

HJR

56

# FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
2000 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HJR56

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction) \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Affected Office of the Governor  
 Title Constitutional Amendment: Prohibiting certain BRU Elective Operations  
initiatives relating to wildlife Component Elections  
 Sponsor Representative Morgan  
 Requester House Resources Committee Component No. 21

**Expenditures/Revenues** (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

| OPERATING EXPENDITURES | FY 2001    | FY 2002    | FY 2003    | FY 2004    | FY 2005    | FY 2006    |
|------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Personal Services      |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Travel                 |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Contractual            | 1.5        |            |            |            |            |            |
| Supplies               |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Equipment              |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Land & Structures      |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Grants & Claims        |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Miscellaneous          |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| <b>TOTAL OPERATING</b> | <b>1.5</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> |

|                      |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CAPITAL EXPENDITURES |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

|                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CHANGE IN REVENUES ( ) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

**FUND SOURCE** (Thousands of Dollars)

|                          |            |            |            |            |            |            |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 1002 Federal Receipts    |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| 1003 GF Match            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| 1004 GF                  | 1.5        |            |            |            |            |            |
| 1005 GF/Program Receipts |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| 1037 GF/Mental Health    |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Other (Specify Type)     |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>             | <b>1.5</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>0.0</b> |

Estimate of any current year (FY2000) cost: 0.0

**POSITIONS**

|           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Full-time |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Part-time |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Temporary |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**ANALYSIS:** (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This figure includes the cost of providing information about this issue in the Official Election Pamphlet, as required by AS 15.58. However, only six measures can be printed on an 8-1/2 by 14 inch ballot. If this measure requires printing an 8-1/2 by 18 inch ballot, the cost will increase by \$22.0.

Prepared by: Gail Fenunzia Phone 465-3935  
 Division Division of Elections Date/Time 2/23/00 12:04 PM  
 Approved by: Lt. Governor Fran Ulmer Date 02/23/2000  
 Agency Office of the Lieutenant Governor

**PREPARER TO PROVIDE ALL DISTRIBUTION COPIES TO GOVERNOR'S LEGISLATIVE OFFICE**

For further distribution information, call the Governor's Legislative Office

FEB-28-00 MON 13:29

10-23-1995 3:00AM

FROM

FEB-26-00 SUN 04:33 PM

AK PUBLIC DEFENDER

FAX NO. 907 465 3247

P. 03

P. 1

P. 01

**ALASKA TRAPPERS ASSOCIATION  
POST OFFICE BOX 82177  
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99708**

Feb. 23, 2000

Rep. Carl Morgan  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capital  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Rep. Morgan:

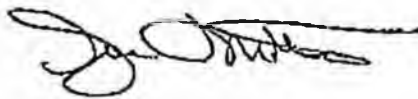
The Alaska Trappers Association has about 1200 members statewide. We are a group that supports humane and effective trapping and we stand up for trappers rights. Thus we are very happy that you have introduced House Joint Resolution 56 to finally stop the constant attacks by the Animal Rights groups that are trying to take over game management in Alaska.

As we saw in 1996, the well-funded groups like Friends of Animals can put a lot of money into an Alaskan campaign in a short period of time. And there is no truth in advertising. They ran ads on television that made people think that they were voting to outlaw AERIAL wolf hunting. It worked. The initiative to stop "same day airborne trapping was passed handily. They came back in 1998 to try to stop all wolf snaring and wearing wolf fur, but luckily trappers started the CAWL group and we were able to stop them.

But we do not have the money to keep fighting this battle every two years. That is why your bill is so important. We need to stop them. They can just use the BOG process like everyone else. They complain that this system does not work (for them) but I suggest that it DOES work. The fact that every goofy proposal they put in DOES NOT pass, is proof that our system works!

With your help, we will show them that you do not just circumvent the process and BUY Alaskan wildlife policy. Again, thank you very much.

