

Trevor M. Fulton

From: jake sprankle <jakesprankle@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 1, 2019 9:21 AM
To: Sen. Chris Birch; Trevor M. Fulton; Sen. Cathy Giessel; Sen. Lora Reinbold; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Scott Kawasaki; Sen. Jesse Kiehl
Cc: Sen. John Coghill
Subject: Support of Senate Bill 87

Dear Chairman Birch and members of the Senate Resources Committee,

My name is Jake Sprankle and I am a resident of Fairbanks, Alaska . My wife Elizabeth and I are Founding and Life Time Members of the Resident Hunters of Alaska (RHAK) organization and my children are also Silver members of RHAK. On behalf of my wife and children, I'd like you to support and help pass Senate Bill 87, "An Act relating to the taking of big game by nonresidents; and providing for an effective date."

Article 8, Section 2 of our State Constitution clearly states that "*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 clearly states "*Wherever occurring in their natural state, fish, wildlife, and waters are reserved to the people for common use.*" (emphasis added).

The Alaska Board of Game has proven over and over again that they do NOT understand that "its people" and "to the people" are the RESIDENTS of Alaska. For some reason, they believe they should be managing our resources for the benefit of non-residents and for commercial operations that make money harvesting our animals. Alaska's wildlife belong collectively to the Residents of Alaska, regardless of whose land they are on, including all Federal and private land. Few people understand this fact. They belong to us Alaskans, not residents of other States.

Of all the 50 States, we are the ONLY State that puts the needs of its resident hunters (and fishermen) behind non-residents. Senate Bill 87, which only changes one word of "may" to "shall", allows for non-residents to bear the brunt of allocation restrictions in times of shortage or other factors requiring the Board of Game to limit allocation. This is how it is done in all other 49 states, of which I hunt several. Those Outside states I hunt manage their fish and game resources for their residents first, and non-residents such as myself, secondly. That's how it should be--- they are their animals and they should be managed for their benefit and use first. The Alaska Board of Game cannot grasp this concept, unfortunately. Senate Bill 87 will force them to. Please support the passage of Senate Bill 87.

Thank you for your time and for your service to Alaska and Alaska Residents,

Jake Sprankle, RHAK member
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"Up, sluggard, and waste not life; in the grave will be sleeping enough." - Benjamin Franklin