

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 2007-2008 RES 12681

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Kane
3/5/08

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 284()
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY

Offered:

Referred:

Sponsor(s): SENATOR GREEN

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to the membership of the Board of Fisheries; and providing for an**
2 **effective date."**

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 *** Section 1. AS 16.05.221(a) is amended to read:**

5 (a) For purposes of the conservation and development of the fishery resources
6 of the state, there is created the Board of Fisheries composed of seven members
7 appointed by the governor, subject to confirmation by a majority of the members of
8 the legislature in joint session. The governor shall appoint each member on the basis
9 of interest in public affairs, good judgment, knowledge, and ability in the field of
10 action of the board [, AND WITH A VIEW TO PROVIDING DIVERSITY OF
11 INTEREST AND POINTS OF VIEW IN THE MEMBERSHIP]. The appointed
12 members shall be residents of the state and shall be appointed without regard to
13 political affiliation or geographical location of residence. A member of the board
14 may not be an immediate family member of another member of the board. The

1 commissioner is not a member of the Board of Fisheries, but shall be ex officio
2 secretary. The board consists of

3 (1) two members who represent commercial fishing interests and
4 who do not hold and do not have an immediate family member who holds

5 (A) a sport fishing operator license under AS 16.40.260; or

6 (B) a sport fishing guide license under AS 16.40.270;

7 (2) three members who represent personal use or subsistence
8 fishing interests and who

9 (A) do not hold and do not have an immediate family
10 member who holds

11 (i) a commercial fishing permit or crewmember
12 permit under AS 16.05.480;

13 (ii) a sport fishing operator license under
14 AS 16.40.260; or

15 (iii) a sport fishing guide license under AS 16.40.270;

16 or

17 (B) do not own or have an immediately family member who
18 owns a commercial fish processing business;

19 (3) two members who represent sport fishing interests and who

20 (A) do not hold and do not have an immediate family
21 member who holds a commercial fishing permit or crewmember permit
22 under AS 16.05.480; or

23 (B) do not own or have an immediate family member who
24 owns a commercial fish processing business.

25 * Sec. 2. AS 16.05.221 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

26 (e) In this section, "immediate family member" means

27 (1) the spouse or domestic partner of the member; or

28 (2) a parent, child, including a stepchild and an adoptive child, or
29 sibling of the member if the parent, child, or sibling resides with the member, is
30 financially dependent on the member, or shares a substantial financial interest with the
31 member.

1 * Sec. 3. The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
2 read:

3 TRANSITION. The amendment to AS 16.05.221(a) made by this Act does not prevent
4 a person who is a member of the Board of Fisheries on the day before the effective date of this
5 Act from continuing to serve until the expiration of the member's term.

6 * Sec. 4. This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

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SENATE BILL NO. 284

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY SENATOR GREEN

Introduced: 2/19/08

Referred: Resources, Finance

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9 on the basis of interest in public affairs, good judgment, knowledge, and ability in the
10 field of action of the board [, AND WITH A VIEW TO PROVIDING DIVERSITY
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2 (1) three members who represent commercial fishing interests:

3 (2) three members who represent personal use and subsistence

4 fishing interests;

5 (3) three members who represent sport fishing interests.

6 * Sec. 2. The uncoded law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
7 read:

8 TRANSITION. (a) The governor shall appoint two new members to the Board of
9 Fisheries within 30 days after the effective date of this Act. The two new members of the
10 board must meet the requirements for members of the board, and the addition of the two
11 members may not violate the provisions of AS 16.05.221(a), as amended by sec. 1 of this Act.

12 (b) A person who is a member of the Board of Fisheries on the day before the
13 effective date of this Act continues to serve until the expiration of the member's term.

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FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: _____
 Bill Version: SB284
 () Publish Date: _____

Identifier (file name): SB284-DFG-BSS-03-07-08 Dept. Affected: Fish and Game
 Title: Board of Fisheries: Membership RDU: Administration and Support
 Component: F&G Boards & Advisory Committees
 Sponsor: Senator Lyda Green
 Requester: Senate Resources Committee Component Number: 2825

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2009	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
Personal Services	18.9			18.9	18.9	18.9	18.9	18.9
Travel	24.0			24.0	24.0	24.0	24.0	24.0
Contractual	0.5			0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Supplies	0.5			0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Equipment								
Land & Structures								
Grants & Claims								
Miscellaneous								
TOTAL OPERATING	43.9			43.9	43.9	43.9	43.9	43.9

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES								
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()								
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FUND SOURCE	(Thousands of Dollars)						
	FY 2009	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
1002 Federal Receipts							
1003 GF Match							
1004 GF	43.9		43.9	43.9	43.9	43.9	43.9
1005 GF/Program Receipts							
1037 GF/Mental Health							
Other Interagency Receipts							
TOTAL	43.9		43.9	43.9	43.9	43.9	43.9

Estimate of any current year (FY2008) cost: 00

POSITIONS

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)
 Passage of this bill will increase expenditures by \$43,900 per year.
 Personal Services is the combination of administrative support and honoraria for the additional Board members.
 Administrative support includes payroll, travel and accounting functions.
 The honorarium figure assumes 35 full days and 10 half days of meetings per year.
 Travel is calculated by the attendance at 6 meetings per year.
 Contractual and Supply costs would increase slightly.

Prepared by: Jim Marcotte, Executive Director, Board of Fisheries Phone 465-6099
 Division: Boards Support Section Date/Time: 3/7/08 4:00 PM
 Approved by: Tom Lawson, Director Date: 3/7/2008
Division of Administrative Services, Department of Fish and Game

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



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SENATOR LYDA GREEN
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPONSOR STATEMENT

CSSB 284

*"An Act relating to the membership of the Board of Fisheries;
and providing for an effective date."*

CSSB 284 was introduced to provide a statutory board appointment framework and process. This framework will better ensure balance and fairness on the Board of Fisheries as well as provide a more focused effort on conservation measures designed to sustain Alaska's salmon resources.

The Board of Fisheries is currently comprised of seven members appointed by the governor and confirmed by the legislature. Members currently serve three-year terms and their main role is to conserve and develop the fishery resources of the state. Generally, members are chosen to reflect different points of view, interests and regions of the state (AS16.05.221).

The proposed committee substitute brings the number of Board members back to seven, from the nine proposed in the original bill, and statutorily requires that certain qualifications must be met in order to serve on the Board. There are 122 Boards and Commissions in Alaska, and the Board of Fisheries has almost no requirements or guidelines for appointments to the Board.

CSSB 284 puts into statute selection requirements that provide for fair and balanced representation on the Board of Fisheries for years to come, regardless of who may be governor or who may be in political leadership positions at the Department of Fish and Game.

I encourage your support of CSSB 284.

