

**RESOLUTION
JOINT BOARD OF FISHERIES AND GAME
98-31-JB**

A resolution of the Joint Board of Fisheries and Game supporting a stipend
for local fish and game advisory committee members.

WHEREAS, local fish and game advisory committees provide a local forum for the collection and expression of opinions and recommendations on matters relating to the management of fish and wildlife resources; and

WHEREAS, this statewide system is dependent on volunteers who provide critical input to the Board of Fisheries and Board of Game on management issues; and

WHEREAS, advisory committee members in rural Alaska incur uncompensated personal costs when traveling away from home to attend advisory committee meetings; and

WHEREAS, the more liberal per diem rules in effect prior to administrative changes made in the early 1990s provided a defacto stipend for traveling committee members; and

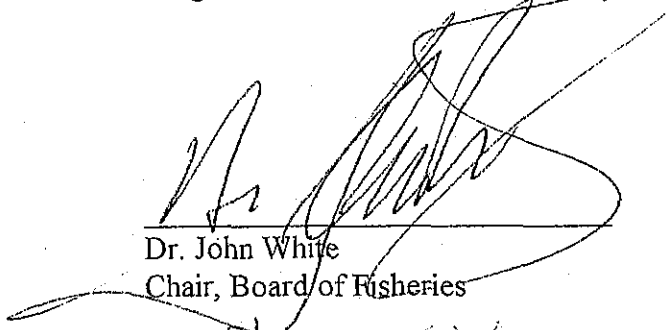
WHEREAS, the current per diem rules preclude compensation for costs beyond basic travel and food allowances and;

WHEREAS, the present per diem rates often do not adequately cover even these basic expenses; and;

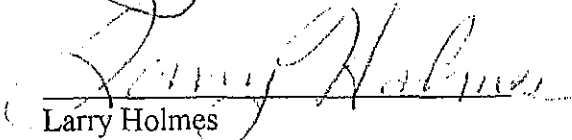
WHEREAS, the state's regulatory system is at risk of losing expertise within specific areas as advisory committee system loses members who have become disheartened with the state's regulatory process, particularly when the federal regulatory process does provide a stipend to federal regional councils members.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Joint Board of Fisheries and Game requests the Alaska Legislature and/or Executive Branch provide a stipend for local fish and game advisory committee members while traveling to committee meetings outside their home community.

ADOPTED DATE: 3-1-98
Anchorage, Alaska



Dr. John White
Chair, Board of Fisheries



Larry Holmes
Chair, Board of Game