

**CITIZENS
CAMPAIGN**
FOR THE ENVIRONMENT



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Empowering Communities, Advocating Solutions.

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 Citizens Campaign for the Environment (CCE), I am writing to respectfully urge you to oppose any efforts to undermine conservation provisions of the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson Stevens Act). CCE is an 80,000 member, non-profit organization that empowers communities and advocates solutions that protect our shared environment and public health in New York and Connecticut.

CCE strongly urges you to oppose any legislation (including H.R. 200 and H.R. 2023) that would undermine Magnuson Stevens Act. The residents and economy of New York and Connecticut rely on healthy, abundant fish populations, especially in Long Island Sound. The Sound is a critical economic engine for New York and Connecticut, generating more than \$17 billion annually for our regional economy through tourism, commercial fishing, recreational boating and other industries. 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. These bills 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 of our fish species (including striped bass, winter flounder, black sea bass, sea trout and many others) on the road to recovery. These success indicators for many of our native fish species are evidence that strong fisheries management can work.

In conclusion, CCE respectfully urges you to oppose H.R. 200 and H.R. 2023, along with any other legislation that would undermine those conservation requirements that have been critical to the success of the Magnuson Stevens Act.

Sincerely,

Adrienne Esposito

Executive Director