Sincerely,



Joe Mattie, Board Member  
Alaska Trappers Association

Additional Letters Received in Support of HJR 56  
2/28/00

Alaska Native Harbor Seal Commission  
Coalition for the Alaskan Way of Life (CAWL)  
Joe & Candie Caraway

Harold Martin, Chair  
Ben Hopson, Jr. Co-Chair  
Beluga



## ALASKA NATIVE HARBOR SEAL COMMISSION

February 28, 2000

BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS

Harold Martin  
Chair  
*Southeast Region*

Mitch Simeonoff  
Vice-Chair  
*Kodiak Region*

William Elvsaa  
Sec'y/Treas.  
*Cook Inlet Region*

Mark Snigaroff  
*Aleutian/Pribilof*

Norman Vlasoff  
*Chugach Region*

Ricardo Lopez  
*Bristol Bay MMC*

Daniel Alex  
*Cook Inlet MMC*

Monica Riedel  
*Executive Director*

Representative Carl Morgan  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

VIA FAX: 1-907-465-2197

REFERENCE: IN SUPPORT OF HJR-56, CONSTITUTIONAL  
AMENDMENT ON WILDLIFE INITIATIVES

Dear Representative Morgan:

I feel that it's extremely important that we utilize all means to protect wildlife and wild areas from special interest groups outside Alaska in order to protect future generations' use of those wildlife resources. HJR-56 will protect those wildlife resources by preventing these special interest groups from using the initiative process to make wildlife policy in Alaska, policy that could be very detrimental to Alaska's subsistence users.

It has been proven over the years that Alaska's system of wildlife management has worked very well. ADF&G, along with the Board of Game and the state legislature, has ensured preservation of Alaska's wildlife for everyone to enjoy. ADF&G biologists have been trained in sound scientific methods and the professional management of Alaska's wildlife resources, which have served Alaska's people well. We do not need "Ballot Box Biology" as advocated by animal rights groups.

We should not have to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to defend our traditional hunting and trapping rights at the ballot box every few years. HJR-56 would ensure that wildlife issues could no longer be a part of the initiative process, and therefore protected from the whims of animal rights groups.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment **in favor of HJR-56.**

Sincerely,  
*Monica Riedel for HM*  
Harold Martin, Chairman, ANHSC

**COALITION FOR THE ALASKAN WAY OF LIFE**  
**P.O. BOX 60954**  
**FAIRBANKS, AK 99706**

February 26, 2000

Representative Carl Morgan, Jr.  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Morgan:

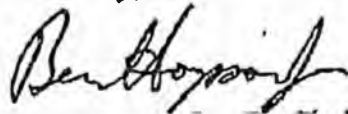
RE: HJR 56

On behalf of our coalition, I want to thank you for your introduction of this important measure. Your resolution proposing a Constitutional Amendment to finally stop these animal rights groups from abusing Alaska's democratic game management system is an important first step in bringing sanity back to the process.

As you know, our group is extremely diverse. Beginning with the fight over Proposition 9 (Wolf Snaring) on the 1998 ballot, we were able to get a wide array of interests to come together to fight this common enemy. Urban and rural. Trapper and hunter. Village trappers and urban sport hunters. We have all agreed to put aside other differences and help fight this assault on our way of life. We are very appreciative of your efforts to solve the problem.

Do not hesitate to call on us. We stand with you in defense of Alaska's wildlife and peoples.

Sincerely,



Ben Hopson, Jr. Co-Chair  
Coalition for the Alaskan Way of Life

Joe & Candie Caraway  
Beluga River  
Beluga, Alaska 99516

February 28, 2000

Rep. Carl Morgan  
House District 36  
Aniak, AK

Dear Carl,

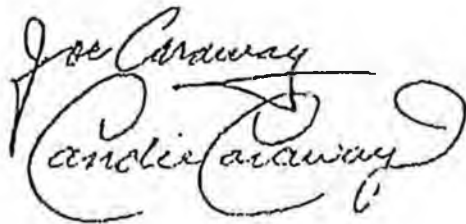
The State of Alaska has been under attack by outside animal rights groups for too long. The "anti" interest groups have attempted to dictate how we manage our renewable fish and wildlife resources. Our governor seems all too interested in catering to these uninformed, non-Alaskan voices.

Because of this unhealthy perspective that is being fostered by our administration, it is now necessary to take steps to protect our Alaskan way of life and many Alaskan traditions. Your House Joint Resolution No. 56 is just the remedy!

The State of Alaska has a fish and wildlife management system in place that allows for public input at every level. When it is allowed to function without political pressure--it is an incredible process. One, we should all be involved in and proud of as Alaskans. Our current administration is constantly thwarting the decisions of the Board of Game; and powerful money has made it's way to our state to fight Alaskans for the consumptive use of our resources. We must recognize that allowing issues dealing with fish and wildlife management to be voted on by all residents of the state is inappropriate. Management can not and should not be dealt with on an emotional level. Too often the issue is misrepresented to the uninvolved and uneducated voter. Often these same voters, when voting to stop the use of a wildlife resource feel they are paying homage, and are "doing their part". Users of Alaska resources do not have the time or monies to dispute each issue as it is comes before us--election after election. Carl, for these reasons, and many others not mentioned, your bill is so badly needed.

