

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 119-

33

OFFERED BY MR. BEGICH OF ALASKA

At the end of title XVII, insert the following:

1 **SEC. 17__ . FIGHTING FOREIGN ILLEGAL SEAFOOD HAR-**

2 **VESTS.**

3 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—Unless otherwise pro-
5 vided, the term “Administrator” means the Adminis-
6 trator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Ad-
7 ministration or the designee of the Administrator.

8 (2) BENEFICIAL OWNER.—The term “beneficial
9 owner” means, with respect to a vessel, a person
10 that, directly or indirectly, through any contract, ar-
11 rangement, understanding, relationship, or other-
12 wise—

13 (A) exercises substantial control over the
14 vessel; or

15 (B) owns not less than 50 percent of the
16 ownership interests in the vessel.

17 (3) FISH.—The term “fish” means finfish,
18 crustaceans, and mollusks.

1 (4) **FORCED LABOR.**—The term “forced labor”
2 has the meaning given that term in section 307 of
3 the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1307).

4 (5) **IUU FISHING.**—The term “IUU fishing”
5 means activities described as illegal fishing, unre-
6 ported fishing, and unregulated fishing in paragraph
7 3 of the International Plan of Action to Prevent,
8 Deter, and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Un-
9 regulated Fishing, adopted at the 24th Session of
10 the Committee on Fisheries in Rome on March 2,
11 2001.

12 (6) **REGIONAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ORGA-**
13 **NIZATION.**—The terms “regional fisheries manage-
14 ment organization” and “RFMO” have the meaning
15 given the terms in section 303 of the Port State
16 Measures Agreement Act of 2015 (16 U.S.C. 7402).

17 (7) **SEAFOOD.**—The term “seafood” means
18 fish, shellfish, processed fish, fish meal, shellfish
19 products, and all other forms of marine animal and
20 plant life other than marine mammals and birds.

21 (8) **SECRETARY.**—Unless otherwise provided,
22 the term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Com-
23 merce acting through the Administrator of the Na-
24 tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration or
25 the designee of the Administrator.

1 (b) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It is the policy of the
2 United States to partner, consult, and coordinate with for-
3 eign governments (at the national and subnational levels),
4 civil society, international organizations, international fi-
5 nancial institutions, subnational coastal communities,
6 commercial and recreational fishing industry leaders, com-
7 munities that engage in artisanal or subsistence fishing,
8 fishers, and the private sector, in a concerted effort—

9 (1) to continue the broad effort across the Fed-
10 eral Government to counter IUU fishing, including
11 any potential links to forced labor, human traf-
12 ficking, and other threats to maritime security, as
13 outlined in sections 3533 and 3534 of the Maritime
14 SAFE Act (16 U.S.C. 8002 and 8003); and

15 (2) to, additionally—

16 (A) prioritize efforts to prevent IUU fish-
17 ing at its sources; and

18 (B) support continued implementation of
19 the Central Arctic Ocean Fisheries agreement,
20 as well as joint research and follow-on actions
21 that ensure sustainability of fish stocks in Arc-
22 tic international waters.

23 (c) ESTABLISHMENT OF AN IUU VESSEL LIST.—
24 Section 608 of the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Morato-
25 rium Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1826i) is amended by

1 striking subsections (c) and (d) and inserting the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(c) IUU VESSEL LIST.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in coordina-
5 tion with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of
6 Labor, and the heads of other relevant agencies,
7 shall develop, maintain, and make public a list of
8 foreign vessels, foreign fleets, and beneficial owners
9 of foreign vessels or foreign fleets engaged in IUU
10 fishing or fishing-related activities in support of
11 IUU fishing (referred to in this section as the ‘IUU
12 vessel list’).

13 “(2) INCLUSION ON LIST.—The IUU vessel list
14 shall include any foreign vessel, foreign fleet, or ben-
15 efiticial owner of a foreign vessel or foreign fleet for
16 which the Secretary determines there is clear and
17 convincing evidence to believe that a foreign vessel
18 is any of the following (even if the Secretary has
19 only partial information regarding the vessel):

20 “(A) A vessel listed on an IUU vessel list
21 of an international fishery management organi-
22 zation.

