

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4165

To prohibit the importation of seafood and seafood products from the Russian Federation, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 15, 2023

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana (for himself and Mrs. PELTOLA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To prohibit the importation of seafood and seafood products from the Russian Federation, 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 “United States-Russian
5 Federation Seafood Reciprocity Act of 2023”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

8 (1) In 2014, the Russian Federation invaded
9 and annexed the Crimean Peninsula from Ukraine.

1 (2) The United States and its allies imposed
2 sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation as
3 a result of that hostile and illegal action.

4 (3) In retaliation, the Government of the Rus-
5 sian Federation imposed an embargo on agricultural
6 products, including seafood, imported from the
7 United States, the European Union, Australia, Can-
8 ada, and Norway.

9 (4) Before imposing the embargo, the Russian
10 Federation was an important export market for
11 United States seafood products.

12 (5) Imports into the United States of seafood
13 products of Russian Federation origin increased
14 roughly 173 percent in value between 2013, the year
15 before the imposition of the embargo, and 2020.

16 (6) On March 11, 2022, the President issued
17 Executive Order 14068 (87 Fed. Reg. 14381; relat-
18 ing to prohibiting certain imports, exports, and new
19 investment with respect to continued Russian Fed-
20 eration aggression), which prohibited the importa-
21 tion of seafood of Russian Federation origin. The
22 Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department
23 of the Treasury allowed imports of banned seafood
24 that had pre-existing written contracts or written
25 agreements until June 23, 2022.

1 (7) Executive Order 14068 does not prohibit
2 the importation of seafood products of Russian Fed-
3 eration origin that are substantially transformed in
4 another country.

5 (8) Despite the brutal, illegal invasion of
6 Ukraine by the Russian Federation, seafood prod-
7 ucts of Russian Federation origin continue to enter
8 United States commerce.

9 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

10 It is the sense of Congress that—

11 (1) aggression against Ukraine by the Govern-
12 ment of the Russian Federation must prompt a re-
13 evaluation of United States-Russian Federation
14 trade policies, particularly with respect to categories
15 of goods for which the Government of the Russian
16 Federation has already taken retaliatory action
17 against the United States; and

18 (2) a robust United States seafood industry in
19 which domestic consumers and businesses have ac-
20 cess to and can purchase domestically and
21 sustainably harvested seafood and seafood products
22 supports national security and United States jobs.

1 **SEC. 4. PROHIBITION ON ENTRY OF SEAFOOD AND SEA-**
2 **FOOD PRODUCTS FROM THE RUSSIAN FED-**
3 **ERATION.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The importation into the United
5 States of any product described in subsection (b) is pro-
6 hibited.

7 (b) PRODUCTS DESCRIBED.—A product described in
8 this subsection is a product—

9 (1) classifiable under chapter 3 or heading
10 1604 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the
11 United States; and

12 (2) of Russian Federation origin, including any
13 such product incorporated into another product or
14 substantially transformed in a country other than
15 the Russian Federation.

16 **SEC. 5. TERMINATION.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—The prohibition under section 4
18 shall terminate on the date that is 90 days after the date
19 on which the President determines and certifies to Con-
20 gress that the Government of the Russian Federation has
21 terminated its prohibition on the importation of seafood
22 products from the United States.

23 (b) NOTIFICATION TO U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER
24 PROTECTION.—Upon making the certification described in
25 subsection (a), the President shall notify the Commis-
26 sioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection with re-

1 spect to the date on which the prohibition under section
2 4 terminates.

3 **SEC. 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

4 Section 4 applies with respect to articles imported on
5 or after the date that is 90 days after the date of the
6 enactment of this Act.

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