

From: Mike Soik <sockeyes@alaska.net>
Date: February 8, 2017 at 11:32:20 AM AKST
To: <Representative.Dean.Westlake@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB 40 concerns

I have some concerns with the proposed HB 40 and hope you will take these issues into consideration.

With regards to Trapping Tags:

1. An Alaska resident under the age of 18 isn't required to have a trapping license. Would these individuals need trap tags? If they do need tags how would they get them if they don't have a license?
2. A lot of trappers have partners. Would each of the trappers on a trapline have to have their individual tags on each trap/snare?
3. What if for unforeseen circumstances a trapper needed another person (not a regular trapping partner) to check their trapline. Would this be permissible since this person does not have their tags on any of the traps/snare?
4. Some trappers offer "trapline adventures". This mainly caters to non-residents, offering them the opportunity to trap in Alaska for a short time. How would these non-residents obtain trap tags? Would they be able to obtain them in a timely manner? Would they be able to utilize traps/snare that the resident trapper already has in the field since those traps do not have the non-resident's tags?
5. After reading some of the anti-trapping hate speech in various online comments where individuals talk about damaging, destroying, and stealing traps/snare, I would be concerned that some of these individuals may move legally set traps into an area that is not legal?

Also, after reading the bill and the supporting documentation I am still not 100 percent sure on what areas the 200 foot setback applies. It is my understanding that this would only apply to state facilities/trails on state land that are improved, developed, or maintained by the state. This would not affect federal or borough land. Is this correct? If not can you please clarify.

Thank you
Mike Soik
Anchorage, AK

From: Robert Mathews Jr <rmathewsjr3@gmail.com>

Date: February 8, 2017 at 11:59:42 AM AKST

To: <Representative.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>, <Representative.Geran.Tarr@akleg.gov>, <Representative.Dean.Westlake@akleg.gov>, <Representative.Harriet.Drummond@akleg.gov>, <Representative.Justin.Parish@akleg.gov>, <Representative.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>, <Representative.DeLena.Johnson@akleg.gov>, <Representative.George.Rauscher@akleg.gov>, <Representative.David.Talerico@akleg.gov>, <Representative.Mike.Chenault@akleg.gov>, <Representative.Chris.Tuck@akleg.gov>

Cc: AOC <aocboard@alaskaoutdoorcouncil.com>

Subject: Letter of Non-Support to House Bill No. 40

Please find attached a letter from the delta Sportsman's Association, of Delta Junction Alaska to NOT support House Bill No. 40.

Thanks

Rob Mathews

President, Delta Sportsman's Association

From: Al Barrette <ibalbarrette@yahoo.com>

Date: February 8, 2017 at 4:03:48 PM AKST

To: "Representative.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov" <Representative.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>,
"Representative.DeLena.Johnson@akleg.gov" <Representative.DeLena.Johnson@akleg.gov>,
"Representative.George.Rauscher@akleg.gov" <Representative.George.Rauscher@akleg.gov>,
"Representative.David.Talerico@akleg.gov" <Representative.David.Talerico@akleg.gov>,
"Representative.Dean.Westlake@akleg.gov" <Representative.Dean.Westlake@akleg.gov>

Subject: HB 40

Reply-To: Al Barrette <ibalbarrette@yahoo.com>

Do not support. Please read my comments and use them.

Al Barrette

Al Barrette
2017
380 Peger Rd.
Fairbanks, AK. 99709
907-452-6047

8 Feb.

Do not support HB 40

This Bill does not address the issue at hand. But the Bill does shift the responsibility from the pet owner to, the responsibility of the trapper for a pet owner's negligence.

1. Only those who have a license to trap would be required to have trap ID. (Under the age of 18 are not required to have a trap license) via the daft language in the Bill.
2. Not every trapper, traps by himself. So if you have a partner, both would have to have trap IDs on every trap/snare?
3. No one else could check your line that does not have their trap ID on traps/snare?
So this year my wife was diagnosed with cancer. I have started my trap line. Not knowing what the outcome of the cancer. I let a good friend of mine to run the trap line for the rest of the year. This bill would make my friend Have to get trap tags for all the traps and snare, that I have out there.(500-750 traps/snare) So he could use them and maintain them.
4. Some trappers have capitalized on "trap line adventures". Mainly offering and experience to nonresidents, a chance to trap in Alaska for a short time. They would have to have trap tags for all the traps/snare used or supplied by local trapper already who would have already had his/her trap tags. (Which is what happens most of time)
5. How available will my unique number on a tags be? If I buy new traps on want to put them out. Will F&G have supply of my numbered tags available and in a convent time frame?
6. What justification did the proposer have for making a class B misdemeanor with fines up to \$1000.00 with a max of 60 days jail time?
7. A Lot of trails are not a single well defined path. Most end up being a braided trail at best. Furthermore most trails are not surveyed. So where does a trapper start to measure from (where is the center line of the trail)?
8. Not all trappers are physically fit. There are handicapped, disabled vets, elders,(70-90+) who would lose opportunity.
9. 5 AAC 92.029(b) states: "you may not release a dog into the wild". (in context)
10. 5AAC 92.029 (i)(1-2) Also states:(i) The board will remove a species from the list in (b) of this section, if there is a preponderance of evidence that the species
 - (1) is capable of surviving in the wild in Alaska;
 - (2) is capable of causing a genetic alteration of a species that is indigenous to Alaska;I believe there is evidence domestic dogs have already done these. (coydog and wolf dog) The Board of Game could take this up. As it is one of their responsibilities.
11. Would put an undue burden on subsistence trapping opportunity.
12. Licensee will have to submit "current address". Physical or box? It just states "current address"
13. The reality of 200' no trap area. I currently run a trap line 40 miles one way (on a RS2477) and have approx. 200 trap sites (where traps and snare are placed along the trail). So if I have to

be 200' from the trail (minimum), there and back will be 400' times 200 equals approx. 15 ½ miles I have to walk to check trap sites. It currently takes me on average 10 hours to check trap line. With the added miles, 15 ½ and I could walk 3 miles an hour. This Law would add at least 5 hours to my trapping efforts each check. More if I have multipoles animals caught, such as wolves in snare set, where I have caught as many as 12.

14. This Bill if passed, it will defiantly impact my family and I's livelihood as an Alaskan subsistence trappers.