

The Honorable Paul Ryan Speaker of the House 232 Capitol Building Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy Majority Leader H-107 Capitol Building Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Democratic Leader 204 Capitol Building Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Steny Hoyer Democratic Whip 148 Capitol Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Ryan, Leader Pelosi, Representative McCarthy and Representative Hoyer,

On behalf of our *more than 930,000* members, Center for Food Safety strongly urges you to oppose any legislation, including H.R. 200 and H.R. 2023, that would undermine the conservation provisions of the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson Stevens Act). Our members rely on healthy, abundant wild fish populations, especially of wild Pacific Salmon and any legislation that would weaken their management should not move forward in this Congress.

H.R. 200 and H.R. 2023 would increase the risk of overfishing and threaten the progress we've made on rebuilding vulnerable fish populations. They would undermine years of strong science-based management that is helping stabilize fishing businesses and coastal communities.

These bills would extend the timelines for plans to rebuild vulnerable fish populations, delaying when fishermen would benefit from a fully healthy stock. They would exempt fish populations from the use of science-based annual catch limits designed to prevent overfishing. The Magnuson-Stevens Act is helping to end fishing at unsustainable rates and put Salmonids on the road to recovery. The signs of success for Pacific Salmon—more and bigger fish dispersed throughout a broader range—are evidence that strong fisheries management can work.

Strong fisheries management is integral to protecting robust populations of important wild species, like Pacific Salmon, and ensuring a safe, healthy, and sustainable food supply. Wild salmon populations are already at risk from several human activities, in particular the proliferation of intensive ocean-based aquaculture production of industrially-bred and genetically engineered Salmonids. Pollution from these facilities, including the millions of industrial fish that may escape in a single year, can decimate wild species populations, undermining the livelihoods of fishing communities and the agency of consumers seeking healthy, wild-caught salmon for their families.

Center for Food Safety urges you to oppose H.R. 200 and H.R. 2023, and any other legislation that would undermine the conservation requirements that have been critical to the success of the Magnuson Stevens Act.

Sincerely,

Andrew Kimbrell

Founder & Executive Director

Center for Food Safety

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