

Resolve 3 – 04/05

Passage: 7/19/04 8-0 (Leeman absent)

NATHAN H. SMITH (MAYOR)(3)  
WILLIAM R. GORHAM (1)  
KAREN A. GERAGHTY (2)  
CHERYL A. LEEMAN (4)  
JAMES I. COHEN (5)

**CITY OF PORTLAND**  
IN THE CITY COUNCIL

PETER E. O'DONNELL (A/L)  
JAMES F. CLOUTIER(A/L)  
JILL C. DUSON (A/L)  
NICHOLAS M. MAVODONES (A/L)

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LAWSUITS  
TO PRESERVE THE FISHING INDUSTRY  
AND AUTHORIZING CITY PARTICIPATION  
IN THOSE LAWSUITS**

**WHEREAS,** the fishing industry is a critical component of Portland's working waterfront; and

**WHEREAS,** that industry faces severe limitations on the amount of fish that may be caught under proposed federal regulations; and

**WHEREAS,** a number of members of the fishing industry including the Associated Fisheries of Maine, Inc. are parties in lawsuits filed both in Washington D.C. and here in Portland in the Federal Court system; and

**WHEREAS,** the purpose of those lawsuits is to try to reasonably balance the legitimate purpose of preserving and restoring ocean fishing stock with the economic survival of the fishing industry and the many people who directly depend on that industry for their livelihood as well as the many associated businesses and employees that indirectly depend upon the fishing industry for their survival; and

**WHEREAS,** one of the local industries that is directly dependent on the fishing industry and its ability to catch fish is the Portland Fish Exchange which helps fisherman market their fish at the best possible price and as quickly as possible; and

**WHEREAS,** the Portland Fish Exchange has enjoyed a remarkable success such that it's structure and procedures have been imitated in other communities to encourage fisherman to bring their catch to specific ports; and

**WHEREAS,** the Portland Fish Exchange is currently self supporting and not dependent on local property tax but will not be able to survive without tax support if the proposed federal regulations are not modified;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the City of Portland supports the legal efforts of fisherman and their representatives both here and throughout the country to preserve their business and livelihood; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the City of Portland supports the position of fisherman and their representatives in the lawsuits filed both in Washington D.C. and here in Portland; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the City Council hereby authorizes the City of Portland, through its Office of Corporation Counsel to support those lawsuits to the maximum extent possible within existing resources.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Nathan H. Smith

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilor William R. Gorham

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilor Karen A. Geraghty

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilor Cheryl A. Leeman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilor James I. Cohen

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilor Nicholas M. Mavodones

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilor James F. Cloutier

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilor Jill C. Duson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilor Peter E. O'Donnell