

Original sponsor: Haugen

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For Today's Calendar

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE RULES COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 8

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to the study of hatchery and wild  
6 salmon stock harvest and the comparative  
7 economics of salmon hatchery construction  
8 and operation.

9 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

10 WHEREAS the nonprofit salmon hatchery program was established by the  
11 Legislature in 1974; and

12 WHEREAS the express legislative intent was to ". . .authorize the pri-  
13 vate ownership of salmon hatcheries by qualified nonprofit corporations for  
14 the purpose of contributing, by artificial means, to the rehabilitation of  
15 the state's depleted and depressed salmon fishery. . ."; and

16 WHEREAS the program is to be administered in a manner ". . .without  
17 adversely affecting natural stocks of fish in the state. . ." and in a manner  
18 ". . .which allows reasonable segregation of returning hatchery-reared salmon  
19 from naturally occurring stocks"; and

20 WHEREAS the nonprofit salmon hatchery program was subsequently amended  
21 in 1976 to allow for the creation of regional associations for the purpose of  
22 salmon fishery enhancement and gives qualified associations preference to  
23 hatchery permits from the Department of Fish and Game; and

24 WHEREAS the state can make loans to regional hatchery associations in  
25 the amount of \$3,000,000 maximum per loan to regional associations and  
26 \$300,000 maximum per loan to other hatchery permit holders; and

27 WHEREAS the voters of Alaska approved the construction of state-owned  
28 hatchery and rearing facilities in the amount of \$24,565,000 in the 1976  
29 general election; and

1       WHEREAS there has not been a comprehensive analysis of the relative cost  
2 to the state of the state-owned hatcheries and the private nonprofit hatch-  
3 eries; and

4       WHEREAS these state-owned facilities will be located in Southeastern  
5 Alaska, Cook Inlet, Kodiak, Prince William Sound, and the Alaska Interior;  
6 and

7       WHEREAS the locations of these state-owned hatchery facilities are in  
8 the general proximity of present and potential future private nonprofit  
9 salmon hatchery facilities; and

10       WHEREAS both the state and private hatchery facilities will release  
11 salmon into the common property fishery; and

12       WHEREAS private hatchery fish will be subject to the common property  
13 fishery along with the naturally occurring salmon runs in Alaska; and

14       WHEREAS it is the stated policy of the Alaska Department of Fish and  
15 Game that "if complexities arise in managing mixed stocks, including both  
16 hatchery fish and wild fish, it will be state policy to manage the collective  
17 resource in a manner that favors protection of the wild stocks."; and

18       WHEREAS the proper management of this multi-stock fishery is of vital  
19 importance to the people of Alaska in light of the importance of the salmon  
20 fishery to the economic welfare of a significant portion of the state's  
21 population;

22       BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the State of Alaska  
23 is committed to a fisheries management policy that encourages and promotes  
24 the coexistence of healthy hatchery and wild stocks of salmon, and to imple-  
25 ment this policy the Department of Fish and Game, through the regional  
26 planning teams, shall initiate planning to meet the potential conflicts which  
27 may arise from the harvest of hatchery and wild salmon stocks so that the  
28 wild stocks are adequately protected; and be it

29       FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska Fisheries Council study the comparable

1 salmon hatchery cost to the state for both capital and operational costs for  
2 state-owned hatcheries and private nonprofit hatcheries; and be it

3       FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Fish and Game and the Alaska  
4 Fisheries Council report their findings and recommendations to the Second  
5 session, Tenth Legislature.

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