

Submitted by: Assembly Vice-Chair Coffey
For reading November 22, 2005

CLERK'S OFFICE

APPROVED

Date: 11-22-05

Anchorage, Alaska
AR 2005-303

**A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY IN OPPOSITION TO
THE PROPOSED HALIBUT CHARTER IFQ PROPOSAL.**

THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES:

WHEREAS, there are numerous residents of Anchorage, Alaska who fish for halibut in Cook Inlet; and

WHEREAS, many of the tourists and visitors who come to Anchorage, come for the express purpose of fishing for salmon and halibut in Cook Inlet; and

WHEREAS, access to the Cook Inlet halibut fishery is frequently done by charter boats operating out of towns on the Kenai Peninsula and other towns in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, there is a proposal pending before the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council (NPFMC) to award quota shares (Individual Fishing Quotas) to charter operators based on their participation in the charter halibut fisheries prior to 2001; and

WHEREAS, under the current proposal approximately, 40% of the current charter operators would not receive an allocation; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game has stated its opposition to this proposal and will use its position on the NPFMC argue against the IFQ proposal for charter operators; and

WHEREAS, many of the towns where the charter industry is a substantial economic force and other local and statewide fisheries and tourism organizations have spoken out against the current proposal by passing resolutions against the IFQ proposal for charter operators; and

WHEREAS, the towns which have passed resolutions include Homer, Soldotna, Whittier, Valdez, Kodiak, Gustavus, Houston, Sitka and others; and

WHEREAS, the organizations who have passed resolutions include the Southeast Charter boat Association, the Alaska Sport fishing Association, the Alaska Charter Association, the Anchorage Advisory Board to ADF&G, the Kenai River Sport fishing Association, the Alaska Outdoor Council, the Cook Inlet Sport fishing Caucus and the Kodiak Convention and Visitors Bureau; and

1 WHEREAS, if the IFQ proposal is adopted, it is likely that the cost of chartering a halibut
2 boat to fish for halibut in Cook Inlet will increase substantially;

3
4 NOW THEREFORE, the Anchorage Assembly resolves as follows:

5
6 1) The Assembly supports the position of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in its opposition
7 to the proposal.

8
9 2) The Assembly supports the resolutions of the other towns in Alaska where charter boat
10 operations are substantial which has spoken out against this proposal.

11
12 3) The Assembly supports the resolutions of the fishing and tourism associations throughout the
13 State of Alaska in their opposition to this proposal.

14
15 4) The Assembly urges the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council not to adopt the proposal
16 for Individual Fishing Quotas for halibut charter boat operators.

17
18
19 PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 22nd day of
20 November, 2005.

21
22
23 Anna L. Fairclough
24 Chair

25
26
27 ATTEST:

28
29 Barbara E. Gement
30
31 Municipal Clerk