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Shark Conservation Act of 2009

Congress: 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Apr 22, 2009

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 270.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 270. (Feb 4, 2010)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/senate-bill/850>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]

Party: Democratic • **State:** MA • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (33 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		May 12, 2009
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		May 12, 2009
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		May 21, 2009
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Jul 13, 2009
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Jul 20, 2009
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Jul 27, 2009
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jul 27, 2009
Sen. Burris, Roland [D-IL]	D · IL		Jul 28, 2009
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Jul 28, 2009
Sen. Lautenberg, Frank R. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jul 29, 2009
Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]	D · DE		Aug 6, 2009
Sen. Feingold, Russell D. [D-WI]	D · WI		Aug 6, 2009
Sen. Boxer, Barbara [D-CA]	D · CA		Sep 9, 2009
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Sep 10, 2009
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Sep 15, 2009
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Sep 15, 2009
Sen. Johnson, Tim [D-SD]	D · SD		Oct 1, 2009
Sen. McCain, John [R-AZ]	R · AZ		Oct 5, 2009
Sen. Bingaman, Jeff [D-NM]	D · NM		Nov 5, 2009
Sen. Bayh, Evan [D-IN]	D · IN		Nov 17, 2009
Sen. Snowe, Olympia J. [R-ME]	R · ME		Nov 18, 2009
Sen. Vitter, David [R-LA]	R · LA		Nov 18, 2009
Sen. Rockefeller, John D., IV [D-WV]	D · WV		Nov 19, 2009
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Dec 2, 2009
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Dec 14, 2009
Sen. Begich, Mark [D-AK]	D · AK		Mar 15, 2010
Sen. Landrieu, Mary L. [D-LA]	D · LA		Mar 23, 2010
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Jul 12, 2010
Sen. Lieberman, Joseph I. [ID-CT]	ID · CT		Jul 15, 2010
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Jul 22, 2010
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Aug 4, 2010
Sen. Dodd, Christopher J. [D-CT]	D · CT		Sep 13, 2010
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Sep 20, 2010

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Reported By	Feb 4, 2010

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
111 HR 81	Related bill	Jan 4, 2011: Became Public Law No: 111-348.

Summary (as of Feb 4, 2010)

Shark Conservation Act of 2009 - Amends the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act to direct the Secretary of Commerce to urge international fishery management organizations to which the United States is a member to adopt shark conservation measures, including measures to prohibit removal any of the fins of a shark (including the tail) and discarding the shark carcass at sea. Requires the Secretary to seek to enter into international shark conservation agreements, including measures prohibiting fin removal and carcass disposal, that are comparable to those of the United States, taking into account different conditions. Directs the Secretary to include shark conservation measures when defining fishing activities that violate international fishery conservation and management agreements. Requires the Secretary to list a nation in the biennial report on international compliance if the nation's fishing vessels are or have been engaged in fishing activities that target or incidentally catch sharks in waters beyond their jurisdiction, and such nation has not adopted a regulatory program providing for shark conservation, including the fin removal and carcass disposal prohibitions. Requires such listing within one year after the enactment of this Act.

Amends the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to revise provisions prohibiting the removal of shark fins to make it a prohibited act to: (1) remove any shark fin (including the tail) at sea; (2) have a fin aboard a fishing vessel unless the fin is naturally attached to the carcass; (3) transfer a fin from one vessel to another or receive a fin unless it is naturally attached; or (4) land a fin that is not naturally attached to a carcass or land a carcass without fins naturally attached. Revises the current rebuttable presumption provision concerning shark fins on fishing vessels to create a rebuttable presumption that, if any shark fin (including the tail) is aboard a non-fishing vessel without being naturally attached, the fin was transferred from a fishing vessel in violation.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 4, 2010:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator Rockefeller with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 111-124.
- **Feb 4, 2010:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 270.
- **Nov 19, 2009:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **Apr 22, 2009:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 22, 2009:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.