23 “(B) A vessel knowingly taking part in
24 fishing that undermines the effectiveness of an
25 international fishery management organization’s

1 conservation and management measures, in-
2 cluding a vessel—

3 “(i) exceeding applicable international
4 fishery management organization catch
5 limits; or

6 “(ii) that is operating inconsistent
7 with relevant catch allocation arrange-
8 ments of the international fishery manage-
9 ment organization, even if operating under
10 the authority of a foreign country that is
11 not a member of the international fishery
12 management organization.

13 “(C) A vessel, either on the high seas or
14 in the exclusive economic zone of another coun-
15 try, identified and reported by United States
16 authorities to an international fishery manage-
17 ment organization to be conducting IUU fishing
18 when the United States has reason to believe
19 the foreign country to which the vessel is reg-
20 istered or documented is not addressing the al-
21 legation.

22 “(D) A vessel, fleet, or beneficial owner of
23 a vessel or fleet on the high seas identified by
24 United States authorities to be conducting IUU
25 fishing.

1 “(E) A vessel that knowingly provides
2 services (excluding emergency or enforcement
3 services) to a vessel that is on the IUU vessel
4 list, including transshipment, resupply, refuel-
5 ing, or pilotage.

6 “(F) A vessel that is a fishing vessel en-
7 gaged in commercial fishing within the exclusive
8 economic zone of the United States without a
9 permit issued under title II of the Magnuson-
10 Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management
11 Act (16 U.S.C. 1821 et seq.).

12 “(G) A vessel that has the same beneficial
13 owner as another vessel on the IUU vessel list
14 at the time of the infraction.

15 “(3) NOMINATIONS TO BE PUT ON THE IUU
16 VESSEL LIST.—The Secretary may receive nomina-
17 tions for putting a vessel on the IUU vessel list
18 from—

19 “(A) the head of an executive branch agen-
20 cy that is a member of the Interagency Work-
21 ing Group on IUU Fishing established under
22 section 3551 of the Maritime SAFE Act (16
23 U.S.C. 8031);

24 “(B) a country that is a member of the
25 Combined Maritime Forces; or

1 “(C) civil organizations that have data-
2 sharing agreements with a member of the Inter-
3 agency Working Group on IUU Fishing.

4 “(4) PROCEDURES FOR ADDITION.—

5 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may
6 put a vessel on the IUU vessel list only after
7 notification to the vessel’s beneficial owner and
8 a review of any information that the owner pro-
9 vides within 90 days of the notification.

10 “(B) HEARING.—A beneficial owner may
11 request a hearing on the evidence if the owner’s
12 vessel is placed on the IUU vessel list under
13 subparagraph (A) and may present new evi-
14 dence to the Interagency Working Group on
15 IUU Fishing described in paragraph (3)(A).
16 Such Working Group shall review the new evi-
17 dence and vote on whether the vessel shall re-
18 main on the IUU vessel list or not.

19 “(5) PUBLIC INFORMATION.—The Secretary
20 shall publish its procedures for adding vessels on,
21 and removing vessels from, the IUU vessel list. The
22 Secretary shall publish the IUU vessel list itself in
23 the Federal Register annually and on a website,
24 which shall be updated any time a vessel is added
25 to the IUU vessel list, and include the following in-

1 formation (as much as is available and confirmed)
2 for each vessel on the IUU vessel list:

3 “(A) The name of the vessel and previous
4 names of the vessel.

5 “(B) The International Maritime Organi-
6 zation (IMO) number of the vessel, or other
7 Unique Vessel Identifier (such as the flag state
8 permit number or authorized vessel number
9 issued by an international fishery management
10 organization).

11 “(C) The maritime mobile service identity
12 number and call sign of the vessel.

13 “(D) The business or corporate address of
14 each beneficial owner of the vessel.

15 “(E) The country where the vessel is reg-
16 istered or documented, and where it was pre-
17 viously registered if known.

18 “(F) The date of inclusion on the IUU ves-
19 sel list of the vessel.

20 “(G) Any other Unique Vessel Identifier
21 (UVI), if applicable.

22 “(H) Any other identifying information on
23 the vessel, as determined appropriate by the
24 Secretary.

1 “(I) The basis for the Secretary’s inclusion
2 of the vessel on the IUU vessel list under para-
3 graph (2).

4 “(d) ACTION.—The Secretary may take the action
5 described in subsection (c)(2) of this section in effect on
6 the day before the date of enactment of the National De-
7 fense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2027 against a
8 vessel on the IUU vessel list, the owner of such vessel,
9 and the operator of such vessel.

