



10 May 2023

Alaska Senate Judiciary Committee
C/O Senate.Judiciary@akleg.gov
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: House Bill 61, An Act relating to restrictions on firearms and other weapons

Dear Senator Claman and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

On behalf of Safari Club International, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment on Alaska House Bill 61, an Act relating to restrictions on firearms and other weapons.

House Bill 61 generally prohibits state agencies or municipalities from limiting an individual's access to firearms, ammunition, and components during declared states of emergency, in addition to other similar anti-firearms ownership and firearms commerce measures. The bill would also allow individuals whose rights are infringed upon, a form of recourse in the court system. As was seen during the pandemic, access to firearms was a critical part of the well-being of individuals seeking to recreate outdoors including hunting, as well as the basic fundamental right of self-protection.

SCI believes that sound science-based conservation involving hunting as the primary management tool, while maximizing opportunities for all huntable species, is necessary to the long-term health of wildlife. Hunters have long paid the way for conservation, both game and non-game wildlife, and maximizing opportunity for hunting is also key to long-term funding for all conservation. Hunting benefits wildlife conservation.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on HB 61. SCI is dedicated to protecting the freedom to hunt and we appreciate the continued partnership with Alaskan Legislature. SCI is always first for hunters.

Sincerely,

Sven Lindquist
President
Safari Club International