## RC 156

Submitted by Central Peninsula Advisory Committee

## **Opposing Proposal 142 and any supporting RC:**

In the early 1990's then Sergeant Cockrell, now Colonel Cockrell, of the Alaska Wildlife Troopers, and David Martin, Chairman of the Central Peninsula Advisory Committee, got together and wrote the current regulations for the area referenced in Proposal 142. The intent was to help both commercial fishermen and State of Alaska wildlife enforcement officers, understand what was and what was not legal area for commercial fishing on the west side of Cook Inlet. At that time there was an unorderly, confusing and unworkable definition of the fishing distance from the terminus of any anadromous fish stream at mean lower low water. The current language in regulation was the result of that meeting and solved all the issues. To change the language in regulation at this time would unwind this carefully worked out agreement that has worked successfully for over twenty years.

Changing the carefully considered language would create chaos, confuse both fishermen and enforcement officers and may eliminate a traditional, low volume, low participation commercial fishery that is important and is only prosecuted for two twelve-hour fishing periods per week (Monday and Thursday). Currently there is 24/7 opportunity for sportfishing in this area on these abundant coho salmon stocks.