



March 14, 2017

Representative Louise Stutes
Chairman
House Committee on Fisheries
State Capitol Room 406
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Chairman Stutes and Members of the Committee,

We are grateful for the opportunity to contact you regarding the nominations to the Board of Fisheries. Cordova District Fishermen United (CDFU) appreciates this chance to submit our organization's support for John Jensen as a member of the Board of Fisheries.

CDFU is a non-profit membership organization representing over 900 commercial fishing families who participate in commercial fisheries in Alaska's Area E, which includes Prince William Sound, the Copper River region and the northern-central Gulf. It is our mission to preserve, promote and perpetuate the commercial fishing industry in Area E and to further promote safety at sea, legislation, conservation, management and general welfare for the mutual benefit of all our members.

The commercial fishermen of Area E have a strong and historic relationship with the Board of Fisheries that we foster with great care, proactive communications and representation. We appreciate the processes and objectives of the Board of Fisheries as it serves mutually-held end goal of conserving and developing the fishery resources of our state. With the knowledge that members are appointed on the basis of interest in public affairs, good judgement, knowledge, and ability in the field of action of the board (AKS 16.05.221), CDFU would like to formally state our strong support for current Board of Fisheries board member, Mr. John Jensen of Petersburg.

Mr. Jensen was first appointed to the Board of Fisheries by Governor Frank Murkowski in 2003 and has served our state admirably since that time. As a resident of Petersburg, Mr. Jensen participates in the crab and halibut fisheries of Southeast Alaska and has over 45 years of experience in Alaska commercial fisheries. This hands on experience is invaluable to our industry and Mr. Jensen's unique perspective is an imperative one that merits the attention of the Board of Fisheries.



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It is incredibly important to CDFU, and all commercial fishermen statewide, that our experience, our members, our industry and our way of life is adequately and effectively represented on the Board of Fisheries. This is especially critical during processes that require the Board to engage in setting policy and direction for the management of the state's fishery resources and allocative decisions.

Thank you for lending your full consideration to this statement of support for Mr. John Jensen. We are hopeful that Mr. Jensen will serve another term on the Board of Fisheries. Should you or your staff wish to contact CDFU with follow up questions, please reach out at any time.

Sincerely,

Jerry McCune
President of the Board, CDFU

Rachel Kallander
Executive Director, CDFU

CC: Members of the House Special Committee on Fisheries