

Sen. Chris Birch

From: Treasure Hunter Lodge Alaska <treasurehunterlodge@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 20, 2019 4:48 AM
To: Sen. David Wilson; Christa McDonald; Sen. Bert Stedman; Sen. Chris Birch; Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins
Cc: jonathan.s.kt@gmail.com; Catherine.Schlingheyde@akleg.gov; Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins
Subject: SB43

Dear members of the Senate Resources Committee,

You will be reviewing SB43, sponsored by Senator Wilson, which would reauthorize the Big Game Commercial Services Board (BGCSB). I fully support this bill and urge you to reauthorize the board.

I am a full time Alaskan resident of Klawock, AK and my wife and I operate a small hunting and fishing operation. I've been working as a hunting guide in the state since 1996 and have been a resident since 2000. I started in the guiding industry when there was no BGCSB and I assure you that our industry is much better off having the oversight and ability of the board to sanction all the guides. In the early 2000's our industry was full of outlaws. Largely because of the BGCSB, now our industry has the highest standards in the world and its members are competent, highly trained, virtuous professionals that provide many benefits to the state.

Most of our clients are non-residents that bring millions of dollars in income to the state and many of those dollars are spent and multiplied in rural Alaska.

The BGCSB is the single biggest reason the guiding industry has been significantly improved in the last decade.

The board is a self sustaining entity that is of great benefit to the guiding industry and the state of Alaska.

I urge you to pass SB43.

Thank you!

Kurt & Trina
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