

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 678

To provide for the coordination and implementation of a national aquaculture policy for the private sector by the Secretary of Agriculture, to establish an aquaculture development and research program, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 5, 1995

Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. JOHNSTON, and Mr. BREAUX) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

A BILL

To provide for the coordination and implementation of a national aquaculture policy for the private sector by the Secretary of Agriculture, to establish an aquaculture development and research program, 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; TABLE OF CONTENTS; REF-**
4 **ERENCES.**

5 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
6 “National Aquaculture Development, Research, and Pro-
7 motion Act of 1995”.

1 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of
 2 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents; references.
- Sec. 2. Findings and purpose.
- Sec. 3. Definitions.
- Sec. 4. National aquaculture development plan.
- Sec. 5. National Aquaculture Information Center; assignment of new programs.
- Sec. 6. Coordination with the aquaculture industry.
- Sec. 7. National policy for private aquaculture.
- Sec. 8. Water quality assessment.
- Sec. 9. Native American fishpond revitalization.
- Sec. 10. Aquaculture education.
- Sec. 11. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 12. Eligibility of aquaculture farmers for farm credit assistance.
- Sec. 13. International aquaculture information and data collection.
- Sec. 14. Aquaculture information network report.
- Sec. 15. Voluntary certification of quality standards.
- Sec. 16. Implementation report.

3 (c) REFERENCES TO NATIONAL AQUACULTURE ACT
 4 OF 1980.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, when-
 5 ever in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in
 6 terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other
 7 provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to
 8 a section or other provision of the National Aquaculture
 9 Act of 1980 (16 U.S.C. 2801 et seq.).

10 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

11 (a) FINDINGS.—Subsection (a) of section 2 (16
 12 U.S.C. 2801(a)) is amended to read as follows:

13 “(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

14 “(1) The wild harvest or capture of certain sea-
 15 food species exceeds levels of optimum sustainable
 16 yield, thereby making it more difficult to meet the
 17 increasing demand for aquatic food.

1 “(2) To satisfy the domestic market for aquatic
2 food, the United States imports more than 59 per-
3 cent of its seafood. This dependence on imports ad-
4 versely affects the national balance of payments and
5 contributes to the uncertainty of supplies and prod-
6 uct quality.

7 “(3) Although aquaculture currently contributes
8 approximately 16 percent by weight of world seafood
9 production, less than 9 percent by weight of current
10 United States seafood production results from aqua-
11 culture. As a result, domestic aquaculture produc-
12 tion has the potential for significant growth.

13 “(4) Aquaculture production of aquatic animals
14 and plants is a source of food, industrial materials,
15 pharmaceuticals, energy, and aesthetic enjoyment,
16 and can assist in the control and abatement of pollu-
17 tion.

18 “(5) The rehabilitation and enhancement of fish
19 and shellfish resources are desirable applications of
20 aquaculture technology.

21 “(6) The principal responsibility for the devel-
22 opment of aquaculture in the United States must
23 rest with the private sector.

24 “(7) Despite its potential, the development of
25 aquaculture in the United States has been inhibited

1 by many scientific, economic, legal, and production
2 factors, such as—

3 “(A) inadequate credit;

4 “(B) limited research and development and
5 demonstration programs;

6 “(C) diffused legal jurisdiction;

7 “(D) inconsistent interpretations between
8 Federal agencies;

9 “(E) the lack of management information;

10 “(F) the lack of supportive policies of the
11 Federal Government;

12 “(G) the lack of therapeutic compounds for
13 treatment of the diseases of aquatic animals
14 and plants; and

15 “(H) the lack of reliable supplies of seed
16 stock.

17 “(8) Many areas of the United States are suit-
18 able for aquaculture, but are subject to land-use or
19 water-use management policies and regulations that
20 do not adequately consider the potential for aqua-
21 culture and may inhibit the development of aqua-
22 culture.

23 “(9) In 1990, the United States ranked only
24 tenth in the world in aquaculture production based
25 on total value of products.

