

Statement of the Shellfish Growers Climate Coalition October 1st, 2019

The Shellfish Growers Climate Coalition, which is comprised of more than 120 companies from 20 states, is pleased to recognize that members of both political parties, in both houses of Congress, have recently introduced legislation to establish a price on carbon emissions. These bills showcase a number of different approaches to carbon pricing and revenue uses in Congress, and we stand ready to support further action on these proposals.

We extend our great appreciation to:

- **Congressman Francis Rooney (R-FL)** for introducing H.R.4058, the Stemming Warming and Augmenting Pay (SWAP) Act
- **Congressman Daniel Lipinski (D-IL)** for introducing H.R.3966, the Raise Wages, Cut Carbon Act of 2019
- **Senators Chris Coons (D-DE) and Dianne Feinstein (D-CA)** for introducing S.2284, the Climate Action Rebate Act, and
- **Congressman Jimmy Panetta (D-CA)** for introducing H.R.4051, a House companion to S. 2284, and
- **Congressmen Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), Salud Carbajal (D-CA), Francis Rooney (R-FL), and Scott Peters (D-CA)** for introducing H.R. 4520, the MARKET CHOICE Act.

We thank these members for their leadership in taking these important steps. These bills take a variety of approaches, and all of them demonstrate that we can reduce the pollution that causes climate change while addressing other important priorities.

The SWAP Act and the Raise Wages, Cut Carbon Act shift the tax burden by establishing a price on pollution that in turn reduces taxes on wages or consumer products. The Climate Action Rebate Act provides a dividend to every household. These proposals all show that it's possible to fight climate change while remaining "revenue neutral" and benefiting taxpayers.

The MARKET Choice Act (HR 4520) introduced on September 26, 2019 by Representatives Fitzpatrick, Rooney, Peters and Carbajal would establish a price on carbon and invest revenue in both infrastructure and natural climate solutions. The bill will reduce emissions while helping small businesses like ours manage the impacts of climate change. It demonstrates bipartisan support for a policy that reduces carbon pollution while providing positive economic and environmental benefits.

Climate change is an urgent matter for our businesses. The natural resources we depend on for our living are already being directly impacted by climate change. Ocean acidification, increased frequency and intensity of storms, warming water temperatures and sea level rise are affecting our livelihood and are getting worse. We urge Congress and the President to act quickly, coming to bipartisan agreement to establish a price on carbon.

“Climate change is not some faraway thing that’s only happening to glaciers and polar bears – it’s happening right here in Florida, all over the United States and across the planet. We’re seeing increased frequency of storms and higher water temperatures in Florida impacting our shellfish industry. Shellfish farmers in other states are seeing ocean acidification as a result of climate change. Our family restaurant businesses rely on a steady supply of oysters and other shellfish that consumers love to eat, and climate change puts that supply in jeopardy. It’s good to see Congressman Fitzpatrick, Congressman Rooney and others from both sides of the aisle taking this seriously and offering sensible solutions. It’s all-hands-on-deck time – our livelihood and our planet is at stake and we all need to work together.”

Ed Chiles, owner, Chiles Restaurant Group, Anna Maria Island, FL

“The most recent IPCC report dramatically reinforces what our members, who make their living from the ocean, see and experience as they work their farms,” said Bill Mook of Mook Sea Farm of Maine, a founding member of the Shellfish Growers Climate Coalition. “Changing ocean chemistry and the number and intensity of storms are just two of the climate impacts that the shellfish industry and coalition members across the country, from Alaska to Florida, see happening right now. But we believe if we act with determination, right now, we can avert the worst of what’s coming. We urge our US Congress and the President to take immediate steps to reduce global warming pollution, so that our oceans continue to be a source of food for billions of people.”

Bill Mook, founder and owner, Mook Sea Farm, Walpole, ME

The Coalition believes that long-term federal policies and legislation are urgently needed to protect Americans from the worst impacts of climate change. Establishing a price on carbon emissions is one of the most important actions we can take. By acting now, we can minimize the economic and ecological impacts and dramatically expand economic opportunities. For the sake of our businesses, our children, and our grandchildren, we cannot afford to wait.

We offer our full support to these members and others in determining the best and most expedient road forward to curb greenhouse gas emissions.

For more information and to connect with Coalition members, please contact:

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See next page for list of Coalition members.

