

Introduced: 3/8/85  
Referred: Resources

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY HERRMANN

2

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 18

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

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Relating to the Bristol Bay salmon

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management policies of the Department of

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Fish and Game.

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

9 WHEREAS the salmon fisheries are critical to the economy of the  
10 Bristol Bay region; and

11 WHEREAS changes in fisheries management by the Department of Fish and  
12 Game can have significant economic impacts on the resident fishermen of  
13 Bristol Bay; and

14 WHEREAS the department has significantly altered the management strat-  
15 egy for the Bristol Bay management area in an attempt to rebuild certain  
16 year classes of sockeye salmon; and

17 WHEREAS, in accordance with this new strategy, the department has  
18 raised the escapement goal for sockeye salmon on the Kvichak River from a  
19 goal of 2 million in 1982 and 1983 to 10 million for 1984 and 1985; and

20 WHEREAS the department has also raised escapement goals on the Naknek,  
21 Igushik, Nushagak, Egegik and Ugashik Rivers; and

22 WHEREAS these changes in escapement goals have resulted in numerous  
23 fishing closures that have had significant economic impacts on Bristol Bay  
24 residents; and

25 WHEREAS the commissioner of fish and game has a responsibility to  
26 disseminate statistics, data, and information that tend to promote the  
27 management, protection, maintenance, and improvement of fishery resources  
28 of the state;

29 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests

1 the Governor to direct the Department of Fish and Game to hold public  
2 meetings in the Bristol Bay region in order to explain the intent of the  
3 department's change in sockeye salmon management strategy and its plans for  
4 implementing the strategy during the 1985 season.

5 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Bill  
6 Sheffield, Governor; to the Honorable Don Collinsworth, commissioner of  
7 fish and game; and to the Honorable Loren Lounsbury, commissioner of  
8 commerce and economic development.