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January 28, 2011

The Honorable Deanna Tanner Okun
Chairman
U.S. International Trade Commission
500 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20436

The Honorable Irving A. Williamson
Vice Chairman
U.S. International Trade Commission
500 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20436

Re: Frozen Warmwater Shrimp and Prawns from Brazil, China, India, Thailand, and Vietnam, Inv. No. 731-TA-1063, 1064, 1066-1068 (Review)

Dear Chairman Okun and Commissioners,

I am writing to you today on behalf of the hard working men and women in Louisiana's 7th district and to respectfully ask this Commission to vote to continue the antidumping duty orders on shrimp from Brazil, China, India, Thailand, and Vietnam. This Commission has always shown prudence in making sure that domestic industries do not face unfair global trade practices, so I urge you to look carefully at the facts in this case and make the right decision.

Since assuming my position in 2005, I have been committed to helping keep and grow small businesses in Southwest Louisiana. Small businesses are the backbone of our economy, and the majority of the shrimp fishermen, processors, and distributors operate small, family businesses, as they have been doing for generations. One of the best ways our government can help these small businesses is by leveling the playing field and opening up new markets for our domestic industries. Small business owners across Southwest Louisiana will suffer if the orders are revoked.

Before imposition of the antidumping orders in 2005, the domestic shrimp industry was struggling to survive. As imports flooded the U.S. market, domestic shrimp prices tumbled to compete with the low-priced subject imports. Businesses were closing because the meager revenues were not enough to pay employees and basic expenses and shrimp fishing in general was in rapid decline.

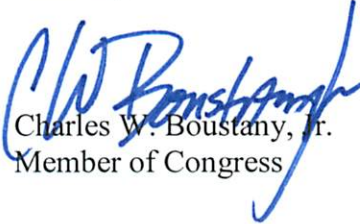
Once the Commission imposed the orders, the surge of imports began to dwindle and the domestic shrimp industry had an opportunity to get back on its feet. This was evidenced by the 13 percent increase in Louisiana's shrimp production from 2005 to 2009. This fact is noteworthy because some have estimated the economic impact of Louisiana's shrimp industry at about \$1 billion dollars. In addition, the assistance offered to the shrimp industry by the orders gave

business owners the ability to use their profits to hire new employees, buy new equipment and expand their business as they saw fit.

While the shrimp industry in my state has made strides in the past five years, I must stress that this industry is still vulnerable. The shrimp industry in Louisiana and across the Gulf had to rebuild after being pummeled with hurricanes in 2005 and 2008, and just when they started making progress, they were hit with the effects of the economic recession. The recent Gulf oil spill was another assault on the economy of our region. I am certain that a revocation of the orders would lead to a flood of dumped imported shrimp into our markets and have a deleterious effect on this vital sector.

In closing, I respectfully request that the U.S. International Trade Commission extend antidumping duty orders on frozen warmwater shrimp from Brazil, China, India, Thailand, and Vietnam. With the Commission's support, this important domestic industry will continue to make an amazing contribution to Louisiana's economy. Thank you for your time and consideration of my request.

Sincerely,



Charles W. Boustany, Jr.
Member of Congress

CC: The Honorable Charlotte R. Lane
The Honorable Daniel R. Pearson
The Honorable Shara L. Aranoff
The Honorable Dean A. Pinkert