

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 23

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES AUSTERMAN, Ivan, Foster, Finkelstein

Introduced: 1/25/95

Referred: House Special Committee on Fisheries, Labor and Commerce

A RESOLUTION

1 **Relating to the Western Alaska Community Development Quota Program and the**
2 **North Pacific Fishery Management Council Comprehensive Rationalization Program.**

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

4 **WHEREAS** the Western Alaska Community Development Quota (CDQ) Program is
5 a fisheries development program involving the federal Department of Commerce, the North
6 Pacific Fishery Management Council, the State of Alaska, and 56 Bering Sea coast, Aleutian
7 Islands, and Pribilof Islands communities; and

8 **WHEREAS** the CDQ program has set aside 7.5 percent of the available Bering Sea
9 pollock quota during 1992 through 1995 for Bering Sea coast, Aleutian Islands, and Pribilof
10 Islands communities; and

11 **WHEREAS** the amount of pollock available for harvest under the CDQ program is
12 more than 100,000 metric tons per year and has an approximate annual value of \$20,000,000;
13 and

14 **WHEREAS** the CDQ program allocates the available harvest of pollock among
15 eligible communities, local fishermen's organizations, and local economic development
16 organizations who in turn reinvest the proceeds from the harvest and processing of the pollock

1 in additional local fisheries development projects; and

2 **WHEREAS** the CDQ program has been expanded to include halibut and sablefish
3 (black cod); and

4 **WHEREAS** the CDQ program is important to the economic development of the
5 Bering Sea coast, Aleutian Islands, and Pribilof Islands communities; and

6 **WHEREAS** the North Pacific Fishery Management Council established the CDQ
7 program as a component of the inshore and offshore allocation of Bering Sea pollock; and

8 **WHEREAS** the CDQ program represents an unparalleled opportunity for long-term
9 stable economic development for the communities of the Bering Sea coast, Aleutian Islands,
10 and Pribilof Islands; and

11 **WHEREAS** the North Pacific Fishery Management Council is preparing to adopt a
12 comprehensive rationalization plan for groundfish and crab in the Bering Sea and Aleutian
13 Islands area;

14 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Alaska State Legislature that the North Pacific Fishery
15 Management Council is respectfully requested to allocate groundfish and crab to the Western
16 Alaska Community Development Quota (CDQ) groups as part of any comprehensive
17 rationalization plan that the council prepares.

18 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ron Brown, Secretary of the
19 U.S. Department of Commerce; Richard B. Lauber, chair of the North Pacific Fishery
20 Management Council; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski,
21 U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska
22 delegation in Congress.