

HB

118

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 4/16/03

FURTHER:

DATE TURNED
IN TO OFFICE: 5-8-03

Resources Committee considered CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 118(RES) am

HB 118 TRANSPORTATION OF COMMERCIAL FISH

"An Act relating to the transportation and sale of certain commercially caught fish by an agent of a commercial fishing permit holder and to the sale of fish; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends:

Senate Bill:

- same title
- new title

House Bill:

- same title
- technical title
- new: SCR # _____

be replaced with _____ CS _____ (_____)

adopt previous S CS CS HR 118 (L+C)

attached amendment(s)

adopt Letter of Intent by _____ Committee

further referral to _____ Committee

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Fiscal	Zero	FN#

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Fiscal	Zero	FN#
F+C	4/8/03		✓	5
DPS	3/10/03		✓	4
DOL	3/7/03		✓	3

APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:	DO PASS	DO NOT PASS	NO REC	AMEND
<i>Joseph Verbin</i>	✓			
<i>Ben Glavin</i>	✓			
<i>Thomas H. Wagner</i>	✓			
<i>George R. Kincaid</i>	✓			
CHAIR: <i>Scott E. ...</i>	✓			

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2003 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 1
Bill Version: CSHB 118(FSH)
(H) Publish Date: 3/3/03

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Fish and Game
Title Relating to the transportation and BRU Commercial Fisheries
sale of commercially caught fish Component Headquarters - Fisheries Management
Sponsor Representative Seaton
Requester House Fisheries Component No. 2171

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
----------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

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)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2003) cost: 0.0

Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2004 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: Robert D. Mecum, Director Phone 465-4210
Division Commercial Fisheries Division Date/Time 2/26/03 5:52 PM
Approved by: Kevin C. Duffy, Acting Commissioner Date 2/26/2003
Agency Department of Fish and Game

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2003 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 3
Bill Version: CSHB 118 (RES)
(H) Publish Date: 3/12/03

Revision Date/Time: _____ Dept. Affected: Law
Title: "An Act relating to the transportation and sale
of certain commercially caught fish by an agent of a . . ." BRU: Criminal Division
Sponsor: Representative Seaton by Request Component: Criminal Appeals/Special Litigation
Requester: House Resources Committee Component No.: 2203

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

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)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2003) cost: 0.0

Check this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2004 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This bill establishes a fish transporter permit system that authorizes a permittee to transport and sell commercially taken fish as the agent of the commercial fisherman who caught the fish. Permits would be issued by the Department of Fish and Game. Purchasing fish from a person who does not hold the permits specified in AS 16.05.680 or a fish transporter permit is an unlawful act. Under AS 16.05.723, unlawful acts can be misdemeanors.

The Department of Law does not anticipate many new cases will result from passage of this bill, and does not expect a fiscal impact.

Prepared by: Joan M. Kasson
Division: Attorney General's Office
Approved by: Joan M. Kasson for Gregg D. Renkes, Attorney General
Agency: Department of Law

Phone: (907) 465-5370
Date/Time: 3/7/03 5:18 PM
Date: 3/7/2003

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2003 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 4
 Bill Version: HB 118
 (S) Publish Date: 4/16/03

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Public Safety
 Title "An Act relating to the transportation a BRU Fish and Wildlife Protection
sale of commercially caught fish . . ." Component Enforcement
 Sponsor Representative Seaton
 Requester House Resources Component No. 490

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

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)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2003) cost: 0.0

Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2004 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

No fiscal impact.

