

# Alaska State Legislature

## REPRESENTATIVE LOUISE STUTES

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February 12, 2024

Alaska Board of Fisheries  
PO Box 115526  
1255 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

Dear Members of the Board of Fisheries,

I am writing to you as Representative Louise Stutes, a steadfast advocate for the thriving fisheries and coastal communities of our great state. As a representative deeply connected to the diverse needs and aspirations of Alaskans, I am compelled to express my unwavering support for our hatchery programs and the invaluable contributions they make to our fisheries, economies, and ways of life.

Hatcheries have long been the lifeblood of Alaska's fisheries, serving as a beacon of sustainability and prosperity for countless communities across our state. From commercial fishermen to subsistence harvesters, sport anglers to indigenous communities, hatcheries play a vital role in ensuring equitable access to our precious salmon resources while bolstering the economic resilience of coastal regions.

Proposal 43, with its aim to curtail pink salmon production, poses a significant threat to the delicate balance that hatcheries have painstakingly maintained over the years. Such a reduction would not only jeopardize the livelihoods of fishermen and women but also undermine the cultural heritage and traditions of indigenous peoples who rely on salmon for sustenance and cultural continuity.

As a representative entrusted with safeguarding the interests of my constituents, it is imperative that we vehemently oppose measures that undermine the sustainability and integrity of our hatchery programs. Instead, we must advocate for policies that foster collaboration, innovation, and responsible stewardship of our fisheries, ensuring their vitality for generations to come.

I implore the Board of Fisheries to stand with the diverse array of stakeholders who depend on our hatchery programs and reject Proposal 43. Let us unite in our commitment to upholding the resilience and prosperity of Alaska's fisheries and the communities they sustain.

Thank you for your attention to this crucial matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Louise Stutes".

Representative Louise Stutes