

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

## Senator Josh Revak

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## Senate Bill 204 – Sectional Analysis

*"An Act relating to auctions or raffles for hunting harvest permits and big game tags; and providing for an effective date."*

### Section 1. Amends AS 16.05.343(a):

- **Page 1 Lines 6-7:** Adds Afognak and Raspberry Island Herds to the type of Elk harvest permits that can be donated by the department to be auctioned or raffled.
- **Page 1 Line 6:** Changes the number of harvest permits that can be donated for Etolin, Afognak, or Raspberry Elk herds from four to two.
- **Page 1 Line 9:** Adds the word “wildlife” in front of “conservation” to clarify that the nonprofits who qualify to receive these donated harvest permits must be established to promote education in outdoor traditions and “wildlife” conservation and wildlife protection programs in partnership with the department.

### Section 2. Amends 16.05.343(c):

- **Page 1 Line 14 – Page 2 Line 4:** Removes differing tag limits for individual species and allows **up to four** harvest permits to be issued for all the listed species.
- **Page 2 Line 1:** Adds “emperor goose” to the list of available species harvest permits.
- **Page 2 Lines 5-8:** Adds four McNeil River State Game Sanctuary bear-viewing permits to be auctioned or raffled through the same process.
- **Page 2 Lines 13-30:** Removes language and replaces it later in a new subsection (1) outlining a 70/30 revenue split between the Department of Fish and Game and the qualified organization putting on the auction or raffle and (2) limiting use of the funds by the organization to approved programs and prohibiting use of the funds for any political campaign or candidate. **This language is put back into statute in Section 4 as subsections (f) & (g) of AS 16.05.343.**
- **Page 2 Lines 12 & 13, Page 3 Lines 1, 2, & 5:** Removes “big game” from any mention of “big game harvest permit” so that all the permits are referred to consistently by the broader “harvest permit.”
- **Page 3 Lines 3 & 4:** Changes the inscription on the hunting license issued under this subsection from “Governor’s license” to “Commissioner’s license”

**Section 3.** Amends AS 16.05.343(e):

- **Page 3 Line 11:** Adds that a nonprofit must promote education in “wildlife conservation” and conduct “wildlife” conservation programs in order to qualify as an organization that can conduct auctions or raffles for the department. The new requirement sentence reads: “The department may select a nonprofit organization that promotes education in outdoor traditions and wildlife conservation and that conducts wildlife conservation and wildlife protection programs [...]”

**Section 4.** Amends AS 16.05.343 by adding new subsections:

- **Page 3 Lines 19-25:** Reinserts the language removed in Section 2 to create a new subsection (f) that requires that all revenue earned from an auction or raffle of harvest permits be paid to the Department of Fish and Game EXCEPT an amount not to exceed 30%, which the qualified organization putting on the auction or raffle can retain for the administrative costs of holding the auction/raffle and approved projects and educational programs that support outdoor tradition, wildlife conservation, and wildlife protection.
- **Page 3 Lines 26 – Page 4 Line 4:** Reinserts the language removed in Section 2 to create a new subsection (g) explicitly limiting use of the funds by the organization to approved programs listed in (f) and prohibiting use of the funds for any “candidate for political office,” “organization supporting or opposing ballot propositions,” and “expenses associated with lobbying the legislature or administration.”
- **Page 4 Lines 3-7:** Creates a new subsection (h) which allows winners of brown bear and Dall sheep harvest permits to engage in the hunt even if they have successfully taken a brown bear or Dall sheep in the state in the four years preceding.

**Section 5.** Sets an effective date January 1, 2023