

**Sponsor**



**Statement**

**HB 128**  
**Alaska Wild Salmon Day**

**SPONSOR'S INTENT**

Alaskans prize wild salmon. No other of our fish plays such a prevalent role in our lives, and, arguably, no other is so nourishing and appetizing. According to a survey conducted during the summer of 2011, 96 percent of Alaskans feel that salmon is essential to their way of life.

Salmon subsistence fishing has sustained Alaska Native peoples for thousands of years. Recreational fishing for salmon is a lifelong pursuit for urban and rural residents alike. Commercial salmon fishing has been a mainstay industry in Alaska for well over a century.

Establishing August 10<sup>th</sup> as Alaska Wild Salmon Day will encourage celebrations of these Alaskan ways of life, pastimes, and professions. It will also provide opportunities to promote our wild salmon's deliciousness, purity, and healthfulness to visitors to the state from the Lower 48 and around the world.