

UNITED SOUTHEAST ALASKA GILLNETTERS

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March 9, 2017

House Fisheries Committee
Representative Stutes, Chair
Representative Ortiz
Representative Tuck
Representative Parish
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, AK 99801 (sent via email)

RE: House Joint Resolution 9 SUPPORT

Dear House Fisheries Committee Members and Representatives Ortiz, Tuck and Parish:

This House Joint Resolution shows the world that Alaska's Legislature stands together in its urging for the Federal governments of the USA and Canada "to investigate long-term, region-wide downstream effects of proposed and existing industrial development and to develop measures to ensure that state resources are not harmed by upstream development in British Columbia".

States and Provinces cannot do this alone. Alaskan and British Columbian officials, groups and individuals need to continue working diligently to protect our transboundary waters -- we thank them for their work. To fully investigate and develop protection measures such as this Resolution asks however, we need active Federal involvement on both sides of the border.

Our members responsibly harvest healthy wild salmon in front of three watersheds in question and take the issue of Southeast's water quality and transboundary mining impacts very seriously. United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters' mission is to serve, protect and enhance the commercial gillnet salmon fleet of southeast Alaska; we represent the interests of 473 permit holders, their families and their communities.

We ask you PASS THIS RESOLUTION to protect our fishery and way of life. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cynthia Wallesz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C' and a long, sweeping tail.

Cynthia Wallesz
Executive Director

Cc: Senator Lisa Murkowski