



UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

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United Fishermen of Alaska Proudly Endorses Senator Lisa Murkowski for Re-Election

Juneau, AK – United Fishermen of Alaska (UFA) Endorses Lisa Murkowski for Re-election to U.S. Senate.

United Fishermen of Alaska (UFA) is proud to announce its endorsement of U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski for re-election to the United States Senate. UFA is the statewide commercial fishing trade association, representing 37 commercial fishing organizations participating in fisheries throughout the state, and federal fisheries off Alaska's coast. The decision to endorse the Senator for re-election was made unanimously amongst the UFA board members who participated in a Special Meeting held specifically to discuss the U.S. Senate race.

"I am excited to once again have the opportunity to endorse and support Senator Murkowski for another term representing Alaska in the United States Senate. For the last twenty years, Lisa has been a champion for all Alaskans and especially for the commercial fishing industry. Her depth of knowledge of the fishing industry is unmatched in Congress and the breadth of her accomplishments supporting the industry is too long to list," said UFA President, Matt Alward.

UFA has supported Senator Lisa Murkowski in previous election cycles (2004, 2010 and 2016) and this early endorsement in 2022 is made in recognition of her accomplishments in the Senate and her effectiveness in supporting the fishing industry. During Covid, the Senator and her staff were instrumental in working with industry as well as State and Federal Agencies to make sure a fishing season was possible here in Alaska. More recently, the Senator co-sponsored the U.S.- Russian Federation Seafood Reciprocity Act with Senator Sullivan, which is legislation that would impose a ban on the import of all Russian seafood products into the U.S. in response to Russia's own prohibition on the import of U.S. seafood products since 2014. Lisa's seniority and placement on key committees in the Senate have her well positioned to continue her work for all of Alaska.

"Senator Murkowski has been a staunch supporter of fisheries in Alaska and has been resolute in her advocacy on behalf of fishing families and their businesses. The Senator's work on issues ranging from disaster declarations, to H-2B Visas, to fair trade for U.S. Seafood has been integral to keeping Alaskan fishermen on the water and Alaska's economy moving. UFA's endorsement of the Senator for the 2022 U.S. Senate race derives from her proven track record of delivering positive results for our industry and for those who rely on it and our belief that she is well positioned to continue that work in the coming years," said UFA's Executive Director, Tracy Welch.

Senator Murkowski has worked closely with UFA over the years on matters pertaining to fisheries that have direct impacts on our members and has twice been named "UFA Person of the

Year in Alaska Politics” (2005 & 2007). “Lisa has always taken the time to listen to and understand the needs and concerns of Alaska’s fishermen and then to work with colleagues from both sides of the aisle to achieve broad support ending in the passage of bills. I look forward to another six years working with Senator Murkowski and her great staff to improve not only the commercial fishing industry but Alaska and our country as well,” said UFA President Matt Alward.

In response to UFA’s early endorsement, Senator Murkowski stated, “I am honored to receive the full endorsement of the United Fishermen of Alaska. As our largest employer and the heartbeat of our coastal communities, the fishing families, captains, and seafood workers that make up this industry are pivotal to our health as a state and a global leader in seafood exports. We are proud to provide the world with healthy wild Alaskan protein. And I am so proud to accept this endorsement once again.”

UFA notes that not all UFA member groups participate in endorsements