



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Department of Fish and Game

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February 13, 2017

The Honorable Don Young
United States House of Representatives
2314 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Young:

I would like to thank you for your continued commitment and hard work to pass HJ Res. 69, and its Senate counterpart, SJ Res. 18, which would nullify the US Fish and Wildlife Service's (FWS) final rule "Non-Subsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska" (81 Fed Reg 52248 (August 5, 2016)). These efforts have the State of Alaska's full support to eliminate what we believe is the unlawful preemption of the traditional state-federal jurisdictional relationship for the management of fish and wildlife that was the intent of Congress through the Alaska Statehood Act, the Alaska National Interests Land Conservation Act, and the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act.

Thank you again for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sam Cotten".

Sam Cotten
Commissioner

cc: The Honorable Lisa Murkowski, US Senate
The Honorable Dan Sullivan, US Senate
Mr. Craig Fleener, Office of the Governor