

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



REPRESENTATIVE GERAN TARR

HB 217 Version I - ALASKA GROWN - Sectional Analysis

Section 1 –Amends powers of Commissioner of Department of Natural Resources to sell promotional merchandise related to the Alaska Grown logo

Allows the Division of Agriculture within the Department of Natural Resources to issue a license and charge a license fee for the sale of promotional merchandise related to the Alaska Grown logo. The commissioner shall price the merchandise in a manner that ensures a reasonable monetary return to the state. It is encouraged that the merchandise be manufactured in the US and is procured from either an Alaska bidder or a person that employs Alaska prison inmates.

Section 2 – Amends Alaska Code of Civic Procedures, under the section of civil liability for sports and recreation activities

Provides more freedom from civil liability to farmers who operate “farm tours”

Section 3 – Defines farm touring

Farm touring means briefly visiting a farm to observe or experience aspects of raising, growing, producing, cultivating, harvesting, or processing an agricultural product as a tourist, without receiving pay.

Sections 4 to 7 – Amends multiple sections of existing statutes providing for the solicitation and purchasing of Alaska Grown agricultural and seafood products

There currently exists a seven percent state and municipal preference procurement preference for Alaska Grown agricultural products harvested in the state and Alaska Grown fisheries products harvested or processed in the state; this would give flexibility to purchase fisheries and agriculture products if priced not more than 15 percent above a similar product harvested outside the state (This includes entities that receive state money, including school districts and the university).

Section 8 – Amends Public Finance Fiscal Procedures Act to collect fees

Allows the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources to collect fees for Alaska Grown promotional merchandise.

Section 9 – Effective date for the “farm touring” is after January 1, 2019.

Section 10 – Effective date of the bill is July 1, 2019.