

From: Patricia Wherry

Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2013 11:29 AM

To: Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Lesil McGuire; Sen. Anna Fairclough; Sen. Hollis French; Sen. Cathy Giessel; Sen. Fred Dyson

Subject: SB 60 Alaskan citizen comment

Dear Members of the Alaska State Senate Resources Committee:

Thank you for an opportunity to provide my comments on the issue of setting a bounty on Alaskan sea otters. I am Patricia Wherry. I live at 5785 Glacier Way, Juneau, Alaska. I oppose SB 60.

Do you feel like a parent at times trying your best to handle your squabbling children's intense personal needs? Sara and Augustus: I want to make my living in the new sea urchin fishery that came into existence after the sea otters took a turn for the worse and urchins thrived. Peter, Bill, Elsie, and Nancy: I want the rearing grounds of kelp forests to thrive to better effect my source(s) of livelihood like fishing and tourism. Sea urchins are wiping out the kelp without sea otters to regulate them. Freda and Wayne: We science/world citizens ought to trump all our brothers and sisters because we have research, that few listen to and a broader world view. And there is the family animal: Leave us animals the heck alone. It's tough enough living in this world with two-leggers who proclaim their version of Divine right to do as they please. Yep, you folks are endeavoring to balance the conflicting demands of your offspring. And you just can't fight the tendency to favor your children over the family animal's health needs. But, it niggles in a corner of your mind that there might be something in the notion of circular environmental health.

Concerning this bill if passed, SB60 cannot be enforced as any enforcement would be illegal. The Marine Mammal Protection Act prohibits any state from enforcing a law that affects the taking of a marine mammal without soliciting and receiving management authority for that species from the federal Secretary of the Interior. You are a busy group of people and have more honorable matters to attend to concerning your entrustment of the management of my and the rest of Alaskans' present and future finite natural resources.

Respectfully,
Patricia Wherry
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