



Alaska State Legislature

Representative Les Gara

<http://gara.akdemocrats.org>
Representative Les Gara
Telephone: 907-465-2647
Toll Free: 888-465-2647
Fax: 907-465-3518
gara@akdemocrats.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE · April 15, 2005

Protecting Public Access to Alaska's Fishing Streams House Bill 37 Moves Out of Committee

Today Representative Les Gara's legislation to ensure future public access to Alaska's fishing streams, House Bill 37, moved from the House Fisheries Committee. House Bill 37 will promote access to important fishing streams by encouraging voluntary land trades or purchases with willing landowners.

"In other states people have lost public access to prized fishing streams, or have to pay large amounts of money to fish. By working cooperatively with interested landowners now, we can make sure Alaskans have access to our great fishing waters for generations to come," said Rep. Les Gara (D-Anchorage).

In some states significant public access has already been lost. For example, in Montana public access is greatly impeded along 180 miles of the Missouri River, and along the Ruby River, a noted trout stream. Montana is known for waters that cannot be accessed unless large fees are paid to lodge owners or ranchers.

House Bill 37 is supported by the Alaska Fly Fishers Association, the Alaska Sportfishing Association, and the Kenai River Sportfish Association.

###

- [Print](#) [Forward this page](#)
- http://www.akdemocrats.org/Documents/041505_public_access_to_fishing_streams.pdf
- **More links:** [HB37 Sponsor Statement](#) [HB037 Representative Les Gara](#)

Putting Alaskans First · Moving Alaska Forward 2005