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Assembly
California Legislature

JIM WOOD
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SECOND DISTRICT

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January 22, 2015

California Fish and Game Commission
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1320
P.O. Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing in support of the issuance of three experimental market squid permits for use in the 2nd Assembly District.

As you know, as part of the Market Squid Fisheries Management Plan, three experimental non-transferable market squid vessel permits were established in order to develop a squid fishery in areas previously not utilized for squid production. In recent years, the squid population has increased in the waters of the north coast and there is an interest in determining whether a squid market exists in this area.

I'm sure you are aware that at one time the communities of the north coast flourished due to a healthy fishing industry. Unfortunately, for many years their economies have been in serious decline along with the decline of our fisheries. Almost 24% of the residents of Fort Bragg and Eureka live below the poverty level. Unemployment exceeds the national average and these areas are currently experiencing the loss of more jobs. The opportunity to create local jobs in the fishing industry and additionally providing a product that can be used locally would be a boon to their economy.

I appreciate your serious consideration of these permit applications. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

JIM WOOD
Assemblymember, 2nd District

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