

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 network of seafood industry entrepreneurs and innovators, Future of Fish strongly urges you to oppose any legislation, including H.R. 200 and H.R. 2023, which would undermine the conservation provisions of the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson Stevens Act). Responsible industry players rely on healthy, abundant fish populations, whose protection discourages bad actors and from over-exploiting the oceans and gaining unfair advantage. Any legislation that would weaken fisheries 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 our national fisheries on the road to recovery.

Fisheries protection is good for industry, as it preserves the resource to support marine economies and livelihoods in communities across our coastlines for years to come. Weakening these protections is short sighted and dangerous to our national economic interests.

The Future of Fish 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.

Cheryl Dahle Founder Future of Fish

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