

Introduced: 3/19/85
Referred: Resources
and Finance

1 IN THE SENATE

BY COGHILL

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SENATE BILL NO. 241

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act establishing a predator control incentive

7

program for wolves and a moose habitat enhancement

8

program."

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

10 * Section 1. AS 16.05 is amended by adding a new section to read:

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Sec. 16.05.055. MOOSE HABITAT ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM. The commis-

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sioner shall develop and implement a moose habitat enhancement program

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for the state, and shall provide to the legislature on the first day

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of each legislative session a report on the results of the program.

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* Sec. 2. AS 16.35 is amended by adding new sections to read:

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Sec. 16.35.210. PREDATOR CONTROL INCENTIVE PROGRAM. (a) The

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Department of Fish and Game shall pay \$250 for each wolf taken in

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accordance with AS 16.35.210 - 16.35.290.

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(b) Using sound game management principles the Department of

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Fish and Game shall set limits on the number of wolves in each game

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management unit that may be taken.

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(c) For the purposes of this program, a wolf may be taken by a

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hunter in an aircraft if the hunter has a permit to do so. The Depart

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ment of Fish and Game shall issue permits for this purpose.

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(d) The Department of Fish and Game shall provide instruction on

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the skills necessary to trap a wolf to those persons who participate

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in this program as trappers.

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(e) For the purposes of this program, there is no closed season

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for the trapping of wolves, unless the Board of Game determines that

1 the wolf population would be damaged without a closed season.

2 Sec. 16.35.220. AFFIDAVIT AND CLAIM FOR PAYMENT. To obtain
3 payment, a person killing a wolf shall submit a claim in the form of
4 an affidavit subscribed and sworn to before a notary public, district
5 magistrate, deputy magistrate, or other person authorized to take
6 acknowledgements, or before a postmaster in a community in which there
7 is no district magistrate or deputy magistrate. The affidavit and
8 claim must include a sworn statement by an adult resident of the
9 state, other than the notary, magistrate, or other person before whom
10 the affidavit is sworn, certifying that the resident is personally
11 acquainted with the claimant who executed the affidavit and believes
12 that the statements in it are true.

13 Sec. 16.35.230. OFFICIAL CERTIFICATE OF IDENTIFICATION. A claim
14 for payment must include a certificate signed by an officer of the
15 Department of Fish and Game or another person designated by the com-
16 missioner of fish and game to sign certificates. The certificate
17 shall certify that, as required by AS 16.35.210 - 16.35.290, the
18 officer or person

19 (1) has personally examined the pelt and identified it as a
20 wolf;

21 (2) believes the pelt was taken in the game management unit
22 stated in the hunter's affidavit;

23 (3) has personally removed the ulna and radius bones of the
24 left forearm or left foreleg from the pelt; and

25 (4) has punched holes in the left ear of the pelt.

26 Sec. 16.35.240. FORMS. Affidavits' claim for payment, and
27 certificates shall be in substantially the following form:

28 (1) Affidavit of hunter.

29 State of Alaska,) ss

1Judicial District)
2 I,, of Alaska,
3 solemnly swear that on the day of....., 19...., or
4 between the dates of....., 19....., and,
5 19....., in game management unit, I took (state
6 number) wolf pelts, on which claim for payment is herein made, in
7 the vicinity of.....; that no poison or other illegal means
8 or methods were used in securing the pelts; that a payment has
9 not been made and I am justly entitled to payment in the amount
10 of..... Dollars under AS 16.35.210.

11
12 Claimant's Signature

13 (2) Verifying affidavit.

14 I, the undersigned, an adult resident of.....,
15 Alaska, certify that I am personally acquainted with
16 (Claimant's name), the person who executed the above affidavit
17 and claim and I believe the statements in that affidavit are
18 true.

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20 Signature of Witness

21 (3) Affidavit of public officer.

22 The above named.....(Claimant) and.....
23 (Witness) personally appeared before me,(Title
24 of officer acknowledging oaths), and subscribed and swore to the
25 above affidavits, at....., Alaska, on this....day of
26, 19.....

27 SEAL
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29 Signature

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Title

(4) Certificate of identification.

I certify that I have personally examined the above described
..... (state number) wolf pelts, I believe them to have been
taken in the State of Alaska; and I have personally removed the
ulna and radius bones of the left forearm or left foreleg from
each of the pelts and have punched holes in the left ear of each
pelt, on this.....day of....., 19....,
at....., Alaska.

.....

(Signature of Officer)

.....

(Title of Officer)

Sec. 16.35.250. PRESENTATION OF AFFIDAVIT, CLAIM AND PELTS. A
person claiming payment shall present the affidavit and claim, to-
gether with the pelt, with the ulna and radius bones of the left fore-
arm or foreleg attached in the natural state, of a wolf for which pay-
ment is claimed, to an officer of the Department of Fish and Game or
other person designated by the commissioner of fish and game, for
identification and certification. A person sending a claim and pelt
by mail or otherwise to an officer for identification or other purpose
assumes the risks of loss or damage.

Sec. 16.35.260. DUTIES OF IDENTIFYING OR CERTIFYING OFFICER. An
officer of the Department of Fish and Game or other person designated
by the commissioner of fish and game, upon receipt of an affidavit and
claim, together with the pelt and the ulna and radius bones of the
left forearm or foreleg attached in the natural state, shall examine
the pelt. If the officer or designated person believes that it is a

1 wolf taken in a game management unit or subunit designated for the
2 taking of wolves under the predator control incentive program, the
3 officer or designated person shall remove the leg bones from the pelt,
4 punch holes of not less than one-half inch in diameter in the left ear
5 of the pelt, complete the identification certificate on the affidavit
6 and claim, and promptly forward the affidavit and claim to the Depart-
7 ment of Fish and Game at Juneau. The leg bones shall be destroyed by
8 the certifying officer and the pelt returned to the claimant or to a
9 person the claimant designates.

10 Sec. 16.35.270. RETURN OR OTHER DISPOSITION OF PELTS. A person
11 sending a pelt to an officer for identification and certification or
12 other purpose shall state what disposition is to be made of the pelt.
13 If the person desires the pelt returned, the person shall enclose a
14 properly addressed tag, with sufficient postage affixed, showing the
15 address to which the pelt is to be sent. If a pelt is received by the
16 officer without proper instruction for disposition, the officer may
17 destroy it or forward it to the Department of Fish and Game for dispo-
18 sition under the laws relating to unclaimed property.

19 Sec. 16.35.280. CRIMINAL LIABILITY FOR FALSE CLAIMS OR STATE-
20 MENTS. A person who makes a false statement in an affidavit, claim or
21 certificate for the purpose of obtaining payment or for the purpose of
22 aiding, assisting or abetting a person in obtaining payment is guilty
23 of a class A misdemeanor, and is punishable by a fine of not more than
24 \$1,000, or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or by both.
25 The person is liable to the state for refund of a payment made because
26 of the false statement.

27 Sec. 16.35.290. PAYMENT NOT TO BE MADE. A payment may not be
28 made under AS 16.35.210 - 16.35.290 to a salaried employee of a
29 federal or state agency that is engaged in fish or game protection,

1 management, or research activity.

2 Sec. 16.35.300. WOLF POPULATION CONTROL RESEARCH. The Depart-
3 ment of Fish and Game shall research alternatives for the control of
4 the wolf population in the state, including the use of sterilization
5 and birth control methods.