

Letters of Support for Israel Payton and Karl Johnstone

4.16.19

1. Amber Allen

Matt Gruening

From: Amber Allen ~~all@alaska.com~~
Sent: Sunday, April 14, 2019 8:27 PM
To: House Fisheries; Senate Resources; House Finance
Subject: Karl Johnstone, Israel Payton Appointment

Legislators and Committe Members,

My name is Ben Allen. I own / operate Millers Riverboat Service (a fishing guide business based out of Wasilla). Sportfishing and guiding is my major source of income, in addition to being one of my greatest passions. Appointments of Mr. Johnstone and Payton will provide for a balanced Board of Fisheries. I have actively participated in 3 board meetings. One of the most frustrating components of participating in the Board of fisheries, is when important user groups are not represented proportionately, such as the Cook Inlet sport fishery at many of the board meetings.

All fishing methods have their place in Alaska and are an important part of Alaska's economy and heritage. I feel that with these gentlemen's appointments, all fishing interests will be represented proportionately, at the next Cook Inlet Board of Fisheries meeting. Some usergroups want a board dominated by members that are vested in only their use type. Without diversity on the board a utilitarian result becomes largely infeasible.

Mr. Johnstone and Payton have done an outstanding job when previously serving. I ask that you ignore the prejudice of biased opinions of individuals and groups who only want the board to consist of members representing their interests, instead of what is best for Alaska, Alaska fisheries and the sustainability of these precious salmon.

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Ben Allen
Millers Riverboat Service

~~Ben Allen~~