

# Legislative Activity since 11/5/2020 Marine Fisheries Council Meeting

## Assembly Bills as of 1/7/2021

ASSEMBLY					SENATE						DESCRIPTION	MFC POS.
BILL NO.	INTRODUCED BY	FIRST READ.	REPT.	SECOND READ.	THIRD READ.	REPT.	SECOND READ.	THIRD READ.	APPR.	CHAPT.		
A3996	Lopez (D19), McKnight (D31), Karabinchak (D18)	5/1/2020	AAP 5/11/2020	5/11/2020	80-0-0 5/14/2020	SGG 5/14/2020	7/22/2020	79-0-0 9/24/2020	11/9/2020	121	Permits modification of scope of work or terms and conditions of contract between non-profit organizations and State agencies for failure to perform due to COVID-19 pandemic. *Awaiting Governor's signature	

## Senate Bills as of 1/7/2021

SENATE				ASSEMBLY								Description
Bill Number	Author	Effective Date	Committee	Staff	Staff	Staff	Staff	Staff	Staff	Staff		
S3230	Greenstein (D14), Corrado (R40)	12/7/2020	SEN 12/10/2020	12/10/2020							Appropriates \$30.387 million from constitutionally dedicated CBT revenues to DEP for State acquisition of lands for recreation and conservation purposes, including Blue Acres projects.	

## Congressional Bills as of 1/7/2021

HOUSE					SENATE						DESCRIPTION	MFC POS.
BILL NO.	INTRODUCED BY	FIRST READ.	REPT.	SECOND READ.	THIRD READ.	REPT.	SECOND READ.	THIRD READ.	APPR.	CHAPT.		
HR1240	Young (D-AK)	2/14/2019	NR 6/4/2020 Hearing held 5/8/2020		Passed 12/10/2020	12/11/2020	12/11/2020	Passed 12/20/2020			Young Fishermen's Development Act of 2019 This bill directs the National Sea Grant Office in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to establish a Young Fishermen's Development Grant Program to provide training, education, outreach, and technical assistance initiatives for young fishermen. *Presented to President.	
Related: S496												
HR3742	Dingell (D-MI)	7/12/2019	NR 12/24/2020								Recovering America's Wildlife Act of 2019 This bill provides funding for: the conservation or restoration of wildlife and plant species of greatest conservation need; the wildlife conservation strategies of states, Indian tribes, or territories; or wildlife conservation education and recreation projects.	
Related: HR2												
HR3919	Moulton (D-MA)	7/23/2019	NR WOW 11/17/2020 Hearing held								Creating Opportunity and Sustainability Through Science Act This bill directs NOAA to implement a competitive grant program focused on interdisciplinary coastal resilience and sustainability and a grant program for activities that strengthen coastal communities, and restoration of coastal habitats for fish and strengthen the resilience of coastal ecosystems.	
HR4679	Cunningham (D-SC)	12/14/2020									Climate-Ready Fisheries Act of 2019 This bill directs the Government Accountability Office to examine efforts by the Regional Fishery Management Councils, the ASMFC, and NMFS to prepare and adapt fisheries for the	

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Related: HR5548										impacts of climate change.	
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HR5126	Cassidy (R-LA) Jones (D-AL) Cornyn (R-TX)	11/5/2019	NR 3/11/2020		Passed 10/1/2020	SCSTC 10/19/2020	10/19/2020	Passed 12/21/2020			DESCEND Act of 2020: Direct Enhancement of Snapper Conservation and the Economy through Novel Devices Act of 2019 To require individuals fishing for Gulf reef fish to use certain descending devices, and for other purposes.	
Related: S2960												
HR7387	Mucarsel-Powell (D-FL)	6/26/2020	NR WOW 11/17/2020 Hearing held								Shovel-Ready Restoration Grants for Coastlines and Fisheries Act of 2020. To require the Secretary of Commerce to establish a grant program to benefit coastal habitats, resiliency, and the economy, and for other purposes.	
Related: HR2; HR8632												
HR8627	Brown (D-MD)	10/20/2020	NR WOW 11/17/2020 Hearing held								This bill directs NOAA to provide grants to certain entities, including the academic community and seafood industry, to conduct research on the conservation, restoration, or management of oysters in estuarine ecosystems. Grant awards may not exceed 85% of the research project's total cost unless NOAA waives such requirement. Additionally, NOAA must ensure that grant funding is apportioned according to the historic baseline oyster population of each estuary of the U.S.	
Related: HR8632												
HR8632	Grijalva (D-AZ)	10/20/2020	NR 11/17/2020 Hearing held								Ocean-Based Climate Solutions Act of 2020. To direct the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of NOAA, to provide for ocean-based climate solutions to reduce carbon emissions and global warming; to make coastal communities more resilient; and to provide for the conservation and restoration of ocean and coastal habitats, biodiversity, and marine mammal and fish populations.	
Related: S5056												
HR8963	Norton (D-DC)	12/14/2020	NR								Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act of District Columbia Equality Act. A bill to amend the Pittman Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act to make the District of Columbia eligible for the same federal funding as states under these Acts.	