1 “(10) Despite the current and increasing im-
2 portance of private aquaculture to the United States
3 economy and to rural areas in the United States,
4 Federal efforts to nurture aquaculture development
5 have failed to keep pace with the needs of fish and
6 aquatic plant farmers.

7 “(11) The United States has a premier oppor-
8 tunity to expand existing aquaculture production
9 and develop new aquaculture industries to serve na-
10 tional needs and the global marketplace.

11 “(12) United States aquaculture provides
12 wholesome products for domestic consumers and
13 contributes significantly to employment opportunities
14 and the quality of life in rural areas in the United
15 States.

16 “(13) Since 1980, the United States trade defi-
17 cit in edible fishery products has increased by 48
18 percent, from \$1,777,921,000 to \$2,634,738,000 in
19 1991.

20 “(14) Aquaculture is poised to become a major
21 growth industry of the 21st century. With global
22 seafood demand projected to increase 70 percent by
23 2025, and harvests from capture fisheries stable or
24 declining, aquaculture would have to increase pro-

1 duction by 700 percent, a total of 77 million metric
2 tons annually.

3 “(15) Private aquaculture production in the
4 United States has increased an average of 20 per-
5 cent by weight annually since 1980, and is one of
6 the fastest growing segments of United States and
7 world agriculture.

8 “(16) In 1990, private United States aqua-
9 culture production was 860,750,000 pounds, worth
10 \$761,500,000, up from 203,178,000 pounds, worth
11 \$191,977,000, in 1980.

12 “(17) Since 1960, per capita consumption of
13 aquatic foods in the United States has increased by
14 49 percent to 14.9 pounds in 1991, and could reach
15 20 pounds by the year 2000. Total United States
16 demand is projected to double by 2020.”.

17 (b) PURPOSE.—Subsection (b) of section 2 (16
18 U.S.C. 2801(b)) is amended to read as follows:

19 “(b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this Act to pro-
20 mote aquaculture in the United States by—

21 “(1) declaring a national aquaculture policy;

22 “(2) establishing private aquaculture as a form
23 of agriculture;

24 “(3) establishing cultivated aquatic animals,
25 plants, microorganisms, and their products produced

1 by private persons and moving in standard commod-
2 ity channels as agricultural livestock, crops, and
3 commodities;

4 “(4) establishing the Department as the lead
5 Federal agency for the development, implementation,
6 promotion, and coordination of national policy and
7 programs for private aquaculture by—

8 “(A) designating the Secretary as the per-
9 manent chairperson of a Federal interagency
10 aquaculture coordinating group;

11 “(B) assigning overall responsibility to the
12 Secretary for coordinating, developing, and car-
13 rying out policies and programs for private
14 aquaculture; and

15 “(C) authorizing the establishment of a
16 National Aquaculture Information Center with-
17 in the Department to support the United States
18 aquaculture industry; and

19 “(5) encouraging—

20 “(A) aquaculture activities and programs
21 in both the public and private sectors of the
22 economy of the United States;

23 “(B) the creation of new industries and job
24 opportunities related to aquaculture activities;

1 “(C) the reduction of the fisheries trade
2 deficit; and

3 “(D) other national policy benefits deriving
4 from aquaculture activities.”.

5 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

6 Section 3 (16 U.S.C. 2802) is amended—

7 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “the propaga-
8 tion” and all that follows through the period at the
9 end and inserting “the controlled cultivation of
10 aquatic plants, animals, and microorganisms.”;

11 (2) in paragraph (3), by inserting before the pe-
12 riod at the end the following: “or microorganism”;

13 (3) by redesignating paragraphs (7) through
14 (9) as paragraphs (9) through (11), respectively;

15 (4) by redesignating paragraphs (5) and (6) as
16 paragraphs (6) and (7), respectively;

17 (5) by inserting after paragraph (4) the follow-
18 ing:

19 “(5) The term ‘Department’ means the United
20 States Department of Agriculture.”; and

21 (6) by inserting before paragraph (9) (as redesi-
22 gnated by paragraph (3)) the following:

23 “(8) The term ‘private aquaculture’ means the
24 controlled cultivation of aquatic plants, animals, and
25 microorganisms other than cultivation carried out by

1 the Federal Government or any State or local gov-
2 ernment.”.

