

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 234

To provide limitations on maritime liens on fishing permits, and for other purposes.

---

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 3, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

---

## A BILL

To provide limitations on maritime liens on fishing permits,  
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 “Maritime Lien Reform  
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. LIMITATION ON MARITIME LIENS ON FISHING PER-**  
7 **MIT AND PERMIT DESCRIPTION.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 313 of  
9 title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the  
10 end the following:

1 **“§ 31310. Limitation on maritime liens on fishing per-**  
2 **mit and permit description**

3 “(a) IN GENERAL.—This chapter—

4 “(1) does not establish a maritime lien on a  
5 permit that—

6 “(A) authorizes a person or use of a vessel  
7 to engage in fishing; and

8 “(B) is issued under State or Federal law;  
9 and

10 “(2) does not authorize any civil action to en-  
11 force a maritime lien on such a permit.

12 “(b) TREATMENT OF FISHING PERMITS.—A fishing  
13 permit—

14 “(1) is governed solely by the State or Federal  
15 law under which it was issued; and

16 “(2) is not included in the whole of a vessel or  
17 as an appurtenance or intangible of a vessel for any  
18 purpose.

19 “(c) LIMITATION ON STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—

20 Nothing in subsections (a) and (b) shall be construed as  
21 imposing any limitation upon the authority of the Sec-  
22 retary of Commerce to modify, suspend, revoke, or sanc-  
23 tion any Federal fishery permit issued by the Secretary  
24 of Commerce or to bring a civil action to enforce such  
25 modification, suspension, revocation, or sanction.”.

1           (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
2 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting  
3 after the item relating to section 31309 the following:

“31310. Limitation on maritime liens on fishing permit and permit description.”.

○