

COOK INLET COALITION

Cook Inlet Region, Alaska

February 7th, 2022

Representative Sarah Vance

270 W Pioneer Ave.

Homer, AK 99603

Representative.Sarah.Vance@akleg.gov

Dear Rep. Vance,

We are a coalition of business owners, commercial fishermen, landowners, and residents who stand together with many others who live and work in the Cook Inlet Region opposing HB 52.

We support our families, friends, and neighbors whose way of life come from commercial fishing, and we agree with many of them that the Tutka Bay Lagoon Hatchery benefits few people but is paid for by the many.

We accept the facts as presented by Alaska Department of Fish and Game; on how Infectious Hematopoietic Necrosis Viral disease in the water supply at Tutka Bay Lagoon Hatchery, makes sockeye salmon production impossible. China Poot Bay sockeye fishery has no dependency on the Tutka Bay Lagoon Hatchery.

We agree with the proposed Kachemak Bay State Park Management Plan, which states that the Tutka Bay Lagoon Hatchery is incompatible with the statutory purpose, intent, and definition of Kachemak Bay State Park.

We agree with the Alaska Department of Natural Resources that Tutka Bay Lagoon Hatchery is operating under an illegal Interagency Land Management Assignment. The Alaska Department of Natural Resources proposed park plan resolves this illegality and assures greater utilization for compatible park purposes.

We support the Kachemak Bay State Park Citizen Advisory Board resolution in strong opposition of HB 52.

We do not support the removal of any lands from within Kachemak Bay State Park.

We respectfully request that you withdraw HB 52 from any further consideration.

Sincerely,

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