Alaska State Legislature

SENATOR
LYDA GREEN
Senate President

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201
REPRESENTATIVE
JOHN HARRIS
Speaker of the House

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February 1, 2008

The Honorable Sarah Palin
Governor
State of Alaska
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Governor Palin:

In the past decade the drainages in the Mat-Su valley have experienced historically low salmon runs and some species have not met escapement goals in five of the last seven years. For example, in 2005 only 36,921 sockeye returned to the Yentna River, a shortage of more than 50,000 fish at the lower end of the escapement goal, and more than 120,000 under the upper objective. Fish Creek (Big Lake system) is even in worse shape. Minimum escapement goals have not been achieved in the past four years, despite enhancement from hatchery fish.

The problem with not meeting escapement goals for Northern District bound salmon are two-fold; it is unacceptable biologically, and it presents serious challenges to local economies.

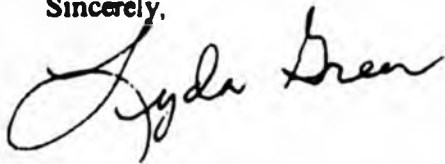
If adequate escapement goals are not met, the state may soon be facing both biological as well as economic problems in the Cook Inlet area. Without adequate escapement, salmon stocks may decline throughout enough of their historic range to induce actions by various groups that could be harmful to both local and state economic interests.

Although allocation issues exist between fishing groups, biological issues could lead to restrictions or curtailment of fishing activities across the board. If that were to happen, the economic benefits derived from both the commercial and sport fish effort may be lost. Such an outcome would be devastating to many of the Inlet's local economies and would almost certainly impact the state's economy as well.

We are, however, encouraged by the heightened awareness toward this issue by local businesses. The recent actions of the Mat-Su Borough and the Willow Chamber of Commerce highlight the importance of adequate salmon returns to our local economies.

We are committed to working with you, local fishing groups, local businesses impacted by returns or the lack thereof, and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to find a meaningful solution to this growing problem. We must give our biologists the tools they need to discover the root causes of declining returns, as well as the resources necessary to rebuild our failing salmon stocks.

Sincerely,



Senator Lyda Green
President of the Senate



Representative John Harris
Speaker of the House

cc: Denby Lloyd, Commissioner, Department of Fish and Game
Emil Notti, Commissioner, Department of Commerce, Community and Economic
Development
Mel Morris, Chairman, Alaska Board of Fisheries



Willow Chamber of Commerce

March 10, 2007

To Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game
Board of Fisheries
Board Support Section
PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

Upon review of the action request from Board of Fisheries Chairman Mel Morris and through our member's own observations, the Willow Chamber of Commerce can make the following recommendations.

Because the single most important economic base for Willow based businesses is tourism and specifically recreation minded visitors, our Chamber of Commerce encourages wise protection of our recreational resources. Our fisheries are our most cherished resources. The value of a single fish to our community and our state is huge when caught by our visitors or by our own family members as our traditional food source. When an economist adds up the true value of a sport caught fish they would probably recognize a visitors air fare, car rental, gas purchases, hotel or bed and breakfast charges groceries or restaurant bills as well as fishing licenses and gear and guides fees. Because our Willow Chamber of Commerce is made up of businessmen and women who earn our living from the money spent in the pursuit of sport fish and game we urge the state to do whatever possible to ensure the quota of fish that reach our local streams and the upper Susitna Valley sustainable fisheries. Its spawning fish numbers and healthy hatch numbers must be increased or doom is inevitable for all the commercial, subsistence and recreational fisherman as well.

Please see to it that there are substantial decreases in high seas and lower Cook Inlet commercial catches so that there may be more fish for everyone in years to come.

With the future in mind and heart,
Sincerely,

Jim Huston, President
Willow Chamber of Commerce

Cc: Senator Lyda Green
Senator Charles Huggins
Representative Mark Newman
Bruce Knowles
Representative Bill Stoltz
Representative Wes Keller
Representative Carl Gusto

Willow Chamber of Commerce

Mail@willowchamber.org

P.O. Box 183

Willow, Alaska, 99688, USA

phone: (907) 495-6800

fax: (907) 495-6807

021

Action: 01/15/08

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 08-005 (AM)

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY REQUESTING THE ALASKA STATE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME (1) RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF FISHERIES THAT SOCKEYE AND CHUM SALMON STOCKS OF THE SUSITNA (YENTNA) RIVERS AND FISH CREEK BE DESIGNATED STOCKS OF CONCERN"; (2) PREPARE A PLAN FOR SALMON ESCAPEMENT ENUMERATION; (3) ESTABLISH ESCAPEMENT GOALS FOR ALL SALMON SPECIES OF THE NORTHERN DISTRICT; AND (4) SUPPORT THE ENACTMENT OF THE SUSTAINABLE SALMON POLICY INTO STATE LAW.

WHEREAS, the commercial harvest of sockeye salmon from the Northern District of Cook Inlet (NCI) has declined from an average of 180,000 in the 1980's to an average of 26,000 sockeye since 2002; and

WHEREAS, the commercial harvest of Upper Cook Inlet chum salmon has declined from 880,000 annually in the 1980's to fewer than 100,000 salmon during recent years; and

WHEREAS, spawning escapements for Susitna River sockeye have fallen below the minimum goal in five of the past seven years; and

WHEREAS, Fish Creek sockeye escapement thresholds have not been achieved over half of the time over the past ten years; and

WHEREAS, there are no escapement targets for chum salmon in NCI; and

WHEREAS, sport fisheries have been subject to continuous restrictions such as the prohibition of harvesting of sockeye over the past four years; and

WHEREAS, Northern Cook Inlet set net fisheries have had one or more closed fishing periods in each of the past seven years (except

2003); and

WHEREAS, commercial drift net fishing periods have been restricted annually since 2001; and

WHEREAS, chronic inability to maintain both minimum spawning escapements and expected harvests has occurred despite continuous restrictions on the fisheries; and

WHEREAS, the State's Sustainable Salmon Policy falls short of its potential by being regarded as a set of recommendations rather than clear legislative direction and as such being too easy to set aside, as management decisions are made; and

WHEREAS, genetic stock identification studies are in mid-course and other Susitna Basin fishery investigations are also in progress, the number of issues cited herein indicate further action is in order; and

WHEREAS, closures, restrictions and related regulatory actions have had, and will continue to have, significant social and economic impacts on Alaskans who rely on these resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly requests that the Alaska State Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) recommend to the Board of Fisheries (with Governor's Office Support) that sockeye and chum salmon stocks of the Susitna (Yentna) Rivers and Fish Creek be designated "stocks of concern", specifically yield concerns, as mandated by the Sustainable Salmon Policy (5AAC 39.222); and

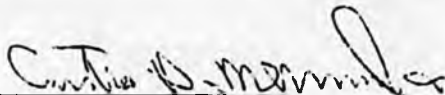
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly requests that the Legislature, with the support of the Governor, fund the development and application of technology that will assure acquisition of multi-species escapement information for Susitna (Yentna) River and Fish Creek salmon with emphasis on sockeye, coho, and chum in that priority. This includes providing on-going funding for enumerating coho salmon at the Deshka Weir; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly requests ADF&G to prepare a phased enumeration plan, with cost estimates showing the funds needed to add each species beyond sockeye to the project. The development of an all-species enumeration project plan and cost figures by phase will allow the Legislature and the Governor to decide the extent to which studies will be cost-effective given the current fiscal environment; and

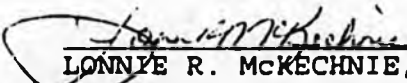
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly considers it essential that escapement goals ultimately be established for all salmon species of the Northern Cook Inlet. It is acknowledged that it could require as much as seven years of capturing escapement counts (per above) to gain sufficient knowledge in support of establishing those goals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly requests that the ADF&G and the Governor support legislative action to enact into statute (and/or regulation as appropriate) a codified version of the Sustainable Salmon Policy.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly this 15 day
of January, 2008.


