

# BERING SEA ELDER'S GROUP

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## A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE MAGNUSON-STEVENS FISHERY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACT

WHEREAS, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act is federal legislation that governs fisheries off the coast of the United States from 3 to 200 miles; and

WHEREAS, the fisheries and marine resources off the coast and along the river systems are important for sources of nutrition, cultural heritage, food security and a small commercial economy to federally recognized tribes; and

WHEREAS, the commercial fisheries off the coast of the United States are also important by providing jobs and contributing to the economy of our region and the Nation ; and

WHEREAS, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act is up for re-authorization in 2013,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT federal fisheries management should be restructured to:

1. Strengthen the Act to fully recognize conflicts of interest and prohibit voting on issues where a council member has a conflict; and
2. Authorize sufficient funds for the tribal consultation process for both the regional councils and National Marine Fisheries Service; and
3. Strengthen language pertaining to conservation the National Standards by removing "where practicable" and "to the extent practicable."
4. Increase representation on Regional Councils to include voting seats for federally recognized tribes.
5. Apply the Federal Advisory Committee Act to the Regional Councils and their committees or advisory panels established under the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

Submitted by the Native Village of Unalakleet and Adopted November 3, 2011



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David Bill, Sr. – Chair