From: Nina Faust
To: House Resources; Senate Resources
Subject: BOG Nominees
Date: Thursday, April 11, 2019 9:21:41 PM

[redacted]
Homer, AK 99603

April 11, 2019

Dear Members of the Senate and House Resources committees:

I am adamantly opposed to the appointment of Al Barrette to the Board of Game. I opposed him the last time he was nominated, and I was glad that he was not confirmed. His ideas about game management in Alaska are so out of step with current thinking particularly about intensive management and predator control that his appointment would be a giant step backward for Alaska. His controversial and uninformed stances on so many game management issues should make him a non-starter in any appointment discussion.

If we are to save money in this state, we need to move away from the very expensive, divisive, and ineffective intensive game management idea that predator control is the best means of management. It is extremely expensive, and the return that we get is extremely expensive moose to harvest at taxpayers expense. We can use our money in so much better ways.

I would like to see candidates for the Board of Game representing many interest groups with an emphasis on people who have scientific training. We also need several representatives from tourism, like photographers, birders, other wildlife viewers, and wildlife tour leaders. Broadening the non-consumptive representation on the BOG to more than just one token member would balance out the preponderance of hunters and trappers currently sitting on the BOG.

Wildlife belong to all Alaskans, and they are a very valuable resource for tourism. The majority of visitors to Alaska come to see the animals, all sorts of animals. Hunting is just a fraction of the use by comparison. As we seek new ways to bring money to the state, let's start putting new faces on the BOG to figure out how to manage our wildlife for diversity and abundance by relying on the best science and wildlife management practices available.

Mr. Barrette is not a good candidate to carry out this objective. His past performance was incredibly uninformed. We can do so much better. Please do not approve him to the Board of Game.

Sincerely and respectfully,

Nina Faust