

March 1, 2017

OceansAlaska PO Box 6383 Ketchikan, AK 99901

Representative Ortiz State Capitol, Room 513 Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Representative Ortiz,

Good afternoon, I am the President of the Board of Directors for OceansAlaska which is a non-profit shellfish hatchery located in Ketchikan. HB 41 creates a regulatory framework with which ADF&G can manage shellfish fishery enhancement, restoration and shellfish hatcheries. This will allow interested stakeholders to either continue or begin enhancement and/or restoration of certain species. OceansAlaska supports HB 41 as it will diversify economic development, sustain cultural legacy and increase environmental stewardship through:

- 1. Enhancement of traditional and economically important shellfish species.
- 2. Enhancement of shellfish species integral to marine ecosystems and habitat restoration.
- 3. Enhancement of shellfish species that are vital to climate change and pollution mitigation.

Thank you for your support of HB 41 and the mariculture industry.

KETCHIKAN, ALASKA 99901.

Best regards,

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