

From: Sarah Brenholt <sarah@hendersonstrategies.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 9:34 AM
Subject: **Signatures Needed** Pro-aquaculture to congress
Attachments: SATS June 2020 House Letter - Final Draft signatures.pdf; AQUAA Act 2020 Section by Section_.pdf

Dear American Aquaculture Supporters,

As you know, offshore aquaculture is gaining much-needed support and traction in Washington, D.C. – which is GREAT news. (And we can all use some great news right now!) But, in order to maintain this inertia, **federal policymakers must hear from seafood stakeholders like you. May we add your name and affiliation** to the attached letter addressed to the U.S. House of Representatives? This simple letter highlights a few benefits of American offshore seafood production and outlines the need for federal action. Adding your name to this letter is a quick and easy way to support the U.S. aquaculture movement and get your voice heard!

SOME MORE BACKGROUND: In early March, House Agriculture Committee Chairman Collin Peterson (D-MN) and Rep. Steve Palazzo (R-MS) reintroduced the Advancing the Quality and Understanding of American Aquaculture (AQUAA) Act, H.R. 6191 <https://www.congress.gov/116/bills/hr6191/BILLS-116hr6191ih.pdf>. In short, this bi-partisan legislation authorizes NOAA to clarify a regulatory process for permitting U.S. offshore aquaculture. This new version of H.R. 6191 also contains improvements that will further ensure environmental sustainability and elevate coordination among stakeholders, including wild capture fishers and the states. It also outlines exciting new concepts like **Aquaculture Enterprise Zones** and establishes **National Standards for Offshore Aquaculture**, principles which will ultimately guide our nation as we seek to balance the benefits of seafood production with environmental and societal considerations.

The attached letter to Congress is simple: It asks that Representatives contact Reps. Peterson and Palazzo to learn more about AQUAA. (Note: This language would typically not constitute “lobbying activity”). It is a gentle reminder to lawmakers that seafood is an important part of the American economic engine and must be a part of our national plan and of our country’s seafood future.

To have your name/organization added as a signatory to this letter, please respond directly to this e-mail with your name, affiliation, city and state.

Deadline for signatures is Tuesday, June 16th at 5:00 PM ET.

For more details on the AQUAA Act, the recent Presidential Executive Order on Seafood Competitiveness or any of the advocacy work of Stronger America Through Seafood (SATS) www.StrongerThroughSeafood.org, please contact Sarah Brenholt at Sarah@HendersonStrategies.com.

THANK YOU!

Kind Regards,

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