

From: Megan McPhee

Sent: Monday, April 15, 2019 3:11 PM

To: Thatcher Brouwer <Thatcher.Brouwer@akleg.gov>

Subject: House Resolution to recognize International Year of the Salmon - yes!

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my support for the Alaska House resolution to recognize 2019 as the “International Year of the Salmon.” The IYS is focused on learning much as we can about salmon during the ocean phase of their life cycle, which is turning out to be very important to Alaskans as we have watched our Chinook stocks decline all around the state and have seen recent drops in local stocks of coho, sockeye, and pink salmon. During tough budget times in Alaska, political polarization within our country, and shaky relations among national governments, the IYS is a breath of fresh air for its good-faith collaboration across nations and communities to expand scientific capabilities and knowledge to sustain salmon into the future.

For full disclosure, I am an associate professor of fisheries at the University of Alaska Fairbanks and serve on the Pacific Steering Committee for the International Year of the Salmon, but the views expressed above represent my personal opinion and not that of the University of Alaska or the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission.

Sincerely,

Megan McPhee

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