

Sponsor Statement

HJR 26

"Requesting the National Marine Fisheries Service to relocate the Alaska Fisheries Science Center Steller sea lion research team to Alaska."

This resolution requests the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to relocate the research team that has been assigned to study the decline of the Steller sea lion, to Alaska, where the actual research is being conducted.

There are facilities located here in Alaska that have the space available to accommodate the research team and with the recent travel restrictions that have been placed on the NMFS staff, it just makes sense to have the team located here in Alaska.

By sending this resolution, it is my hope that the National Marine Fisheries Service will honor this request, and that those Alaskans who are directly affected by the status of the endangered western Alaska Steller sea lion will have local access to the personnel conducting this critical research.