

most were industry-developed. As we read the Senate language, the Secretary could impose his/her own will over state fisheries under S. 39.

S. 39 perverts the fishing community language, which in the House bill gives consideration of local, community-based fleets, by including the home ports of the distant water, corporately-held, factory trawlers under the definition of "community-based fleets." About the only thing the Senate version did not do was define the corporate headquarters for these fleets as a "fishing community" and that's probably only because Arkansas is land-locked.

S. 39's language on bycatch is much weaker than your House version and actually makes reducing mortality of bycatch co-equal with avoiding or reducing bycatch. The Senate bill also exempts the East Coast large pelagic fishery from the bycatch provision of the bill. The shark bycatch in the East Coast fishery is giving the whole of the commercial fishing industry a black eye. We have dealt with shark and shark bycatch issues here on the west coast (through state regulation) in an effort to ensure the resource was protected and the fishery is sustainable; surely it's not too much to ask that bycatch requirements be put in place for the Atlantic.

S. 39, moreover, fails to address the issue of windfall profits from ITQs. The problem of profiteering on permits has to be addressed, first to dissuade nonfishing speculators from seeking or gaining quota shares; second to assure quota shares are affordable for fishermen/women seeking to enter a fishery (by preventing windfall profits and restricting quota sales to those directly engaged in the harvest of fish—not bankers or processors); and third to assure the public a fair return on this publicly-held resource.

The House is to be commended for its bipartisan effort in developing H.R. 39, which is a very good bill. The only reason we had for pressing a Senate bill was to get in the Dungeness crab language, offered by Senator Widen, and get the two bills into conference with the idea of getting a measure out this year. If the choice now, however, is between the Senate version and no bill at all, PCFFA recommends waiting until next year.

Thank you for all your efforts this year on Magnuson and please convey to your colleagues our dissatisfaction with S. 39.

Sincerely,

W.F. "ZEKE" GRADER, Jr.,
Executive Director.

WEST COAST SEAFOOD
PROCESSORS ASSOCIATION,
Portland, OR, September 18, 1996.

Hon. DON YOUNG,
Chairman, Committee on Resources, Rayburn
Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR DON: As you know, over the past two years our Association has worked with you, other members of the House, and your counterparts in the Senate to develop a Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act bill that will conserve and manage our fisheries and still provide an opportunity for our members to conduct their business and employ thousands of workers in Alaska, California, Oregon, and Washington. The House bill, while not perfect, did a good job of accomplishing these goals. The most current version of the Senate bill (which I realize is still being changed) improves the House bill in some areas, but is worse in many others. We had hoped that the Senate would act in time to allow a conference committee to develop a final product that we could all embrace. Unfortunately, time will not permit that to occur.

I have spoken to all of the members of my board of directors. Collectively, they represent the majority of shore based processors

of Pacific groundfish, Dungeness crab, and shrimp—along with many other species in California, Oregon, and Washington. In addition, they represent shore based processors of salmon, king crab, tanner crab, pollock, cod, sole, sablefish, halibut, herring, and razor clams with plants on the Kenai Peninsula and in Bristol Bay, Kodiak, Cordova, and Petersburg. They unanimously agree that—absent a regular conference committee—the House should amend the Senate bill and return it to the Senate.

This decision was not made lightly. All of my members recognize the risks that this action would entail. However, they would rather make a fresh start in the next Congress than have a bill signed into law which has the potential to put them out of business.

To give you just a few examples, here are some of the Senate provisions which need to be addressed:

The Senate provisions on overfishing and bycatch do not take into account the realities of commercial fishing, leaving the industry, the Councils, and NMFS open to crippling lawsuits that could shut down fishing;

The Senate enforcement provisions could subject a fisherman or processing worker to criminal penalties if they get into an argument with a port sampler under contract to NMFS;

The Senate bill would allow the Secretary to impose a federal limited entry plan—not reviewable by the Council—on fisheries such as Gulf of Alaska king crab, Pacific Dungeness crab, and Atlantic striped bass;

A fisherman writing a letter to a Council who does not provide complete documentation for his views could be subject to a \$100,000 fine;

The Senate bill could allow a State to allocate Dungeness crab through area closures and pot limits at the expense of traditional fishermen legally harvesting crab in federal waters; and

Every groundfish fisherman in the Pacific Council area would be required to register their limited entry permit with a newly established lien identification system and pay a fee every time the permit was transferred—a provision that was never discussed with affected fishermen in California, Oregon, and Washington.

