



Senator Lesil McGuire
State Capitol Building, Room 125
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

January 21, 2011

Dear Senator McGuire:

Kenai River Professional Guide Association (KRPGA) is a 501 (c) 6 non-profit organization devoted to protecting and preserving our national treasure, the Kenai River. Our primary goal is to foster responsible and sustainable Alaska sport fishing opportunity while promoting habitat protection and pro-active management of Kenai Peninsula sport fisheries. We support and represent the guided sportfishing industry on the Kenai River, one of the largest bodies of sport fishing guides in Alaska. KRPGA has long supported responsible and ethical guided fishing on the Kenai Peninsula and elsewhere in the state.

KRPGA strongly supports SB-24, an act that would establish a sport fishing guide services board and licensing requirements for sport fishing guide-outfitters, sport fishing outfitters, sport fishing assistant guides, and sport fishing transporters. We appreciate the comprehensive nature of the bill, as it encompasses all major sectors of the sportfishing industry.

We have been in support of a professional sportfishing guide services board for many years and have had our representatives at most of the meetings that have taken place thus far through the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G). KRPGA has been a leading advocate for professional standards on the Kenai River, including the establishment of the Kenai River Guide Academy through Kenai Peninsula College, which is now a requirement to guide on the Kenai River.

Thank you for your efforts in bringing forth this legislation. KRPGA looks forward to working with the Legislature in forming the new guide services board and lend our full support. We believe that a Guide Board of our peers is a positive step into the future for our industry and the State of Alaska.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Goggia".

Dave Goggia
KRPGA President