

SCOMM

#31:10

Work Session - Hearing
... Pedro Bay ...

If we exclude people who go to Anchorage pumping gas, or a carpenter, or in a cafe or doing anything; works from say October through March, and then go out and start work on nets and our boats and the rest of it; if those people were excluded because they were advocational fishermen or part-time fishermen, or whatever you want to call them, how many people would that give in your village?

There would only be one guy in the village who is dependent exclusively on fishing. There is only three families there now with the head of households who are fishermen. One is a chronic welfare He is the only guy in the village anymore, but he's been a welfare all his life and he would still be eligible for a license and one other guy who's council president and that has all the jobs in the village. The only third head of the household who is dependent on fishing - his two sons fly an air taxi. But all the rest of the guys who rely on fishing are out in town now.

Take not just your particular village, but is that typical (indesc. noise) out there?

Some communities rely more heavily on welfare. I think that would be fairly typical. You know, like say a dogman he would generate more income as far as there is wein goes through so you have a few jobs to unload the plane or work at the store. There is little kinds of things that people can do to tie themselves over.

Basically John, all those people on the Illiamna Lake, Nuchigak River, (indesc. noise), they are all involved.

We're talking speaking dollars, what it's worth. If you're in the top ten boats; I've never been in the last ten years below the top ten boats. Last summer, my gross was \$27,000.00. A third of that goes to my partner after that. A third of it goes to my boat payment and the reast of it goes for food, gas, all the rest of it. I am in a hold before I can figure travelling down and out and plus what I should have been making some place else.

Going to Anchorage though is not a real difficult alternative to many people. (indesc. noise and mumbling) forty-five percent of seventy were (indesc. mumbling). Certainly froty-five percent of the Bristol Bay area couldn't go to Anchorage (indesc. mumbling).

This here has been a heavy influx because I know they called my office. They called me (indesc. noise) not only in the Navy population but a non-navy population.

I am saying three-fourths of our village is in Anchorage this winter.

What I was curious about, that in your village, how does the amount of time that you fish (indesc. noise) from outside; do you have an advantage from that point of view? Now there is two standards in this bill; one is economic dependence and the second is the amount of time to participate in the fishery. That means the amount of time in a given yar as well as history of participation. Now just take it from a standpoint of how many days you fish in a given

season. Do you come out with an advantage there over the outside...

Forty-eight dollars last summer.

No, no. Over the entire season?

Well there is no...ninety percent of our run goes by in twelve days. There is no purpose to be there. I mean, well, if that's all you have you're going to be there. You're going to go a month early and stay a month late because it means a couple hundred extra bucks that you wouldn't get...

Do all the outside fishermen do this two?

The way it works out, they're mandated to be there a longer period of time than most of us are because they've got to stay there until June 25th, and if rental doesn't let them go home until the 25th, then they don't...

Plus the agreement says that they'll come at a certain time, so they are there before a lot of resident fishermen are there fishing and they're later, they stay later than a lot of the other fishermen do...

Right...July 23rd.

I think when we've read that third criteria there, how he would feel that if he would back up against that (indesc. mumbling and noise)...

Which third criteria?

The Third one; the substantial income supplement.

Well, that is the alternative occupation fisherman. Participation in this fishery provides a substantial income supplement.

And it's hard to tell really. I think it's quite questionable whether your situation may be under number three or up under one or two because of the qualifications down below.

See there is two other elements too. King season is before red season. A guy can make your grub stake. You can pay your expenses, that's generally what you figured. You can pay your expenses by going fishing kings over in Nushigak, but you can't go unless you got a really good boat because it's really rough, it's strange area to you if you've fished in Naknek all your life, and you can't go over there with a skiff, so you have to kind of already made it in order to even make that an option or else go on as a partner and then again, stay late in the year if you want to fish humpies. Again, it's a seasonal type of thing. It's not very much but you might make a few dollars but you have to be pretty well made in order to consider either those other two options because the companies don't let company boats out there.

You said a third on your partner and a third on your boat payment; how do you finance your boat? What kind of boat do you have?

