

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1456

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

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 9, 2017

Mr. ROYCE of California (for himself, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. LEE, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. COHEN, Mr. KATKO, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. GARRETT, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. MCSALLY, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. CURBELO of Florida, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. KEATING, and Mrs. RADEWAGEN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

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## 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, Squatini-  
24 formes, Squaliformes, Hexanchiformes, Lamni-

1 formes, Carchariniformes, Orectolobiformes, and  
2 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.

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