

# KENAI LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE

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## WRITTEN TESTIMONY

**NAME:** David Martin

**REPRESENTING:** Self

**BILL # or SUBJECT:** HB 110

**COMMITTEE:** House Fisheries **DATE:** April 7, 2015

House Special Committee on Fisheries Chair Louise Stutes and Committee Members,

My name is David Martin. I have lived in Clam Gulch Alaska for the past 44 years. Under some people's definition of Alaskans First, I and most Alaskans do not qualify as an Alaskan. Contrary to an Alaskan that has one year of residency and therefore qualifies for personal use, I and most Alaskans are, second to them under HB 110.

I am strongly opposed to HB 110!

This bill is not in the best interest of the Alaskan's resources or Alaskan residents. It divides Alaskans and discriminates among resource users and consumers. There are plenty of opportunities for Alaskans to get their seafood whether they catch it or, as most Alaskan seafood consumers do, prefer to purchase it. In 2008 alone the sports fishery in Cook Inlet caught and released, for recreation activity, over 650,000 salmon according to ADF&G data. HB 110 gives an entitlement and special privilege with no responsibility for the conservation or management of the resources. Everyone says they want politics out of Alaska's fisheries management and Alaska also tells the world their success to sustainable, healthy, abundant fisheries is because Alaska fisheries management uses the best available science for real time abundance based management and maximum sustainable yields.

HB 110 will give good political campaign slogans of "I gave you a personal use priority. Vote for me!" However, HB 110 is contrary to reliable science and is in violation of Alaska State Constitution, Article 8, Section 15:

"No exclusive right or special privilege of fishery shall be created or authorized in the natural waters of the State." I have not taken an oath to uphold Alaska's Constitution but legislators have. I would hope legislators represent all Alaskans. To me Alaskans First means every citizen of Alaska not just a one year Alaskan resident having priority over a life long Alaskan just because they dip net. Every Alaskan and non-resident who harvest Alaska's fisheries resource must also be held responsible for scientific management, conservation and sustainability.

Alaska fisheries resources and habitat are not unlimited and will become unsustainable with management dictated by allocative bills like HB 110.

The Legislature has more important state issues than spending time on bills that are self-serving and pit Alaskans against Alaskans and undermine fisheries management and resource production.

Please kill HB 110.

Thank you.