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Referred: Resources and
Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY M.M.MILLER

2

HOUSE BILL NO. 646

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to nongame wildlife and nonconsump-
7 tive use of wildlife."

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

9 * Section 1. AS 16.05.050(7) is amended to read:

10 (7) provide public facilities where necessary or proper to
11 facilitate the taking of fish or game or the nonconsumptive use of
12 game and enter into cooperative agreements with any person to effect
13 them;

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

15 Sec. 16.05.135. NONGAME WILDLIFE FUND. (a) The nongame wild-
16 life fund is established in the general fund to account for contribu-
17 tions received under the optional nongame wildlife dividend donation
18 program established by AS 43.23.016; from contributions received under
19 the wildlife watcher certificate program established by AS 16.05.904;
20 and from contributions received from other sources, under conditions
21 requiring use of the money for the protection, propagation, investiga-
22 tion, and restoration of nongame wildlife; for the provision of public
23 enjoyment and nonconsumptive use of game; and for the expenses of
24 administering a nongame wildlife program by the game division of the
25 department.

26 (b) The legislature may appropriate the contributions accounted
27 for in the nongame wildlife fund for the purposes on which the contri-
28 butions were conditioned.

29 * Sec. 3. AS 16.05.255(3) is amended to read:

1 (3) establishing the means and methods employed in the
2 pursuit, capture, [AND] transport, and nonconsumptive use of game;

3 * Sec. 4. AS 16.05 is amended by adding a new section to article 6 to
4 read:

5 Sec. 16.05.904. WILDLIFE WATCHER CERTIFICATE. The department
6 shall provide a wildlife watcher certificate to anyone who donates at
7 least \$5 to the department upon the condition that the money be used
8 for the protection, propagation, investigation, and restoration of
9 nongame wildlife; for the provision of public enjoyment and noncon-
10 sumptive use of game; and for the expenses of administering a nongame
11 wildlife program by the game division of the department.

12 * Sec. 5. AS 16.05.940(14) is amended to read:

13 (14) "game" means any species of bird, reptile, and mammal,
14 including a feral domestic animal, found or introduced in the state,
15 except domestic birds, [AND] mammals, or reptiles; and game may be
16 classified by regulation as big game, small game, fur bearers, nongame
17 wildlife, or other categories considered essential for carrying out
18 the intention and purposes of AS 16.05 - 16.40;

19 * Sec. 6. AS 16.05.940 is amended by adding new paragraphs to read:

20 (28) "nonconsumptive use" means a use of game for human en-
21 joyment, education, art, or science, including photography, viewing,
22 teaching, research, and tourism specifically for wildlife viewing;
23 "nonconsumptive use" does not include harvest of game for sport,
24 subsistence, or commercial purposes;

25 (29) "nongame wildlife" means all species of game that are
26 used for nonconsumptive purposes.

27 * Sec. 7. AS 43.23 is amended by adding a new section to read:

28 Sec. 43.23.016. OPTIONAL NONGAME WILDLIFE DIVIDEND DONATIONS.
29 An application form for claiming a permanent fund dividend must

1 include a provision that offers the applicant the option of donating a
2 specific amount, up to 50 percent, of the applicant's dividend to the
3 Department of Fish and Game on the condition that the money be used
4 for the protection, propagation, investigation, and restoration of
5 nongame wildlife; for the provision of public enjoyment and noncon-
6 sumptive use of game; and for the expenses of administering a nongame
7 wildlife program by the division of game, Department of Fish and Game.