

JO BONNER

1ST DISTRICT, ALABAMA

ASSISTANT REPUBLICAN WHIP

REPUBLICAN STUDY COMMITTEE

SERVING BALDWIN, CLARKE,  
ESCAMBIA, MOBILE, MONROE AND  
WASHINGTON COUNTIES

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

APPROPRIATIONS  
SUBCOMMITTEES:  
COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE  
LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,  
EDUCATION

ETHICS  
RANKING MEMBER

ALAN C. SPENCER  
CHIEF OF STAFF

January 28, 2011

The Honorable Deanna Tanner Okun  
Chairman

The Honorable Irving A. Williamson  
Vice Chairman

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

U.S. International Trade Commission  
500 E Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20436

Dear Chairman Okun and Commissioners:

We are writing to express support for the continuation of the antidumping duty orders on frozen warmwater shrimp from Brazil, China, India, Thailand, and Vietnam. These orders have played a crucial role in the survival and continued viability of the shrimp industry in the Gulf and South Atlantic states, and their continuation is essential to the thousands of men and women who work in this industry, as well as their families and communities.

Prior to the domestic shrimp industry's pursuit of trade relief at the end of 2003, a massive flood of unfairly traded imported shrimp had drastically changed the shape of the U.S. shrimp market. In a short period of time, U.S. shrimp imports had nearly doubled in volume, while the prices of those imports decreased significantly. As import prices fell, domestic shrimp prices collapsed as well. This flood of imports had devastating effects on the domestic shrimp industry, leading to the bankruptcy and closure of many small and medium sized businesses. These businesses, many of which had been family owned for generations, were involved in all segments of the industry, from harvesting, processing, and purchasing shrimp, to supplying and maintaining vessels and equipment used by the industry.

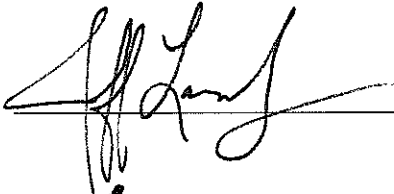
The trade relief that was put in place in 2005 arrested the massive increase in shrimp imports and the impact this massive flood had on domestic prices. Since the orders were put in place, the domestic industry has had to contend with destructive hurricanes, escalating fuel prices, and a devastating oil spill that crippled the industry for much of 2010, yet it has survived because of the spirit, hard work, and perseverance of the men and women who make up this

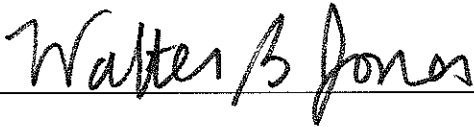
industry. The trade orders have been essential to giving these men and women an opportunity to compete on a more level playing field.


As the domestic shrimp producing industry continues its recovery from the Gulf oil spill, and at a time when fuel prices are skyrocketing once again, revocation of the orders would result in a greater flood of shrimp imports, would drive prices even lower, and would be a devastating blow to all segments of the domestic industry. This industry is vital not only to the economies of our communities, but also to their culture. We respectfully urge you to maintain the antidumping orders on frozen warmwater shrimp.

Sincerely,

  
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