

1 and for farm operating loans, which they could use to cover operating and maintenance
2 costs; and

3 WHEREAS, under the Act, fish processors would also be eligible for farm ownership
4 loans, which they could use to acquire or upgrade processing facilities, and for farm
5 operating loans, which they could use to help address the significant operating and
6 maintenance costs that continue to rise; and

7 WHEREAS, the Act would extend eligibility for farm credit to those businesses that
8 provide services to commercial fishermen and fish processing facilities so that businesses
9 and rural communities that rely on the coastal fishing economy would gain an additional
10 option to finance their businesses in the same way that businesses and communities that rely
11 on the farming economy do; and

12 WHEREAS, to ensure effective implementation, the Act further directs the USDA
13 to conduct outreach, provide technical assistance, train agency staff, and coordinate with the
14 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and other federal and state agencies to
15 make sure the USDA programs are accessible to the commercial fishing industry; and

16 WHEREAS, Louisiana's commercial fishermen and processors, as well as the coastal
17 communities they support, would gain improved access to capital, strengthened domestic
18 seafood markets, and support for the long-term competitiveness of domestic commercial
19 fishing and processing.

20 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
21 memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to pass the
22 American Seafood Competitiveness Act of 2026.

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

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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Domangue

Urges and requests Congress to pass the American Seafood Competitiveness Act of 2026.