CITY OF CRAIG RESOLUTION 13-06

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SENATE BILL 60 OF THE 28^{TH} ALASKA LEGISLATURE

WHEREAS, in 2011 the Craig City Council adopted Resolution 11-02, calling on State and Federal officials to work to change sea otter management practices to protect commercial fishery stocks; and,

WHEREAS, the extraordinarily high rate of sea otter population growth in Southeast Alaska resulted in greatly increase sea otter predation of commercial fishery stocks, including geoduck clams, sea cucumbers, sea urchins, and crab; and,

WHEREAS, a 2011 analysis of the financial impacts to commercial fisheries resulting from sea otter predation estimates that the rapidly increasing population of otters has cost the region \$28.3 million in direct, indirect, and induced impacts since 1995; and,

WHEREAS, perceived inconsistent interpretations of federal sea otter statues based on the Marine Mammal Protection Act has had a chilling effect on permitted take of sea otters by eligible Native hunters; and,

WHEREAS, SB 60 seeks to encourage the harvest of sea otters by offering a \$100 payment for each otter taken in compliance with federal law and regulation.

WHEREAS, SB 60 would implement one method of sea otter management consistent with the city councils goals articulated in City of Craig Resolution 11-02.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Council for the City of Craig supports SB 60, now pending in the Alaska Legislature, and encourages the Alaska Senate and Alaska House of Representatives to approve the legislation during the first session of the 28th Alaska Legislature.

Adopted this 7th day of March 2013.

Mayor Dennis Watson

Kassi Knock, City Clerk