

Introduced: 3/2/78
Referred: Resources

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 66

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Requesting the administrator of the
6 National Oceanic and Atmospheric
7 Administration to assist in the
8 development of Alaska bottomfish
9 fisheries.

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

11 WHEREAS the national balance of trade in bottomfish is currently heavily
12 weighted toward imports of foreign-processed fish; and

13 WHEREAS United States participants have historically demonstrated that
14 they can be competitive with foreign efforts if they are given the opportu-
15 nity to develop and acquire the necessary gear and equipment; and

16 WHEREAS domestic processing entities are increasingly being bought out
17 by Japanese interests; and

18 WHEREAS the Japanese provide one of our largest foreign markets for
19 bottomfish, leading to an understandable concern on the part of the American
20 industry that our free market system may be thwarted; and

21 WHEREAS there is merit in providing American citizens an opportunity to
22 maintain the initiative in the production and marketing of finished seafood
23 products; and

24 WHEREAS, without this opportunity, America will lose its options as to
25 where the products go and at what prices; and

26 WHEREAS two large processors will have invested as much as \$7 million in
27 the Alaska bottomfish fishery by the end of this year; and

28 WHEREAS these processors must have the fish delivered in order to sur-
29 vive; and

1 WHEREAS the failure of these operations would be devastating to the
2 entire Alaska bottomfish industry; and

3 WHEREAS other states, as well as Alaska, will directly benefit from the
4 development of the Alaska bottomfish fishery as a result of the expected
5 increased need for boats, gear and equipment;

6 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the administrator of
7 the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is urgently requested to
8 allocate \$3.3 million to the Alaska Fisheries Development Corporation to fund
9 its two-year program for the development of the bottomfish fishery in Alaska.

10 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard Frank,
11 Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; and to the
12 Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the
13 Honorable Don Young, U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation
14 in Congress.