Introduced by: Scalzi,

Drathman, Brown, Glick

Date:

03/15/94

Action: Vote: Adopted as Amended Unanimous

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH RESOLUTION 94-025

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING AFFIRMATIVE ACTION BY THE BOARD OF FISH TO PROVIDE AN IMMEDIATE AND EFFECTIVE SOLUTION TO THE GROWING PROBLEM OF INTERCEPTION OF COOK INLET SALMON BY KODIAK FISHERMEN

- WHEREAS, the commercial salmon fishing and processing industry is a key component of the economic backbone of Kenai Peninsula communities; and
- WHEREAS, the commercial salmon fishing and processing industry provides significant year-round employment opportunities for Kenai Peninsula resident; and
- WHEREAS, Kenai Peninsula Borough municipalities receive and depend on vital revenues from raw fish taxes paid on salmon caught and landed in Cook Inlet ports; and
- WHEREAS, total revenues lost by Kenai Peninsula communities from harvesting, primary processing, adding value, employment, aquaculture taxes and raw fish taxes during the 1992 salmon season due to interception of Cook Inlet bound sockeyes by the Kodiak fleet are estimated to have been in excess of 20 million dollars; and
- WHEREAS, the Alaska Board of Fish has established policy that explicitly states that mixedstock salmon fisheries shall be managed to minimize interception of non-local stocks; and
- WHEREAS, over the past decade, the Kodiak salmon purse seine fishery has evolved from one that previously harvested an incidental catch of Cook Inlet salmon to one that is clearly an efficient, sophisticated and targeted fishery that is now harvesting a significant portion of the entire Cook Inlet salmon runs; and
- WHEREAS, the Alaska Board of Fish has the ultimate authority and responsibility to provide fair and effective solutions to the growing Kodiak salmon interception problem;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY:

- SECTION 1. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly opposes the Kodiak salmon interception fishery and hereby appeals to the Alaska Board of Fish to take immediate remedial action to curtail and rollback the fishery to traditional areas and historic harvest levels that will protect salmon that originate from the watersheds of Cook Inlet.
- SECTION 2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Walter J. Hickel; Senators Fred Zharoff, Suzanne Little, Judith Salo, Georgianna Lincoln; Representatives Cliff Davidson, Gail Phillips, Gary Davis, Mike Navarre, Irene Nicholia; Commissioner Carl Rosier, Alaska Department of Fish and Game; and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Board of Fisheries.

ADOPTED BY THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY THIS 15+ DAY OF March, 1994.

Betty J. Slick, Assembly President

ATTEST:

Gaye J. Vaughan, Borough Clerk