

Dear Representative Stutes and members of the House Fisheries Committee,

I Richard Blanc support your passage of HB 117. I am a set net fisherman in Alitak Bay Kodiak, Alaska for 53 years. My wife and I have owned our set net site and four S04K permits for 52 years. Our children have grown up fishing with us and now our grandkids are entering the fishery.

We have fished our 4 permits in common, selling fish on each permit during the season. All permit holders have different responsibilities and jobs to do to ensure a safe, efficient harvest. It is not possible, logical or being safe to have all permit holders at the point of sale (tender), nor keep the various permit's fish separate in our small skiffs.

Historically we have followed the rules allowed by ADF&G with no issues. It is punitive for the state to change course and start writing tickets for trying to make a living the way we always have.

If HB117 does not pass our family operation of 52 years will cease to exist. We are not supporting a change instead urging that government (for the people) will make and enforce reasonable regulations .

This legislation is a straightforward way to clear up inconsistencies between regulation and practice and get ADF&G the information they need, while still allowing the fishery to continue as it always has, a win-win for everyone. For a fishery already in dire straits (evidence of the many set net sites boarded up), without HB 117 we are not sustainable.

Thank the representatives for working to help solve this problem that has arisen.

Sincerely,

Richard Blanc