

## Betty Tangeman

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**From:** Al Barrette <ibalbarrette@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 22, 2021 2:43 PM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** SB 44

22 March, 2021

SB44

Good day Chairman Revak and members of the resource committee

I am Al Barrette. I reside in Fairbanks. I am only representing my self and not any board, commission, or group that I may belong to.

I am submitting this letter of support for SB 44. I would hope you pass it out of committee.

I think some times you have to look at history to move forward into the future.

Prior to 1978 Alaskans could fulfill their personal use fish needs under subsistence regulations and had a priority (5 AAC 77.001).

In 1982 the legislature defined Personal Use. In that definition. The only differences between subsistence fishing and personal use fishing were, subsistence fishing allowed the sale or barter of fish and personal use did not. Personal use fishing allowed the use of a dip net and subsistence did not.

Then in 1989, the Mc Dowell supreme court decision over turned the rural priority law.

1999 was the creation of "Non-Subsistence Areas".

The BOF for many years also recognized and made regulations defining gear types allowed to be used in sport fish, subsistence, and personal use. It was to keep the fisheries sperate and what was historically used, to prevent confusion among the public.

Meaning subsistence gear type used was A gill net, seine, fish wheel, long line.

Sport fishing gear type is, by hook and line held in the hand, or by hook and line with the line attached to a pole or rod which is held in the hand or closely attended.

Personal use gear type, gill or dip net, seine, fish wheel, long line.

What the BOF has enacted in the recent actions was, to blur gear type differences between fisheries. Subsistence users are now allowed to use dip nets in some fisheries, and rod and reel. Personal use fisheries can now use rod and reel in some of those opportunities.

Alaskans who cannot participate in subsistence, or "home pack" opportunities to meet their fish needs. Need an opportunity like personal use fisheries, to fulfill their fish needs. It would only seem from history. Personal use opportunities had a priority over sport fish and commercial allocations.

For these reasons I support this bill and ask you to also support this allocation to Alaskans for their wild food security.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

5 AAC 77.001. Intent and application of this chapter

(a) The Board of Fisheries finds that

(1) before the enactment of the state's subsistence priority law in ch. 151, SLA 1978, an individual could fulfill that individual's personal use needs for fish under subsistence fishing regulations;

(2) the state's subsistence priority law changed the definition of subsistence in a manner that now precludes some individuals from participating in customary and traditional subsistence fisheries and efficiently harvesting fish for their personal use;