

Offered: 4/3/86
Referred: Rules

Original sponsor: Herrmann

1 IN THE HOUSE BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE
2 SENATE CS FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 18 (Resources)
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION
5 Relating to the Bristol Bay salmon
6 management policies of the Department of
7 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 the
13 state; 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, while the most extreme changes have been made to the manage-
18 ment of the Kvichak River, changes also have resulted on the Naknek,
19 Igushik, Nushagak, Egegik, and Ugashik Rivers; and
20 WHEREAS these changes in escapement goals have resulted in numerous
21 fishing closures that have had significant economic impacts on resident
22 fishermen of the state; and
23 WHEREAS Bristol Bay residents are directly affected by the changes and
24 often are unaware of the reasons for the management changes; 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 implementation.

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 com-
8 merce and economic development.