

# Young Calls on Alaskans Speak Out on Gun Control

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Alaska Rep. Don Young today called on Alaskans to speak out on gun control by writing letters to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission in Washington, D.C.

Young's statement was initiated by the Commission's decision not to appeal a recent court ruling which ordered the agency to consider regulating handgun ammunition as a hazardous substance.

The C.P.S.C. is now formally soliciting the views of Americans on the proposal to ban the sale of such ammunition to private individuals. After the 60 day comment period (which ends April 15), the Commission will begin drafting permanent regulations based largely on public response.

In urging that Alaskans make their views known on this issue, Young noted that the Commission "never actually wanted to regulate gun ammunition at all, believing they had neither the expertise nor the Congressional mandate to do so."

However, a recent court victory by a Chicago-based anti-gun lobby compelled the Commission to consider restricting ammunition sales.

Alaska's Congressman has co-sponsored legislation to prevent the Consumer Product Safety Commission from restricting the sale of guns, ammunition and powder. The bill, H.R. 1087, was introduced in the House by Rep. Steve Symms, R-Idaho.

"It is essential that Congress

pass this measure," said Young. "Otherwise we will soon have de facto gun control by regulatory decree."

People wishing to register their opinions should write to Richard Simpson, Chairman, Consumer Product Safety Commission, 1750 K St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20207. If possible, five copies of each letter should be supplied.