You can't even do it anymore.. Practically speaking, people from the village; if they don't have boats now they can't get boats. There's all kinds of laws. The same guy I just talked about that has been chief for ten years now, for five or six years has been in Anchorage, has been trying to finance a boat. I've got the address of the people here in town and I'll try to stop by and see them before I leave again. I have been writing letters for him for a year trying to get a boat loan and I think it's atrocious and unbelievable the kind of run-around that guy has been getting. He's never been into any school so he can't fight all that paperwork of jumble; fill out triplicate of this form, you have to have a letter of each bank you have ever dealt with that they won't give you a loan, the reasons why stating the date, stating the amount, stating why it would amount to banks three times if you would have to word it just so, and those people are getting tired of see us coming around to please write it in another way to abide by the lines. So we've got letters now from two banks, the credit union, from state fisheries, from everybody in the world saying why they wouldn't realease a loan so it finally got right down to the nitty gritty. Now we've done all the negative things and they ujust turned him down again under another obscure law. There is no way for people in the village to buy boats...

Okay...who did you make your application to? Is that the federal people, the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries people?

I think that he was trying to get a federal loan but you had to show that you had exhausted every other possiblibility. In other words, whoever is available, we have.

What was the State agency that he was dealing with?

Here it is, right here. Department of Commerce and National Marine Fisheries, P.O. Box 1668, Juneau. So we've gone through everything else that there possibly is and the woman's name is Weinberger or it's a long ...

What would happen in your area if you could get state loans on a pretty reasonable basis for boats?

Well it would put alot of guys in the running. You see, the canneries use to when they first - like American Packing, when they first started trying to come up, they were desperate for fisherman so they would say well, we'll finance your boat and pay us back a rate of twenty cents per fish or you pay us back a third of your catch each year or something like that. At first there was no down payment, then they broke it down easier where if you could come up with a third, so you waited until a good season and after 60, 65 or 70, you paid a third down, and they'd finance in a payback. Now, the canneries won't do that because they've got all the fishermen they need, too many fishermen, and they won't give you any breaks. I just happen to still be buying a boat there for a third down on one of those kind of deals. But that's not an option anymore.

What kind of (indesc. mumbling)...comment about that?

Let me just get these guys out here...

What size of boat do you need out there?

A 32-footer and the prices are going up and up and up. It costs well, a ten thousand dollar boat ten years ago costs twenty thousand dollars now.

Is that what it takes to compete with the Seattle fishermen?

For rough whether. You can have a skiff here, you know, like maybe a skiff that we have over at the cannery that's (words), I mean you have only forty-eight hours of fishing. But if you have, like 66, or any rough season and alot of tough water, you're sitting on the beach if you don't have that kind of boat. You can get a boat for ten thousand dollars. A used one; plank boat, it probably leaks alot.

You'd be alot better off if you had an eighteen to twenty thousand.

Minimum of sixteen thousand to get a new decent...

But if you had such a boat now, there is not enough fish out there with their closures you got to pay for, is there?

I don't have trouble paying for mine.

Alright, Walter McGennicks behind him and then the gentleman behind Walter.

I'd like to say something on the same lines and I've observed this through many years. The stateside fishermen are highboat fishermen because of the choices of the gear and it happened that I see that in Kenai all the time and different areas. If they had the oppor-

tunity to have better quality gear as far as the fishing ability they haven't it; they haven't got the gears. I have seen them assigned to a boat that's swamped when they barely get out of the stream...out of the river.

This kind of a situation...

I'd like to make one more comment if I can because I may not have the chance to talk to before you again. I was going to mention, John, you mentioned billions of dollars in resources worth were about one billion dollars per each ten year; in the last five years in excess of one billion dollars every ten years (indesc. mumbling) to Alaska...

The gross catch or what, is that what you're talking about?

Yes, in the gross value of the resource which is about one billion in every ten years...

An average of about one hundred million every year then...

That's salmon only.

Bill, how many fishermen in your village are currently under credit applications to one of the canneries?

You mean how many of them owe money to them?

Yes, generally all of them. How many are technically involved?

