



City of Ouzinkie

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March 6, 2009

To:

Representative Alan Austerman	120 4 th St., Juneau, Alaska 99802	Fax 465-4956
Representative Bill Thomas Jr.	120 4 th St., Juneau, Alaska 99802	Fax 465-2652
Representative Jay Ramras	120 4 th St., Juneau, Alaska 99802	Fax 654-2070
Representative Cathy Munoz	120 4 th St., Juneau, Alaska 99802	Fax 465-2273
Representative Charisse Millett	120 4 th St., Juneau, Alaska 99802	Fax 465-2069
Representative Bryce Edgmon	120 4 th St., Juneau, Alaska 99802	Fax 465 3415
Representative Paul Seaton	120 4 th St., Juneau, Alaska 99802	Fax 465-3472
Representative Peggy Wilson	120 4 th St., Juneau, Alaska 99802	Fax 465-3175
Representative John Harris	120 4 th St., Juneau, Alaska 99802	Fax 465-3799
Representative Mark Neuman	120 4 th St., Juneau, Alaska 99802	Fax 465-4822

Re: Support of HJR 21

Dear Representatives: Austerman, Thomas, Ramras, Munoz, Millett, Edgmon, Seaton, Wilson, Harris, and Neuman:

This letter is being sent to you in support of HJR 21. A Resolution you have co-sponsored requesting that the North Pacific Fishery Management Council cease consideration of an amendment package that would require a Pacific cod endorsement for a license limitation program in order to participate in the Pacific cod fisheries in the Gulf of Alaska

We encourage the Alaska Legislature to pass this resolution, thereby making a strong statement to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council that this amendment package is not good for our Alaska communities and should be discarded.

Our communities are continually losing access to local fisheries that are responsible for our economic well-being. Since 1990 there has been a 35 percent decline in the number of commercial fishermen in the state. Rationalization has created significant barriers for new entrants in the commercial fisheries by increasing costs of access to fishing permits and individual transferable quotas.

This has a far-reaching effect and touches other businesses that provide goods and services to the commercial fishing industry and exist for the support of the industry.

We believe there must be a better approach to the issues than the reduction of individual rights of a person to fish the marine resources that lie at our doorstep. We hope that the North Pacific Fishery Management Council will heed the guidance in HJR 21 and cease the consideration for allocation of the GOA Pacific cod resource to the various gear sectors and, also cease the consideration for limiting future entry to the GOA groundfisheries by extinguishing latent LLP licenses.

Sincerely,

Zack Chichenoff

Mayor



CC:

The Honorable Sarah Palin, Governor, State of Alaska

Fax 465-2332

Denby Lloyd, Commissioner of Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Fax 465-2332

Cora Cromo, Fisheries Policy Advisor, Office of the Governor

Fax 465-3532

John Moller, Rural Advisor, Office of the Governor

Fax 465-3532