



CITY OF SAINT PAUL

ALASKA

February 3, 2023

Mr. Simon Kinneen, Chairman
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
1007 West Third St., Suite 400
Anchorage, AK 99501

Re: Support for the Appointment of Shawaan Gamble-Jackson to the Advisory Panel

Dear Chairman Kinneen and Council members:

It has come to our attention, that Shawaan Gamble-Jackson has submitted his name for consideration to serve on a newly created Alaska Native Tribal designated seat on the Advisory Panel (AP) to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPMFC).

The City of Saint Paul (the City) is a primarily Unangan/Aleut community located on Saint Paul Island, in the Pribilof Island group. Due to its location amidst the nation's richest commercial fisheries in the Bering Sea and its history, Saint Paul has been at the forefront of fisheries-management actions that seek to protect the natural resources it depends on, as well as to protect the access of our community to resources upon which our culture, livelihoods, and economy are dependent.

The City has had the opportunity to witness Mr. Gamble-Jackson's advocacy in fisheries management actions on behalf of Alaska Native peoples, and to work with him in support of the action that led to the creation of the designated Alaska Native Tribal seat on the AP. Mr. Gamble-Jackson has demonstrated in his testimony and comments before the Council and other fora that he is a passionate, articulate, and effective advocate for issues regarding equity, environmental justice, subsistence, and local/traditional knowledge concerning Alaska Natives in fisheries-management decisions.

His personal background and experience as a tribal member, fisherman, subsistence user, and advocate for Alaska Native issues and organizations provide him with valuable insights and expertise that will benefit the AP and the Council process. Mr. Gamble-Jackson understands that proper management of Alaska's commercial fisheries by the NPFMC includes developing policies that consider and protect the vested stake of Alaska Native fisheries-dependent communities. Fisheries dependent communities such as Saint Paul Island, or Kake where Mr. Gamble-Jackson is from, cannot survive without such policies.

On behalf of the City, therefore, it is an honor to recommend that Shawaan Gamble-Jackson be appointed to the Advisory Panel.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jacob Mercurief". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small "h" after the first name.

Jacob Mercurief, Mayor

cc: Saint Paul City Council
Phillip A. Zavadil, City Manager, City of Saint Paul
Mateo Paz-Soldan, MP Strategies
Amos Philemonoff, President, Aleut Community of Saint Paul Island
Phillip Lestenkof, President, Central Bering Sea Fishermen's Association