

CLERK'S OFFICE

APPROVED

Date: 7-24-01

Submitted by: Assemblymember TREMAINE

Prepared by: Assembly Office

For reading: July 24, 2001

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

AR NO. 2001- 222

A RESOLUTION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE URGING MAINTENANCE OF THE
CURRENT PROVEN MANAGEMENT POLICY FOR GROUND FISHERIES IN THE NORTH
PACIFIC (ALTERNATIVE 1)

WHEREAS, the current management system, as described in the draft programmatic Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) as Alternative 1, is the only alternative that will protect fishing communities; and

WHEREAS, Anchorage is the largest fishing community in the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the current management system (Alternative 1), as governed by the Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act and other oversight procedures, is a balanced approach to ecosystem preservation and economics, including sustained participation of fishing communities; and

WHEREAS, the other SEIS alternatives do not maintain this balance; and

WHEREAS, the current management system (Alternative 1) embodies an ecosystem approach to fisheries management; it uses the best available scientific information, encourages comment from all interested parties, and weighs management decisions based on a variety of factors; and

WHEREAS, most alternatives to the current groundfish management system focus on mitigating perceived or hypothetical environmental impacts, but do so without proven scientific knowledge and at the expense of the fishing industry; and

WHEREAS, alternatives that shorten fishing seasons, unduly decrease allowable catch limits, or close near shore areas put small boats and crews at greater risk by forcing them further offshore in poor weather conditions; and

WHEREAS, the current management system is working - it is respected worldwide as an example of successful sustainable fisheries; and

WHEREAS, fishing restrictions and policy direction proposed under most of the alternatives would negatively impact fishing communities and, in some cases, threaten their very survival.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Municipality of Anchorage supports Alternative 1, the current groundfish management system as the preferred alternative.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 24th day of July, 2001

ATTEST:

Chair

Lepine Ferguson
Municipal Clerk