We thank you for your efforts on behalf of Alaska's renewable resources; and we pray for your success.

Most sincerely,



Joe Caraway  
Candie Caraway



750 W. 2nd Ave. #109, Anchorage AK 99501 / Ph. 907-258-6171 / Fax 907-258-6177

P.O. Box 22151, Juneau AK 99802 / Ph. 907-463-3366 / Fax 907-463-3312 / [unite@akvoice.org](mailto:unite@akvoice.org)

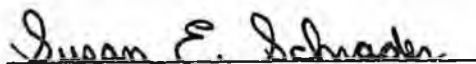
## HJR 56 ~ Constitutional Amendment: Wildlife Initiatives

TO: House Resources Committee Members  
FROM: Susan Schrader, Conservation Advocate  
DATE: February 28, 2000

Alaska Conservation Voters, formerly Alaska Conservation Voice, is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to protecting Alaska's environment through public education and advocacy. Our 40 Alaskan organizations and business members represent over 22,000 registered Alaskan voters. We have consistently opposed efforts by the legislature to limit Alaskan's constitutional right to participate directly in the law-making process through the initiative process. HJR 56 is yet another attack on that right.

We are opposed to HJR 56 for the following reasons:

- ◆ While this proposed amendment to the constitution appears to be limited to initiatives dealing with wildlife, on a more fundamental level it represents an erosion of public access to government. We can debate the "ballot box biology" issue endlessly, but when one group of Alaskans are denied an opportunity to address an issue they strongly believe in by the initiative process, the freedom of all Alaskans to express their will through direct democracy is threatened. Public policy issues addressed by the initiative process receive far more discussion and debate than many of the hundreds of bills passed by the legislature every year. The process is out in the open as contrasted to the often clandestine route bills can take to become law.
- ◆ Supporters of this resolution endorse placing the scientific process of wildlife management back into the hands of the ADF&G and Board of Game. Yet ADF&G takes direction from the legislature and the legislature essentially chooses the members of the Board of Game. Thus, the initiative process is an important check on the power of the legislature. Alaskans are being asked to relinquish their right to vote on wildlife management issues on the grounds that we are not competent enough to do so. Instead, we are being told to trust the decisions resulting from a unbalanced process that currently promotes the principles of intensive game management and the values of consumptive users to the near-exclusion of other users.
- ◆ Our constitution's sustained yield and multiple use provisions have served all Alaskans and our wildlife very well – it protects the interests of all beneficial users. Those same framers of our constitution who were wise enough to put Article VIII into it also included the initiative process. They had a faith in the ability of Alaskans to make informed decisions when voting - a faith that evidently is not shared by this legislature. As the passage of SB 74 last year exemplifies, the legislature has the power to amend or completely negate a citizen-passed initiative after two years. Thus, it is within the legislature's power to correct any legitimate problems that might result from the initiative process. Clearly, the system is not broken – the wildlife of Alaska will not be "safer" if this tool of democracy is taken away from the citizens of Alaska.

  
Susan E. Schrader

Conserve Alaska. It's Only Natural.

Letters Received in Support of HJR 56

Tanana Chiefs Conference,  
Alaska Trappers Association,  
Alaska Trappers Association, South Central Chpt.  
Alaska Outdoor Council.  
Coalition for the Alaskan Way of Life (CAWL)  
Scientific Management of Alaska's  
Resource Treasures (SMART)

Peter R. Buist,  
Tom Lessard  
Alex Whiting  
Alan and Brenda Jones  
Jim E. Gallagher  
Carol Torsen

Steve Ginnis, President,  
Joe Mattie, Board Member  
Allen Dubord, Chair  
Dick Bishop, Vice President  
Gabriel Sam, Co-Chair

Patrick Wright, President  
Fairbanks  
Chugiak  
Kotzebue  
Fairbanks  
Anchorage  
Anchorage

**TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE, INC.**

February 22, 2000  
122 FIRST AVENUE, SUITE 600  
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701-4897  
PHONE 907/452-8251 • FAX 907/459-3850

Representative Carl Morgan  
State Capitol Building, Suite 409  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Representative Morgan:

The Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc would like to express its support for HJR 56, which would remove wildlife management issues from the ballot initiative process.

