



# Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance

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February 18, 2016

House Fisheries Committee

Representative Louise Stutes, Chair

Alaska State Legislature

State Capitol,

Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Chairman Stutes and Committee Members,

Thank you for attending the United Fishermen of Alaska (UFA) meeting. As many of us mentioned at the meeting, we are having difficulty commenting on the many pieces of tax legislation because we can't grasp what the overall effect would be on an individual fisherman with the many layers of taxes being considered, i.e. motor fuel, fish taxes, income tax and perm. fund in addition to the taxes and fees we currently pay.

We would suggest that any taxes being considered for implementation this session for any of the resource industries be put in a designated fund with a sunset provision on the tax.

We would also like to remind the fish committee members that care must be taken that the ADF&G budget is not cut such that conservative management actually creates loss of opportunity and in the long run less money to the general fund due to constricted and reduced fishery resource harvests.

While it might not be possible to implement this year, there is a very good probability that there could be some efficiencies gained for both the State government by a review of the fishery reports a tax payer pays. A committee of

legislative representation, fishery tax payers from different categories, Dept of Revenue and Dept of Fish and Game could possibly identify these efficiencies.

Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance (SEAFa) is a multi-gear/multi-species organization representing our 300+ members involved in the salmon, crab, shrimp and longline fisheries.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathy Hansen", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Kathy Hansen  
Executive Director