

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 13

To the Honorable Douglas McKay, Secretary of the Interior; to the Honorable John L. Farley, Director, Fish and Wildlife Service; and to the Honorable E. L. Bartlett, Delegate to Congress from Alaska:

Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, in Twenty-second Regular Session assembled, respectfully submits that:

WHEREAS, the catch of herring in Southeastern Alaska has been subnormal since 1938, except for a mild resurgence in the period 1945-1947, despite an intensive desire and effort on the part of the reduction industry to achieve profitable volume; and

WHEREAS, virtually all known herring grounds in Southeastern Alaska have ceased to be productive in recent years and the species has become generally scarce; and

WHEREAS, herring seiners have extended their fishing range to new and unusual grounds and have been unsuccessful, with but one exception, in locating adequate supplies anywhere in Southeastern Alaska during the normal, summer operating season; and

WHEREAS, the Fish and Wildlife Service has conducted winter exploratory fishing for herring with its own research vessel JOHN N. COBB and, by unusual relaxation

of the regulations, has permitted and encouraged commercial search by fishing vessels; and

WHEREAS, this testing of winter potentialities has failed to locate any substantial supply; and

WHEREAS, there are numerous examples of seiners having annihilated local populations of herring through over-intensive fishing, populations which have never recovered sufficiently to again contribute to support of the industry; and

WHEREAS, on many occasions fishing disturbance has dissipated schools on regular feeding grounds, and

WHEREAS, herring is one of the most important food species for king and coho salmon, possibly necessary to sustain their volume and certainly necessary to attract and hold them on accessible trolling grounds where salmon fishermen can catch them; and

WHEREAS, herring, as an industry, contributes virtually nothing to the economy of Alaska while salmon is the Territory's principal sustaining resource; and

WHEREAS, there is widespread apprehension that herring may be prevented or unduly delayed in regaining its status as a commercially significant natural resource with consequent dislocation and diminu-

tion of the important salmon trolling industry; and

WHEREAS, the well-advised restriction applied during 1954 in the form of a catch quota of 50,000 bbls. is being prematurely and dangerously relaxed by doubling the allowable limit for 1955;

NOW THEREFORE, your Memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, in Twenty-second

Regular Session assembled, respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service return to and maintain the 50,000 bbl. allowable annual take of herring for reduction purposes in Southeastern Alaska until such time as the supply recovers its previous and natural abundance.

And your Memorialist will ever pray.

Passed by the Senate March 9, 1955

Passed by the House March 18, 1955

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 14

To the Honorable Dwight D. Eisenhower, President of the United States; the Secretary of the Interior; the Secretary of Commerce; the Congress of the United States; the Governor of Alaska; the Auditor of Alaska; to all Territorial Department Heads and to the Honorable E. L. Bartlett, Delegate to Congress from Alaska:

Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, in Twenty-Second Session assembled, respectfully represents that:

WHEREAS, it is the avowed policy and firm purpose of federal and territorial agencies to promote and sustain the development of

Alaska through the encouragement of private investment and enterprise; and

WHEREAS, the Twenty-Second Session of the Legislature of Alaska, by virtue of its passage of Senate Joint Memorial No. 7 opposing government competition with private enterprise has forthrightly declared its intention to inspire and protect private ventures; and

WHEREAS, owners, operators and lessees of taxicabs, rental vehicles, drive-yourself cars, drayage, transfer, parcel delivery, contract hauling and similar types of vehicles pay all prevailing fees imposed by all taxing agencies for registration, licensing and operation