

Savage Inc. 2417 Tongass Ave Suite 111-176 Ketchikan, AK 99901 (206)-972-8217

March 19, 2025

Alaska House of Representatives Chair Louise Stutes, House Fisheries Committee

Email: House.Fisheries@akleg.gov

Dear Chair Stutes and House Fisheries Committee members:

Please accept this letter of support for HB 129, a tax credit bill that supports product development, innovation, and quality. HB 129 encourages investment by seafood processors for equipment that increases quality and value adding for seafood products in the State of Alaska.

HB 129 supports an extension of the fisheries product development tax credit to 2029. Also, it expands the range of commercially harvested species and includes equipment to elevate quality, which encourages diversification in the marketplace. Furthermore, it restructures the application process, making it efficient and timely.

I have been involved in the commercial fishing industry for over forty years and I am the owner/operator of the 80' F/V Savage. Over these many years, I have witnessed how quality and innovation have helped the industry persevere and counter adverse economic and market conditions. Equipment that elevates quality provides an opportunity for 100% utilization. Equipment that encourages new product forms through value adding, takes advantage of the higher quality products to produce innovative market goods to maintain relevancy in the domestic and global market place.

I respectfully urge you to support HB 129. These incentives are critical in order for seafood processors to invest in new equipment, thus, raising the ex-vessel value, creating jobs, and ensuring stability in our coastal communities. Thank you for your time and dedication to our communities and seafood industry.

Respectfully,

Tomi Marsh F/V Savage

