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October 22, 2024

The Honorable Amy A. Karpel
Chair
U.S. International Trade Commission
500 E Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20436

Re: Frozen Warmwater Shrimp from Ecuador, India, Indonesia, and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Inv. Nos. 701-TA-699-702 and 731-TA-1659-1660 (Final)

Dear Chair Karpel:


I write to express my support for an affirmative finding of injury on imports of frozen warmwater shrimp from Ecuador, India, Indonesia, and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. Such a finding in the pending final phase of the investigation will help Mississippi's shrimp industry compete on a more level playing field.

The shrimp industry has served an important role in the cultural history of my state. For generations, Mississippi harvesters and processors have been earning their livelihood from the Gulf harvest. It supports nearly 4,500 jobs and generates hundreds of millions of dollars in labor income and processing sales. Unfortunately, this important industry is at a crossroads due to a massive influx of foreign shrimp.

The U.S. commits vast amounts of resources to protect our aquatic environment and to promote our seafood industries. Congress works to ensure that our measures are consistent with our domestic and international trade obligations. Many of our trading partners do not follow the same course. These investigations demonstrate unfair trade practices, including illegal dumping and the improper provision of government subsidies to foreign producers. The public record also indicates that our shrimp industry continues to face a growing surge of imports into the U.S. market – causing low prices, negative operating margins, and dwindling market share. These trends put American workers and businesses in an untenable situation.

I urge your careful consideration of this case, and I hope the Commission will vote to impose trade relief on unfairly traded shrimp from Ecuador, India, Indonesia, and Vietnam.

Sincerely,



Roger Wicker
United States Senator