



LOUISIANA WILDLIFE FEDERATION

"... conserving our natural resources and your right to enjoy them."



**SUBJECT: HR 2570 – AMENDMENT TO THE MAGNUSON-STEVENSON  
FISHERIES CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACT**

WHEREAS, it is prudent to conserve and protect our natural resources; the Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act (FCMA), which is designed to protect our natural resources, is up for amendment in the US Congress, and

WHEREAS, HR 2570 has been introduced to amend the FCMA, and if adopted would give the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) even more authority to govern the way fisheries are managed, and

WHEREAS, HR 2570 proposes to change the requirement in the law from "minimize" bycatch to "avoid" bycatch which could greatly enhance the opportunities for litigation and unwarranted fishing closures, and

WHEREAS, HR 2570 would force the fisheries management councils (FMCs) to give equal representation to protectionist environmental groups, and

WHEREAS, if adopted, these provisions of HR 2570 could be detrimental to consumers, including recreational anglers and commercial fishers, while not improving the management of fish resources.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wildlife Federation does not support the changes to the Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act proposed by HR 2570 with regard to the proposed change of the language in the by-catch section and the proposed change in the make up of the fisheries management councils.

*Adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife Federation in convention assembled, 3 March 2002, in  
Marksville, Louisiana*