

**CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 423 (RESOURCES)
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION**

BY THE SENATE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

**Offered: 4/14/92
Referred: FSH**

Sponsor(s): SENATOR ZHAROFF

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to temporary transfers of commercial fisheries entry permits."

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

3 * Section 1. FINDINGS. The legislature finds that

4 (1) current law relating to the emergency transfers of limited entry permits does not
5 adequately address the concerns of commercial fishermen who are 65 years of age or older and suffer
6 from age-related physical disabilities;

7 (2) commercial fishermen 65 years of age or older who, because of medical problems,
8 can no longer participate in physically demanding commercial fisheries should not be forced to sell their
9 permits, but instead should be allowed to transfer them to younger individuals and to plan for themselves
10 an orderly transition from active commercial fishing to retirement;

11 (3) commercial fishermen 65 years of age or older, who suffer from physical disabilities,
12 should be allowed to participate in the fisheries in a less strenuous manner, thereby imparting the
13 knowledge gained from many years of experience to younger fishermen;

14 (4) 65 years of age is the established age of retirement in our society and the qualifying

1 age for a large number of programs for senior citizens;

2 (5) commercial fishermen do not have an established retirement system;

3 (6) allowing limited entry permit holders who are 65 years of age or older to transfer a
4 permit from year-to-year will enable many young Alaskans with low incomes to participate in
5 commercial fishing as gear operators and give them the opportunity to acquire the capital necessary to
6 purchase their own limited entry permits;

7 (7) allowing all limited entry permit holders to transfer a permit from year-to-year would
8 result in speculation in fisheries entry permits by individuals who purchase permits with the intention
9 of living off the income generated by other individuals who actually operate the permits; such a practice
10 would be disruptive to the commercial fishing industry and should not be allowed;

11 (8) commercial fishermen who have participated in a specific fishery for 10 years or more
12 are bona fide commercial fishermen who have invested considerable time and money in the commercial
13 fishing industry and who have demonstrated their commitment to commercial fishing as a livelihood and
14 a profession.

15 * Sec. 2. AS 16.43.180 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

16 (c) The commission shall adopt regulations providing for the temporary transfer from
17 year-to-year of an entry permit if the permit holder is at least 65 years of age, has participated
18 in the fishery for which the permit is issued for at least 10 years, and is unable to participate in
19 the fishery for medical reasons.