

Introduced: 4/24/81  
Referred: Resources and  
Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY MILLER

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 530

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act establishing a division of refuge administra-  
7 tion in the Department of Fish and Game."

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 \* Section 1. FINDINGS. The legislature finds that

10 (1) there is significant public support for the established state  
11 game refuges, particularly those near or within the municipalities of  
12 Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Juneau;

13 (2) state game refuges provide significant benefits to nearby  
14 communities, including waterfowl hunting, hiking, photography, bird study,  
15 educational activity, and unorganized activities of a wide scope; and

16 (3) application of modern management techniques can improve  
17 habitat for wildlife as well as enhance the public benefit received from  
18 state game refuges.

19 \* Sec. 2. POLICY. It is the policy of the legislature that state game  
20 refuges

21 (1) be managed so as to allow for the highest level of public use  
22 compatible with the objectives stated in the legislation creating each  
23 refuge;

24 (2) be used to provide educational programs for youth;

25 (3) be developed as showplaces for the display of native flora  
26 and fauna in their natural setting; and

27 (4) be administered to promote public enjoyment of wildlife in  
28 its natural environment and to promote adherence to sound ecological prin-  
29 ciples.

1 \* Sec. 3. AS 16.05.090 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

2 (d) There is established in the Department of Fish and Game a  
3 division of refuge administration.

4 \* Sec. 4. AS 16.05 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5 Sec. 16.05.096. DUTIES OF DIVISION OF REFUGE ADMINISTRATION. The  
6 division of refuge administration shall

7 (1) provide a management plan for all state game refuges;

8 (2) develop regulations necessary to implement the  
9 management plan and present the regulations to the Board of Fisheries  
10 and the Board of Game for their consideration;

11 (3) monitor developments in refuge management and public  
12 needs and consider these developments in regular updates of management  
13 plans;

14 (4) hold public hearings and workshops in communities ad-  
15 jacent to state game refuges aimed at improving refuge management;

16 (5) conduct biological, sociological, and other studies  
17 relating to refuge management, contracting with students of the Univer-  
18 sity of Alaska to conduct these studies when possible;

19 (6) provide an annual report for distribution to the public;

20 (7) develop interpretative displays, educational materials,  
21 nature trails, informative signs, and other educational items related  
22 to state game refuges; and

23 (8) perform the duties and functions concerning the manage-  
24 ment of state game refuges which have been assigned to the Department  
25 of Fish and Game and commissioner of fish and game by AS 16.20 and  
26 delegated to the division of refuge administration by the commissioner  
27 of fish and game.  
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