

LOUISIANA SHRIMP ASSOCIATION
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August 23, 2023

An update to the members of Louisiana Shrimp Association:

LSA is working around the clock to find solutions that will save our Louisiana shrimp industry. We have worked with local governments, state legislatures, state agencies, our representatives in Washington D.C., as well as the Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries. We have been working with these agencies for years on this issue of unfair trade with foreign countries that are dominating our American shrimp industry. There have been many discussions on the plight of our industry and shrimp harvesters. We have pleaded to them that our Louisiana shrimp industry would collapse due to the mass quantities of imported shrimp from foreign countries. Our representatives, both state and federal, have introduced bills, resolutions and sent numerous letters calling on our federal administration to step in and help. Local state agencies have also been involved in helping us with this. We greatly appreciate the help from them and everyone else involved.

But even with their help and the sunset reviews being conducted, with tariffs being in place on some foreign countries products, the imports are continuously being dumped in mass quantities despite everyone's pleas for help.

On July 15, 2023, (after an earlier unanimous vote by the Board of Directors of Louisiana Shrimp Association), LSA reached out DIRECTLY to federal agencies as an American Industry in need of help.

Our first contact was with the Bureau of Industry and Security U.S. Department of Commerce. After this very important conference call with this division we were then introduced to people in other federal divisions that could possibly have solutions for our industry due to the massive influx of imports that are dominating our American Shrimp Industry. These people in these federal agencies came together and met with some of LSA's Board of Directors and were very concerned. We have submitted letters, documents, and figures to them to show how our shrimp harvesters are suffering due to unfair trade. It was stressed that we need immediate help due to the massive influx of dumping of imported shrimp into our country. They told us that they could possibly provide information and counseling to LSA regarding various solutions and that they would look into the issue and information that we presented to them.

We are now very excited to announce that yesterday, August 22, 2023, LSA's President, Acy Cooper received a phone call from Washington D.C. reaching out to say that they will provide legal assistance and counseling to Louisiana Shrimp Association to begin the process of a federal investigation of our complaints. It was stated that if determination is found that our industry is suffering due to unfair trade practices, that there are trade remedies to save American Industries such as the Louisiana/American shrimp industry. One of these remedies they mentioned is a quota on the amount of imports coming into the U.S.

This investigation may take anywhere from 4 to 6 months due to the procedures involved and there may be briefings and congressional hearings to further the investigation. This may not be a quick remedy but this federal procedure is what must take place if we are going to save our harvester, the industry and our culture for years to come.


We will be reaching out to LSA members, shrimp harvesters and related businesses in the near future if needed to assist this investigation.

We will keep you, the members of LSA updated on information that is allowed and is not considered confidential.

If you have any questions about this or any industry issue, you may contact me directly at 504-912-0150

We will also keep you advised of any events that might be scheduled in our State concerning our issues.

With best regards,


Acy Cooper
President

LSA