10 “(e) PERMANENCY OF IUU VESSEL LIST.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
12 graph (3), a vessel, fleet, or beneficial owner of a
13 vessel or fleet that is put on the IUU vessel list shall
14 remain on the IUU vessel list.

15 “(2) APPLICATION BY OWNER FOR POTENTIAL
16 REMOVAL.—

17 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In consultation with
18 the Secretary of State and the heads of other
19 relevant agencies, the Secretary may remove a
20 vessel, fleet, or beneficial owner of a vessel or
21 fleet from the IUU vessel list if the beneficial
22 owner of the vessel submits an application for
23 removal to the Secretary that meets the stand-
24 ards that the Secretary has set out for removal.

1 The Secretary shall make such standards pub-
2 licly available.

3 “(B) CONSIDERATION OF RELEVANT IN-
4 FORMATION.—In considering an application for
5 removal, the Secretary shall consider relevant
6 information from all sources.

7 “(3) REMOVAL DUE TO INTERNATIONAL FISH-
8 ERY MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION ACTION.—The
9 Secretary may remove a vessel from the IUU vessel
10 list if the vessel was put on the list because it was
11 a vessel listed on an IUU vessel list of an inter-
12 national fishery management organization, pursuant
13 to subsection (c)(2)(A), and the international fishery
14 management organization removed the vessel from
15 its IUU vessel list.

16 “(f) REGULATIONS AND PROCESS.—Not later than
17 12 months after the date of enactment of the National
18 Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2027, the Sec-
19 retary shall issue regulations to set a process for estab-
20 lishing, maintaining, implementing, and publishing the
21 IUU vessel list. The Administrator may add or remove a
22 vessel, fleet, or beneficial owner of a vessel or fleet from
23 the IUU vessel list on the date the vessel becomes eligible
24 for such addition or removal.

25 “(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 “(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—Unless otherwise pro-
2 vided, the term ‘Administrator’ means the Adminis-
3 trator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Ad-
4 ministration or the designee of the Administrator.

5 “(2) BENEFICIAL OWNER.—The term ‘bene-
6 ficial owner’ means, with respect to a vessel, a per-
7 son that, directly or indirectly, through any contract,
8 arrangement, understanding, relationship, or other-
9 wise—

10 “(A) exercises substantial control over the
11 vessel; or

12 “(B) owns not less than 50 percent of the
13 ownership interests in the vessel.

14 “(3) FOREIGN VESSEL.—The term ‘foreign ves-
15 sel’ has the meaning given the term in section 110
16 of title 46, United States Code.

17 “(4) INTERNATIONAL FISHERY MANAGEMENT
18 ORGANIZATION.—The term ‘international fishery
19 management organization’ means an international
20 organization established by any bilateral or multilat-
21 eral treaty, convention, or agreement for the con-
22 servation and management of fish.

23 “(5) IUU FISHING.—The term ‘IUU fishing’
24 has the meaning given the term ‘illegal, unreported,
25 or unregulated fishing’ in the implementing regula-

1 tions or any subsequent regulations issued pursuant
2 to section 609(e).

3 “(6) SEAFOOD.—The term ‘seafood’ means
4 fish, shellfish, processed fish, fish meal, shellfish
5 products, and all other forms of marine animal and
6 plant life other than marine mammals and birds.

7 “(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
8 are authorized to be appropriated to the Department of
9 Commerce to carry out this section \$10,000,000 for each
10 of fiscal years 2026 through 2031.”.

11 (d) VISA SANCTIONS FOR FOREIGN PERSONS.—

12 (1) FOREIGN PERSONS DESCRIBED.—A foreign
13 person is described in this paragraph if the foreign
14 person is the owner or beneficial owner of a vessel
15 on the IUU vessel list developed under section
16 608(c) of the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Morato-
17 rium Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1826i(c)).

18 (2) INELIGIBILITY FOR VISAS, ADMISSION, OR
19 PAROLE.—

20 (A) VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—A
21 foreign person described in paragraph (1) is—

22 (i) inadmissible to the United States;

23 (ii) ineligible to receive a visa or other
24 documentation to enter the United States;

25 and

1 (iii) otherwise ineligible to be admitted
2 or paroled into the United States or to re-
3 ceive any other benefit under the Immigra-
4 tion and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et
5 seq.).

