

Presented by: The Manager
Introduced: 10/25/2004
Drafted by: J.W. Hartle

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Serial No. 2287

A Resolution Expressing Assembly Opposition to an Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation Proposal to Allow Mixing Zones in Salmon and Other Fish-bearing Streams.

WHEREAS, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) has proposed new regulations that will allow mixing zones in salmon and other fish-bearing streams; and

WHEREAS, a mixing zone occurs when wastewater mixes with a water body and may create pollution levels that fail to meet the goals of the Clean Water Act; and

WHEREAS, current state water quality regulation 18 AAC 70 became effective in November, 1997, and contains a prohibition against mixing zones in anadromous (migrating) or resident fish spawning areas; and

WHEREAS, in an ADEC survey, 20 of 21 states that allow mixing zones responded that fish consumption warnings were issued following routine monitoring; and

WHEREAS, Alaska wild salmon are renowned worldwide for being pure and wholesome; and

WHEREAS, farmed salmon have created significant social and economic dislocation for Alaska fishermen; and

WHEREAS, many Alaska salmon marketing efforts hinge on consumer preference for fish raised and harvested in clean, pristine waters; and

WHEREAS, Alaska salmon fishing supports families and communities throughout the state, and forms part of the cultural fabric that makes Alaska unique; and

WHEREAS, ADEC has proposed rule changes which will increase pollution in salmon streams; and

WHEREAS, salmon health, salmon habitat, and salmon marketing may suffer under the ADEC proposal; and

WHEREAS, the Assembly of the Kenai Peninsula Borough, City Council of the City of Soldotna, City Council of the City of Petersburg, and the City Council of the City of Homer, have adopted resolutions expressing their opposition to the proposed regulatory change; and

WHEREAS, the public commenting period to the ADEC has been extended until November 1, 2004.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA:

Section 1. That the Assembly hereby expresses its opposition to the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation's proposal to allow increased pollution in salmon streams by implementing its proposed mixing zone regulations.

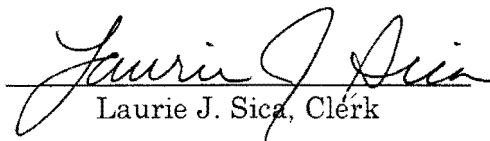
Section 2. That copies of this resolution shall be provided to Governor Frank Murkowski; Ernesta Ballard, Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation; Senator Kim Elton; and Representatives Beth Kertula and Bruce Weyhrauch.

Section 3. Effective Date. This resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

Adopted this 25th day of October, 2004.


Bruce Botelho, Mayor

Attest:


Laurie J. Sica, Clerk