

March 24, 2015

RN 15 51246

MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

By the Honorable Mike McGuire, Chair of the Joint Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture; and the Honorable Jim Wood, Vice Chair of the Joint Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture; Relative to commending

WILLIAM F. "ZEKE" GRADER, JR.

WHEREAS, In the month of April 2015, William F. "Zeke" Grader, Jr., will be singularly honored by his colleagues from the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations (PCFFA) and leaders of state and federal fisheries agencies and the West Coast's principal environmental NGOs for his decades-long achievements as an indefatigable champion of fisheries and the environment, at which time it is appropriate to extend to him special honors and the highest commendations; and

WHEREAS, Having been at the helm of the PCFFA as its Executive Director since the organization's founding in 1976,

Zeke Grader helped to create the West Coast's largest and most active commercial fishing trade association, which, through its member organizations, has led the industry in ensuring the rights of individual fishing men and women and fought for the long-term survival of commercial fishing as a productive livelihood and way of life; and

WHEREAS, Since more than 75 percent of America's over \$152 billion-per-year fishing industry depends upon the health of the nation's inshore and nearshore coastal environment, PCFFA and its member organizations have depended upon Zeke's consummate expertise and fearless advocacy to effectively represent the best interests of both fishermen^{and} and fish in relation to a variety of complex regional and national habitat protection issues, including the choice of productive policy directions for legislative initiatives; and

WHEREAS, Over the course of Zeke's 39-year PCFFA stewardship, the organization has taken a leading role in crafting important state and federal legislation to preserve critical habitats and ensure the sustainability of the coastal fishing industry, and by virtue of Zeke's ability to ensure that fishing-related initiatives retain high visibility, together with his unstinting commitment to truthfulness, to crafting solutions

that work for all parties, and to always doing what is in the best interest of fish and fishing communities, he has zealously built PCFFA into an entity whose influence and reputation far exceeds its budget and size; and

WHEREAS, As a result of his efforts promoting sustainable fisheries and the protection of the coastal environment, Zeke has been the recipient of numerous commendations and awards, including those bestowed upon him by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in 1988, the United States Department of Commerce in 1998, and, most recently, the Bay Institute/Aquarium of the Bay, which honored him with its Lifetime Achievement Award in March 2015; and

WHEREAS, Through his effective leadership, advocacy on behalf of environmental protection, and tireless support of fishing communities and the resources and way of life that sustain them, Zeke Grader has created an indelible legacy of excellence that will provide both inspiration and a call to action for many future generations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY SENATOR MIKE MCGUIRE, CHAIR OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE, AND ASSEMBLY MEMBER JIM WOOD, VICE CHAIR OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE, That they commend William F. "Zeke" Grader, Jr., for

his lifelong commitment to and support of the commercial fishing industry and all those in California and elsewhere in the nation whose livelihood depends upon fish and protected coastal environments capable of sustaining the nation's fisheries, and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued success in his future endeavors.

Dated this 10th day of April, 2015.

Honorable Mike McGuire

Chair, Joint Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture

Honorable Jim Wood

Vice Chair, Joint Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture