

**CITY OF SEWARD, ALASKA
RESOLUTION 2019-092**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEWARD,
ALASKA, SUPPORTING THE AUTOMATIC REGISTRATION OF
VESSELS ACTIVE IN THE ALASKA COMMERCIAL FISHERIES ENTRY
COMMISSION'S DATABASE**

WHEREAS, derelict vessels are a large and growing problem in all Alaska communities, resulting in increased costs to the public, as well as environmental and navigational hazards; and

WHEREAS, defining ownership and holding individuals responsible for their vessels has been identified as one of the top barriers to effective management to prevent derelict vessels; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, the legislature passed Senate Bill 92, the Derelict Vessel Act; and

WHEREAS, in addition to substantially re-writing and updating AS 30.30, the derelict vessel chapter of state statute SB92 addressed tracking vessel ownership through changes to AS 05.25; and

WHEREAS, these changes expand vessel registration requirements in Alaska effective January 1, 2019, and like Washington and other states, Alaska now requires federally-documented vessels to also be registered with the state Department of Motor Vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska did not inform the newly-regulated community, nor perform any outreach of any kind, in advance of this change; and

WHEREAS, active fishermen around the state were caught unaware, and raised the fact that their vessels were already recorded in the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission Database; and

WHEREAS, the intent of SB92 was to better track vessel ownership in Alaska, regardless of engagement in a fishery and across the life of the vessel, which is best accomplished through state registration; and

WHEREAS, vessel registration should be simple, creating minimal added burden to help effectively address the problem of identifying vessel ownership.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEWARD, ALASKA that:

Section 1. The Seward City Council hereby fully supports an update to the Alaska state statute directing vessels active in the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) Vessel Database to be automatically issued Alaska vessel registration numbers, and that the CFEC and the

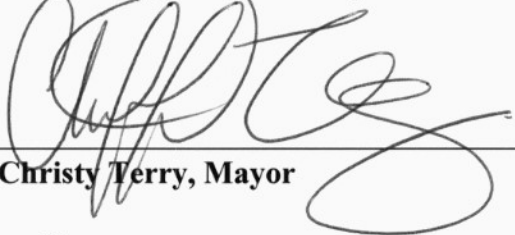
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Division of Motor Vehicles create a system for information sharing to this end.

Section 2. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon approval.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Seward, Alaska, this 28th day of October, 2019.


THE CITY OF SEWARD, ALASKA



Christy Terry, Mayor

AYES: Lane, McClure, Baclaan, Osenga, Seese, Terry
NOES: None
ABSENT: Butts
ABSTAIN: None

ATTEST:



Brenda J. Ballou, MMC
City Clerk

(City Seal)

