

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 13

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

Introduced: 4/9/11

Referred: House Special Committee on Fisheries

A RESOLUTION

- 1 **Requesting the governor to designate one seat on the North Pacific Fishery Management**
2 **Council for a sport fish licensee and one seat on the North Pacific Fishery Management**
3 **Council for a subsistence user.**

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

5 **WHEREAS** the North Pacific Fishery Management Council is a regional council
6 established in 1976 under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act
7 to oversee management of the region's fisheries; and

8 **WHEREAS** five members of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council are
9 nominated by the governor and approved by the United States Secretary of Commerce; and

10 **WHEREAS** the North Pacific Fishery Management Council possesses primary
11 responsibility for management of fish in the Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, and Aleutian Islands;
12 and

13 **WHEREAS** the allocation of fish in those waters directly affects the quantity of fish
14 available for harvest by sport fish licensees and subsistence users; and

15 **WHEREAS** the Constitution of the State of Alaska requires the state's natural

1 resources to be managed for the maximum benefit of all of the people of the state; and

2 **WHEREAS** the Constitution of the State of Alaska states that, wherever occurring in
3 their natural state, fish are reserved to the people for common use and shall be maintained on
4 the sustained yield principle; and

5 **WHEREAS** subsistence, as the customary and traditional use of fish for direct
6 personal and family consumption in amounts reasonably necessary for personal or family
7 sustenance, is a high priority among consumptive uses in the state, where an estimated 95
8 percent of rural households consume fish caught for subsistence; and

9 **WHEREAS** sport fishing contributes significantly to the state's tourism industry and
10 general economy; and

11 **WHEREAS** 458,888 sport fishing licenses were issued in the state in 2010; and

12 **WHEREAS**, in a state that is home to 3,000 rivers, 3,000,000 lakes, and 6,640 miles
13 of coastline, protecting opportunities for sport fishers and subsistence users is vital;

14 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the
15 governor to designate one seat on the North Pacific Fishery Management Council for a sport
16 fish licensee and one seat on the North Pacific Fishery Management Council for a subsistence
17 user.