Delta Fish and Game Advisory Committee

Interior Region Fish and Game Advisory Committees

S. Carl Taylor Chairman HC 62 Box 5350 Delta Junction, AK 99737 Central
Delta Junction
Eagle
Fairbanks
GASH
Koyukuk River
McGrath

Middle Nenana River Middle Yukon River Minto-Nenana Ruby Tanana-Rampart-Manley Upper Tanana/Fortymile Yukon Flats

February 19, 2016

Representative Talerico,

RE: HB137 ""An Act raising certain fees related to sport fishing, hunting, and trapping; relating to the fish and game fund; providing for the repeal of the sport fishing surcharge and sport fishing facility revenue bonds; replacing the permanent sport fishing, hunting, or trapping identification card for certain residents with an identification card valid for three years; relating to hunting and fishing by proxy; relating to fish and game conservation decals; raising the age of eligibility for a sport fishing, hunting, or trapping license exemption for state residents; raising the age at which a state resident is required to obtain a license for sport fishing, hunting, or trapping; and providing for an effective date."

The Delta Fish and Game Advisory Committee (AC) held our monthly meeting February 17, 2016. On the agenda was HB137.

The AC voted to support HB137 as amended. In summary we voted unanimously to:

- 1) Support suggested increase in fees for Nonresidents and Nonresident Aliens.
- 2) Suggest doubling the current fees for Residents.
- 3) Suggest removing all reference to the "INDIGENT" or \$5 licenses. Remove this provision from the Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) and write new legislation making this benefit available through the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The Welfare Department can better vet the applicants and determine who qualifies. They (Welfare Department) can then purchase the license(s) at face value from ADF&G and provide these licenses at a discount to the welfare recipients if deemed necessary. This would allow ADF&G to use this additional money as matching funds to obtain Pittman-Robertson tax monies (on a 3:1 basis) for management of wildlife (game) in Alaska. The State is a winner in that they are able to obtain more funding from this action.

Thank you for your time,

S. Carl Taylor Delta AC Chairman