

**ALASKA JOINT BOARD OF FISHERIES AND GAME
REGULATION PROPOSAL FORM**

Proposals must be received by Monday, May 1, 2023

Upload Forms Online at: www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.proposal;

Mail to: Board of Game; PO Box 115526, Juneau, Alaska 99811-5526; or

Fax to: (907) 465-6094

Please answer all questions to the best of your ability. All answers will be printed in the proposal book along with the proposer's name (address and phone numbers will not be published). Use separate forms for each proposal. Address only one issue per proposal. State the issue clearly and concisely. **The board will reject multiple or confusing items.**

1. Alaska Administrative Code No.

5 AAC: 96.610 (e)

Regulation Book Page No.:

page number 1151

2. What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Require the Board of Game, the Board of Fisheries, and the Joint Board to allow members of the public to provide oral testimony remotely during regulatory meetings.

During the 2021-2022 regulatory cycle, both the Board of Fisheries and the Board of Game allowed the public to provide oral testimony remotely but did not during the 2022-2023 regulatory cycle. The high costs of travel to attend board meetings in person presents a barrier to members of the public wishing to provide oral testimony on proposals that affect their livelihoods, effectively disenfranchising individuals and communities that cannot afford to attend meetings in person while amplifying the voices of those with enough money to send representatives to lobby the board members. The 2021-2022 cycle demonstrated that the department has the capability to successfully include remote testimony during board meetings, and this proposal seeks to codify that practice into regulation.

3. What solution do you recommend? In other words, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say? (Please provide draft regulatory language, if possible.)

Amend 5 AAC: 96.610 (e) as follows:

Phase 4. Each board will give legal notice of timely received proposals. In accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62), each board will hold a public hearing **and solicit oral testimony, both in-person and remotely**, and will act on proposals or develop alternatives on the subject matter legally noticed. The final decision on all proposals remains the responsibility of a board.

Submitted By:

Eagle Fish & Game Advisory Committee

Individual or Group

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