Shellfish Growers Climate Coalition – Membership (121)

Pacific (15)	Northeast (45)	Mid Atlantic (29)	Southeast (16)	Gulf Coast (16)
<i>Alaska (2)</i>	<i>Connecticut (6)</i>	<i>Maryland (1)</i>	<i>Florida (1)</i>	<i>Alabama (5)</i>
Blue Starr Oyster Co	Harmony Sea Farm	Congressional Seafood	Indian River Oyster Co	Bama Bay Oyster Farm
Jakalof Oysters	Max's Oyster Bar			Bon Secour Bay Oyster Co
	Niantic Bay Shellfish	<i>New Jersey (8)</i>	<i>Georgia (2)</i>	Depe's Oysters
<i>California (2)</i>	Oyster Club	40 North	Kimball House	Fairhope Oyster Co
Carlsbad Oyster Co	Thimble Islnds Ocean Farm	Barnegat Oyster Collective	Watchman's	Maureena Jean's Oysters
Hog Island Oyster Co	Sixpenny Oysters	Betsy's Cape Shore Salts		
		Cape May Salt Oyster Co	<i>North Carolina (2)</i>	<i>Florida (8)</i>
<i>Oregon (2)</i>	<i>Maine (14)</i>	Greene Hook	Hold Fast Oyster Co	Cedar Key Sea Farms
Whiskey Creek	Chebeague Is. Oyster Co	Laughing Gull Oyster Farm	Oysters Carolina	Chiles Rest. Group
Olympia Oyster Bar	Eros Oysters	Lighthouse Tavern		Grayson Bay Oyster Co
	Glidden Point	Sloop Point Oysters	<i>South Carolina (4)</i>	Lost Coast Oyster Co
<i>Washington (9)</i>	Lane Island Oysters		Barrier Island Oyster Co	Oyster Mom
Baywater	Love Point Oysters	<i>New York (20)</i>	Charleston Oyster Farm	Palmetto Oyster Co
Chelsea Farms	Maine Oyster Co	Aeros Cultured Oysters	Lady Island Oysters	Pelican Oyster Co
Hama Hama Co	Maine Shellfish Developers	Cleaver Co.	Seaborn	Pensacola Bay Oysters
HC Snail	Mere Point Oysters	Crave Fish Bar		
Hood Canal Mariculture	Mook Sea Farm	Cull & Pistol	<i>Tennessee (1)</i>	<i>Louisiana (2)</i>
JJ Brenner Shellfish Farm	Nice Oyster Co.	Dock to Dish	Henrietta Red	Bright Side Oysters
Kamilche Sea Farms	Nonesuch Oysters	Fishers Island Oyster Farm		Grand Isle Sea Farms
Pacific Hybreed	Oyster Tracker	Gaiergy Corporation	<i>Virginia (6)</i>	
Taylor Shellfish Farms	Pemaquid Oyster Farm	Green Point Fish	Oyster Seed Holdings	<i>Mississippi (1)</i>
	Snow Island Oysters	Hampton Oyster Co	Rappahannock Oyster Co	Fountain's Deer Island Oysters
		Little Creek Oysters	Rogue Oysters	
	<i>Massachusetts (15)</i>	Lobster Place	Spencer's Creek	
	Aquacultural Research Corp	Lucky 13 Oysters	Vogt Oyster Co	
	Cape Cod Oyster Co	Marlow Collective	White Stone Oyster Co	
	Beach Point Shellfish	Montauk Shellfish Co		
	Cape Cod Oyster Co	Oysterponds		
	Cottage City Oysters	Race Rock Shellfish		
	Cuttyhunk Shellfish Farm	Salt Water Oyster Farm		
	Island Creek Oysters	Stein Seafoods		
	Mac's Seafood	West Robins		
	Merry Oysters	Widow's Hole Oysters		
	Pangea Shellfish			
	SEAPA USA			
	Sweetheart Creek			
	Thatch Island Oysters			
	Ward Aquafarms			
	Wellfleet Seafood Co			
	<i>New Hampshire (3)</i>			
	Cedar Point Oyster Farm			
	Fox Point Oysters			
	NH Superior Oysters			
	<i>Rhode Island (7)</i>			
	Allen Harbor Oysters			
	Am Mussel Harvesters			
	Aquidneck Island Oysters			
	Behan Family Farm			
	Matunuck Oyster Farm			
	Walrus and Carpenter			
	Watch Hill Oysters			