

RESOLUTION 24-24

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALEUTIANS EAST BOROUGH ASSEMBLY THANKING THE ALASKA DELEGATION AND NOTABLY SENATOR SULLIVAN FOR SUCCESSFUL EFFORTS TO CLOSE THE RUSSIAN SEAFOOD BAN LOOPHOLE

WHEREAS, Senators Sullivan and Murkowski introduced legislation in February 2022, S.3614, that would impose a ban on the importation of Russian caught seafood into the United States, and

WHEREAS, President Biden signed Executive Order (EO)14068 in March 2022 that prohibited directly importing fish and seafood of Russian origin into the United States, and

WHEREAS, Russian caught seafood that has subsequently been processed in China has continued to be imported and sold in the United States despite the importation ban, and

WHEREAS, the continued importation of Russian-caught seafood into the United States is an unfair trade imbalance that has damaged Alaska seafood markets resulting in lower prices paid to fishermen, and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Congressional Delegation, Senators Sullivan and Murkowski and Representative Peltola introduced legislation in June 2023, S.2011 in the Senate and H.R.4165 in the House, the *United States-Russian Federation Seafood Reciprocity Act of 2023* that would impose a comprehensive ban on Russian caught seafood into the United States, including Russia-caught seafood first processed in China, and

WHEREAS, Senator Sullivan has repeatedly asked the Department of Treasury to reinterpret the sanctions in EO 14068 to include all Russian-caught seafood, no matter where processed, and

WHEREAS, Representative Peltola and 37 other members of Congress sent a letter to President Biden December 14, 2023 urging him to close the loophole allowing Russian seafood processed in China to be imported into the United States, and

WHEREAS, Senator Sullivan gave an impassioned speech on the Senate floor December 20th again urging his colleagues to pass S.2011, and

WHEREAS, on December 22, 2023 President Biden signed an amendment to EO 14068 that specifically bans the importation of Russian-origin seafood that has transited through a third country, into the United States, and

WHEREAS, Senator Murkowski applauded the EO amendment and commended Senator Sullivan's relentless efforts on this issue, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Treasury has issued a determination that salmon, cod, pollock and crab are subject to the importation ban regardless of where processed, and

WHEREAS, the species named by the Treasury Department are species of significant importance to fishermen and communities of the Aleutians East Borough, and

WHEREAS, the implementation of the amendment to EO 14068, to close the loophole and ban importation of all Russian seafood processed in China, is expected to help improve US seafood markets for Alaska fishermen and fishing communities.

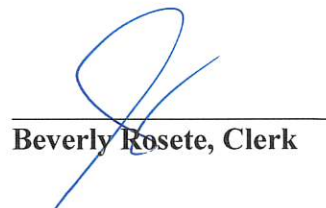
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Aleutians East Borough Assembly hereby thanks the Alaska Congressional Delegation for their continued support of Alaska fisheries and fishing communities, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Aleutians East Borough Assembly especially thanks Senator Dan Sullivan for his leadership, determination and advocacy resulting in this action to close the Russian seafood processed in China loophole, that will help sustain fishing communities in the Aleutians East Borough into the future.

Approved and Adopted this 11th day of January 2024.



Alvin D. Osterback, Mayor



Beverly Rosete, Clerk