

ALASKA LEGISLATURE

Representative Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins

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Summary of Changes, ver U — ver R | HB 188 — Regional Fisheries Trusts

Adds **Section 2** to legally distinguish regional fisheries trusts from trust companies as defined in title 6, chapter 26.

Deletes **Section 12**, which inadvertently allowed permit lessees to be part of an association that can levy fees to repay hatchery loans.

Amends **Section 31, proposed AS 16.44.010(a)**, to provide for a “limited authorization.” Only three fisheries trusts may be established in the state, in order for the program to be tested and vetted. Except for the first year after the bill’s effective date (see change to section 40 below), fisheries trusts are established on a first-come, first-served basis. Requires municipalities to provide Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development (DCCED) with draft bylaws and a business plan for a fisheries trust when the municipalities request authorization to establish the fisheries trust.

Adds **Section 40**, which provides a process for determining which regions will participate in the limited authorization. Gives regions until January 1, 2019 to apply to DCCED to establish a fisheries trust. If three or fewer regions apply, all those regions may establish fisheries trusts after January 1, 2019. Additional regions may then establish fisheries trusts on a first-come, first-served basis until three have been established. If more than three regions apply before January 1, 2019, DCCED, in consultation with the Department of Fish & Game, shall choose which regions may establish fisheries trusts based on the out-migration of fishing opportunity from the region since 1980 and the strength of the region’s application. This section ensures regions do not rush the process of planning for a fisheries trust.