When wolves enter into a village not because they are lost, but because they are hungry, there is a definite problem in how the wildlife is being managed. If there were enough moose and caribou out there the wolves would not come so close to a community. In January the children go to school in the dark and go home in the dark. This is also the time the wolves go out on their nightly hunt for food.

This is no longer an issue for just putting food on the table, it is now an issue for the children's welfare and safety. To manage fish and game resources by ballot initiative is not a sound method for wildlife management. The resources should be managed through the direction that the Board of Game assigns to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

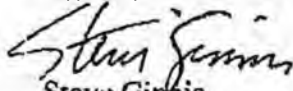
Through many of the public testimonies that were given by representatives from all over Alaska at the McGrath Rural Summit in McGrath, nobody spoke of totally eradicating the wolves. People spoke of how important the wolf is in their respective cultures. The problem is there are just too many wolves and not enough moose or caribou to feed them.

Because the terrain is so hilly and rough, it is difficult for the local trappers to successfully catch any wolves. The only way the wolf population can be controlled is by aerial hunts. An aggressive predator control program needs to be implemented.

Again, the Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc supports HJR 56, because Alaska's resources should not be managed by outside special interest groups. Rather they should be managed based upon sound scientific principles. Thank you for your advocacy on this issue of importance to interior Alaskans.

Sincerely,

TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE, INC.

  
Steve Ginnis  
President

**ALASKA TRAPPERS ASSOCIATION  
POST OFFICE BOX 82177  
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99708**

Feb. 23, 2000

Rep. Carl Morgan  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capital  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Rep. Morgan:

The Alaska Trappers Association has about 1200 members statewide. We are a group that supports humane and effective trapping and we stand up for trappers rights. Thus we are very happy that you have introduced House Joint Resolution 56 to finally stop the constant attacks by the Animal Rights groups that are trying to take over game management in Alaska.

As we saw in 1996, the well-funded groups like Friends of Animals can put a lot of money into an Alaskan campaign in a short period of time. And there is no truth in advertising. They ran ads on television that made people think that they were voting to outlaw AERIAL wolf hunting. It worked. The initiative to stop "same day airborne trapping was passed handily. They came back in 1998 to try to stop all wolf snaring and wearing wolf fur, but luckily trappers started the CAWL group and we were able to stop them.

But we do not have the money to keep fighting this battle every two years. That is why your bill is so important. We need to stop them. They can just use the BOG process like everyone else. They complain that this system does not work (for them) but I suggest that it DOES work. The fact that every goofy proposal they put in DOES NOT pass, is proof that our system works!

With your help, we will show them that you do not just circumvent the process and BUY Alaskan wildlife policy. Again, thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Joe Mattie, Board Member  
Alaska Trappers Association



South Central Chapter  
of  
ALASKA TRAPPERS ASSOCIATION  
P.O. Box 201175  
Anchorage, AK 99520-1175

February 25, 2000

Dear Representative Morgan,

On behalf of the South Central Chapter of the Alaska Trappers Association (SCCATA) I want you to know that I support your efforts to put wildlife issues off - limits to the ballot initiative process. The initiative process has proven to be no friend of the trapper in many other states. We don't have the financial resources to confront these professional protesters every time we turn around. We believe in leaving these things to the professionals and that the Board of Game process allows for ample public participation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Allen Dubord'.

Allen Dubord  
Chair SCCATA



## Alaska Outdoor Council

PO Box 73902  
 Fairbanks, AK 99707-3902  
 TEL/FAX: (907) 455-4AOC (4262)  
 e-mail: outdoor@polamet.com  
 web: www.alaskaoutdoorcouncil.org

### Board of Directors

*President*  
 Rod Fano  
 Palmer

*Secretary*  
 Dave  
 Kelleyhouse  
 Tok

*Interior  
 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Pres.*  
 Dick Bishop  
 Fairbanks

*Southeast  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres.*  
 Carl Rozier  
 Juneau

*Southcentral  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Pres.*  
 Bill Iverson  
 Anchorage

*At Large*  
 Walt Sheridan  
 Juneau

*At Large*  
 Brett Huber  
 Soldotna

*Fund Trustee*  
 Byron Haley  
 Fairbanks

*Executive  
 Director*  
 Rose Vander-  
 Zande  
 Fairbanks

February 25, 2000

The Honorable Carl Morgan  
 State Capitol, Room 409  
 Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Morgan:

The Alaska Outdoor Council strongly supports HJR 56, your measure proposing a constitutional amendment to restrict use of the initiative process in wildlife management.

