

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3497

To provide the force and effect of law for certain regulations relating to the taking of double-crested cormorants to reduce depredation at aquaculture facilities and protect public resources.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 5, 2016

Mr. COTTON (for himself, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mr. SHELBY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

A BILL

To provide the force and effect of law for certain regulations relating to the taking of double-crested cormorants to reduce depredation at aquaculture facilities and protect public resources.

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 “Safeguard Aquaculture
5 Farmers Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE TAKING OF DOU-** 7 **BLE-CRESTED CORMORANTS.**

8 (a) **FORCE AND EFFECT.**—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b),
 2 section 21.47 of title 50, Code of Federal Regula-
 3 tions (as in effect on the date of enactment of this
 4 Act), shall have the force and effect of law.

5 (2) PUBLIC NOTICE.—The Secretary of the In-
 6 terior (referred to in this section as the “Sec-
 7 retary”), acting through the Director of the United
 8 States Fish and Wildlife Service (referred to in this
 9 section as the “Director”), shall notify the public of
 10 the authority provided by paragraph (1) in a manner
 11 determined appropriate by the Secretary.

12 (b) SUNSET.—The authority provided by subsection
 13 (a)(1) shall terminate on the date that is the earlier of—

14 (1) the effective date of a regulation promul-
 15 gated by the Director after the date of enactment of
 16 this Act to control depredation of double-crested cor-
 17 morant populations; or

18 (2) 1 year after the date of enactment of this
 19 Act.

20 (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
 21 tion limits the authority of the Director to promulgate reg-
 22 ulations relating to the taking of double-crested cor-
 23 morants under any other law.

