

Ed King

From: Mary Corcoran <marycorc@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 26, 2024 11:44 AM
To: House Resources
Cc: Rep. Mike Cronk
Subject: PUBLIC TESTIMONY HB 243

Thank you, Chair McKay, Vice Chair Rauscher and Committee Members for this opportunity to testify about HB243.

I do not support this bill as it reduces the amount of funds ADFG needs to operate more wildlife programs than just the bison range. I'm looking for the science and math that could justify this reduction in permit application fees.

What research has been done and analyzed besides the "many constituents" Rep. Cronk references in the sponsor's statement?

If ADFG is still operating on bison permit application fees set in 1984 or 1992, how can it be expected to meet the challenges of managing the herd? Extreme weather in the last few years has offered new challenges to managing the herd. Staff shortage is another factor to consider.

My family has resided in the Delta area since 1972 and has applied for many bison permits--unsuccessfully. A \$10 fee is absolutely no burden and we support using the funds for ADFG programs.

I have observed and responded to the history of this herd and agricultural development. There is nothing simple about meshing the two. I think that cutting the budget for this will not fix any problems and will only exacerbate them.

Please do not support this bill. Figure out what the problem is, its causes and a real solution. Thank you for your work.

Sincerely,
Mary Corcoran
Delta Junction AK