

Co-Chairs Tarr and Lincoln, and Members of the Committee,

For the record my name is Jerry Burnett.

I was appointed to the Board of Game by Governor Dunleavy on February 22 and I am asking for your positive consideration for my confirmation.

In past years, I have had the pleasure of working with many of you in my role as a member of the Executive Branch. Today I want to tell you about myself and why I will be a good member of the Board of Game.

I grew up in rural Western Washington State and hunted and fished with my father and five brothers starting at an early age. I got my first fishing pole at age four, my mother taught me how to shoot and to respect firearms starting at age six, and I had my first gun at age 10. I have carried on a tradition of hunting and fishing and you will find moose, caribou and deer antlers displayed at our home (along with a variety of African plains game) and usually find venison, moose, and sometimes caribou, bison and elk in the freezer along with the salmon, halibut, ling cod and spot prawns. My wife and I, and our oldest son and I, enjoy hunting together. We all like eating wild game, and we all hope to have the chance to hunt with our grandchildren in the future.

Since moving to Juneau in 1981, I have worked in a number of jobs, including; a real estate broker, a business instructor at UAS, a charter boat captain, twelve years as staff at the Alaska Legislature and fifteen years as a director and/or deputy commissioner for the Murkowski, Palin, Parnell and Walker Administrations. I retired as the Deputy

Commissioner of the Department of Revenue in December 2017. My wife and I have a charter boat business doing multi-day (overnight) fishing charters in northern Southeast Alaska on our 58 foot boat.

Starting in the 1990's I became involved with the Alaska Outdoor Council and served on the Board as the Southeast Vice-President starting in 2000 and as the AOC President in 2002 and 2003. I have served many years on the Board of Directors of Territorial Sportsmen in Juneau including 4 years as the President. Many of you have attended our joint TSI-AOC annual fund-raising banquet here in Juneau.

Over the past twenty years I have been deeply involved with the issues which are near and dear to hunters and anglers in Alaska. I have authored and co-authored comments and proposals to the Board of Fish and the Board of Game, sometimes working through the local fish and game advisory committee process. I have authored and co-authored comments on federal and state legislation and proposed regulations concerning access to federal lands, the state's right to manage its resources and on a variety of land use proposals.

In my previous state positions, I have served on a number of boards and so go into this with an appreciation of the process of hearing and considering public comment and testimony before making decisions and adopting regulations.

Section 8 of the Alaska Constitution, provides in part:

Wherever occurring in their natural state, fish, wildlife, and waters are reserved to the people for common use, and that:

Fish, forests, wildlife, grasslands, and all other replenishable resources belonging to the State shall be utilized, developed, and maintained on the sustained yield principle, subject to preferences among beneficial uses.

In accordance with the statutory framework developed by the Legislature and codified in Title 16, it is the role of the Board of Game to consider the science developed by the Department of Fish and Game and the input from the public to set regulations, seasons, and bag limits that will insure that Alaska's wildlife resources are utilized on the sustained yield principle. I believe that I am well qualified to be a part of that process as a member of the Board of Game.

Thank you.

I will be happy to respond to any questions from the Committee.

Jerry Burnett