



# ORGANIZED VILLAGE OF KASAAN

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March 6, 2009

To:

- Representative Alan Austerman 120 4<sup>th</sup> St., Juneau, Alaska 99802 Fax 465-4956
- Representative Bill Thomas Jr. 120 4<sup>th</sup> St., Juneau, Alaska 99802 Fax 465-2652
- Representative Jay Ramras 120 4<sup>th</sup> St., Juneau, Alaska 99802 Fax 465-2070
- Representative Cathy Munoz 120 4<sup>th</sup> St., Juneau, Alaska 99802 Fax 465-2273
- Representative Charisse Millett 120 4<sup>th</sup> St., Juneau, Alaska 99802 Fax 465-2069
- Representative Bryce Edgman 120 4<sup>th</sup> St., Juneau, Alaska 99802 Fax 465-3445
- Representative Paul Seaton 120 4<sup>th</sup> St., Juneau, Alaska 99802 Fax 465-3472
- Representative Peggy Wilson 120 4<sup>th</sup> St., Juneau, Alaska 99802 Fax 465-3175
- Representative John Harris 120 4<sup>th</sup> St., Juneau, Alaska 99802 Fax 465-3799
- Representative Mark Neuman 120 4<sup>th</sup> St., Juneau, Alaska 99802 Fax 465-4822

**Subject: HJR 21 – A Resolution requesting the North Pacific Fishery Management Council to cease consideration of an amendment package that would require a Pacific cod endorsement for a license limitation program to participate in the Pacific cod fisheries in the Gulf of Alaska.**

Dear Representatives: Auterman, Thomas, Ramras, Munoz, Millett, Edgmon, Seaton, Wilson, Harris, and Neuman,

The Organized Village of Kasaan strongly supports House Joint Resolution #21 that you have co-sponsored.

We are deeply concerned that current North Pacific Fishery Management Council action to reduce existing federal groundfish licenses for both fixed gear and trawl gear, combined with a proposed sector split is not good for our coastal communities and not good for Alaska.

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The life blood of our community and many other communities in the Gulf of Alaska depend upon access to the marine resources that lie on our doorsteps. Our communities are continually losing access to local fisheries and it doesn't matter whether you call this rationalization or something else – the result is the same. If we continue down this same path at some point in the future all our federal waters Gulf fisheries could be fully owned by Outside interests.

We encourage the Alaska Legislature to pass this resolution and thereby make a strong statement to the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council that this amendment package is not good for Alaska communities and should be scrapped. The Council should heed the guidance in HJR 21 and cease considering the LLP recent amendment package. Any attempt to address similar issues in the future should also address as a primary goal how the fishing economies of Gulf of Alaska Communities can be maintained or strengthened as a result of the amendment package.

We thank you for your concern and effort on this very important matter

Sincerely,



Richard Peterson, President  
Organized Village of Kasaan

CC:

The Honorable Sarah Palin, Governor, State of Alaska	465-2332
Denby Lloyd, Commissioner of Alaska Department of Fish and Game	465-2332
Cora Crome, Fisheries Policy Advisor, Office of the Governor	465-3532
John Moller, Rural Advisor, Office of the Governor	465-3532