

ALASKA STATE SENATE

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Senator Mike Cronk

Sectional Analysis for SB 161

“An Act relating to the use of certain trawl or dredge fishing gear in state water; and providing for an effective date.”

Section 1:

Amends AS 16.10 by adding a new section that prohibits bottom trawling in Alaska State waters.

Section 2:

Amends the uncodified law of the State of Alaska and directs the Department of Fish and Game to:

- Conduct a comprehensive study on the impacts of bottom trawling of Alaska’s seafloor and marine wildlife,
- Provide numerical data on bycatch, by species, taken over the last 10 years,
- Recommend to the Legislature on whether bottom trawling and dredging equipment should be prohibited or limited for sustained fishery resource yield and the maximum benefit of the people of Alaska.

Section 3:

Provides an effective date of January 1, 2028, for Section 1 of this Act.

Section 4:

Provides an immediate effective date for Sections 2 and 3 in this Act.