

Representative Andi Story State Capitol Juneau, Alaska 99801 Representative.Andi.Story@akleg.gov

Re: Support for HB 115 - AQUATIC FARMING & HATCHERY SITE LEASES

Dear Representative Story,

Marble Seafoods and Hump Island Oyster Company would like to express support for HB 115.

There are lots of really great things within HB 115 including creating a path for shellfish fishery enhancement which is currently allowed on an experimental basis but not for actual restoration activities for area that are in need to assistance because of changing ocean conditions, predation, overharvesting or other external factors.

HB 115 will greatly impact our businesses through streamlining the renewal process as this is our renewal year. It will also allow eco-tourism which we have been trying to pioneer through a sister company Bonfire Bay Tour Company. Eco tours are currently prohibited within aquatic farming lease sites requiring a very time consuming and expensive duplicate lease application process for the same infrastructure. For our small business, allowing eco-tourism will make our break our business. Not only will it create greater awareness in Alaska's unique aquatic farms but will also create market opportunities and direct tour revenue. This is a great thing for our industry and our region.

Very truly yours,

Trevor Sande, P.E.