

HR 404

Driftnet Modernization and Bycatch Reduction Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Jan 21, 2021

Current Status: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 402.

Latest Action: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 402. (Nov 16, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/404>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Lieu, Ted [D-CA-33]

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

Cosponsors (24 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Jan 21, 2021
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Jan 21, 2021
Rep. Buchanan, Vern [R-FL-16]	R · FL		Jan 21, 2021
Rep. Case, Ed [D-HI-1]	D · HI		Jan 21, 2021
Rep. Eshoo, Anna G. [D-CA-18]	D · CA		Jan 21, 2021
Rep. Fitzpatrick, Brian K. [R-PA-1]	R · PA		Jan 21, 2021
Rep. Griffith, H. Morgan [R-VA-9]	R · VA		Jan 21, 2021
Rep. Harder, Josh [D-CA-10]	D · CA		Jan 21, 2021
Rep. Larsen, Rick [D-WA-2]	D · WA		Jan 21, 2021
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Jan 21, 2021
Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47]	D · CA		Jan 21, 2021
Rep. Mast, Brian J. [R-FL-18]	R · FL		Jan 21, 2021
Rep. Palazzo, Steven M. [R-MS-4]	R · MS		Jan 21, 2021
Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-28]	D · CA		Jan 21, 2021
Rep. Thompson, Mike [D-CA-5]	D · CA		Jan 21, 2021
Rep. Wittman, Robert J. [R-VA-1]	R · VA		Jan 21, 2021
Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-32]	D · CA		Mar 23, 2021
Rep. DeFazio, Peter A. [D-OR-4]	D · OR		Apr 1, 2021
Rep. Cleaver, Emanuel [D-MO-5]	D · MO		May 13, 2021
Rep. Rice, Tom [R-SC-7]	R · SC		May 13, 2021
Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-19]	D · CA		Jun 4, 2021
Rep. Gottheimer, Josh [D-NJ-5]	D · NJ		Oct 5, 2021
Rep. Matsui, Doris O. [D-CA-6]	D · CA		Oct 8, 2021
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		Oct 28, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Natural Resources Committee	House	Discharged from	Nov 17, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 S 273	Related bill	Sep 17, 2021: Held at the desk.

Summary (as of Nov 16, 2022)

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.

Further, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council may recommend and Commerce may approve regulations to collect fees from charter vessel operators that guide recreational anglers who harvest Pacific halibut.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 16, 2022:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Natural Resources. H. Rept. 117-561.
- **Nov 16, 2022:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 402.
- **Nov 17, 2021:** Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Discharged.
- **Nov 17, 2021:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Nov 17, 2021:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- **Feb 18, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife.
- **Jan 21, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 21, 2021:** Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.