



Alaska Trollers Association

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Senator Cathy Giessel, Chairman
Senate Resources Committee
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator Giessel and Committee Members:

The Alaska Trollers Association supports Frederick "Fritz" Johnson for a seat on the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

Given the importance of Bristol Bay fisheries to our state and coastal communities, it is essential that the Board of Fisheries include someone knowledgeable about both that region and its top employer. As the key regulator of Alaska's largest industry, the Board of Fisheries requires a mix of individuals from around the state with a deep understanding of the resources managed; gear types used; and, the social, business, and political dynamics affecting the state's fisheries. Mr. Johnson is a longtime Dillingham resident who brings to the table years of Bristol Bay fishing experience in multiple gear types. His background should help him to be an asset in the Board of Fisheries arena.

Board of Fisheries members must be intellectually curious and have the ability to wade through, and absorb, volumes of essential information from a variety of sources. They must also be willing and able to effectively work with ADFG and the affected public. Mr. Johnson's former career in journalism, as well as employment in both the public and private sectors would seem to be good training for this type of process.

While we have not yet had the opportunity to work with Mr. Johnson, his resume and references suggest to us that he is a well-qualified individual worthy of appointment.

ATA is pleased to endorse Fritz Johnson for the Board of Fisheries and urges you to vote in support of his confirmation.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dale Kelley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Executive Director