**Congressional Bills as of 1/7/2021**

SENATE				HOUSE							DESCRIPTION	MFC POS.
BILL NO.	INTRODUCED BY	FIRST READ.	REPT.	SECOND READ.	THIRD READ.	REPT.	SECOND READ.	THIRD READ.	APPR.	CHAPT.		
S1730	Harris (D-CA)	6/5/2019	SCSTC 12/15/2020								Living Shorelines Act of 2020 This bill directs NOAA to award grants to state or local governments, Indian tribes, or nonprofit organizations to	

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											implement climate-resilient living shoreline projects; and encourage innovation in the use of natural materials to protect coastal communities, habitats, and natural system functions.	
S1982	Sullivan (R-AK)	6/26/2019	SCSTC 1/9/2020		Passed 1/9/2020			Passed 10/1/2010	12/18/2020	116-224	Save Our Seas 2.0 Act. A bill to improve efforts to combat marine debris, and for other purposes.	
S2346	Wicker (R-MS)	7/30/2020	11/16/2020		Passed 12/20/2020	12/21/2020					Fishery Failures: Urgently Needed Disaster Declarations Act Bill revises the review process for making fishery resource disaster determinations. The bill maintains the authority of the Dept. of Commerce to determine the existence of a fishery disaster; sets forth requirements for initiating a request, beginning either upon receipt of at the close of the fishery season, if the fishery season closes; lists eligible uses of fishery disaster relief funds, including for habitat conservation and restoration that reduce adverse impacts to a fishery; and adds additional reporting requirements related to U.S. fishery management.	
Related: HR5548												
S5053	Blumenthal (D-CT)	12/17/2020	SCSTC								A bill to improve the management of forage fish.	
S5056	Merkley (D-OR)	12/17/2020	SCSTC								A bill to require the Administrator of NOAA to provide for ocean-based climate solutions to reduce carbon emissions and global warming, to make coastal communities more resilient, and to provide for the conservation and restoration of ocean and coastal habitats, biodiversity, and marine mammal and fish populations, and for other purposes.	
Related: HR8632												
S906	Feinstein (D-CA)	27/27/2019	SCSCT 12/5/2019		Passed 7/22/2020	7/23/2020		Passed 12/10/2020			Driftnet Modernization and Bycatch Reduction Act This bill addresses certain driftnet fishing. Currently, the use of large-scale drift gillnets with a total length of 2.5 kilometers or more is prohibited in the U.S. The bill expands the definition of large-scale driftnet fishing to prohibit the use of gillnets with a mesh size of 14 inches or greater. This expanded prohibition does not apply within the U.S. EEZ for five years. The Dept. of Commerce must conduct a transition program to facilitate the phase out of large-scale driftnet fishing and to promote the adoption of alternative fishing practices that minimize the incidental catch of living marine resources. Commerce must award grants to program participants. The NPFMC may recommend and Commerce may approve regulations that require charter operators to pay fees on vessels that harvest Pacific halibut in specific International Halibut Commission regulatory areas. *Presented to President.	
Related: HR1979												
S910	Wicker (R-MS)				Passed			Passed		116-221	National Sea Grant College Program Amendments Act of	

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		3/27/2019	2/13/2020		9/30/2020			11/16/2020	12/18/2020	2020. This bill reauthorizes through FY2024 and revises the National Sea Grant College Program, through which NOAA supports university-based programs that focus on studying, conserving, and effectively using U.S. coastal resources. The bill requires NOAA to award Dean John A. Knauss Marine Policy Fellowships. Currently, NOAA has the discretion in awarding such fellowships. The fellowships support the placement of graduate students in fields related to ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes resources in positions with the executive and legislative branches. The bill reauthorizes through FY2024 grants for university research on the biology, prevention, and control of aquatic nonnative species; university research on oyster diseases, oyster restoration, and oyster-related human health risks; university research on the biology, prevention, and forecasting of harmful algal blooms; and fishery extension activities conducted by sea grant colleges or sea grant institutes to enhance existing core program funding. The bill authorizes grants for priority issues identified in the National Sea Grant Program's strategic plan, and university research on sustainable aquaculture techniques and technologies.	
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## KEY

