

RESOLUTION
JOINT BOARDS OF FISHERIES AND GAME
98-30-JB

WHEREAS, the members of both the Board of Game and the Board of Fisheries have reviewed the Department of Fish and Game's annual budget request; and

WHEREAS, sport and commercial fisheries and hunting are substantial resource based industries operating throughout the State of Alaska, employing many Alaskans and bringing significant dollars into the state from both residents and non-residents who travel to Alaska to hunt and fish; and

WHEREAS, many of our citizens are dependent upon the fish and game resources of our State for their subsistence and personal use needs; and

WHEREAS, the conservation and development of these fish and wildlife resources of our State is absolutely essential to the well-being of our citizens and the future of our state; and

WHEREAS, in comparison to the value of the resources and the percentage of the revenue derived from the uses of the State's fish and wildlife resources, the budget of the Department is relatively insignificant; and

WHEREAS, over time there has been a significant increase in the number of resource users of both fish and wildlife resources and the demands these increases have placed on the State's resources and the needs of the Department and the two (2) regulatory Boards to adequately address their mandates to conserve and develop these resources; and

WHEREAS, it is beyond debate that the management of Alaska's fish and game resources is best done by Alaskans and that this management must be adequately funded; and

WHEREAS, excluding the subsistence dilemma and associated federal expenditures in this arena, it is a sad fact that the Department receives more funding from federal sources than from the State's own Legislature.

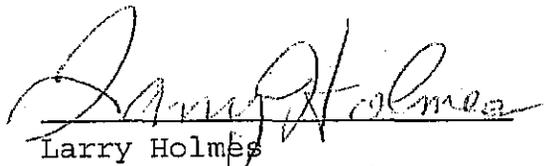
IOW, THEREFORE, based on the foregoing statements of fact,

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED as follows:

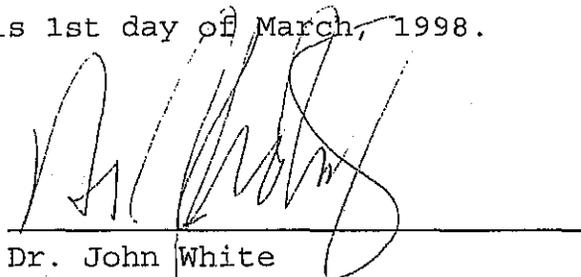
1) The Legislature should fund the operating budget of the Division of Fish and Wildlife Protection to the extent of the authorized positions of the Division so that the ninety-three (93) authorized positions and not just the eighty-six (86) previously funded positions are funded; and

2) The Legislature should fund the capital budget of the Division of Fish and Wildlife Protection to enable the Division to replace antiquated equipment.

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska this 1st day of March, 1998.



Larry Holmes
Chairman, Board of Game



Dr. John White
Chairman, Board of Fisheries