



United Cook Inlet Drift Association

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March 10, 2009

Representative Alan Austerman
State Capitol, Room 434
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: HJR 21

Dear Representative Austerman:
United Cook Inlet Drift Association (UCIDA) represents some 585 Upper Cook Inlet salmon fishing families. Many of our members use their salmon fishing vessels in the spring and fall cod fishery in Cook Inlet and Kodiak areas. For many younger families and fishermen, this fishery is where they enter a career of professional commercial fishing. The current action before the North Pacific Fishery Management Council closes this fishery to new entrants and removes unused permits. It is essential that fisheries remain open for new, often younger fishermen to enter fisheries without the economic challenges of needing to purchase harvesting privileges, IFQ's or a limited entry permit. We fully support HJR 21.

Sincerely,

Roland Maw, PhD
UCIDA Executive Director

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