

# ALASKA STATE SENATE

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SENATOR JOHN COGHILL

## SPONSOR STATEMENT

**SB 160: "An Act authorizing the commissioner of natural resources to implement a hunting guide concession program or otherwise limit the number of individuals authorized to conduct big game commercial guiding on state land."**

Senate Bill 160 ("SB 160") provides statutory authority to the commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources to establish a guide concession program.

A guide concession program would allow the Department of Natural Resources ("DNR") to restrict the number of professional guides that can operate in particular areas. Currently, the department cannot place any restrictions. As a result: certain high-demand hunting areas suffer from over-harvest. These scenarios lead to increased drawing hunts and fewer hunting opportunities for Alaskan residents.

A guide concession program would enable the department to ensure a more suitable distribution of guide operations across state lands. Additionally, the program would improve state land and game management for the benefit of all Alaskans.

Please join Senator Coghill in supporting SB 160.

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