



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

## Department of Fish and Game

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January 28, 2020

The Honorable Louise Stutes  
House Special Committee on Fisheries  
State Capitol Building, Room 406  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Stutes:

This letter is submitted to express the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's (ADF&G) support of Governor Dunleavy's House Bill 218 which reinstates the saltwater sport fishing guide and operator licensing standards, fees and salt water logbook reporting requirements which sunset in 2018.

The department has since discontinued the logbook program for fresh water sport fisheries. However, the department is required by the federal government to collect salt water logbook data in order to meet obligations for various treaties such as the Pacific Salmon Treaty and the Pacific Halibut Treaty. This has left the department with an unfunded mandate. If the State of Alaska fails to perform these obligations the federal government will institute a logbook program of their own, infringing on the state's right to manage.

Logbook data is also critical to in-season fisheries management and other department functions such as issuing emergency orders, informing the Board of Fisheries in their decision-making processes, informing the Advisory Committees, fisheries disaster declarations, the Federal Subsistence Board and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration salt water registry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doug".

Doug Vincent-Lang  
Commissioner