

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 802

Designating August 2024 as “National Catfish Month”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 1, 2024

Mr. WICKER submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Designating August 2024 as “National Catfish Month”.

Whereas the Catfish Institute recognizes August to be National Catfish Month;

Whereas the States of Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas recognize August to be National Catfish Month;

Whereas the States of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and Tennessee embody the channel catfish as their State fish;

Whereas the United States farm-raised catfish industry employs nearly 10,000 people and creates more than \$1,900,000,000 in economic output;

Whereas the United States had more than 50,000 surface water acres used for catfish production in 2023, and cat-

fish growers in the United States had \$439,000,000 in sales during 2023;

Whereas the average catfish farmer produces 5,000 pounds of catfish per acre;

Whereas 99 percent of all United States farm-raised catfish are grown in Alabama, Arkansas, California, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, and Texas;

Whereas catfish is the largest farm-raised seafood product, by weight, in the United States, representing over 50 percent of the United States aquaculture industry;

Whereas United States catfish must meet rigorous safety standards, making domestic catfish a nutritious choice and a reliably higher quality product than imported catfish;

Whereas United States farm-raised catfish and Chesapeake Bay blue catfish are sustainable and environmentally friendly seafood products;

Whereas catfish is a lean fish and an excellent source of protein; and

Whereas catfish is a versatile fish in the cuisine of the United States, with a myriad of regional and national recipes to be enjoyed by all people of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) designates August 2024 as “National Cat-
3 fish Month”;

1 (2) recognizes the contributions of all workers,
2 past and present, that produce, process, and provide
3 catfish for the people of the United States;

4 (3) recognizes that purchasing United States
5 farm-raised catfish supports farmers, jobs, and the
6 economy of the United States; and

7 (4) recognizes Chesapeake Bay watermen for
8 harvesting overpopulated blue catfish, thereby pro-
9 tecting the health of the Chesapeake Bay.

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