



## **RESOLUTION FOR COOPERATION WITH CHARTER-FOR-HIRE FISHERY ON EAST COAST**

WHEREAS, the backdoor/illegal sale of seafood from unlicensed fishermen has been occurring for decades, and,

WHEREAS, strict regulations for harvesting fish were created during this period of fish stock rebuilding, and,

WHEREAS, the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council recently banned the sale of bag limit fish by Charter-For-Hire operators, particularly mahi-mahi and king mackerel, and,

WHEREAS, this no bag-limit sale created a severe financial loss to the captains and crew that are legally fishing; NOW,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Southeastern Fisheries Association will work with charter fishermen on Florida's east coast to restore their ability to sell bag-limit caught fish as long as all fish sold under such a program come from the recreational sector allocation; and trip ticket records are kept the same as any other commercially sold fish are kept; and all fish eligible for sale must operate under HACCP regulations.

Done this 27<sup>th</sup> Day of May, 2015

*Jeanna Merrifield*

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Jeanna Merrifield, Secretary