

UNITED SOUTHEAST ALASKA GILLNETTERS

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February 26, 2017

Representative Tarr
Capitol Bldg., Juneau, AK, 99801
rep.geran.tarr@akleg.gov

Dear Representative Tarr and interested others:

RE: SUPPORT for House Joint Resolution 12

United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters SUPPORTS House Joint Resolution 12, *“Opposing the United States Food and Drug Administration's approval of AquaBounty AquAdvantage genetically engineered salmon; and urging the United States Congress to enact legislation that requires prominently labeling genetically engineered products with the words "Genetically Modified" on the product's packaging.”*

Like millions of Americans, we strongly oppose FDA's approval and are concerned that these genetically engineered salmon could lead to a host of horrifying realities such as engineered salmon escaping and intermixing with and disrupting wild stocks, ecosystem degradation, resource competition, and confusing buyers of salmon and seafood

FDA believes these fish are safe for human consumption regardless of the lack of studies done to understand potential long-term effects from ingesting such engineered food. If these salmon enter the marketplace, they must be clearly labeled. Regardless of the product form, (whole fresh, frozen fillets, canned, smoked) prominent labeling of every engineered product, such as this Resolution proposes, is critical. At least then Alaska's superior salmon products will be differentiated so consumers can make an informed purchasing decision.

Salmon gillnetters of southeast Alaska feed millions of people worldwide high-quality, wild salmon that is nutritious, untainted, and sustainably-managed. Alaska needs to pass this Resolution to protect our seafood markets and ensure the world our salmon brands are trustworthy.

Thank you,



Cynthia Wallesz
Executive Director

Cc Senator Lisa Murkowski