

ALASKA

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February 4, 2025

Senator Jesse Bjorkman
State Capitol Room 3
Juneau AK, 99801

RE: Letter of Support for SB29

Dear Senator Bjorkman,

The Alaska Professional Hunters Association strongly supports Senate Bill 29, and we thank you for introducing this legislation. This bill seeks to provide an executive administrator position in support of the Big Game Commercial Services Board (BGCSB).

The BGCSB oversees a complex set of statutes, regulations, and policy to regulate the activities of all hunting guides and transporters in Alaska. This responsibility requires administrative support from the Division of Licensing. Due to the complexity of this program, it is important to maintain long-term, full-time staff that possess a high degree of industry-specific knowledge.

Without an executive administrator position, support of this program falls to license examiner positions. While these jobs are staffed with hardworking people, the nature of the position is that it is often used as a steppingstone to a higher-level position. Rarely are license examiners in a position for more than just a few years. This is simply not long enough to develop the critical industry-specific knowledge required to maintain a successful program.

The APHA strongly supports the creation of an executive administrator and appreciates you sponsoring SB80.

Respectfully,



Sam Rohrer,
President
Alaska Professional Hunters Association