Hunter Education

<u>PROPOSAL 60</u> – 5 AAC 92.003. Hunter education and orientation requirements. Require hunter education for hunters 12 years of age or older, and those under 12 to be accompanied by someone who has successfully completed the course as follows:

Under 5 AAC 92.003 Hunter education and orientation requirements, and on page 13 of the Alaska Hunting Regulations it should read:

Beginning July 1, 2018, <u>ALL Hunters</u> 12 years of older must have completed a Basic Hunter Education course to hunt in the State of Alaska. Hunters under 12 years of age must be accompanied by someone who has successfully completed a Basic Hunter Education course.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Mandatory hunter education requirement for <u>ALL Hunters</u> 12 years and older to address the large increase in the number of hunters who have never hunted before in the State of Alaska and have been exempted by current regulations. Hunters under 12 years old must be accompanied by someone who has successfully completed a Basic Hunter Education course.

In fact, it is time to implement a uniform code for the entire state. Presently, hunter education in now mandatory in most states, and for good reason. Solid education improves safety for other hunters in the field, the hunter themselves, and decreases the percentage of wounded animals left in field.