



UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

February 4, 2011

Representative Steve Thompson, Chairman
House Special Committee on Fisheries
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, 120 Fourth Street
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

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Dear Chairman Thompson and Committee Members,

United Fishermen of Alaska supports bill HJR 8.

UFA is on record with the U.S Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in opposition to approval of genetically modified salmon for production and consumption in the U.S. However, if approved for production and consumption in this country., we have strongly requested that FDA regulations require that salmon or any other genetically modified seafood products be clearly labeled as such.

Alaska has world-leading sustainable fishery management practices and we have gone to great effort and expense to differentiate our seafood products in the marketplace. We are very concerned that, if genetically modified salmon is allowed to be sold in the U.S. at all or not labeled clearly if allowed, Alaska fishermen and coastal communities will suffer job losses and economic hardship due to consumer confusion about the wholesomeness of salmon in general.

United Fishermen of Alaska represents 38 Alaska Commercial fishing organizations, and hundreds of individual fishermen and related businesses. We support HJR8 and thank you for your attention to this matter.

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
Fishing Vessel Owners Association • 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 Fishermen's Alliance • Southeast Alaska Regional Dive Fisheries Association
Southeast Alaska Salmon • Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association • United Catcher Boats • United Cook Inlet Drift Association
United Southeast Alaska Salmoners • Valdez Fisheries Development Association