

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I urge support for the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. JACKSON LEE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6201, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## ALASKA SALMON RESEARCH TASK FORCE ACT

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6651) to establish an Alaska Salmon Research Task Force.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6651

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Alaska Salmon Research Task Force Act”.

### SEC. 2. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this Act are—

(1) to ensure that Pacific salmon trends in Alaska regarding productivity and abundance are characterized and that research needs are identified;

(2) to prioritize scientific research needs for Pacific salmon in Alaska;

(3) to address the increased variability or decline in Pacific salmon returns in Alaska by creating a coordinated salmon research strategy; and

(4) to support collaboration and coordination for Pacific salmon conservation efforts in Alaska.

### SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) salmon are an essential part of Alaska’s fisheries, including subsistence, commercial, and recreational uses, and there is an urgent need to better understand the freshwater and marine biology and ecology of salmon, a migratory species that crosses many borders, and for a coordinated salmon research strategy to address salmon returns that are in decline or experiencing increased variability;

(2) salmon are an essential element for the well-being and health of Alaskans; and

(3) there is a unique relationship for people of Indigenous heritage who rely on salmon for subsistence and traditional and cultural practices.

### SEC. 4. ALASKA SALMON RESEARCH TASK FORCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Commerce, in consultation with the Governor of Alaska, shall convene an Alaska Salmon Research Task Force (referred to in this section as the “Research Task Force”) to—

(1) review existing Pacific salmon research;

(2) identify applied research needed to better understand the increased variability and declining salmon returns in some regions of Alaska; and

(3) support sustainable management of salmon in Alaska.

(b) COMPOSITION AND APPOINTMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Research Task Force shall be composed of not fewer than 13 and not more than 19 members, who shall be appointed under paragraphs (2) and (3).

(2) APPOINTMENT BY SECRETARY.—The Secretary of Commerce shall appoint members to the Research Task Force as follows:

(A) One representative from each of the following:

(i) The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration who is knowledgeable about salmon and salmon research efforts from the Alaska Region.

(ii) The North Pacific Fishery Management Council.

(iii) The United States section of the Pacific Salmon Commission.

(B) Not less than 2 and not more than 5 representatives from each of the following categories, at least 1 of whom shall represent Alaska Natives who possess personal knowledge of, and direct experience with, subsistence uses in rural Alaska, to be appointed with due regard to differences in regional perspectives and experience:

(i) Residents of Alaska who possess personal knowledge of, and direct experience with, subsistence uses in rural Alaska.

(ii) Alaska fishing industry representatives throughout the salmon supply chain, including from—

(I) directed commercial fishing;

(II) recreational fishing;

(III) charter fishing;

(IV) seafood processors;

(V) salmon prohibited species catch (by-catch) users; or

(VI) hatcheries.

(C) 5 representatives who are academic experts in salmon biology, salmon management, salmon ecology (marine and freshwater), or comprehensive marine research planning in the North Pacific.

(3) APPOINTMENT BY THE GOVERNOR OF ALASKA.—The Governor of Alaska shall appoint to the Research Task Force one representative from the State of Alaska who is knowledgeable about the State of Alaska’s salmon management and research efforts.

(c) DUTIES.—

(1) REVIEW.—The Research Task Force shall—

(A) conduct a review of Pacific salmon science relevant to understanding and managing salmon returns in Alaska, including an examination of—

(i) traditional ecological knowledge of salmon populations and their ecosystems;

(ii) marine carrying capacity and density dependent constraints, including an examination of interactions with other salmon species, and with forage base in marine ecosystems;

(iii) life-cycle and stage-specific mortality;

(iv) genetic sampling and categorization of population structure within salmon species in Alaska;

(v) methods for predicting run-timing and stock sizes;

(vi) oceanographic models that provide insight into stock distribution, growth, and survival;

(vii) freshwater, estuarine, and marine processes that affect survival of smolts;

(viii) climate effects on freshwater and marine habitats;