6 (B) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—

7 (i) IN GENERAL.—The visa or other
8 entry documentation of a foreign person
9 described in paragraph (1) shall be re-
10 voked, regardless of when such visa or
11 other entry documentation is or was
12 issued.

13 (ii) IMMEDIATE EFFECT.—A revoca-
14 tion under subparagraph (A) shall, in ac-
15 cordance with section 221(i) of the Immi-
16 gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
17 1201(i))—

18 (I) take effect; and

19 (II) cancel any other valid visa or
20 entry documentation that is in the
21 person's possession.

22 (3) NATIONAL INTEREST WAIVER.—The Presi-
23 dent may waive the imposition of sanctions under
24 this subsection with respect to a foreign person if

1 doing so is in the national interest of the United
2 States.

3 (4) EXCEPTIONS.—

4 (A) EXCEPTIONS FOR AUTHORIZED INTEL-
5 LIGENCE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVI-
6 TIES.—This subsection shall not apply with re-
7 spect to activities subject to the reporting re-
8 quirements under title V of the National Secu-
9 rity Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3091 et seq.) or
10 any authorized intelligence, law enforcement, or
11 national security activities of the United States.

12 (B) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH INTER-
13 NATIONAL AGREEMENTS.—Sanctions under
14 paragraph (2) shall not apply with respect to
15 the admission of an alien to the United States
16 if such admission is necessary to comply with
17 the obligations of the United States under the
18 Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the
19 United Nations, signed at Lake Success June
20 26, 1947, and entered into force November 21,
21 1947, between the United Nations and the
22 United States, or the Convention on Consular
23 Relations, done at Vienna April 24, 1963, and
24 entered into force March 19, 1967, or other
25 international obligations.

1 (C) EXCEPTION FOR SAFETY OF VESSELS
2 AND CREW.—Sanctions under paragraph (2)
3 shall not apply with respect to a person pro-
4 viding provisions to a vessel identified under
5 section 608(e) of the High Seas Driftnet Fish-
6 ing Moratorium Protection Act (16 U.S.C.
7 1826i) if such provisions are intended for the
8 safety and care of the crew aboard the vessel,
9 or the maintenance of the vessel to avoid any
10 environmental or other significant damage.

11 (D) EXEMPTIONS.—Sanctions under para-
12 graph (2) shall not apply with respect to a per-
13 son described in paragraph (1), if such person
14 was listed as the owner of a vessel described in
15 that paragraph through the use of force,
16 threats of force, fraud, or coercion.

17 (5) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

18 (A) ADMISSION; ADMITTED; ALIEN; LAW-
19 FULLY ADMITTED FOR PERMANENT RESI-
20 DENCE.—The terms “admission”, “admitted”,
21 “alien”, and “lawfully admitted for permanent
22 residence” have the meanings given those terms
23 in section 101 of the Immigration and Nation-
24 ality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101).

1 (B) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term “foreign
2 person” means an individual or entity that is
3 not a United States person.

4 (C) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term
5 “United States person” means—

6 (i) a United States citizen or an alien
7 lawfully admitted for permanent residence
8 to the United States;

9 (ii) an entity organized under the laws
10 of the United States or any jurisdiction
11 within the United States, including a for-
12 eign branch of such an entity; or

13 (iii) any person in the United States.

14 (e) AGREEMENTS.—

15 (1) PRESIDENTIAL NEGOTIATION.—In negoti-
16 ating any relevant agreement with a foreign nation
17 or nations after the date of enactment of this sec-
18 tion, the President is encouraged to consider the im-
19 pacts on or to IUU fishing and fishing that involves
20 the use of forced labor and strive to ensure that the
21 agreement strengthens efforts to combat IUU fish-
22 ing and fishing that involves the use of forced labor
23 as long as such considerations do not come at the
24 expense of higher priority national interests of the
25 United States.

