

**BRISTOL BAY NATIVE ASSOCIATION**

**P.O. BOX 310**

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**RESOLUTION 2016 - 03**

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF KEEPING A BRISTOL BAY REGION SEAT  
ON THE ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES**

- WHEREAS: The Bristol Bay Native Association (BBNA) is an Alaska Native regional non-profit corporation and a Tribal Consortium which provides a variety of educational, social, economic and related services to the Native people of the Bristol Bay Region; and
- WHEREAS: The membership of BBNA is the 31 federally recognized tribal governments in the Bristol Bay Region; and
- WHEREAS: The watershed of the Bristol Bay region, including the Chignik subregion, supports the world's most prolific wild salmon runs, a revered renewable resource that has been harvested sustainably for millennia and are central to the cultural traditions of the diverse Alaska Native cultures of the region; and
- WHEREAS: The commercial salmon fisheries of Bristol Bay and Chignik constitute the world's most valuable wild salmon fisheries, and typically supply almost half of the world's wild sockeye salmon. In 2010, Bristol Bay's fishery alone represented nearly one-third of the total Alaska salmon harvest value, and supported 12,000 fishing jobs important for Alaskans from around the state; and
- WHEREAS: The Bristol Bay Region has other important commercial, sports and subsistence fisheries managed by the State of Alaska, including Alaska's largest herring fishery, as well as numerous freshwater fish; and
- WHEREAS: Since 1975, recognizing the importance of Bristol Bay's fisheries to the state, Alaska's leaders have traditionally designated at least one of seven seats on the Alaska Board of Fisheries to a member connected with the Bristol Bay Region; and
- WHEREAS: The Bristol Bay Native Association supports continuing that tradition, recognizing the importance of the Alaska Board of Fisheries to the regulation and well-being of the Bristol Bay Region's fisheries; and


WHEREAS: In 2016, Alaska Governor William Walker failed to appoint someone connected to Bristol Bay to the Alaska Board of Fisheries, leaving Bristol Bay unrepresented for the first time since the Board of Fisheries was created as a separate entity more than 40 years ago; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Bristol Bay Native Association that we urge the Alaska State Legislature and Governor Walker to ensure that someone connected to Bristol Bay Region and its fisheries always holds a seat on the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

  
Fred T. Angasan, Chairman of the Board

CERTIFICATION:

I, the undersigned Secretary of the Bristol Bay Native Association, do hereby certify that the Board of Directors of the Bristol Bay Native Association passed the foregoing resolution at a duly called and noticed meeting on this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2016, and that a quorum was present.

  
Robert Heyano, Secretary