Prepared by: Captain Howard Starbard
 Division: Fish and Wildlife Protection
 Approved by: Commissioner William Tandeske
 Agency: Department of Public Safety

Phone 269-5589
 Date/Time: 4/10/03 8:24 AM
 Date: 4/10/2003

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2003 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 5
 Bill Version: CSHB 118(RES) am
 (S) Publish Date: 4/16/03

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Fish and Game
 Title Relating to the transportation and BRU Commercial Fisheries
sale of commercially caught fish Component Headquarters - Fisheries Management
 Sponsor Representative Seaton
 Requester Senate Labor and Commerce Component No. 2171

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

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)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2003) cost: 0.0

Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2004 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: *(Attach a separate page if necessary)*

Prepared by: Robert D. Mecum, Director Phone 465-4210
 Division: Commercial Fisheries Division Date/Time 4/8/2003 9:30 a.m.
 Approved by: Kevin C. Duffy, Acting Commissioner Date 4/8/2003
 Agency: Department of Fish and Game

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Chair
FISHERIES

Vice-Chair
EDUCATION

Member
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Member
STATE AFFAIRS



REPRESENTATIVE PAUL SEATON
House District 35

Session:
State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99801
Phone 907-465-2689
Fax 907-465-3472
1-800-665-2689
Rep.Paul.Seaton@legis.state.ak.us

Interim:
345 W. Sterling Highway
Suite 102B
Homer, Alaska 99603
Phone 907-235-2921
Fax 907-235-4008

MEMORANDUM

Scott
TO: Senator Scott Ogan, Chair
Senate Resources Committee

FM: Representative Paul Seaton *PS*

DATE: March/3, 2003

RE: Request a committee hearing for HB 118

At your earliest convenience, could you please schedule House Bill 118 for a committee hearing. Attached you will find a copy of the bill and a sponsor statement. If you have any questions please feel free to call me anytime or speak with my lead staff, Chris Knight at ext. 6867

Alaska State Legislature

State Capitol, Room 428
Juneau, AK 99802
Phone: 465-2689
Fax: 465-3472
Toll Free (800) 665-2689
Representative_Paul_Seaton@legis.state.ak.us



345 W. Sterling Highway
Suite 102B
Homer, AK 99603
Phone: 235-2921
Fax: 235-4008

REPRESENTATIVE Paul Seaton

District 35

Recommended by the Joint Legislative
Salmon Industry Task Force

Sponsor Statement

HB 118

“An Act relating to the transportation and sale of certain commercially caught fish by an agent of a commercial fishing permit holder and to the sale of fish; and providing for an effective date.”

In 1988, the value of Alaska's salmon was worth \$800 million. This year salmon fisherman took home significantly less money, totaling \$150 million. Municipal revenues have dwindled, jobs have been lost, and fishermen are going broke. The economic effects of a failing salmon industry on the rest of the state could be detrimental. The Joint Legislative Salmon Industry Task Force has recognized the plight of Alaska's Salmon fisherman by forwarding to the legislature fourteen different bills and resolutions; House Bill 118 is one of those bills. HB 118 is a tool to help the industry by adding an alternative to cut costs for fisherman. It also creates new possibilities for accessing fresh markets.

HB 118 allows commercial fisherman to transport fish caught by associates to market. Under current law, transporting another person's fish is illegal unless you are a licensed processor or act as a contractor for a licensed processor. HB 118 creates an opportunity for fisherman to work together and consolidate their product for shipment. This simple option may cut down on additional fuel costs and give fisherman the ability to get their fish to market when processors no longer provide tender services.

As aforementioned, current laws limit fishermen's marketing flexibility. Currently, processors buy fish at the dock or send tenders out to the fishing fleet in order to bring fish to market. These special arrangements between fisherman and processors can be costly. HB 118 changes the statute by allowing fisherman to hire their own tender or pool their resources on one boat and transport the fish to market. Under the bill, a person transporting fish would need to have a transporter permit in addition to the currently required fish ticket. Only the fish ticket is used for the final sale of the fish. This arrangement would allow for the fisherman to retain ownership of the fish, while authorizing his/her associate or another vessel to transport and sell his or her fish. In some areas of the state, processors are non-existent. In that case, the transporter flexibility created in this bill may be the only avenue to get fish to market.

HB 118 simply provides an additional tool for fishermen to cut costs and increase quality while creating efficient and productive businesses.

