ALASKA BOARD OF GAME #97-113-BOG

Relating to methods and means of harvesting furbearers and fur animals, including wolves.

WHEREAS, the Alaska Board of Game recognizes that the harvest and utilization of Alaska's furbearers and fur animals, including wolves, remains an important use by Alaska's residents, and that restriction of methods and means of harvest could lead to economic hardship for those dependent on trapping for their livelihood, and

WHEREAS, Alaska Board of Game resolution #90-48-BOG supports the harvest and use of fur for clothing and other purposes, including income, by Alaska Natives and other rural residents; and Alaska Board of Fish and Game resolution #75-4-GB endorses and encourages responsible trapping as a legitimate use of our renewable Alaska fur resources, and

WHEREAS, the harvest of these furbearers and fur animals plays an important role in the management of other species, especially large game animals which are relied upon by residents for subsistence purposes, and

WHEREAS, Alaska's trappers use methods of harvesting fur, including the use of snares, which are the most cost-effective and efficient of harvest methods, and strive to find ways to reduce the take of non-target animals through refinement of techniques, such as "break-away" snares and other means, and

WHEREAS, American, and Alaskan, history is intimately tied to the fur trade and federal and state policies continue to encourage the harvest of fur, to the extent that the Alaska Board of Game and the Department of Fish and Game have historically recognized and promoted the use of traps and snares to harvest fur, as it is well known that snares have been used by indigenous peoples since long before the introduction of steel cable by early explorers.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Alaska Board of Game, supports and endorses the harvest of furbearers and fur animals, including wolves, by methods and means currently permitted by law, including traps and snares.

ADOPTED DATE: October 30, 1997 Nome, Alaska

> Larry Holmes/Chair ` Alaska Board of Game

VOTE: <u>6-0-1</u>