



COPPER RIVER SEAFOODS

Main Administrative Office

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March 27, 2015

Representative Cathy Giessel
State Capitol Building, Rm 427
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: SB42 Senate Resources Committee Hearing

Dear Madam Chair,

As a lifelong Alaskan and one whose primary recreational activity is sport fishing and who annually fills his freezer through personal use fisheries but earns his living in the commercial fishing industry I wish to express my, and my company's opposition of SB42.

Using legislation as a tool to regulate our fisheries is a very slippery slope that undermines the ability for ADF&G and the Board of Fisheries to effectively manage a sustainable fishery. In addition, while the personal use fisheries provide a number of people with the opportunity to harvest salmon, it is clearly the commercial harvest that provides the vast majority of Alaskans' with the seafood they consume annually by means of their local retailers and food service establishments.

Now is not a time to restrict industries that are so key to the financial health of Alaska. Alaska needs to find a balance between personal use fisheries and commercial fisheries and this legislation will prove to be detrimental to this.

Copper River Seafoods and company's like us are vital to the success of the State of Alaska, especially in future years when the oil industry will be unable to carry the burden. We employ between 600-750 people annually, pay a lot of money in state taxes and are currently expanding our operations. Bills like SB42 will do nothing but jeopardize this ability and thus the health of the State of Alaska.

Thank you for your time and we would love to offer you or any of your fellow lawmakers a tour of our operations to learn more.

Regards,

Martin Weiser
Corporate Development Officer
Copper River Seafoods

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