

Dear Senator Giessel,

The Alaska Board of Game would like to thank you and your colleagues for supporting Alaska's authority to manage wildlife in Alaska. Specifically we thank you and your co-sponsors for passing **Senate Resolution 4** "*Supporting the Alaska Congressional delegation in protecting the state's right to manage wildlife within its borders.*" As you are aware, there is a concerted effort to characterize actions by this board and Alaska's Department of Fish and Game as providing for cruel or inhumane taking of wildlife. These assertions are simply not true. Instead, U.S. Fish and Wildlife has unilaterally and illegally usurped our authority and disadvantaged State managers where providing for the take of wildlife for food is the highest priority. Your efforts today send a strong signal to all Alaskans, especially those living in rural areas, that Alaska's Senate supports sustainable management practices and food security.

Yesterday Senator Sullivan honored this board by addressing us here in Fairbanks. He appealed for our help and support of his and Senator Murkowski's efforts to repeal USFWS's rule encroaching on Alaska's authority to manage wildlife. We will honor that request and look forward to working with you, your committee, the Attorney General, Governor Walker and others to reaffirm Alaska's unparalleled and constitutionally mandated management for taking wildlife on a sustained yield basis. We do not see this as an Alaska specific issue; we see this as a federal act with national significance. SR 4 is a strong statement of policy and step in the right direction. Thank you for your leadership.

Chairman Ted Spraker