Thursday, June 16, 1983

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Promotion Set For Fishermen

Walter B. Jones, chairman of the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee, has introduced legislation, H.R. 3255, which will include fish and fish products in the export promotion programs carried out by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

trade deficit has increased 10-fold over the last 20 years, to \$2.6-billion in 1980. The vast amounts of fishery resources within our 200-mile Fishery **Conservation Zone have been** underutilized and their enormous export potential untapped by domestic fishermen faced with the lack of credit financing for the shipment of large amounts of raw product and a large, and often over-whelming, financial burden which is imposed on the exporter and importer while their relatively high-value finished products are in shipment or awaiting customs clearance," Chairman Jones said.

programs. It merely allows our underdeveloped fishing industry to benefit from the existing infrastructure which has aided export of American farm products for many years. Opening up these overseas markets will encourage the harvesting and processing of our resources by our American fishing fleet, reclaim ground lost to the heavily subsidized foreign avily subsidized foreign thing efforts in our FCZ, reate jobs, and reduce our sheries trade deficit," Chairman Jones added.

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