

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1806

April 20, 2023

The Honorable David Johanson
Chairman
U.S. International Trade Commission
500 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20436

Re: Frozen Warmwater Shrimp from China, India, Thailand, and Vietnam, Inv. Nos. 731-TA-1064 and 1066-1068 (Third Review)

Dear Chairman Johanson:

I am writing to express my support for continuing the antidumping duty orders on frozen warmwater shrimp from China, India, Thailand, and Vietnam. These orders are crucial to the continued survival of Louisiana's shrimp industry.

South Louisiana lands more shrimp than anywhere else in the United States. From shrimpers on boats, to docks, processors, wholesalers, and restaurants, much of our economy—and our culture—relies on having a steady supply of nutritious, wild-caught shrimp from the Gulf of Mexico. Generations of hardworking Louisianian families have relied on this industry, not just to eat well, but for their livelihoods.

If given a fair chance and a level playing field, our shrimp industry can compete, thrive, and feed our nation. Unfortunately, domestic shrimp producers have had to grapple with unfair trade practices for far too long. Since 2003, imports from China, India, Thailand, and Vietnam have poured into the United States, plummeting prices in the domestic industry and bringing it to the brink of collapse. The antidumping duty orders that have been imposed both provide necessary discipline to countries who take advantage of our markets and allow our domestic industry to sustain its footing.

Unfortunately, often through government subsidies, foreign shrimp producers have only added more capacity since 2003—and they continue to target United States markets. Even today with the duties in place, imports dominate the market and undercut domestic prices. If these orders are revoked, the situation will only get worse; the dam will break, and the Louisiana shrimp industry will collapse under the pressures of an increased flood of imports. The domestic industry will be forced to cut prices to unsustainable levels, lose sales, slash production, or tie up their boats permanently.

By imposing antidumping orders on these imports in 2005, this Commission allowed our industry to stabilize and make important investments in our state. It is critical to our domestic industry that the orders on shrimp from China, India, Thailand, and Vietnam remain in place. Thank you for the important work that you do to enforce our trade laws on behalf of domestic companies and workers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Garret Graves', with a stylized, cursive script.

Garret Graves
Member of Congress