



February 26, 2021

Senator Revak, Chariman
Senate Resources Committee

Representative Stutes, Chair
House Fisheries Committee

To Whom It May Concern:

I write in support of Mr. Melvin Smith to the position of Commissioner for the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC).

With Mr. Smith's broad experiences, The Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska is confident he will make an excellent Commissioner of CFEC. Mr. Smith has over 20 years of commercial fishing experience in Alaska, participating in a wide range of fisheries and areas across the state.

As a shareholder of the Aleut Corporation, Koniag Corporation, and Village Corporation of False Pass, Mr. Smith has experienced the importance of the CFEC from the lens of a Native Alaskan that has lived in rural Alaska. With thousands of Alaska Native permit holders across the state, Mr. Smith's perspective and background give us the confidence this demographic and all Alaskans will be well represented.

In addition to his fisheries background, Mr. Smith has had decades of experience as the General Manager for Aleut Real Estate which handles not only the native land claims but also was responsible for commercial real estate investments for the Aleut Corporation.

We believe that a Commissioner with Mr. Smith's fisheries and professional background makes him eminently qualified for the position of Commissioner for the State of Alaska's Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission and we urge you to support his confirmation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Chris Price'.

Chris Price
CEO

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Blaine Shaishnikoff'.

Blaine Shaishnikoff
Tribal President

