

Original sponsors: Ulmer, Swackhammer,
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1 IN THE HOUSE BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE
2 CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 10 (Resources)
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION
5 Urging monitoring, regulation, and
6 elimination of high seas interception of
7 salmon and steelhead by the squid drift-
8 net fleets of Japan, Taiwan, and Korea.
9 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:
10 WHEREAS the commercial and sport fishing industries of the Pacific
11 Coast of the United States contribute billions of dollars to the national
12 economy each year; and
13 WHEREAS salmon and steelhead are the mainstays of the Pacific Coast
14 commercial and sport fishing industries; and
15 WHEREAS the people of Alaska depend upon salmon and steelhead stocks
16 for subsistence and personal use; and
17 WHEREAS salmon and steelhead spend one to four years of their lives in
18 the international waters of the North Pacific Ocean and the Bering Sea; and
19 WHEREAS there is growing evidence that American salmon and steelhead
20 are being harvested illegally in substantial numbers by the squid driftnet
21 fleets of Japan, Taiwan, and South Korea; and
22 WHEREAS the gillnets used by the squid driftnet fleets catch and
23 retain salmon and steelhead and are often 25 to 60 miles long; and
24 WHEREAS the squid driftnet fleets have expanded dramatically in the
25 last decade to more than 700 vessels that use 20,000 miles of gillnet each
26 day; and
27 WHEREAS poor salmon runs in 1988, the increased incidence of net
28 marked salmon and steelhead, and recent reports of large quantities of
29 illegally harvested salmon being sold in Europe and Asia have heightened

1 public concern over high seas interceptions of salmon and steelhead; and

2 WHEREAS the illegal harvest and sale of American salmon by foreign
3 fishing fleets are undercutting international sales of salmon harvested by
4 American fishermen; and

5 WHEREAS the increasing interception of American salmon and steelhead
6 by foreign squid driftnet fleets is having significant adverse economic and
7 social effects on the residents of Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and
8 California; and

9 WHEREAS most salmon harvested on the high seas originate in the Soviet
10 Union, Canada, or the United States; and

11 WHEREAS the most effective long-term solution for protection of Ameri-
12 can salmon and steelhead stocks on the high seas is the elimination of high
13 seas interception of these stocks; and

14 WHEREAS the United States and the Soviet Union have both recognized in
15 the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Fisheries Agreement that anadromous species, which in-
16 clude salmon and steelhead, should be harvested only within a nation's
17 200-mile exclusive economic zone; and

18 WHEREAS customary international law prohibits nations from harvesting
19 anadromous species on the high seas unless economic dislocation would
20 result; and

21 WHEREAS the harvest of nonanadromous species can be accomplished with-
22 out the harvest of anadromous species, and the cessation of high seas
23 interception of salmon and steelhead stocks can be accomplished without
24 causing economic dislocation; and

25 WHEREAS customary international law recognizes that all nations have a
26 duty to cooperate in conserving fish stocks on the high seas, including
27 salmon and steelhead stocks; and

28 WHEREAS there has not been international monitoring of squid driftnet
29 fleets on the high seas or enforcement of the prohibition on harvest of

1 anadromous species on the high seas;

2 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests
3 the Secretary of Commerce to

4 (1) expeditiously complete a thorough analysis of all available
5 information on salmon and steelhead interception by foreign squid driftnet
6 fleets as required by P.L. 100-202, sec. 4005; and

7 (2) vigorously promote, through the Secretary of State, effec-
8 tive agreements with Japan, Taiwan, and South Korea, and any other nation
9 found to participate in the high seas squid driftnet fishery, for the
10 monitoring of the squid driftnet fleets and for the enforcement of laws and
11 agreements to prevent the illegal retention and sale of salmon and steel-
12 head as authorized under P.L. 100-202, secs. 4004 and 4006; and be it

13 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully re-
14 quests the Secretary of State to pursue negotiations with the Soviet Union
15 and Canada for cooperative enforcement agreements and monitoring programs
16 to eliminate high seas interception of salmon and steelhead; and be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully re-
18 quests the Congress to

19 (1) specifically earmark appropriations for high seas fisheries
20 patrols by the Coast Guard and for enforcement of laws and agreements
21 prohibiting the harvest and retention of American stocks of salmon and
22 steelhead;

23 (2) amend the Magnuson Fisheries Conservation and Management Act
24 (16 U.S.C. 1801 - 1882) to ensure that United States jurisdiction over
25 American anadromous species on the high seas will be effectively asserted
26 to stop interception of salmon and steelhead on the high seas; and

27 (3) expand the Pelly Amendment to

28 (A) provide for sanctions against foreign nations whose
29 fishermen intercept anadromous species on the high seas or who refuse

1 to cooperate with the United States in developing and enforcing inter-
2 national fishing regulations to prevent interception of anadromous
3 species on the high seas; and

4 (B) include in the sanctions against those nations
5 embargoes on fishery and other products imported from those nations.

6 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George Bush,
7 President of the United States; the Honorable Dan Quayle, Vice-President of
8 the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable James A.
9 Baker, III, U.S. Secretary of State; the Honorable Robert Mosbacher, U.S.
10 Secretary of Commerce; the Honorable Jim Wright, Speaker of the U.S. House
11 of Representatives; the Honorable George Deukmejian, Governor of the State
12 of California; the Honorable Leo T. McCarthy, President of the Senate of
13 the State of California; the Honorable Willie Lewis Brown, Jr., Speaker of
14 the Assembly of the State of California; the Honorable Cecil D. Andrus,
15 Governor of the State of Idaho; the Honorable C. L. Otter, President of the
16 Senate of the State of Idaho; the Honorable Tom Boyd, Speaker of the House
17 of Representatives of the State of Idaho; the Honorable Neil Goldschmidt,
18 Governor of the State of Oregon; the Honorable John Kitzhaber, President of
19 the Senate of the State of Oregon; the Honorable Vera Katz, Speaker of the
20 House of Representatives of the State of Oregon; the Honorable Booth
21 Gardner, Governor of the State of Washington; the Honorable Joel Pritchard,
22 President of the Senate of the State of Washington; the Honorable Joseph E.
23 King, Speaker of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington;
24 and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S.
25 Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the
26 Alaska delegation in Congress.