



National Lieutenant Governors Association

NLGA Consensus Resolution on the Inspection of Imported Seafood into the United States

WHEREAS, a 2017 study conducted by the U.S. Governmental Accountability Office found that only a limited number of inspections are performed on foreign seafood processors and farmers¹, and

WHEREAS, foreign seafood, especially those grown in aquaculture facilities, are often treated with large doses of antibiotics and other chemicals to treat diseases and enhance their growth², and

WHEREAS, the lack of inspections and testing can lead to unhealthy levels of chemicals and antibiotics in the seafood being consumed by Americans, and

WHEREAS, these practices can place American Commercial Seafood Producers at a competitive disadvantage with foreign producers who are not held to the same standards³, and

WHEREAS, the fees collected on imported seafood can be used to fund the hiring of additional inspectors to ensure the safety of imported seafood consumed by Americans, and

WHEREAS, increased inspections by the USDA, FDA, and/or other agencies can help root out unsafe imported seafood before it enters the U.S. market, increasing accountability for greater food safety for American consumers, while also protecting our domestic seafood industry, and

WHEREAS, the safety of imported seafood could benefit from a requirement that every lot of seafood entering the U.S. have a full lab certificate ensuring compliance with U.S. food and drug laws.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) encourage the states and territories to develop and promote improved safety solutions for imported seafood to protect American consumers, improve food safety, and support the domestic seafood industry.

ADOPTED, this day, the 5th of December, 2024.

Proposed for the docket by: Louisiana Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser

¹ <https://www.gao.gov/products/gao-17-443>

² *ibid.*

³ <https://www.trade.gov/nes-seafood-industries>