



# UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

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March 19, 2012

Senator Lyman Hoffman, Co-Chair  
Senator Bert Stedman, Co-Chair  
Senate Finance Committee  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 3  
Juneau AK 99801-1182

**RE: Support for Senate Bill 91**

Dear Senators Hoffman, Stedman, and Committee Members,

United Fishermen of Alaska (UFA) represents 37 Alaska commercial fishing organizations from fisheries throughout Alaska and the federal waters off our shores. Altogether our member organizations and individual memberships represent thousands of professional Alaska commercial fishermen.

UFA supports renewal of the licensing of sport fishing operators and sport fishing guides as included in SB 91, and continuation of the logbook program for guided fisheries. Alaska's worldwide reputation for excellence in fisheries management is based in large part on timely and accurate reporting of all harvests, and is also affected by the professionalism of individuals that host our guided visitors. Continuation of these programs is essential to the long term health of fishery resources for all participants.

Based on this level of importance, we also recommend that the committee consider renewing the program for more than the one year that is in the current version of SB 91.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Vinsel", written over a horizontal line.

Mark Vinsel  
Executive Director

CC: Senator Lesil McGuire