



2021 Lakeshore Drive, Suite 310
New Orleans, Louisiana 70122

March 30, 2015

Senator David Vitter
516 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Vitter,

As you know, the Louisiana's Shrimp Task Force represents the state's shrimp industry and is responsible for studying and monitoring the shrimp industry and making recommendations on improving production and the economic sustainability of the industry. With these responsibilities in mind, the Shrimp Task Force applauds your introduction of the Imported Seafood Safety Standards Act.

For years, the Louisiana shrimp industry has struggled to compete with the prices of imported shrimp. Labor costs, fuel costs as well as natural and man-made disasters have made it increasingly difficult to compete with our foreign competitors.

Many of the foreign countries producing farm-raised shrimp do not use the same safety standards required by the U.S. and continue to port shop their way into the U.S. market competing with our wild-caught domestic shrimp.

On behalf of this valuable industry, the Shrimp Task Force supports your efforts to ensure that all seafood exported into the U.S. will go through the same food safety regulations as mandated for U.S. fisheries.

Sincerely,

Mark Abraham
Chairman, Louisiana Shrimp Task Force