Alaska currently enjoys a very open, democratic, and accessible system for development of policies and regulations to manage wildlife. Based on our constitution (among the best in the Nation for wildlife conservation and allocation), Alaska's statutory framework, and the Board and Advisory Committee structure, there is so much opportunity for public involvement that it is consistently underutilized. Putting wildlife management off limits to the initiative process will not diminish meaningful public opportunity to participate in Alaska's rigorous and rational wildlife management decision-making process, in fact, it may encourage it.

The initiative process, by contrast, has been used in Alaska and elsewhere to avoid the critical professional and public review of wildlife management proposals. Instead, the initiative process has been abused by promoting "Ballot Box Biology," a technique that markets an emotionally pitched and simplistic action to promote a single interest. Through clever advertising paid for by the single interest supporters, "Ballot Box Biology" takes advantage of a misinformed public to win issues based on the "majority of the moment." Professional management and the values held by people with different interests are simply ignored or dismissed.

"Ballot Box Biology" is not the way to manage renewable resources. The Board and Advisory Committee system works, as evidenced by the fact that the Board of Game most often rejects "Ballot Box Biology" demands. We applaud your efforts to head off further abuse of the initiative process and attempts to "end-run" the outstanding Alaskan system for managing our incomparable wildlife. Again, thank you for your efforts and we look forward to working with you on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Dick Bishop  
 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

**COALITION FOR THE ALASKAN WAY OF LIFE**  
**P.O. BOX 60954**  
**FAIRBANKS, AK 99706**

February 24, 2000

Representative Carl Morgan, Jr.  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Morgan:

RE: HJR 56

On behalf of our coalition, I want to thank you for your introduction of this important measure. Your resolution proposing a Constitutional Amendment to finally stop these animal rights groups from abusing Alaska's democratic game management system is an important first step in bringing sanity back to the process.

As you know, our group is extremely diverse. Beginning with the fight over Proposition 9 (Wolf Snaring) on the 1998 ballot, we were able to get a wide array of interests to come together to fight this common enemy. Urban and rural. Trapper and hunter. Village trappers and urban sport hunters. We have all agreed to put aside other differences and help fight this assault on our way of life. We are very appreciative of your efforts to solve the problem.

Do not hesitate to call on us. We stand with you in defense of Alaska's wildlife and peoples.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gabriel K. Sam" followed by a circular stamp or mark.

Gabriel K. Sam, Co-Chair  
Coalition for the Alaskan Way of Life

**S**cientific  
**M**anagement of  
**A**laska's  
**R**esource  
**T**reasures

**PO Box 244001  
Anchorage, AK  
99524-4001**

*Founded in 1996 to  
ensure protection of  
the trust resources  
through scientific  
management of  
Alaska's fish and  
wildlife.*

**Directors:**  
Patrick Wright  
279-1340  
Nick Steen  
745-2739  
Mark Keller  
357-2520  
Keith Bayha  
694-4123  
Frank DiPofi  
344-6698



February 26, 2000

Representative Carl Morgan, Jr.  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Representative Moragan:

Re: HJR 56

On behalf of Scientific Management of Alaska's Resource Treasures (SMART), we want to thank you for your introduction of this important measure. Your resolution proposing a Constitutional Amendment to finally stop these extreme groups from abusing Alaska's democratic game management system is a significant first step in bringing sanity back to the process.

"Ballot Box Biology" is not the way to manage Alaska's natural resources! Alaska has an extensive open and public process by which to determine wildlife management policies and regulations. Alaskans should use this system rather than deciding these critical issues on the basis of emotion from 30-second sound bites.

Do not hesitate to call on us. We stand with you in defense of Alaska's wildlife in the reasonable and systematic management of time tested established methods.

Sincerely,

Patrick Wright  
S.M.A.R.T. President

Peter R. Buist  
Box 71561  
Fairbanks, AK 99707

February 23, 2000

Representative Carl Morgan  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

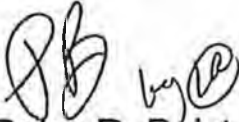
Dear Carl,

I enjoyed meeting with you in McGrath in early February. **I wish to take this opportunity to personally thank you for your introduction of HJR 56.** As you know I have spent a lot of time over the past few years working to get hunters and trappers to come together on this important issue that is common to both urban and rural hunters and trappers. It is an IMMEDIATE threat and I am most appreciative that you have risen to the occasion.

