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February 24, 2014

Representative Alan Austerman, Co-Chairman Representative Bill Stoltze, Co-Chairman House Finance Committee State Capital Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representatives Austerman and Stoltze,

I am writing on behalf of Westward Seafoods in support of SSHB 204, Extension of the Salmon Product Development Tax Credit. This is a very worthwhile program that has benefitted our company in the past.

Westward Seafoods operates two fish processing plants in Alaska, one in Dutch Harbor and the other in Kodiak. While salmon and herring make up only a small portion of our product mix, this program has been beneficial to our Kodiak plant years ago. We are constantly stretching our capital budgets to make improvements in our production lines. SSHB 204 is a desirable tool for making advancements in salmon and herring processing for the seafood industry.

Passing SSHB 204 this year will continue a very worthwhile program providing opportunities for the seafood industry to make advances in product values offered to our customers. SSHB 204 encourages advancement of products and processes that benefit fishers, processors, customers, and the State. Please let me know if I can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Sinclair Wilt

Vice President, Fisheries Specialist

cc: Vince O'Shea, PSPA