

Introduced: 1/19/83  
Referred: Resources

1 IN THE SENATE

BY MULCAHY

2

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 7

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Opposing the imposition of a halibut  
moratorium and the establishment of a  
shares system for halibut in Alaska.

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

9 WHEREAS the North Pacific Fishery Management Council has recommended  
10 imposition of a moratorium on Alaska's halibut fisheries and is considering  
11 recommending the establishment of a share-quota system for the allocation  
12 of the fishery resource; and

13 WHEREAS the proposed moratorium would exclude fishermen who have not  
14 participated since 1978; and

15 WHEREAS a share system would result in the concentration of ownership  
16 of the fishery resource in the hands of a few wealthy fishermen; and

17 WHEREAS a share system would encourage speculation and the making of  
18 exorbitant profits at the expense of Alaska fishermen; and

19 WHEREAS concentration of ownership in and speculation by nonresidents  
20 could result in a loss to Alaska fishing communities and to the state of a  
21 fishery resource valued at \$50,000,000 annually; and

22 WHEREAS a share system would tend to eliminate competition among  
23 halibut fishermen; and

24 WHEREAS existing management tools, such as harvest levels, size and  
25 sex limits, gear restrictions, and area closures, are less drastic alterna-  
26 tives to a share-quota system and have not been adequately considered by  
27 the management council; and

28 WHEREAS numerous Alaska communities, including Akutan, Cordova, Craig,  
29 Kenai, the Kenai Peninsula Borough, King Cove, Kodiak, the Kodiak Island

1 Borough, Valdez, and Whittier, and organizations, including the Kodiak Area  
2 Native Association, the Kodiak Area Chamber of Commerce, the Alaska Drag-  
3 gers, and the United Fishermen's Marketing Association, have passed resolu-  
4 tions or otherwise expressed views in opposition to the share-quota system  
5 and/or moratorium; and

6 WHEREAS the Legislature would oppose the use of state-operated facil-  
7 ities and other forms of cooperation in implementing a share-quota system;

8 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Secretary of  
9 Commerce and the administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
10 Administration are respectfully requested to disapprove the imposition of a  
11 moratorium on Alaska halibut fisheries; and be it

12 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of Commerce and the administrator  
13 of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration are respectfully  
14 requested to disapprove any share-quota system for halibut in Alaska that  
15 is recommended by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council.

16 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Malcolm  
17 Baldrige, Secretary of Commerce; Mr. John V. Byrne, Administrator, Nation-  
18 al Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; Mr. Clem Tillion, Chairman,  
19 North Pacific Fishery Management Council; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens  
20 and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don  
21 Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.