

**SB**

**139**

**SFIN**

**FILE**

SB 139

**was referred to the  
Senate Finance  
Committee**

**Hearing(s) were held**

**The bill did not move  
from Committee**

# Alaska State Legislature

*Chairman,*  
Judiciary Committee

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*Senator Robin L. Taylor*

## SPONSOR STATEMENT

SB 139

An Act relating to the labeling of fish and fisheries products as farmed.

SB 139 adds language to the "misbranded foods" statutes that will require the labeling of all seafood products stating whether they are farmed. The requirements of this bill will be in addition to the requirements for the labeling of salmon already contained in statute.

Presently, many retailers sell farmed shrimp and other farmed seafood. Much of this seafood is farmed in bogs and imported from abroad. Unless a consumer asks a clerk, there is generally no labeling to tell the consumer that the product is farmed. Often, with large prawns, for example, the price would indicate that one was purchasing a wild product. We are now also hearing of farmed halibut in some areas.

We pride ourselves on our wild fish stocks. This is true for other species of fish and shellfish as well as for salmon. The quality of our Alaskan fish is far superior to the quality of the farmed product coming into the state. This bill is intended to promote the sale of Alaskan seafood and to provide additional "Truth in labeling" requirements.

District A:

Hyder • Ketchikan • Kupreanof • Meyers Chuck • Petersburg • Saxman • Sitka • Wrangell



# UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

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April 29, 1999

Senator Robin Taylor  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol (MS 3100)  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RECEIVED

MAY 03 1999

Senate Finance  
Committee

Dear Senator Taylor

United Fishermen of Alaska Supports SB 139 because it will provide the consumer with the label "farmed" for their information. A consumer should have imported farmed products identified to have the choice between buying Alaskan products and farmed. We appreciate Senator Taylor efforts to let Alaskan's know what they are buying at the retail level.

Sincerely,

Rich Davis, President

#### MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Alaska Crab Coalition • Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association • Alaska Trullers Association • Bristol Bay Driftnetters Association • Concerned Area "M" Fishermen  
Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association • Cordova District Fishermen United • Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association • Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association • Kodiak Seiners Association  
North Pacific Fisheries Association • Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association • Northwest Seiners Association • Peninsula Marketing Association  
Petersburg Vessel Owners Association • Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation • Purse Seine Vessel Owners Association • Seafood Producers Cooperative  
Southeast Alaska Seiners Association • Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association • United Cook Inlet Drift Association • United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters