



## MEMBERSHIP RESOLUTION FY18-09

### A RESOLUTION BY THE SOUTHWEST ALASKA MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP IN SUPPORT OF CHANGING THE TRANSFERABILITY OF LIMITED ENTRY SALMON PERMITS BY ALLOWING AN ADDITIONAL TWO NAMES ON THE PERMIT

**WHEREAS**, the number of limited entry salmon permits are leaving Alaska’s rural communities at an alarming rate; and

**WHEREAS**, this trend is resulting in fewer economic opportunities and causing communities to shrink; and

**WHEREAS**, the out-migration of permits has escalated mainly due to the “graying of the fleet”; and

**WHEREAS**, the average age of a state fishing permit holder is 50 years; and

**WHEREAS**, some limited entry permit holders may be reluctant to permanently transfer a permit to any heirs currently dealing with addiction; and

**WHEREAS**, allowing two additional names of persons from the community to be listed on limited entry salmon permits could help curb out-migration of permits from rural communities; and

**WHEREAS**, one of the biggest obstacles that new entrants wanting to pursue a career in fishing face is a lack of capital and an established credit history to get started; and

**WHEREAS**, allowing two additional names to be listed would allow permit holders to mentor up-and-coming fishermen in the community and transition them into the fisheries; and

**WHEREAS**, allowing two additional names to be listed would eliminate the permit holder’s fear of losing the permit; and

**WHEREAS**, allowing two additional names to be listed would allow a surviving spouse of a permit holder to maintain that permit in her name and provide the individual the opportunity to sell salmon with no other ownership; and

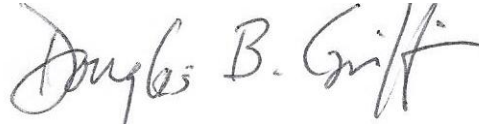
**WHEREAS**, given Alaska’s current fiscal crisis, it is more important than ever to maintain and increase economic opportunities for individuals and families who are dependent on the fisheries.

**NOW BE IT RESOLVED** that the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference Membership urges the Alaska Legislature to pass legislation redefining the transferability of limited entry salmon permits by allowing two additional names to be listed on permits to keep permits in rural communities.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference Membership this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of **March 2018**.

IN WITNESS THERETO:

ATTEST:



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Rebecca Skinner, SWAMC President

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Doug Griffin, SWAMC Executive Director