



UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

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March 26th, 2015

Representative Benjamin Nageak
Co-Chair, House Resources Committee
State Capitol Room 126
Juneau AK, 99801
Rep.Benjamin.Nageak@akleg.gov

RE: Support Ben Brown for reappointment to the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission

Chairman Nageak, Chairman Talerico and members of the House Resources Committee,

United Fishermen of Alaska (UFA) is the statewide commercial fishing trade association, representing 36 Alaska commercial fishing organizations participating in fisheries throughout the state and its offshore federal waters. **UFA is pleased to offer continued support for Ben Brown as a commissioner for the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission, CFEC.**

Mr. Brown has proven himself to be a capable commissioner with a comprehensive understanding of Alaska's complex limited entry program. Mr. Brown has established a solid working relationship with industry representatives and groups which is an imperative component of trust within CFEC. Mr. Brown is also easily accessible and interacts regularly with the Alaska State Legislature.

Due to the current fiscal situation and due to the ability of two commissioners to conduct CFEC business, a third CFEC commissioner is not needed at this time. If a quorum is not available, the Governor has the ability to appoint a temporary commissioner in order to adjudicate a particular case. Sec. 16.43.030. states: "A vacancy on the commission does not impair the authority of a quorum of commissioners to exercise all the powers and perform all the duties of the commission."

Thank you for your time and attention to this important appointment. Please feel free to contact us with any questions.

Sincerely,

Julianne Curry
Executive Director