

*Alaska Wildlife Alliance * Alaska Center for the Environment
Alaska Public Interest Research Group * Defenders of Wildlife*

March 20, 2008

Governor Sarah Palin
PO Box 110001
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Via facsimile (907) 465-3532

Dear Governor Palin:

Voters in Alaska have twice restricted aerial hunting through the ballot measure process, only to have their efforts overturned by the Alaska legislature. Most recently, more than 56,000 Alaskans signed a petition to put aerial hunting to a vote for a third time. That ballot measure is scheduled to appear on the ballot August 26th.

Legislation you introduced last spring, House Bill 256 and Senate Bill 176, are now making their way through the legislature. We have testified before a number of committees and voiced our concerns with these bills, including the potential for them to stop Alaskans from voting this August. Several lawmakers have specifically asked the state's attorney, Kevin Saxby, whether this legislation would have the effect of negating the pending ballot measure. To date he has not provided a straight answer to those questions.

Because you sponsored this legislation, we would like to hear whether, if enacted, it would prevent Alaskans from voting this summer. We take to heart your campaign pledge of promising a transparent government that listens to the will of the people. It is our hope that this legislation will not interfere with the public's right to express their views and enact legislation.

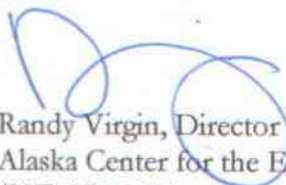
It is anticipated that these bills will be voted on in the very near future and therefore we would like an answer prior to any vote. Legislators deserve to know the answer prior to casting their votes on these bills and Alaskans deserve the right to vote on a ballot they approved for consideration.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,



John Toppenberg, Executive Director
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