Oh yeah. You know the first time in Naknek, we tried to do a strike and it came out with the worst of the boats, see, and they said that all these boats will be retrieved. I really got most of it.

(indesc. mumbling)

There's another element when you're asking what kind of a boat it takes. There is also a thing of whose boats gets fixed. You can ask any resident whose boats gets fixed when you go on the beach, like in '65, I know (names), a whole lot of guys with their boats sets. There's a whole season and never had a guy walk into it. Old Pete sat there day after day after day trying to get a portage near his; speaks very poor English, he's an old guy and he's got kind of a beat up boat and finally between periods I asked him how come you're not out on the water, gee, everybody's making limits day after day, all you got to do is put your net out. Well he said I don't know, the guy won't look at it. So I jumped up in there and his battery terminals were corroded you know and you just scrape off the terminals and put the battery together and it fired right up but he couldn't get a portage engineer to even look at it you know. So he's losing two or three thousand dollars every day just because the Italian boats came first and that's for sure. There's a real blatant discrimination I hope that would get uncovered by the Human Rights Commission investigation last year. I mean you are all familiar that we have segregated canneries; you have Native mess hall, the White mess hall and the Philipino mess hall and I don't know what the Philipinos did but I know that the people from the village get fish and stew and soup and stuff and the guys in the White mess hall come out saying that the steak was real good

and we're paying exactly the same dollars. Meal tickets are the just the same for everybody.

You didn't have that at Bumble Bee, did you?

Don't go try to sit at the Italian table at Bumble Bee. There is one mess hall but you've got one end of it. It's the same thing works with packers and the rest of them.

I found that out...

I would like to make just one more comment. Mr. Daniels said the thing about mobility of your...I am talking now primarily of salmon. I don't agree with the mobility from moving from one area to another in the salmon resource because that only adds to take depleting that salmon resource...

There's been a lot of talk, if I may, about a cadre of professional fishermen given to the opportunity to the guy who wants to be a full-time fisherman twelve months of the year to go into the crab fishery perhaps...

That's fine, I agree with that...

That's fine. I agree a person should if he wants to be a professional fisherman, say in Palmer, he's a shellfish, he goes to salmon he goes to halibut, but he shouldn't be allowed to go to Kodiak to fish. And neither somebody from Kodiak come to Cook Inlet to fish the salmon because you're doubling the gear again. Freeze the gear in the area as it is now and reduce the gear.

Alex, that's another thing that has bothered me. If someone from Seattle can fish off the coast down there someplace, and some of them go down to Southern California they tell me and do so fishing down there, and then they come to Alaska and fish up here.

The only reason they can have those big boats and good gear is because they use it year-round and a bunch of...

No, now let me tell you, John...

And our own fishermen, you know there's no way for these fellas to have that good gear if they are going to have to use it for two or three weeks in the Bristol Bay fishery. If they are going to have a good year, they have got to be able to use it in a lot of places. Don't...

I tell you what they even do. They furnish boats and boat areas for them. The Astoria fisherman have boats set up for them by Dabenspek sets them up down there and he sets them on Cock Inlet.

Well, don't you think that part of the reason though is that they have good gear and are highline fishermen is because that they work in a bunch of different fisheries and they go to...

No. These are salmon fishermen. They...

They migrate around...

But they have two sets of boats.

Two sets of boats, two sets of gear?

And are financed by the same company.

Can I talk too about the system of social controls? The expectation that the fishermen have of each other is way different for resident fishermen than it is from other fishermen. You know with us it's kind of a...probably it all started with by saying that those guys are crooked from the beginning. So that in order to disassociate yourself then everybody else is kind of straight. I mean you know you might push the margin a little bit on the marker or something, lay out a couple hundred yards below the marker but when it's dark and foggy and the period is definately closed, we're to die when we're on the beach and those guys are out there fishing and we know that they're out there fishing and if Fish and Game ever hired a bunch of resident fishermen to go out and place the fisheries, you know that we would have that problem cleared up because we know where they are at all the time. But those guys of each other saw fair and you get to be highboat fishermen by only one thing and that is by being crooked and you look at those deals and because a (name) fisherman are ethicnally superior to resident fishermen you know but they're just crooked that's all.

