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**Senate Bill 145**

*"An Act relating to the registration of commercial fishing vessels; and providing for an effective date."*

SB 145 removes a duplicative and confusing registration requirement for active commercial fishing vessels, which was inadvertently created by the passage of the derelict vessel bill, SB 92, in 2018.

Passage of SB 92 was meant to improve Alaska's prevention and management of derelict vessels throughout coastal Alaska and on the State's major river systems. The intent was not to create duplicative registration requirements and duplicative vessel numbering. SB 145 removes these duplicative registration and numbering requirements by allowing vessels registered with the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) to bypass DMV registration.

CFEC maintains a database of registered vessels that provides necessary ownership and contact information, which meets the intent of the derelict vessel bill. Vessel licensure with the CFEC requires annual renewal and already provides the necessary contact information in a sharable, state database.

Alaska's commercial fishing vessels are key to Alaska's fishermen's ability earn a living while nourishing our state, the nation and the world with quality seafood. Policies should support thriving commerce by removing of unnecessary and duplicative bureaucratic regulatory burdens whenever possible. SB 145 does exactly that.

I urge your support of this legislation which will relieve an unnecessary burden from our commercial fishing community and the Alaskan families the industry supports.