

HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 77(RES)**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA****EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION****BY THE HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE****Offered: 3/9/94****Referred: Rules****Sponsor(s): SENATORS SHARP, Frank, Taylor, Miller****REPRESENTATIVES Therriault, James****A BILL****FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act relating to the powers of the Board of Game and to intensive**
2 **management of big game to achieve higher sustained yield for human harvest."**

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 * **Section 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS.** The legislature finds that providing for high
5 levels of harvest for human consumptive use in accordance with the sustained yield principle
6 is the highest and best use of identified big game prey populations in most areas of the state
7 and that the big game prey populations in these areas should be managed accordingly.

8 * **Sec. 2. AS 16.05.255 is amended by adding new subsections to read:**

9 (e) **The Board of Game shall adopt regulations to provide for intensive**
10 **management programs to restore the abundance or productivity of identified big game**
11 **prey populations as necessary to achieve human consumptive use goals of the board**
12 **in an area where the board has determined that**

13 (1) **consumptive use of the big game prey population is a preferred use;**

14 (2) **depletion of the big game prey population or reduction of the**

1 productivity of the big game prey population has occurred and may result in a
2 significant reduction in the allowable human harvest of the population; and

3 (3) enhancement of abundance or productivity of the big game prey
4 population is feasibly achievable utilizing recognized and prudent active management
5 techniques.

6 (f) The Board of Game may not significantly reduce the taking of an identified
7 big game prey population by adopting regulations relating to restrictions on harvest or
8 access to the population, or to management of the population by customary
9 adjustments in seasons, bag limits, open and closed areas, methods and means, or by
10 other customary means authorized under (a) of this section, unless the board has
11 adopted regulations providing for intensive management to increase the take of the
12 population for human harvest consistent with (e) of this section. This subsection does
13 not apply if the board

14 (1) determines that intensive management would be

15 (A) ineffective, based on scientific information; or

16 (B) inappropriate due to land ownership patterns; or

17 (2) declares that a biological emergency exists and takes immediate
18 action to protect or maintain the big game prey population in conjunction with the
19 scheduling for adoption of those regulations that are necessary to implement (e) of this
20 section.

21 (g) In this section,

22 (1) "identified big game prey population" means a population of
23 ungulates that is identified by the Board of Game and that is important for providing
24 high levels of harvest for human consumptive use;

25 (2) "intensive management" means management of an identified big
26 game prey population to enhance, extend, and develop the population to maintain high
27 levels or provide for higher levels of human harvest, including control of predation and
28 prescribed or planned use of fire and other habitat improvement techniques.