

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 6

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE CHENAULT

Introduced: 5/1/01

Referred: House Special Committee on Fisheries

A RESOLUTION

1 **Supporting the Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association's plan for enhancement and**
2 **rehabilitation of Cook Inlet fisheries.**

3 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:**

4 **WHEREAS** the Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association was organized and incorporated
5 in 1976 to protect and rehabilitate self-perpetuating salmon stocks and salmon habitat and to
6 maximize the value of the common property salmon resource by applying science and
7 enhancement technology to supplement the value attained from protection and rehabilitation
8 of self-perpetuating salmon stocks; and

9 **WHEREAS** the Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association is a qualified regional
10 aquaculture association under state law; and

11 **WHEREAS** the programs of the Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association serve the entire
12 Cook Inlet region, which includes all waters of Alaska in Cook Inlet and Resurrection Bay
13 north of Cape Douglas and west of Cape Fairfield, including the Barren Islands and all lands
14 draining into Cook Inlet and Resurrection Bay; and

15 **WHEREAS** the programs of the Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association serve the Cook
16 Inlet fishing community, which consists of Native and non-Native subsistence users,

1 commercial, personal use, and sport fishermen, and the businesses that support these users;
2 and

3 **WHEREAS** more than 50 percent of the population of Alaska resides in the Cook
4 Inlet region; and

5 **WHEREAS** salmon prices have begun a downward trend, reducing the income
6 available to individuals and businesses that rely directly or indirectly on the salmon resource
7 for income; and

8 **WHEREAS**, not only have salmon prices declined, but the returns of salmon to the
9 Cook Inlet region have also weakened, particularly sockeye salmon in 1998 and 2000 and
10 coho salmon in 1999; and

11 **WHEREAS** the Kenai Peninsula Borough and the federal government have declared
12 the Cook Inlet fishing community to be an economic disaster; and

13 **WHEREAS** the declaration of the economic disaster has provided short-term
14 assistance to the Cook Inlet fishing community; and

15 **WHEREAS** the Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association has developed a plan for long-
16 term assistance to the Cook Inlet fishing community through fisheries rehabilitation and
17 enhancement; and

18 **WHEREAS** the Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association has presented its plan for long-
19 term assistance to the Cook Inlet fishing community to the Kenai Peninsula Borough; and

20 **WHEREAS** the Kenai Peninsula Borough has identified the long-term assistance plan
21 prepared by the Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association as a priority for federal funding during
22 2001; and

23 **WHEREAS** subsistence fishing and personal use fishing are important to the citizens
24 of Alaska; and

25 **WHEREAS** tourism and commercial fishing are industries important to the economy
26 of Alaska;

27 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska House of Representatives supports the plan
28 proposed by the Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association for long-term assistance to the Cook
29 Inlet fishing community through fisheries rehabilitation and enhancement; and be it

30 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska House of Representatives supports the
31 efforts of the Kenai Peninsula Borough to assist the Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association in

- 1 providing long-term assistance to the Cook Inlet fishing community; and be it
- 2 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska House of Representatives supports the
- 3 efforts of the Kenai Peninsula Borough to obtain federal funding for the plan of the Cook Inlet
- 4 Aquaculture Association to provide long-term assistance to the Cook Inlet fishing community.