CURTIS D. MENARD, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:


LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, Acting Borough Clerk

(SEAL)

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: Woods, Houston, Church, Bettine, and Kluberton

for

**GREATER WASILLA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
RESOLUTION #01-08**

A RESOLUTION OF THE GREATER WASILLA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REQUESTING THE STATE OF ALASKA, DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF FISHERIES THAT SOCKEYE AND CHUM SALMON STOCKS OF THE SUSITNA (YETNA) RIVERS AND FISH CREEK BE DESIGNATED "STOCKS OF CONCERN," AND PREPARE A PLAN FOR SALMON ESCAPEMENT ENUMERATION; AND ESTABLISH ESCAPEMENT GOALS FOR ALL SALMON SPECIES OF THE NORTHERN DISTRICT, AND SUPPORT THE ENACTMENT OF THE SUSTAINABLE SALMON POLICY INTO STATE LAW.

WHEREAS, the commercial harvest of sockeye salmon from the Northern District of Cook Inlet (NCI) has declined from an average of 180,000 in the 1980's to an average of 26,000 sockeye since 2002; and

WHEREAS, the commercial harvest of Upper Cook Inlet chum salmon has declined from 880,000 annually in the 1980's to fewer than 100,000 salmon during recent years; and

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WHEREAS, there are no escapement targets for chum salmon in NCI; and

WHEREAS, sport fisheries have been subject to continuous restrictions such as the prohibition of harvesting of sockeye over the past four years; and

WHEREAS, Northern Cook Inlet set net fisheries have had one or more closed fishing periods in each of the past seven years (except 2000); and

WHEREAS, commercial drift net fishing periods have been restricted annually since 2001; and

WHEREAS, chronic inability to maintain both minimum spawning escapements and expected harvests has occurred despite continuous restrictions on the fisheries; and

WHEREAS, the state's Sustainable Salmon Policy falls short of its potential by being regarded as a set of recommendations rather than clear legislative direction and as such being too easy to set aside as management decisions are made; and

WHEREAS, genetic stock identification studies are in midcourse and other Susitna Basin fishery investigations are also in progress, the number of issues cited herein indicate further action is in order; and

WHEREAS, closures, restrictions and related regulatory actions have had, and will continue to have, significant social and economic impacts on Alaskans who rely on these resources.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Greater Wasilla Chamber of Commerce requests the State of Alaska, Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), recommend to the Board of Fisheries (with Governor's Office Support) that sockeye and chum salmon stocks of the Susitna (Yetna) Rivers and Fish Creek be designated "stocks of concern", specifically yield concerns, as mandated by the Sustainable Salmon Policy (5 AAC 39.222); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Greater Wasilla Chamber of Commerce requests the legislature, with the support of the Governor, fund the development and application of technology that will assure acquisition of multi-species escapement information for Susitna (Yetna) River and Fish Creek salmon with emphasis on sockeye,

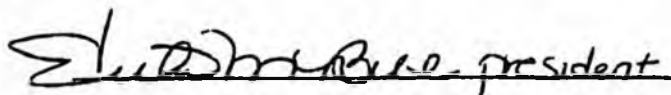
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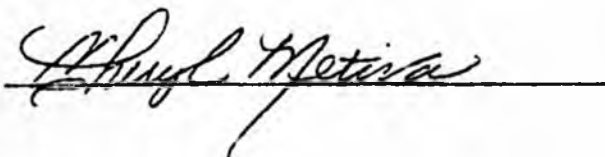
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Greater Wasilla Chamber of Commerce considers it essential that escapement goals ultimately be established for all salmon species of the Northern Cook Inlet. It is acknowledged that it could require as much as seven years of capturing escapement counts (per above) to gain sufficient knowledge in support of establishing those goals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Greater Wasilla Chamber of Commerce requests the ADF&G and the Governor support legislative action to enact into statute (and/or regulation as appropriate) a codified version of the Sustainable Salmon Policy.

ADOPTED by the Greater Wasilla Chamber of Commerce on January 31, 2008.

 Erika Bills, President of the Board

 Cheryl Metiva, CEO

ST

Noel and Jean Woods
PO Box 827
Palmer, Alaska 99645
Mar. 11, 2008

Tel: (907) 745-3027
Fax: (907) 745-5019

Senate Resource Committee
Juneau, Alaska

Thirty years ago Sam McDowell and Noel appeared before the Board of Fisheries with charts that showed a deliberate prejudice against upper Cook Inlet personal use fishermen. (50% of Alaska's population) We were able to show that every time the escapement of salmon into streams of the Northern Cook Inlet did not meet escapement goals the board of fisheries would lower the goals. This has continued until today residents who wish the same opportunity to share in the harvest of thier food source have been denied thier right by regulation.

Jean and Noel have fished for salmon for personal use for 53 years in Northern Cook Inlet waters

Please pass SB 284

Noel W. Woods
Jean H. Woods

for



415 E. Railroad Avenue (Historic Depot) • Wasilla, AK 99654
Email: info@wasillachamber.org

Telephone (907) 976-1299 • Fax (907) 979-2560
Home Page: www.wasillachamber.org

Voted "Alaska's Outstanding Local Chamber of Commerce ~ 1998, 2006"
"Home of the Iditarod" & "Home of the Iron Dog"

March 11, 2008

bp



Senator Lyda Green
Senate President
600 East Railroad Ave. Ste 1
Wasilla, AK, 99654



Re: Senate Bill # 284

Dear Senator Green,



Please accept this letter as support for Senate Bill # 284. The Greater Wasilla Chamber Board of Directors unanimously supports the passage of this bill. We can provide a resolution supporting this bill at a later date if necessary. If you have any questions or require further information please feel free call me at 907-232-5899 or the Chamber office at 907-376-1299.



Thank you for your time,



Erika M Bills
Greater Wasilla Chamber of Commerce President





Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the

Senate Resource

committee name

Committee on

CSSB 284

bill # / subject

, dated

3-11-08

public hearing date

I support Bill 284 in the hopes that it will bring more balance & equality to the board of Fisheries and bring forth more effort on conservation designed to provide Alaska with future salmon resources

Signed:

Russell E. Lacy Arnold E. Lacy

Testifier

Myself

Representing (optional)

35950 Forerunner St Soldotna AK 99669

Address

260-4729

Phone number



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Resource Committee
committee name

Committee on Senate Bill #284, dated 3/11/08
bill # / subject public hearing date

Like the idea that the Board of Fish would be representative of various user groups.
No problem with (1) & (3) as written
Concern about (2)

First, believe that personal use and subsistence should be represented. However, ~~to be~~ believe that another user group should be included, that being Tourism.

