



CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL
INCORPORATED MAY 30, 2008

Office of the Borough Mayor

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March 30, 2017

Senator Gary Stevens
State Capitol, Room 429
Juneau, Alaska 99801
Senator.Gary.Stevens@akleg.gov

Re: Support for SB 89 – Shellfish Enhancement

Dear Senator Stevens:

On behalf of the City and Borough of Wrangell, I would like to express support for SB 89 which creates a framework to manage and develop shellfish fishery enhancement which will benefit the State's economy by providing a method to increase the available harvest of shellfish for public use in an environmentally safe manner.

SB89 plays an important role in the development of mariculture in Alaska. SB 89 creates a regulatory framework with which ADF&G can manage shellfish fishery enhancement, restoration and shellfish hatcheries. This will allow interested stakeholders to either continue or begin enhancement and/or restoration of species such as King crab, sea cucumber, geoduck, abalone, or razor clams.

Another benefit of developing shellfish fishery enhancement is the important role that shellfish hatcheries can play in adapting to ocean changes and acidification, and the ecosystem services that shellfish provide to the marine environment, as well as the economic development opportunities for Alaska residents and communities.

Shellfish enhancement can diversify and expand opportunities in coastal communities and increase the resiliency of Alaska's wild shellfish. The City and Borough of Wrangell Assembly supports SB 89 and appreciates your work to provide additional economic opportunities in Alaska.

Sincerely,

Dave Jack
Mayor

cc: Governor Bill Walker
Senator Cathy Giessel, Chair, Senate Resources Committee. Senator.Cathy.Giessel@akleg.gov
Tim Lamkin, Staff, Senator Gary Stevens: Tim.Lamkin@akleg.gov
NRC Alaska
Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation, Inc. (AFDF)
Alaska Maritime Task Force (AMTF)