

I wanted to let you know that I personally support SB42 that would place personal use harvest for Alaskans as a priority over commercial fisherman.

Alaskan's should be able to put fish in their freeze before commercial interests in times of shortage. Many of us depend on our fish and game as our principal source of nutrition.

I live a "subsistence" lifestyle but use the normal fish & game rules to do that. I take a moose, a caribou and many salmon on a yearly basis for me and my extended family. I share with my elders and those around me that are not as fortunate as I. Just an interesting note, I was born here in Alaska in the Territory of Alaska. I have put in for hunting permits around the state my whole life and have never received one yet. Thankfully there are still area's around the state that do not require a permit but just a general hunting license.

Thank You,

Bill Iverson

President

Alaska Outdoor Council

I am in support of SB42. The freezers of us Alaskans should always be priority over the money machine of commercial fishing. There is certainly more that could be said, however I believe this bill sums it up. People of Alaska before the pockets of industry, (which most of the pockets don't even reside here!)

Again, I SUPPORT SB42.

Thank you for your diligence of the cause.

Richard Neumann

We support SB42.
Dennis and Dora Wheeler, Palmer

Dear Senator Giessel,

As an Alaskan resident and one who's family depends on personal use fisheries in Alaska, I ask that you please support SB42 which puts priority over personal use fisheries above commercial interests. While I recognize the value of our commercial fisheries, the people of Alaska and our communities depend on these resources and pump millions of dollars directly into the economy.

Please put "people" first!

Thank You
W.R. Reed
Eagle River, Alaska

My family & I support the proposed bill SB42

Andria Neumann

I would like to add my support to SB42. It's high time that the commercial fishing fleet shares the burden of depleted salmon stocks.
Jack Timm

I Support Personal Use Fisheries SB42 - personal use fisheries is a priority over commercial harvest whenever harvest restrictions are necessary to achieve management goals on the fishery.
-Sara Sundsten

Senator, Stoltze

I would like to thank you for the introduction of SB42.

As a board member of the Alaska Outdoor Council and the Delta Sportsman Association I get the unique opportunity to talk to fellow club members as well as the General Public about pieces of legislation that impact hunting and fishing. I can honestly say this bill is widely supported by all that I have talked to.

The challenge as I see it will be getting this bill past the Commercial Fishing industry, so I would like to extend to you the support of the Delta Sportsman Association as you move through the process of passing this bill into law.

Sincerely,

Rob Mathews

Dear Senator Giessel...

Please support SB42 as it provides an assurance that Alaskan families will come first and won't be without opportunity to fish should stocks become depleted. A personal use fishery is really the equivalent of a subsistence allocation for the rest of us who live in the wrong zip codes to qualify for subsistence.

Thanks so much for supporting Alaskan food on Alaskans' tables first.

Karen Gordon

Fairbanks

Please support SB 42 so that Alaskans get access to the fish they once had.

-Craig Compeau

My husband I gather salmon to feed our family. HB42 will prioritize our personal use harvest of salmon over commercial harvest when salmon returns are low. I ask you to support HB42.

Sincerely,
Paul and Sharon Harris

Please pass Sb42 it is long overdue. Thanks Wilfred Blais Delta Junction

Senator Giessal

I support SB-42. I urge you to support it also and pass it out of your committee. Sport fishing in places like the Kenai produce much more economic benefit to the State through sport fishing. Commercial fisherman have not paid their fair share to the people of Alaska for the fish they catch. In these tough economic times they need to start!

John Sturgeon

Frontier Building Products
John Sturgeon, CEO/President

STRONGLY support SB42.

Please give the personal use fishermen a better chance at the fish that belongs to all Alaskans.

Thanks for your help!

Yves Bresse

Ma'am,

I have lived in Alaska for 18 years (12 of which were spent in service on the Fairbanks & Minto-Nenana Fish and Game advisory committees). I have watched the allocations for personal use take a back seat year after year to commercial fishing interests. The makeup of the Fish Board has always been in favor of the commercial fishing industry. We have attempted for years to pass meaningful proposals that would ensure responsible fisheries management, but the glutinous commercial interests would always win out. It took 10 years of telling them the king salmon on the Yukon were in jeopardy, but it wasn't until run strengths fell off and retention of king salmon had to be stopped before the Board of Fish listened. Even then the commercial fishing industrial kept denying a problem existed.

The people who engage in the personal use fisheries are Alaskan's attempting to gather enough fresh salmon for their families yearly subsistence needs. For the record all Alaskans are

subsistence users, some just participate in an urban setting (these are the ones we call personal use when the same activity in the bush is called subsistence) and typically they spend the market value of the catch or better to gather their subsistence needs. I don't believe it is asking too much that after a long cold Fairbanks winter I should be able to (as an Alaskan) go out and gather fresh fish, berries, and game meat for my families subsistence needs! I think SB42 is constitutionally supported, and it simply is the right thing to do.

While resident allocations are being cut the commercial fishing fleet is taking home packs (a subsistence means for taking 100 quart coolers full of commercially caught fish home instead of selling them or have them count against their quota), and taking massive holds full of by catch to Seattle for distribution at homeless shelters (because they can no longer pitch it over the side and it must be salvaged). We have watch as the responsible fishing practices of the commercial fleet have cut the king salmon returns to the point where no sport, personal use, or subsistence retention of king salmon is allowed in much of Alaska's fisheries.

I apologize, I have gotten off topic. Please give serious consideration to supporting SB42. It could mean the difference of an Alaskan future with salmon vs an Alaskan future without salmon! This bill will force more responsible management of the resource and ensure more fish are allowed in the upper river escapement (roughly translated, more salmon on the spawning grounds means larger salmon returns). Thanks for your time and consideration.

Raymond H. Heuer

Thanks for considering sport fishing by supporting SB42.

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Debra McGhan

Please put ALASKANS first by supporting this important bill. Thank you. Paul & Robin Barrett

Dear Legislators,

I support the bill.

T. Kelly Corrigan
Tenakee Springs, Alaska

Cathy --

please note my support for Bill Stoltze's bill, SB42, pertaining to personal use fisheries -- I strongly feel this is a very fair step in the right direction for all Alaskans who use our wildlife resources -- thanks --

Dr. Jim Hagee

Please help insure that Alaska family's will be able to get their fish before the commercial fishermen get theirs .

Hoagie and Rabbit

I support SB 42 for better management of fish for the residents of Alaska.

Patrick O'Connor
Palmer

Alaskans feeding their families should be the last to be restricted in times of salmon resource shortage.

Bill H Swift

Fairbanks Alaska