(ix) predator/prey interactions between salmon and marine mammals or other predators; and

(x) salmon productivity trends in other regions, both domestic and international, that put Alaska salmon populations in a broader geographic context; and

(B) identify scientific research gaps in understanding the Pacific salmon life-cycle in Alaska.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date the Research Task Force is convened, the Research Task Force shall submit to the Secretary of Commerce, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, the Committee on En-

vironment and Public Works of the Senate, the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives, the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, and the Alaska State Legislature, and make publicly available, a report—

(A) describing the review conducted under paragraph (1); and

(B) that includes—

(i) recommendations on filling knowledge gaps that warrant further scientific inquiry; and

(ii) findings from the reports of work groups submitted under subsection (d)(2)(C).

(d) ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS.—

(1) CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON.—The Research Task Force shall select a Chair and Vice Chair by vote from among the members of the Research Task Force.

(2) WORK GROUPS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Research Task Force—

(i) not later than 30 days after the date of the establishment of the Research Task Force, shall establish a work group focused specifically on salmon returns in the AYK (Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim) regions of Western Alaska; and

(ii) may establish additional regionally or stock focused work groups within the Research Task Force, as members determine appropriate.

(B) COMPOSITION.—Each work group established under this subsection shall—

(i) consist of not less than 5 individuals who—

(I) are knowledgeable about the stock or region under consideration; and

(II) need not be members of the Research Task Force; and

(ii) be balanced in terms of stakeholder representation, including commercial, recreational, and subsistence fisheries, as well as experts in statistical, biological, economic, social, or other scientific information as relevant to the work group’s focus.

(C) REPORTS.—Not later than 9 months after the date the Research Task Force is convened, each work group established under this subsection shall submit a report with the work group’s findings to the Research Task Force.

(3) COMPENSATION.—Each member of the Research Task Force shall serve without compensation.

(4) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT.—The Secretary of Commerce shall provide such administrative support as is necessary for the Research Task Force and its work groups to carry out their duties, including support for virtual or in-person participation and travel expenses.

(e) FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the Research Task Force.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BENTZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 6651, the Alaska Salmon Research Task Force Act, establishes a task force of fisheries scientists and Alaskan stakeholders to study, address, and prevent salmon fishery disasters in Alaska.

Led by the late dean of the House, our colleague and friend, Representative Don Young, this bill is a perfect example of how he fought for what is best for Alaska.

Salmon are a vital part of the Alaskan way of life. Their cultural, economic, nutritional, and recreational impact cannot be overstated. But, over the past decade, there have been several fishery disasters that have put those very salmon at risk.

These financial, ecological, and cultural strains have created an increasingly dire situation for the Alaskan communities that rely on salmon, especially Native Alaskan communities.

This bill creates the Alaska Salmon Research Task Force, a group of members from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, and Alaskan stakeholders, to ensure that Alaskans are at the forefront of the Alaskan salmon research efforts taking place in their backyards.

I believe the bill is a fitting tribute to our departed friend. It elevates Alaskan voices, especially Native Alaskans, and it brings stakeholders together to build consensus and find a practical solution to this pressing issue in our 49th State.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation to safeguard Alaskan salmon fisheries for generations to come.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BENTZ. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6651, the Alaska Salmon Research Task Force Act, sponsored by our late colleague, the dean of the House, Representative Don Young of Alaska.

The day before his passing, Congressman Don Young was in our Natural Resources Committee room discussing the need for this legislation.

Since 2018 alone, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has issued 14 fisheries disasters determinations in Alaska. This bill seeks scientific answers and recommendations to solve these declining salmon runs.

Specifically, the bill would require the Secretary of Commerce, in consultation with the Governor of Alaska, to create an Alaska Salmon Research Task Force composed of up to 19 individuals representing various sectors of the salmon economy and culture.

The intent of the task force is to create a coordinated salmon research

strategy, and support collaboration and coordination in salmon conservation efforts. The task force must also produce a report and recommendations within 1 year of convening.