This is not an all-inclusive list of troublesome provisions, but it demonstrates the additional work that is needed on the Senate bill before it becomes law. On behalf of our members and their employees in San Luis Obispo, the San Francisco area, Sacramento, Fort Bragg, Eureka, Crescent City, Brookings, Charleston, Newport, Astoria, Warrenton, Portland, Chinook, Westport, Seattle, Bellingham, Petersburg, Cordova, the Kenai Peninsula, Kodiak, and Bristol Bay, I urge you to improve S. 39 when it arrives in the House and return it to the Senate for final action.

Sincerely,

ROD MOORE,
Executive Director.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. LYUSHUN SHEN

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, the current state of relations between the United States Congress and the Republic of China [ROC] on Taiwan are excellent. During the past several years, many members have traveled to Taipei to meet with important leaders in the ROC government as well as with Taiwanese busi-

ness executives and academicians. At the same time, many of our colleagues have met with Taiwanese legislators and prominent businessmen here in Washington. The excellent dialogue and high degree of interaction between the U.S. Congress and the ROC is a tribute to Representative Jason Hu and his staff here in Washington at the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States [TECRO].

One of the key staffers at TECRO is Dr. Lyushun Shen, who for the past 3 years has served as Director of Public Affairs. In that capacity, Dr. Shen has been very active maintaining and expanding the strong relationship between our two countries. Dr. Shen has been a thoroughly professional diplomat and persuasive advocate for the ROC's interests in Washington.

Mr. Speaker, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Taipei has correctly recognized Dr. Shen's good work in Washington. Accordingly, he has been given an important new assignment as the Director of North American Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Taipei. In this new position, Dr. Shen will play a continuing role in the relationship between the U.S. Congress and the people of Taiwan. Those of us in this body who have worked closely with Dr. Shen are disappointed to see him leave Washington, but we are also happy for him because we understand his new job is a major step forward in his career.

Mr. Speaker, Lyushun Shen leaves Washington at the end of the month to return home for his significant new assignment. I know my colleagues join me in congratulating him on a job well done and in wishing him success in his upcoming endeavor.

SPORTS LEADERS SPEAK OUT AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE—SUPPORT GROWS FOR NATIONAL SUMMIT ON SPORTS AND NON-VIOLENCE

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday Congresswoman CONNIE MORELLA and I announced a major breakthrough in the campaign that we initiated to get big-name sports stars and coaches to speak out in the national media against domestic violence in America.

More specifically, last January Representative MORELLA and I first wrote directly to the commissioners and other top officials of our Nation's major professional and amateur sports leagues. We urged them in the strongest terms possible to join with us and commit to work together to fashion a multi-faceted strategy to prevent domestic violence, including counseling, strong disciplinary action when warranted, and a high-profile public education and advertising campaign against domestic violence. (A copy of our original letter is reproduced below.)

Next we held extensive discussions with leaders of the sports industry to determine how best to enlist the voices of star athletes, as role models of profound national influence, in speaking out against domestic violence.

Then in July we introduced our legislation (House Concurrent Resolution 199) calling for

national summit of sports, political, and community leaders to promote nonviolence through sports, starting with a sustained nationwide campaign against domestic violence and sexual assault.

We are making progress because more and more Americans are willing to stand up and speak out against domestic violence as a crime. For example, starting next week an ongoing series of public service advertisements, featuring football stars from the professional and collegiate ranks, will begin broadcast on television stations across the country. On this coming Monday—September 30, 1996—there will be an antidomestic violence public service announcement broadcast in prime time during the “ABC Monday Night Football” nationally-televised game between the Dallas Cowboys and the Philadelphia Eagles. I want to applaud the officials of the National Football League and stars like Steve Atwater of the Denver Broncos who have made possible this series of public service announcements to help us in our efforts to prevent domestic violence.

At the same time, I am very pleased to announce that starting next month viewers of televised college football games will see for the first time many of our Nation’s college football stars speaking out against domestic violence.

I especially want to salute the outstanding players coaches, and officials of the College Football Association [CFA] for filming these ads as well as the generous sponsors of the Liz Claiborne Foundation for financing this trail-blazing antidomestic violence campaign as well as the scholars at the Northeastern University’s Center for the Study of Sport in Society for helping craft the message. (The text of one of these unprecedented television spots to be broadcast is reproduced below as well.) These ads will provide a powerful start in October to a wide range of activities planned for Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

These televised public service advertisements by major athletic associations are a very positive first step in our efforts to recruit sports leaders to lend their voices to the growing campaign to stop domestic violence. I can’t think of a better way to deter physical abuse against women and children than to have our Nation’s football heroes take to the airwaves to spread a blunt message all across America. Tough guys mix it up on the field, but they won’t beat up on their wives, girlfriends and kids.

