North Carolina General Assembly
House of Representatives

REPRESENTATIVE EDWARD C. GOODWIN
1ST DISTRICT

Mr. Speaker,

I am very concerned with the amendment that Senator Rabon has added to HB 442. I am a primary sponsor of this bill, which sought to reopen the Southern Flounder and Red Snapper season that were closed by the Division of Marine Fisheries proclamation order earlier this year. The Senate amendment will effectively eliminate the Shrimping industry in North Carolina.

I have spent the last two days listening to many of my constituents whose families have been shrimping the inner coast of NC for generations. I am not willing to stand by and let this short-sited and ill-conceived idea ruin the lives of so many hard working North Carolinians. Our coast is unique to the United States and our coastal sound is second in size only to Viginia's Chesapeake Bay. We need to shrimp were the shrimp are and that is the inner coast of NC.

Mr. Speaker, this cannot pass the House. Our seafood industry is excellent and vibrant, and we need to protect it.

Representative Ed Goodwin
North Carolina House District 1

Ed Goodwin