

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE
2 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 32
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION
5 Relating to a policy on mixed salmon
6 stock interception fisheries.
7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:
8 WHEREAS alteration of certain commercial fishing district boundaries
9 and management practices in recent years have led to an alarming increase
10 in the interception of salmon stocks which could be, and for the most part
11 traditionally have been, harvested in their district of origin; and
12 WHEREAS increased interception of mixed salmon stocks outside the
13 terminal fishing districts complicates management of the salmon stocks and
14 drastically increases enforcement problems and has caused severe economic
15 dislocation to commercial fishermen and municipalities located in the
16 terminal fishing districts; and
17 WHEREAS recent studies by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game
18 verify that salmon stocks are intercepted in mixed stock fisheries outside
19 of the terminal fishing districts far more often than previously believed;
20 and
21 WHEREAS the Alaska Department of Fish and Game contends that, in the
22 absence of a state policy on mixed salmon stock interception fisheries, its
23 only obligation is to assure adequate escapements of salmon stocks; and
24 WHEREAS the Board of Fisheries has considered a policy on mixed salmon
25 stock interception fisheries, but apparently will not formally adopt such a
26 policy in the absence of guidelines from the Legislature; and
27 WHEREAS the state's policy on mixed salmon stock interception fisher-
28 ies should be consistent with the state's position on the interception of
29 mixed salmon stocks on the high seas which emphasizes the harvest of seg-

1 regated salmon stocks by the country of origin;

2 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that it is the policy
3 of the State of Alaska to ensure the harvest of each returning salmon stock
4 in the fishing district that encompasses the stock's river of origin when
5 it is possible to severely constrain the interception of salmon stocks
6 without jeopardizing full utilization of local stocks or the livelihood of
7 commercial fishermen who cannot transfer their operations to the terminal
8 fishing district; and be it

9 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully re-
10 quests the Governor to direct the Board of Fisheries and the Alaska Depart-
11 ment of Fish and Game to implement this policy through appropriate regu-
12 lations and management measures with the same care and diligence exercised
13 to ensure adequate escapements of salmon stocks to their rivers of origin.