

USB

77

<TARGET><BILL>SB 77</BILL><SUBJECT>SB
77</SUBJECT><COMM>HRES28</COMM></TARGET>

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

SESSION ADDRESS:
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SENATOR PETER A. MICCICHE

Sponsor Statement

DISTRICT 0

Anchor Point

Clam Gulch

Cohoe

Diamond Ridge

Fox River

Fritz Creek

Funny River

Halibut Cove

Happy Valley

Homer

Kachemak City

Kachemak Selo

Kalifornsky

Kasilof

Kenai

Nikolaevsk

Ninilchik

Razdolna

Ridgeway

Seldovia

Soldotna

Voznesenka

CS SB 77 (RES) "An Act Relating to Big Game Hunting With Children."

Since long before statehood, Alaska has enjoyed a long history rich with the subsistence, social and cultural benefits, as well as the generational outdoor traditions derived from Alaska's hunting culture. Such traditions and the outdoor legacy in the best interest of all Alaskans, is most effectively passed on to the next generation by encouraging young people to hunt responsibly.

The Board of Game currently possesses the ability to establish special hunts to ensure the responsible instruction and indoctrination of young hunters. This bill will give the board more flexibility to establish youth hunts. The bill will also make an exception to the rule that both the youth hunter and the adult hunter's tags must be punched whenever an animal is harvested in a youth hunt.

In the specific case where the hunt is for black-tailed deer in areas where the annual limit is one deer, only one tag would have to be punched. This exception would allow a family to harvest a deer for each tag rather than one deer for two tags. Without this provision, it is likely that there could be low or non-existent participation in youth deer hunts in these areas.

Encouraging youth to responsibly participate and carry on Alaska's great hunting tradition and outdoor heritage is very important for youth development and quality multi-generational outdoor experiences. I hope you will consider supporting this important bill.

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2014 Legislative Session

Bill Version: CSSB 77(RES)
Fiscal Note Number: 1
(S) Publish Date: 3/7/14

Identifier: SB077-DFG-WCD-2-28-14
Title: BIG GAME HUNTING WITH CHILDREN
Sponsor: MICCICHE
Requester: Senate Resources Committee

Department: Department of Fish and Game
Appropriation: Wildlife Conservation
Allocation: Wildlife Conservation
OMB Component Number: 473

Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2015 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2015 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates					
			FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
Personal Services								
Travel								
Services								
Commodities								
Capital Outlay								
Grants & Benefits								
Miscellaneous								
Total Operating	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Fund Source (Operating Only)

None								
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Positions

Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

Change in Revenues								
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Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2014) cost: 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2015) cost: 0.0 *(separate capital appropriation required)*
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? No
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version:

Initial Version

Prepared By:	Doug Vincent-Lang, Director	Phone:	(907)267-2339
Division:	Wildlife Conservation	Date:	02/28/2014 04:30 PM
Approved By:	Kevin Brooks, Deputy Commissioner	Date:	02/28/14
Agency:	Commissioner's Office		

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS #1

STATE OF ALASKA
2014 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. CSSB 77(RES)

Analysis

Senate Bill 77 will address some of the issues that have come to light as the Board of Game (Board) has attempted to initiate youth hunts under AS 16.05.255(i). The changes that are being proposed will give the Board greater flexibility in how they create youth hunts, recognizing that there are differences regionally and by species.



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR SEAN PARNELL

Alaska Board of Game

1255 West 8th Street
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Fax: 907.465.6094

February 4, 2014

Senator Pete Kelly
State Capitol, Room #516
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Kelly:

Thank you for the original legislation promoting youth hunting in Alaska, and for sponsoring new legislation, SB 77, providing modifications to the youth hunting law. Board of Game (Board) members have been strong supporters of providing youth hunts but have met some difficulty authorizing seasons that begin before school starts with recent, earlier opening dates. Your amended language, to change "shall" to "may" and remove the season requirement, will help immensely in our effort to establish youth hunting opportunities.

The Board has also encountered a second issue related to the requirement for both the child and accompanying adult to validate their harvest tag when a big game animal is taken. When harvesting moose and caribou which yield a large amount of meat, this has not been an issue. At our recent meeting in Sitka, a proposal was adopted to establish a youth deer hunt and the question came up concerning both hunters validating their harvest tags for one deer. Since this area, Subunit 5A near Yakutat, has a one deer bag limit we were concerned that by combining the bag limit, it may discourage adults from participating in youth hunts since they would only be allowed to harvest one deer for the family. The estimated maximum yield of meat posted in the Department of Fish and Game regulation book, is 68 pounds for a deer. Suggested wording in lines 12 through 14 of the proposed bill should read: "A big game animal taken under this subsection, **except for Sitka black-tailed deer where the bag limit is one**, must be counted against the bag limits of both the child and the adult, parent, stepparent, or legal guardian who accompanies the child."

Board members were also concerned about the age range allowed in this statute of 8 to 17 years of age. It is our understanding that the Board has the authority to be more restrictive than the enabling legislation, therefore this concern can be addressed without needing any word changes. An age range of 10 to 17 has been used by the Board since we require youth hunters to have successfully completed a hunter education program prior to hunting.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ted Spraker".

Ted Spraker, Chairman
Alaska Board of Game

cc: Senator Peter Micciche, District O

From: tedspraker@gmail.com [mailto:tedspraker@gmail.com] **On Behalf Of** Ted Spraker

Sent: Tuesday, March 04, 2014 10:54 AM

To: Larry Semmens; Tibbles, Kristy R (DFG)

Subject: Re: SB 77 Youth Hunting

Larry please express the Board of Game's appreciation to Senators Micciche, Giessel and Kelly for their support and efforts to help youth hunters. As you know, the future use of our abundant wild resources is dependent on building support from the public, and from public testimony the majority of Alaskans support special hunts for young hunters. The Board recently adopted a youth hunt for antlerless moose in the area north of Fairbanks providing an allocation of 20% of the available tags going to hunters between the ages of 10 to 17. In the first year, 78 youth hunter permits will be available for this hunt. Youth hunters will be required to have successfully completed a state hunter education course, be accompanied by an adult 21 years old or older and both will be required to validate their harvest ticket for the one moose. Due to the current enabling legislation, the season had to be set in early August before school begins which is not a desired time to hunt moose or care for meat in warm weather. With passage of SB77 the Board will have flexibility to adopt seasons with a higher probability of success.

Thank you for your support.

Ted Spraker, Board of Game Chairman

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SENATOR PETER A. MICCICHE

MEMORANDUM

DISTRICT

Anchor Point
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Fox River
Fritz Creek
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Halibut Cove
Happy Valley
Homer
Kachemak City
Kachemak Selo
Kalifornsky
Kasilof
Kenai
Nikolaevsk
Ninilchik
Razdolna
Ridgeway
Seldovia
Soldotna
Voznesenka

TO: Representative Feige and Representative Saddler

House Resources Committee Co-Chairs

FR: Senator Peter Micciche *PAM*

DA: March 26, 2014

RE: Scheduling CS SB 77 (RES) For House Resources Committee

I respectfully request the scheduling of CS SB 77 (RES) for the House Resources Committee.

If you have any questions, please contact Larry Semmens at 465-4899.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.