



RC 031

October 31, 2017

ADF&G Boards Support
PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

Dear Board of Game,

I am opposed to Proposition 64. If passed, the Proposal would remove domestic goats and sheep from the so-called "Clean List" of domestic animals, effectively devastating the ability of individual goat and sheep enthusiasts, goat and sheep 4-H programs, and small farm owners to own goats and sheep. If passed, Proposal 64 would require domestic sheep and goat owners to obtain permits from the Department of Fish and Game to own sheep or goats, comply with very expensive double fencing, and complete costly testing.

My family counts on fresh goat milk every day. We consume more than four gallons of fresh goat milk products, per month. Due to health reasons we require these fresh goat milk products.

Unlike the "lower 48," Alaska's domestic sheep and goat population does not free range on public lands where contact with wild sheep could potentially occur. Domestic sheep and goats are generally located many miles from wild sheep populations, with virtually no likelihood of contact due to the existing natural barriers such as rivers, highways, towns and subdivisions.

To date there has not been a single proven case of disease transmission from domestic sheep or goats to thin horn sheep in the wild, including both Dall sheep and Stone sheep.

Many Alaskan families benefit in numerous ways from the ownership and husbandry of domestic sheep and goats – besides the benefits of milk and milk-related products, meat, and fiber; they are also treasured as family pets, 4-H project animals, and companions. I ask you to not pass Proposal 64 due to the severe impact it will have on individual domestic goat and sheep enthusiasts and small farm operations.

The Proposal is fundamentally flawed in its underlying assumptions and proposed requirements. PLEASE FOLLOW THE ADVICE OF THE ADF&G, THE DEC AND STATE VET'S OFFICE, THE DIVISION OF AG, AND THE DEPT. OF LAW AND **"TAKE NO ACTION" ON PROPOSAL 64.**

Sincerely,

Cindy T. Lea

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