S A R D F A
Southeast Alaska Regional Dive Fisheries Association

Mission Statement: To develop, expand, and enhance new and existing dive fisheries in Southeast Alaska.

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Support for HB 128 – Shellfish Enhancement

Representative Dan Ortiz
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol Room 513
Juneau Alaska 99801

Dear Representative Ortiz,

The Southeast Alaska Regional Dive Fisheries Association (SARDFA) appreciates your efforts to assist the emerging mariculture industry in Alaska. SARDFA has been involved in sea cucumber enhancement work for several years with an end goal of producing hatchery raised sea cucumbers to out-plant and supplement wild stocks. In the summer of 2017 we conducted our first high controlled outplanting of hatchery raised sea cucumbers. HB 128 is an important element to have in place so that SARDFA may someday be able to enhance wild stocks. Without HB 128, the State of Alaska lacks the statutory authority to manage invertebrate enhancement.

HB 128 is critical to furthering invertebrate aquaculture and enhancement in Alaska. SARDFA fully supports HB 128.

Again, thank you for your efforts to support mariculture development in Alaska.

Sincerely

Kate Sullivan
Phil Doherty

Member of:
Southeast Conference
United Fishermen of Alaska
PACRIM Shellfish Sanitation Association
Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference