

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 5453

To improve the Fishery Resource Disaster Relief program of the National Marine Fisheries Service, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

Mr. HUFFMAN (for himself and Mr. WEBSTER of Florida) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To improve the Fishery Resource Disaster Relief program of the National Marine Fisheries Service, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Fishery Resource Dis-  
5       asters Improvement Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. FISHERY RESOURCE DISASTER RELIEF.**

7       Section 312(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery  
8       Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1861a(a))  
9       is amended to read as follows:

10       “(a) FISHERY RESOURCE DISASTER RELIEF.—

1 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

2 “(A) ALLOWABLE CAUSE.—The term ‘al-  
3 lowable cause’ means a natural cause, discrete  
4 anthropogenic cause, or undetermined cause.

5 “(B) ANTHROPOGENIC CAUSE.—The term  
6 ‘anthropogenic cause’ means an anthropogenic  
7 event, such as an oil spill or spillway opening—

8 “(i) that could not have been ad-  
9 dressed or prevented by fishery manage-  
10 ment measures; and

11 “(ii) that is otherwise beyond the con-  
12 trol of fishery managers to mitigate  
13 through conservation and management  
14 measures, including regulatory restrictions  
15 imposed as a result of judicial action or to  
16 protect human health or marine animals,  
17 plants, or habitats.

18 “(C) FISHERY RESOURCE DISASTER.—The  
19 term ‘fishery resource disaster’ means a dis-  
20 aster that is determined by the Secretary in ac-  
21 cordance with this subsection and—

22 “(i) is an unexpected large decrease in  
23 fish stock biomass or other change that re-  
24 sults in significant loss of access to the  
25 fishery resource, which may include loss of

1 fishing vessels and gear for a substantial  
2 period of time and results in significant  
3 revenue or subsistence loss due to an al-  
4 lowable cause; and

5 “(ii) does not include—

6 “(I) reasonably predictable, fore-  
7 seeable, and recurrent fishery cyclical  
8 variations in species distribution or  
9 stock abundance; or

10 “(II) reductions in fishing oppor-  
11 tunities resulting from conservation  
12 and management measures taken pur-  
13 suant to this Act.

14 “(D) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term ‘Indian  
15 Tribe’ has the meaning given such term in sec-  
16 tion 102 of the Federally Recognized Indian  
17 Tribe List Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 5130), and  
18 the term ‘Tribal’ means of or pertaining to such  
19 an Indian tribe.

20 “(E) NATURAL CAUSE.—The term ‘natural  
21 cause’—

22 “(i) means a weather, climatic, haz-  
23 ard, or biology-related event, such as—

24 “(I) a hurricane;

25 “(II) a flood;

1 “(III) a harmful algal bloom;

2 “(IV) a tsunami;

3 “(V) a hypoxic zone;

4 “(VI) a drought;

5 “(VII) El Niño effects on water  
6 temperature;

7 “(VIII) a marine heat wave; or

8 “(IX) disease; and

9 “(ii) does not mean a normal or cycli-  
10 cal variation in a species distribution or  
11 stock abundance.

12 “(F) 12-MONTH REVENUE LOSS.—The  
13 term ‘12-month revenue loss’ means the per-  
14 centage reduction, as applicable, in commercial,  
15 charter, headboat, or processor revenue for the  
16 12 months during which the fishery resource  
17 disaster occurred, when compared to average  
18 annual revenue in the most recent 5 years when  
19 no fishery resource disaster occurred or equiva-  
20 lent for stocks with cyclical life histories.

21 “(G) UNDETERMINED CAUSE.—The term  
22 ‘undetermined cause’ means a cause in which  
23 the current state of knowledge does not allow  
24 the Secretary to identify the exact cause, and  
25 there is no current conclusive evidence sup-

1 porting a possible cause of the fishery resource  
2 disaster.

3 “(2) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—

4 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall  
5 have the authority to determine the existence,  
6 extent, and beginning and end dates of a fish-  
7 ery resource disaster under this subsection in  
8 accordance with this subsection.

