

AMENDMENT #18

OFFERED IN THE SENATE

BY SENATOR SHOWER

TO: SCS CSSSHB 39(FIN)

1 Page 13, following line 19:

2 Insert new material to read:

3 "It is the intent of the legislature that the position of Director, Subsistence Division,
4 Department of Fish and Game be funded at \$195,600 and remain within the Department of
5 Fish and Game and not be transferred to the Office of Management and Budget."

Subsistence Division Director

It is the intent of this legislature that the Subsistence Division Director at the Alaska Department of Fish and Game be funded at \$195.6 and remain within the Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) and not transferred to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Article VIII, Section 4 of the Alaska Constitution states Sustained Yield Fish, forests, wildlife, grasslands, and all other replenishable resources belonging to the State shall be utilized, developed, and maintained on the sustained yield principle, subject to preferences among beneficial uses. Alaska's first resource are our fish and game resources and the protection of these resources shall be the paramount responsibility of the department of other uses per AS 16.05.258.

Subsistence fishing and subsistence hunting are important for the economies and cultures of many families and communities in Alaska. Subsistence uses of wild resources exist alongside other important uses of fish and game in Alaska and are especially important for most rural families, who depend on subsistence hunting and fishing as sources of nutrition and cultural practices. The cultural, social, and economic values associated with the taking and use of fish and game; the geographic locations where those domiciled in the area or community hunt and fish; the extent of sharing and the exchange of fish and game are important elements for the survival many Alaskan's. It is a priority that as Alaska's first resource the primary users, Alaskan's, should be properly situated ahead of other uses including Commercial and Sport.