



**Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association (APICDA)**

302 Gold Street, Suite 202 | Juneau, Alaska 99801 | Phone: (907) 586-0161 | Fax: (907) 586-0165  
717 K Street | Anchorage, Alaska 99501 | (907) 929-5273 | Fax: (907) 929-5275 | [www.apicda.com](http://www.apicda.com)

April 21, 2017

Representative Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins  
State Capitol, room 411  
Juneau, AK 99801  
Ph: 907-465-3732  
[Representative.Jonathan.Kreiss-Tomkins@akleg.gov](mailto:Representative.Jonathan.Kreiss-Tomkins@akleg.gov)

RE: Support for HB 188

The Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association (APICDA) supports the introduction of HB 188. We believe that advancing this bill will help restore local participation in commercially important state water fisheries, provide important entry opportunities for new fishermen and increase revenue flow into Alaska communities.

APICDA is a Community Development Quota (CDQ) organization that works with six remote coastal communities to support long term economic sustainability through increasing direct participation and local investment in fisheries in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands. For over 25 years, we have worked in partnership with our communities to invest in shore-side processing plants, vessels, quota and permit purchases, local support infrastructure, workforce development and scholarship programs. These investments have resulted in meaningful employment and social programs in areas where very limited economic opportunities exist.

CDQ constituents are heavily invested in both state and federal water fisheries. Alaska's salmon fisheries provide the most-wide reaching and direct opportunities for participation in our sector's 65 communities. Some CDQ regions have witnessed significant ownership shifts in limited entry permits to out of state residents, increases in permit and lease costs and reductions in the number of permits available for sale. We believe that the formation of a fisheries trust could provide an important path, particularly for entry level and returning fishermen, by helping them gain access to sufficient experience and or the capital needed to purchase fishing privileges. We also believe that HB 188 sets appropriate limitations on permit acquisitions and eligibility requirements to minimize negative market impacts on existing and future permit holders.

The creation of fisheries trusts will result in meaningful benefits to Alaska's coastal communities and residents and we support moving this bill forward.

Sincerely,

Larry Cotter  
Chief Executive Officer, APICDA