3 **SEC. 4. NATIONAL AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT PLAN.**

4 Section 4 (16 U.S.C. 2803) is amended—

5 (1) in the second sentence of subsection (c)—

6 (A) in subparagraph (A), by adding “and”
7 at the end;

8 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “;
9 and” and inserting a period; and

10 (C) by striking subparagraph (C);

11 (2) in the second sentence of subsection (d), by
12 striking “Secretaries determine” and inserting “Sec-
13 retary, in consultation with the other Secretaries,
14 determines”;

15 (3) in subsection (e)—

16 (A) by striking “Secretaries” and inserting
17 “Secretary”; and

18 (B) by inserting “and in consultation with
19 the other Secretaries and representatives of
20 other Federal agencies” after “coordinating
21 group”; and

22 (4) by adding at the end the following:

23 “(f) ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN AQUACULTURE PRO-
24 GRAMS.—Not later than December 31, 1995, the Sec-
25 retary, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce

1 and the Secretary of the Interior, shall submit to Congress
2 a report evaluating the actions taken in accordance with
3 subsection (d) with respect to the Plan, and making rec-
4 ommendations for updating and modifying the Plan. The
5 report shall also contain a compendium on Federal regula-
6 tions relating to aquaculture.”.

7 **SEC. 5. NATIONAL AQUACULTURE INFORMATION CENTER;**
8 **ASSIGNMENT OF NEW PROGRAMS.**

9 Section 5 (16 U.S.C. 2804) is amended—

10 (1) in subsection (b)(3), by striking “Secretar-
11 ies deem” and inserting “Secretary, in consultation
12 with the other Secretaries, considers”;

13 (2) in subsection (c)(1)(B)—

14 (A) by striking “Secretary shall—” and in-
15 serting “Secretary—”;

16 (B) by striking clause (i) and inserting the
17 following:

18 “(i) may establish, within the Department,
19 within the Agricultural Research Service, a Na-
20 tional Aquaculture Information Center that
21 shall—

22 “(I) serve as a repository and clear-
23 ingshouse for the information collected
24 under subparagraph (A) and other provi-
25 sions of this Act;

1 “(II) carry out a program to notify
2 organizations, institutions, and individuals
3 known to be involved in aquaculture of the
4 existence of the Center and the kinds of in-
5 formation that the Center can make avail-
6 able to the public; and

7 “(III) make available, on request, in-
8 formation described in subclause (I) (in-
9 cluding information collected under sub-
10 section (e));”;

11 (C) in clause (ii)—

12 (i) by inserting “shall” before “ar-
13 range”; and

14 (ii) by striking the comma and insert-
15 ing a semicolon; and

16 (D) in clause (iii), by inserting “shall” be-
17 fore “conduct”;

18 (3) in the first sentence of subsection (d), by
19 striking “Interior,,” and inserting “Interior,”; and

20 (4) by adding at the end the following:

21 “(e) ASSIGNMENT OF NEW PROGRAMS.—In consulta-
22 tion with representatives of the United States aquaculture
23 industry and in coordination with the Secretary of the In-
24 terior, the Secretary of Commerce, and the heads of other
25 appropriate Federal agencies, the Secretary may assess

1 Federal aquatic animal health programs and make rec-
2 ommendations as to the appropriate assignment to Fed-
3 eral agencies of new programs, initiatives, and activities
4 in support of aquaculture and resource stewardship and
5 management.”.

