

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

March 12, 2015

10:07 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Representative Louise Stutes, Chair
Representative Neal Foster
Representative Bob Herron
Representative Charisse Millett
Representative Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins

MEMBERS ABSENT

Representative Craig Johnson
Representative Dan Ortiz

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

HOUSE BILL NO. 128

"An Act establishing August 10 of each year as Alaska Wild Salmon Day."

- MOVED HB 128 OUT OF COMMITTEE

PREVIOUS COMMITTEE ACTION

BILL: HB 128

SHORT TITLE: ALASKA WILD SALMON DAY

SPONSOR(S): REPRESENTATIVE(S) EDGMON

02/27/15	(H)	READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS
02/27/15	(H)	FSH, RES
03/12/15	(H)	FSH AT 10:00 AM CAPITOL 120

WITNESS REGISTER

REPRESENTATIVE BRYCE EDGMON

Alaska State Legislature

Juneau, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Presented HB 128, as Prime Sponsor.

PATRICK MARSHALL

Craig, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified in support of HB 128.

HAYLEY STUMPF
Craig, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified in support of HB 128.

SHANNYN BIRD
Fairbanks, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified in support of HB 128.

MARILYN ROMANO, Regional Vice President
Alaska Airlines
Anchorage, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified in support of HB 128.

ACTION NARRATIVE

[10:07:43 AM](#)

CHAIR LOUISE STUTES called the House Special Committee on Fisheries meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. Representatives Stutes, Foster, Kreiss-Tomkins, and Herron were present at the call to order. Representative Millett arrived as the meeting was in progress.

[10:08:19 AM](#)

HB 128-ALASKA WILD SALMON DAY

CHAIR STUTES announced that the only order of business would be HOUSE BILL NO. 128, "An Act establishing August 10 of each year as Alaska Wild Salmon Day."

[10:08:32 AM](#)

REPRESENTATIVE BRYCE EDGMON, Alaska State Legislature, introduced HB 128, as prime sponsor, stating that the choice for August came after consultation with representatives from a variety of interest groups, including fishing organizations and the travel and visitor industry. The month of August hosts two other state recognized days, and appears to be an appropriate time to recognize the virtues that wild salmon contribute to Alaska. Many states celebrate resource icons recognized in their areas, such as Iowa corn, Texas beef, or Maine lobster. Alaska deserves to have a day to recognize wild salmon, a resource that is, without dispute, an iconic representation of Alaska.

REPRESENTATIVE HERRON asked about the choice for the tenth day of the month.

REPRESENTATIVE EDGMON responded that it was chosen randomly.

CHAIR STUTES opened public testimony.

[10:12:59 AM](#)

PATRICK MARSHALL testified in support of HB 128, stating that as a fisherman and seasonal fish packer, salmon is an important part of his everyday life and it deserves a day of recognition and celebration.

[10:13:31 AM](#)

HAYLEY STUMPF testified in support of HB 128, and disclosed that her family is directly involved in the tourism industry, as owner/operators of a commercial lodge. In advocating for this bill, she stressed that it will provide an avenue for Alaskans to show respect and gratitude for the important presence that salmon holds in their lives.

[10:14:35 AM](#)

SHANNYN BIRD, testified in support of HB 128, and said there is statewide support for salmon as it represents a common pride to be celebrated. Additionally, the date coincides with the Fairbanks, Tanana Valley Fair, which may prove helpful in promoting the celebration in the interior.

[10:16:03 AM](#)

MARILYN ROMANO, Regional Vice President, Alaska Airlines, testified in support of HB 128, and said the airlines officially supports an official recognition day for salmon. Alaska Airlines for decades has supported both sport and commercial fishing in Alaska and, as part of doing so, has painted a 737 jet aircraft with a salmon motif as a visual display of that support; the "salmon thirty salmon." Further, the company looks forward to celebrating this iconic symbol of Alaska with particular events planned for the decorated jet on the appointed day.

CHAIR STUTES closed public testimony after ascertaining no one further wished to testify.

10:17:22 AM

REPRESENTATIVE MILLETT moved to report HB 128, 19-LS0563\W, out of committee with the individual recommendations and the accompanying zero fiscal note. There being no objection, HB 128 was reported from the House Special Committee on Fisheries.

10:17:55 AM

CHAIR STUTES thanked the day's participants, particularly the young witnesses that came forward.

10:18:13 AM

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the committee, the House Special Committee on Fisheries meeting was adjourned at 10:18 a.m.