If Mr. Young were here today, I am certain that he would remind us that salmon are important to Alaskans due to their cultural, economic, and recreational value. I urge my colleagues to honor the late dean of the House by supporting this bill.

Madam Speaker, I urge adoption of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I urge support of the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6651.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### AMERICAN FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 497) to establish the American Fisheries Advisory Committee to assist in the awarding of fisheries research and development grants, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 497

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "American Fisheries Advisory Committee Act".

#### SEC. 2. AMERICAN FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Section 2 of the Act of August 11, 1939 (15 U.S.C. 713c-3), is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (f); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (d) the following:

“(e) AMERICAN FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—

“(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

“(A) COMMITTEE.—The term ‘Committee’ means the American Fisheries Advisory Committee established under paragraph (2).

“(B) FISHING COMMUNITY.—The term ‘fishing community’ means harvesters, marketers, growers, processors, recreational fishermen, charter fishermen, and persons providing them with goods and services.

“(C) MARKETING AND PROMOTION.—The term ‘marketing and promotion’ means an activity aimed at encouraging the consumption of seafood or expanding or maintaining commercial markets for seafood.

“(D) PROCESSOR.—The term ‘processor’ means any person in the business of preparing or packaging seafood (including seafood of the processor’s own harvesting) for sale.

“(E) SEAFOOD.—The term ‘seafood’ means farm-raised and wild-caught fish, shellfish,

or marine algae harvested in the United States or by a United States flagged vessel for human consumption.

“(2) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of the American Fisheries Advisory Committee Act, the Secretary shall establish 6 regions within the American Fisheries Advisory Committee as follows:

“(A) Region 1 shall consist of Alaska, Hawaii, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Territories of Guam and American Samoa.

“(B) Region 2 shall consist of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut.

“(C) Region 3 shall consist of Texas, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida, Arkansas, Puerto Rico, and the Territory of the Virgin Islands of the United States.

“(D) Region 4 shall consist of California, Washington, Oregon, and Idaho.

“(E) Region 5 shall consist of New Jersey, New York, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia.

“(F) Region 6 shall consist of Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Pennsylvania.

“(3) MEMBERSHIP.—The Committee shall be composed of the following members:

“(A) REGIONAL REPRESENTATION.—Each of the regions listed in subparagraphs (A) through (F) of paragraph (2) shall be represented on the Committee by 3 members—

“(i) who are appointed by the Secretary;

“(ii) who reside in a State or territory in the region that the member will represent;

“(iii) of which—

“(I) one shall have experience as a seafood harvester or processor;

“(II) one shall have experience as recreational or commercial fisher or have experience growing seafood; and

“(III) one shall be an individual who represents the fisheries science community or the relevant Regional Fishery Management Council; and

“(iv) that are selected so that the members of the Committee have experience or expertise with as many seafood species as practicable.

“(B) AT-LARGE MEMBERS.—The Secretary shall appoint to the Committee at-large members as follows:

“(i) One individual with experience in food distribution, marketing, retail, or food service.

“(ii) One individual with experience in the recreational fishing industry supply chain, such as fishermen, manufacturers, retailers, and distributors.

“(iii) One individual with experience in the commercial fishing industry supply chain, such as fishermen, manufacturers, retailers, and distributors.

“(iv) One individual who is an employee of the National Marine Fisheries Service with expertise in fisheries research.

“(C) BALANCED REPRESENTATION.—In selecting the members described in subparagraphs (A) and (B), the Secretary shall seek to maximize on the Committee, to the extent practicable, a balanced representation of expertise in United States fisheries, seafood production, and science.

“(4) MEMBER TERMS.—The term for a member of the Committee shall be 3 years, except that the Secretary shall designate staggered terms for the members initially appointed to the Committee.

“(5) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Committee shall be responsible for—

“(A) identifying needs of the fishing community that may be addressed by a project funded with a grant under subsection (c);

“(B) developing the request for proposals for such grants;