

RESOLUTION 27-06

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALEUTIANS EAST BOROUGH ASSEMBLY IN SUPPORT OF SCIENCE-BASED FISHERY MANAGEMENT TO FOSTER SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES AND ALASKA FISHING COMMUNITIES.

WHEREAS, the Aleutians East Borough includes the fishing communities of Akutan, False Pass, Cold Bay, Nelson Lagoon Port Moller, King Cove and Sand Point, that rely on harvesting and onshore processing of seafood from the waters of the Western Gulf of Alaska and the Bering Sea that surround us, and

WHEREAS, our region that boasts some of the top fishing ports in the nation, has been commercially producing some of the world's best seafood for over 100 years, and the Aleut people have been stewards of the resource for millennia, and

WHEREAS, the economic health of Southwest Alaska is directly tied to the continued sustainability of Alaska's fisheries and the marine, fuel, and supply chain systems that leverage the economy of scale from our fisheries to serve our communities, and

WHEREAS, public debate regarding Alaska fisheries increasingly includes proposals that could significantly affect fishing families, seafood workers, processors, local governments, Alaska Native communities, and coastal economies, often without full consideration of the economic, social, and cultural consequences of such action, and

WHEREAS, the long-term success of Alaska's fisheries depends upon management systems that continuously improve through rigorous scientific research, stock assessment, ecosystem monitoring, transparency, accountability, and meaningful engagement with the communities most directly affected by management decisions, and

WHEREAS, Southwest Alaska communities possess generations of local knowledge and practical experience that complement scientific research and contribute to effective stewardship of Alaska's marine resources.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Aleutians East Borough Assembly reaffirms our support for fisheries management that is science-based, adaptive, transparent, accountable, inclusive, and committed to continuous improvement as environmental, economic, and social conditions evolve, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that management decisions should consider both biological sustainability and the economic and social impacts on fishing families, seafood workers, processors, Alaska Native communities, local governments, and the broader statewide economy supported by Alaska fisheries, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that state and federal fisheries policies should recognize the inseparable relationship between healthy fish stocks and healthy fishing communities and should be developed in partnership with the communities whose economies, cultures, and futures depend upon sustainable fisheries, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Alaska's policymakers and management agencies should prioritize investments in fisheries research, stock assessment, climate and ecosystem science, seafood market development, workforce development, and transportation and infrastructure systems that support sustainable fisheries and resilient coastal communities, and

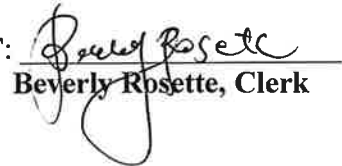
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the communities of the Aleutians East Borough call upon all candidates for public office, policymakers, advocacy organizations, and Alaskans to engage in informed, respectful, and fact-based dialogue regarding the future of Alaska fisheries and to carefully consider the impacts of proposed policies on the communities, workers, families, and businesses that depend upon continued access to sustainably managed fisheries resources, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that meaningful public discussion about Alaska fisheries should be grounded in science, informed by the experiences of fishing communities, and focused on solutions that sustain both marine resources and the people who depend upon them, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor of Alaska, members of the Alaska Legislature, Alaska's Congressional Delegation, the Alaska Board of Fisheries, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference, and all candidates for statewide and federal office in Alaska.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Aleutians East Borough Assembly on this 8th day of July 2026.


Alvin D. Osterback, Mayor

ATTEST: 
Beverly Rosette, Clerk