

Native Village of Ouzinkie

Ouzinkie Tribal Council

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Resolution 2016-3

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LEGISLATION IMPROVING ALASKANS' ACCESS TO ALASKA FISHERIES

WHEREAS, limited entry commercial fisheries are the economic backbone of all of Alaska's coastal communities, from Southeast to Southwest;

WHEREAS, the "graying of the fleet" — the increasing average age of Alaska's fishermen — is endangering the ability to pass on experience, knowledge, resources, culture, and value of fisheries to younger generations of Alaskans;

WHEREAS, the out-migration of Alaska fishing permits to nonresidents who do not live or invest in our coastal communities deprives those communities of economic activity;

WHEREAS, the lack of economic opportunity in Alaskan communities from the loss of local fishing permits contributes to extreme levels of unemployment, lack of local tax base, and high rates of alcohol and drug abuse and other social ills;

WHEREAS, the legislation to improve Alaskans' access to Alaska fisheries has been collaboratively worked on for the previous 14 months with stakeholders from across Alaska;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Native Village of Ouzinkie supports legislation, such as HB 366, improving Alaskans' access and supports legislation improving Alaskans' access to Alaska fisheries to stem the loss of Alaska fishing permits from coastal communities, provide young Alaskans better means of economic opportunity, and reinvigorate the cultural and economic vitality of fishing communities across Alaska.

Approved and adopted at a council meeting, a quorum being present, on February 29, 2016



Robert Boskofsky, Sr., President



Katherine Panamarioff, Secretary