

HJR202 ENROLLED



1 HJR202
2 CBSUQWJ-2
3 By Representative Brown
4 RFD: RULES
5 First Read: 16-Apr-24



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1 Enrolled, An Act,

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3 URGING CONGRESS AND THE ALABAMA CONGRESSIONAL
4 DELEGATION TO PASS THE SAVE OUR SHRIMPERS ACT OF 2024 TO
5 PROTECT THE UNITED STATES' AND ALABAMA'S SHRIMPING INDUSTRY.

6 WHEREAS, Alabama is one of eight states on the Gulf
7 of Mexico whose shrimping industry is suffering an
8 existential crisis due to a market flooded with inexpensive,
9 imported shrimp from foreign markets; on April 10, 2024, in
10 a bipartisan effort to safeguard the United States shrimp
11 industry, federal lawmakers introduced the Save Our
12 Shrimpers Act of 2024; and

13 WHEREAS, the act would curb the federal government's
14 ability to fund groups that supply financing to foreign
15 shrimp farmers and to use its influence in international
16 monetary institutions to promote the growth of foreign
17 shrimp aquaculture; this encompasses direct payments, loan
18 guarantees, or any other form of financial aid through
19 International Financial Institutions (IFIs) such as the
20 International Monetary Fund (IMF); and

21 WHEREAS, the act brought to light that U.S. taxpayer
22 dollars are being used to finance foreign shrimp farm
23 operations through IFIs and the IMF; these foreign
24 operations include shrimp farming, shrimp processing, and
25 shrimp being exported to the United States; and

26 WHEREAS, due to the global excess capacity and
27 production of farm-raised shrimp and imports, the U.S.
28 market is being overwhelmed, driving shrimp prices down;



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29 with increased fuel costs and record low shrimp prices,
30 American shrimp harvesters are unable to leave port, causing
31 suffering and hardship to the shrimpers and the communities
32 that rely on them; and

33 WHEREAS, while U.S. shrimpers are suffering, foreign
34 shrimp farmers and processors are expanding production with
35 funding from the World Bank; low, government-subsidized
36 prices for these foreign-farmed shrimp prevent a fair and
37 equitable market for the American shrimper; and

38 WHEREAS, further, many foreign shrimp producers have
39 been found to use forced labor and child exportation
40 practices; and in March, India's shrimp industry was accused
41 of mistreating workers and violating quality standards in
42 three separate reports published by U.S.-based media and
43 nonprofit groups; in 2015, a Consumer Reports study found
44 that some imported shrimp were contaminated with antibiotic
45 residues, some of which are linked to cancer and others that
46 are not approved for use in the U.S.; and

47 WHEREAS, this America-first initiative would stop the
48 decades-long use of American tax dollars to fund foreign
49 shrimping operations and ensure a free market shrimp
50 industry in the U.S.; now therefore,

51 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
52 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the State of Alabama
53 supports the bipartisan Save Our Shrimpers Act of 2024, and
54 we urge Congress and the Alabama Congressional Delegation to
55 pass this legislation and protect Alabama and other Gulf
56 states who contribute to this important industry from



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57 further harm.



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Speaker of the House of Representatives

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in
and was passed by the House 23-Apr-24.

John Treadwell
Clerk

Senate

25-Apr-24

Adopted