March 1, 2017

Representative Neal Foster, Co-Chair
Representative Paul Seaton, Co-Chair
House Finance Committee
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Juneau AK 99801

RE: Support for SB 3 – Ferry Wastewater

Dear Co-Chairmen Foster, Seaton and Committee Members,

United Fishermen of Alaska (UFA) is the statewide commercial fishing trade association, representing 34 commercial fishing organizations participating in fisheries throughout the state and its offshore federal waters. We recently met and discussed Senate Bill 3, which would reinstate an exemption for small commercial passenger vessels from the state’s large passenger vessel wastewater discharge regulations.

UFA supports SB 3. The state ferries are essential to the commercial fishing industry for the movement of people, seafood products, and fishing gear. We support SB 3 to help ensure that the state’s ferries can provide service without undue financial burden of wastewater treatment standards that are intended to protect Alaska’s waterways from discharges from large passenger vessels.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jerry McCune      Mark Vinsel
President      Executive Administrator

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS
Alaska Bering Sea Crabbers • Alaska Independent Tendersmen’s Association • Alaska Longline Fishermen’s Association • Alaska Scallop Association
Alaska Trollers Association • Alaska Whitefish Trawlers Association • Armstrong Keta • At-sea Processors Association • Bristol Bay Fishermen’s Association
Bristol Bay Reserve • Cape Barnabas, Inc. • Concerned Area “M” Fishermen • Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association • Cordova District Fishermen United
Douglas Island Pink and Chum • Freezer Longline Coalition • Golden King Crab Coalition • Groundfish Forum • Kenai Peninsula Fishermen’s Association
Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association • North Pacific Fisheries Association • Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association
Petersburg Vessel Owners Association • Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation • Purse Seine Vessel Owner Association
Seafood Producers Cooperative • Southeast Alaska Herring Conservation Alliance • Southeast Alaska Fishermen’s Alliance
Southeast Alaska Regional Dive Fisheries Association • Southeast Alaska Seiners • Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association
United Cook Inlet Drift Association • United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters • Valdez Fisheries Development Association