With 3 user groups included in part (2) each could have one representative.

Signed:

Joe Gunnar
Testifier

self - Tourism & Lodge Owner
Representing (optional)

P.O. Box 10855, Sterling, AK 99672
Address

262-9496
Phone number



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the

Senate Resource
committee name

Committee on

SB 284

bill #/subject

, dated

3-11-08

public hearing date

I support Senate Bill #284, which ask for FAIR Representation of the make up of the Board of Fish members. This FRAMEWORK in the bill will better ensure the balance & FAIRNESS OF the makeup of the board. Thank you for taking the time to read over this.

Signed:

Steve McClure

Testifier

myself

Representing (optional)

P.O. Box 22603 Seldovia ALASKA

Address

262-2977

Phone number

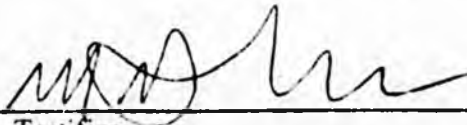


Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Resources
committee name

Committee on SB 284, dated 3/11/08
bill # / subject public hearing date

My name is Mark Glassmaker and I would like to express my support for Bill 284 as I feel it will ~~now~~ establish more equal representation among user groups on the Alaska Board of Fisheries. I am a nineteen year Kenai River guide and have participated extensively in the past several board of fish upper Cook Inlet Fin fish meetings and have seen first hand how a board without assigned seats can favor one particular user group in allocation issues. Having ~~no~~ pre-determined seat assignments for Board members would help to ensure a more fair and equitable Board of Fish process.

Signed: 
Testifier

Self - Sport fishing
Representing (optional)

33361 Keystone Drive Sewardna, AK 99669
Address

907-262-0892
Phone number



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Resource
committee name

Committee on CSSB 284, dated 2/11/08
bill #/subject public hearing date

In my opinion we do need frame work in place that gives our Governor direction on how to choose Board of Fish board members that will be fair to all user groups. I also feel that the tourism industry is represented in this frame work. In the past Comm Fish has been heavily weighted to the detriment of Sport Fish. We have complex issues on the World Famous Kenai River.

I will be supporting bill 284.

I am concerned about our current Governors relationship to Comm. Fish. The Sport Fishing Industry / Tourism Industry is growing and needs to be treated fairly.

Signed: David Doyne
Testifier

Sport Fishing
Representing (optional)

2915 Clipper Cir, Kenai, Ak. 99611
Address

907-283-9026 cell # 907-283-3503
Phone number



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Resource
committee name

Committee on SB284, dated 3/11/08
bill #/subject public hearing date

I am in favor of the said proposed changes to bill SB284. My concerns lie in appointing "3 members" who represent personal use or subsistence fishing interests. I would like to see a seat or two set aside especially for charter owners. Commercial fishing, personal use and subsistence interests all have guaranteed seats. Sport fishing interests are represented but no guarantee of a commercial sport fish interest.

I am in favor of SB284 in that it will provide structure to appointment of future Board of Fisheries members.

Signed:

Testifier

Aaron Cooper

Representing (optional)

PO 1447 Kenai AK 99611

Address

907-335-2248

Phone number



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Resources
~~House~~ committee name
 Committee on 284 , dated 3/11/08
 bill # / subject public hearing date

I support the concept of 284,

However after participating in several Board of fish meetings. I am concerned that the board members are asked to decide how to proceed on several very complex sport fishing issues. Members with no ^{sport} fishing experience have a very difficult time understanding how their actions impact a fishery. So I would encourage you to reevaluate the 3 sub/personal use seats, and substitute 2 personal use / subsistence and 1 tourism or charter operator seat. This could help the board be more balanced and more effective on sorting out complex fisheries such as the Kenai River.

Signed: Monte Roberts
 Testifier
Sport fish Charter Operator
 Representing (optional)
PO Box 1106
 Address
907 262-8518
 Phone number

Opposed

Petersburg Vessel Owners Association

P.O. Box 232

Petersburg, Alaska 99833

Phone (907) 772-9323

March 11, 2008

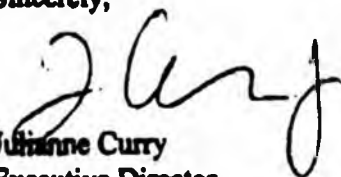
Senator Charlie Huggins, Chairman
Senate Resources Committee
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Mail Stop 3100
Juneau AK 99801
Fax: 907.465.3265

RE: OPPOSE SB 284 BOARD OF FISH DESIGNATED SEATS

The Petersburg Vessel Owners Association (PVOA) is a diverse group of commercial fishermen that participate in a variety of fisheries in Southeast and throughout the State of Alaska. PVOA opposes SB 284 which would designate seats on the Board of Fisheries. PVOA recognizes the importance of quality Board members. Appointments to the Board of Fish are made on the basis of interest in public affairs, good judgment, knowledge, and ability in the field of action of the board, and with a view to provide diversity of interests and points of view in the membership.

PVOA is a longstanding supporter of the Board of Fish and the nomination process and we oppose this legislation. The existing practice of Board nominations by the Governor and confirmation of nominations by the Legislature provides for sufficient review of candidates and their potential contribution to the Board of Fish which governs fisheries that are vital to coastal Alaska.

Sincerely,



Julianne Curry
Executive Director



Native Village of Eyak
110 Nicholoff Way ~ PO Box 1388 ~ Cordova, AK 99574
Phone: (907) 424-7738 ~ Fax: (907) 424-7739
www.nveyak.com

Senate Resources Committee
Attn: Senator Huggins, Chair
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 205
Juneau, AK 99801

11 March, 2008

Re: Senate Bill 284: "An Act relating to the membership of the Board of Fisheries; and providing for an effective date"

Although agreeing with some of the intentions of this Senate Bill, The Native Village of Eyak opposes SB284 as it is currently written. We request information and consultation on any revisions to the Bill before it is adopted to Law. This is an important issue which demands the fullest extent of Tribal and public involvement.

Our points of contention include:

1. Under no circumstances should the interests of the Personal Use and Subsistence Fisheries be combined into a single group. These are two very distinct and historically very opposing groups. It would be irresponsible to think that an individual with ties to the Personal Use fishery could fairly represent the interests of Subsistence fishermen, and vice versa. As an example, consider the issue of C&T determination for the Chitina Subdistrict dipnet fishery which caused heated debate between PU and Subsistence Users for the past decade of BoF meetings. Subsistence representation should remain at 3 seats to meet the subsistence priority outlined in the constitution. PU interests should be included for representation by the sport fishing seats, because these fisheries have much more in common under the current management system.
2. A large number of commercial and subsistence fishermen also possess a sport fishing guide license for a different fishery. While we agree with the intention of preventing conflicts of interest in representation, the proposed language could be too restrictive in determining eligibility. The current process of full disclosure and candidate review by the Governor and Legislature seems adequate to address these concerns.
3. Alaska is a small state, and everyone is closely related. It would be unduly restrictive to prevent a qualified and ethical candidate from being on the Board because a member of their immediate family has chosen to pursue employment in a different sector of the second largest industry in the State. As long as there remains full disclosure requirements, we see no need to restrict eligibility based on immediate family.

