



# Bering Sea Elders Group

## **BERING SEA ELDERS GROUP**

### **RESOLUTION 2018-1**

#### **TITLE: RESOLUTION ON THE REAUTHORIZATION OF THE MAGNUSON–STEVENS FISHERY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACT**

Whereas, the Bering Sea Elders Group (BSEG) is a tribal consortium and is comprised of designees of 39 federally recognized Tribes on the west coast of Alaska; and

Whereas, through our federally recognized Tribal governments, we have the right to participate fully in all levels of decision-making in policies that affect our Tribes, our Indigenous Knowledge, and to exercise our government-to-government rights; and

Whereas, the United States House of Representatives passed H.R. 200, a bill that would revise and reauthorize the Magnuson–Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA), on or about July 11, 2018; and

Whereas, the MSA reauthorization bill passed by the United States House of Representatives does not contain any requirement for consultation with Tribes with regard to fishery management decisions; and

Whereas, the MSA reauthorization bill passed by the United States House of Representatives does not contain any requirement for the federal government to include Indigenous Knowledge in its decision-making; and

Whereas, the MSA reauthorization bill passed by the United States House of Representatives does not require that the North Pacific Fishery Management Council include a member that is an elected Tribal leader from Alaska; and

Whereas, H.R. 200 is unacceptable and should not be passed by the United States Senate in its current form; and

Whereas, when the United States Senate addresses the Magnuson-Stevens Act reauthorization, it must include all three missing components.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: the 39 Tribes that are members of BSEG oppose the Magnuson-Stevens Act reauthorization as passed by the United States House of Representatives (H.R. 200); and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: the 39 Tribes that are members of BSEG request that when United States Senate considers Magnuson-Stevens Act Reauthorization, it includes: (1) a requirement for consultation with Tribes with regard to fishery management decisions on a government-to-government basis; (2) a requirement that the federal government includes Indigenous Knowledge in its decision-making, and (3) a requirement that the North Pacific Fishery Management Council include one full voting membership seat that must be held by an elected Tribal leader from Alaska.

ADOPTED by the tribally designated Elder Representatives of the Bering Sea Elders Group, and signed on behalf of those Tribes during its Annual Summit held in Anchorage, Alaska on this 20th day of September, 2018.