

# REPRESENTATIVE DAN ORTIZ

*Alaska State Legislature / Ketchikan, Saxman, Wrangell, Hydaburg, Metlakatla, Hyder, Loring and Meyers Chuck*

**SESSION ADDRESS:**

Alaska State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Phone: 907-465-3824  
Toll Free: 1-800-686-3824  
Fax: 907-465-3175



**INTERIM ADDRESS:**

1900 First Avenue, Suite 310  
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901  
Phone: 907-247-4672  
907-465-5269  
Fax: 907-225-8546

**Sponsor Statement**

**House Bill 354**

**An Act Relating to Dive Fishery Management Assessment Procedures**

This bill is necessary for the Southeast Alaska Regional Dive Fisheries Association, the only dive fishery association in the state regulated by AS 43.76.150-210, to amend the process undertaken to modify the tax on the geoduck, sea cucumber and sea urchin fisheries it represents. Each fishery can tax itself at a different rate. At present, a majority of permit holders are required to change an assessment tax. Many of the permits are nontransferable and less than half of the CFEC permit holders in these fisheries are actively participating in said fisheries. Due to the low involvement of permit holders, a majority participation of permit holders is unrealistic. The proposed legislation allows for a change in assessment tax to be initiated by a  $\frac{3}{4}$  vote from the Board of Directors and the vote to accept the change pass with a majority vote of permit holders participating in the vote.