

**HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 13**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

**BY THE HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES**

**Introduced: 4/9/11**

**Referred: House Special Committee on Fisheries**

**A RESOLUTION**

- 1    **Requesting the governor to designate one seat on the North Pacific Fishery Management**  
2    **Council for a sport fish licensee and one seat on the North Pacific Fishery Management**  
3    **Council for a subsistence user.**

4    **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

5            **WHEREAS** the North Pacific Fishery Management Council is a regional council  
6    established in 1976 under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act  
7    to oversee management of the region's fisheries; and

8            **WHEREAS** five members of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council are  
9    nominated by the governor and approved by the United States Secretary of Commerce; and

10           **WHEREAS** the North Pacific Fishery Management Council possesses primary  
11   responsibility for management of fish in the Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, and Aleutian Islands;  
12   and

13           **WHEREAS** the allocation of fish in those waters directly affects the quantity of fish  
14   available for harvest by sport fish licensees and subsistence users; and

15           **WHEREAS** the Constitution of the State of Alaska requires the state's natural

1 resources to be managed for the maximum benefit of all of the people of the state; and

2       **WHEREAS** the Constitution of the State of Alaska states that, wherever occurring in  
3 their natural state, fish are reserved to the people for common use and shall be maintained on  
4 the sustained yield principle; and

5       **WHEREAS** subsistence, as the customary and traditional use of fish for direct  
6 personal and family consumption in amounts reasonably necessary for personal or family  
7 sustenance, is a high priority among consumptive uses in the state, where an estimated 95  
8 percent of rural households consume fish caught for subsistence; and

9       **WHEREAS** sport fishing contributes significantly to the state's tourism industry and  
10 general economy; and

11       **WHEREAS** 458,888 sport fishing licenses were issued in the state in 2010; and

12       **WHEREAS**, in a state that is home to 3,000 rivers, 3,000,000 lakes, and 6,640 miles  
13 of coastline, protecting opportunities for sport fishers and subsistence users is vital;

14       **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the  
15 governor to designate one seat on the North Pacific Fishery Management Council for a sport  
16 fish licensee and one seat on the North Pacific Fishery Management Council for a subsistence  
17 user.