



**Cordova District Fishermen United**

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January 28, 2009

Representative Bryce Edgmon  
Special Committee on Fisheries  
State Capitol, Room 424  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Re: HB1117 – Board of Fisheries Meeting Location

Dear Representative Edgmon,

I am writing on behalf of the Cordova District Fishermen United Board of Directors, and our members to support HB117, an act relating to the location of Board of Fisheries meetings.

Public testimony presented by a fair distribution of individuals, offering viewpoints on both sides of the proposal at stake, is what makes public process effective during Board of Fisheries meetings. Small communities, already struggling with increased living expenses, would find it extremely difficult to send adequate representation to meetings held in Anchorage. This does not allow for fair representation by those with livelihoods at stake.

Our community is also challenged by a high cost of living. The expenses associated with traveling outside of Prince William Sound to attend board meetings would make it difficult if not impossible for most of our fleet to participate.

We appreciate your sponsorship of this bill, and support its intent.

Sincerely,

Rochelle van den Broek  
Executive Director