Please keep us apprised of further developments with SB284.

Regards,


Bruce Cain,
Executive Director



UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

opp

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

March 11, 2008

Senator Charlie Huggins, Chairman
Senate Resources Committee
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Mail Stop 3100
Juneau AK 99801

RE: Opposition to SB 284 regarding Board of Fisheries

Dear Senator Huggins and Committee Members,

The United Fishermen of Alaska (UFA) Board of Directors recently met and discussed Senate Bill 284, and a new committee substitute that may be introduced. Both versions feature designated seats for Sport, Commercial, and Personal use / Subsistence users on the Board of Fisheries.

UFA opposes SB 284 and CSSB 284, and feels that these bills would unduly restrict interested and qualified members whose interests cross over between these categories from serving. Many commercial fishermen engage in charter operations, and many sport guides work part time as crew in commercial fisheries.

It is not clear what problem with the Board of Fisheries that the bill is intended to solve, but we do not feel that designation of members through these assigned seats will help ensure that board decisions are made fairly. UFA believes that such strict designations will make it even more difficult to find qualified individuals to serve on the board. We fear that such designated seats would only serve to add further divisiveness to the Board of Fisheries process.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mark Vinsel
Executive Director

Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance

9369 North Douglas Hwy

Juneau, AK 99801

Phone 907-586-6652 or Cell 907-321-3765

Fax 907-523-1168

Website: <http://www.seafa.org>



Email: seafa@gci.net

*opposed
seat.*

March 10, 2008

Senate Resources Committee
Senator Huggins, Chair
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 205
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: Oppose SB 284 Board of Fish Designated Seats

Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance (SEAFA) opposes SB 284 designating three seats each to the commercial, sport and personal use & subsistence sectors. Many things need to be considered in trying to re-designate the seats in these categories, is a charter operator considered commercial or sport, and how do you designate an individual that fits in multiple categories?

The important characteristics that should be considered for appointment to the Board of Fish are a person's character, integrity, personal ethics and knowledge that he or she brings to the process. The current process of nomination by the Governor and confirmation by the Legislature should provide sufficient review of a person's character to provide for a Board of Fish that will first and foremost provide for the protection of and the sustainability of the resource while providing fair and balanced allocation decisions. The very nature of the Board of Fish is such that someone will always be upset by some decision or another that is made by the Board of Fish because as in the legislature you cannot make everyone happy with every decision.

Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance is a multi-gear group representing our members involved in the salmon, crab, shrimp and longline fisheries of Southeast Alaska.

Sincerely,
Kathy Hansen (email signature)
Kathy Hansen
Executive Director



0PT
posed

Cordova District Fishermen United
PO Box 935 | 509 First Street | Cordova, AK 99574
phone: (907) 424 3447 | fax: (907) 424 3430
web: www.cdfu.org | email: cdfu@ak.net

March 10, 2008

Senate Resources Committee
Senator Huggins, Chair
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 205
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: Oppose SB 284 Board of Fish Designated Seats

Cordova District Fishermen United (CDFU) opposes SB 284 designating three seats each to the commercial, sport and personal use & subsistence sectors. There are many considerations in a decision of this kind, including how to appropriately designate seats to ensure fair decisions are made for all user groups. Seat designation in a categorized system such as SB 284 describes is not a black and white issue, as many people fall across multiple categories. A sport fishermen, for example, may also keep some of the fish they catch thus falling into the category of personal use. This leads to an unfair representation across the board for all user groups.

Rather than simply categorizing appointed members into commercial, sport fish or personal use it is more important to ensure that appointed members are of good character, ethics and have a vast unbiased knowledge and experience of Alaska fisheries.

The current process that is undertaken by the Governor is fair and balanced and should not be changed.

Sincerely,

Rochelle van den Broek
Executive Director



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Finance Committee
committee name

Committee on SB 224 / BOF Compensation dated 3/11/08
bill #/ subject public hearing date

I am opposed to this bill for the following reasons.

- 1- PU/substitute users are a minority
 - 30,000 Com/fishermen + 10,000 Cannery workers + Capital investment in Canneries, boats gear, etc.
 - * 200,000 Spout fishermen
 - VS
 - * 15,000 - 20,000 PU/fishermen

2- PU Fishing is done under a Spout fish license

This is a de facto reallocation of seats to urban Spout fishermen

This will not address the escapement issues on the Yetera/Bohake Systems - they are due to degraded habitat of juvenile species.

Signed: [Signature]
 Testifier
self / commercial Fisherman
 Representing (optional)
Box 3322 Soldotna, AK 99669
 Address
907-394-4604
 Phone number



North Pacific Fisheries Association
P.O. Box 796
Homer, Alaska 99603

March 19, 2008

Senator Charlie Huggins, Chairman
Senate Resources Committee
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Mail Stop 3100
Juneau AK 99801

Re: CS 284 Board of Fisheries

Dear Senator Huggins:

The North Pacific Fisheries Association (NPFA) opposes SB 284 and the CS. The membership of NPFA consists of fishermen who live in Homer and fish commercially throughout the state. Our members have been involved in the Board of Fish process since the Board was formed. We do not always agree with decisions made by the Board, but we respect the process and continue to participate rather than want to change the process or the make-up of members because we didn't get some particular decision.

We are opposed to the concept of having "designated" seats for particular user groups on the Board of Fisheries. A good Board member makes decisions based on the best available science using the Board's allocation criteria. A Board member should not represent his/her "constituency." This would lead to a huge departure from how the Board process works. We believe the

Board should be comprised of knowledgeable individuals who have the best interests of Alaska's resources in mind, without particular regard to who they "represent". We believe that the composition of the Board should be left to the discretion of the Governor.

Furthermore, it is very difficult to find capable individuals who are even willing to serve on the Board. Folks who are only interested in one issue, one river, or one region wither under the press of information and the scope of understanding statewide issues. It is in all of our interests to find good people who want to serve in an open and unbiased professional manner – seeking to do more than that just politicizes the process.

For these reasons, we do not support CS 284 .

