HLS 13RS-1827 ORIGINAL

Regular Session, 2013

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 120

BY REPRESENTATIVE HARRISON

PUBLIC HEALTH: Memorializes congress to prevent the importation of seafood from Asian producers

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to ban the
3	importation into the United States of shrimp from countries that have experienced
4	early mortality syndrome in their shrimp industry.
5	WHEREAS, early mortality syndrome (EMS) has been identified in the shrimp
6	stocks in China, Vietnam, Malaysia, and Thailand, causing large losses among the shrimp
7	farms in those countries; and
8	WHEREAS, EMS is characterized by mass mortalities during the first twenty to
9	thirty days of culture in growout ponds along with the clinical signs including slow growth,
10	corkscrew swimming, loose shells, and pale coloration; and
11	WHEREAS, affected shrimp consistently show an abnormal shrunken, small,
12	swollen, or discolored hepatopancreas resulting in mortality; and
13	WHEREAS, although it is thought that the disease is caused by toxins, the anecdotal
14	information suggests that the spread patterns of the disease may be consistent with an
15	infectious agent; and
16	WHEREAS, since the cause and the infectiousness of the disease is unknown but the
17	massive mortality resultant from the disease is well documented and widespread; and
18	WHEREAS, Mexico has already taken steps to protect its shrimp industry by halting
19	the importation of all forms of shrimp from those countries where the disease has been
20	identified; and

1 WHEREAS, the shrimp industry in the state of Louisiana and across the Gulf of 2 Mexico states is a multibillion dollar industry that has been reeling for several years from 3 the impacts of hurricanes, riverine flooding, and the impacts of the BP Macondo well 4 disaster and could not withstand the impacts of a disease causing massive mortality in the 5 shrimp stock, therefore it is paramount that our government assist the shrimp industry in the 6 fight against this latest attack. 7 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby 8 memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to ban the 9 importation into the United States of shrimp from countries that have experienced early 10 mortality syndrome in their shrimp industry. 11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the 12 presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the 13 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)]

Harrison HCR No. 120

Memorializes the U.S. Congress to take such actions as are necessary to ban the importation into the U.S. of shrimp from countries that have experienced early mortality syndrome in their shrimp industry.