



Kodiak Seiners Association
PO Box 8835
Kodiak, AK 99615

April 9, 2021

Joint Fisheries and Resources
State Capitol Room 128
Juneau AK, 99801

RE: Board of Fish Nominee Marit Carlson Van-Dort

Dear CoChair Tarr and CoChair Patkotak:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the nomination of Marit Carlson Van-Dort to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. **Kodiak Seiners Association (KSA) opposes the nomination for reappointment to the BOF of Ms. Carlson Van-Dort.**

Kodiak Seiners Association is comprised of over 100 active SO1K seine permit holders, local Kodiak and Homer businesses, and individual crewmembers. Our focus is advocacy for our membership through positive interactions with ADFG, the Board of Fisheries and our state legislature.

The Kodiak Seiners Association (KSA) is writing in opposition the nominations of Marit Carlson-Van Dort to the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF). It is with great reluctance and hesitation that our organization would object to a BOF nominee unless an individual's nomination were an egregious violation of the statutory guidance provided to the governor who is instructed to select members on the basis of interest in public affairs, good judgment, knowledge, and ability in the field of action of the board, and with a view to providing diversity of interest and points of view in the membership (AS 16.05.221a). Governor Dunleavy has blatantly disregarded this guidance and has instead nominated members who are ideologically consolidated around a limited viewpoint and whose conduct and intentions on the board are clearly to advance their personal interests over their civic duties.

Our opposition to the reappointment of Ms. Marit Carlson Van-Dort stems from witnessing her conduct at the January 2020 Kodiak Board of Fish meeting in which she participated in discussions and deliberations with a strong bias in favor of proposals that had been submitted by family members. While there inevitably was no direct conflict of interest with her participation per the definitions of conflict laid out in **AS 39.52.110**, her personal interests and connections to the beneficiaries of the proposals created a collective conflict that cannot be ignored, and calls in to question her ability to conduct her public office in an ethical and moral manner consistent with the delegation of members to ensure public trust in the Board process.

Respectfully,

Nate Rose
KSA President