1 (2) FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ENCOURAGE-
2 MENT.—The Federal Government should encourage
3 other nations to ratify treaties and agreements that
4 address IUU fishing to which the United States is
5 a party, including the High Seas Fishing Compli-
6 ance Agreement and the Port State Measures Agree-
7 ment, and pursue bilateral and multilateral initia-
8 tives to raise international ambition to combat IUU
9 fishing, including in the G7 and G20, the United
10 Nations, the International Labor Organization
11 (ILO), and the International Maritime Organization
12 (IMO), and through voluntary multilateral efforts,
13 as long as clear burden sharing arrangements with
14 partner nations are determined. The bilateral and
15 multilateral initiatives should address underlying
16 drivers of IUU fishing and fishing that involves the
17 use of forced labor.

18 (3) TRANSPARENCY FOR NON-BINDING INSTRU-
19 MENTS CONCLUDED UNDER THIS SECTION.—Any
20 memorandum of understanding or other non-binding
21 instrument to further the objectives of this sub-
22 section shall be considered a qualifying non-binding
23 instrument for purposes of section 112b of title 1,
24 United States Code.

25 (f) ENFORCEMENT PROVISIONS.—

1 (1) INCREASE BOARDING OF VESSELS SUS-
2 PECTED OF IUU FISHING.—The Commandant of the
3 Coast Guard shall strive to increase, from year to
4 year, its observation of vessels on the high seas that
5 are suspected of IUU fishing and related harmful
6 practices, and is encouraged to consider boarding
7 these vessels to the greatest extent practicable.

8 (2) FOLLOW UP.—The Administrator shall, in
9 consultation with the Commandant of the Coast
10 Guard and the Secretary of State, coordinate regu-
11 larly with regional fisheries management organiza-
12 tions to determine what corrective measures each
13 country has taken after vessels that are registered or
14 documented by the country have been boarded for
15 suspected IUU fishing.

16 (3) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the
17 date of enactment of this section and in accordance
18 with information management rules of the relevant
19 regional fisheries management organizations, the
20 Commandant of the Coast Guard shall submit a re-
21 port to Congress on—

22 (A) the total number of bilateral agree-
23 ments utilized or enacted during Coast Guard
24 counter-IUU patrols and future patrol plans for
25 operations with partner nations where bilateral

1 agreements are required to effectively execute
2 the counter-IUU mission and any changes to
3 IUU provisions in bilateral agreements;

4 (B) incidents of IUU fishing observed
5 while conducting High Seas Boarding and In-
6 spections (HSBI), how the conduct is tracked
7 after referral to the respective country where
8 the vessel is registered or documented, and
9 what actions are taken to document or other-
10 wise act on the enforcement, or lack thereof,
11 taken by the country;

12 (C) the country where the vessel is reg-
13 istered or documented, the country where the
14 vessel was previously registered and docu-
15 mented if known, and status of a vessel inter-
16 dicted or observed to be engaged in IUU fishing
17 on the high seas by the Coast Guard;

18 (D) incident details on vessels observed to
19 be engaged in IUU fishing on the high seas,
20 boarding refusals, and what action was taken;
21 and

22 (E) any other potential enforcement ac-
23 tions that could decrease IUU fishing on the
24 high seas.

1 (g) IMPROVED MANAGEMENT AT THE REGIONAL
2 FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATIONS.—

3 (1) INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP ON IUU
4 FISHING.—Section 3551(c) of the Maritime SAFE
5 Act (16 U.S.C. 8031(c)) is amended—

6 (A) in paragraph (13), by striking “and”
7 after the semicolon;

8 (B) in paragraph (14), by striking the pe-
9 riod at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

10 (C) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(15) developing a strategy for leveraging en-
12 forcement capacity against IUU fishing, particularly
13 focusing on nations identified under section 609(a)
14 of the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Pro-
15 tection Act (16 U.S.C. 1826j(a)); and

16 “(16) developing a strategy for leveraging en-
17 forcement capacity against associated abuses, such
18 as fishing that involves the use of forced labor and
19 other illegal labor practices, and increasing relevant
20 enforcement, using as resources—

21 “(A) the List of Goods Produced by Child
22 Labor or Forced Labor produced pursuant to
23 section 105 of the Trafficking Victims Protec-
24 tion Reauthorization Act of 2005 (22 U.S.C.
25 7112);

1 “(B) the Trafficking in Persons Report re-
2 quired under section 110 of the Trafficking Vic-
3 tims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7107);

4 “(C) United States Customs and Border
5 Protection’s Forced Labor Division and en-
6 forcement activities and regulations authorized
7 under section 307 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19
8 U.S.C. 1307); and

9 “(D) reports submitted under the Uyghur
10 Human Rights Policy Act of 2020 (Public Law
11 116–145).”.

