

HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 250(FIN)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 4/28/98

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): SENATORS SHARP, Taylor, Wilken

REPRESENTATIVE James

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to management of game, to the fish and game fund and
2 federal aid for restoration of wildlife and fish, and to the duties of the
3 commissioner of fish and game; and providing for an effective date."

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

5 * **Section 1.** LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. The legislature finds that providing for high
6 levels of harvest for human consumptive use, consistent with the sustained yield principle, is
7 the highest and best use of big game prey populations in most areas of the state and that big
8 game prey populations should be biologically managed for abundance.

9 * **Sec. 2.** AS 16.05.050 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

10 (b) The commissioner shall annually submit a report to the Board of Game
11 regarding the department's implementation during the preceding three years of intensive
12 management programs that have been established by the board under AS 16.05.255 for
13 identified big game prey populations.

14 * **Sec. 3.** AS 16.05.110 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(b) Except for money received as fisheries fines or forfeitures in settlement of a claim or loss caused by damage to the fish resources of the state that is appropriated to or through the division of commercial fisheries management and development, appropriations of money from the fish and game fund and of money received by the state under the federal aid acts described under AS 16.05.140 shall be made to the division of wildlife conservation or the division of sport fish. The division of wildlife conservation or the division of sport fish may use money appropriated under this subsection to acquire administrative and other services from other agencies if the division acquires the services through reimbursable services agreements. The division of wildlife conservation and the division of sport fish shall include as part of their budgets prepared under AS 37.07.050

(1) a listing of the reimbursable services agreements that are to be funded with money appropriated under this subsection;

(2) a description of the services to be provided under those agreements; and

(3) a listing of the entities that are parties to those agreements.

* **Sec. 4.** AS 16.05.255(g)(2) is amended to read:

(2) "intensive management" means management of an identified big game prey population consistent with sustained yield through active management measures to enhance, extend, and develop the population to maintain high levels or provide for higher levels of human harvest, including control of predation and prescribed or planned use of fire and other habitat improvement techniques.

* **Sec. 5.** AS 16.05.255(g) is amended by adding new paragraphs to read:

(3) "harvestable surplus" means the number of animals that is estimated to equal the number of offspring born in a game population during a year less the number of animals required for recruitment for population maintenance and enhancement, when necessary, and the number of animals in the population that die from all causes, other than predation or human harvest, during that year;

(4) "high level of human harvest" means the allocation of a sufficient portion of the harvestable surplus of a game population to achieve a high probability of success for human harvest of the game population based on biological capabilities

1 of the population and considering hunter demand;

2 (5) "sustained yield" means the achievement and maintenance in
3 perpetuity of the ability to support a high level of human harvest of game, subject to
4 preferences among beneficial uses, on an annual or periodic basis.

5 * **Sec. 6.** AS 16.05.255 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

6 (h) The Board of Game shall establish population and harvest goals and
7 seasons for intensive management of identified big game prey populations to achieve
8 a high level of human harvest.

9 * **Sec. 7.** This Act takes effect July 1, 1999.