

**From:** Ken Radach  
**Sent:** Monday, March 10, 2014 2:57 PM  
**To:** Sen. Cathy Giessel  
**Subject:** House Bill 161-NO

Hello,

My name is Ken Radach (Voter ID: 10779153). I have never contacted anyone in the legislature before, but I recently read about HB 161 being passed by the House and heading to Senate. That is the reason I am writing this email.

HB161 is another attack on resident hunters. Already there are too many opportunities for Non-residents hunting in the State of Alaska. While most states in the lower 48 limit non-resident hunting to 10% (5% in some states), Alaska has allowed much more than that for coveted tags. In some cases, like the Kodiak Brown Bear, non-residents are allowed—in fact guaranteed—over 30% of those hard-to-draw tags. Now, this House Bill is passed to increase the number of tags auctioned off by more than double. These tags are typically purchased by wealth out-of-staters. Those additional auction tags will be taken from the quota and reduce resident participation in those coveted hunts.

If the intent of the bill is to raise more revenue (which would be the wrong reason and possibly a violation of the constitution), that could also backfire. The bill would reduce the amount of money received from 90% to 70%. Also, by increasing the numbers of tags auctioned off the price will certainly drop—simple “Supply/Demand” principle applies here. I wonder if any impartial studies were done to evaluate whether this will actually increase revenue. I would guess that the net increase in dollars will be minimal given the increased amount given to the organizations and the reduced amounts fetched for these auction permits.

Another huge sticking point is the language that erases the prohibition of these same organizations to use the proceeds to make contributions to candidates or lobbyists. This opens the door for legislative misappropriations. Doesn't Alaska already have enough of a cloud hanging over our head for misappropriation? Do we need another temptation added? There are also provisions in the bill for allowing out-of-state organizations to receive the auction permits and gives the commissioner authority to allow hunting outside of normal seasons set by Fish and Game. All of these concessions seem to open the doors for corruption—I really don't want to explain to my friends outside that Alaska is not Illinois, but it certainly seems like we didn't learn our lesson last time.

As I understand it, fish and game is mandated in the state constitution to be managed for the maximum benefit of its residents. How does taking tags away from residents help them? This certainly doesn't seem to benefit anyone except outside interests. If this bill is to pass, I could easily see it locked up in the courts for years—again costing taxpayers of the State of Alaska. Please don't allow this bill to pass—it certainly isn't in the best interest of Alaska residents. Thanks in advance for your time...kr

Ken Radach

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