



# National Association of Charterboat Operators

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Maryland Charter Boat Assn.  
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Black River Charter Guides Assn  
Cape Cod Charter Boat Assn  
Cape May County Party & Charter Boat  
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Chicago Sportfishing Assn.  
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Destin Charterboat Assn  
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Genesee Charter Assn, Inc.  
Golden Gate Fishermen's Assn.  
Homer Charter Assn.  
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Indiana's North Coast Charter Assn.  
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Michigan City Charterboat Assn.  
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Orange Beach Fishing Assn.  
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Prince William Sound Charter Boat Assn  
Seward Charterboat Assn.  
Sitka Charter Boat Operators Assn.  
Sportfishing Association of California  
Thumb Area Charter Captains Assn.  
Virginia Charter Boat Assn.  
Westport Charterboat Association

March 16, 2006

Mr. Todd Bertosen  
Legislative Assistant  
Senator Ted Stevens  
522 Hart Senate Office Bldg  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Bertosen:

On behalf of Ed O'Brien and myself I would like to thank you for meeting with us. We understand that that your time is valuable and Senator Stevens is extremely busy. We appreciate and intend to act on your advice to contact Matt Paxton.

NACO has over 3,000 members nationwide that provide the platform and opportunity for recreational anglers to enjoy our natural marine resources. The NACO Board of Directors has 23 members and three are from Alaska. The charter boat industry carries over ten million anglers fishing every year. These anglers are concerned citizens who care about our marine resources and the continued opportunity to enjoy those resources.

Our membership has serious concerns with the proposed Senate version of the Magnuson-Stevens Reauthorization Bill that addresses recreational fishery quotas, (Sec 104 Fishery Management Plans, (5)). The current recreational data system was not designed nor can it manage the recreational sector under quotas. Until an adequate quota management system can be developed we cannot support this section. We are hopeful that Senator Stevens will help to remove this section from the reauthorization.

Our membership in the Great Lakes region are rightfully concerned with the movement of the Asian Carp and the funding needed to assure the continued operation of the Chicago Ship Canal Barrier to prevent additional invasive species from reaching the Great Lakes.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if NACO can assist regarding these issues. Thank you again for your concern and interest.

Sincerely,

Captain Robert F. Zales, II  
President

Cc: file  
Capt. Ed O'Brien