

Introduced: 3/23/87  
Referred: Labor & Commerce

5-0738A

1 IN THE SENATE BY ELIASON AND ZHAROFF

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 32

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to the importation and sale of  
6 salmon reared in TBT-treated aquaculture  
7 pens.

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

9 WHEREAS pen-reared salmon contaminated with tributyltin (TBT) are  
10 entering U.S. seafood markets; and

11 WHEREAS TBT has been described as the most toxic compound ever delib-  
12 erately introduced into the marine environment; and

13 WHEREAS TBT is toxic at levels as low as five parts per trillion; and

14 WHEREAS TBT is used in the salmon aquaculture industry outside Alaska  
15 for the coating of culture nets in order to retard fouling by marine orga-  
16 nisms; and

17 WHEREAS TBT accumulates in the muscle tissue of salmon reared in TBT-  
18 treated aquaculture pens; and

19 WHEREAS a recent study by the National Marine Fisheries Service labo-  
20 ratory in Auke Bay, Alaska, has detected TBT in pen-reared salmon from  
21 various countries sold at markets in Seattle, Washington, and Portland,  
22 Oregon; and

23 WHEREAS this is believed to be the first evidence of TBT entering the  
24 human diet in the United States; and

25 WHEREAS cooking was found to be ineffective in destroying or removing  
26 TBT from the contaminated fish; and

27 WHEREAS studies have shown that exposure to TBT can be dangerous to  
28 the health of people and, therefore, human consumption of TBT-contaminated  
29 fish should be avoided;

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Food and Drug  
2 Administration is respectfully requested to impose an immediate ban on the  
3 importation and sale in the United States of salmon reared in TBT-treated  
4 aquaculture pens; and be it

5 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Congress is respectfully requested to impose  
6 a permanent ban on the importation or sale in the United States of salmon  
7 reared in TBT-treated aquaculture pens.

8 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable John C.  
9 Stennis, President pro tempore of the United States Senate; to the Honor-  
10 able Jim Wright, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives; to  
11 the Honorable Ernest F. Hollings, chairman, Senate Committee on Commerce,  
12 Science, and Transportation; to the Honorable Patrick J. Leahy, chairman,  
13 Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; to the Honorable  
14 Walter B. Jones, chairman, House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisher-  
15 ies; to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S.  
16 Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the  
17 Alaska delegation in Congress; and to Dr. Frank E. Young, Commissioner,  
18 Food and Drug Administration.