



Alaska State Legislature Representative John Davies

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Rep. Davies' River Habitat Tax Credit Bill Passes House

The Alaska House of Representatives unanimously passed House Bill 25 today. Representative John Davies, Fairbanks, introduced HB 25, which recognizes the need for habitat protection along rivers in municipalities. Representative Davies proposed this bill as a management tool, which provides the option of protecting fish habitat along rivers by offering a tax credit to property owners along those waterways. The elective nature of this bill gives control to the individual municipalities to decide to offer the tax credit option or not.

In 1995, the legislature recognized the importance of this kind of protection by granting similar legislation along the Kenai River. This legislation simply extends that option statewide. On the Kenai River, bank stabilization, floating docks, elevation of light penetrating walkways and other erosion and clean up projects have all been produced as a result of the protection tax credit.

After hearings in the House State Affairs and Resources Committee's Representative Davies' House Bill 25, passed out of the House by a vote of 36-0, with four members absent. It now goes to the Senate for consideration.

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Alaska Democratic Legislators'
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