

EN BLOC AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2706

OFFERED BY MR. FLEMING

Beginning at page 1, line 6, strike section 2 and insert the following:

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) The United States carefully regulates its
4 domestic fisheries for billfish and participates in
5 international fishery management bodies in the At-
6 lantic and Pacific.

7 (2) Global billfish populations have declined sig-
8 nificantly, however, because of overfishing primarily
9 through retention of bycatch by non-United States
10 commercial fishing fleets.

11 (3) Ending the importation of foreign-caught
12 billfish for sale in the United States aligns with U.S.
13 management measures of billfish and protects the
14 significant economic benefits to the U.S. economy of
15 recreational fishing and marine commerce and the
16 traditional cultural fisheries.

Beginning at page 3, line 11, strike section 4(c) and insert the following:

1 (c) EXEMPTIONS FOR TRADITIONAL FISHERIES AND
2 MARKETS.—

3 (1) Subsection (a) does not apply to billfish
4 caught by US vessels and landed in the State of Ha-
5 waii or Pacific Insular Areas as defined in section
6 3(35) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conserva-
7 tion and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1802(35)).

8 (2) Subsection (a) does not apply to billfish
9 landed by foreign vessels in the Pacific Insular
10 Areas when the foreign caught billfish is exported to
11 non-US markets or retained within the Pacific Insu-
12 lar Areas for local consumption.

