



SOUTHERN SHRIMP ALLIANCE NEWSLETTER

ADVOCATING FOR AMERICAN SHRIMPERS. PRESERVING A WAY OF LIFE



Rep. Carter (D-LA) at SSA's DC Shrimp Boil

KNOW YOUR SHRIMP

The second quarter of 2026 was one of the most active periods in recent memory for America's shrimp industry. From the White House to state capitols, momentum continued to build behind policies that support U.S. wild-caught shrimp, strengthen seafood transparency, and hold imports to higher standards.

Here's a look at the major developments shaping the future of American shrimping.

ADVOCACY IN ACTION

This quarter, SSA represented U.S. shrimpers at:

- An Oval Office meeting with President Trump and Cabinet officials
- USDA's new Office of Seafood
- Capitol Hill Ocean Week
- NOAA Fisheries' annual Fish Fry
- Seafood Harvesters of America's Fisheries Leadership & National Policy Forum
- Gulf and South Atlantic fisheries meetings
- Congressional offices across Washington, D.C.

Representation matters. Every meeting is an opportunity to ensure shrimpers have a seat at the table when decisions are made.



President Trump hosted American commercial fishermen in the Oval Office to sign a proclamation and executive orders reopening hundreds of thousands of square miles in the Pacific Remote Islands and other marine national monuments to commercial fishing



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BIG WINS ON CAPITOL HILL



SSA board members visited the Capital to discuss current issues affecting the industry with congress and staffers.

Congress advanced several major initiatives benefiting American shrimpers.

Save Our Shrimpers Act Passes the House

The House overwhelmingly passed the Save Our Shrimpers Act, preventing U.S. taxpayer dollars from funding foreign shrimp aquaculture projects.

USDA Office of Seafood Secured

Congress funded the USDA Office of Seafood, helping fishermen access federal programs, loans, and grants while promoting American seafood.

SHRIMP Act Introduced

The SHRIMP Act would direct federal agencies to develop portable testing technology capable of verifying shrimp country of origin through trace metal analysis.

Safer Shrimp Imports Act Gains Momentum

Support continued to build for legislation designed to strengthen food safety oversight of imported shrimp entering the U.S. market.

Trade Enforcement Expands

Congress and the Administration advanced multiple efforts aimed at unfair seafood trade practices, customs enforcement, and import fraud.



On June 3, 2020, President Trump signed an Executive Order aimed at strengthening U.S. customs enforcement



SSA board member Brent Fulcher at the announcement of the USDA Office of Seafood

TRUTH BELONGS ON THE MENU

Consumers deserve to know where their shrimp comes from. This quarter saw significant progress on seafood transparency laws.

Georgia Makes History

Georgia became the fifth state to pass a shrimp and seafood labeling law requiring restaurants and food establishments to disclose whether shrimp is domestic or imported.

South Carolina Moves Closer

South Carolina lawmakers continued negotiations on legislation requiring country-of-origin labeling for shrimp served in restaurants.

Louisiana Tackles Comingling

Louisiana lawmakers approved legislation requiring clear labeling when domestic and imported seafood are mixed together.



GA Gov. Brian Kemp signing HB 117



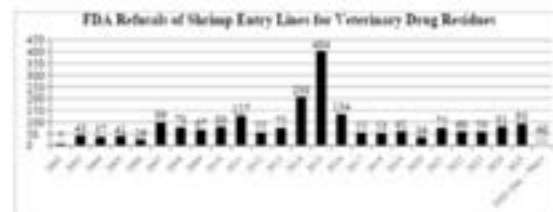
SeaD Consulting sampling shrimp dishes in Myrtle Beach, SC



LA Gov. Jeff Landry signing State House Bill 857

HOLDING IMPORTS ACCOUNTABLE

SSA continued to analyze import data and advocate for stronger oversight.



FDA REFUSAL ANALYSIS RAISES CONCERNS

SSA analysis found that a significant percentage of imported shrimp shipments refused by FDA for banned antibiotics originated from processors certified under private seafood certification programs.

CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS FACE SCRUTINY

Federal lawmakers requested answers from major certification organizations regarding how food safety violations are handled and whether federal agencies are notified when problems are discovered.

CLOSING DANGEROUS LOOPHOLES

The Destruction of Hazardous Imports Act advanced through Congress, moving the country closer to closing loopholes that allow rejected imported food products to seek entry through other ports.



President Donald Trump answers questions after signing Executive Order Strengthening Customs Enforcement

COMBATING ILLEGAL FISHING



U.S. Senator Roger Wicker (R-Mississippi) and U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley (D-Oregon) introduced the Protecting U.S. Fishers from Illegal Foreign Flags Act

Illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing continues to threaten fishermen around the world.

This quarter:

- The House passed the Stop Illegal Fishing Act
- Senators introduced the Protecting U.S. Fishers from Illegal Foreign Flags Act
- Congress continued to investigate trade practices that distort seafood markets and disadvantage U.S. fishermen

These efforts strengthen enforcement and promote fair competition.

TELLING THE SHRIMPER'S STORY

SSA continued sharing the story of American shrimpers with consumers, policymakers, and the media.

- National media coverage reached millions of viewers.
- Dockside outreach programs helped educate future commercial fishermen.
- SSA Board Members and staff remained on the water, in fishing communities, and in Washington advocating for the hardworking families who keep this industry alive.



SSA board member Craig Reaves hosted NewsMax Senior Correspondent John Huddy for an interview aboard his T/V Gracie Belle

LOOKING AHEAD

The work doesn't stop here.

SSA will continue fighting for:

- ✓ Seafood transparency
 - ✓ Stronger food safety standards
 - ✓ Fair trade practices
 - ✓ Robust enforcement of import laws
 - ✓ Policies that support U.S. wild-caught shrimp
- Together, we are building a stronger future for America's shrimp industry.

One Shrimp. One Voice.



Check out our new USDA Industry Resource Guide at shrimpalliance.com