

UNITED SOUTHEAST ALASKA GILLNETTERS

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USAG'S MAIN PURPOSE IS TO PROTECT, SERVE AND ENHANCE SOUTHEAST ALASKA'S COMMERCIAL GILLNET FISHERY

March 7, 2019

House Fisheries Committee
Representative Stutes, Chair
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, AK 99811

Re: Support HB 35 Board of Fish and Game Conflict of Interest.

Dear Committee Members,

United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters strongly support HB 35. Board members are purportedly chosen for character and expertise in Fisheries or Game. Currently, board members who have the most knowledge of particular fishery or game management issue are often excluded from the discussion. We find it unconscionable that the smartest person on the board on a particular subject be recused from deliberations. It gives the board less information, which seems to fly in the face of what the board is supposed to do: consider information, and allocate appropriately. Passage of this bill, will in our estimation, make for a better, more transparent process, and we urged your support.

Sincerely,



Max Worhatch, Executive Director, United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters

