

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
BY REQUEST

2

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 48

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

Relating to joint ventures between

6

Alaska commercial salmon fishermen

7

and, foreign processors.

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

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WHEREAS the Department of Fish and Game has forecast 1982 season runs of  
10 34.6 million sockeye salmon and 9.2 million pink salmon in the Bristol Bay  
11 fishery, and a run of 35.4 million pink salmon in the southeastern fishery;  
12 and

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WHEREAS these salmon runs are among the largest ever forecast for those  
14 fisheries; and

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WHEREAS the potential harvest of salmon in the state is approximately  
16 135 million; and

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WHEREAS this harvest is likely to exceed the processing capability of  
18 Alaskan processors; and

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WHEREAS during the past 10 years Bristol Bay processors have established  
20 daily limits on the amount of salmon they will purchase from each fisherman;  
21 and

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WHEREAS the imposition of limits during the peak periods has resulted  
23 each year in losses to fishermen of a harvestable surplus worth \$20,000 to  
24 \$40,000 per fisherman; and

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WHEREAS the processing plants in Bristol Bay have been unable to handle  
26 all the catches brought to them by the fishermen, resulting in a waste of  
27 salmon; and

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WHEREAS the Bristol Bay salmon fishermen have often waited in line up to  
29 36 hours before being allowed by processors to off-load their fish, resulting

1 in a loss of fishing time and income; and

2 WHEREAS joint ventures with foreign processing vessels provide the only  
3 feasible means of fully using the allowable harvest of sockeye and pink  
4 salmon; and

5 WHEREAS state law charges the commissioner of fish and game with the  
6 responsibility of developing fisheries; and

7 WHEREAS joint ventures with foreign vessels provide the only feasible  
8 opportunity for developing species of fish that the Alaskan processing indus-  
9 try does not handle or intend to handle;

10 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Governor, the  
11 Board of Fisheries and the commissioner of fish and game are respectfully  
12 requested to support and encourage joint ventures in 1982 between Alaska  
13 fishermen and foreign processors to handle the excess runs of pink salmon and  
14 sockeye salmon that the Alaskan processing industry is not capable of hand-  
15 ling; and be it

16 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is respectfully requested to direct  
17 the commissioner of fish and game to grant all permits and other authoriza-  
18 tions necessary for the operation of joint ventures for the 1982 pink and  
19 sockeye salmon seasons and to waive prohibitions on the operation of foreign  
20 vessels and aliens processing and receiving pink and sockeye salmon in Alaska;  
21 and be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is respectfully requested to direct  
23 the commissioner of fish and game to encourage the development of and issue  
24 necessary permits for joint ventures between American fishermen and foreign  
25 processing companies for fisheries in which Alaskan processors are not engaged  
26 and do not intend to engage.

27 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ronald Skoog,  
28 commissioner of fish and game; the Honorable Nick Szabo, Chairman, Board of  
29 Fisheries; the Honorable Clem Tillion, Chairman, North Pacific Fishery Manage-

1 ment Council; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank  
2 Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative,  
3 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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