9 “(B) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—After the  
10 Secretary determines that a fishery resource  
11 disaster has occurred, the Secretary is author-  
12 ized to make sums available, from funds appro-  
13 priated for such purposes, to be used by the af-  
14 fected State, Tribal government, or interstate  
15 marine fisheries commission, or by the Sec-  
16 retary in cooperation with the affected State,  
17 Tribal government, or interstate marine fish-  
18 eries commission.

19 “(C) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—The requirements  
20 under this subsection shall take effect only with  
21 respect to requests for a fishery resource dis-  
22 aster determination submitted after the date of  
23 enactment of the Fishery Resource Disasters  
24 Improvement Act.

1           “(3) INITIATION OF A FISHERY RESOURCE DIS-  
2           ASTER REVIEW.—

3           “(A) ELIGIBLE REQUESTERS.—Not later  
4           than 1 year after the date of the conclusion of  
5           the fishing season, a request for a fishery re-  
6           source disaster determination may be submitted  
7           to the Secretary, if the Secretary has not inde-  
8           pendently determined that a fishery resource  
9           disaster has occurred, by—

10                   “(i) the Governor of an affected State;

11                   “(ii) an official Tribal resolution; or

12                   “(iii) any other comparable elected or  
13                   politically appointed representative as de-  
14                   termined by the Secretary.

15           “(B) REQUIRED INFORMATION.—A com-  
16           plete request for a fishery resource disaster de-  
17           termination under subparagraph (A) shall in-  
18           clude—

19                   “(i) identification of all presumed af-  
20                   fected fish stocks;

21                   “(ii) identification of the fishery as  
22                   Federal, non-Federal, or both;

23                   “(iii) the geographical boundaries of  
24                   the fishery;

1           “(iv) preliminary information on  
2 causes of the fishery resource disaster, if  
3 known; and

4           “(v) information needed to support a  
5 finding of a fishery resource disaster, in-  
6 cluding—

7                   “(I) information demonstrating  
8 the occurrence of an unexpected large  
9 decrease in fish stock biomass or  
10 other change that results in signifi-  
11 cant loss of access to the fishery re-  
12 source, which could include the loss of  
13 fishing vessels and gear, for a sub-  
14 stantial period of time;

15                   “(II) 12-month revenue loss or  
16 subsistence loss for the affected fish-  
17 ery, or if a fishery resource disaster  
18 has occurred at any time in the pre-  
19 vious 5-year period, the most recent 5  
20 years when no fishery resource dis-  
21 aster occurred;

22                   “(III) if applicable, information  
23 on lost resource tax revenues assessed  
24 by local communities, such as a raw

1 fish tax and local sourcing require-  
2 ments; and

3 “(IV) if applicable and available,  
4 information on 12-month revenue loss  
5 for charter, headboat, or processors  
6 related to the information provided  
7 under subclause (I), subject to section  
8 402(b).

9 “(C) ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary may  
10 provide data and analysis assistance to an eligi-  
11 ble requester described in paragraph (1), if—

12 “(i) the assistance is so requested;

13 “(ii) the Secretary is in possession of  
14 the required information described in sub-  
15 paragraph (B); and

16 “(iii) the data is not available to the  
17 requester, in carrying out the complete re-  
18 quest under subparagraph (B).

19 “(D) INITIATION OF REVIEW.—The Sec-  
20 retary shall have the discretion to initiate a  
21 fishery resource disaster review without a re-  
22 quest.

23 “(4) REVIEW PROCESS.—

24 “(A) INTERIM RESPONSE.—Not later than  
25 20 days after receipt of a request under para-



1 graph (3), the Secretary shall provide an in-  
2 terim response to the individual that—

3 “(i) acknowledges receipt of the re-  
4 quest;

5 “(ii) provides a regional contact with-  
6 in the National Oceanographic and Atmos-  
7 pheric Administration;

8 “(iii) outlines the process and timeline  
9 by which a request shall be considered; and

10 “(iv) requests additional information  
11 concerning the fishery resource disaster, if  
12 the original request is considered incom-  
13 plete.