At the same time, we will press ahead with our plans to convene during the next year the first-ever national summit on sports and nonviolence. Already scores of health, athletic and antiviolence groups have endorsed our legislation and joined the call for defining a prominent role for our Nation’s sports industry and athletic heroes to help lead the campaign against domestic violence.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 24, 1996.

Mr. PAUL TAGLIABUE,
Commissioner, National Football League,
New York, NY

DEAR COMMISSIONER TAGLIABUE. We are in receipt of the January 17th letter from Mr. Harold R. Henderson, Executive Vice President for Labor Relations and Chairman of the National Football League (NFL) Management Council.

First, we want to salute the outstanding work of the NFL across many decades in sup-

porting so many charities and community-building activities throughout our nation. In addition, the players and coaches of the NFL, as role models of profound national influence, have already helped for many years to positively shape the lives of countless young Americans.

It is the NFL’s record of civic responsibility to which we want to appeal.

Specifically, we are writing to ask in the strongest terms that the NFL join with us and commit to work together to fashion a multi-faceted strategy to deter domestic violence, including counseling, strong disciplinary action when warranted, and a high-profile public education and advertising campaign against domestic violence.

It is commendable that the NFL has taken decisive action and instituted disciplinary policies on both drug and alcohol abuse as well as unabolic steroid and related substance abuse. But we believe the time has come for the NFL to step forward, as you are accustomed to do, and assume a leading role in deterring domestic violence among current and future NFL personnel in particular and the general public as well.

A startling investigation by *The Washington Post* revealed that between the January 1, 1989 incident that led to O.J. Simpson pleading no contest and former pro football players and collegiate football athletes were reported to police for 156 alleged offenses of violent behavior toward women. Surprisingly, at the time of that review, 43 of the men accused of domestic violence were active players on NFL team rosters. In fact, to the best of our knowledge, only one NFL player has ever been disciplined for a gender-related offense: former Philadelphia Eagle tackle Kevin Allen, who was denied re-entry after serving a 33-month prison term for rape.

There is good reason to suspect that domestic violence is even more prevalent among NFL players than these statistics indicate. The *Post*’s review did not uncover all accusations against current and former football players. Many rape and sexual assaults are never reported to police, while additional charges often are kept confidential for preferential reasons.

Since 1990, multiple studies have shown that there is a significantly higher prevalence of domestic violence among football players than among the general population. For instance in one study that was published last year by researchers at Northeastern University and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, it was determined that male student-athletes comprised 3.3% of the total population at 10 large universities in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). But this same group of student athletes represented 19% of the men reported to campus officials for sexual assault from 1991 to 1993.

Our concern is corroborated by Don Sabo, a social science professor and co-author of “Sex, Violence and Power in Sports: Rethinking Masculinity.” He has studied behavioral patterns, while asking “are athletes more likely than non-athletes to engage in sexual abuse? His conclusion: “Yes, I believe we are discovering a cultural pattern in sports that has been hidden for too long by silence.”

For far too long a pointless, circular debate has raged over whether the high incidence of domestic violence among professional and collegiate football players is a sports problem or a societal problem. Clearly, it is both. Regardless of how thoroughly we can quantify that athletes commit violence against women at a rate greater than the average population, common sense and repeated tragic examples involving professional football players cry out for coordi-

nated non-governmental and legislative action.

Surely you recognize the enormous influence that big-time football players at the professional and collegiate levels, as role models, have upon our society. Many men identify with NFL players and look on them as both heroes and role models to be emulated on and off the field. Undoubtedly when instances of domestic violence receive little more than a slap on the wrist in courts and go unpunished by the NFL, as was the case after Minnesota Vikings quarterback Warren Moon reportedly assaulted his wife last summer, that sends an insidious and harmful message to many Americans. Unfortunately, the current message being sent seems to be that domestic violence is not to be taken too seriously and that it is not the indefensible and serious crime that it is.