Sincerely,



Michael Laukitis
President, NPFA



Boards Support

- About Boards
- Board of Fisheries
- Board of Game
- Advisory Committees
- Joint Boards

Board of Fisheries

Board Members

- Member Addresses
- Resumes/Bios
- Meeting Photos
- Become a member
- BOF Committees

Meeting Information

- Meeting Calendar
- Long-Term Cycle
- Proposal Book
- Agenda Change Requests
- Call for Proposals
- Legal Notices
- Future Call for Proposals
- Future Schedule
- Joint Boards Page
- BOF/NPFMC
- Salmon Restructuring Committee

Meeting Summaries

- Summary of Actions
- Document Archive

Regulations, Policies & Info

- Link to Regulations
- Policies and Findings
- Frequently Used Policies

Board of Fisheries Forms

- Proposal Form
- Restructuring Form
- ACR Form
- Petition the Board

New! Susitna sockeye Salmon Action Plan(*PDF 150KB)
 Update on Restructuring Proposals
 Board of Fisheries 2008-09 Call for Proposals Posted
 Board of Fisheries Policy on Written Comments(*PDF - 10KB)2007/2008
 Fishery Proposals Available(*PDF - 1.53 MB)

Welcome to the Board of Fisheries!

The Alaska Board of Fisheries consists of seven members serving three-year terms. Members are appointed by the governor and confirmed by the legislature. Members are appointed on the basis of interest in public affairs, good judgment, knowledge, and ability in the field of action of the board, with a view to providing diversity of interest and points of view in the membership (see Alaska Statute 16.05.221).

The Board of Fisheries' main role is to conserve and develop the fishery resources of the state. This involves setting seasons, bag limits, methods and means for the state's subsistence, commercial, sport, guided sport, and personal use fisheries, and it also involves setting policy and direction for the management of the state's fishery resources. The board is charged with making allocative decisions, and the department is responsible for management based on those decisions.

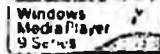
The Board of Fisheries meets four to six times per year in communities around the state to consider proposed changes to fisheries regulations around the state. The board uses the biological and socioeconomic information provided by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, public comment received from people inside and outside of the state, and guidance from the Alaska Department of Public Safety and Alaska Department of Law when creating regulations that are sound and enforceable.

Sign up for our electronic mailing list

Live Audio

CLICK HERE: Audio Stream of the Board of Fisheries Meeting.

*Link will not function while the board is off the record



Quick Picks

Go!

Fisheries News



Board of Fisheries Chair, Mel Morris

Front Page

BOF Upcoming Meetings

Sec. 16.05.221. Boards of fisheries and game.

(a) For purposes of the conservation and development of the fishery resources of the state, there is created the Board of Fisheries composed of seven members appointed by the governor, subject to confirmation by a majority of the members of the legislature in joint session. The governor shall appoint each member on the basis of interest in public affairs, good judgment, knowledge, and ability in the field of action of the board, and with a view to providing diversity of interest and points of view in the membership. The appointed members shall be residents of the state and shall be appointed without regard to political affiliation or geographical location of residence. The commissioner is not a member of the Board of Fisheries, but shall be ex officio secretary.

(b) For purposes of the conservation and development of the game resources of the state, there is created a Board of Game composed of seven members appointed by the governor, subject to confirmation by a majority of the members of the legislature in joint session. The governor shall appoint each member on the basis of interest in public affairs, good judgment, knowledge, and ability in the field of action of the board, and with a view to providing diversity of interest and points of view in the membership. The appointed members shall be residents of the state and shall be appointed without regard to political affiliation or geographical location of residence. The commissioner is not a member of the Board of Game, but shall be ex officio secretary.

(c) Members of the Board of Game serve staggered terms of three years and, except as provided in AS 39.05.080 (4), each member serves until a successor is appointed. An appointment to fill a vacancy in the membership of the Board of Game shall be made in the same manner as the original appointment and, except as provided in AS 39.05.080 (4), an appointment to fill a vacancy is for the balance of the unexpired term.

(d) Members of the Board of Fisheries serve staggered terms of three years. The terms of members of the board begin on July 1. Notwithstanding AS 39.05.080 (1), by April 1 of the calendar year in which the term expires, the governor shall appoint a person to fill the vacancy that will arise on the board due to expiration of the term of a member of the board and submit the name of the person to the legislature for confirmation. If a vacancy arises on the board, the governor shall, within 30 days after the vacancy arises, appoint a person to serve the balance of the unexpired term and submit the name of the person to the legislature for confirmation. A person appointed to fill the balance of an unexpired term shall serve on the board from the date of appointment until the earlier of the expiration of the term or the failure of the legislature to confirm the person under AS 39.05.080.

1

2

3

4

5

Western Gulf of Alaska Fishermen

2900 Fritz Cove Road
Juneau, Ak 99801
Tel (907) 723-5257
Email jmchilders@gmail.com

March 14, 2008

Senator Charlie Higgins, Chairman
Senate Resources Committee
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Mail Stop 3100
Juneau, Ak 99801

RE: SB 284

Dear Chairman Higgins and Committee Members:

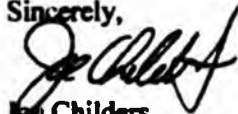
I write to you today on behalf the members of the *Western Gulf of Alaska Fishermen's Association (WGOAF)*. Our association is opposed to SB 284, which seeks to modify the Board of Fisheries membership. This bill is a bad idea and it appears to us that it is being promoted for all the wrong reasons.

The Board of Fisheries must have as its prime directive, the sustainability of all of our fishery resources. We have a very long list of fisheries that need to be managed, including but not limited to, groundfish such as cod, pollock, various rockfishes, flounders, soles, sablefish, halibut, and various crabs, shrimp, and urchins, geoducks, sea cucumbers, herring, eulachon, and of course salmon and several important fresh water species. These resources need active management in every area of the State, from Southeast to the end of the Aleutian Islands and North to the Arctic Ocean. The goal of the Board of Fisheries has always been and should continue to be about sustainable resource management, not about allocation.

Allocation is a luxury that is only possible when there is a large enough sustainable resource available to allocate. If allocation becomes more important than sustainability, the resource will suffer. Most of the rest of the world has chosen allocation over sustainability and as a result they have little or nothing left to allocate.

We oppose SB 284. We support sustainable fisheries management. We believe that if and only if fisheries are sustainably managed, will there be anything left to allocate.

Sincerely,



Joe Childers

Director, *Western Gulf of Alaska Fishermen's Association*

United Cook Inlet Drift Association

43961 K-Beach Road, Suite E • Soldotna, Alaska 99669 • (907) 260-9436 • fax (907) 260-9438 •
ucida@acsalaska.net

Date: March 14, 2008
Addressee: Senator Charlie Huggins
RE: Board of Fisheries Membership – SB 284

oppose

Dear Senator Huggins,

We do not support SB 284 and its proposed designation of two commercial, two sport and three personal use individuals for the Board of Fisheries (BOF).

