

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 60

BY REPRESENTATIVES KERNER, BOURRIAQUE, BRYANT, BUTLER, TRAVIS  
JOHNSON, MCCORMICK, MINCEY, RISER, ROMERO, ST. BLANC,  
THOMPSON, AND WHEAT

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to review and consider the appropriation of additional funds for the purpose of performing inspections on foreign seafood processors and farms that import seafood into the United States.

WHEREAS, a 2017 study conducted by the U.S. Government Accountability Office found that only a limited number of inspections are performed on foreign seafood processors and farmers; and

WHEREAS, foreign seafood, especially those grown in aquaculture facilities, are often treated with large doses of antibiotics and other chemicals to treat diseases and enhance their growth; and

WHEREAS, the lack of inspections and testing can lead to unhealthy levels of chemicals and antibiotics in the seafood being consumed by Americans; and

WHEREAS, these practices place American commercial seafood producers at a competitive disadvantage with foreign producers who are not held to the same standards; and

WHEREAS, the lack of inspection creates a tangible threat to our national security and the health and safety of American citizens; and

WHEREAS, the fees collected on imported seafood can be used to fund the hiring of additional inspectors to ensure the safety of imported seafood consumed by Americans.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby request that the United States Congress take action to appropriate the necessary funds for the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to take immediate measures to significantly increase the level of seafood inspection at the sites where it is harvested and at our borders.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana hereby requests that the United States require every lot of imported seafood to enter our border with a full lab certificate ensuring compliance with our food and drug laws.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE