

1 IN THE SENATE

BY FANNING, FAIKS, FAHRENKAMP,
FISCHER, ABOOD, KELLY, RODEY
AND COGHILL

2

SENATE BILL NO. 411

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the use of firearms in state
7 parks, state marine parks, state wildlife preserves,
8 and state recreation areas."

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

10 * Section 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. The legislature finds that lawful
11 hunting activities, when conducted safely, are compatible with other public
12 uses in state parks, state marine parks, state wildlife preserves, and
13 state recreation areas. The legislature further recognizes that because of
14 the wild and remote nature of many state parks and recreation areas, the
15 possession and use of a firearm may be necessary to personal safety. The
16 legislature therefore finds that a statewide policy regarding the use of
17 firearms in state parks, state marine parks, state wildlife refuges, and
18 state recreation areas is in the public interest.

19 * Sec. 2. AS 41.21.022 is repealed and reenacted to read:

20 Sec. 41.21.022. DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS. (a) The discharge of
21 firearms during lawful hunting, trapping, and fishing is permitted
22 within the boundaries of a state park, state marine park, state wild-
23 life preserve, or state recreation area except that the commissioner
24 may regulate the use of a firearm or other weapon for reasons of
25 public safety within one-quarter mile of the following areas if the
26 areas are posted:

- 27 (1) a trail head;
28 (2) a boat launch;
29 (3) an improved camp site;

- 1 (4) a visitor center;
- 2 (5) a picnic area;
- 3 (6) a public use cabin;
- 4 (7) a highway wayside;
- 5 (8) a lookout on an established trail system; or
- 6 (9) a parking area.

7 (b) This section does not prohibit the use of a firearm or other
8 legally possessed weapon in defense of life anywhere within a state
9 park, state marine park, state wildlife preserve, or state recreation
10 area.