RESOLUTION NO. 90-48-806

ALASKA BOARD OF GAME

RELATING TO THE USE OF FURBEARERS BY
RURAL ALASKANS, INCLUDING ALASKA NATIVES

WHEREAS, recent media coverage of the Alaska Native use of
furbers for commercial purposes has resulted in
increasing negative perceptions of Alaska Natives,'
harvest and use of furs, and

WHEREAS, Alaskans have historically hunted, trapped, and
otherwise harvested furbers as a part of their
traditional lifestyle, and

WHEREAS, furs are known to have been used by all mankind for
thousands of years of recorded history, and

WHEREAS, furs have historically been used for clothing and other
purposes by man, and

WHEREAS, furs have been an integral element of commercial
activity conducted by rural Alaskans, including Alaska
Natives, and

WHEREAS, the production of fur products by rural Alaskans,
including Alaska Natives provides an important economic
base for their communities and the individuals therein,
and

WHEREAS, many cultural traditions of Alaskan Natives have been
impacted negatively by certain modern technologies and
ideologies, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary that rural Alaskans, including Alaska
Natives maintain a viable economic base for existence
in the contemporary world, and do so through
participation in the capitalistic marketplace, and

WHEREAS, unique cultural value is deemed to exist for Alaska
Native trapped and sewn fur clothing, and

WHEREAS, rural Alaskans, including Alaska Natives recognize the
importance and necessity for wildlife management
programs that insure sustained yield of the wildlife
resources of Alaska, and

WHEREAS, historical evidence indicates that rural Alaskans,
including Alaska Natives exhibit concern and
understanding of environmental impacts of subsistence
lifestyles;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

the Alaska Board of Game supports the efforts of Alaska Natives in the development of programs to maintain the traditional harvesting of furbearers for use in the making of clothing and other commodities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

the Alaska Board of Game recognizes the responsibility of the board in assuring a sustained yield of game resources for all Alaskans, and for the development of regulations relating to the conservation and development of fish and game resources; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

the Alaska Board of Game recognizes the historical role of furs and their commercial value to the economies of rural Alaskans and to Alaska Native cultures, and supports the efforts of Alaska Natives to develop programs relating to the continued infusion of such benefits to the culture and economies of Alaska Native peoples; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

that copies of this Resolution be promptly transmitted to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House and the Chairman of the Senate and House Resources committees.

Samantha Castle, Chairman
Alaska Board of Game

ADOPTED: April 2, 1990
Anchorage, Alaska
VOTE: ___ Favor ___ Oppose