E-Mail: Representative_Paul_Seaton@legis.state.ak.us



UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

211 Fourth Street, Suite 110
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1172
(907) 586-2820
(907) 463-2545 Fax
E-Mail: ufa@ufa-fish.org
www.ufa-fish.org

April 15, 2003

Senator Scott Ogan
Chair
Senate Resources Committee
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol (MS 3100)
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Ogan,

Re: HB 118 Transportation of Commercial Fish

United Fishermen of Alaska supports HB 118.

When this bill is enacted it will help reduce harvesters' operating costs and improve the economic viability of some of our fisheries.

Your consideration of our position is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Gemmell
Executive Director

Copy: Senator Tom Wagoner
Senator Fred Dyson
Senator Ralph Seekins
Senator Ben Stevens
Senator Kim Elton
Senator Georgianna Lincoln
Representative Paul Seaton

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Alaska Crab Coalition • Alaska Druggers Association • Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association • Alaska Trollers Association • At-sea Processors Association • Bristol Bay Reserve
Chignik Regional Aquaculture Association • Chignik Seiners Association • Concerned Area "M" Fishermen • Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association • 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 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 Dive Fisheries Association • Southeast Alaska Seiners Association • Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association
United Cook Inlet Drift Association • United Salmon Association • United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters • Western Gull of Alaska Fishermen

Cordova District Fishermen United

Celebrating 65 Years of Service to Commercial Fishermen in Cordova, Alaska

P.O. Box 939 Cordova, Alaska 99574 / phone (907) 424-3447 / fax (907) 424-3430 /

e-mail cdfu@ptialaska.net

May 7, 2003

Senate Resources Committee
c/o Senator Scott Ogan, Chair
State Capitol, MS 3100
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

SENT VIA FACSIMILE TO 907.465.3265

Dear Members,

Cordova District Fishermen United (CDFU) represents the hardworking fishing families of Area E—Prince William Sound and the Copper River.

CDFU supports the increased flexibility to respond to the changing circumstances in our fisheries that HB 118 provides. The seafood industry is rapidly evolving in response to a changing global marketplace; this legislation provides another tool in the box that can be utilized to accomplish that.

Full accountability of resource harvests to ADF&G is very important to CDFU and we understand the imperative of assuring accurate and timely reporting to responsive management of the fisheries. We therefore appreciate that as per subsection (f), ADF&G may not always be able to allow utilization of transporter permits because of existing regulations that have evolved out of special circumstances within specific fisheries. Subsection (f) is very appropriate and we acknowledge its necessity.

We urge your positive consideration of this bill.

Sincerely,



Sue Aspelund
Executive Director

re: HB 118

Subject: re: HB 118

Date: Tue, 6 May 2003 21:28:53 -0800

From: Durtschi <hmdurt@alaska.net>

To: senator.scott.ogan@legis.state.ak.us

To Whom it may concern,

HB 118 would be a very welcome tool in aiding Alaskan fishermen to put value back into salmon fisheries.

By allowing fishers and groups of fishers the ability to combine their catch and transport it to a dockside point of sale the options increase dramatically for marketing, custom processing, and value adding of the resource.

Myself, and two partners have a plan in place for the coming season that would rely heavily on this ability.

We all live in the state, are raising families in the state, and want to stay in the state.

I urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely, Mike Durtschi

HB 118-Changes to the Bill

CS HB 118(**FISH**) -House Fisheries Committee recommended a committee substitute that made a technical amendment removing language about "paperwork required." This language was accidentally left in the bill and during simplification of the bill additional paperwork requirements were removed.

CS HB 118(**RES**) - House Resources Committee recommended a committee substitute that incorporated Child Support Enforcement Division's concerns that a fish transporter could transport fish for money. Therefore, the CS includes a fish transporter permit in their list of licenses and permits, which are accessed for child support enforcement reasons.

CS HB 118(**RES**) **Amended**- Fish & Game put forth a technical amendment carried on the floor by the sponsor. The amendment clarified the definition of fish as it relates to fish caught in the participating fisheries.

