



Dear Representative:

As a recreational angler, and as your constituent, I urge you to vote yes on H.R. 1335, the Strengthening Fishing Communities and Increasing Flexibility in Fisheries Management Act, when it comes to the floor.

Congress is set to reauthorize the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA), which is the primary law governing saltwater fisheries management in federal waters. A broad coalition of recreational boating and fishing organizations is working together to support reauthorization of MSA in a way that addresses the priorities of the recreational fishing community. Many of those priorities are contained within H.R. 1335. If passed, H.R. 1335 would continue responsible conservation of our nation's marine resources, a top priority for the recreational fishing community, while providing anglers greater opportunity to access healthy and/or rebuilt fish stocks.

Saltwater recreational fishing has a \$70 billion impact on our nation's economy, supporting 454,000 jobs. Marinas, grocery stores, restaurants, motels, lodges, tackle shops, boat dealerships, clothing manufacturers, gas stations and a host of other businesses and entities benefit from the dollars spent by recreational anglers in pursuit of their sport.

H.R. 1335, sponsored by Rep. Don Young, was approved by the Committee on Natural Resources and is widely championed by the recreational fishing community and industry. Your support of this bill, and for the following three amendments, will be greatly appreciated:

- An amendment by Rep. Wittman that gives NOAA Fisheries the authority to implement management practices better tailored to the nature of recreational fishing.
- An amendment by Rep. Graves to transfer management of Gulf of Mexico red snapper to the five Gulf states, which are capable of sustainably managing this fishery while allowing for reasonable public access.
- An amendment by Rep. Young that will improve fisheries science by better incorporating data collected by anglers into management.

These amendments are widely supported by recreational fishermen. Please vote 'yes' on these three amendments, then 'yes' on H.R. 1335!

Thank you for your support of the recreational fishing community.

Sincerely,

Name

Address

City

State, Zip