

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.

2011 ANNUAL CONVENTION

RESOLUTION 11-19

TITLE: CALLING FOR AFN TO ADVOCATE FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE 2013 RE-AUTHORIZATION OF THE MAGNUSON-STEVENSON FISHERY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACT

WHEREAS: The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) is federal legislation that dictates and governs fisheries off the coast of the United States from three nautical miles to two hundred nautical miles; and

WHEREAS: The fisheries and marine resources off the coast and along the river systems of the United States are important sources of nutrition, cultural heritage, subsistence and small commercial economy for federally recognized tribes; and

WHEREAS: The fisheries off the coast of the United States are also important and contribute to the Nation's economy by providing employment in industrial commercial, commercial and sport fishing; and

WHEREAS: The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act is up for re-authorization in 2013; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates to the 2011 Convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives, that AFN engage in the reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act during the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that AFN seek to include provisions in the reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act that:

- Set in place stringent conflict of interest policies for Council members;
- Require tribal consultation on issues affecting tribal members for both the regional councils and the National Marine Fisheries Services;
- Increase representation of the federally recognized tribes by authorizing voting seats for the tribes in Alaska on the North Pacific Council. Apply the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App 2) to the Councils, and the Council coordination committee established under the subsection (1), and to the scientific and statistical committees or other committees or advisory panels established under subsection (G); and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the membership of AFN authorizes staff of AFN to work with non-governmental organizations, the United States Congress and the White House to pursue the amendments to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act as described in this resolution.

**SUBMITTED BY:** NATIVE VILLAGE OF UNALAKLEET, ASSOCIATION OF VILLAGE COUNCIL PRESIDENTS

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** DO PASS

**CONVENTION ACTION:**