

SENATE BILL NO. 262

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY SENATOR TAYLOR

Introduced: 1/27/98

Referred: Resources

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to regulation of hunting and trapping and to the definition of
2 'sustained yield.'"

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 * **Section 1.** AS 16.05.255(a) is amended to read:

5 (a) The Board of Game may adopt regulations it considers necessary
6 [ADVISABLE] in accordance with AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act) for the
7 biological management of game by

8 (1) setting apart game reserve areas, refuges, and sanctuaries in the
9 water or on the land of the state over which it has jurisdiction, subject to the approval
10 of the legislature;

11 (2) establishing

12 (A) open and closed seasons for the taking of game that are
13 biologically necessary for the management of the game being taken; and

14 (B) areas for the taking of game;

1 (3) establishing the means and methods employed in the pursuit,
 2 capture, taking, and transport of game, including regulations, consistent with **sustained**
 3 **yield** [RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT GOALS], establishing
 4 means and methods that may be employed by persons with physical disabilities;

5 (4) setting quotas, bag limits, harvest levels, and sex, age, and size
 6 limitations on the taking of game;

7 (5) classifying game as game birds, song birds, big game animals, fur
 8 bearing animals, predators, or other categories;

9 (6) methods, means, and harvest levels necessary to control predation
 10 and competition among game in the state;

11 (7) watershed and habitat improvement, and management, conservation,
 12 protection, use, disposal, propagation, and stocking of game;

13 (8) prohibiting the live capture, possession, transport, or release of
 14 native or exotic game or their eggs;

15 (9) establishing the times and dates during which the issuance of game
 16 licenses, permits, and registrations and the transfer of permits and registrations between
 17 registration areas and game management units or subunits is allowed;

18 (10) regulating sport hunting and subsistence hunting as needed for the
 19 **biological** conservation, development, and utilization of game;

20 (11) taking game to ensure public safety.

21 * **Sec. 2.** AS 16.05 is amended by adding a new section to read:

22 **Sec. 16.05.799. Regulation of hunting.** (a) The Board of Game and the
 23 department may not restrict a means of access to take or transport game if that means
 24 of access is a traditional means of access to take or transport fish or game for
 25 consumptive use. However, the board or department may restrict a traditional means
 26 of access to take or transport game if the board or department

27 (1) finds in writing that

28 (A) the means of access has resulted in significant biological
 29 harm to a game population in the area where the restriction is to apply; and

30 (B) the recovery of the stock or population is unlikely without
 31 a restriction on that means of access to the area; and

1 (2) has implemented active management measures in the area to aid in
2 the recovery of the stock or population.

3 (b) The Board of Game or the department may not restrict the use of a method
4 or means to access, take, or transport game for the purpose of preferring or affecting
5 the quality of the outdoor experience of a person or group.

6 (c) In this section, "means of access" means a mode of transportation,
7 including aircraft, balloon, boat, air boat, snow vehicle, all-terrain vehicle, horse, dog
8 sled, ski, snowshoe, or foot.

9 * **Sec. 3.** AS 16.05.940 is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

10 (37) "sustained yield" means the achievement and maintenance in
11 perpetuity of a high level of human harvest on an annual basis of game, other than
12 mammalian predators, and of fish.

13 * **Sec. 4.** 5 AAC 92.004(a)(4) is annulled.