

## **Matt Gruening**

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**From:** Marc Carrel <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 25, 2019 11:01 AM  
**To:** House Fisheries  
**Subject:** Testimony on HB 65

Dear Chair Stutes and Members of the House Fisheries Committee,

My name is Marc Carrel. I'm a commercial fisherman for salmon and halibut, and a year round resident of Cordova. I am opposed to House Bill 65.

Coastal municipalities provide the essential infrastructure for the seafood industry to be able to succeed. The commercial fishing industry needs good harbor facilities and shipyards, as well as all the necessary infrastructure for the canneries to be able to process, and ship our fish to market.

The cost of this is mostly carried by the municipalities and it is therefore crucial that revenue sharing from the fisheries landing tax continue. Rather than being absorbed in the state's general fund, this tax money is directly being invested into projects that support the fishing industry, thereby creating more jobs and more tax revenue in the long run.

If the fish tax revenue sharing is repealed, the resulting increased local taxes and fees, as well as poorer city infrastructure will directly hurt local small boat fishing businesses such as my own and decrease the money we can spend in our local community.

For that reason I urge you to oppose House Bill 65.

Thank you very much,  
Marc Carrel

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**From:** Tania Harrison <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 25, 2019 11:05 AM  
**To:** House Fisheries  
**Subject:** Public Testimony Opposition HB65

Good morning,

I am Tania Harrison, a commercial fisherman and resident of Cordova. Thank you for hearing my testimony. I am writing in opposition House Bill 65. Fishing is an important industry not only for coastal communities but also for the economy of the whole state. The seafood industry directly employs more workers than any other private sector industry and is the third largest basic sector job creator in Alaska. It is in the best interest of the state to support the fishing communities that make this industry possible. Revenue sharing of fishery resource landing tax enables fishing towns to maintain infrastructure that supports this industry and the community. This kind of investment has helped fisheries flourish and the increased the value of fish has greatly increased the funds generated by fish tax. House Bill 65 will severely hurt the economies of fishing towns and will burden residents with drastically higher local taxes. A financially struggling community will not be able to support the large landings and high fish values that we currently enjoy today. I urge you to oppose House Bill 65. Thank you.

Tania Harrison

## Matt Gruening

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 25, 2019 2:52 PM  
**To:** House Fisheries  
**Subject:** RE: HB65

I am writing this e-mail to register my opposition to HB65 which repeals the 50% community revenue sharing of fisheries taxes. These funds are extremely important to the rural communities that receive them. The communities with active fishery landings all have to maintain infrastructure and services for increased population and fisheries activities during the months when fisheries occur. I am a Cordova resident and I know that there is a substantial burden on the city during the summer months. The community revenue sharing from the fisheries taxes (the revenue for which, after all, is generated in these communities), helps maintain these services. The \$24 million or so that the state wants to retain at the expense of the fisheries communities only fills a tiny hole in the state revenues and pushes a big burden back on the communities who maintain the services that support the fisheries which produce the revenue in the first place.

Elizabeth Senear  
Cordova, AK