

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

2

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 61

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

Relating to the allocation of salmon

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among gill net fishermen using different

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types of gear.

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

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WHEREAS the legislature finds that there is increasing aggravation

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among commercial salmon drift and set net fishermen over alleged inequita-

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ble allocations of salmon harvests between gear types; and

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WHEREAS the situation is aggravated by confusing and inconsistent

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allocations between gear types in different areas; in some places, only set

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net fishing is allowed while in others drifters and set netters may both

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fish to 200 fathoms; in other places, drifters are allowed one-third more

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than is allocated to set netters while in still others drifters are permit-

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ted to fish three times the gear allocated to set netters; and

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WHEREAS these allocations of gear might reflect the political domi-

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nance of one gear type over another rather than serving sound management

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goals; and

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WHEREAS most of these gear allocations were established years ago

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under very different circumstances; and

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WHEREAS changes in those circumstances have altered the resultant

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allocation of harvest between gear types in a manner that can deny fisher-

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men with one type or the other their fair share of the harvest; and

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WHEREAS the legislature believes a collective fair share of any gill

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net harvest should be a percentage of the total harvest equal to the per-

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centage of total fathoms of gill net fished by either drift or set netters;

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and

1        WHEREAS in many districts the type of gear most often disadvantaged is  
2 the one fished by the greatest percentage of Alaskan residents;  
3        BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges the Governor to  
4 direct the Department of Fish and Game to manage gill net fisheries in a  
5 way that ensures fair share allocation through staggering or adjusting  
6 openings and closures during which the respective types of gear are permit-  
7 ted to fish and through other appropriate measures; and be it  
8        FURTHER RESOLVED that close monitoring of efforts to secure a fair  
9 share harvest should be undertaken, especially in the districts where one  
10 type of gear is predominantly operated by Alaskan residents.