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April 8, 2014

House Fisheries Committee
Representative Seaton, Chair
State Capitol Building, Room 102
Juneau, AK 99811 - 1182

Re: Board of Fisheries (BOF) Confirmation, John Jensen

Representative Seaton,

Our organization has been representing commercial fishermen within the waters of Cook Inlet since 1954. At present, our members represent primarily commercial setnet fisher families; although we also have members who represent the processing industry, drift fisheries, suppliers and the general interest of the public.

John Jensen has shown the extra effort to; listen to stakeholders; to understand complex science; to strive for a "balance" of opportunities for traditional harvesters. A feat that requires not only a concern for conservation, but also to maintain an abundant yield of fisheries stocks so that all citizens can appreciate our State's resources.

Clearly the decision making process on the Board of Fisheries (BOF) is not simple and at times controversial. His extensive experiences in the field of action and the approximate twelve years of commitment to the Board process and to the people of the State can only be an asset.

They say a "moving stone carries no moss". In the case of the controversies that surround the frequency of Board of Fisheries decisions, we say that a BOF member in time gathers "barnacles"; probably not the most comfortable mooring in life.

KPFA board directors and members continue to support commercial fishermen to this board and would request that this committee recommend and that the legislature re-confirm John Jensen to the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

Thank you,

Paul A. Shadura II
Board Director
Special Projects

cc Michael Nizich, Chief of Staff, Elizabeth Giardina, Deputy Director, Board & Commissions, Stefanie Moreland, Special Staff Assistant