

By: Representative Eaton

To: Marine Resources

HOUSE BILL NO. 1217

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT NO SEAFOOD PRODUCT SHALL BE OFFERED
2 FOR DIRECT RETAIL SALE FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION UNLESS THE SEAFOOD
3 PRODUCT IS LABELED AS A PRODUCT OF THIS COUNTRY OR AS IMPORTED
4 SEAFOOD, A PRODUCT OF A COUNTRY OTHER THAN THE UNITED STATES; AND
5 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

7 **SECTION 1.** (1) No seafood product shall be offered for
8 direct retail sale for human consumption by a processor,
9 distributor, wholesaler or retailer unless the seafood product is
10 specifically labeled in the following manner:

11 (a) "SEAFOOD, A PRODUCT OF THE UNITED STATES" if the
12 product originates from the United States.

13 (b) "IMPORTED SEAFOOD, A PRODUCT OF A COUNTRY OTHER
14 THAN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA" if the product originates from
15 a country other than the United States of America.

16 (2) Any person selling seafood exclusively and directly to
17 the consumer may have on his premises a sign reasonably visible to
18 the consumer identifying such product as "Seafood, a Product of
19 the United States" or "Imported Seafood, a Product of a Country
20 Other Than the United States of America" as such products are
21 defined in this section, rather than labeling each individual
22 container or package of seafood product, as provided in this
23 section.

24 (3) Any retailer selling seafood products not wrapped or in
25 a container may comply with this article by placing a sign on the
26 display case or refrigeration unit reasonably visible to the
27 consumer, giving notice that such seafood is either "Seafood, a
28 Product of the United States" or "Imported Seafood, a Product of a

29 Country Other Than the United States of America" as such products
30 are defined in this section.

31 (4) Any advertising as to any seafood product shall state
32 whether such seafood product is "Seafood, a Product of the United
33 States" or "Imported Seafood, a Product of a Country Other Than
34 The United States of America" as defined in this section.

35 (5) This section shall not apply to seafood products
36 exported out of the United States.

37 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
38 and after July 1, 2005.