14 “(B) EVALUATION OF REQUESTS.—

15 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary  
16 shall complete a review, within the time  
17 frame described in clause (ii), using the  
18 best scientific information available, in  
19 consultation with the affected fishing com-  
20 munities, States, or Tribes, of—

21 “(I) the information provided by  
22 the requester and any additional in-  
23 formation relevant to the fishery,  
24 which may include—

25 “(aa) fishery characteristics;

1 “(bb) stock assessments;  
2 “(cc) the most recent fishery  
3 independent surveys and other  
4 fishery resource assessments and  
5 surveys conducted by Federal,  
6 State, or Tribal officials;  
7 “(dd) estimates of mortality;  
8 and  
9 “(ee) overall effects; and  
10 “(II) the available economic in-  
11 formation, which may include an anal-  
12 ysis of—  
13 “(aa) landings data;  
14 “(bb) revenue;  
15 “(cc) the number of partici-  
16 pants involved;  
17 “(dd) the number and type  
18 of jobs and persons impacted,  
19 which may include—  
20 “(AA) fishers;  
21 “(BB) charter fishing  
22 operators;  
23 “(CC) subsistence  
24 users;

1 “(DD) United States  
2 fish processors; and

3 “(EE) an owner of a  
4 related fishery infrastructure  
5 or business affected by the  
6 disaster, such as a marina  
7 operator, recreational fishing  
8 equipment retailer, or char-  
9 ter, headboat, or tender ves-  
10 sel owner, operator, or crew;

11 “(ee) an impacted Indian  
12 Tribe;

13 “(ff) other forms of disaster  
14 assistance made available to the  
15 fishery, including prior awards of  
16 disaster assistance for the same  
17 event;

18 “(gg) the length of time the  
19 resource, or access to the re-  
20 source, has been restricted;

21 “(hh) status of recovery  
22 from previous fishery resource  
23 disasters;

24 “(ii) lost resource tax reve-  
25 nues assessed by local commu-

1 nities, such as a raw fish tax;  
2 and

3 “(jj) other appropriate indi-  
4 cators to an affected fishery, as  
5 determined by the National Ma-  
6 rine Fisheries Service.

7 “(ii) TIME FRAME.—The Secretary  
8 shall complete the review described in  
9 clause (i), if the fishing season, applicable  
10 to the fishery—

11 “(I) has concluded or there is no  
12 defined fishing season applicable to  
13 the fishery, not later than 120 days  
14 after the Secretary receives a com-  
15 plete request for a fishery resource  
16 disaster determination;

17 “(II) has not concluded, not later  
18 than 120 days after the conclusion of  
19 the fishing season; or

20 “(III) is expected to be closed for  
21 the entire fishing season, not later  
22 than 120 days after the Secretary re-  
23 ceives a complete request for a fishery  
24 resource disaster determination.

1           “(C) FISHERY RESOURCE DISASTER DE-  
2           TERMINATION.—The Secretary shall make the  
3           determination of a fishery resource disaster  
4           based on the criteria for determinations listed  
5           in paragraph (5).

6           “(D) NOTIFICATION.—Not later than 14  
7           days after the conclusion of the review under  
8           this paragraph, the Secretary shall notify the  
9           requester and the Governor of the affected  
10          State or Tribal representative of the determina-  
11          tion of the Secretary.

12          “(5) CRITERIA FOR DETERMINATIONS.—

13                 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall  
14                 make a determination about whether a fishery  
15                 resource disaster has occurred, based on the  
16                 revenue loss thresholds under subparagraph  
17                 (B), and, if a fishery resource disaster has oc-  
18                 curred, whether the fishery resource disaster  
19                 was due to—

20                         “(i) a natural cause;

21                         “(ii) an anthropogenic cause;

22                         “(iii) a combination of a natural cause  
23                         and an anthropogenic cause; or

24                         “(iv) an undetermined cause.