My statement a little while ago to alleviate that situation...

Let me ask you that do you agree with Mr. Sejure that we should limit people to fishing in one area?

I really don't have any formed opinion on that yet.

Could I try to anchor this out? The only time (indesc. noise) transferrability operating this way is if you do have limited entry so that if you did have a license for more than one area, like say Cook Inlet and Prince William Sound, if I would have bought a license in Prince William Sound, I wouldn't be increasing the gear there because I would have to buy a license that's already existing in Prince William Sound. You're not increasing the gear there and of course, when it really would work best is when you finally get to your optimum level of gear, which would be a considerable deduction in both Prince William and Cook Inlet to one in his time. Then let's say you had only three hundred licenses in Cook Inlet and some guy wanted to come in from Kodiak or from Prince William Sound to fish Cook Inlet, if you bought one of those licenses and there can be no more three hundred, then he's not really increasing the gear there. That's the idea.

So long as you're not by what I mean is what's happening up in Cook Inlet, Prince William Sound and Kodiak used to converge on Cook Inlet and they owe her fish to Cook Inlet area where the pack of Cook Inlet should have ran about two hundred fifty thousand cases two hundred seventy five thousand to have a sustained yield; it ran up to four hundred and twenty thousand cases and the biological elasticity broke and that's one of the reasons. There is a number...the fishing is complex and there's many problems and I said that if this was just part of the whole picture, but I know that there's other things...

The reason I say that I have no formed opinion is for that reason is so complex. You mean now or in the past or next year with new regulations. By way of (word), I could say that I don't know of any single Native resident of the Bristol Bay watershed that is that kind of a fisherman. All those people fish at Bristol Bay because that's where they live and that's their life style and they're just trying to make enough to get by and...

You couldn't get a boat around the horn anyway because...

Nobody does it. The only guys that do it are outside fishermen.

This fellow, that Forsman, you say that the outside fishermen are breaking the law and the local fishermen are sitting on the beach. Is there a selecting enforcement out there by the Fish and Game agents?

I don't know if they just don't know any better or what, but you can drift out by them in the night and they're sacked out during the times when...you know, the deal is the period opens tomorrow morning at 9:00. So about 8:30, we'll get up and make sure that nobody is cheating. Well by 8:30 all the highboats are loaded up. Their fish are picked and they are ready to deliver. Usually they sleep until two hours after opening and deliver and then go out and get a second limit.

These are professional men who have been doing this type of fishing they have doing all through there. It's traditional with them.

I fished the Prince William Sound one year many years ago and I know that they turn out their lights and if they want to get a across your gear, they turn out their lights and they go across your gear. That's the way they do it. No I wouldn't think of doing it but some of the people I know would do it but they do it because they know that in order to get transferred from the front line, they've got to do it. So they turn out the lights and you can hear it. I can imagine that it's the same kind of pushing they're doing in Bristol Bay (indesc. mumbling).

Time is running out on us. Before we have nay more committee members leave, let's go to Walter and then to the man behind him and get an opportunity for each of these people to be heard who want to be heard (indesc. mumbling).

I agree with Mr. Shudua here on the Cook Inlet area. You might not agree. Cut the gear down to hundred, from hundred and fifty Seventy to Seventy-Five pack from hundred and five; and purse seine, hundred and twenty-five from two hundred. At such time that the gear we do inland. We can ask to bring it to the lake back to the regular camp. That's the only way we can get rid of the gear up there in the inlet.

But Waltern, you recognize, don't you, that it's the Fish and Game board that has the authority to establish the amounts of gear and not us. They are the ones that can cut it from one hundred and fifty down to hundred...

He's answering the question that you put forth to us to begin with. What would we do and this is our suggestion and it can be done.

Well I was asking for a way to cut the number of people down from the amount of gear.

Well this is saving the resource. We are saving the resource and still keeping a livelihood for those who are really dependent on it. Fine.

You might give our suggestions to the Fish and Wildlife. Give them our protection and that would cover a lot of that...

