

Good Morning Chair Patten & Committee Members

For the record I am Shanda Morgan

I am here to explain and speak in favor of the .04001 Amendments to House Bill 1470

The amendment in Section 3 removes "hunting guide" from the requirements to have hunted in this state for part of each of any 3 years. "hunting outfitter" would be left in. The issue with having the guide listed is that it is becoming increasingly more difficult to get talented guides from in-state who want to work. This means outfitters must look elsewhere to find them. Outfitters are looking for great people to help with their operation. Guides who are personable as well as hunting expertise.

The amendment would then remove the last sentence allowing the department to waive the 3 year hunting requirement as it doesn't apply anymore.

Moving onto Section 4. This is cleanup language concerning the administration of examinations.

Let me set up the situation that brought attention to this grey area. Senator Patten - you took the hunting guide exam 2 weeks ago & passed. You then had a family emergency that made it impossible for you to continue employment with the outfitter you had planned. This left the Outfitter in a lurch. Luckily for them, they found Senator Beard who himself is another experienced guide. One caveat, Senator Beard needs to pass the exam.

The Game & Fish will not administer the exam to Senator Beard because they gave Senator Patten the exam within the last 90 days.

So, to make this more clear and allow the Game & Fish to administer exams as needed, the wording "the previous examination" was removed and instead added "a previous failed examination by the applicant" This way, if someone does fail, they have to wait to re-take the exam, but it does not prohibit the Game & Fish from administering exams to others who have not failed or even taken the exam at all.

Thank you for your time and I would stand for any questions you may have.