25          “(B) REVENUE LOSS THRESHOLDS.—

1           “(i) IN GENERAL.—Based on the in-  
2           formation provided or analyzed under  
3           paragraph (4)(B), the Secretary shall  
4           apply the following 12-month revenue loss  
5           thresholds in determining whether a fish-  
6           ery resource disaster has occurred:

7                   “(I) Losses greater than 80 per-  
8                   cent may result in a positive deter-  
9                   mination that a fishery resource dis-  
10                  aster has occurred, based on the infor-  
11                  mation provided or analyzed under  
12                  paragraph (4)(B).

13                  “(II) Losses between 35 percent  
14                  and 80 percent shall be evaluated to  
15                  determine whether economic impacts  
16                  are severe enough to declare that a  
17                  fishery resource disaster has occurred.

18                  “(III) Losses less than 35 per-  
19                  cent shall not be eligible for a deter-  
20                  mination that a fishery resource dis-  
21                  aster has occurred.

22           “(ii) CHARTER FISHING.—In making  
23           a determination of whether a fishery re-  
24           source disaster has occurred, the Secretary  
25           shall consider the economic impacts to the

1 charter fishing industry to ensure financial  
2 coverage for charter fishing businesses.

3 “(iii) SUBSISTENCE LOSS.—In consid-  
4 ering subsistence loss, the Secretary shall  
5 evaluate the severity of loss to the fishing  
6 community instead of applying the revenue  
7 loss thresholds described in clause (i).

8 “(C) INELIGIBLE FISHERIES.—A fishery  
9 subject to overfishing in any of the 3 years pre-  
10 ceeding the date of a determination under this  
11 subsection is not eligible for a determination of  
12 whether a fishery resource disaster has occurred  
13 unless the Secretary determines that overfishing  
14 was not a contributing factor to the fishery re-  
15 source disaster.

16 “(D) EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES.—In  
17 an exceptional circumstance where substantial  
18 economic impacts to the affected fishery and  
19 fishing community have been subject to a dis-  
20 aster declaration under another statutory au-  
21 thority, such as in the case of a natural disaster  
22 or from the direct consequences of a Federal  
23 action taken to prevent, or in response to, a  
24 natural disaster for purposes of protecting life  
25 and safety, the Secretary may determine a fish-

1           ery resource disaster has occurred without a re-  
2           quest.

3           “(6) DISBURSAL OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS.—

4                 “(A) AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary  
5           shall allocate funds available under paragraph  
6           (9) for fishery resource disasters.

7                 “(B) ALLOCATION OF APPROPRIATED  
8           FISHERY RESOURCE DISASTER ASSISTANCE.—

9                     “(i) NOTIFICATION OF FUNDING  
10            AVAILABILITY.—When there are appro-  
11            priated funds for 1 or more fishery re-  
12            source disasters, the Secretary shall no-  
13            tify—

14                         “(I) the public; and

15                         “(II) representatives of affected  
16            fishing communities with a positive  
17            disaster determination that is un-  
18            funded,

19           of the availability of funds, not more than  
20           14 days after the date of the appropriation  
21           or the determination of a fishery resource  
22           disaster, whichever occurs later.

23                     “(ii) EXTENSION OF DEADLINE.—The  
24           Secretary may extend the deadline under



1 clause (i) by 90 days to evaluate and make  
2 determinations on eligible requests.

3 “(C) CONSIDERATIONS.—In determining  
4 the allocation of appropriations for a fishery re-  
5 source disaster, the Secretary shall consider  
6 commercial, charter, headboat, or seafood proc-  
7 essing revenue losses and may consider the fol-  
8 lowing factors:

9 “(i) Direct economic impacts.

10 “(ii) Uninsured losses.

11 “(iii) Losses of subsistence and Tribal  
12 ceremonial fishing opportunity.

13 “(iv) Losses of recreational fishing op-  
14 portunity.

15 “(v) Aquaculture operations revenue  
16 loss.

17 “(vi) Direct revenue losses to a fishing  
18 community.

