

S 2211

Sustaining Healthy Ecosystems, Livelihoods, and Local Seafood Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Agriculture and Food

Introduced: Jun 22, 2023

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. (Jun 22, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/2211>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]

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

Cosponsors (5 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. King, Angus S., Jr. [I-ME] | I · ME | | Jun 22, 2023 |
| Sen. Wicker, Roger F. [R-MS] | R · MS | | Jun 22, 2023 |
| Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT] | D · CT | | Jul 12, 2023 |
| Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE] | D · DE | | Jul 12, 2023 |
| Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE] | D · DE | | Jul 20, 2023 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|--|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee | Senate | Referred To | Jun 22, 2023 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|-------------|--------------|--|
| 118 HR 3951 | Related bill | Jul 28, 2023: Referred to the Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry. |

Sustaining Healthy Ecosystems, Livelihoods, and Local Seafood Act or the SHELLS Act

This bill directs the Department of Agriculture (USDA) to establish an Office of Aquaculture and an Aquaculture Advisory Committee. The term *aquaculture* means the propagation and rearing of aquatic species in controlled or selected environments, including ocean ranching (with exclusions).

Specifically, the Office of Aquaculture must encourage and promote aquaculture operations that promote U.S. food security and limit adverse environmental effects.

USDA must also establish a 14-member Aquaculture Advisory Committee to advise USDA on (1) developing policies and outreach relating to sustainable aquaculture practices; and (2) the history, use, and preservation of indigenous and traditional aquaculture practices and ecological knowledge.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 22, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jun 22, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.