

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 6

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES KERTTULA, Gara, Seaton, Harris, Foster, Chenault, Elkins, Anderson, Olson, Gatto, Coghill, Cissna, Ramras, Gruenberg, Wilson, Samuels, Kott, Kapsner, Guttenberg, Neuman, McGuire, LeDoux

Introduced: 1/19/05

Referred: House Special Committee on Fisheries, Resources

A RESOLUTION

1 **Relating to the labeling of fish products and processed food items containing fish to**
2 **identify the country of origin and to distinguish between wild and farmed fish and fish**
3 **products.**

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

5 **WHEREAS** Americans deserve wholesome foods and information about the contents
6 and production of their food supply; and

7 **WHEREAS** concerns have recently been raised about the safety of farmed fish; and

8 **WHEREAS** Alaska's fish production is distinct from farmed fish production because
9 Alaska fish are wild, free-ranging, and, therefore, naturally wholesome and healthy; and

10 **WHEREAS** there are numerous outstanding issues regarding public policy, fair trade,
11 and the social and economic consequences of farmed fish production; and

12 **WHEREAS** more and more consumers are expressing a preference for, and
13 requesting, wild fish over farmed fish; and

14 **WHEREAS** both the Alaska State Legislature and the United States Congress have
15 passed labeling laws specifically to inform consumers about fish and other food products; and

1 **WHEREAS** the United States Department of Agriculture has exempted processed
2 food items from federal country of origin labeling requirements; and

3 **WHEREAS** the only Alaska fish products available to many Americans are canned,
4 smoked, or otherwise processed;

5 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature supports the timely labeling of
6 fish and fishery food products in the market place to identify the country of origin and to
7 distinguish between wild fish and farmed fish; and be it

8 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature supports the labeling of
9 processed food items containing fish to identify the country of origin of the fish and to
10 distinguish between wild fish and farmed fish.

11 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George W. Bush, President
12 of the United States; the Honorable Don Evans, United States Secretary of Commerce; the
13 Honorable Ann M. Veneman, United States Secretary of Agriculture; and the Honorable Ted
14 Stevens and the Honorable Lisa Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young,
15 U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.