19 “(vii) Treaty obligations.

20 “(viii) Other economic impacts.

21 “(D) SPEND PLANS.—To receive an alloca-  
22 tion from funds available under paragraph (9),  
23 a requester with an affirmative fishery resource  
24 disaster determination shall submit a spend  
25 plan to the Secretary, not more than 120 days

1 after receiving notification that funds are avail-  
2 able, that shall include the following informa-  
3 tion, if applicable:

4 “(i) Objectives and outcomes, with an  
5 emphasis on addressing the factors con-  
6 tributing to the fishery resource disaster  
7 and minimizing future uninsured losses, if  
8 applicable.

9 “(ii) Statement of work.

10 “(iii) Budget details.

11 “(E) REGIONAL CONTACT.—If so re-  
12 quested, the Secretary shall provide a regional  
13 contact within the National Oceanic and Atmos-  
14 pheric Administration to facilitate review of  
15 spend plans and disbursal of funds.

16 “(F) DISBURSAL OF FUNDS.—

17 “(i) AVAILABILITY.—Funds shall be  
18 made available to grantees not later than  
19 90 days after the date the Secretary re-  
20 ceives a complete spend plan.

21 “(ii) METHOD.—The Secretary may  
22 provide an allocation of funds under this  
23 subsection in the form of a grant, direct  
24 payment, cooperative agreement, loan, or  
25 contract.

1 “(iii) ELIGIBLE USES.—

2 “(I) IN GENERAL.—Funds allo-  
3 cated for fishery resources disasters  
4 under this subsection shall restore the  
5 fishery affected by such a disaster,  
6 prevent a similar disaster in the fu-  
7 ture, or assist the affected fishing  
8 community, and shall prioritize the  
9 following uses, which are not in order  
10 of priority:

11 “(aa) Habitat conservation  
12 and restoration and other activi-  
13 ties, including scientific research,  
14 that reduce adverse impacts to  
15 the fishery or improve under-  
16 standing of the affected species  
17 or its ecosystem.

18 “(bb) The collection of fish-  
19 ery information and other activi-  
20 ties that improve management of  
21 the affected fishery.

22 “(cc) In a commercial fish-  
23 ery, capacity reduction and other  
24 activities that improve manage-  
25 ment of fishing effort, including

1 funds to offset budgetary costs to  
2 refinance a Federal fishing ca-  
3 pacity reduction loan or to repay  
4 the principal of a Federal fishing  
5 capacity reduction loan.

6 “(dd) Developing, repairing,  
7 or improving fishery-related pub-  
8 lic infrastructure.

9 “(ee) Direct assistance to a  
10 person, fishing community (in-  
11 cluding assistance for lost fish-  
12 eries resource levies), or a busi-  
13 ness to alleviate economic loss in-  
14 curred as a direct result of a  
15 fishery resource disaster, particu-  
16 larly when affected by a cir-  
17 cumstance described in para-  
18 graph (5)(D).

19 “(ff) Hatcheries and stock  
20 enhancement to help rebuild the  
21 affected stock or offset fishing  
22 pressure on the affected stock.

23 “(II) DISPLACED FISHERY EM-  
24 PLOYEES.—Where appropriate, indi-  
25 viduals carrying out the activities de-

1           scribed in items (aa) through (dd) of  
2           subclause (I) shall be individuals who  
3           are, or were, employed in a commer-  
4           cial, charter, or Tribal fishery for  
5           which the Secretary has determined  
6           that a fishery resource disaster has  
7           occurred.

8           “(7) LIMITATIONS.—

9           “(A) FEDERAL SHARE.—

10           “(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as pro-  
11           vided in clauses (ii) and (iii), the Federal  
12           share of the cost of any activity carried out  
13           under the authority of this subsection shall  
14           not exceed 75 percent of the cost of that  
15           activity.

