

STATE OF ALASKA

THE LEGISLATURE

1977

Source

Legislative
Resolve No.

HCR 20

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Encouraging international trade for Alaska-caught fish products.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

WHEREAS the passage of the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976 (P.L. 94-265) will allow fishery stocks surrounding Alaska for 200 miles to be managed by the United States and gives preferential rights to the harvest of these stocks to American fishermen; and

WHEREAS such preferential harvest rights will allow for expansion of Alaska's catch of fishery resources, especially for species which have been historically utilized by foreign fishing fleets; and

WHEREAS this will additionally allow the American fishing industry to have control of an increasing portion of the world's fishery resources and will require the development of new and expanded Alaska-based processing and marketing operations; and

WHEREAS there has been interest expressed by European countries who will seek to purchase Alaska-caught fishery resources rather than to fish for them; and

WHEREAS the standard of living of many of the western European countries is similar to the American standard of living, and many of these developed nations have labor and raw product costs similar to or higher than those of Alaskan fishing operations; and

WHEREAS many Alaska-caught fishery products will likely be competitive in the marketplace of these countries; and

WHEREAS it is a purpose of government to encourage commerce and trade when it is beneficial to its citizens;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests that the Office of the Governor and the Department of Commerce and Economic Development investigate (1) the potential benefit to Alaska's fishermen and fishing industry of joint ventures of Alaskan industry with European fishing interests, and (2) the potential for expanding the exportation of Alaska-caught fishery products to these European countries; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests these agencies to recommend, through appropriate channels, action which could benefit the Alaska fishing economy.