This destructive message may have been reinforced by the recent handling of the case of Lawrence Phillips, star running back of the national champion Nebraska Cornhuskers football team. After admitting to a physical attack on his girlfriend last year, Phillips sat out a few games, but was reinstated in time to play in the Fiesta Bowl. Then he was actively encouraged by his college football coach, Tom Osborne, to leave the University of Nebraska early in favor of playing in the NFL, thus minimizing any further public criticism about domestic violence. Apparently the lesson to be drawn from this case is that if you are a good enough football player, you can attack your girlfriend, still play in the big game, leave college early, and pursue an unblemished professional career, essentially free of nagging questions about how you treat your women off the playing field.

Finally, we are also troubled by public comments of the NFL’s Communications Director, Greg Aiello, to the effect that unless domestic violence affects the business of football, then the NFL should be reticent about taking disciplinary action against professional football players who are charged with domestic violence for fear of possible legal action.

That sounds like a short-sighted rationalization to justify the NFL continuing to ignore domestic violence in its own ranks. When an NFL player is suspected of drug abuse, doesn’t the NFL get involved out of consideration for the individual concerned and the public reputation of the NFL regardless of whether the player in question is criminally charged?

Furthermore, even measured by that self-interested, commercial standard, the NFL and NCAA could have been expected reasonably to have taken coordinated action already to counteract the scourge of domestic violence among football players. Consider the pending case in Virginia where a woman is suing Virginia Tech University over an alleged sexual assault by two college football players and is seeking \$8.3 million in damages, the same amount the team is estimated to have earned for that university by its appearance in the 1996 Sugar Bowl. Clearly taking forceful action against domestic violence makes sound business sense for the NFL and the NCAA.

In the final analysis, it is not our purpose to single out professional and collegiate football players for special punishment for incidents of domestic violence against their wives or girlfriends, although they certainly should not receive preferential treatment because of their celebrity status in the entertainment world.

Instead, we are appealing to you to make it a top priority to see to it that the men who are privileged to play professional football, as role models, help to publicly condemn domestic violence as a serious crime and do not sluff it off.

Not a week goes by during the NFL season without tens of millions of viewers seeing televised public service announcements by star football players featured in community service and saluting the work of the United Way and other worthy causes. Imagine the public service that would be rendered if the NFL, starting this Super Bowl Sunday, was to sponsor advertisements in which NFL stars help to spread the word that real men don't beat up women and domestic violence is inexcusable.

We look forward to working with you to find constructive ways that we can team up with the NFL to wage an effective national campaign against domestic violence wherever it occurs.

Sincerely yours,

CONSTANCE A. MORELLA,
Member of Congress.
BERNARD SANDERS,
Member of Congress.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT [PSA]

The PSA is set at a crowded football stadium. Various messages flash on the stadium scoreboard, such as: "Chevy Nova License # JRZ-847 You Left Your Lights On," and "Happy 8th Birthday to Alex Burnard." Suddenly, the stadium becomes eerily silent as fans and players look up at a new message: "Greg Niel, Sec. 829, Seat 12 Roughed Up His Girlfriend Last Night." Close-ups of fans and players looking at the scoreboard in shock and disgust appear.

An athlete on the field takes off his helmet and addresses the camera, "If you think hitting a woman makes you a big man, you won't mind if we let 70,000 people see just how big you are." A voice over intones, "Every 12 seconds a woman in this country is abused. Isn't it time to speak up? Get involved, end relationship violence. Love is *not* abuse. To help or get help, call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE."

The spot was created by Liz Claiborne's advertising agency, New York-based Gotham, Inc., and directed by Robert Logevall of Bruce Dowad Associates. Distribution plans for this fall include showcasing the PSA in stadiums at college football games around the country beginning in October, National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and broadcasting it during regional television coverage of college football games.

PSA PARTNERS

PSA project partners Liz Claiborne Inc., Northeastern University's Center for the Study of Sport in Society, and the College Football Association are promoting the concept that it will take "intergender collaboration"—men and women working together—to end relationship violence. The partnership also represents the uniting of both the private and public sectors to create social change, which Liz Claiborne hopes will serve as a model for other companies and non-profit organizations to follow.

The Center for the Study of Sport in Society, a center of Northeastern University, seeks to increase awareness of sport and its relation to society, and to develop activist programs that identify problems, offer solutions, and promote the benefits of sport. Sport in Society's Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP) Project was established to increase the participation of student-athletes in campus-based efforts to prevent all forms of men's violence against women, and to inspire men to take a leadership position with this issue.

