

**S. 105, The Red Snapper Management Improvement Act****Sponsor – Senator Vitter (R- Louisiana)**

Note – information in bold indicates a provision that would affect Council operations or affect Gulf fisheries.

Section	Summary	Impacts	Relation to Other Bills
Sec 2 – Definitions	Defines Exclusive Economic Zone, fishery management plan and Gulf coastal state		
<b>Sec 3 – Management of Red Snapper in the Gulf of Mexico</b>	<b>Would allow the Gulf coastal states to have exclusive authority to manage the red snapper fishery within their State waters and throughout the EEZ in the Gulf of Mexico if each of the Gulf coastal states agrees to a fishery management plan.</b>  <b>Would waive the provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.</b>	<p>The bill does not detail any requirements for conservation or management of the red snapper fishery.</p> <p>The bill is unclear on whether the fishery management plan would cover both State waters and the EEZ or whether States would continue to manage within their own waters consistent with the new management plan.</p> <p>The bill is unclear how management within the EEZ and outside State waters would be accomplished.</p> <p>The bill would waive all provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Act including National Standards dealing with safety of life at sea, that allocations between States be fair and equitable, that bycatch be minimized, that overfished fisheries be rebuilt, that adverse impacts to communities be minimized, etc.</p>	Similar language to transfer management of the Gulf red snapper fishery is included in H.R. 3094 and S. 55.
<b>Section 4 – Funding</b>	<b>Would require the Secretary of Commerce to fund all Gulf red snapper stock assessments and data collection if each of the Gulf coastal states agrees to a fishery management plan.</b>		Similar language regarding the Secretary providing funding for other entities

			to conduct stock assessments is included in H.R. 981, H.R. 1335, H.R. 3094, and S. 55.
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