

SJR

50

# Alaska State Legislature

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P. O. BOX V  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811  
(907) 465-4907

## Senate Committee on Resources

M E M O R A N D U M

April 25, 1986

TO: All Members  
Senate Resources Committee

FROM: Staff, <sup>A</sup> Senate Resources Committee

RE: SJR 50 Relating to the incidental catch of high-value fish stocks within the United States exclusive economic zone

SJR 50 calls for the Secretary of Commerce and the North Pacific Fishery Management Council to enforce the provisions of the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act and reduce the level of incidental catch of salmon, halibut, crab, and other high-value species by groundfish trawlers in the U.S. exclusive economic zone. The resolution further calls for the Governor to aggressively pursue every possible means to persuade the Secretary of Commerce and the NPFMC to enforce the provisions of the Act. In addition, the Governor is asked to pursue a reduction in incidental catch by Alaska fishermen participating in the groundfish industry.

There is a zero fiscal note.

STATE OF ALASKA 1986 LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
FISCAL NOTE

Revisor Date : \_\_\_\_\_

REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No. : SJR 50  
 Title : Relating to the incidental catch of high-value fish stock within the United States exclusive zone  
 Sponsor : Sen. Resource Comm.  
 Requestor : Sen. Resource Comm.  
 Date of Request : April 25, 1986

FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected : ADF&G  
 BRU : \_\_\_\_\_  
 Components : \_\_\_\_\_

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES : (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0	0	0	0	0	0

CAPITAL						
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REVENUE						
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FUNDING : (Thousands of Dollars)

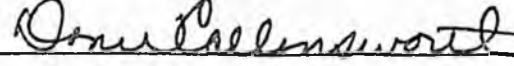
GENERAL FUND	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS :

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : Attach a separate page if necessary

Prepared by : Roland Shanks  Phone : 465-4100  
 Division : Commissioner's Office Date : 4-28-86

Approved by Commissioner : Donna Colmanworth  Date : 4-28-86  
 Agency : \_\_\_\_\_

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)

COMMITTEE REPORT

(9)

Date referred: 5/7/86

FURTHER REFERRALS:

5/8  
Rec'd

DATE: May 8, 1986

The RESOURCES Committee has considered CSSJR 50(Res)

Relating to the incidental catch of high-value fish stocks within the United State exclusive economic zone.

and recommends:

- do pass
- do not pass
- do pass with attached amendment(s)
- no recommendation
- replace with \_\_\_\_\_  same title
- \_\_\_\_\_  new title

and recommends \_\_\_\_\_

further referral to the \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

- and attaches:  letter of intent
- first fiscal note
- new fiscal note
- zero fiscal note

SIGNING DO PASS:

SIGNING OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

Shultz Dick Shultz

Herrmann Adelheid Herrmann

Wallis Ray Wallis

Miller(NP) M. R. Miller

John Lund  
SUND

James Pearce - No Rec  
Pearce

George Jenkins - No Rec  
Jenkins

Dick Shultz  
Co-Chairman Shultz

Introduced: 4/23/86  
Referred: Resources

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 50

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

Relating to the incidental catch of

6

high-value fish stocks within the United

7

States exclusive economic zone.

8

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

9

WHEREAS art. VIII, sec. 2, Constitution of the State of Alaska, re-  
quires the Alaska State Legislature to provide for the utilization, devel-  
opment, and conservation of all natural resources belonging to the state  
for the maximum benefit of the people of the state; and

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WHEREAS fisheries are Alaska's most important renewable natural re-  
source; and

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WHEREAS the salmon, halibut, and crab fisheries have traditionally  
provided a major source of employment and income for Alaska fishermen; and

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WHEREAS the harvestable surplus of every salmon stock of Alaska ori-  
gin, and of halibut and crab, are fully used by United States fishermen;  
and

20

WHEREAS trawlers incidentally harvest a significant number of salmon  
of Alaska origin, and of halibut, crab, and other high-value species worth  
millions of dollars while targeting groundfish in the United States exclu-  
sive economic zone; and

