

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4129

To amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to add Rhode Island to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 1, 2012

Mr. LANGEVIN (for himself and Mr. CICILLINE) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to add Rhode Island to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council.

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 “Rhode Island Fisher-
5 men’s Fairness Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds as follows:

8 (1) Rhode Island fishermen participate in fish-
9 eries managed by the New England Fishery Man-

1 agement Council (NEFMC) and the Mid-Atlantic
2 Fishery Management Council (MAFMC).

3 (2) Rhode Island currently has voting member-
4 ship on the NEFMC under the Magnuson-Stevens
5 Fishery Conservation and Management Act but does
6 not have voting membership on the MAFMC.

7 (3) Rhode Island lands more MAFMC-managed
8 stocks than any other MAFMC member except the
9 State of New Jersey.

10 (4) A higher percentage of Rhode Island’s com-
11 mercial landings (by weight or value) traditionally
12 have come from species that are managed by the
13 MAFMC as compared to species managed by
14 NEFMC.

15 (5) MAFMC has found that Rhode Island’s cir-
16 cumstance parallels that of Florida and North Caro-
17 lina, which each have voting membership on two dif-
18 ferent fishery management councils.

19 **SEC. 3. ADDITION OF RHODE ISLAND TO THE MID-ATLAN-**
20 **TIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL.**

21 Section 302(a)(1)(B) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fish-
22 ery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C.
23 1852(a)(1)(B)) is amended—

24 (1) by inserting “Rhode Island,” after “States
25 of”;

- 1 (2) by inserting “Rhode Island,” after “except
- 2 North Carolina,”;
- 3 (3) by striking “21” and inserting “23”; and
- 4 (4) by striking “13” and inserting “14”.

○