

S 2773

Driftnet Modernization and Bycatch Reduction Act

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Apr 26, 2018

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 729.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 729. (Dec 11, 2018)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/2773>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]

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

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Capito, Shelley Moore [R-WV]	R · WV		Apr 26, 2018
Sen. Harris, Kamala D. [D-CA]	D · CA		Apr 26, 2018
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Jun 21, 2018
Sen. Wicker, Roger F. [R-MS]	R · MS		Jun 21, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Reported By	Dec 11, 2018

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 5638	Identical bill	May 8, 2018: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans.

Driftnet Modernization and Bycatch Reduction Act

This bill addresses certain driftnet fishing. (Driftnet fishing is a method of fishing in which a gillnet composed of a panel or panels of webbing, or a series of such gillnets, is placed in the water and allowed to drift with the currents and winds for the purpose of entangling fish in the webbing.)

Currently, the use of large-scale drift gillnets with a total length of 2.5 kilometers or more is prohibited in the United States. 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. exclusive economic zone prior to January 1, 2020.

The Department 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 may award grants to program participants.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 11, 2018:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator Thune with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 115-430.
- **Dec 11, 2018:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 729.
- **Sep 5, 2018:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **Apr 26, 2018:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 26, 2018:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S2487)