

STATE OF ALASKA  
THE LEGISLATURE

1993

Source  
HJR 41

Legislative  
Resolve No.  
14



Relating to consideration of individual fishery quota shares block proposals by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council.

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

**WHEREAS** the North Pacific Fishery Management Council has recently approved an individual fishery quota (IFQ) share program for the North Pacific and Bering Sea halibut and sablefish fisheries; and

**WHEREAS** the IFQ program for the halibut and sablefish fisheries is intended to provide long-term sustainable harvests of these resources; and

**WHEREAS** Alaska coastal communities depend on the ability to harvest marine resources and must be beneficiaries of the IFQ program; and

**WHEREAS** residents of Alaska have expressed concern that the IFQ program approved by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council allows consolidation of IFQ shares and may reduce the size of the fishing fleet which could in turn reduce the benefits of the IFQ program to Alaska fishermen, Alaska coastal communities, and the state as a whole; and

**WHEREAS** the North Pacific Fishery Management Council has a responsibility to

respond to the concerns that have arisen regarding consolidation of IFQ shares; and

**WHEREAS** several proposals regarding transfers of blocks of IFQ shares have been developed and are before the North Pacific Fishery Management Council for its consideration; and

**WHEREAS** these block proposals would limit the amount of consolidation that could occur under the IFQ program, and thereby help to maintain the present diversity of the longline fishing fleet, to provide an entry level fishery, and to ensure that the benefits of the IFQ program accrue to Alaska fishermen, processors, and coastal communities;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully urges the North Pacific Fishery Management Council to address the concerns expressed by Alaska residents regarding consolidation of IFQ shares by amending the IFQ program for the halibut and sablefish fisheries to include a block proposal system.

**COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the United States; the Honorable Ronald H. Brown, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Commerce; the Honorable Leon E. Pannetta, Director of the Office of Management and Budget; the Honorable Diana Josephson, Acting Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce; the Honorable Nancy Foster, Acting Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce; the Honorable Richard Lauber, Chair of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.