

# HJR202 INTRODUCED



1 HJR202  
2 CBSUQWJ-1  
3 By Representative Brown  
4 RFD: RULES  
5 First Read: 16-Apr-24



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HJR\_\_\_ URGING CONGRESS AND THE ALABAMA CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO PASS THE SAVE OUR SHRIMPERS ACT OF 2024 TO PROTECT THE UNITED STATES' AND ALABAMA'S SHRIMPING INDUSTRY.

WHEREAS, Alabama is one of eight states on the Gulf of Mexico whose shrimping industry is suffering an existential crisis due to a market flooded with inexpensive, imported shrimp from foreign markets; on April 10, 2024, in a bipartisan effort to safeguard the United States shrimp industry, federal lawmakers introduced the Save Our Shrimpers Act of 2024; and

WHEREAS, the act would curb the federal government's ability to fund groups that supply financing to foreign shrimp farmers and to use its influence in international monetary institutions to promote the growth of foreign shrimp aquaculture; this encompasses direct payments, loan guarantees, or any other form of financial aid through International Financial Institutions (IFIs) such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF); and

WHEREAS, the act brought to light that U.S. taxpayer dollars are being used to finance foreign shrimp farm operations through IFIs and the IMF; these foreign operations include shrimp farming, shrimp processing, and shrimp being exported to the United States; and

WHEREAS, due to the global excess capacity and



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29 production of farm-raised shrimp and imports, the U.S.  
30 market is being overwhelmed, driving shrimp prices down;  
31 with increased fuel costs and record low shrimp prices,  
32 American shrimp harvesters are unable to leave port, causing  
33 suffering and hardship to the shrimpers and the communities  
34 that rely on them; and

35 WHEREAS, while U.S. shrimpers are suffering, foreign  
36 shrimp farmers and processors are expanding production with  
37 funding from the World Bank; low, government-subsidized  
38 prices for these foreign-farmed shrimp prevent a fair and  
39 equitable market for the American shrimper; and

40 WHEREAS, further, many foreign shrimp producers have  
41 been found to use forced labor and child exportation  
42 practices; and in March, India's shrimp industry was accused  
43 of mistreating workers and violating quality standards in  
44 three separate reports published by U.S.-based media and  
45 nonprofit groups; in 2015, a Consumer Reports study found  
46 that some imported shrimp were contaminated with antibiotic  
47 residues, some of which are linked to cancer and others that  
48 are not approved for use in the U.S.; and

49 WHEREAS, this America-first initiative would stop the  
50 decades-long use of American tax dollars to fund foreign  
51 shrimping operations and ensure a free market shrimp  
52 industry in the U.S.; now therefore,

53 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
54 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the State of Alabama  
55 supports the bipartisan Save Our Shrimpers Act of 2024, and  
56 we urge Congress and the Alabama Congressional Delegation to



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57 pass this legislation and protect Alabama and other Gulf  
58 states who contribute to this important industry from  
59 further harm.