

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 8

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

Introduced: 4/24/97

Referred: House Special Committee on Fisheries

A RESOLUTION

1 Relating to Cook Inlet fisheries enhancement projects on Tustumena Lake on the
2 Kenai National Wildlife Refuge.

3 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

4 WHEREAS the United States Fish and Wildlife Service is preparing an environmental
5 assessment of the Tustumena Lake sockeye salmon fisheries enhancement project; and

6 WHEREAS future permits for this project from the United States Fish and Wildlife
7 Service are dependent on the outcome of this environmental assessment process; and

8 WHEREAS the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and, more recently, the Cook
9 Inlet Aquaculture Association have operated a sockeye salmon fisheries enhancement program
10 on Tustumena Lake since 1976; and

11 WHEREAS, in the last 20 years, the project has developed components that provide
12 sockeye salmon to fisheries in Upper Cook Inlet, Kamishak Bay, Kachemak Bay, and
13 Resurrection Bay; and

14 WHEREAS the sockeye salmon fisheries enhancement program on Tustumena Lake
15 has resulted in an increase in production of sockeye salmon in Cook Inlet without negative
16 results on wild stocks or the rearing environment; and

1 **WHEREAS** the salmon produced through this project benefit the common property
2 fisheries including commercial, sport, and personal use fisheries; and

3 **WHEREAS** the program continues to operate under the technical scrutiny of the
4 Alaska Department of Fish and Game through its permitting authority;

5 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the House of Representatives respectfully requests that the
6 United States Fish and Wildlife Service allow this sockeye salmon fisheries enhancement
7 project to continue by permitting the stocking of fish and the enhancement of the fishery
8 resources within Cook Inlet and Tustumena Lake on the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge.

9 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the
10 United States; the Honorable Al Gore, Jr., Vice-President of the United States and President
11 of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Bruce Babbitt, Secretary of the Interior; the Honorable John
12 Rogers, Acting Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Dave Allen, Regional Director,
13 Alaska Region, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; to the Co-Chairs of the Alaska Land Use
14 Council; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S.
15 Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska
16 delegation in Congress.