



Alaska Trollers Association
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April 12, 2019

Representative Geran Tarr
Co-Chair, House Resources Committee
State Capitol Building, Room 128
Juneau, AK 99811

RE: HR 8

Dear Representative Tarr,

As you may know, Alaska Trollers Association (ATA) represents the Southeast commercial troll fleet. Our members are professional hook and line salmon fishermen who deliver the highest quality salmon to markets, often providing the only access to our State's resource to residents without the means of harvesting their own. Alaska's troll fleet is 85% resident with a large number of our troll permit holders living in rural communities. The organization of ATA has been around nearly a century, illustrating our membership's long term dependence on the salmon resource.

In the interest of sustainability of these beautiful fish, ATA would like to thank you for introducing HR 8, "Recognizing 2019 as the International Year of the Salmon and supporting an associated global initiative identifying the importance of wild salmon." It is nice to enjoin with our neighbors, the states of Washington and Oregon, in a constructive manner so recently after having concluded the last set of Pacific Salmon Treaty negotiations. Needless to say, reports are there was little constructive consensus in that process.

ATA recognizes that salmon are integral to the economies, ecosystems and cultures of all of our coastal communities, as Representative Helm from Oregon stated per your sponsor statement. However, due to the lack of other economic opportunities in our rural communities, Alaska's reliance on the health of salmon runs is more magnified. Nevertheless, we commend all parties for recognizing and supporting efforts to help the survival of salmon and thank you again for your sponsorship on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Amy Daugherty". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Amy Daugherty
Executive Director