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Governor Bill Walker
STATE OF ALASKA

April 14, 2017

The Honorable Bryce Edgmon
Speaker of the House
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol Room 208
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Speaker Edgmon:

Under the authority of Article III, Section 18, of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting this bill relating to the Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (Commission).

The Commission is a regulatory and quasi-judicial agency tasked to promote the conservation and sustained yield management of Alaska's commercial fishery resource by regulating and controlling entry of participants and vessels into the commercial fisheries in the public interest and without unjust discrimination. This bill proposes amendments to address the changing environment of the Commission without affecting the Commission's mission.

Therefore, the bill proposes to adjust the salary range for Commissioners of the Commission from range 27 to range 24 to better align them with other comparable positions. Further, the bill would amend AS 16.43.080 to remove a requirement that employees of the Commission be in the exempt service. To accommodate this change, Commission employees would be transferred to the classified service, but would still be employed by the Commission.

I urge your prompt and favorable action on this measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Walker".

Bill Walker
Governor