

S 906

Driftnet Modernization and Bycatch Reduction Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Mar 27, 2019

Current Status: Vetoed by President.

Latest Action: Vetoed by President. (Jan 1, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/906>

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		Mar 27, 2019
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Jun 18, 2019
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jun 18, 2019
Sen. Harris, Kamala D. [D-CA]	D · CA		Jun 18, 2019

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Reported By	Dec 5, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 1979	Identical bill	May 8, 2019: Subcommittee Hearings Held.

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 for five years.

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 must award grants to program participants.

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council may recommend and Commerce may approve regulations that require charter operators to pay fees on vessels that harvest Pacific halibut in specific International Pacific Halibut Commission regulatory areas.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 1, 2021:** Veto message received in Senate. Ordered held at the desk. (consideration: CR S8001-8002; text: CR S8002)
- **Jan 1, 2021:** Vetoed by President.
- **Dec 21, 2020:** Presented to President.
- **Dec 10, 2020:** Mr. Huffman moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **Dec 10, 2020:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H7115-7118)
- **Dec 10, 2020:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on S. 906.
- **Dec 10, 2020:** At the conclusion of debate, the Yeas and Nays were demanded and ordered. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announced that further proceedings on the motion would be postponed.
- **Dec 10, 2020:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H7126-7127)
- **Dec 10, 2020:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 283 - 105 (Roll no. 242).(text: CR H7115)
- **Dec 10, 2020:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 283 - 105 (Roll no. 242). (text: CR H7115)
- **Dec 10, 2020:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jul 23, 2020:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Jul 23, 2020:** Received in the House.
- **Jul 23, 2020:** Held at the desk.
- **Jul 22, 2020:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment by Voice Vote.(consideration: CR S4398-4399; text: CR S4398-4399)
- **Jul 22, 2020:** Passed Senate with an amendment by Voice Vote. (consideration: CR S4398-4399; text: CR S4398-4399)
- **Dec 5, 2019:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator Wicker with an amendment. With written report No. 116-166.
- **Dec 5, 2019:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 316.
- **Apr 3, 2019:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported with an amendment favorably.
- **Mar 27, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 27, 2019:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.