

Introduced: 3/23/84
Referred: Resources

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE
BY REQUEST

1 IN THE SENATE

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SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 42

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

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Relating to sport fishing of salmon and

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underutilized species.

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

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WHEREAS demand for fisheries resources by competing user groups has

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been increasing, in part, because of the state's growing population; and

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WHEREAS the demand for fisheries resources has, for some areas of the

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state, grown to exceed the resources available for harvest; and

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WHEREAS the competition between commercial and sports fishermen over

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limited quantities of king and coho salmon in Southcentral Alaska has

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created a conflict of significant proportions that is threatening the

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social and economic harmony in that area; and

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WHEREAS the rapid rate of increase in demand by sport fishermen cannot

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be satisfied by any single run of salmon in any single location in the

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state; and

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WHEREAS salmonid aquaculture is a proven means by which populations of

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both king and coho salmon can be increased; and

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WHEREAS the state's existing aquaculture program could be modified to

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provide for expansion of existing facilities or construction of new facili-

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ties for the propagation of salmon for sports fishermen; and

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WHEREAS there are populations of fish existing in the state that could

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sustain increased harvesting by sports fishermen; and

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WHEREAS art. VIII, sec. 2, of the Constitution of the State of Alaska

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states: "The Legislature shall provide for the utilization, development,

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and conservation of all natural resources belonging to the State, including

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land and waters, for the maximum benefit of its people.";

1 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature requests the Governor
2 to direct the commissioner of fish and game to immediately initiate a study
3 to determine what opportunities exist for (1) increasing access by sport
4 fishermen to presently underutilized fisheries resources, and (2) increas-
5 ing the numbers of king, coho, and red salmon available to sports fishermen
6 through the use of aquaculture; and be it
7 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Governor is requested to direct the commis-
8 sioner of fish and game to submit a report on the findings to the First
9 Session of the Fourteenth Alaska Legislature by February 1, 1985, and to
10 include in the report specific program and budgetary recommendations.