnic table;

25 **(C)** [(3)] an outdoor cooking facility; and

26 **(D)** [(4)] an approved water source;

27 **(2)** "**disabled resident**" means **a state resident who presents to the**  
 28 **department either written proof that the person receives at least 50 percent**  
 29 **disability compensation from a government agency for a physical disability or an**  
 30 **affidavit signed by a physician licensed to practice medicine in the state stating**  
 31 **that the person is at least 50 percent physically disabled.**