



UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

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May 4, 2016

Representative Steve Thompson, Chair
House Finance Committee
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: Concerns with HB 251 – Fisheries Taxes

Dear Chairman Thompson and committee members,

United Fishermen of Alaska (UFA) continues to hold our position that any new or increased taxes on the fishing industry must be part of a comprehensive fiscal solution, as included in our 2015 resolution that is previously submitted as [HB251 Backup UFA.pdf](#). We do not see a comprehensive fiscal solution at this time and until that happens we oppose singling industries out.

UFA has the following additional comments on some concepts that are in HB 251 or have been considered in previous versions of the legislation:

UFA opposes the removal of CFEC permit fee maximum caps.

UFA opposes an increase on canned salmon tax - we support keeping this tax at the current 4.5%.

UFA opposes an increase on taxes on developing fisheries of 4%. We are comfortable with an increase to 2% at most in developing fisheries as included in the original legislation as introduced.

UFA is the statewide commercial fishing trade association, representing 34 commercial fishing organizations participating in fisheries throughout the state and its offshore federal waters.

Thank you for your consideration,



Jerry McCune
President



Mark Vinsel
Executive Administrator