6 **SEC. 6. COORDINATION WITH THE AQUACULTURE INDUS-**
7 **TRY.**

8 Section 6(b) (16 U.S.C. 2805(b)) is amended—

9 (1) in paragraph (5), by striking “and” at the
10 end;

11 (2) in paragraph (6), by striking the period at
12 the end and inserting “; and”; and

13 (3) by adding at the end the following:

14 “(7) in order to facilitate improved communica-
15 tion and interaction among aquaculture producers,
16 the aquaculture community, the Federal Govern-
17 ment, and the coordinating group, establish a work-
18 ing relationship with national organizations, com-
19 modity associations, and professional societies rep-
20 resenting aquaculture interests.”.

21 **SEC. 7. NATIONAL POLICY FOR PRIVATE AQUACULTURE.**

22 The Act (16 U.S.C. 2801 et seq.) is amended—

23 (1) by redesignating sections 7 through 11 as
24 sections 12 through 16, respectively; and

25 (2) by inserting after section 6 the following:

1 **“SEC. 7. NATIONAL POLICY FOR PRIVATE AQUACULTURE.**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation
3 with the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of the Inte-
4 rior, and the heads of other agencies, as appropriate, shall
5 coordinate and implement a national policy for private
6 aquaculture in accordance with this section.

7 “(b) DEPARTMENT AQUACULTURE PLAN.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall develop
9 and implement a Department Aquaculture Plan (re-
10 ferred to in this section as the ‘plan’) for a unified
11 Department aquaculture program to support the de-
12 velopment of private United States aquaculture.

13 “(2) ELEMENTS OF PLAN.—The plan shall
14 address—

15 “(A) individual agency programs related to
16 aquaculture in the Department that are consist-
17 ent with Department programs applied to other
18 agricultural programs, livestock, crops, prod-
19 ucts, and commodities under the jurisdiction of
20 Department agencies;

21 “(B) the treatment of cultivated aquatic
22 animals as livestock and cultivated aquatic
23 plants as agricultural crops; and

24 “(C) means for effective coordination and
25 implementation of aquaculture activities and
26 programs within the Department, including in-

1 dividual agency commitments of personnel and
2 resources.

3 “(3) DEADLINE.—Not later than 1 year after
4 the date of enactment of the National Aquaculture
5 Development, Research, and Promotion Act of 1995,
6 the Secretary shall submit the plan to Congress.

7 “(4) REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year after the
8 date of the submission of the plan pursuant to para-
9 graph (3), and annually thereafter, the Secretary
10 shall report to Congress on actions taken to imple-
11 ment the plan during the year preceding the date of
12 the report.

13 “(5) NATIONAL AQUACULTURE INFORMATION
14 CENTER.—

15 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out sec-
16 tion 5, the Secretary may maintain and support
17 a National Aquaculture Information Center (re-
18 ferred to in this paragraph as the ‘Center’) as
19 a repository for information on national and
20 international aquaculture.

21 “(B) PUBLIC ACCESS.—Information in the
22 Center shall be made available to the public.

23 “(C) INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE.—The
24 head of the Center shall arrange with foreign
25 nations for the exchange of information relating

1 to aquaculture and shall support a translation
2 service.

3 “(D) SUPPORT.—The Center shall provide
4 direct support to the coordinating group.

5 “(c) NATIONAL AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT
6 PLAN.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
8 the date of enactment of the National Aquaculture
9 Development, Research, and Promotion Act of 1995,
10 the Secretary shall revise the National Aquaculture
11 Development Plan required to be established under
12 section 4.

13 “(2) COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall inte-
14 grate and coordinate the aquaculture and related
15 missions, major objectives, and program components
16 of individual aquaculture plans of the coordinating
17 group members.

18 “(3) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—Not later
19 than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Na-
20 tional Aquaculture Development, Research, and Pro-
21 motion Act of 1995, the Secretary shall submit a re-
22 vised Plan to Congress.

