

Introduced by: Mayor
Date: June 15 1982
Vote: 13 Yes, 1 No
Action: Adopted

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

RESOLUTION 82-108

OPPOSING THE PROPOSED SHARE-QUOTA SYSTEM OF ALLOCATION OF FISHERIES RESOURCES, AND IN PARTICULAR, THE PROPOSED HALIBUT SHARE-QUOTA SYSTEM.

WHEREAS, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council on March 25, 1982 suggested that a moratorium be imposed immediately on new entrants to the Alaska halibut fishery, and recommended that a share-quota system of allocation of the fishery be prepared for the 1983 season; and

WHEREAS, the proposed share system will allocate permanent fishing shares consisting of a fixed percentage of the halibut resource to individual fishermen based on a yet to be determined formula, but it has been suggested to limit the halibut taking to only those fishermen who engaged in the halibut fishery the past three years and to allow them only their average take of the past three years; and

WHEREAS, it appears inevitable that these share will concentrate to fewer and fewer people, theoretically as few as 50 if two percent is used as the maximum percentage allowed per person; and

WHEREAS, this halibut share-quota system could be used as a precedent and prototype for other Alaskan fisheries by state and federal fishery managers and such a system may concentrate the increasing wealth of our fisheries into fewer and fewer hands, creating great inequities of opportunity in our fishing communities; and

WHEREAS, Alaska fishery managers already have an adequate variety of regulatory tools, such as harvest levels, sex and size limits, gear restrictions, area closures, et cetera; and

WHEREAS, the idea of permanently turning over the ownership of our public resource through a share-quota method of allocation is contrary to the nature of our fishing industry;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:

Section 1. That the Borough is opposed to the share-quota system of allocation of fisheries resources in Alaska, and particularly the proposed halibut share-quota system.

Section 2. That the Clerk shall serve copies of this resolution upon The President, Ronald Reagan, upon The Honorable Jay S. Hammond, Governor of Alaska, upon The Honorable Terry Miller, Lieutenant Governor of Alaska, upon The Honorables Ted Stevens, Frank H. Murkowski and Edward M. Kennedy, U.S. Senators, upon The Honorables Don Young, John B. Breaux and Gerry E. Studds, U.S. Representatives, upon Malcolm Baldrige, Secretary U.S. Department of Commerce, upon the International Pacific Halibut Commission, the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, North Pacific Fishery Management Council, Clem Tillion, Chairman National Marine Fisheries Service, Alaska Legislature, Senators & Representatives and upon all Alaska cities and boroughs.

Section 3. That this resolution takes effect immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH ON THIS 15 DAY OF June, 1982.


John C. Davis, Assembly President

ATTEST:


Borough Clerk