In 1996 we lost "same day airborne" because we were unprepared. In 1998, we won the wolf snare initiative, but it was terribly expensive. I do not believe it is fair to ask Alaska's hunters and trappers to keep coming up with hundreds of thousands of dollars every two years to fight these big Outside groups. The worst of it is that even when we work hard, raise the money and spend it on a campaign, WE DON'T GAIN ANYTHING! All we get is the status quo. That is not fair to Alaskans!

This effort that you have started is very much appreciated. It will be a tough fight, but we will win. Again, thank you very much for "taking the initiative!"

Yours truly,

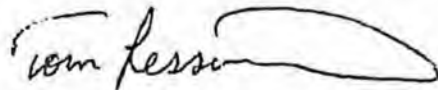
  
Peter R. Buist

Dear Rep. Morgan,

February, 26 2000

My name is Tom Lessard and I live in Chugiak. I am sending this note to voice my support of HJR 56. I think it is good to add wildlife issues to the list in the Constitution of items that are not allowed to be placed on ballot initiatives. The animal rights/antis have severely hobbled consumptive users around the country by selling their emotional campaigns to city folks largely ignorant of the issues. We as trappers and hunters simply do not have the financial resources to repeatedly defend ourselves against these attempts to hog-tie consumptive users. I think these decisions are best left to the professional biologists and the Board of Game after looking at all sides of the issues. They don't call it fish and game for nothing. If the antis want to have wildlife viewing areas all to themselves, they've already got it in the big National Parks and such.

Thank You for Your Consideration,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tom Lessard". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and address.

Tom Lessard  
21670 Snowflower Loop  
Chugiak, AK 99567

**Subject: In support of HJR 56**

**Date:** Thu, 17 Feb 2000 08:28:49 -0900

**From:** "Alex Whiting" <sheep@ptialaska.net>

**To:** <Representative\_Carl\_Morgan@legis.state.ak.us>

Dear Representative Morgan,

I want to thank you very much for introducing HJR 56. I have been waiting a long time trying to see such a bill introduced. I hope you are finding support for this bill and I will be writing Rep. Ogan, Rep. Bunde and Rep. Joule, all whom know my position when it comes to ballot box management, and express my support for this possible legislation. If there are any other legislators I should contact or any way I can help, please let me know.

Thank you very much and best wishes to you.

Sincerely,

Alex Whiting  
Kotzebue, AK

**Subject: HJR 56**

**Date: Thu, 24 Feb 2000 20:30:40 -0900**

**From: "Alan & Brenda Jones" <acjones@mosquitonet.com>**

**To: <Representative\_Carl\_Morgan@legis.state.ak.us>**

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you for introducing this legislation to make Fish and Game matters exempt from Ballot Initiatives. I feel strongly that the ballot initiative process is a good idea. It's just that it has no place in matters best handled by biologists and other Fish and Game experts. At present, a few mis-informed people can tell lies to people in the major population centers like Anchorage and Fairbanks and use emotions to get enough signatures to get an initiative on the ballot. Fish and Game issues are often charged with emotion and it is relatively easy to gather enough signatures from greenies to get the initiative on the ballot. This adversley affects the people who know better and the people who rely on a particular resource. Again I thank you!

Alan C. Jones  
acjones@mosquitonet.com



6151 A Street • Anchorage, Alaska 99518 • Telephone (907) 561-2323 • Fax (907) 563-8467 or (907) 261-3299 • TIN #92-0048392

Date: 2-25-00

To: The Honorable Carl Morgan  
State Representative

Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol ( MS3100 )  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Good afternoon Mr. Morgan,

I would like to express my support for your House Resolution Bill HJR 56.

Thank you,

Jim E. Gallagher  
Direct 261-3237

"WE STAY REDI • ER THAN MOST GET"

Carol T. Torsen  
1558 Thufa Avenue  
Anchorage, AK 99507  
Ctorsen@alaska.net 907-344-5956

February 24, 2000

Representative Carl Morgan  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

VIA FAX: 1-907-465-2197

REFERENCE: IN SUPPORT OF HJR-56, CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT  
ON WILDLIFE INITIATIVES

Dear Representative Morgan:

Having grown up on Spruce Island, near Kodiak, I know what it's like to be dependent upon wildlife resources for food. I feel that it's extremely important that we utilize all means to protect wildlife and wild areas from special interest groups outside Alaska in order to protect future generations' use of those wildlife resources. HJR-56 will protect those wildlife resources by preventing these special interest groups from using the initiative process to make wildlife policy in Alaska, policy that could be very detrimental to Alaska's subsistence users.