Of course that's what they did in Bristol Bay this year to attempt to solve the problem in Bristol Bay. They cut it from one hundred and fifty fathoms to twenty-five fathoms per gear license on the boat, then they allowed several different individuals to fish on the same boat and pool their gear license so that if there were four guys there they could fish one hundred fathoms. That is one way we could really help residents.

Dick Gregory is here from Meigik. Why don't you ask him some questions. I don't think you have...

I am going to this gentlemen behind Mr. McCanigan.

Yeah, I am Dick Gregory. I am the president of the Bristol Bay area corporation over Bristol Bay. I know all of these... there is twenty-nine of them over there...

Where do you live sir? Where do you live?

First we'll get on this (indesc. mumbling). I can't see how (indesc. mumbling). Those people over there, they have nothing right now and they never did have anything before that's all they ever had was that they can't get away like this young gentlemen from Bristol Bay, why this seventy-five percent of them are dependent on that fishery today. They don't make enough to make a living now resulting in welfare. These welfare programs going on, that's what I'm concerned with. A lot of them are concerned with it. They'd be willing if anybody come around with a bunch of money and he says here, let me have your fish wire. Nine Tenths would take it. Well I wouldn't want to see that. Because they'd have nothing else. You think they are worse off now, the whole bunch of them would be on one huge welfare program.

Let me interrupt at this point, if I may. It has been suggested that it might be handled as your Native allotment under the Land Claims Settlement wherein that you would in effect give a group the authority to administer that thing for you so that you longer have the opportunity to just sell out when times were bad and ... I'm sorry.

My I suggest that (indesc. mumbling) handling these permits to sell (indesc. noise) to do with it but it seems like one way to get around that permit. It used to be that when an old man makes a will, he kicks the bucket. That's his property and they start with that permit, why that goes down to the next of kin. If he lost that permit while he goes fishing, why that would be alright too. But on this here gear, now we're restricted to twenty-five

fathoms this year for (indesc. mumbling) and that's one way the biogrophy is protecting and trying to protect the fisheries. One way I'd like to suggest is to take the fishing up there is to have the ones dependent on these fisheries, the ones issued these licenses. In other words, you have school teachers, doctors, lawyers. You have outside fishermen, they fish eleven, twelve months a year; one month up to day. (indesc. noise) fishermen from down below. I've heard beware of (indesc. mumbling). I'd like to see something like if you made over fifty percent of your money fishing up on one area; you're the one fish up there, you made over that, why you shouldn't fish there. These people can't move around up in that Bay area. (indesc. mumbling) the Natives alone, that's 4,766 Natives; they are there to stay forever. They have no money to get out, they can't get out and another living. Well I think that there should be some kind of answer to that, certainly not transfer these permits to be transferrable (indesc. mumbling).

Even again, even if you had it tied down as you do your Native allotment so that the regional board or the commission or somebody were put in charge of it so that you couldn't just sell it off or you still not want it transferrable?

Well I can't see problems now, I just see my own. I just have to find out... (indesc. mumbling) Under that conditions, yes, but under controled orders, the regions, the board or the executive boards or the commissioner...

Of course, there might not be any other way that you can assure that it would go your side or to a son when the old man kicked the bucket as you were saying.

(indesc. mumbling)

But unless it's really transferrable, there may really not be any other way to give it to the son. That's the problem there.

well just as long as a piece is still his then he can do what he wants with it.

Only if it's freely transferrable.

(indesc. noise and mumbling)

Allen?

Mr. Flaven was mentioning that there is a possibility to foul it up in family and I think...

Yes, there is that possibility.

That would be a lot better than ...

We have another gentleman. Thank you very much.

Thanks John. Ketchikan and my MCC delegates here (indesc. mumbling)
And my heir also in fishing is an important topic, mostly training.
I have listened to (indesc. mumbling) suggestions. The thought that

occured to me and I referred to, the lawyers about transferring, I read what that proposed act is (indesc. mumbling) You can't put every last regulations or lieu of into our law. Usually some of it required by regulations. The thought that occurred to me, if you transfer the permits and you don't define who's going to get it, what qualifications going to have, you're in effect of lost control of the whole thing, that's the way it looks to me. Since you invited us to comment on some of the others, frankly speaking, the penalty clauses scared me...

