September 20, 2017

The Honorable Dan Sullivan
United States Senate
702 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Don Young
United States House of Representatives
2314 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: S.1322 and H.R.214 - American Fisheries Advisory Committee

Dear Senator Sullivan and Representative Young,

United Fishermen of Alaska (UFA) is a statewide commercial fishing trade association representing 34 Alaska commercial fishing organizations as well as individuals participating in fisheries throughout the state and its offshore federal waters. UFA mission is to promote and protect the common interest of Alaska’s commercial fishing industry as a vital component of Alaska’s social and economic well-being.

UFA thanks you for introducing S.1322 and H.R. 214, which would create an American Fisheries Advisory Committee, as envisioned in the original creation of the Saltonstall Kennedy fund. As we noted in our 2015 letter, The Saltonstall Kennedy Act (SK Act) was created in 1954 for the purpose of aiding America’s commercial fishing industry by "promoting the free flow of domestically produced fishery products in commerce and by developing and increasing markets for these products." Under the Act, the Secretary was authorized to appoint a group of experts from various industry sectors to advise the Secretary on industry needs and to encourage the use of SK funds accordingly.

We appreciate your response to our discussions and letter with your introduction and support of S.1322 and H.R. 214.

Thank you,

Jerry McCune      Mark Vinsel
President      Executive Administrator

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS
Alaska Bering Sea Crabbers • Alaska Independent Tendermen’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 Fisherman’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 Seiners • Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association
Southeast Alaska Regional Dive Fisheries Association • Southeast Alaska Gillnetters • Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association
United Cook Inlet Drift Association • United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters • Valdez Fisheries Development Association