



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

**Department of Environmental
Conservation**

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
Office of the State Veterinarian

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November 2020

Dear Interested Person:

The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) proposes to repeal regulations in Title 18, Chapter 32 of the Alaska Administrative Code, Article 4, Reindeer Slaughtering and Processing, and associated conforming edits. These regulations were promulgated in 1999. However, these regulations have never been used by animal owners due to alternative state (18 AAC 31) and federal (9 C.F.R. § 300-592) options.

A copy of the proposed regulation changes is available on the Department of Environmental Conservation's website at <https://dec.alaska.gov/eh/vet/regulations/reindeer-slaughtering-processing/>, or by contacting Shannon Miller by email at shannon.miller@alaska.gov or by phone at (907) 269-6066.

You may comment on the proposed regulation changes by submitting written comments to Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Attention: Shannon Miller, 555 Cordova Street, Anchorage, AK 99501. Additionally, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation will accept comments by facsimile at (907) 269-7654, by electronic mail at shannon.miller@alaska.gov, and online by visiting <https://dec.alaska.gov/eh/vet/regulations/reindeer-slaughtering-processing/> and using the comment link. The comments must be received no later than 11:59 pm on December 23, 2020

We will respond to questions that are relevant to the proposed changes if the questions are received in writing at least ten days before the end of the public comment period. If questions are submitted after that, we may, but we are not required to respond to those questions. The questions and answers will be available on the Department of Environmental Conservation's website at <https://dec.alaska.gov/eh/vet/regulations/reindeer-slaughtering-processing/>. One consolidated answer may be provided for a group of questions that are similar, as appropriate.

We do not respond individually to comments on proposed regulations changes. After we have a chance to review the written comments received and then consider them in deciding what changes (if any) to make in our regulations, we will prepare a summary of the comments and our responses to them, which will be sent to everyone who submits a timely written comment on the proposed changes and provides a return mailing or email address. Individual commenters will not be identified in the summary; however, the comments themselves are public records subject to public inspection.

Thank you in advance for taking time to review and comment on the proposed regulatory changes. Tips for commenting effectively on proposed regulations can be found on our website at <http://dec.alaska.gov/commish/regulations/how-to-comment-faq/>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "R. F. Gerlach, VMD". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Dr. Robert Gerlach, VMD
State Veterinarian

Enclosures:

- Public Notice, 18 AAC 32
- Additional Regulations Notice Information, 18 AAC 32