Which clause?

The penalty clauses. Five thousand dollars for first offense, Twenty thousand dollars and so on. And then you permanently lose your permit after that.

These are not for violations of Fish and Game regulations. We're talking here about violations of this act. Pergering yourself in applying for or this type of thing, furnishing them wrong information to establish your eligibility. We're not talking about Fish and Game violations here.

I asked a technical question the other night. I served in the Legislature for about ten years and that's long according to my former prehistory, prehistoric animals...

Johnson, when were you in the Legislature?

Before it became a state, '47 to '55...

I was going to ask you that question because there was some comment here at the table that you were at one time served in the territory of the Legislature.

Well, I asked this question one time when it stumped the Attorney General for a little while. We were discussing some penalty clauses some other legislature. I asked the question where is the dividing line between a misdemeanor and a felony and he couldn't answer it right away but it him to (indesc. mumbling) The next day, they come up with the answer. It was the money penalty. Anything over a thousand dollars would be a felony. And a jail sentence over one year is a felony. Now I know that this law says it calls all those heavy fined misdeamnors. I just wondered if that was attached with the general laws of the United States. And that was the question that profounded the others and there was no time for anyone to answer it...

We'll certainly check that out.

Thank you.

I'm Mr. Aukenson from Uzinkia from the Kodiak area. I'm a CEE delegate here and I thought I'd come down. One thing I was wondering about is on these permits they will be just issued to captains on fishing boats?

Well, again that's not been decided yet at all. It depends on which direction we go. Under one category, it may be, on another, no. So...

If a person got sick, could he let his son carry on his permit?

There would be clauses for emergency transfer in that case. Yes.

Also, yesterday there was some discussion on this (indesc. mumbling) and it was brought up that you might do away with the area fishing; you buy a fishing license, it would be good from Southeastern Alaska to Nome. Is there anything in there that...

We haven't proposed that. No. I can't see that...

Anyway, would permits...could they be categorized into the two different areas - Southeastern, Southcentral and the Bristol Bay area? Because of the uniqueness, they are all different oceans.

I think that under the terms of our legislation and all probability, they will stay the same areas that they are now: Bristol Bay, Pashaya, Chignik, Kodiak, Cook Inlet, etc. Thank you.

Anyone else? Yes. Dean.

Bob, I wanted to try to put the whole thing into perspective before everybody takes off. I know that some of the folks that are from the outside areas haven't been as close to it as those of us who have been here have. Obviously, our big problem is that we got too much gear. I don't think we can expect this bill to accomplish miracles all at once but it's a step in the right direction, whatever bill comes out, it's bound to be a step in the right direction if it stops the gear from increasing. No we (indesc. noise) talking about Bristol Bay, where obviously we needed something way back but even if we can't do Bristol Bay right

off, at least if the legislature is able to come up with a plan that will prevent that situation from proliferating, as it has in Cook Inlet and Bristol Bay, it will certainly be to the advantage of all the fishermen because inevitably people who are not fishing will go out of the fishery and it will be possible to control it in areas where it isn't too big of a problem to bring it back into reason in areas where it is. So, actually the goal then is to eventually reduce the number of fishermen, and thereby increase the size of the pie for those who live in these areas and depend upon the fishery. Now if the size of this pie gets big enough, then I think that's inevitable that the privilege of fishing would be worth money. Therefore, it's sort of futile to talk about a permit which has no cash value because the goal is to make the profession in Alaskan fisherman a profitable one. Now our people don't really see anything wrong with this. They are willing to participate in other fisheries if necessary, if possible. Some people criticize the people in Bristol Bay because they say that they insist on making a livelihood in six weeks. These people are willing to go elsewhere as Mr. London indicated, if they are able. If they have any other saleable skills then they are willing to go. But so many people out there in Bristol Bay...Mr. Gregory testified don't have any saleable skills elsewhere. That's why this is so important to us and even though we're coming up against some rocky spots here, I'm sure that Jake will stand up and shout if anybody says that we're just going to back off, it isn't going to work. The people out there want this legislation memo improve this situation. Even though the going to be rough here for awhile, because they are on welfare now and there is a real problem. Now as Mr. Shudura testified, the resource, by and large, is still there. Even in

