

Offered: 1/23/85  
Referred: Rules

Original sponsors: Grussendorf, Duncan,  
M.M.Miller, et al

1 IN THE HOUSE BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
2 CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 8 (Resources)  
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
4 FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION  
5 Relating to the allocation of Gulf of  
6 Alaska sablefish harvest by the North  
7 Pacific Fishery Management Council.  
8 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:  
9 WHEREAS the North Pacific Fishery Management Council on December 8,  
10 1984, voted to allocate 10 percent of the optimum yield of sablefish in the  
11 Gulf of Alaska groundfish fishery to incidental catch by joint venture  
12 fishermen; and  
13 WHEREAS joint venture operations in the Gulf of Alaska have expanded  
14 dramatically in recent years; and  
15 WHEREAS continued expansion of joint venture participation with for-  
16 eign processors in the Gulf of Alaska should be accommodated by the North  
17 Pacific Fishery Management Council in such a manner as to enhance, and not  
18 restrict, development of the domestic fishery; and  
19 WHEREAS use of longline gear in catching sablefish is ecologically  
20 sound; and  
21 WHEREAS Alaska longline fishermen have the capacity to harvest, and  
22 United States processors have the capacity to process, the entire allowable  
23 catch of sablefish in the Gulf of Alaska; and  
24 WHEREAS the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act estab-  
25 lishes a priority for United States fishermen delivering to United States  
26 processors; and  
27 WHEREAS the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, in allocating  
28 fishing privileges among fishermen and among gear types, is directed by  
29 management plan guidelines to consider such relevant factors as the

1 economic and social consequences of the allocation scheme and the depen-  
2 dence on the fishery by present participants and coastal communities;

3 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the North Pacific  
4 Fishery Management Council is respectfully requested to rescind its action  
5 allowing joint venture fishermen an incidental catch of sablefish equal to  
6 10 percent of the optimum yield of sablefish in the Gulf of Alaska ground-  
7 fish fishery, and set aside reserves in the Central and Western Regulatory  
8 Areas to allow incidental catch of sablefish based on actual needs rather  
9 than optimum yield; and be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED that the North Pacific Fishery Management Council is  
11 respectfully requested to take action at its February 1985 meeting to grant  
12 longline fishermen exclusive fishing rights in the sablefish fishery in the  
13 Eastern Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska, from Dixon Entrance to a  
14 west longitude determined by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council.

15 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ronald  
16 Reagan, President of the United States; to the Honorable George Bush, Vice-  
17 President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; to the  
18 Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., Speaker of the U.S. House of Representa-  
19 tives; to the Honorable John B. Breaux, chairman, Subcommittee on Fisheries  
20 and Wildlife Conservation and the Environment, House Committee on Merchant  
21 Marine and Fisheries; to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank  
22 Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative,  
23 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress; to the Honorable Malcolm  
24 Baldrige, Secretary of Commerce; and Mr. James Campbell, chairman, North  
25 Pacific Fishery Management Council.