

Fisheries Committee Staff Work Based on Recommendations by the Joint Legislative Task Force on Evaluating Alaska's Seafood Industry:

Recommendation 10 (a): Commercial Fishing Insurance Pools

- Draft back from Legislative Legal Services creating a carve out for commercial fishing insurance pools in Title 21
 - Insurance pool would require initial financial support from the state

Recommendation 6 (b): Amend the Commercial Fishing Revolving Loan Fund (CFRLF) to Better Support New Entrants

- Committee Staff have held several meetings with DCCED on this issue
 - HB 273 from 2024 lowered CFRLF interest rates from 10.5% to 5.25%
 - See memo in members' packets and on BASIS from DCCED regarding what the fund does well to support new entrants
 - Staff continuing to look into this issue

Recommendation 7(a) and (b): Expanding the Fisheries Product Development Tax Credit Program

- Committee Staff have held multiple meetings with the Pacific Seafood Processors Association and the Department of Revenue on language to expand this credit
- Draft available to committee members soon

Recommendation 14 (a): Supporting the Alaska Responsible Fisheries Management (RFM) Certification

- Committee staff have been working with ASMI on a resolution expressing the Legislature's support for the expansion of RFM program
- Draft available to committee members soon

Legislation Related to Task Force Recommendations:

- Bill currently in drafting that would preserve cooperative deliveries for set netters across Alaska. Draft available to committee members soon
- Would allow deliveries to continue as they have historically in set net fisheries

Recommendation 11 (a) and 4 (a): Amendments to Commercial Fishing Entry Commission (CFEC) and the Limited Entry Program

- 11 (a) Permit Self Financing:
 - Committee staff have met multiple times with CFEC on this issue as a priority for the committee. See memo in members' packets and on BASIS from CFEC outlining concerns. Continuing work on this issue with CFEC and permit holders
- 4 (a) Modernize Limited Entry System Administered by CFEC:
 - Consider appointing interim working group focused solely on possible amendments to CFEC/Limited Entry. Group would be tasked with bringing suite of options forward for drafting next year