

**HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 36**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Introduced: 5/1/96

Referred: Rules

**A RESOLUTION**

1 **Recognizing the importance of, and acknowledging the contributions by, the**  
2 **commercial fishing and seafood processing industry to the State of Alaska.**

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

4 **WHEREAS** Alaska produces over 50 percent of the total seafood produced in the  
5 United States; and

6 **WHEREAS** the fishing ports of Alaska frequently comprise a majority of the top 10  
7 fishing ports of the United States; and

8 **WHEREAS** Alaska is among the top 10 seafood producers in the world; and

9 **WHEREAS** the commercial fisheries of Alaska harvested 194,000,000 salmon, 48,000  
10 tons of herring, 4,600,000,000 pounds of groundfish, and 176,000,000 pounds of shellfish  
11 during 1994; and

12 **WHEREAS** the ex-vessel value of Alaska commercial fishing harvests in 1995 is  
13 estimated to be \$1,276,000,000, of which \$461,000,000 was from salmon, \$443,000,000 was  
14 from groundfish, \$42,000,000 was from herring, \$65,000,000 was from halibut, and  
15 \$265,000,000 was from shellfish; and

16 **WHEREAS** the commercial fishing and seafood processing industry is the largest

1 employer in the state, both in terms of employees and income; and

2           **WHEREAS** the commercial fishing and seafood processing industry is the second  
3 largest source of revenue for the State of Alaska, exceeded only by the revenue generated by  
4 the state’s oil resources; and

5           **WHEREAS** the desire of Alaskans to manage the fishery resources of Alaska was a  
6 driving force behind the movement for Alaska statehood; and

7           **WHEREAS** the fishery resources of Alaska have prospered under state management  
8 and have provided a truly renewable source of jobs and income for all Alaskans; and

9           **WHEREAS** the commercial fishing and seafood processing industry of Alaska has  
10 been an essential force in the development and economy of Alaska for more than 100 years;  
11 and

12           **WHEREAS** the fishery resources of Alaska are the state’s natural permanent fund;

13           **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature recognizes that the commercial  
14 fishing and seafood processing industry of Alaska is an important element of the economy,  
15 infrastructure, and livelihood of the State of Alaska; and be it

16           **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature acknowledges the  
17 contribution that the commercial fishing and seafood processing industry of Alaska have made  
18 to the history, development, and present well-being of the State of Alaska and to the United  
19 States.