Senate CS(**L&C**) The blank CS before the committee reflects another amendment by CSED, which allows for the collection of social security numbers. This information was accidentally omitted in CSED's first amendment in House Resources.

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Chair
FISHERIES

Vice-Chair
EDUCATION

Member
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Member
STATE AFFAIRS



REPRESENTATIVE PAUL SEATON
House District 35

Recommended by the Joint Legislative
Salmon Industry Task Force

Session:
State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99801
Phone 907-465-2689
Fax 907-465-3472
1-800-665-2689
Rep.Paul.Seaton@legis.state.ak.us

Interim:
345 W. Sterling Highway
Suite 102B
Homer, Alaska 99603
Phone 907-235-2921
Fax 907-235-4008

Sectional Analysis

Senate CS HB 118 (L&C)

“An Act relating to the transportation and sale of certain commercially caught fish by an agent of a commercial fishing permit holder and to the sale of fish; and providing for an effective date.”

***Section 1.**

- (a) Amends Alaska Statute (AS) 16.05 by adding a new section, AS 16.05.671, which allows for the transportation and sale of a fish as an agent of a commercial fisherman. Under this new section, the agent/transporter must be permitted to be a transporter by the commissioner of ADF&G.
- (b) Authorizes the commissioner to officially permit a person to conduct the activity of transporting another fisherman's fish.
- (c) Allows ADF&G to collect social security numbers from a fish transporter when they apply for a fish transporter license and authorizes ADF&G to supply social security information to CSED.
- (d) Describes the process in which a transporter must acquire and maintain proper documentation to act as a transporter.
- (e) Describes the process in which a commercial fisherman shall provide a fish ticket to the transporter.
- (f) Allows a commercial fisherman to act as a fish transporter with proper documentation and continue to operate, selling his/her own fish as a commercial fisherman.
- (g) Allows the commissioner to adopt regulations relating to the permitting of transporters and to the act of transporters.



(h) Defines ownership of the fish being transferred to the transporter, which are still the property of the fisherman who caught the fish until sold to a buyer.

(i) Defines the term "fish" as it relates to this bill.

***Section 2.**

Amends AS 16.675(a) by allowing a permitted transporter to deliver fish in the state.

***Section 3.**

Amends AS 16.05.680 by adding a fish transporter to one of the exemptions for unlawful practices with regards to purchasing of fish.

***Section 4.**

Adds the definition of a "fish transporter" by amending AS 16.05.940, fish & game code.

***Section 5.**

Amends AS 16.10.265(a) by including a fish transporter as a person from whom fish can be purchased.

***Section 6.**

Includes a fish transporter under AS 16.10.267(b) as a person required to show identification if asked to do so by a peace officer.

***Section 7.**

As it relates to examples of identification, a fish transporter is included under AS 16.10.267(c) as referenced in Section 6.

***Section 8.**

Amends AS 16.10.267 by adding a new subsection (e), which requires the fish transporter to carry a transporter permit, a completed fish ticket for the fish being transported, and a personal piece of identification.

***Section 9.**

Amends AS 25.27.244(s)(2)(A) under the Child Support Enforcement Statutes by listing a fish transporter permit as a permit that could be denied if person is in arrears with CSED.

***Section 10.**

(The Effective Date) This act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

February 27, 2003

House Fisheries Sub- Committee,

Dear Representative Seaton,

The North Pacific Fisheries Association in Homer met earlier this week to discuss House Bill No. 118. Our group supports this bill. We feel that it will solve a number of problems fishers face in remote locations. This bill will allow fishermen to save costs by consolidating fish to be transported to primary processors. We feel that, if enacted, this bill would have an immediate positive effect for fishermen this summer. We feel that this is a well thought out and well researched bill that has no downside.

