

March 30, 2022

RE: SB 219

I gave my verbal testimony on 3/14/22 regarding the changes that Senator Micciche and his staff have introduced in SP219 to help families whose permit holders have died unexpectedly. I am thankful for their time and work on this.

The Bell family has had this duck shack for many years. When they decided to do the permitting for it they thoughtfully considered who they should put on it. At the time they got their permit they were told that there could only be 1 person on it. Since Greg was the youngest in the family it made sense to put him as the permit holder. Greg died unexpectedly and tragically in a mid air plane crash in 2019, in Soldotna, Alaska.

Not long after Greg's passing I got a letter from the DNR saying I had a set amount of time to remove everything from the duck shack. I called DNR, the woman that I spoke to said there was nothing that we could do about it and they should have had more people on the permit, she stated that there was up 15 (I think) that could have been on the permit. That is certainly not what the Bell family understood when they applied for the permit. I've talked with other people that have duck shacks across the inlet and they were also told that there could only be 1 person on the permit. Not sure where the miscommunication or misinformation happened?

As you can imagine there's a lot of sentiment attached to this duck shack, a special place to retreat and enjoy the beauty of Alaska. It seems a terrible shame that the Bell family cannot enjoy the remaining time on their permit because of this tragedy and, I believe some misinformation about the permitting. I appreciate your time and attention in considering this bill and look forward to hopefully enjoying the duck shack for the remaining time of the original permit.

Thank you for your service,

Cindy Rainey-Bell