in a year, as bad as last year was, the payload of the fishermen was some three and a half million dollars. But, most of that went outside because the fishermen who got the most of that were not the local resident fishermen. Sure, we're talking about some real difficult problems here. I think that Mr. (Name) made a real contribution when he brought out the fact that in the category that they are presently behind, category three specifically, there's really little difference between the professional school teacher who fishes and the professional fisherman who teaches school or does something else as a necessity. I don't know. Maybe we're going to have to address ourselves to this problem by reclining these categories. Of course, we could leave this matter up to some extent to the commissioners because they are the people who can review these individual situations and may resolve this problem but I know that a lot of people like Mr. (name) are president of Bristol Bay or maybe they are present in Anchorage because they can't afford to present in Bristol Bay. They certainly want to be considered in a different category from the school teacher wherever he lives. The cannery where Mr. Hogan fished, Whitney-Fidelgo, I fished there myself in '70. Among our top five votes were owned by three Anchorage school teachers. They were not residents, Bristol Bay residents, sure. Chuck Cravege, he was one of the top. But of the other four votes I was speaking of were owned by the non-watershed residents and two of those four votes were staffed by fishermen from I don't know where but they certainly weren't Bristol Bay residents and they certainly did not depend solely upon that Bristol Bay fishery for their livelihood. It was a bonus. But I would question right at this time, that it was absolutely necessary that we have the guarantee that all of our present category three is glued in. I

think that if we guarantee that we would perhaps not be doing justice all the way around.

Of course, let me just interrupt a minute. Our problem is that we have various situations in various areas of the state while guaranteeing three in Bristol Bay may not be doing right, and doing anything other than that in other areas may not be doing right. We may have to treat them all equally the same across the state. So that's the difficulty, basically.

One other comment. I'd like to see the committee consider this possibility Mr. Gregory mentioned that I mentioned to you that Mr. Flaven has done some research on it from depth, because I've mentioned it to him of perhaps creating a quasar public entity to whilst individuals who are worrying about losing their right the best control of that privilege in this group. I think that will help get us over this hurdle. I talked about Mr. Gregory. He agrees that many of the people there would be willing to do this. And it would be a voluntary thing on the part of those who wanted to do this. I hope we can get across this hurdle so that this group can go on and make progress in behalf of this bill because it's important to all the fishermen in Alaska. Thank you.

Okay, thank you. Bill, Alex. Bill first and then Alex and then we're going to have to shut her down.

One final first comment. The way the system is set now, we are willing to subsidize your right not to work. In the village, if you stay there with your family and you apply for welfare,

you'll get it. If you move to Anchorage, and I think that our village is stubborn and others haven't yet discovered and when they do there will be a lot more, but you go into Anchorage right now and you got a family and you can't get work, you can get welfare and you can also get housing, unbelievably luxurious, beautiful housing, four or six bedroom homes. The whole thing for \$123.00 per month. You can welfare on any kind of hammer and nails and live in a style like you'd almost like to become accustom to. Alot of those families are saying, you know, several of our village families, man, you know that this knocking back and forth every year depending on how good the season is, it ain't worth it when I can stay right here and live in a house like this, and look at this house and it costs me practically nothing out of my pocket so we'll subsidize them to stay there but we won't put purchases in fishing boats within reason of anybody in the village. I do not know one single watershed resident that got his boat through any of the traditional governmental mechanism and I wouldn't be about try. I did it for another guy; I have been filling his papers out for a year now and I could see that I would never begin to go through that for myself and no guy out there that is within shooting distance are being able to get it from the state or federal government. Although, all those outside fishermen help each other and have people and experts and stuff they can refer them to ways which they can get through and finance government purchase vessels. We'll pay guys not to work but we won't put working equipment within reason where people can get through paperwork in the beauracracy to get em.