

Good day Mr. Chairman, and Members of the Board, I'd like to thank you for having this meeting in Anchorage, as it means a lot to me. This testimony is listed under RC# _____.

My name is John Webb, and I have fished in the Bristol Bay drift gillnet fishery since 1979, 32 years of that period, as a vessel owner and permit holder. As the years have went by, I am continually reminded, how the fleet has become much more efficient, at harvesting the catch. So much so, that during a lot of the seasons, like 2015, there simply is not enough money in the fishery to go around. Facing a probable large harvest, with low prices in 2016, I believe that allowing 1 person to stack 2 permits, as suggested by proposal #51, is an idea, whose time has come.

In the past, this has been socially unacceptable. Largely, due to the fact that the local residents have not been able to afford a 2nd permit. With the local CDQ Corporation now funding, \$35,000.00 vessel upgrade grants, permit loan interest grants, and loan guarantees, maybe, they can also finance the extra permits needed in the local communities.

I am also in favor of requiring a permit holder, and his vessel to register in a district prior to fishing, as suggested in proposal #31. The current regulation has been a nightmare for the various ADF&G District Managers, not to mention, it has greatly increased fuel costs for the fleet.

In concluding, I would ask the board, in their deliberations, to greatly consider the effect of any new regulations, on the fleet as a whole. We are all independent business people, producing a product that has to turn a profit, and compete in the world marketplace.

Thank you for allowing me to testify!!