12 (2) SECRETARY OF STATE IDENTIFICATION.—
13 The Secretary of State, in coordination with the
14 Commandant of the Coast Guard and the Adminis-
15 trator, shall—

16 (A) identify regional fisheries management
17 organizations that the United States is party to
18 that do not have a high seas boarding and in-
19 spection program; and

20 (B) identify obstacles, needed authorities,
21 or existing efforts to increase implementation of
22 these programs, and take action as appropriate.

23 (h) STRATEGIES TO OPTIMIZE DATA COLLECTION,
24 SHARING, AND ANALYSIS.—Section 3552 of the Maritime

1 SAFE Act (16 U.S.C. 8032) is amended by adding at the
2 end:

3 “(c) STRATEGIES TO OPTIMIZE DATA COLLECTION,
4 SHARING, AND ANALYSIS.—Not later than 3 years after
5 the date of enactment of the National Defense Authoriza-
6 tion Act for Fiscal Year 2027, the Working Group shall
7 identify information and resources to prevent fish and fish
8 products from IUU fishing and fishing that involves the
9 use of forced labor from negatively affecting United States
10 commerce without increasing burdens on seafood not pro-
11 duced from IUU fishing. The report shall include the fol-
12 lowing:

13 “(1) Identification of relevant data streams col-
14 lected by Working Group members.

15 “(2) Identification of legal, jurisdictional, or
16 other barriers to the sharing of such data.

17 “(3) In consultation with the Secretary of De-
18 fense, recommendations for joint enforcement proto-
19 cols, collaboration, and information sharing between
20 Federal agencies and States.

21 “(4) Recommendations for sharing and devel-
22 oping forensic resources between Federal agencies
23 and States.

24 “(5) Recommendations for enhancing capacity
25 to conduct more effective field investigations and en-

1 enforcement efforts with U.S. state enforcement offi-
2 cials.

3 “(6) Recommendations for improving data col-
4 lection and automated risk-targeting of seafood.

5 “(7) Recommendations for the dissemination of
6 IUU fishing and fishing that involves the use of
7 forced labor analysis and information to those gov-
8 ernmental and non-governmental entities that could
9 use it for action and awareness, with the aim to es-
10 tablish an IUU fishing information sharing center.

11 “(8) Recommendations for an implementation
12 strategy, including measures for ensuring that sea-
13 food not linked to IUU fishing and fishing that in-
14 volves the use of forced labor is not affected.

15 “(9) An analysis of the IUU fishing policies
16 and regulatory regimes of other countries in order to
17 develop policy and regulatory alternatives for United
18 States consideration.”.

19 (i) INVESTMENT AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN
20 THE FISHERIES SECTOR.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State and
22 the Secretary of Commerce, in consultation with the
23 heads of relevant agencies, are encouraged to in-
24 crease support to programs that provide technical
25 assistance, institutional capacity, and investment to

1 nations' fisheries sectors for sustainable fisheries
2 management and combating IUU fishing and fishing
3 involving the use of forced labor. The focus of such
4 support is encouraged to be on priority regions and
5 priority flag states identified under section 3552(b)
6 of the Maritime SAFE Act (16 U.S.C. 8032(b)).

7 (2) ANALYSIS OF US CAPACITY-BUILDING EX-
8 PERTISE AND RESOURCES.—In order to maximize
9 efforts on preventing IUU fishing at its sources, the
10 Interagency Working Group on IUU Fishing estab-
11 lished under section 3551 of the Maritime SAFE
12 Act (16 U.S.C. 8031) shall analyze United States
13 capacity-building expertise and resources to provide
14 support to nations' fisheries sectors. This analysis
15 may include an assessment of potential avenues for
16 in-country public-private collaboration and multilat-
17 eral collaboration on developing local fisheries
18 science, fisheries management, maritime enforce-
19 ment, and maritime judicial capabilities.

20 (j) STRATEGY TO IDENTIFY SEAFOOD AND SEAFOOD
21 PRODUCTS FROM FOREIGN VESSELS USING FORCED
22 LABOR.—The Secretary, in coordination with the heads
23 of other relevant agencies, shall—

1 (1) develop a strategy for utilizing relevant
2 United States Government data to identify seafood
3 harvested on foreign vessels using forced labor; and

4 (2) publish information regarding the strategy
5 developed under paragraph (1) on a publicly acces-
6 sible website.

