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(Original Signature of Member)

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To prohibit the sale of shark fins, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. ROYCE of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to
the Committee on _____

A BILL

To prohibit the sale of shark fins, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Shark Fin Sales Elimini-

5 nation Act of 2017”.

6 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON SALE OF SHARK FINS.**

7 (a) PROHIBITION.—Except as provided in section 3,
8 no person shall possess, offer for sale, sell, or purchase
9 any shark fin or product containing any shark fin.

1 (b) PENALTY.—For purposes of section 308(a) of the
2 Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Manage-
3 ment Act (16 U.S.C. 1858(a)), a violation of this section
4 shall be treated as an act prohibited by section 307 of
5 that Act (16 U.S.C. 1857).

6 **SEC. 3. EXEMPTION FOR TRADITIONAL FISHERIES, EDU-**
7 **CATION, AND SCIENCE.**

8 Section 2 shall not apply with respect to possession
9 of a shark fin that was taken lawfully under a State, terri-
10 torial, or Federal license or permit to take or land sharks,
11 if the shark fin is separated from the shark in a manner
12 consistent with the license or permit and is—

13 (1) destroyed or discarded;

14 (2) used for noncommercial subsistence pur-
15 poses in accordance with State or territorial law; or

16 (3) used solely for display or research purposes
17 by a museum, college, or university, or other person
18 under a State or Federal permit to conduct non-
19 commercial scientific research.

20 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

21 In this Act:

22 (1) SHARK.—The term “shark” means any spe-
23 cies of the orders Pristiophoriformes,
24 Squatiniformes, Squaliformes, Hexanchiformes,

1 Lamniformes, Carchariniformes, Orectolobiformes,
2 and Heterodontiformes.

3 (2) SHARK FIN.—The term “shark fin” means
4 the raw, dried, or otherwise processed detached fin,
5 or the raw, dried, or otherwise processed detached
6 tail, of a shark.

7 **SEC. 5. STATE AUTHORITY.**

8 Nothing in this Act affects any right of a State or
9 territory of the United States to adopt or enforce any reg-
10 ulation or standard that is more stringent than a regula-
11 tion or standard in effect under this Act.