Allow me to give you an example of two scenarios where this bill would work. Often times I am fall fishing for coho salmon on the Alaska Peninsula when the local processor will stop sending a tender after a certain date even though the fish are still available. The cost of the tender is too high for the volume of fish being caught or the processor is busy doing pollock. That means that every night 3-8 boats must run to King Cove to deliver if they wish to sell their catch. With current coho prices of \$.15/lb., losing the tender usually means the fishing boats leave the grounds and the resource goes unharvested. Under current regulations each boat must run in to deliver. Sometimes boats that aren't catching much try to hold over their fish for a second day which is detrimental to quality. Under this act I would be allowed to consolidate say three or four of my fishing friends' catch onto my refrigerated seawater boat on the grounds and run them in to the market. Perhaps the next night another boat would provide that service and I could get a night's sleep. The savings in fuel and effort would potentially make the difference between ending the season, versus fishermen and processors continuing to utilize the salmon resources.

Another situation I have faced where this act may help is during the state-water cod fishery on the Alaska Peninsula. Last year the cannery had a three day back-up after the season closed. That means that we had to wait for three days from the closure time to get our fish delivered. A better quality fish could be delivered for a higher price if three 58 foot cod pot boats could consolidate their catch (say 100,000 pounds) and send one boat to Kodiak where the price last year was over 35% higher per pound than the King Cove market.

We hope that this bill will move through the legislative process so that we can utilize these advantages in the upcoming season.

Sincerely,

Buck Laukitis
President, NPFA
Homer, Alaska

Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance

9369 North Douglas Highway
Juneau, AK 99801



Phone 907-586-6652

Fax 907-586-5648 E-mail: seafa@gci.net

March 25, 2003

Dear Southeast Legislators,

Support for HB 118

It is our understanding that HB 118 will come up for a house floor vote sometime this week. The Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance supports the transporter bill HB 118.

This legislation provides the fishing industry another tool and additional flexibility in getting fish to the market by working together. This can reduce the cost of getting fish to the market in a more efficient manner.

We hope that you will support this legislation discussed and supported by the Salmon Industry Task Force as one of the fourteen pieces of legislation moved forward for consideration this session. This legislation allows the fishermen an additional tool to use or not as appropriate.

The Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance is a non-profit membership based fishing organization representing our members involved in the salmon, crab, shrimp and longline fisheries of Southeast Alaska. Please feel free to call us regarding commercial fishing issues if we may be of any help to you or your staff.

Sincerely,

Kathy Hansen
Executive Director



Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association

Working To Ensure The Future Of Our Fishery

43961 Kalifornsky Beach Road • Suite E • Soldotna, Alaska • 99669
(907) 262-2492 • Fax: (907) 262-2898 • E Mail: kpfa@alaska.net

Testimony given to the House Special Fisheries Committee on HB 118 (2-28-03)

February 28, 2003

My name is Paul Shadura, I reside on the Kenai Peninsula and represent the Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association.

We support the adoption of *hb 118* although we feel that it stops short of addressing the regulatory impediments on the Cook Inlet set-net fishery. We believe that if this bill is to truly allow efficiency and higher productivity, this bill should address other changes in the delivery and reporting requirements.

Currently, commercial set-net fishermen in CI are fined several thousand dollars for doing what they have practiced for several years. We have operated a form of *co-operatives* in Cook Inlet for many years. They are comprised of family and extended family or groups of small businessmen who have pooled their resources to reduce costs and accommodate individual situations.

Currently, a set-net fishermen cannot have his wife or other crewmember of his or her operation deliver their salmon to market. They must stop fishing, stop picking their nets and drive to wherever their market is. Considering that many times that openings for set-net fleet are 24 hrs. or are near 24 hrs, there leaves little time to repair or prepare for the next opening or sleep.

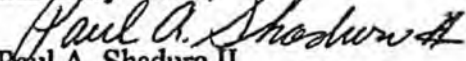
This is counter productive for the quality efforts that we are attempting with our branding program within Cook Inlet.

We strongly object to the CFEC position on the need for individual fish ticket reporting. It is apparent that the operations of set-net fishing in Cook Inlet is not fully understood.

And with this last statement, I will stop here.

Thank You Chairman Seaton and other members of the fisheries committee,

Sincerely Yours,


Paul A. Shadura II

President and Acting Ex. Director
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association