

HJR

15

HJR 15 Packet

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ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



Rep. John Harris
Rep. Peggy Wilson
Rep. Jim Elkins
Rep. Mary Kapsner
Rep. Woodie Salmon

State Capitol, Room 124
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
Co-Chairs
Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux
(907) 465-2487 FAX 465-4956
Rep. Bill Thomas
(907) 465-3732 FAX 465-2652

HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

SPONSOR STATEMENT CSHJR 15 (RES)

"Relating to open ocean aquaculture in the federal exclusive economic zone"

Open Ocean Aquaculture (OOA) is a concept that concerns many Americans who are involved in the seafood business and whose communities depend on the economic strength of the commercial fishing industry. This new method of seafood production has been under development for a number of years, and there is pending federal legislation drafted by the Department of Commerce that would establish a program allowing OOA in federal waters.

In response to many environmental, economic and social concerns, Alaska enacted legislation in 1990 that prohibits finfish farming in state waters. This prohibition has enabled the Alaska fishing industry to differentiate itself in the global seafood market. Our name is associated with natural, healthy and safe seafood that has inherent quality because it is not artificially raised with antibiotics, artificial coloring and industrial fish food. Alaska's relative market share of seafood has diminished with the massive increases in farmed fish production, but our products have excellent name recognition and often occupy high value niches in the market. Our commitment to wild fisheries is beginning to pay dividends to our industry and the state, as some prices that dipped to severely low levels are showing strong signs of recovery.

CSHJR 15 (RES) recognizes that the Alaska Legislature is committed to ensuring the biological and economic health of our fisheries and the social and economic well-being of our communities. It states that the Legislature is opposed to Open Ocean Aquaculture in federal waters. Furthermore, it requests that the U.S. Congress require any federal proposal to authorize OOA to undergo a legislative environmental impact statement and asks Congress to ban the introduction of genetically modified fish into the waters of the EEZ. It also asks that the Regional Fisheries Management Councils established under the Magnuson-Stevens Act be granted authority over any proposals regarding OOA.



UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

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March 8, 2005

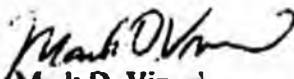
Representative Bill Thomas, Co-Chair
House Special Committee on Fisheries
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol (Mail Stop 3100)
Juneau AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Thomas,

United Fishermen of Alaska (UFA) represents thirty-one Alaska commercial fishing groups and hundreds of individual fishermen, crew members and related businesses. UFA supports House Joint Resolution 15 as a clear statement to congress from the State of Alaska regarding the potential environmental and economic threat of fish farms in federal waters.

UFA shares the position in HJR 15, that any management of any offshore aquaculture be under the authority of the regional fishery management councils. UFA also supports the requirement of a legislative environmental impact statement on any federal legislation that would allow fish farms in the Exclusive Economic Zone off U.S. Waters.

Respectfully,


Mark D. Vinson
Executive Director

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Alaska Crab Coalition • Alaska Druggers Association • Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association • Armstrong Kala • Al-see Processors Association
Bristol Bay Reserve • Concerned Area "M" Fishermen • Cordova District Fishermen United • Douglas Island Pink and Chum
Fishing Vessel Owners Association • Groundfish Forum • Kani Peninsula Fishermen's Association • Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association
North Pacific Fisheries Association • North 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 Owner Association • Seafood Producers Cooperative • Southeast Alaska Herring Seiners Marketing Association
Southeast Alaska Fisherman's Alliance • Southeast Alaska Regional Dive 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

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2005 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 1
 Bill Version: CSHJR 15(FSH)
 (H) Publish Date: 3/10/05

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Fish and Game
 Title Relating to Open Ocean Aquaculture RDU _____
in the Federal Exclusive Economic Component _____
 Sponsor House Special Committee on Fisheries
 Requester House Special Committee on Fisheries Component No. _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
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						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
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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)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2005) cost: 0.0

Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2006 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
 Division: Legislative Liaison
 Approved by: Acting Commissioner Wayne Regelin
 Agency: Alaska Department of Fish & Game

Phone 465-6137
 Date/Time 3/8/05 4:54 PM
 Date 3/8/2005

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2005 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 2
 Bill Version: CSHJR 15(FSH)
 (H) Publish Date: 3/10/05

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Legislature
 Title Relating to open ocean aquaculture in the BRU Legislative Council
federal exclusive economic zone. Component: Session Expenses
 Sponsor House Special Committee on Fisheries
 Requestor House Special Committee on Fisheries Component No. 783

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Travel	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Contractual	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Supplies	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Equipment	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Land & Structures	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Grants & Claims	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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 (FY2004) cost: 0.0

Check 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)

This legislation has zero fiscal impact on the Legislative Affairs Agency.

Prepared by: Karla Schofield, Deputy Director Phone 465-6626
 Division Administrative Services Date/Time 3/7/05 1:34 PM
 Approved by: Pamela Varni, Executive Director Date 3/7/2005
 Agency Legislative Affairs Agency