23 “(4) UPDATES.—Not later than 5 years after
24 the date of the submission of the revised Plan pursu-
25 ant to paragraph (3), and annually thereafter, the

1 Secretary shall revise the National Aquaculture De-
2 velopment Plan.

3 “(d) TREATMENT OF AQUACULTURE.—The Sec-
4 retary shall, for all purposes, treat—

5 “(1) private aquaculture as a form of agri-
6 culture; and

7 “(2) cultivated aquatic animals, plants, and
8 microorganisms, and products of the animals, plants,
9 and microorganisms, produced by private persons
10 and moving in standard commodity channels as agri-
11 cultural livestock, crops, and commodities.

12 “(e) RESOLUTION OF INTERAGENCY CONFLICT.—In
13 consultation with representatives of affected Federal agen-
14 cies, the Secretary shall be responsible for resolving any
15 interagency conflict in the coordination or implementation
16 of the policy described in this section.

17 “(f) PRIVATE AQUACULTURE POLICY COORDINA-
18 TION, DEVELOPMENT, AND IMPLEMENTATION.—

19 “(1) RESPONSIBILITY.—The Secretary shall
20 have overall responsibility for coordinating, develop-
21 ing, and carrying out policies and programs for pri-
22 vate aquaculture.

23 “(2) DUTIES.—The Secretary shall—

1 “(A) coordinate all intradepartmental func-
2 tions and activities relating to private aqua-
3 culture;

4 “(B) establish procedures for the coordina-
5 tion of functions, and consultation, with the co-
6 ordinating group; and

7 “(C) recommend to the Agricultural Re-
8 search Service methods by which the aqua-
9 culture resources of the Service can be made
10 more easily retrievable and can be more widely
11 disseminated.

12 “(3) LIAISON.—

13 “(A) AGENCIES OF THE DEPARTMENT.—
14 To facilitate communication and interaction be-
15 tween the aquaculture community and the De-
16 partment, the head of each agency of the De-
17 partment shall, if requested by the Secretary,
18 designate an officer or employee of the agency
19 to be the liaison of the agency with the Sec-
20 retary.

21 “(B) DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE AND
22 INTERIOR.—The Secretary of Commerce and
23 the Secretary of the Interior shall each des-
24 ignate an officer or employee of their respective

1 Departments to be the liaison of their respec-
2 tive Departments with the Secretary.”.

3 **SEC. 8. WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT.**

4 The Act (16 U.S.C. 2801 et seq.) is amended by in-
5 serting after section 7 (as added by section 7) the follow-
6 ing:

7 **“SEC. 8. WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT.**

8 “(a) **ASSESSMENT.**—The Administrator of the Envi-
9 ronmental Protection Agency is authorized to carry out,
10 in collaboration with the Secretary, collaborative inter-
11 agency programs that demonstrate the application of
12 aquaculture to environmental enhancement and assess-
13 ment, including a program to assess the environmental im-
14 pact of waterborne contaminants on naturally occurring
15 aquatic organisms and ecosystems using aquaculture-
16 raised organisms to serve as an indicator of environmental
17 pollution.

18 “(b) **GRANTS; COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.**—The
19 Administrator may provide grants or enter into coopera-
20 tive agreements or contracts with private research organi-
21 zations for research and demonstration of the technology
22 authorized by this section.”.

1 **SEC. 9. NATIVE AMERICAN FISHPOND REVITALIZATION.**

2 The Act (16 U.S.C. 2801 et seq.) is amended by in-
3 serting after section 8 (as added by section 8) the follow-
4 ing:

5 **“SEC. 9. NATIVE AMERICAN FISHPOND REVITALIZATION.**

6 “(a) DEFINITION OF NATIVE AMERICAN.—As used
7 in this section, the term ‘Native American’ means—

8 “(1) an Indian, as defined in section 4(d) of the
9 Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance
10 Act (25 U.S.C. 450b(d));

11 “(2) a Native Hawaiian, as defined in section
12 8(3) of the Native Hawaiian Health Care Act of
13 1988 (42 U.S.C. 11707(3)) or section 815(3) of the
14 Native American Programs Act (42 U.S.C.
15 2992c(3));

16 “(3) an Alaska Native, within the meaning pro-
17 vided for the term ‘Native’ in section 3(b) of the
18 Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C.
19 1602(b)); and

20 “(4) a Pacific Islander, within the meaning of
21 the Native American Programs Act of 1974 (42
22 U.S.C. 2991 et seq.)

