

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** HB-28  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 26, 2022 8:42:53 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[AAHPA Resolution 2019-2.pdf](#)

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Good evening Thatcher, please send this statement into the hearing so that it is part of the written statements. I've reached out to the AAHPA board to see if anybody has the time to call in tomorrow and read a statement into the record.

Thank you and please thank Rep Tarr for her work on this bill.

The Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators support **HB 28, which will exempt** Coast Guard Documented Commercial Fishing Vessels that are currently registered with the state of Alaska CFEC (commercial fishing entry commission) from registering with Alaska State **Division of Motor Vehicles**.

Alaskan Harbormasters must have access to accurate ownership information on vessels that use or are requesting the use of our facilities. In times past we had the ability to track vessel ownership of coast guard documented vessels through the Federal documentation center but that resource is no longer available to us. However, tracking ownership of Documented commercial fishing vessels through **the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission** gives harbor staff access to accurate vessel ownership.

Bryan Hawkins  
Port Director/Harbormaster  
Pres. AAHPA



Homer Port & Harbor

[REDACTED]  
Homer, AK 99603  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

# Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators



## RESOLUTION NO. 2019-2

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE ALASKA ASSOCIATION OF HARBORMASTERS AND PORT ADMINISTRATORS ENCOURAGING AUTOMATIC REGISTRATION FOR VESSELS ACTIVE IN THE ALASKA CFEC DATABASE.**

**Whereas**, the Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators represents small boat harbors and ports across Alaska's coast and rivers; and

**Whereas**, derelict vessels are a large and growing problem at all of our communities, resulting in increased costs to the public, environmental, and navigational hazards; and

**Whereas**, defining ownership and holding individuals responsible for their vessels has been identified as one of the top barriers to effective management to prevent derelict vessels; and

**Whereas**, in 2018 the legislature passed Senate Bill 92, the Derelict Vessel Act; and

**Whereas**, in addition to substantially re-writing and updating AS30.30, the derelict vessel chapter of state statute, SB92 addressed tracking vessel ownership through changes to AS05.25; and

**Whereas**, these changes expand vessel registration requirements in Alaska effective January 1, 2019 and, similar to Washington and other states, Alaska now requires federally documented vessels to also be registered with the state Department of Motor Vehicles; and

**Whereas**, the State of Alaska did not inform the newly regulated community nor do any outreach of any kind in advance of this change; and

**Whereas**, active fishermen around the state were caught unaware, and raised the fact that their vessels are already in the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission Database; and

**Whereas**, the intent of SB92 was to better track vessel ownership in Alaska regardless of its engagement in a fishery and across the life of the vessel which is best accomplished through state registration; and

**Whereas**, vessel registration should be simple, creating minimal added burden to help effectively address the problem of identifying vessel ownership; and

**Now therefore be it resolved** that the Membership of the Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators recommends an update to Alaska state statute directing vessels active in the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission Vessel Database be automatically issued Alaska vessel registration numbers, and that the CFEC and the Division of Motor Vehicles create a system for information sharing to this end.

Passed and approved by a duly constituted quorum of the Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators on this 3rd day of October, 2019.

ATTEST:

  
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Rachel Lord, Executive Secretary

  
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Carl Uchytel, President