Fact Sheet for: Senate Bill 329

Short Title: Nuisance Moose

Summary:
- Instructs the Department of Fish and Game to avoid destruction of nuisance moose if the moose can be relocated to a suitable rural habitat.
- Allows the Commissioner of the Department of Fish and Game to authorize one or more private individuals or groups to relocate nuisance moose to suitable habitat if the commissioner finds that the individual or group is qualified to relocate the moose without undue danger to the public, the relocating group, or the moose.
- The group relocating the moose shall cover the costs of relocation.
- The state is protected against liability arising from actions taken by the group.
- Ensures that darts containing narcotics used to tranquilize moose shall be recovered and properly disposed.

Benefits:
- Removes nuisance moose from urban areas where their interactions with humans pose a significant risk to the health and safety of both moose and humans.
- Relocates moose to rural areas where the moose populations are depleted.

Background:
- A “nuisance moose” is a moose located in an area of concentrated human population that poses a significant risk to the health, safety, or economic well-being of persons in the area.
- Six hundred moose and two to three people are killed each year in moose/vehicle collisions. Each collision averages $15,000 in substantial vehicle repairs, costing Alaskans $9 million each year, not counting loss of wages, increased insurance premiums, or medical costs.
- SB 329 is supported by, among others:
  - The Alaska Moose Federation
  - The Department of Fish and Game
  - The Alaska Board of Game
  - Municipality of Anchorage
  - Anchorage Police Department
  - Anchorage School District
  - City of Wasilla
  - Central Kuskokwim Fish and Game Advisory Committee
  - Alaska Village Initiatives
  - Ninilchik Traditional Council
  - Association of Village Council Presidents