23 “(b) AUTHORIZATION OF PROGRAM.—The Secretary
24 of Agriculture is authorized to carry out a program to revi-
25 talize fishponds used by Native Americans to cultivate
26 aquatic species.

1 “(c) GRANTS; COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The
2 Secretary may provide grants or enter into cooperative
3 agreements with individuals and organizations, including
4 Native American organizations, to promote fishpond re-
5 talization. Funds provided under this section may be used
6 to engage in fishpond research, pond culture technology
7 development, the application of traditional pond culture
8 techniques and modern aquaculture practices to ancient
9 fishponds, technical assistance and technology transfer,
10 and such other activities as the Secretary determines are
11 appropriate.”.

12 **SEC. 10. AQUACULTURE EDUCATION.**

13 The Act (16 U.S.C. 2801 et seq.) is amended by in-
14 serting after section 9 (as added by section 9) the follow-
15 ing:

16 **“SEC. 10. AQUACULTURE EDUCATION.**

17 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section:

18 “(1) POSTSECONDARY VOCATIONAL INSTITU-
19 TION.—The term ‘postsecondary vocational institu-
20 tion’ has the same meaning given the term by sec-
21 tion 481(c) of the Higher Education Act of 1965
22 (20 U.S.C. 1088(c)), except that the term only in-
23 cludes an institution that awards an associates de-
24 gree but does not award a bachelor’s degree.

1 “(2) SECONDARY SCHOOL.—The term ‘second-
2 ary school’ has the same meaning given the term by
3 section 14101(25) of the Elementary and Secondary
4 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8801(25)).

5 “(b) AUTHORIZATION OF PROGRAM.—The Secretary
6 is authorized to establish a program to expand and im-
7 prove instruction, on aquaculture and the basic principles
8 of aquaculture farming, in the agriculture curriculum for
9 students attending secondary schools and postsecondary
10 vocational institutions.

11 “(c) GRANTS AND CURRICULUM.—In carrying out
12 subsection (b), the Secretary may—

13 “(1) make grants to—

14 “(A) establish and maintain aquaculture
15 learning centers in secondary schools and post-
16 secondary vocational institutions;

17 “(B) promote aquaculture technology
18 transfer; and

19 “(C) educate consumers and the public
20 concerning the benefits of aquaculture; and

21 “(2) develop curriculum and supporting mate-
22 rials on aquaculture farming, field test the content
23 of the curriculum, and supply training to educators
24 at secondary schools and postsecondary vocational

1 institutions on the aquaculture curriculum and ma-
2 terials developed.

3 “(d) PRIORITY FOR GRANTS.—In awarding grants
4 under subsection (c)(1), the Secretary shall give priority
5 to—

6 “(1) the ability of the proposed aquaculture
7 learning center to gain access to—

8 “(A) a commercial aquaculture farm;

9 “(B) a regional aquaculture center estab-
10 lished by the Secretary under section 1475(d)
11 of the National Agricultural Research, Exten-
12 sion, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7
13 U.S.C. 3322(d));

14 “(C) an aquaculture research facility; or

15 “(D) a similar venture that would afford
16 students the opportunity to experience aqua-
17 culture research and development or commer-
18 cialization;

19 “(2) the ability of the center to achieve out-
20 reach to minority audiences or students in inner-city
21 schools;

22 “(3) the ability of the center to foster aware-
23 ness of aquaculture among consumers and the gen-
24 eral public;

1 “(4) the ability of the center to serve as an
2 aquaculture education facility for visiting students
3 participating in a field trip or a similar educational
4 experience for inservice training; and

5 “(5) the level of assistance to be provided from
6 non-Federal sources.

7 “(e) LIMITATION.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
9 graph (2), a grantee may not receive a grant under
10 this section for more than 5 fiscal years.

