

## Sponsor Statement For HB 144

# Guides for Nonresident Moose Hunters

### **“An Act requiring nonresident hunters to be accompanied when hunting moose”**

**Released:** February 26, 2001

**Contact:** Helen Donahue at (907) 465-6597 or [helen\\_donahue@legis.state.ak.us](mailto:helen_donahue@legis.state.ak.us)

House Bill 144 will add moose to AS 16.05.407(a), which currently requires nonresidents to be accompanied while hunting brown bear, grizzly bear, mountain goat, and sheep in Alaska. This bill will add moose to that list and require a nonresident to hunt moose with a guide.

Moose are an extremely valuable and widely used resource of the State of Alaska; as such they should be managed wisely. A big step in managing a resource wisely is to require accountability from those that use the resource. Another very important step is to eliminate, as much as possible, any waste of that resource.

Passage of this bill will assure that nonresident moose hunters are given the assistance needed, by someone accountable, for legal hunting and proper game care during their time in the field. At present unaccompanied nonresidents account for a significantly greater proportion of subsistence related conflicts, violations of wanton waste laws, and illegal hunting practices.

Guides attempt to police and maintain the strength of the resource. This legislation will enhance that opportunity.