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Representative Bryce Edgmon
State Capitol, Room 424
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

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RE: HB 20

Dear Rep. Edgmon,

I'd like to thank you and the other sponsors of HB 20 for this important legislation. This bill couldn't be more timely to assist Alaska's fishermen and fishing communities. Broadening the eligibility for low interest state loans for fishermen and women to repower their vessels with more efficient engines is the right thing to do for the environment and the right thing to do for Alaska's fishermen. Many have deferred the maintenance and improvements needed to remain competitive precisely because fish prices have been low and fuel prices high. While HB 20 effects a modest change in the Division of Investments requirements, it can make a big difference to Alaska harvesters working hard to keep their operations in the black.

I appreciate your work on this bill and urge adoption of this legislation.

Thank you, sincerely,



Fritz Johnson
F/V Jazz
Dillingham