

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY SUND, GRUSSENDORF, GOLL,
ULMER, TAYLOR, HUDSON AND
NAVARRE

2

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 38

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

Requesting the Pacific Salmon Commission

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to increase Alaska's chinook salmon

7

quota.

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

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WHEREAS the abundance of chinook salmon in southeast Alaska water has significantly exceeded the population-rebuilding projections of the United States-Canada Salmon Treaty; and

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WHEREAS the southeast Alaska chinook salmon quota was based on these grossly inaccurate projections; and

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WHEREAS southeast Alaska has suffered substantial economic losses under treaty harvest quotas; and

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WHEREAS area closures for chinook salmon have had disastrous economic effects on many southeast Alaska communities; and

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WHEREAS each chinook salmon is worth \$60 to \$150 to a fisherman; and

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WHEREAS staying within the quota imposes an unfair amount of social and economic loss to Alaska not experienced by other parties involved in the United States-Canada Salmon Treaty; and

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WHEREAS some Washington and Oregon rivers that contribute to Alaska's chinook salmon catch are as much as 300 percent above the treaty escapement goals and are enjoying increasing terminal harvests, many above treaty levels; and

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WHEREAS the southeast Alaska summer chinook salmon troll season has been reduced from 169 days in 1980 to only 23 days in 1987; and

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WHEREAS treaty agreements have shortened the southeast Alaska troll season so much that Alaskan hatchery fish cannot be harvested to the level

1 promised; and

2 WHEREAS longer seasons benefit the southeast Alaska fishing industry
3 by ensuring higher quality fish products and higher market prices; and

4 WHEREAS a fair increase in the southeast Alaska chinook harvest quota
5 will not jeopardize the resource;

6 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests
7 the United States section of the Northern Panel of the Pacific Salmon
8 Commission to work to substantially increase the chinook quota for Alaska.

9 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Steve Cowper,
10 Governor of the State of Alaska; and to Don Collinsworth, Alaska Commis-
11 sioner, Pacific Salmon Commission.