



UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

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United Fisherman of Alaska Proudly Endorses Senator Dan Sullivan For Reelection

Endorsement is Result of Sullivan's Leadership and Effectiveness on Behalf of Alaska's Fishing Community

Juneau, AK – The United Fishermen of Alaska (UFA) proudly announces its endorsement of U.S. Senator Dan Sullivan for reelection to the United States Senate.

“UFA’s endorsement of Senator Sullivan is a result of his demonstrated leadership and effectiveness in advancing the interests of Alaska’s fisheries and fishermen across the state,” **said UFA President Matt Alward.** “Time and time again, Dan Sullivan has stood up for Alaska fishermen and coastal communities. Whether it was spearheading through Congress a permanent exemption to the EPA’s overburdensome regulations for incidental discharge from fishing vessels, advancing efforts to reduce and remove tariffs on Alaska seafood, working across the aisle to pass sweeping marine debris and ocean clean-up legislation, or securing critical relief for Alaska fishermen and their families in the face of COVID-19. We look forward to working with the Senator to further improve the Alaskan fishing industry and address issues of importance to our members and the communities in which they live and work.”

In 2018, UFA recognized Senator Sullivan for his successful efforts in holding the Canadian government accountable for transboundary mines that pollute Alaska’s waters and threaten fisheries. He has worked with the Alaska delegation to combat illegal fishing, fought to ensure that illegally caught seafood does not enter the U.S. market, and played a critical role in developing a provision that reduces the cost of a new fishing vessel. Most recently, Senator Sullivan fought to secure a provision in the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security (or CARES) Act providing \$300 million in relief funding for fisheries impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Senator Sullivan has also demonstrated his commitment to ensuring the continued success of Alaska’s fisheries. The Senator, through numerous pieces of comprehensive legislation, has championed the issue of addressing the global marine debris crisis, which harms the marine food chain. He included language in the bi-partisan international trade bill, the USMCA (United States–Mexico–Canada Agreement) which ensures that fisheries are a principal point of all future negotiations. Senator Sullivan has worked on barriers that negatively impact entry into the fishing industry and ensured that the next generation of Alaska fishermen have access to resources needed for successful operations. Additionally, Sullivan was instrumental in securing long sought changes to the vessel incidental discharge permit requirements – which created significant confusion and obstacles for vessel operators and Alaska fishermen.

“Throughout his first term, Senator Sullivan has been approachable, trustworthy, and an effective advocate for commercial fishermen, and we are pleased to continue this partnership in the coming years,” **said UFA Executive Director Frances Leach.**

UFA is a statewide organization representing 36 commercial fishing associations and hundreds of independent commercial fishermen from fisheries throughout the state and its offshore federal waters. UFA officially made this endorsement at its annual Spring meeting in February.

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