



National Lieutenant Governors Association

Resolution on the Inspection of Imported Seafood into the United States

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- 2 **WHEREAS**, a 2017 study conducted by the U.S. Governmental Accountability Office found that only a limited
3 number of inspections are performed on foreign seafood processors and farmers, and
- 4 **WHEREAS**, foreign seafood, especially those grown in aquaculture facilities, are often treated with large doses of
5 antibiotics and other chemicals to treat diseases and enhance their growth, and
- 6 **WHEREAS**, the lack of inspections and testing can lead to unhealthy levels of chemicals and antibiotics in the
7 seafood being consumed by Americans, and
- 8 **WHEREAS**, these practices place American Commercial Seafood Producers at a competitive disadvantage with
9 foreign producers who are not held to the same standards, and
- 10 **WHEREAS**, the lack of inspection creates a tangible threat to our national security and the health and safety of
11 American citizens, and
- 12 **WHEREAS**, the fees collected on imported seafood can be used to fund the hiring of additional inspectors to ensure
13 the safety of imported seafood consumed by Americans.
- 14 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the National Lieutenant Governors Association hereby request
15 that the USDA and FDA take immediate measures to significantly increase the level of seafood inspection at the
16 sites where it is harvested and at our borders.
- 17 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that that the National Lieutenant Governors Association hereby request that the
18 United States require every lot of imported seafood to enter our border with a full lab certificate ensuring compliance
19 with our food and drug laws.
- 20 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that that the National Lieutenant Governors Association hereby suggest imposing
21 a five to ten cent inspection fee per pound on all imported seafood, which would allow additional hiring of
22 inspectors to ensure inspection of all imported seafood, excluding American seafood shipped overseas for processing
23 and consumption in the U.S.

ADOPTED, this day, the 19th day of July, 2019.

Sponsors: Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz (D – Connecticut), Lt. Governor Pamela Evette (R – South Carolina),
Lt. Governor John Fetterman (D – Pennsylvania), Lt. Governor Bethany Hall-Long (D - Delaware), Lt.
Governor Kate Marshall (D – Nevada), Lt. Governor Kevin Meyer (R – Alaska), Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser
(R – Louisiana)