It has been proven over the years that Alaska's system of wildlife management has worked very well. ADF&G, along with the Board of Game and the state legislature, has ensured preservation of Alaska's wildlife for everyone to enjoy. ADF&G biologists have been trained in sound scientific methods and the professional management of Alaska's wildlife resources, which have served Alaska's people well. We do not need "Ballot Box Biology" as advocated by animal rights groups.

We should not have to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to defend our traditional hunting and trapping rights at the ballot box every few years. HJR-56 would ensure that wildlife issues could no longer be a part of the initiative process, and therefore protected from the whims of animal rights groups.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment in favor of HJR-56.

Sincerely,



Carol Torsen

# Alaska State Legislature

SSION  
ite Capitol Building, Suite 409  
eau, Alaska 99801-1182  
one: 907-465-4527  
x: 907-465-2197  
ll Free: 800-491-4527  
mail: Representative\_Carl\_Morgan@legis.state.ak.us

TERIM  
). Box 243  
iak, Alaska 99557  
one: 907-675-4413



MEMBER  
Community & Regional Affairs Committee  
Health, Education & Social Services Committee  
House Resources Committee  
Special Committee on Fisheries

## Representative Carl M. Morgan, Jr. District 36

### SPONSOR STATEMENT HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 56 Constitutional Amendment Wildlife Initiative Process

This legislation removes wildlife management from the ballot initiative process in Alaska. The framers of our Constitution restricted the ballot initiative process in Article XI, Section 7 of the Alaska Constitution. Section 7 exempts certain subjects from the ballot and referendum process. I believe wildlife management is an appropriate subject for exemption.

Our wildlife interests are best managed in Alaska by Alaskans. Removing wildlife from the ballot and referendum process will ensure that wildlife decisions are made in Alaska based on sound science, prudent management, and in an open and fair process. The alternative is a repeat of the last two elections where special interest groups from the Lower 48, using emotion and political agendas, attacked Alaska's outstanding wildlife management system.

Alaska is not alone in this fight. In 1998, the citizens of Utah and Minnesota passed constitutional amendments to protect wildlife management and hunting in their states. Presently, there are constitutional amendments to protect wildlife management and traditional wildlife uses working their way through the state legislatures of Arizona, Idaho and North Dakota.

Legislative counsel has advised that the Legislature possesses the power to amend the Alaska Constitution subject to a vote of the people, but does not have the power to make sweeping revisions that radically alter the powers of governmental branches. Counsel believes HJR 56 amounts to an amendment of the Constitution, not a revision, and within the power of the Legislature.

of a borough or city of the first class shall provide the procedure for the preparation and adoption or rejection of the charter. All charters, or parts or amendments of charters, shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the borough or city, and shall become effective if approved by a majority of those who vote on the specific question.

**SECTION 10. EXTENDED HOME RULE.** The legislature may extend home rule to other boroughs and cities.

**SECTION 11. HOME RULE POWERS.** A home rule borough or city may exercise all legislative powers not prohibited by law or by charter.

**SECTION 12. BOUNDARIES.** A local boundary commission or board shall be established by law in the executive branch of the state government. The commission or board may consider any proposed local government boundary change. It may present proposed changes to the legislature during the first ten days of any regular session. The change shall become effective forty-five days after presentation or at the end of the session, whichever is earlier, unless disapproved by a resolution concurred in by a majority of the members of each house. The commission or board, subject to law, may establish procedures whereby boundaries may be adjusted by local action.

**SECTION 13. AGREEMENTS; TRANSFER OF POWERS.** Agreements, including those for cooperative or joint administration of any functions or powers, may be made by any local government with any other local government, with the State, or with the United States, unless otherwise provided by law or charter. A city may transfer to the borough in which it is located any of its powers or functions unless prohibited by law or charter, and may in like manner revoke the transfer.

**SECTION 14. LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY.** An agency shall be established by law in the executive branch of the state government to advise and assist local governments. It shall review their activities, collect and publish local government information, and perform other duties prescribed by law.

**SECTION 15. SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICTS.** Special service districts existing at the time a borough is organized shall be integrated with the government of the borough as provided by law.

## ARTICLE XI. INITIATIVE, REFERENDUM, AND RECALL.

**SECTION 1. INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM.** The people may propose and enact laws by the initiative, and approve or reject acts of the legislature by the referendum.

**SECTION 2. APPLICATION.** An initiative or referendum is proposed by an application containing the bill to be initiated or the act to be referred. The application shall be signed by not less than one hundred qualified voters as sponsors, and shall be filed with the lieutenant governor. If he finds it in proper form he shall so certify. Denial of certification shall be subject to judicial review.

