

**HB**

**410**



MAR 11 2004

# UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

March 11, 2004

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Representative Nancy Dahlstrom, Co-Chair  
Representative Beverly Masek, Co-Chair  
House Resources Committee  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol (Mail Stop 3100)  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Madam Chair,

United Fishermen of Alaska supports HB 410 relating to the administration of commercial fishing entry permit buy-back program. This bill modifies existing law governing buy-back programs by allowing the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission to "front-fund" a buy-back program if an appropriation were received. The commission would then continue to collect funds through the designated rate of assessment in the buy-back program to repay the indebtedness.

United Fishermen of Alaska represents 32 Alaska Commercial fishing organizations and hundreds of individual fishermen and fishing related businesses, altogether representing over 10,000 Alaska fishermen. We support HB 410 which will make the buy-back statute easier to administer by accepting grants or loans from other sources. Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

Mark Vinsel  
Executive Director

CC: Representative Bill Williams

#### MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Alaska Crab Coalition • Alaska Driggers Association • Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association • Alaska Trollers Association • Armstrong Keta • At-sea Processors Association  
Bristol Bay Reserve • Chignik Regional Aquaculture Association • Chignik Seiners Association • Concerned Area "M" Fishermen • Cordova District Fishermen United  
Crab Rationalization and Buyback Group • Douglas Island Pink and Chum • Groundfish Forum • Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association • Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association  
Kodiak Seiners Association • North Pacific Fisheries Association • Northern Pacific Scallop Cooperative • Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association  
Old Harbor Fishermen's Association • Petersburg Vessel Owners Association • Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation • Purse Seine Vessel Owners Association  
Seafood Producers Cooperative • Southeast Alaska Regional Diver Fisheries Association • Southeast Alaska Seiners Association • Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association  
United Catcher Boats • United Salmon Association • United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters • Valdez Fisheries Development Association • Western Gulf of Alaska Fishermen

# Alaska State Legislature

Co-Chair  
House Finance Committee  
Subcommittee Chair  
Environmental Conservation  
Courts



*Representative William K. Williams*

During Session:  
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## SPONSOR STATEMENT

### House Bill 410

**“An Act relating to the administration of commercial fishing entry permit buy-back programs.”**

House Bill 410 modifies existing law governing buy-back programs. It would allow the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission to “front fund” a buy-back program if an appropriation were received. The commission would then continue to collect funds through the designated rate of assessment in the buy-back program to “pay back” the indebtedness.

When the optimum number of permits is reached in a buy-back *and* the reasonable costs of the program have been met, the Commission will terminate the assessment in the affected fishery. HB 410 will make the administration of a buy-back program more workable.

THE  
FOLLOWING  
DOCUMENT(S)  
ARE  
POOR  
ORIGINAL  
COPIES

# FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**2004 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Fiscal Note Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bill Version: H.B. 410  
 ( ) Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Affected: Fish and Game  
 Title Relating to the Administration of RDU Commercial Fisheries  
Commercial Fishing Entry Permit Component \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sponsor Representative Williams Component No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Requester House Fisheries

**Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)**

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>						
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )</b>						
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**FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)**

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type—Do not abbreviate)						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY2004) cost: 0.0  
 Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2005 budget proposal:

**POSITIONS**

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

**ANALYSIS:** (Attach a separate page if necessary)  
 Passage of this legislation would have no fiscal impact.

Prepared by: Sarah Gilbertson Phone 465-6137  
 Division: Legislative Liaison Date/Time 2/5/04 1:20 PM  
 Approved by: Commissioner Kevin Duffy Date 2/5/2004  
 Agency: Alaska Department of Fish & Game