



Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance

9369 North Douglas Highway

Juneau, AK 99801

Phone: 907-586-6652

Email: seafa@gci.net

Fax: 907-523-1168

Website: <http://www.seafa.org>

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House Fisheries Committee
Representative Stutes, Chair
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, AK 99811

RE: OPPOSE HB 88 – Composition of the Board of Fisheries

Dear Committee Members,

Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance (SEAFA) opposes HB 88 to expand the Board of Fish to nine members instead of seven. The benefit (if there is any) of having two additional board members **does not justify the increased cost of** adding two additional board members in the face of the State's fiscal situation. HB 87 will do more for improving the Board of Fish than the addition of two more board members.

We listened to the committee hearing and don't believe that the Legislature should further define a regional or gear/user type to be appointed to the Board of Fish in Statute. The legislature should ensure that ethical individuals without personal agendas be confirmed to the Board of Fish and try to maintain a diversity of knowledge and backgrounds.

SEAFA is a multi-gear/multi-species membership based commercial fishing association representing our 300+ members involved in the salmon, crab, and shrimp fisheries of Southeast Alaska as well as longline fisheries in SE and the Gulf of Alaska.

Sincerely,

Kathy Hansen
Executive Director