7 (k) REPORTS.—

8 (1) IMPACT OF NEW TECHNOLOGY.—Not later
9 than 1 year after the date of enactment of this sec-
10 tion, the Secretary of Homeland Security, with sup-
11 port from the Administrator and the Working Group
12 established under section 3551 of the Maritime
13 SAFE Act (16 U.S.C. 8031), shall conduct a study
14 to assess the impact of new technology (such as re-
15 mote observing, the use of drones, development of
16 risk assessment tools and data-sharing software, im-
17 mediate containerization of fish on fishing vessels,
18 satellite Wi-Fi technology on fishing vessels, and
19 other technology-enhanced new fishing practices) on
20 IUU fishing and associated crimes (such as traf-
21 ficking and fishing involving the use of forced labor)
22 and propose ways to integrate these technologies
23 into global fisheries enforcement and management.

24 (2) RUSSIAN AND CHINESE FISHING INDUS-
25 TRIES' INFLUENCE ON EACH OTHER AND ON THE

1 UNITED STATES SEAFOOD AND FISHING INDUS-
2 TRY.—Not later than 2 years after the date of en-
3 actment of this section, the Secretary of State, with
4 support from the Secretary of Commerce, shall—

5 (A) conduct a study on the collaboration
6 between the Russian and Chinese fishing indus-
7 tries and on the role of seafood reprocessing in
8 China (including that of raw materials origi-
9 nating in Russia) in global seafood markets and
10 its impact on United States interests; and

11 (B) complete a report on the study that in-
12 cludes classified and unclassified portions, as
13 the Secretary of State determines necessary.

14 (3) FISHERMEN CONDUCTING UNLAWFUL FISH-
15 ING IN THE EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE.—Section
16 3551 of the Maritime SAFE Act (16 U.S.C. 8031)
17 is amended by adding at the end the following:

18 “(d) THE IMPACTS OF IUU FISHING AND FISHING
19 INVOLVING THE USE OF FORCED LABOR.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator, in con-
21 sultation with relevant members of the Working
22 Group, shall seek to enter into an arrangement with
23 the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering,
24 and Medicine under which the National Academies

1 will undertake a multifaceted study that includes the
2 following:

3 “(A) An analysis that quantifies the occur-
4 rence and extent of IUU fishing and fishing in-
5 volving the use of forced labor among all flag
6 states.

7 “(B) An evaluation of the costs to the
8 United States economy of IUU fishing and fish-
9 ing involving the use of forced labor.

10 “(C) An assessment of the costs to the
11 global economy of IUU fishing and fishing in-
12 volving the use of forced labor.

13 “(D) An assessment of the effectiveness of
14 response strategies to counter IUU fishing, in-
15 cluding both domestic programs and foreign ca-
16 pacity-building and partnering programs.

17 “(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
18 There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out
19 this subsection \$2,000,000.”.

20 (4) REPORT.—Not later than 24 months after
21 the date of enactment of this section, the Adminis-
22 trator shall submit to Congress a report on the
23 study conducted under subsection (d) of section
24 3551 of the Maritime SAFE Act that includes—

1 (A) the findings of the National Acad-
2 emies; and

3 (B) recommendations on knowledge gaps
4 that warrant further scientific inquiry.

5 (l) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR NA-
6 TIONAL SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM.—Section 212(a)
7 of the National Sea Grant College Program Act (33
8 U.S.C. 1131(a)) is amended—

9 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “for fiscal
10 year 2025” and inserting “for each of fiscal years
11 2026 through 2032”; and

12 (2) in paragraph (2)—

13 (A) in the paragraph heading, by striking
14 “FOR FISCAL YEARS 2021 THROUGH 2025”; and

15 (B) in the matter preceding subparagraph
16 (A), by striking “fiscal years 2021 through
17 2025” and inserting “fiscal years 2027 through
18 2032”.

19 (m) EXCEPTION RELATED TO THE IMPORTATION OF
20 GOODS.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—The authorities and require-
22 ments provided in this section, and the amendments
23 made by this section, shall not include any authority
24 or requirement to impose sanctions on the importa-

1 tion of goods or related to sanctions on the importa-
2 tion of goods.

