



# UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

211 Fourth Street, Suite 110  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1172  
(907) 586-2820  
(907) 463-2545 Fax  
E-Mail: [ufa@ufa-fish.org](mailto:ufa@ufa-fish.org)  
[www.ufa-fish.org](http://www.ufa-fish.org)

March 19, 2012

Representative Paul Seaton, Co-Chair  
Representative Eric Feige, Co-Chair  
House Resources Committee  
Alaska State Legislature  
120 4<sup>th</sup> St, State Capitol, Room 3  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

## **RE: Support for HB 365 Regarding Marine Invasive Species**

Dear Co-Chairmen Seaton & Feige, and Committee Members,

United Fishermen of Alaska (UFA) is the largest statewide commercial fishing trade association, representing 37 commercial fishing organizations participating in fisheries throughout the state and its offshore federal waters. UFA member groups have long been concerned with the number of marine invasive species that have been identified in Alaska or have the potential to be introduced here. If rapid response capabilities are not established in advance, or if invasives and their transporting vectors are not identified at early stages, they pose potentially devastating effect on the state's fishery resources and the livelihoods of fishing fleets.

UFA commends the committee for drawing attention to this issue through sponsorship of HB 365, and we recommend support in the legislature. Thank you for your attention to this issue, and your support of HB 365.

Sincerely,

Mark Vinsel  
Executive Director

### MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Alaska Bering Sea Crabbers • Alaska Crab Coalition • Alaska Independent Fishermen's Marketing Association  
Alaska Independent Tendermen's Association • Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association • Alaska Scallop Association • Alaska Trollers Association  
Alaska Whitefish Trawlers Association • Aleutian Pribilof Islands Community Development Association • Armstrong Keta • At-sea Processors Association  
Bristol Bay Reserve • Bristol Bay Regional Seafood Development Association • Cape Barnabas Inc. • Concerned Area "M" Fishermen  
Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association • Cordova District Fishermen United • Crab Group of Independent Harvesters • Douglas Island Pink and Chum  
Groundfish Forum • Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association • Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association • North Pacific Fisheries Association  
Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association • Petersburg Vessel Owners Association • Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation  
Purse Seine Vessel Owner Association • Seafood Producers Cooperative • Southeast Alaska Herring Conservation Alliance  
Southeast Alaska Fisherman's Alliance • Southeast Alaska Regional Dive Fisheries Association • Southeast Alaska Seiners  
Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association • United Catcher Boats • United Cook Inlet Drift Association  
United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters • Valdez Fisheries Development Association