

ALASKA

PROFESSIONAL HUNTERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

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February 4, 2025

Senator Jesse Bjorkman
State Capitol Room 3
Juneau AK, 99801

RE: Letter of Support for SB80

Dear Senator Bjorkman,

The Alaska Professional Hunters Association strongly supports Senate Bill 80, and we thank you for introducing this legislation. This bill extends the Big Game Commercial Services Board (BGCSB) through 2032. The BGCSB is critical to the long-term viability of the Guiding Industry in Alaska.

The APHA believes that it is in the best interests of the State, the public, and our profession to have well qualified hunting guides. The BGCSB maintains testing standards and provides for oral testing of all new guides in Alaska. This helps to ensure that only qualified applicants receive licenses.

Additionally, the BGCSB provides the only interface between the Division of Occupational Licensing & the Guiding Profession. Without the board, our profession has no meaningful input on the development of regulations that directly impact hunting guides. However, this isn't just an issue for hunting guides. The public also has a vested interest in how the guides are regulated. Without the board, the public would have very little opportunity to influence the regulations that control the guide industry.

The APHA strongly supports the renewal of the Big Game Commercial Services Board, and again, appreciates you sponsoring SB80.

Respectfully,

Sam Rohrer

Sam Rohrer,
President
Alaska Professional Hunters Association