16           “(ii) WAIVER.—The Secretary may  
17           waive the non-Federal share requirements  
18           of this subsection, if the Secretary deter-  
19           mines that—

20           “(I) no reasonable means are  
21           available through which the recipient  
22           of the Federal share can meet the  
23           non-Federal share requirement; and

24           “(II) the probable benefit of 100  
25           percent Federal financing outweighs

1 the public interest in imposition of the  
2 non-Federal share requirement.

3 “(iii) EXCEPTION.—The Federal  
4 share shall be equal to 100 percent in the  
5 case of—

6 “(I) direct assistance as de-  
7 scribed in paragraph (6)(F)(iii)(I)(ee);  
8 or

9 “(II) assistance to subsistence or  
10 Tribal fisheries.

11 “(B) LIMITATIONS ON ADMINISTRATIVE  
12 EXPENSES.—

13 “(i) FEDERAL.—Not more than 3 per-  
14 cent of the funds available under this sub-  
15 section may be used for administrative ex-  
16 penses by the National Oceanographic and  
17 Atmospheric Administration.

18 “(ii) STATE OR TRIBAL GOVERN-  
19 MENTS.—Of the funds remaining after the  
20 use described in clause (i), not more than  
21 5 percent may be used by States, Tribal  
22 governments, or interstate marine fisheries  
23 commissions for administrative expenses.

24 “(C) FISHING CAPACITY REDUCTION PRO-  
25 GRAM.—

1           “(i) IN GENERAL.—No funds available  
2           under this subsection may be used as part  
3           of a fishing capacity reduction program in  
4           a fishery unless the Secretary determines  
5           that adequate conservation and manage-  
6           ment measures are in place in such fishery.

7           “(ii) ASSISTANCE CONDITIONS.—As a  
8           condition of providing assistance under  
9           this subsection with respect to a vessel  
10          under a fishing capacity reduction pro-  
11          gram, the Secretary shall—

12                   “(I) prohibit the vessel from  
13                   being used for fishing in Federal,  
14                   State, or international waters; and

15                   “(II) require that the vessel be—

16                           “(aa) scrapped or otherwise  
17                           disposed of in a manner approved  
18                           by the Secretary;

19                           “(bb) donated to a nonprofit  
20                           organization and thereafter used  
21                           only for purposes of research,  
22                           education, or training; or

23                           “(cc) used for another non-  
24                           fishing purpose provided the Sec-  
25                           retary determines that adequate

1 measures are in place to ensure  
2 that the vessel cannot reenter  
3 any fishery anywhere in the  
4 world.

5 “(D) NO FISHERY ENDORSEMENT.—

6 “(i) IN GENERAL.—A vessel that is  
7 prohibited from fishing under subpara-  
8 graph (C)(ii)(I) shall not be eligible for a  
9 fishery endorsement under section  
10 12113(a) of title 46, United States Code.

11 “(ii) NONEFFECTIVE.—A fishery en-  
12 dorsement for a vessel described in clause  
13 (i) shall not be effective.

14 “(iii) NO SALE.—A vessel described in  
15 clause (i) shall not be sold to a foreign  
16 owner or reflagged.

17 “(8) PUBLIC INFORMATION ON DATA COLLEC-  
18 TION.—The Secretary shall make available and up-  
19 date as appropriate, information on data collection  
20 and submittal best practices for the information de-  
21 scribed in paragraph (4)(B).

22 “(9) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—  
23 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
24 this subsection \$377,000,000 for the period of fiscal  
25 years 2021 through 2026.”.



1 **SEC. 3. MAGNUSON-STEVENSON FISHERY CONSERVATION AND**  
2 **MANAGEMENT ACT.**

3 (a) REPEAL.—Section 315 of the Magnuson-Stevens  
4 Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C.  
5 1864) is repealed.

6 (b) REPORT.—Section 113(b)(2) of the Magnuson-  
7 Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthor-  
8 ization Act of 2006 (16 U.S.C. 460ss note) is amended—

9 (1) in the paragraph heading, by striking “AN-  
10 NUAL REPORT” and inserting “REPORT”;

11 (2) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),  
12 by striking “Not later than 2 years after the date  
13 of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter”  
14 and inserting “Not later than 2 years after the date  
15 of enactment of the Fishery Resource Disasters Im-  
16 provement Act, and biennially thereafter”; and

17 (3) in subparagraph (D), by striking “the cal-  
18 endar year 2003” and inserting “the most recent”.

