

1 SJR81
2 160121-2
3 By Senator Blackwell
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 13-MAR-14

1 SJR81

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4 ENROLLED, SJR81,

5 URGING CONGRESS TO SUPPORT THE MARKETING OF ALABAMA
6 SEAFOOD PRODUCTS.

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8 WHEREAS, Alabama seafood products face constantly
9 increasing domestic competition from imported seafood
10 products, with more than 80 percent of the total seafood
11 consumed in the United States currently originating in foreign
12 countries; and

13 WHEREAS, effective domestic marketing of Alabama
14 seafood in the face of aggressive competition from foreign
15 products requires innovative, forceful, and consistent
16 promotion; and

17 WHEREAS, current annual funding is insufficient to
18 effectively develop the thriving markets that sustainable
19 Alabama seafood products merit, especially when competing with
20 nationally supported promotional programs aimed at United
21 States consumers by rival seafood-producing countries; and

22 WHEREAS, duties and tariffs on imported seafood
23 products generate approximately \$280,000,000 annually for the
24 United States Treasury; and

1 WHEREAS, revenue from anti-dumping and
2 countervailing duties on imported seafood products collected
3 by the federal government total hundreds of millions of
4 dollars annually, and

5 WHEREAS, federal revenue derived from the
6 importation of competing seafood products is not presently
7 made available for the marketing of seafood harvested and
8 produced domestically; and

9 WHEREAS, using a portion of the revenue collected on
10 the importation of foreign seafood products to promote United
11 States seafood to domestic consumers will secure United States
12 fisheries and seafood processing jobs, create robust and
13 enduring domestic markets, and greatly enhance the nutritional
14 value of national diets; and

15 WHEREAS, throughout recent history each spill or
16 leak associated with the transportation or production of oil
17 negatively affects the seafood industry through the closure of
18 commercial and recreational fishing operations, the
19 destruction of wildlife and natural habitat, or loss of market
20 share; and

21 WHEREAS, in a recent survey conducted by the
22 University of Minnesota, 54 percent of respondents said the
23 Deepwater Horizon oil spill has affected their seafood
24 consumption habits somewhat, 44 percent said they will not eat

1 seafood from the Gulf of Mexico, and 31 percent said they will
2 eat less seafood regardless of its origin; and

3 WHEREAS, a new National Seafood Marketing Fund
4 designed to promote and develop United States produced seafood
5 would help the United States seafood industry now and in the
6 future recoup damages related to oil spills that result in
7 decreased market demand for seafood; and

8 WHEREAS, a small portion of oil revenues are a
9 logical source of funding for a National Seafood Marketing
10 Fund as mitigation for real damages incurred by the seafood
11 industry and coastal communities; now therefore,

12 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
13 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we urge the United States
14 Congress to allocate moneys generated from federal marine and
15 fishery product import tariffs for the domestic marketing of
16 Alabama seafood.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we urge Congress to
18 pass legislation dedicating a significant portion of marine
19 and fishery product import tariffs to a National Seafood
20 Marketing Fund to promote domestic seafood products that face
21 competition from foreign imports.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we urge the Alabama
23 Congressional Delegation to work with representatives of other
24 seafood-producing states to secure adequate funding for

1 effective and sustained domestic marketing of United States
2 seafood.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this
4 resolution be made available to the President of the United
5 States, to the President of the United States Senate, to the
6 Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to
7 each member of the Alabama Congressional Delegation.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR81
Senate 18-MAR-14
I hereby certify that the within Senate Joint Resolution
originated in and was adopted by the Senate.

Patrick Harris
Secretary

House of Representatives
Adopted: 03-APR-14

By: Senator Blackwell