



unapologetically **FOR ALASKAN RESIDENTS**

PO Box 60095, Fairbanks, Alaska 99706 (907) 371-7436
email info@residenthuntersofalaska.org web www.residenthuntersofalaska.org

January 18, 2023

To: Senator Jesse Kiehl

Re: SB 10 – Hunting/Trapping/Fishing Disabled Veterans

Dear Senator Kiehl,

Resident Hunters of Alaska firmly **supports** SB 10, which would include a free trapping license along with the free hunting & fishing license the state currently provides to honorably discharged disabled veterans.

A similar program for Alaskans 60 years of age and older provides a free hunt/fish/trap license. It was likely an oversight that a free trapping license was not originally provided to service-disabled veterans with the free hunting & fishing license.

The Alaska Department of Fish & Game believes the number of applicants for this license will be minimal. We don't believe this will result in a reduction in funding to the Division of Wildlife Conservation, and urge legislators to support this bill.

Sincerely,

Mark Richards
Executive Director Resident Hunters of Alaska



SCI Alaska Chapter
Eagle River, Alaska 99577
Cell (907) 903-8329
Tel: (907) 980-9018
www.aksafariclub.org

The Honorable Click Bishop, The Honorable Cathy Giessel
Co-chairs, Senate Resources Committee
33rd Alaska State Legislature

Re: Support for Senate Bill 10 HUNTING/TRAPPING/FISHING: DISABLED VETS

February 2, 2023

Dear Senators Bishop, Giessel, and members of the Senate Resources Committee,

The Safari Club International Alaska Chapter supports Senate Bill 10 HUNTING/TRAPPING/FISHING: DISABLED VETS.

Founded in 1971, Safari Club International is the country's leading hunter rights advocate and additionally promotes worldwide wildlife conservation. SCI's approximately 50,000 members and 200 Chapters represent all 50 of the United States as well as 106 other countries. The Safari Club International Alaska Chapter (SCI-AK) is a 501c4 conservation non-profit Corporation established in Alaska in 1977. We currently have 720 members. Our mission statement is "First for Hunters - First for Wildlife."

This legislation inserts a section from AS 16.05.341, free license for disabled veterans and active members of the Alaska National Guard, and military reserves, to the permanent identification card (PID) statutes. The permanent identification card is a free hunting, fishing, and trapping license for residents over 60 years old with no annual renewal.

Currently, resident disabled veterans may obtain a free hunting and fishing license from the department however, trapping licenses are not included. Adding this section to the PID statute would provide a free trapping license for disabled veterans and would also provide a license without the need for annual renewal.

Outdoor activities are proven to benefit mental and physical well-being. Many veterans are older, some suffer from combat wounds or PTSD. Increasing access to healthy outdoor activities is an excellent way to honor Alaska's veteran population while incurring little cost to the state.

We thank Senator Kiehl for introducing SB 10 and offer our full support for this valuable piece of legislation.

Best regards:

John Sturgeon

SCI Alaska Chapter President

E-mail: frontiertradellc@aol.com

Cell: (907) 230-0072

Safari Club International Alaska Chapter
First for Hunters - First for Wildlife



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

Boyd H.

NO ONE DOES MORE **FOR VETERANS.**

From: benno cleveland <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, January 26, 2023 8:00 PM
To: Cathy Schlingheyde <Cathy.Schlingheyde@akleg.gov>
Subject: Re: Letter of Support for SB 10

Alaska Native Veterans
Association
1006 22nd Avenue
Fairbanks Alaska, 99701

January 26, 2023

Alaska Senate,

This is a letter of support for SB10 Sponsored by Senator Kiehl.

On Behalf of the Alaska Native Veterans Association and its Members, we support SB10.

We believe it would be a good way to honor the veterans and active service members for their sacrifice they have made for our Nation and our people.

Benno H. Cleveland
President
Alaska Native Veterans Association

From: <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Thursday, January 26, 2023 6:09 PM

To: Cathy Schlingheyde <Cathy.Schlingheyde@akleg.gov>

Subject: Senate Bill on trapping licenses

The Alaska Trappers Association fully supports the intent of SB10.

We have many military veterans amongst our members. We recognize the sacrifices those people made to defend our country. The least we can do in return is to encourage and enable them to participate in the trapping activities which are so important to us.

We view the effect of SB10 as a simple “thank you” for their service.



BACKCOUNTRY
HUNTERS & ANGLERS

The Alaska Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers stands with Senator Kiehl's initiative to increase hunting, fishing, and trapping opportunities for active members of the Alaska National Guard and military reserves by providing the required state licensure free of charge.

Senate Bill 10 will also increase outdoor recreational opportunities by providing sport fishing, hunting, and trapping licenses for resident certain disabled veterans. The Alaska Chapter of BHA believes that expanding outdoor access for our active military members and disabled veterans provides healthy recreational opportunities to an essential demographic and expands opportunities for past and current military members, creating more engaged public landowners and sportsmen conservationists.

James Majetich
Alaska Chapter Coordinator
Backcountry Hunters and Anglers

