



UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

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March 13, 2020

Representative Senator Micciche, Chair Senate Resources
State Capitol Room 504
Juneau AK, 99801

RE: Support SB 130

Dear Senator Micciche and Members of Senate Resources Committee,

United Fishermen of Alaska (UFA) is the statewide commercial fishing trade association, representing 36 commercial fishing organizations participating in fisheries throughout the state, and the federal fisheries off Alaska's coast.

United Fishermen of Alaska supports SB 130- Seafood Product Development Tax Credit bill introduced by Senator Stevens. This bill seeks to extend the sunset date for the seafood product development tax and include pollock and cod.

The Seafood Development Tax Credit was developed when salmon prices were extremely low and has helped the processing sector to upgrade infrastructure and develop new products outside of canned salmon. The tax was extended to herring during a time of low prices and shrinking marketplace again helping to innovate product development. UFA appreciates extending the tax credit benefit to pollock and cod during a downturn in this industry. This seafood development tax credit is helpful to processors and has shown in the past through innovation and updated equipment to increase the raw fish tax paid into the State of Alaska.

Sincerely,

Matt Alward
President

Frances H. Leach
Executive Director