

**Alaska Municipal League
Resolution #2019-13**

A resolution in support of changing the transferability of limited entry salmon permits by allowing an additional name 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 an additional name of a person 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 new entrants wanting to pursue a career in fishing face is lack of capital and an established credit history to get started; and

WHEREAS, allowing an additional name 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 an additional name to be listed would eliminate the permit holder's fear of losing the permit; and

WHEREAS, allowing an additional name to be listed would allow the surviving spouse or beneficiary of a permit holder to maintain that permit in the spouse's or beneficiary's name and provide the individual the opportunity to sell salmon with no other ownership; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Alaska Municipal League urges the Alaska Legislature to pass legislation redefining the transferability of limited entry salmon permits by allowing an additional name to be listed on permits to keep permits in rural communities.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE ON THE 16th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2018.

Signed: 
President, Alaska Municipal League

Attest: 
Executive Director, Alaska Municipal League