

Honorable Rob Bishop  
Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1324 Longworth HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Bishop:

The undersigned organizations, companies, and individuals are writing to let you know of our strong support for HR 1335, the “Strengthening Fishing Communities and Increasing Flexibility in Fisheries Management Act”, as it was reported by the House Natural Resources Committee on April 30, 2015. This bill is the product of two years of hearings in the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress and strikes a good balance between maintaining the essential conservation goals of the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and improving that Act with some carefully crafted amendments to provide fisheries managers with needed flexibility. If enacted, HR 1335 will continue the rebuilding of depleted fish stocks, provide transparency, streamline the management process, and ensure that more scientific information is available to deal with data-poor fish stocks. We believe HR 1335 builds on the conservation tenets which are already part of the Act while providing economic relief to those coastal communities that have been frustrated by the rigidity of the Act.

At the same time, we are opposed to any effort to further amend HR 1335 with language that exempts the Gulf of Mexico red snapper fishery from the Magnuson Stevens Act. There is a process in place under existing law to deal with the complex issues surrounding this fishery and HR 1335 builds on that process with several provisions that will provide data to inform that process. Unfortunately, that is deemed insufficient by one radical sportsmen’s group who insists on taking the fishery out of the jurisdiction of the Magnuson Stevens Act. If this amendment is adopted, it will force us to reconsider our support for the bill.

Sincerely,

ORGANIZATIONS

West Coast Seafood Processors Association  
Directed Sustainable Fisheries, Inc.  
Garden State Seafood Association  
Long Island Commercial Fishing Association  
Florida Keys Commercial Fishermen’s  
Association  
Southern Offshore Fishing Association  
Pacific Seafood Processors Association  
Washington Trollers Association  
Coalition of Coastal Fisheries  
United Catcher Boats  
California Wetfish Producers Association

North Carolina Fisheries Association  
Western Fishboat Owners Association  
United Boatmen of New Jersey  
Long Island Traditions  
American Albacore Research Foundation  
Alliance of Communities for Sustainable  
Fisheries  
Lower Columbia Alliance for Sustainable  
Fisheries  
Bay County, Florida Chamber of Commerce  
California Sea Urchin Commission

BUSINESSES

Fish-Net USA  
Lund's Fisheries Inc.  
Cape Trawlers Inc.  
Cape Clam, Inc.  
Lund Marr Trawlers LLC  
Mt Vernon LLC  
Scombrus One LLC  
Western Explorer LLC  
Elite G LLC  
Nancy Elizabeth LLC  
Loper Bright Enterprises LLC  
Sun Coast Calamari LLC  
Pt Hueneme Ice LLC  
WIFTEK LLC  
Golden Nugget LLC  
Golden Mountain Trading Co.  
Rustin Marketing Services, LLC  
Fishermen's Dock Co-op  
Knot On Duty Fishing Charters  
Fishy Business, Inc.  
R.I. Engine Co.  
F/V BARBARA PAULINE  
Salt Pond Fisheries  
Yankee Pride Fisheries  
Seaside Fuel  
Wild Atlantic Seafood

Starfish Boats.com  
Hunter Deep Sea Fishing  
F/V ANNE KATHRYN  
RiverCenter Marine, LLC  
Montauk Fish Dock, Inc.  
JH Miles & Co., Inc.  
Trawlworks, Inc.  
F/V MISS MADISON  
The Bait Company  
Seafreeze Ltd.  
Relentless, Inc.  
Huntress, Inc.  
Captain Anderson's Marina  
F/V RIANDA S  
F/V DEFIANT  
F/V RYAN & DILLON  
F/V UMIAK  
F/V KAILEYANN  
F/V DARANA R  
Oldsquaw Fisheries Inc.  
F/V TOOTS  
F/V THERESA & ALLYSON  
F/V JAMIE & ASHLEY  
Superior Trawl  
F/V EMILIA ROSE

## INDIVIDUALS

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