



The Shrimp E-Advocate

Southern Shrimp Alliance

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BREAKING NEWS

SENATORS ASK COMMERCE TO ENFORCE U.S. TRADE LAWS

United States Senators Lott (MS), Chambliss (GA), Landrieu (LA), Vitter (LA), and Isakson (GA) urged the Department of Commerce to enforce U.S. trade laws vigorously with regards to the review of antidumping duties on shrimp in a joint letter to Commerce Secretary Gutierrez sent May 25, 2007. This action was taken in response to information brought to their attention by SSA. The letter cited examples of lax enforcement and troubling changes in the Department's interpretation of the U.S. trade laws that are detrimental to the U.S. shrimp industry. The Southern Shrimp Alliance (SSA) welcomed the Senators' expressions of concern and continued support.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

SSA WORKS TOWARDS FAIR AND EQUITABLE BYRD DISTRIBUTIONS

SSA's leadership met with CBP in an effort to ensure that this year's CDSOA (Byrd) distributions are fair and equitable to all eligible affected producers of domestic shrimp. While last year's CDSOA distributions were very welcome, it was apparent that there

were many errors. SSA and our political allies repeatedly brought these known errors to the CBP's attention prior to distribution last year, but CBP refused to address the problems before issuing erroneous checks. At SSA's urging, CBP is currently verifying last year's distributions.

SSA BOARD MEMBERS FEATURED IN "ENFORCING THE RULES" VIDEO

A study released last week by the Alliance for American Manufacturing gives a first-of-its-kind look at the economic benefit of enforcing U.S. trade laws and costs of unfair trade. SSA Board members Mickey Johnson and Joey Rodriguez are featured in a video about the study called "Enforcing the Rules." Watch the video on [AAM's website](#). For more on the study's results, please read the opinion editorial by Stephen Koplan, the former International Trade Commission Chairman, later in this newsletter. (<http://www.americanmanufacturing.org/issues/internationaltrade/enforcing-the-rules-2/>)

REGULATORY AND LEGAL UPDATE

CBP INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR BYRD FUNDS

On May 29th, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) issued a "Notice of Intent" to distribute antidumping duties to eligible domestic producers. SSA members will be mailed a copy of the notice, which provides guidance on how to complete the certification process. The notice can also be found [here](#) on SSA's website. (<http://shrimpalliance.com/Press Releases/2007 CBP Notice of Intent.pdf>)

SSA, CONGRESS, AND CBP WORK TO ADDRESS CIRCUMVENTION

SSA's coordination with its Congressional allies and CBP regarding circumvention of the antidumping orders is yielding results. In recent meetings, CBP has confirmed to SSA that preventing circumvention of the shrimp antidumping duty orders is a high priority that it will aggressively address. SSA has provided information that indicates that transshipment of shrimp and abuse of so-called "dusted" shrimp are primary venues for circumvention. SSA thanks Senator Jeff Sessions (AL) for sending a letter to CBP expressing concerns regarding transshipment and urging the agency to bolster enforcement.

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON RED SNAPPER

At more than a dozen hearings across the Gulf states, SSA members gave public testimony on proposed regulations to end the overfishing of red snapper. SSA coordinated the effort through standard talking points that echoed formal written comments submitted by the organization. The Council will be hosting meetings on the preferred alternative regulations next week in New Orleans. SSA directors and Glenn Delaney will be present to advocate SSA's positions to share the responsibility of ending overfishing with the directed fisheries.

FLORIDA NON-NATIVE FISH AQUACULTURE BAN

A broad coalition, including SSA, praised the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FL DACS) for new rules that ban the use of non-native and altered fish in open ocean aquaculture in Florida's ocean waters. SSA, along with other stakeholders, is urging the Gulf Council to adopt similar bans of non-native and altered fish in an open water aquaculture plan that would apply to regional waters.

BOARD MEMBER NEWS

SSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The Board of Directors will be meeting at Charleston Place Hotel on June 30th and July 1st in Charleston, SC. All SSA members are welcome to attend briefings on the status of trade actions, regulatory issues, and legislative efforts that affect our businesses.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONTACT INFORMATION

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GUEST AUTHOR

Time to Get Tough With Trade Enforcement by Stephen Koplan

Since the year 2000, the United States has lost 3 million manufacturing jobs. Last year, the U.S. trade deficit set a new record at \$764 billion and this has been happening year

after year. China alone accounts for nearly 30 percent of that deficit.

Some free trade ideologues argue that we should basically dismantle our nation's trade laws to give foreign products greater access to our markets. They argue that the consumer will be better off.

With the size of our trade deficit, it's hard to argue with a straight face that products have trouble getting into our market. And while it's true that there may be some short-term benefit to consumers from allowing illegally dumped and subsidized imports into our market, a new study commissioned by the Alliance for American Manufacturing (www.americanmanufacturing.org) shows that the long-term negative impact on our economy, our jobs, our producers and our communities vastly outweighs any small, short-term benefit.

The new study, "Enforcing the Rules," proves that our trade laws are vital to the health and success of our nation. For example, in the steel sector, lost profits and income between 1996 and 1998 amounted to \$2.66 billion. In the shrimp industry, the authors of the study computed that the negative impact was \$210 million between 2000 and 2003. And in furniture, the impact was \$333 million between 2001 and 2003. Other sectors of our economy from agriculture to high technology faced similar results.

Enforcing U.S. trade laws to prohibit unfair practices such as dumping and subsidies shouldn't be a question for our nation's leaders, it should be virtually automatic. People who work hard and play by the rules deserve to know that the government will stand by them and stand up for their interests when foreign countries try to cheat in the world trading system.

The message from this study is clear: without vigorous enforcement of our U.S. trade laws our domestic industries will suffer crippling losses and workers' jobs will be irretrievably lost.

Stephen Koplan is the former chairman of the U.S. International Trade Commission

From our Readers:

We would like to begin to share feedback from our readers. If you have any positive news to share with us and the readers please send us an email to info@shrimpaliance.com, subject line feedback. We look forward to sharing what you have to say.

GUEST Column - WASI

SOUTHERN LIVING

The June issue of Southern Living contains a wonderful front cover article about domestic, wild-caught shrimp. The cycle for public relations can often seem overly challenging and fruitless. However, the articles that have recently been published in Gourmet, Saveur, Coastal Living and now Southern Living touting the WASI message are a great example of how persistence and a powerful message can pay off.

JAMES BEARD

WASI will be hosting a special 6-course meal featuring pink, white, and brown Certified Wild American Shrimp prepared by esteemed Commander's Palace Executive Chef, Tory McPhail, at the renowned James Beard House in New York on June 5th. The food editors and culinary professionals who write the kind of articles you have been reading recently have been invited to attend this event. This is the second event of this nature in an effort to educate editors and journalists about the shrimp they are eating.

Specific wines have been chosen and will be provided by Constellation Vineyards to accompany the dishes and to accentuate the pleasant differences in shrimp flavor profiles.

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