

HJR

17

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date referred: 2/18/87

FURTHER REFERRALS:

DATE: 3/5/87
HJR 17

The Labor & Commerce Committee has considered _____

Relating to the use and recording of trade names to designate seafood products of Alaska origin.

RECOMMENDS:

- replace with CS HJR 17 (LTC) the same title
- attached amendment(s) a new title
- do pass
- do not pass
- no recommendation
- individual recommendations
- additional referral to the _____ Committee

ADOPTS: _____ letter of intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

- fiscal impact same as previous fiscal note published _____
- zero fiscal note same as previous zero fiscal note published _____
- zero with analysis

SIGNING DO PASS:

SIGNING OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

Ellis

Cliff Davidson

Scott M... ..

Ed C.

Walter

... ..

... ..

Walter

 Chairman's signature



City and Borough of Sitka

304 LAKE STREET. SITKA, ALASKA. 99835

January 27, 1987

Mr. William Von Raab, Commissioner
United States Customs Service
1021 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20229


Dear Commissioner:

Enclosed is a copy of City and Borough of Sitka's Resolution No. 87-332 which urges you to reject the application of any corporation which proposes the use of a trade name which implies that their seafood products are of Alaskan origin unless, in fact, they are.

We also call your attention to the letter written to you by Mr. Samuel C. Gesko, Jr. addressing this subject. I have enclosed a copy for your easy reference. Mr. Gesko's letter does a good job of expressing our concern. We also believe that his request to have applications verified to insure that their products are of Alaskan origin is a reasonable and fair request.

We appreciate the attention that you will give to this matter.

Sincerely yours,


Richard Anderson
Administrator

cc: Governor Steve Cowper, State of Alaska
Frank H. Murkowski, U.S. Senator
Ted Stevens, U. S. Senator
Don Young, U.S. House of Representatives
Senator Dick Eliason, Alaska Legislature
Rep. Ben Grussendorf, Alaska Legislature
Senator Fred Zharoff, Alaska Legislature
Rep. Clifford Davidson, Alaska Legislature
Tony Smith, Commissioner, Alaska Dept. of
Commerce
Ms. Merry Tuten, Exec. Dir., Alaska Seafood
Marketing Institute
Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks
Patent and Trademark Office
Department of Commerce
Washington, D. C. 20231

CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

RESOLUTION NO. 87-332

A RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE
CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA
OPPOSING RECORDATION OF TRADE NAME
"ALASKAN SEAFOOD COMPANY"

WHEREAS, the seafood resources and the developing seafood industry of the State of Alaska are vital to the State's overall economy, especially in view of declining oil revenues; and

WHEREAS, since 1980 the State of Alaska has expended significant financial resources through the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute to successfully promote Alaskan seafood products in United States and international markets; and

WHEREAS, consumers are entitled to expect products labeled in any form suggesting "Alaskan Seafood" to be, in fact, seafood of Alaskan origin; and

WHEREAS, appearing in Volume 51, No. 228 of the Federal Register, dated Wednesday, November 26, 1986, is the announcement of an applicant for recordation of Trade Name "Alaskan Seafood Company" of Chandler, Arizona, which applicant proposes to use said trade name in connection with fresh-frozen seafood manufactured in Mexico and the United States,

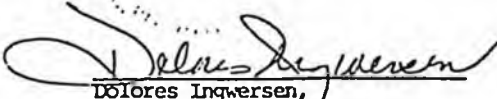
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska joins the City of Kodiak and the Kodiak Island Borough in opposition to the recordation of the trade name "Alaskan Seafood Company" to the Arizona Corporation in connection with Mexican manufactured seafood products.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka strongly urges the Commissioner of Customs, and the Entry, Licensing, and Restricted Merchandise Branch to reject the application of any corporation proposing use of a trade name suggesting Alaskan seafood products, unless such products are, in fact, of Alaska origin and United States manufacture.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska this 26th day of JANUARY, 1987.


