

Connecticut Chapter P.O. Box 270595 West Hartford, Connecticut 06127 www.sierraclub.org/connecticut

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 8000 members, the Connecticut Chapter of the 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 recognize the importance of healthy, abundant fish populations, especially of short nosed sturgeon and any legislation that would weaken 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 Atlantic and shortnose sturgeon on the road to recovery. The signs of success for *the federally endangered sturgeon*—more and bigger fish dispersed throughout a broader range–are evidence that strong fisheries management can work.

The Connecticut 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.

Sincerely, Martha Klein, Chapter Chair Connecticut Sierra Club P.O. Box 270595 West Hartford, CT 06127