

**CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 43(FSH)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

Offered: 4/20/95

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

**A RESOLUTION**

**1 Relating to commercial fishing and subsistence use in Glacier Bay National Park.**

**2 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

**3 WHEREAS** the National Park Service is currently addressing the issue of subsistence  
4 use and commercial fishing in Glacier Bay National Park (Park) and is considering the status  
5 of subsistence use and commercial fishing in the park; and

**6 WHEREAS** subsistence use and commercial fishing have occurred in the Park since  
7 before it was established as a national monument in 1925 up to the present day; and

**8 WHEREAS** the National Park Service currently does not recognize the right of  
9 residents of Hoonah and other local communities to use the area now included in the Park for  
10 subsistence use, as their ancestors had done for generations; and

**11 WHEREAS** the prohibition of subsistence use and commercial fishing in the Park  
12 would have disastrous and widespread economic, environmental, and social consequences for  
13 the fishermen of Southeast Alaska and the communities in which they reside; and

**14 WHEREAS** the continued subsistence and commercial use of fisheries resources  
15 within the navigable waters of the Park are desirable and are environmentally compatible with  
16 the purposes of the Park; and

**17 WHEREAS** the harvest of fisheries resources in the Park is conservatively managed

- 1 by the Alaska Board of Fisheries and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to promote
- 2 the sustained health of the fish stocks; and

3           **WHEREAS** migratory species of fish that do not originate in the Park constitute the  
4 majority of the fish harvested within the Park; a portion of the salmon harvested in the Park  
5 is the result of salmon enhancement and rehabilitation efforts by the State of Alaska and  
6 private nonprofit aquaculture associations; and

7           **WHEREAS** the National Park Service must administer the Park subject to existing  
8 rights, statutes, and regulations; and

**9 WHEREAS** National Park Service regulations specifically provide for commercial  
10 sport fishing activities and for the use of large tour ships within the Park; and

11           **WHEREAS** the State of Alaska has a claim to ownership of the submerged lands and  
12   navigable waters of the Park; and

13           **WHEREAS** the State of Alaska exercises management authority over fishery resources  
14    of the Park; and

15           **WHEREAS** issues relating to state and federal jurisdiction in the Park have not been  
16    resolved; and

17       **WHEREAS** subsistence use and commercial fishing in the Park do not threaten Park  
18 resources, visitor enjoyment of Park resources, or whale habitat in the Park;

19           **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the  
20 National Park Service to work with the state, other federal agencies, and affected parties to  
21 study the resources in Glacier Bay National Park and the effect of sport and commercial  
22 fishing, subsistence use, and tourism on these resources; and be it

**23 FURTHER RESOLVED** that the National Park Service, if it promulgates regulations,

24 (1) authorize continued commercial fishing under the laws of the State of  
25 Alaska within the marine waters of Glacier Bay National Park; and

26 (2) expressly provide for subsistence uses in the Park.

27       **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the  
28       United States; the Honorable Bruce Babbitt, Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior;  
29       Roger G. Kennedy, Director, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior; Robert  
30       Barbee, Alaska Regional Director, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior; and  
31       to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the

**1** Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.