

104TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 2956

To amend the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act of 1986 to authorize the provision of certain disaster assistance to commercial fishermen through State and local government agencies and nonprofit organizations, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 1, 1996

Mr. STUDDS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Resources

A BILL

To amend the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act of 1986 to authorize the provision of certain disaster assistance to commercial fishermen through State and local government agencies and nonprofit organizations, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Fisheries Disaster As-
5 sistance Act of 1996”.

1 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO INTERJURISDICTIONAL FISH-**
2 **ERIES ACT OF 1986.**

3 Section 308(d) of the Interjurisdictional Fisheries
4 Act of 1986 (16 U.S.C. 4107(d)) is amended—

5 (1) in the heading by striking “GRANTS” and
6 inserting “ASSISTANCE”;

7 (2) in paragraph (1) by striking “award grants
8 to persons engaged in commercial fisheries, for unin-
9 sured losses determined by the Secretary to have
10 been suffered” and inserting “help persons engaged
11 in commercial fisheries, either by providing assist-
12 ance directly to those persons or by providing assist-
13 ance indirectly through State and local government
14 agencies and nonprofit organizations, for projects or
15 other measures to alleviate harm determined by the
16 Secretary to have been incurred”;

17 (3) in paragraph (3) by striking “a grant under
18 this subsection” and inserting “assistance provided
19 directly to a person under this subsection”;

20 (4) by amending paragraph (4) to read as fol-
21 lows:

22 “(4)(A) The Secretary may not award any assistance
23 under this subsection under a fishing capacity reduction
24 program designed to remove fishing vessels and fishing
25 permits from any New England fishery until there has
26 taken effect, after the date of enactment of the Fisheries

1 Disaster Assistance Act of 1996, an amendment to the
2 Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan that is
3 designed to rebuild stocks of cod, haddock, and yellow tail
4 flounder in a manner that is consistent with requirements
5 under the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Manage-
6 ment Act (if any are in effect) for rebuilding overfished
7 stocks.

8 “(B) As a condition of awarding assistance with re-
9 spect to a vessel under a fishing capacity reduction pro-
10 gram described in subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall—

11 “(i) prohibit the vessel from being used for fish-
12 ing; and

13 “(ii) require that the vessel be—

14 “(I) scrapped or otherwise disposed of in a
15 manner approved by the Secretary; or

16 “(II) donated to a nonprofit organization
17 and thereafter used only for purposes of re-
18 search, education, or training.

19 “(C) A vessel that is prohibited from fishing under
20 subparagraph (B) shall not be eligible for a fishery en-
21 dorsement under section 12108(a) of title 46, United
22 States Code, and any such endorsement for the vessel shall
23 not be effective.”; and

24 (5) in paragraph (5) by striking “for awarding
25 grants” and all that follows through the end of the

- 1 paragraph and inserting “receiving assistance under
- 2 this subsection.”.

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