



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Fish and Game

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April 28, 2022

The Honorable Josiah Patkotak
House Resources Committee
Alaska State Capitol, Room 102
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Re: Senate Bill 204 Hunting Permit/Tag Auctions/Raffles

Representative,

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game supports passage of Senate Bill 204 proposed by Senator Revak. This bill would give the Department the discretion to use an increased number of permits for competitive auctions or raffles. This legislation also slightly expands the pool of permit types available for these activities.

This program is not only a way for funds to be raised for the Division of Wildlife Conservation, but it is also a great way for our eligible partners and user groups to raise funds, which furthers the conservation of Alaska's wildlife through cooperative agreements. Over the years the availability of these permits has become more well-known and the program has increased in popularity. Passage of this bill will only increase these opportunities. The Department is not required to use the allowable number of available permits annually. Additionally, the permits used for this program exist within the Commissioner's authority. Therefore, no opportunity is taken away from our hunters or wildlife viewers. And there is no impact to sustained yield.

Revenues from hunting permit raffles and auctions has risen in recent years, and last year surpassed one million dollars. These revenues are an important source of match for increasing revenues coming to Alaska from the federal PR program, lessening the probability of reversion of these funds because of lack of state match.

In summary, the Department supports this legislation as proposed and urges its passage. The results will be beneficial for our user groups, the Division of Wildlife Conservation, and the State of Alaska's resources. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Lang".

Doug Vincent-Lang
Commissioner
Department of Fish and Game

Cc: Akis Gialopsos, Legislative Director
Director Eddie Grasser, Division of Wildlife Conservation
Senator Josh Revak, District M