24

WHEREAS the incidental harvest of salmon of Alaska origin, and of  
halibut and crab, by groundfish trawlers in the United States exclusive  
economic zone is adversely affecting the resource; and

27

WHEREAS at times the incidental catch of high-value species by ground-  
fish trawlers in the United States exclusive economic zone has exceeded the  
catch of these species allocated for Alaska fishermen; and

1           WHEREAS the incidental catch of salmon of Alaska origin and of hali-  
2 but, crab, and other high-value species significantly and adversely affect  
3 Alaska residents who depend upon them for their livelihood, particularly  
4 residents of villages in western Alaska, many of whom have annual incomes  
5 that average below federal poverty guidelines; and

6           WHEREAS United States fishermen are becoming increasingly involved in  
7 the harvest of groundfish in the United States exclusive economic zone; and

8           WHEREAS it is in the best interest of the state to support the in-  
9 volvement of United States trawlers in the bottom-fishing industry and to  
10 assure that the fishery is developed in a manner consistent with maintain-  
11 ing and protecting traditional fisheries; and

12          WHEREAS the development of a new fishery for United States trawlers  
13 involved in the harvest of groundfish should not be at the expense of the  
14 traditional fisheries of salmon, crab, halibut, and other high-value spe-  
15 cies; and

16          WHEREAS the experience with the foreign fishing fleet has demonstrated  
17 the ability to reduce significantly the incidental catch of salmon of  
18 Alaska origin, halibut, crab, and other high-value species without adverse-  
19 ly affecting the fishery; and

20          WHEREAS the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act is de-  
21 signed to maximize economic benefits to United States citizens from the use  
22 of United States fisheries resources; and

23          WHEREAS the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act assigns  
24 the Secretary of Commerce a nondiscretionary duty to enforce the provisions  
25 of that Act to significantly reduce the incidental catch of salmon of  
26 Alaska origin, halibut, crab, and other high-value species by trawlers  
27 involved in the harvest of groundfish; and

28          WHEREAS the North Pacific Fishery Management Council has the respon-  
29 sibility of implementing the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management

1 Act and has the authority to implement measures to significantly reduce the  
2 incidental catch of salmon of Alaska origin, halibut, crab, and other  
3 high-value species by trawlers involved in the harvest of groundfish;

4 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests  
5 the Secretary of Commerce and the North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
6 to enforce the provisions of the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Manage-  
7 ment Act and to take quick and decisive action to significantly reduce the  
8 level of incidental catch of salmon of Alaska origin, halibut, crab, and  
9 other high-value species by groundfish trawlers in the United States exclu-  
10 sive economic zone; and be it

11 FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Department of Commerce and the  
12 North Pacific Fishery Management Council are respectfully requested to  
13 develop and enforce specific measures that significantly reduce the inci-  
14 dental catch of high-value species by trawlers and other vessels engaged in  
15 ground-fishing that have the least adverse affect on the ability of domes-  
16 tic trawlers to engage in the ground-fishing industry; and be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully re-  
18 quests the Governor of Alaska to aggressively pursue every possible means,  
19 including judicial action, of persuading the Secretary of Commerce and the  
20 North Pacific Fishery Management Council to enforce the provisions of the  
21 Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act to significantly reduce  
22 the incidental catch of Alaska salmon, crab, halibut, and other high-value  
23 species by the groundfish fleets operating in the United States exclusive  
24 economic zone, with the least adverse impact on the ability of United  
25 States trawlers to participate in the ground-fishing industry; and be it

26 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature requests the  
27 Governor of Alaska to aggressively pursue every possible means of assisting  
28 Alaska fishermen who are participating in the ground-fishing industry to  
29 significantly reduce the incidental harvest of salmon, crab, halibut, and

1 other high-value species, without adversely affecting their ability to  
2 participate in the ground-fishing industry.

3 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Malcolm  
4 Baldrige, Secretary of Commerce; Jim Campbell, Chairman, North Pacific  
5 Fishery Management Council; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the  
6 Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S.  
7 Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.