



## 2022 Board Members

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Sr. Vice President, Santos Ltd.

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Ross Baxter Group, Jack White Realty

Rik Bucy  
Retired, Tesoro Northstores

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Owner, Big Sky Charter & Fish Camp

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CFO, Bering Straits Native Corp.

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Retired, AK Dept. of Natural Resources

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Dir. Sales & Community Marketing, Alaska Airlines

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Verne Martell  
Retired, Alaska Pasta Company

Eldon Mulder  
President, The Mulder Company

Mike Pawlowski  
Partner, Strategy North Group

Mark Spencer  
Owner, AK Expeditions

## KRSA Emeritus

Bob Penney  
Founder and Chairman Emeritus

May 1, 2022

## VIA ELECTRONIC DELIVERY

Representative Kelly Merrick Chair, House Finance Committee and  
Representative Neal Foster Co-Chair, House Finance Committee  
120 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: Support of Senate Bill 201

Chair Merrick and Co-Chair Foster:

The Kenai River Sportfishing Association (KRSA) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit fishery conservation organization that works to ensure the long-term health and sustainability of fishery resources in the Kenai River, Cook Inlet and elsewhere in Alaska, through advocacy of sport and personal use fisheries and the promotion of science-based fishery management and conservation.

We are writing today to express our support for Senate Bill 201, Use of Internet for Charitable Gaming.

Like many Alaska non-profit organizations, KRSA utilized revenues from gaming (e.g., raffles) to support the work we do in Alaska. While KRSA's focus is on conservation and science-based management of Alaska's public trust fisheries resources, non-profits across our state provide benefits to many aspects of the daily lives of our residents and our environment.

KRSA is grateful for the revised guidance from the Department of Revenue which allowed us to conduct charitable gaming activities online under the Governor's emergency declarations. We took advantage of this guidance to mitigate the financial impacts of cancelling our traditional in-person fundraising activities, including the Kenai River Classic. Our first statewide raffle was operated by selling tickets online and in person from October through December of 2020. While we made every effort to sell tickets in-person, 54% of our total ticket sales were conducted online.

The success of KRSA's online raffle in 2020 proved to us online sales represent a viable avenue for fundraising. Unfortunately, without the modernization efforts proposed in SB 201, Alaska non-profit organizations will be held back by an inability to access markets provided by modern e-commerce techniques. These limits hinder our ability to conduct activities which support the important work of our varied organizations.



We appreciate your consideration of this matter and look forward to committee action which may help move this important bill forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark blue ink, reading "Shannon Martin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Shannon" and last name "Martin" clearly distinguishable.

Shannon Martin  
Executive Director