

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 12
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATOR WARD

Introduced: 4/27/01
Referred: Resources

A RESOLUTION

1 **Relating to federal labeling requirements for farmed salmon.**

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

3 **WHEREAS** farmed salmon are raised in captivity, and raising salmon in captivity
4 involves the ingestion of significant amounts of antibiotics, dyes, and other chemicals by the
5 salmon; and

6 **WHEREAS** the ingestion of significant amounts of antibiotics, dyes, and other
7 chemicals by salmon may concern some consumers of salmon products; and

8 **WHEREAS** a consumer should be able to determine when purchasing salmon
9 whether the salmon has been farmed using antibiotics, dyes, and other chemicals; and

10 **WHEREAS** Alaska prides itself on its wild salmon, and the sale of wild salmon is a
11 significant part of the state's economy; and

12 **WHEREAS** labels that identify whether salmon is farmed using dyes, antibiotics, and
13 other chemicals would help consumers make intelligent purchasing decisions and would
14 encourage some consumers to purchase wild salmon, which would help the economy of the
15 state; and

16 **WHEREAS** a national approach to the labeling of farmed salmon would be helpful

1 because salmon products are shipped to markets all over the United States; and

2 **WHEREAS** the adoption by the United States Food and Drug Administration of
3 regulations requiring that salmon be labeled as farmed using antibiotics, dyes, and other
4 chemicals would benefit consumers throughout the United States; and

5 **WHEREAS** the University of Alaska has the expertise and facilities to perform the
6 research necessary to support a petition by the state to the United States Food and Drug
7 Administration to develop the necessary labeling regulations;

8 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the
9 governor to direct the Department of Environmental Conservation to petition the United
10 States Food and Drug Administration to adopt labeling requirements for salmon farmed using
11 antibiotics, dyes, and other chemicals; and be it

12 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the
13 University of Alaska to perform the research necessary to support the petition by the
14 Department of Environmental Conservation to the United States Food and Drug
15 Administration to adopt labeling requirements for salmon farmed using antibiotics, dyes, and
16 other chemicals.

17 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Mark R. Hamilton, President
18 of the University of Alaska; to the Honorable Michele Brown, Commissioner of the
19 Department of Environmental Conservation; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the
20 Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S.
21 Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.