Dan Keck, Mayor

ATTEST:


Dolores Ingwersen,
Municipal Clerk



January 12, 1987

Mr. William Von Raab, Commissioner
United States Customs Service
1021 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20229

Dear Commissioner Von Raab:

The Federal Register for November 26, 1986 (Vol. 51 #228) carried an announcement of an application to record the trade name "Alaskan Seafood Company" of Chandler, Arizona. The application proposes to use that trade name in connection with fresh-frozen seafood manufactured in Mexico and the United States.

As indicated by the attached resolution, the City of Kodiak, Alaska strongly objects to the allowance of that trade name for a product which will not originate or be manufactured in Alaska. Further, we object to the recording of any trade name now, or in the future, which would include the word "Alaska" or "Alaskan" for any seafood product which does not originate in Alaska.

Fish consumption is on the increase in the U.S.A., and rightfully so, since fish has been proven to be nutritious, healthful, safe--and actually deters or retards the formation of cholesterol. But such an increase in consumption is not accidental or coincidental. Much of it has resulted from recent scientific research, but much also has resulted from extensive financial expenditures by the State of Alaska promoting Alaskan seafood products in the U.S.A. Alaskan seafood resources and the developing seafood industry of the State of Alaska are vital to the State's overall economy.

Several years ago there was a recall of canned Alaskan seafood, and the repercussions of that recall were--and still are--felt significantly. Those who buy a product suggesting "Alaskan seafood" are entitled to a product of Alaskan origin. Should a product be recalled bearing a trade name "Alaska" or "Alaskan" which, in fact, did not originate in Alaska, the impact of that recall would nevertheless be felt strongly in the Alaskan fishing and fish-processing industry. Hence, we cannot allow any company

Commissioner William Von Raab
January 12, 1987
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dealing in products which do not originate in Alaska, to trade on the "Alaskan" image. The Alaskan image is one of clean, cold water, clean air, shining mountains and untouched wilderness--all of which imply products which are uncontaminated by high populations and/or commercial and industrial activity.

We urge that the application of the Chandler, Arizona firm for the trade name "Alaskan Seafood Company" be denied. We urge further that any future, similar attempt by any company to exploit the words "Alaska" or "Alaskan" be disallowed, when the product produced is not caught, processed or produced in any manner in Alaska or Alaskan waters.

We respectfully request, if possible, that any future applications for seafood products which contain the words "Alaska" or "Alaskan" be investigated and verified for origin of the product, or that the State of Alaska, Department of Commerce and Economic Development, and the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute be informed of such applications before action is taken to consider them for approval.

Respectfully,

CITY OF KODIAK


Samuel C. Gesko, Jr.
City Manager

BY DIRECTION

SCG/keh

cc: The Honorable Steve Cowper, Governor, State of Alaska
The Honorable Frank H. Murkowski, U. S. Senator
The Honorable Ted Stevens, U. S. Senator
The Honorable Donald E. Young, U. S. House of Rep.
The Honorable Fred Zharoff, Senator, State of Alaska
The Honorable Clifford Davidson, Alaska House of Rep.
Tony Smith, Commissioner, Alaska Dept. of Commerce
Kodiak Area Native Association, OEDP Committee
Ms. Merry Tuten, Exec. Dir., Alaska Seafood Marketing Inst.

**STATE OF ALASKA 1987 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE**

REQUEST: _____

Bill Version : CSHJR 17 (L&C)
Publish Date : _____

Revision Date: _____

Agency Affected : _____

Title : Trade names/Alaska seafood products

BRU: _____

Sponsor : Navarre et al

Components : _____

Requestor : _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0	0	0	0	0	0

CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
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REVENUE	0	0	0	0	0	0
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
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: House Labor & Commerce

Phone: 465-3892

Division: _____

Date: 3/5/87

Approved by Commissioner: _____

Date: _____

Agency: _____

Distribution (by preparer) :

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- Impacted Agency(ies)
- Senate Secretary