3 (2) GOOD DEFINED.—In this section, the term
4 “good”—

5 (A) means any article, natural or man-
6 made substance, material, supply or manufac-
7 tured product, including inspection and test
8 equipment; and

9 (B) excludes technical data.

10 (n) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
11 tion shall be construed to limit the authority under, or
12 otherwise affect, a provision of law that—

13 (1) is in effect on the date of enactment of this
14 section; and

15 (2) is not amended by this section.

16 **SEC. 17___ . SHARK DEPREDATION TASK FORCE AND RE-**
17 **SEARCH PROJECTS.**

18 (a) SHARK DEPREDATION TASK FORCE.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Commerce
20 shall establish a task force (referred to in this sub-
21 section as the “task force”) to identify and address
22 critical needs with respect to shark depredation.

23 (2) MEMBERSHIP.—The Secretary of Com-
24 merce shall appoint individuals to the task force, in-
25 cluding—

1 (A) 1 representative from—

2 (i) each Regional Fishery Manage-
3 ment Council established under section
4 302(a)(1) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fish-
5 ery Conservation and Management Act (16
6 U.S.C. 1852(a)(1));

7 (ii) each Marine Fisheries Commis-
8 sion, as such term is defined in section 3
9 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Con-
10 servation and Management Act (16 U.S.C.
11 1802);

12 (iii) the fish and wildlife agency of a
13 coastal State from each Regional Fishery
14 Management Council established under
15 section 302(a)(1) of the Magnuson-Stevens
16 Fishery Conservation and Management Act
17 (16 U.S.C. 1852(a)(1)); and

18 (iv) the National Marine Fisheries
19 Service;

20 (B) an individual with expertise in the
21 management of highly migratory species;

22 (C) a researcher with expertise in shark
23 management and behavior; and

24 (D) a researcher with expertise in shark
25 ecology.

1 (3) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The task force shall—

2 (A) develop ways to improve coordination
3 and communication across the fisheries man-
4 agement community and shark research com-
5 munity to address shark depredation;

6 (B) identify research priorities and funding
7 opportunities for such priorities, including—

8 (i) identifying shark species involved
9 in interactions;

10 (ii) shark stock assessments;

11 (iii) how sharks become habituated to
12 humans and thus lead to more interactions
13 between sharks and humans;

14 (iv) how angler behavior and fishery
15 regulatory frameworks may influence shark
16 interactions;

17 (v) techniques and strategies to re-
18 duce harmful interactions between sharks
19 and humans, including the development
20 and use of non-lethal deterrents;

21 (vi) the role of healthy shark popu-
22 lations in the ocean food web; and

23 (vii) climate change impacts on shift-
24 ing shark populations, prey, and shark be-
25 havior;

1 (C) develop recommended management
2 strategies to address shark depredation; and

3 (D) coordinate the development and dis-
4 tribution of educational materials to help the
5 fishing community minimize shark interactions
6 including through changed angler behavior and
7 expectations.

8 (4) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the
9 date of the enactment of this section, and every 2
10 years thereafter until the termination of the task
11 force in accordance with paragraph (5), the task
12 force shall submit to Congress a report regarding
13 the findings of the task force.

14 (5) SUNSET.—The task force shall terminate
15 not later than 7 years after the date on which the
16 Secretary of Commerce establishes the task force.

17 (6) COASTAL STATE DEFINED.—In this sub-
18 section, the term “coastal State”—

19 (A) means a State of the United States in,
20 or bordering on, the Atlantic Ocean, Pacific
21 Ocean, Arctic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico, or Long
22 Island Sound; and

23 (B) includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Is-
24 lands of the United States, Guam, the Com-

1 monwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands,
2 and American Samoa.

3 (b) SHARK DEPREDATION RESEARCH PROJECTS.—
4 Section 318(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Con-
5 servation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1867(c)) is
6 amended by adding at the end the following:

7 “(6) Projects to better understand shark depre-
8 dation, including identifying what causes increases
9 in shark depredation and determining how to best
10 address shark depredation.”.

11 (c) EFFECT.—Nothing in this section shall be con-
12 strued to affect the authority and responsibility of the Sec-
13 retary of Commerce in carrying out the Endangered Spe-
14 cies Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1351 et seq.) or the Magnu-
15 son-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act
16 (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.).

