

# STATE OF ALASKA

## THE LEGISLATURE

1977

Source

Legislative  
Resolve No.

HJR 16

19



Relating to the International Convention for the High Seas Fisheries of the North Pacific Ocean.

### BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

WHEREAS the interception of Alaska salmon by the Japanese on the high seas has long been of concern to the United States and especially to Alaskans; and

WHEREAS this salmon interception resulted in the development in 1952 of the tripartite International North Pacific Fisheries Convention (INPFC), the primary purpose of which was to ensure the maximum sustained productivity of the fishery resources of the North Pacific Ocean, with special emphasis on protection of salmon of North American origin; and

WHEREAS INPFC, while helpful in some respects, has failed to eliminate the interception of salmon of Alaskan origin inasmuch as, on the average, four million salmon of Western Alaskan origin have been and are still being harvested west of the abstention line of 175 degrees West longitude; and

WHEREAS INPFC negotiations have protected salmon only partially and the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976 (P.L. 94-265) states that the United States has exclusive management authority for all anadromous species originating in the United States throughout their migratory range; and

WHEREAS P.L. 94-265 clearly provides for the prompt re-negotiation of any fishery treaty in effect within the fishery conservation zone to bring that treaty into conformance with the provisions of P.L. 94-265; and

WHEREAS INPFC does not provide the fishery management mandated by our recently enacted extended jurisdiction law; and

WHEREAS the Alaska State Legislature considers it to be of the utmost importance that INPFC be promptly renegotiated in the interest of the conservation of Alaska salmon which presently are vulnerable to the Japanese high seas salmon net fishery both inside and outside the 200-mile fishery conservation zone;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature requests the U. S. Department of State to promptly initiate the renegotiation of the terms of the International Convention for the High Seas Fisheries of the North Pacific Ocean (INPFC); and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the U. S. Department of State involve to the maximum extent possible the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, the U. S. Section of INPFC, and the Alaska Board of Fisheries in the development of the United States position and goals regarding the future of INPFC.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Cyrus Vance, Secretary of the U. S. Department of State, the Honorable Juanita Kreps, Secretary of the U. S. Department of Commerce; the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress; the Honorable Jay S. Hammond, Governor of Alaska; and to Mr. Elmer Rasmuson, Chairman of the International North Pacific Fisheries Convention and Chairman of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council.