The College Football Association is the organization which unites 70 Division 1-A

major football playing institutions and includes the Atlantic Coast, Big East, Big 12, Southeastern, and Western Athletic conferences. The College Football Association provides a forum in which member institutions discuss issues unique to major college football.

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATION

HON. GEORGE E. BROWN, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Speaker, the Social Security Administration is sitting on a scandal of immense proportions that has been kept under wraps by a conspiracy of silence inside the Washington beltway.

Every day, millions of deserving Americans are being short-changed billions of dollars in hard-earned Social Security benefits, yet very little is being done about it. In my southern California district, retired workers caught up in this debacle are owed on average \$1,000 in back Social Security payments. Some have been shorted by as much as \$4,500–\$7,000 in back payments.

How could this be?

In response to constituent complaints, I have been investigating the handling of earnings reports filed with the Social Security Administration. I have discovered that what seemed like isolated incidences of wages not being credited to individuals' records is actually a long-standing immense problem that exists nationwide. The SSA procedure for posting wage and self-employment returns has pitfalls previously unknown to most working Americans, and even many Social Security employees themselves.

For five decades, poor record-keeping, managerial mistakes, sloppy bookkeeping on the part of too many employers, and bureaucratic errors have caused a problem so large that seemingly nobody now wants to admit that it exists, let alone tackle it head on.

The evidence of this massive problem resides in what the SSA calls the suspense file, where earnings are placed with the SSA is notable to match the name and Social Security number from an annual wage report to an existing worker's Social Security record. Reasons earnings are not credited to workers account abound, but among the most common are typographical errors on employers' wage reports, such as unreadable data, first or middle name used as surname, and other mistakes occurring with unfamiliar names of workers of diverse countries of origin. When a match cannot be made, the employers' wage report is thrown into the suspense file, under the assumption that the correct owner of those wages will come forward in the future to claim the credits. The crux of the problem stems from the fact that many people never know that they are missing credits, even after retirement, and even if it causes a reduction in their benefits.

Even when the employer reports correctly, the SSA's strict matching policy results in wage reports going into the suspense file. Women who do not change their names on

the SSA's data bank will often lose credit for earnings until they do.

The adverse impact of this ticking time bomb on working Americans is staggering. These mismatches, whether they be the fault of shoddy employer practices or the inflexibility of the SSA's strict matching policy, have the practical effect of denying millions of Americans up to hundreds of dollars on their monthly retirement or disability income. The overall numbers are mind-boggling and, quite frankly, I am astounded that a problem of this magnitude has not received the attention of the public, the media, Congress, or the administration.

Unfortunately, left to their own devices the SSA has few incentives to correct this decades-old problem. The FICA taxes are paid and credited to the Social Security Trust Fund whether or not the individual employee gets credit for them. Computer operations that could easily detect many mismatches are expensive and have no priority in budget-setting. I am told that lack of knowledge of the extent of the problem has prevented claims staffs in local offices from being effective in finding and crediting lost wage earnings.

The first step in fully addressing this problem is to assess the scope of the problem in terms of its impact on Social Security retiree benefits. The next step is to determine how to reconcile the wage reports currently in the suspense file to the rightful owner and to put in place a system that will prevent future mismatches, potentially leading to the loss of substantial benefits.

Today, I introduced legislation to address this serious problem. My bill calls on the SSA to take immediate action to determine and implement an effective procedure to reconcile the wage reports currently in the suspense file to the rightful owner and put in place a system that will prevent future mismatches.

In addition, my bill requires the SSA and IRS to submit a plan of action to Congress for eliminating the backlog of uncredited earnings in the suspense file and resolving new discrepancies and any additional resources which the SSA would require to carry out this mission.

The Federal Government should strive for nothing less than 100-percent accuracy for the American wage earner. I will not rest until I am convinced that the SSA and Congress have done everything possible to ensure that hard-working Americans are receiving every dime in retirement benefits that they deserve.

Bob Dole, the Republican nominee for President, does not let a campaign day go by without promising every American a raise in the form of a 15-percent income tax cut. If the Congress were to tackle the suspense file snafu within SSA, we would be able to provide an immediate raise to millions of hard-working American families by simply doing what is right and keeping faith with the Social Security promise.

I invite my colleagues to cosponsor this bill and join with me in sending out a clear message that we will not rest until we are convinced that the SSA and Congress have done everything possible to ensure that American wage earners are receiving every dime in retirement benefits that they deserve.