11 “(2) WAIVER.—In the case of grantees that re-
12 ceive grants under this section for fiscal year 1996,
13 the Secretary may waive the application of para-
14 graph (1) to the grantees for the fiscal year if the
15 Secretary determines that the application of para-
16 graph (1) to the grantees would result in the termi-
17 nation of an excessive number of grants.”.

18 **SEC. 11. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

19 The first sentence of section 15 (as redesignated by
20 section 7(1)) is amended to read as follows: “There are
21 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act (in-
22 cluding the functions of the Joint Subcommittee on Aqua-
23 culture established under section 6(a)) \$3,000,000 for
24 each of fiscal years 1996 through 2000.”.

1 **SEC. 12. ELIGIBILITY OF AQUACULTURE FARMERS FOR**
2 **FARM CREDIT ASSISTANCE.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 343 of the Consolidated
4 Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1991) is
5 amended by striking “fish farming” both places it appears
6 in paragraphs (1) and (2) and inserting “aquaculture (as
7 the term is defined in section 3(1) of the National Aqua-
8 culture Act of 1980 (16 U.S.C. 2802(1)))”.

9 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
10 subsection (a) shall become effective on October 1, 1995.

11 **SEC. 13. INTERNATIONAL AQUACULTURE INFORMATION**
12 **AND DATA COLLECTION.**

13 Section 502 of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978
14 (7 U.S.C. 5692) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
15 lowing:

16 “(d) INTERNATIONAL AQUACULTURE INFORMATION
17 AND DATA COLLECTION.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized
19 to establish and carry out a program of data collec-
20 tion, analysis, and dissemination of information to
21 provide continuing and timely economic information
22 concerning international aquaculture production.

23 “(2) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out para-
24 graph (1), the Secretary shall consult with the Joint
25 Subcommittee on Aquaculture established under sec-
26 tion 6(a) of the National Aquaculture Act of 1980

1 (16 U.S.C. 2805(a)), and representatives of the
2 United States aquaculture industry, concerning
3 means of effectively providing data described in
4 paragraph (1) to the Joint Subcommittee and the
5 industry.”.

6 **SEC. 14. AQUACULTURE INFORMATION NETWORK REPORT.**

7 Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment
8 of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall report to
9 Congress on the feasibility of expanding current informa-
10 tion systems at regional aquaculture centers established
11 by the Secretary under section 1475(d) of the National
12 Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy
13 Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3322(d)), universities, research in-
14 stitutions, and the Agricultural Research Service to permit
15 an on-line link between those entities for the sharing of
16 data, publication, and technical assistance information in-
17 volving aquaculture.

18 **SEC. 15. VOLUNTARY CERTIFICATION OF QUALITY STAND-**

19 **ARDS.**

20 The Act (16 U.S.C. 2801 et seq.) is amended by in-
21 serting after section 10 (as added by section 11) the fol-
22 lowing:

1 **“SEC. 11. VOLUNTARY CERTIFICATION OF QUALITY STAND-**
2 **ARDS.**

3 “The Secretary shall develop, in consultation with
4 representatives of the aquaculture industry, a plan for vol-
5 untary certification of guidelines to ensure the quality of
6 aquatic species subject to this Act in order to promote the
7 marketing and transportation of aquaculture products.”.

8 **SEC. 16. IMPLEMENTATION REPORT.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
10 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture
11 shall report to Congress on the progress made in carrying
12 out this Act and the amendments made by this Act.

13 (b) CONTENTS.—The report required by subsection
14 (a) shall include—

15 (1) a description of all programs and activities
16 of the Department of Agriculture and all other agen-
17 cies and Departments in support of private aqua-
18 culture;

19 (2) the specific authorities for the activities de-
20 scribed in paragraph (1); and

21 (3) recommendations for such actions as the
22 Secretary of Agriculture determines are necessary to
23 improve recognition and support of private aqua-
24 culture in each agency of the Department of Agri-
25 culture.



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