From: edward schmitt
To: House Resources
Subject: Barrette Nomination
Date: Friday, April 12, 2019 8:39:11 AM

Dear Committee Members,

It seems to me that one role of government is to identify issues that affect citizens, acknowledge alternative solutions to those issues, and make reasonable progress toward resolving those issues.

Appointing someone to a board who has a known record of extreme positions and never compromising nor even recognizing the legitimacy of another point of view does not seem to be a way to achieve good governance.

There are three issues especially relevant to citizens of Alaska and the Board of Game on which Mr. Barrette has taken very extreme positions.

Intensive Management is the notion that the only way we can have an abundance of moose and caribou in Alaska is to kill every wolf and bear in the state no matter what the cost in dollars or reputation.

Trapping, whether we should continue to allow trapping unregulated anywhere in the state, or whether we should place reasonable restrictions on trappers to prevent unnecessary loss of wild or domestic animals.

The Denali Buffer Zone in which we are weighing the freedom of hunting and trapping against the aesthetic and tourism values of having more wolves seen in Denali National Park.

Mr. Barrette has shown relentless advocacy for extreme forms of intensive management and continues to deny there are any issues relating to the current trapping laws. He argues vehemently against any form of Buffer Zone. We cannot move forward as a state with someone who is too extreme to work with others on the board to help resolve these issues.

Please do not repeat the mistakes of the past by reappointing Mr. Barrette and affirming his extreme positions.

Thank you for your consideration,
Edward A Schmitt MD
Soldotna, AK