

STATE OF ALASKA THE LEGISLATURE

2003

Source

HCS CSSJR 12(FSH)

**Legislative
Resolve No.**

14



Supporting the halibut bycatch utilization project of the Alaska Food Coalition.

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

WHEREAS fishermen operating trawl vessels are prohibited from retaining accidentally caught halibut; and

WHEREAS these fishermen are required by federal regulation to dump halibut bycatch, even dead halibut, at sea; and

WHEREAS these fishermen, who would receive no personal profit, gain, or benefit, except the intrinsic satisfaction derived of noble action, desire, at the expense of their labor and time, to retain and donate halibut bycatch to charitable food relief agencies; and

WHEREAS Kodiak processors are willing to handle and process otherwise at-sea-discarded halibut bycatch for charitable purposes; and

WHEREAS the Alaska Food Coalition, a network of charitable food relief organizations, has established a plan, has acquired funds, and is ready to distribute the halibut bycatch to assist Alaskans in need;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature supports the Alaska Food Coalition in its efforts to see that the dead halibut bycatch, which is otherwise an unutilized

resource, is put to use to support our Alaska families in need; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature commends Kodiak fishermen and processors for their efforts and willingness to see that halibut bycatch is responsibly disposed of through charitable donations; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the National Marine Fisheries Service and the North Pacific Fishery Management Council to support the issuance of a Prohibited Species Donation Permit using halibut bycatch from vessels with observers.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to Susan J. Salveson, Assistant Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, United States Department of Commerce; Kenneth D. Hansen, Assistant-Special-Agent-in-Charge, Alaska Region, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, United States Department of Commerce; David Benton, Chair, North Pacific Fishery Management Council; Alvin Burch, Executive Director, Alaska Draggers Association; Mitch Kilborn, Manager, Western Alaska Fisheries; Matt Moir, Manager, Alaska Pacific Seafoods; Greg D. Hathaway, Manager, Trident Seafoods Corporation; and Trevor Jones, Chair, Alaska Food Coalition.