Commercial fisheries in Alaska that are regulated by the BOF are very broad and complex. Commercial fisheries in Alaska can be grouped into four broad categories: Herring, Groundfish, Shellfish and Salmon. The following briefly describes each category of commercial fishing:

- | | | |
|--|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. Herring – 2007 Statewide | 81,960,000 lbs | \$8,291,865 |
| 2. Groundfish – 2007 | 42,586,904 lbs | \$24,246,774 |
| ➤ includes pollock, cod, sablefish, rockfish, ling cod, atka mackerel, yellowfish sole, flathead sole, rock sole, Greenland turbot, Alaska place and arrowtooth flounder | | |
| 3. Shellfish – 2007 | 65,190,000 lbs | \$132,830,000 |
| ➤ includes parallel fisheries for king crab (5 species), tanner/snow crab, dungeness crab, hair crab, shrimp, hardshell clams, scallops, sea cucumbers, geoducks and sea urchins | | |
| 4. Salmon 2007 | 946,675,000 lbs | \$347,372,000 |
| ➤ Eleven regions, includes king, sockeye, chum, coho and pinks | | |

Commercial Industry totals – 2007:

Herring	81,960,000 lbs	\$ 8,291,865
Groundfish	42,586,904 lbs	\$ 24,246,774
Shellfish	65,190,000 lbs	\$132,830,000
Salmon	946,675,000 lbs	\$347,372,000
	1,136,411,904 lbs	\$512,740,639

CORRECTION

**THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENT(S)
HAVE BEEN REFILMED TO
ASSURE LEGIBILITY OR PAGINATION**



Rev. 6/98

Central Microfilm Services
Department of Education & Early Development
State of Alaska

P. 1
SB 284
oppose

Western Gulf of Alaska Fishermen

2900 Fritz Cove Road
Juneau, Ak 99801
Tel (907) 723-5257
Email jmchilders@gmail.com

March 14, 2008

Senator Charlie Higgins, Chairman
Senate Resources Committee
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Mail Stop 3100
Juneau, Ak 99801

RE: SB 284

Dear Chairman Huggins and Committee Members:

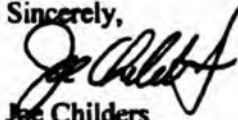
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The Board of Fisheries must have as its prime directive, the sustainability of all of our fishery resources. We have a very long list of fisheries that need to be managed, including but not limited to, groundfish such as cod, pollock, various rockfishes, flounders, soles, sablefish, halibut, and various crabs, shrimp, and urchins, geoducks, sea cucumbers, herring, eulachon, and of course salmon and several important fresh water species. These resources need active management in every area of the State, from Southeast to the end of the Aleutian Islands and North to the Arctic Ocean. The goal of the Board of Fisheries has always been and should continue to be about sustainable resource management, not about allocation.

Allocation is a luxury that is only possible when there is a large enough sustainable resource available to allocate. If allocation becomes more important than sustainability, the resource will suffer. Most of the rest of the world has chosen allocation over sustainability and as a result they have little or nothing left to allocate.

We oppose SB 284. We support sustainable fisheries management. We believe that if and only if fisheries are sustainably managed, will there be anything left to allocate.

Sincerely,



Joe Childers

Director, *Western Gulf of Alaska Fishermen's Association*

Approved to file
3-15-08

Western Gulf of Alaska Fishermen

1000 Fritz (over Road)
Juneau, AK 99801
Tel (907) 523-2227
Email jchilders@gmail.com

March 14, 2008

Senator Curtis Higgins, Chairman
Senate Fisheries Committee
Alaska State Capitol
State Capitol Mail Stop 110
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: SB 284

Dear Chairman Higgins and Committee Members:

I write to you today on behalf of the members of the Western Gulf of Alaska Fishermen's Association (WGAFA). Our organization is opposed to SB 284 which would amend the Board of Fisheries membership. This bill is a bad idea and it appears to us that it is being promoted for all the wrong reasons.

The Board of Fisheries is the primary regulatory agency for the state's fisheries. It is responsible for setting regulations that will ensure the long-term sustainability of our fisheries. The Board is composed of representatives from the fishing industry, academia, and the general public. It is important that the Board be composed of individuals who are knowledgeable about fisheries and who are committed to the long-term health of our fisheries. SB 284 would remove several individuals from the Board and replace them with individuals who are not knowledgeable about fisheries and who are not committed to the long-term health of our fisheries. This would be a significant step back for our industry and for the state.

Although it is widely known that our fisheries are in a state of decline, it is important that we take steps to ensure their long-term sustainability. This requires a Board of Fisheries that is composed of individuals who are knowledgeable about fisheries and who are committed to the long-term health of our fisheries. SB 284 would result in a Board that is not knowledgeable about fisheries and is not committed to the long-term health of our fisheries. This would be a significant step back for our industry and for the state.

We urge you to oppose SB 284. We support sustainable fisheries and we support the Board of Fisheries. We urge you to oppose SB 284 and to support the Board of Fisheries.

Joe Childers

Director, Western Gulf of Alaska Fishermen's Association

United Cook Inlet Drift Association

43961 K-Beach Road, Suite E • Soldotna, Alaska 99669 • (907) 260-9436 • fax (907) 260-9438 •
ucida@acsalaska.net

Date: March 14, 2008
 Addressee: Senator Charlie Huggins
 RE: Board of Fisheries Membership – SB 284

oppose

Dear Senator Huggins,

We do not support SB 284 and its proposed designation of two commercial, two sport and three personal use individuals for the Board of Fisheries (BOF).

Commercial fisheries in Alaska that are regulated by the BOF are very broad and complex. Commercial fisheries in Alaska can be grouped into four broad categories: Herring, Groundfish, Shellfish and Salmon. The following briefly describes each category of commercial fishing:

- | | | |
|--|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. Herring – 2007 Statewide | 81,960,000 lbs | \$8,291,865 |
| 2. Groundfish – 2007 | 42,586,904 lbs | \$24,246,774 |
| > includes pollock, cod, sablefish, rockfish, ling cod, atka mackerel, yellowfish sole, flathead sole, rock sole, Greenland turbot, Alaska place and arrowtooth flounder | | |
| 3. Shellfish – 2007 | 65,190,000 lbs | \$132,830,000 |
| > includes parallel fisheries for king crab (5 species), tanner/snow crab, dungeness crab, hair crab, shrimp, hardshell clams, scallops, sea cucumbers, geoducks and sea urchins | | |
| 4. Salmon 2007 | 946,675,000 lbs | \$347,372,000 |
| > Eleven regions, includes king, sockeye, chum, coho and pinks | | |

Commercial Industry totals – 2007:

Herring	81,960,000 lbs	\$ 8,291,865
Groundfish	42,586,904 lbs	\$ 24,246,774
Shellfish	65,190,000 lbs	\$132,830,000
Salmon	946,675,000 lbs	\$347,372,000
	1,136,411,904 lbs	\$512,740,639

Commercial fisheries in Alaska harvest 1.136 billion pounds representing over 50 species throughout the coastal communities of Alaska.

We seriously disagree with SB 284 that would only have (2) two commercially designated seats. We seriously disagree that (3) three personal use BOF designated members would be capable of adequately addressing the complicated regulatory issues in the entire scope of commercial fisheries in Alaska.

Commercial fishing is the economic, social and subsistence base of much of Alaska. To restructure the BOF as proposed in SB 284 is not only unnecessary but will put at risk significant economies, individuals and fellow Alaskans. Designating seats on the BOF removes the requirement that all BOF members are responsible for all resource users and gear types. I just don't know how designating BOF seats will help our Alaskan society. SB 284 is poor public law and policy and if it becomes law it deserves a veto.

