

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



House Fisheries Committee

HB 117 Explanation of Changes: Version N to I

Updated on 2.1.26

Section 1 on Page 1, line 3 through Page 2, line 1:

Intent language was added to specify that when establishing the maximum number of permits that may fish as one cooperative in an administrative area, the Board of Fisheries should take those regulations up on cycle with each area's finfish meeting, consider the traditional size of cooperative groups in that area, and preserve the status quo of the fishery.

Section 2 on Page 2 lines 6 through 7:

Version N's requirement for a permit holder to be "present at all times" was replaced with the requirement to be "physically present... unless the other permit holder is absent for a reason permitted under AS 16.05.253 (a)." This conforming change mirrors existing statutory requirements for permit holders being present at the beach or riparian site, as well as traveling to and from fishing gear or the sale of fish.

Section 2 on Page 2, lines 15 through 17:

New subsection (j)(3) directs the Board of Fisheries to establish in regulation the maximum number of permits that can fish as one cooperative in an administrative area, except that no area may be allowed less than 3 permits per group. In the previous version N, the upper limit was set in statute at 10 permits per group in all administrative areas. This change was made at the request of stakeholders and committee members.

Section 3 on Page 2, lines 18 through 28:

This is a new section that amends AS 16.05.253 (a) to clarify that a member of a cooperative may be absent from the beach or riparian area when selling fish on behalf of another member of the cooperative or traveling to the gear of another member of the cooperative. This conforming change mirrors the existing requirements for single permit setnet operations.

Section 4 on Page 2, line 29 through Page 3, line 4:

A clarification was added that salmon harvested by a setnet cooperative could be sold by "any" permit holder in the cooperative. The previous version N stated that a "single" permit holder could sell salmon on behalf of their cooperative; this change clarified that one or multiple permit holders may sell fish on behalf of their cooperative.