



SIERRA
CLUB
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NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

145 West Hanover St., Trenton, NJ 08618
TEL: [609] 656-7612 FAX: [609] 656-7618
www.SierraClub.org/NJ

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

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader
204 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Majority Leader
H-107 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 20,000 members and 60,000 supporters, The New Jersey Sierra Club 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 fish populations, especially of fluke, flounder, menhaden, and other New Jersey Species. Any legislation that would weaken this 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 many species on the road to recovery. The signs of success for these species—more and bigger fish dispersed throughout a broader range—are evidence that strong fisheries management can work.

New Jersey is a coastal state and we bring in revenue from our fisheries and tourism along the coast. Jeopardizing fish stocks with put both sources of revenue at risk. We've lost other fisheries in our state such as cod and shrimp by overfishing in the past. Monkfish fisheries, as well as other species, have dropped substantially off our coasts. Summer flounder and menhaden were threatened when the Trump Administration overruled scientific limits. Pollution and overfishing are now threatening flounder numbers and other species. We can't afford to have additional threats to New Jersey's fisheries and that's what these bills would do.



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The New Jersey Sierra Club 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.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter further, please feel free to call me at (609) 558-9100.

Sincerely,

Jeff Tittel
Director
New Jersey Sierra Club