

Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

FROM: Brent Johnson, Assembly President BJ

DATE: October 20, 2023

SUBJECT: LAYDOWN Resolution 2023-089, Requesting the Governor of the State of Alaska Designate by Proclamation Area of the Upper Cook Inlet East Side Set Net Fishery as an Area Impacted by an Economic Disaster in 2023 and Supporting a Recovery Plan (Johnson)

For the first time since the first Cook Inlet cannery was built on the banks of the Kasilof River in 1882, setnetting on the east side of Cook Inlet was closed for an entire season. The cultural and social loss is both emotional and painful. The economic loss is great and it is to this loss that the east side setnet fishery seeks government help.

Alaska Statutes 44.33.285 states: "The governor may, upon recommendation of the commissioner of commerce, community, and economic development, designate by proclamation an area as an area impacted by an economic disaster. When an area is so designated, the legislature may appropriate money for assistance grants and the governor may recommend in the governor's budget submission that capital projects planned for the area be accelerated and that new projects be funded for the area. The proclamation may provide that waivers of capital projects requirements, as authorized in AS 44.33.300, become effective only to the extent set out in the proclamation."

Your consideration is appreciated.