**SECTION 3. PETITION.** After certification of the application, a petition containing a summary of the subject matter shall be prepared by the lieutenant governor for circulation by the sponsors. If signed by qualified voters, equal in number to ten per cent of those who voted in the preceding general election and resident in at least two-thirds of the election districts of the State, it may be filed with the lieutenant governor.

**SECTION 4. INITIATIVE ELECTION.** An initiative petition may be filed at any time. The lieutenant governor shall prepare a ballot title

and proposition summarizing the proposed law, and shall place them on the ballot for the first statewide election held more than one hundred-twenty days after adjournment of the legislative session following the filing. If, before the election, substantially the same measure has been enacted, the petition is void.

**SECTION 5. REFERENDUM ELECTION.** A referendum petition may be filed only within ninety days after adjournment of the legislative session at which the act was passed. The lieutenant governor shall prepare a ballot title and proposition summarizing the act and shall place them on the ballot for the first statewide election held more than one hundred-eighty days after adjournment of that session.

**SECTION 6. ENACTMENT.** If a majority of the votes cast on the proposition favor its adoption, the initiated measure is enacted. If a majority of the votes cast on the proposition favor the rejection of an act referred, it is rejected. The lieutenant governor shall certify the election returns. An initiated law becomes effective ninety days after certification, is not subject to veto, and may not be repealed by the legislature within two years of its effective date. It may be amended at any time. An act rejected by referendum is void thirty days after certification. Additional procedures for the initiative and referendum may be prescribed by law.

**SECTION 7. RESTRICTIONS.** The initiative shall not be used to dedicate revenues, make or repeal appropriations, create courts, define the jurisdiction of courts or prescribe their rules, or enact local or special legislation. The referendum shall not be applied to dedications of revenue, to appropriations, to local or special legislation, or to laws necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.

**SECTION 8. RECALL.** All elected public officials in the State, except judicial officers, are subject to recall by the voters of the State or political

subdivision from which elected. Procedures and grounds for recall shall be prescribed by the legislature.

## ARTICLE XII. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

**SECTION 1. STATE BOUNDARIES.** The State of Alaska shall consist of all the territory, together with the territorial waters appurtenant thereto, included in the Territory of Alaska upon the date of ratification of this constitution by the people of Alaska.

**SECTION 2. INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS.** The State and its political subdivisions may cooperate with the United States and its territories, and with other states and their political subdivisions on matters of common interest. The respective legislative bodies may make appropriations for this purpose.

**SECTION 3. OFFICE OF PROFIT.** Service in the armed forces of the United States or of the State is not an office or position of profit as the term is used in this constitution.

**SECTION 4. DISQUALIFICATION FOR DISLOYALTY.** No person who advocates, or who aids or belongs to any party or organization or association which advocates, the overthrow by force or violence of the government of the United States or of the State shall be qualified to hold any public office of trust or profit under this constitution.

**SECTION 5. OATH OF OFFICE.** All public officers, before entering upon the duties of their offices, shall take and subscribe to the following oath or affirmation: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Alaska, and that I will faithfully discharge my duties as . . . . . to the best

**UTAH CONSTITUTION 2/3<sup>RDS</sup> AMENDMENT LANGUAGE**

**PASSED NOVEMBER 1998;**

**ARTICLE VI, SECTION 1 [Power vested in Senate, House and People]**

**In the people of the State of Utah, as hereinafter stated:**

The legal voters or such fractional part thereof, of the State of Utah as may be provided by the law, under such conditions and in such manner and within such time as may be provided by law, may initiate any desired legislation and cause the same to be submitted to the a vote of the people for approval or rejection, or may require any law passed by the Legislature (except those laws pass by a two thirds vote of the members elected to each house of the legislature) to be submitted to the voters of the State before such laws shall take effect. **Legislation initiated to allow, limit, or prohibit the taking of wildlife or the season for or method of taking wildlife shall be adopted upon approval of two-thirds of those voting.**

**ARIZONA PROPOSED WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AMENDMENT**

**To be voted on November of 2000:**

**This State shall conserve and manage wildlife in public trust for the people using sound scientific and biological principles and no law or administrative rule may permit the management of wildlife that will reduce the population of any species below a level that is essential to its continued health and existence. An Initiative or Referendum regarding the conservation or management of wildlife that permits, limits, or prohibits the taking of wildlife or the methods or seasons thereof shall not become law unless approved by at least two-thirds of the votes cast on the proposition.**