Frank V Kelty

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To: Chairman Spraker, Chairman Johnstone,

My name is Frank Kelty former Mayor of Unalaska; currently Chairman of the Unalaska Fish and Game Advisory Committee on which I've served on for over 30 years. I also worked in the Alaska Seafood industry for 30 years in Kodiak, and Unalaska /Dutch Harbor. I am writing to you today in support of Mr. Sam Cotton of Eagle River, Alaska for the Joint Boards recommendation for his appointment as the Commissioner of Fish and Game. I've known Sam for over 30 years and have always had highest regard for him; he is a hard working individual, and a great family man. I first met Sam when he severed with distinction in the Alaska State Legislature. I believe Sam bring the experience and background to handle this very difficult job. His experience with the legislature, his many years' as a commercial fishermen in Cook Inlet, his service on the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council, and as a fishery advisor for the Aleutian East Borough will certainly benefit him in this job, if recommended by the Joint Boards and appointed Commissioner by Governor Walker.

I also feel that a recommendation by the Joint Boards in support of Mr. Cotton would be a positive for the Southwest Alaska area fisheries, which have the Alaska largest and most valuable fisheries in the Nation. These fisheries are critically important to the fishery dependent communities of Southwest Alaska and State of Alaska. With a recommendation by Joint Boards and appointment of Mr. Cotton by Governor Walker, this very important area of the state would have a Commissioner with firsthand knowledge of the fisheries of this area. Mr. Cotton has traveled to Unalaska the nation's number one commercial fishing port for over 20 years he been to the various fishing communities on the Alaska Peninsula and many other fishing communities across the state, that knowledge will be a great asset if he is appointed Commissioner.

In closing; I give my highest recommendation to the Joint Boards of Fish and Game for your support in the recommendation of Mr. Sam Cotton to Governor Bill Walker, for his appointment as Commissioner of Fish and Game.

Sincerely,

Frank Kelty,