

103D CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3599

To provide for the transfer of certain tuna fishing vessels documented in the United States to foreign registry.

---

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 20, 1993

Ms. SCHENK introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries

---

## A BILL

To provide for the transfer of certain tuna fishing vessels documented in the United States to foreign registry.

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. TRANSFER OF REGISTRY FOR CERTAIN FISH-**

4 **ING VESSELS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The transfer of registry of a tuna  
6 fishing vessel which is an agreement vessel documented  
7 under the laws of the United States to foreign registry  
8 shall not be treated, for purposes of the Merchant Marine  
9 Act, 1936, or any other law of the United States, as—

10 (1) a disposition of such vessel, or

1           (2) a failure to meet any substantial obligation  
2           under an agreement entered into between the owner  
3           or operator of the vessel and the Secretary,  
4 if the vessel continues to be owned, directly or indirectly,  
5 by a United States person and to be operated in compli-  
6 ance with the first section 307 of the Marine Mammal  
7 Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1417).

8           (b) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

9           (1) any term defined in section 607(k) of the  
10          Merchant Marine Act, 1936 (46 App. U.S.C.  
11          1177(k)) that is used in this section shall have the  
12          meaning given that term in that section; and

13          (2) the term “United States person” has the  
14          meaning given that term in section 7701(a)(30) of  
15          the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C.  
16          7701(a)(30)).

17          (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply to  
18 any transfer of registry effected before January 1, 1996.

○