

# Wasting meat would bring increased penalty

**The Associated Press**

JUNEAU — The maximum penalty for wasting the meat of big game animals would be increased from six months in jail to one year in jail, under a bill approved 32-3 by the Alaska House.

The maximum fine would remain \$5,000, according to the bill introduced by Rep. Ben Grussendorf, D-Sitka.

Hunters who do not salvage at least the hindquarters from a big game animal would be subject to a mandatory minimum penalty of 160 consecutive hours in jail and a fine of not less than \$2,500.

Under the bill, which was approved Wednesday night, a hunter convicted of wanton waste would automatically forfeit his hunting license for

up to five years, depending on the offense.

Disabled veterans would be entitled to receive free resident hunting and sport fishing licenses under a bill approved on a 32-2 House ballot.

The bill (CSSB145 State Affairs amH) now goes back to senators.