19 **SEC. 4. INTERJURISDICTIONAL FISHERIES ACT OF 1986.**

20 (a) REPEAL.—Section 308 of the Interjurisdictional  
21 Fisheries Act of 1986 (16 U.S.C. 4107) is repealed.

22 (b) TECHNICAL EDIT.—Section 3(k)(1) of the Small  
23 Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632(k)(1)) is amended by strik-  
24 ing “(as determined by the Secretary of Commerce under  
25 section 308(b) of the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act of  
26 1986)” and inserting “(as determined by the Secretary of

1 Commerce under the Fishery Resource Disasters Improve-  
2 ment Act)”.  
3

3 **SEC. 5. BUDGET REQUESTS; REPORTS.**

4 (a) BUDGET REQUEST.—In the budget justification  
5 materials submitted to Congress in support of the budget  
6 of the Department of Commerce for each fiscal year (as  
7 submitted with the budget of the President under section  
8 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code), the Secretary  
9 of Commerce shall include a separate statement of the  
10 amount requested to be appropriated for that fiscal year  
11 for outstanding unfunded fishery resource disasters.

12 (b) DRIFTNET ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1990 REPORT  
13 AND BYCATCH REDUCTION AGREEMENTS.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Magnuson-Stevens  
15 Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16  
16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.) is amended—

17 (A) in section 202(h), by striking para-  
18 graph (3); and

19 (B) in section 206—

20 (i) by striking subsections (e) and (f);

21 and

22 (ii) by redesignating subsections (g)

23 and (h) as subsections (e) and (f), respec-

24 tively.

1           (2) BIENNIAL REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL  
2 COMPLIANCE.—Section 607 of the High Seas  
3 Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act (16  
4 U.S.C. 1826h) is amended—

5           (A) by inserting “(a) IN GENERAL.—” be-  
6 fore “The Secretary” and indenting appro-  
7 priately; and

8           (B) by adding at the end the following:

9           “(b) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.—In addition to the  
10 information described in paragraphs (1) through (5) of  
11 subsection (a), the report shall include—

12           “(1) a description of the actions taken to carry  
13 out the provisions of section 206 of the Magnuson-  
14 Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act  
15 (16 U.S.C. 1826), including—

16           “(A) an evaluation of the progress of those  
17 efforts, the impacts on living marine resources,  
18 including available observer data, and specific  
19 plans for further action;

20           “(B) a list and description of any new fish-  
21 eries developed by nations that conduct, or au-  
22 thorize their nationals to conduct, large-scale  
23 driftnet fishing beyond the exclusive economic  
24 zone of any nation; and

1           “(C) a list of the nations that conduct, or  
2 authorize their nationals to conduct, large-scale  
3 driftnet fishing beyond the exclusive economic  
4 zone of any nation in a manner that diminishes  
5 the effectiveness of or is inconsistent with any  
6 international agreement governing large-scale  
7 driftnet fishing to which the United States is a  
8 party or otherwise subscribes; and

9           “(2) a description of the actions taken to carry  
10 out the provisions of section 202(h) of the Magnu-  
11 son-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management  
12 Act (16 U.S.C. 1822(h)).

13       “(c) CERTIFICATION.—If, at any time, the Secretary,  
14 in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Sec-  
15 retary of the department in which the Coast Guard is op-  
16 erating, identifies any nation that warrants inclusion in  
17 the list described under subsection (b)(1)(C), due to large  
18 scale drift net fishing, the Secretary shall certify that fact  
19 to the President. Such certification shall be deemed to be  
20 a certification for the purposes of section 8(a) of the Fish-  
21 ermen’s Protective Act of 1967 (22 U.S.C. 1978(a)).”.

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