Sincerely,

Original Signed

Roland Maw, PhD
UCIDA Executive Director

ams

cc: Senator Con Bundy
Senator John Cowdery
Senator Bettye Davis
Senator Fred Dyson
Senator Johnny Ellis
Senator Kim Elton
Senator Hollis French
Senator Lyman Hoffman
Senator Albert Kookish
Senator Donald Olsen
Senator Gene Therriault
Senator Joe Thomas
Senator Gary Wilken

Jeremiah Campbell
Larry Edfelt
Bonnie Williams
John Jensen
Mel Morris
Vince Webster
Howard Delo
UFA

Approved to
File 3-15-08

The total fishery harvest is 250 billion pounds representing over 50 species throughout the state.

We seriously disagree with the fact that we will not have two commercially designated areas. We seriously disagree that (3) there is no need for use of designated areas would be capable of adequately addressing the complicated regulatory issues in the entire scope of commercial fisheries in Alaska.

Commercial fishing is the economic, social and cultural backbone of Alaska. The restructuring the HOF as proposed in 2002 is not only unnecessary but will put at risk significant economic individuals and jobs in Alaska. The restructuring on the HOF removes the requirement to all BCF members responsible for the resource users and gear types. I just don't know how designating HOF areas will help on Alaska fishing. 2002 was a great public law and we will continue to work with the state.

Sincerely,

Original signed

Roland Maw, PhD
UCIDA Executive Director

- Senator John Carver
- Senator Mark Beggs
- Senator Fred Meyer
- Senator John Egan
- Senator Kim Eason
- Senator Holla French
- Senator Alan Patton
- Senator Albert Kook
- Senator Donald Olson
- Senator Gene Thomas
- Senator Joe Thomas
- Senator Car Wilton

**United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters**

P.O. Box 23378, Ketchikan, AK 99901 Phone & Fax (907) 247-2471 Email: usag@kpunet.net

March 13, 2008

Senator Charlie Huggins, Chairman
Senate Resources Committee
State Capitol, Mail Stop 3100
Juneau, AK 99801

Sent Via Fax to: 907-465-3265

Dear Senator Huggins,

The United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters (USAG) is an association of about 150 small business owners who catch salmon by drift gillnetting in Southeast Alaska and market salmon throughout the United States. Many of our members also participate in other fisheries such as crab, shrimp, dive and longline. USAG has been a strong supporter of the Board of Fisheries (BoF) and the procedures under which it operates. We believe one of the main reasons that Alaska is the model for good fisheries management throughout the United States is due to the Board of Fisheries and the public participation that its established procedures encourage. We believe the current CS SB 284 would result in many well qualified Alaskans becoming ineligible to serve on the BoF and therefore oppose this legislation.

The BoF is a statewide body with representation from all parts of Alaska that must make many controversial decisions concerning the variety of issues it deals with. Making changes to the eligibility standards for participation in this system which has proven over the years to give Alaska the finest fisheries resource management in the nation makes no sense to us. To exclude knowledgeable and experienced Alaskans who depend on our seafood resources for their livelihood or recreation is unacceptable. We also do not support calls for a "professional" BoF believing instead that our current layman board has demonstrated its ability to achieve the highest level of fisheries management.

The current BoF system has worked and continues to work. We do not think it should be changed.

Yours truly,

Kenneth Duckett
Executive Director

Handwritten: 80-513
Handwritten: 4/10 of 2008



United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters

March 13, 2008

Senator Charis Huggins, Chairman
Senate Resources Committee
State Capitol, Mail Stop 3103
Juneau AK 99801
Phone: 907-485-3232 Fax: 907-485-3232

Dear Senator Huggins:

The United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters (USAG) is an association of about 150 small business owners who catch salmon by drift gillnetting in Southeast Alaska and market salmon throughout the United States. Many of our members also participate in other fisheries such as crab, shrimp, dive and longline. USAG has been a strong supporter of the Board of Fisheries (BoF) and the procedures under which it operates. We believe one of the main reasons that Alaska is the market for good fisheries management throughout the United States is due to the Board of Fisheries and the public participation process established by Governor Wickersham. We believe the current BoF is the best BoF in the state and many well qualified Alaska fishermen are currently on the BoF. We support the BoF in this legislative

The BoF is a statewide body with jurisdiction over all fisheries and wildlife management. Many controversial decisions have been made in the past which have caused the citizens to the difficulty of participation in the process which will prevent over the years to give Alaska the highest level of resource management in the nation makes no sense to us. To achieve immediate and sustained economic development and good resource management for their livelihood or recreation is unacceptable. We do not support any legislation that would prevent the BoF from doing what it does best. We demonstrated its ability to achieve the highest level of fisheries management.

The current BoF system has worked and continues to work. We do not think a change is needed.

Yours truly,

Kenneth Dubois
Executive Director

- ADP & G - will have no opinion

= While lot of angry fishermen will
react

Democracy w/7 Bury
commercial

Send to all members
L10 3-11-08



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

March 11, 2008

Senator Charlie Huggins, Chairman
Senate Resources Committee
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Mail Stop 3100
Juneau AK 99801

RE: Opposition to SB 284 regarding Board of Fisheries

Dear Senator Huggins and Committee Members,

The United Fishermen of Alaska (UFA) Board of Directors recently met and discussed Senate Bill 284, and a new committee substitute that may be introduced. Both versions feature designated seats for Sport, Commercial, and Personal use / Subsistence users on the Board of Fisheries.

UFA opposes SB 284 and CSSB 284, and feels that these bills would unduly restrict interested and qualified members whose interests cross over between these categories from serving. Many commercial fishermen engage in charter operations, and many sport guides work part time as crew in commercial fisheries.

It is not clear what problem with the Board of Fisheries that the bill is intended to solve, but we do not feel that designation of members through these assigned seats will help ensure that board decisions are made fairly. UFA believes that such strict designations will make it even more difficult to find qualified individuals to serve on the board. We fear that such designated seats would only serve to add further divisiveness to the Board of Fisheries process.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mark Vinsel
Executive Director

UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA



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(907) 286-2320
(907) 487-2348 FAX
E-MAIL: ufa@alaska.net
WWW.UFA.ORG

March 11, 2008

Senator Charlie Huggins, Chairman
Senate Resources Committee
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Mail Stop 1100
Juneau AK 99801

RE: Opposition to SB 284 regarding Board of Fisheries

Info - Not for packets

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more difficult to find qualified individuals to serve on the Board of Fisheries
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Dear Senator Huggins and

The United Fishermen of
Senate Bill 284 and a
Senate designated seat
Board of Fisheries

IFA opposes SB 284 and
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It is not clear what prop
we do not feel that designa
board decisions are made fairly. IFA believes that such a designa
more difficult to find qualified individuals to serve on the Board of Fisheries

designated seats would only serve to add further to the process

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely,

Mark Vinsel
Executive Director