



April 9, 2021

Alaska House Fisheries Committee
Alaska House Resources Committee

Re: Legislative Confirmation of Alaska Board of Fisheries Appointees

The Aleutians East Borough encompasses the majority of the Alaska Peninsula Salmon Fishing area and the communities of King Cove, Sand Point, False Pass, Nelson Lagoon, Cold Bay and Akutan. Our local economies are based on commercial fisheries and most local fishermen participate in salmon fisheries.

The Aleutians East Borough strongly supports the reappointment and confirmation of John Jensen to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. Jensen's knowledge, experience and ability to work with all stakeholders and members of the public make him a valuable member of the Board. Please vote to confirm John Jensen to the Board of Fish.

The Aleutians East Borough opposes the appointment and confirmation of Märit Carlson-Van Dort to the Board of Fisheries. Carlson-Van Dort's long close history with the communities and fisheries of Chignik should necessitate her recusal during consideration of any Chignik salmon proposals, including those submitted for Cook Inlet, Kodiak and Alaska Peninsula meetings. The appointment of any person so conflicted to the Board is impractical and of no use to Board discussions and decision-making.

It is my strong opinion that Märit Carlson-Van Dort cannot be impartial and should not be confirmed to the Board of Fish. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the confirmation process.

Sincerely,

Alvin D. Osterback, Mayor