

April 8, 2019

## Via E-Mail to Committee Staff <a href="https://www.staff.com">trevor.fulton@akleg.gov</a>

## Senate Resources Committee

Senator Chris Birch, Chair Senator John Coghill, Vice-Chair Senator Cathy Giessel Senator Lora Reinbold Senator Click Bishop Senator Scott Kawasaki Senator Jesse Kiehl

## Re: Supporting confirmation of Gerad Godfrey to the Board of Fisheries

Dear Chair Birch and members of the Senate Resources Committee:

Ouzinkie Native Corporation is the ANCSA village corporation for the community of Ouzinkie. Ouzinkie is one of the oldest continuously occupied community sites in the Kodiak archipelago and fishermen have been fishing salmon since long before there was a commercial fishery on Kodiak Island - hundreds if not thousands of years.

Ouzinkie Native Corporation believes Gerad Godfrey would be an excellent member of the Alaska Board of Fisheries. He is familiar with fisheries issues in Alaska, he is a former salmon seine crew member, and like most life-long Alaskans, he enjoys sport fishing. Given his Alaska Native heritage, subsistence is also a high priority for Gerad.

Gerad also has an impressive professional history highlighted by leadership roles in both the public and private sectors. He has served on and chaired the Violent Crimes Compensation Board and has also served as chairman for the board of directors for Afognak Native Corporation. He understands board function, deliberation and decision making and has the capacity to analyze complex issues to formulate a position.

Given his background and experience, Gerad would bring a well-balanced perspective to the Board of Fisheries. He is approachable and listens to all perspectives. He is also aware of and committed to devoting the time necessary to be an effective member of the Board of Fisheries.

As you review applicants for appointment to the Board of Fisheries, I believe you will find that Gerad's background makes him an outstanding candidate. On behalf of the Board of Directors of Ouzinkie Native Corporation, I encourage you to confirm Gerad Godfrey to the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

Sincerely,

Crystal Boskofsky Board Chair