

Dear House Resources Committee:

I am writing to urge you to vote in support of House Bill 105 which would establish a no hunting/trapping area on state land adjacent to the northeastern park boundary where wolves are targeted.

This area roughly overlaps the Wolf Townships/Stampede Corridor.

Since the Board eliminated a buffer in 2010, wolf mortality in this area has been linked to a sharp decline in the Denali Park wolf population. The number of visitors lucky enough to see a wolf also plummeted, to a miniscule 4 percent. If passed into law this bill would supersede the Board's inaction and end its single-minded pro-hunting decisions that have been so detrimental to the park's wolf population.

The protected area would be designated the Gordon Haber Denali Wolf Special Management Area, in honor of the world-renowned wolf biologist and zealous advocate who died in a 2009 plane crash while tracking wolves in Denali.

Safeguards for these wolves are critical, and long overdue.

Please support this bill!

Most Alaskan's support this buffer zone. Please listen to your constituents and act appropriately. Vote for this buffer zone.

Sincerely,

Janie Taylor

Anchorage, Alaska resident for 34 years

Dear Legislators,

I am writing to voice my support on HB 105, the “Denali Wolf Buffer.” This should be an easy, unanimous pass, a bill that all of you should support, as it has many benefits for the majority of Alaskans; very few hunters and trappers will be affected negatively.

You are all facing difficult decisions this session in a time of huge budget shortfalls, but this bill overwhelmingly helps the Alaskan economy in a positive way. Wildlife tourism is a \$2.7 billion dollar per year industry; most of the visitors to the park say that seeing wolves and bears are at the top of their list of animals to see. As things stand now, with wolves and bears being trapped and shot right over the park boundary, those wolves and bears that would be the most visible to park visitors have almost been eliminated, along with it the incentive for many visitor to come visit Denali. Word gets around, and many wildlife viewing visitors know it is more likely that they will see wolves in Yellowstone than in Denali. We have literally shot ourselves in the foot by allowing the Alaska Board of Game’s denial of the Wolf Buffer to continue. We need to pass this bill in order to allow the wolves to regenerate their numbers in this area.

This bill supports the State Constitution and the principles of equity, fairness and common ownership of *all* resources embodied in:

Article 8, Sections 2 and 3 of the Alaska Constitution, as shown in:

Section 2: *The Legislature shall provide for the utilization, development, and conservation of all natural resources belonging to the State, including land and waters, **for the maximum benefit of its people.***

Section 3: *Common Use: Wherever occurring in their natural state, fish, wildlife, and waters are reserve **to the people for common use.***

HB 105 will correct an egregious situation in which a very few hunters and trappers (2 or 3) along the North East boundary of the Park, are killing off wolves and bears that wander out of the park in pursuit of their prey. If the State Constitution works, and I *hope* it does, why should these very few people have more rights and access to wildlife than the more than 70,000 Alaskan citizens who would like to see their wildlife alive in Denali?

For over a decade, an overwhelming majority of citizens have testified and written to the Alaska Board of Game, with these very same statistics, only to be ignored and shut out with years-long denials of hearing on this issue by the Board of Game. Your approving of this bill will right this wrong. It should be a clear choice constitutionally, economically and in the majority of public interest.

Thank you,

John Breiby
5280 E McDowell Rd.,
Wasilla, AK 99654

376-8818

Dear Sirs:

Please vote yes on HB 105 allowing a no kill border around the northeast section of Denali National Park.

Tourism is a very large revenue generator for Alaska, bringing in 2.9 Billion dollars per 2011 state study. Tourism in Denali Park brings in \$567 million and thousands of jobs. The state of Alaska needs these jobs and revenue in light of the down turn in the oil industry.

Alaska also needs to preserve its natural resources for future generations to maintain tourism and the way of life in ALASKA as we know it. Eco-tourism is growing rapidly while sport hunting is decreasing and does not bring in the money we think it does. There are more Alaska residents 70,000 coming to Denali and over 600,000 out of state visitors that contribute significantly to the local income.

We need the border around the northeast side of Denali to prevent pregnant alpha females and alpha males from getting shot at bait stations like in 2012 and 2015 and 2016. The visitor viewing rate of wolves have decreased along the Denali road from 49% to 5% due to these "sport" kills by a handful of hunters. Data from NPS. We as a state need to think about how natural resources are used appropriately and where.

Please vote for HB 105.

Thank you,
Roy Catalano

Roy Catalano
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Denali, Alaska 99755
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Please send the following message to the members of the House Resource Committee:

I AM A 56-YEAR RESIDENT OF ALASKA, AND OWN LAND IN THE PROPOSED BUFFER ZONE AREA. I URGE YOU TO VOTE YES ON THIS BILL, WHICH WOULD ESTABLISH THE DENALI WOLF SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA. THANKS.

Frank Keim

2220 Penrose Lane

Fairbanks, AK 99709

"When the world seems to be falling apart, stick to your own trajectory; hang on to your own ideals and find kindred spirits."

Joseph Campbell: An Open Life

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to express my support for HB 105 that would provide a Denali NP wolf protection buffer. Wolves and other predators in this area are important for tourism, and also important to the wildness and ecological integrity of the Park. Please support this bill.

Sincerely,

Roger Kaye