SGG = Senate Government, Wagering, Tourism & Historic Preservation

AAP = Assembly Appropriations

READ. = Reading

ASL = Assembly State and Local Government

AAN = Assembly Agriculture Committee

S = Senate

WOW = House NR Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife

REPT. = Reported out of Committee

APPR = Approved

SCSTC= Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee

HR= House of Representatives

A = Assembly

NR = House Natural Resources Committee

## 2020 Appointments to NJ Marine Fisheries Council and Shellfisheries Council

### Marine Fisheries Council

Nominee	Council	Municipality	Replace/Succeed	Referred	Reported	Advise and Consent	Withdrawn
Elenor A. Bochenek	MFC	Villas	Herself	2/10/2020	6/29/2020	6/29/2020	
Patrick F. Donnelly	MFC	Brick	Joseph A. Zaborowski	2/10/2020	5/11/2020	5/14/2020	
Richard N. Herb	MFC	Avalon	Himself	2/10/2020	8/25/2020	8/27/2020	
Jeffrey Howard Kaelin	MFC	Avalon	Erling A. Berg	2/10/2020	8/25/2020	8/27/2020	
Sergio Radossi	MFC	Ridgefield Park	Himself	2/10/2020	N/A	N/A	9/17/2020
Joseph M. Rizzo	MFC	West Creek	Himself	2/10/2020	5/11/2020	5/14/2020	
Robert R. Rush	MFC	Woodbine	Himself	2/10/2020	6/29/2020	6/29/2020	
Kevin W. Wark	MFC	Barneget Light	Frances Puskas	2/10/2020	5/11/2020	5/14/2020	

**Legal Authority:** N.J.S.A. 23:2B-4

**Purpose:** The Legislature established the Marine Fisheries Council within the Department of Environmental Protection. The Council shall advise the Commissioner of Environmental Protection on policies and programs related to the Marine Fisheries Management and Commercial Fisheries Act. Additionally, the Council reviews all matters pertaining to the conservation and management of fishery resources in the State.

**Special Requirements:** Of the 11 members, 9 shall be appointed by the Governor with the advise and consent of the Senate as follows: 4 members knowledgeable in the interests of sport fishermen; 2 active commercial fin fishermen; 1 active fish processor; and 2 members of the general public. In addition, the 2 Chairs of the 2 sections (i.e. North and South) of the Shellfisheries Council shall also serve.

### Shellfisheries Council

Nominee	Council	Municipality	Replace/Succeed	Referred	Reported	Advise and Consent
Paul T. Felder	SFC	Rio Grande	N/A	2/10/2020	6/29/2020	6/29/2020
Stephen J. Fleetwood	SFC-D	Port Norris	Himself	2/10/2020	6/29/2020	6/29/2020
Warren Hollinger	SFC-D	Port Norris	Himself	2/10/2020	6/29/2020	6/29/2020
Walter L. Johnson	SFC-A	Manahawkin	Himself	2/10/2020	5/11/2020	5/14/2020
Kevin Kirk	SFC-A	Atlantic Highlands	N/A	2/10/2020	N/A	N/A
Richard J. Malinowski	SFC-D	Salem	Himself	2/10/2020	5/11/2020	5/14/2020
George W. Mathis	SFC-A	Egg Harbor City	N/A	2/10/2020	10/22/2020	10/29/2020
John J. Maxwell	SFC-A	Germania	Himself	2/10/2020	5/11/2020	5/14/2020
Scott Sheppard	SFC-D	Port Norris	N/A	2/10/2020	6/29/2020	6/29/2020
Matthew Williams	SFC	Cape May	N/A	2/10/2020	N/A	N/A

**Legal Authority:** N.J.S.A. 50:1-18 and amended by P.L. 1996, c. 112 of 08/29/96

**Purpose:** The Legislature established the Shellfisheries Council within the Department of Environmental Protection. The Council shall formulate comprehensive policies for the preservation and improvement of the shellfish industry and resources of the State. The Council shall also consult with and advise the Commissioner of Environmental Protection and the Marine Fisheries Council with respect to the implementation of its programs. Finally, the Council shall initiate by resolution rules and regulations concerning shellfish.

**Special Requirements:** Financial Disclosure Required The membership shall include the following: 7 members, 1 each from the counties of Monmouth, Ocean, Burlington, Atlantic and Salem with regard to his/her interest in and knowledge of the shellfish industry and the conservation and management of shellfish. The Council shall be divided into 2 sections: one section to be known as the "Delaware Bay Section" consisting of the members from the Counties of Cumberland and Salem and one of the members from Cape May county; and the other section to be known as the "Atlantic Coast Section" consisting of members of the Counties of Atlantic, Burlington, Ocean and Monmouth and one of the members from Cape May. In the event only one member from Cape May county has been appointed and has qualified as a member of the Council, the qualified member may elect to serve in both sections of the Council and participate in the exercise of the powers and performance of the duties of each of the sections until a second member from Cape May county has been appointed and has qualified as a member of the Council. Each member of the council shall be appointed by the Governor, with the advise and consent of the Senate, for a term of four years and shall serve until a successor has been appointed and has qualified.

#### KEY

Referred = Nominations referred to Senate Judiciary Committee

Reported = Nominations reported by Senate Judiciary Committee/Recommended for confirmation

Advise and Consent = Nominations with the Advise and Consent by Senate/Vote by Senate