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REPRESENTATIVE JEFF DUNCAN
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

CHAIRMAN - HOUSE AGRICULTURE, NATURAL RESOURCES
AND ENVIROMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

RECEIVED

SEP 16 2009
South Atlantic
Fishery Mgmt Council

September 15, 2009

Mr. Duane Harris
Council Chairman
South Atlantic Fishery Management Council
4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201
North Charleston, SC 29405

Dear Mr. Harris:

It has come to my attention that the SAFMC has considered closing ocean-bottom fishing in South Carolina. This action would be detrimental to the economy and tourist environment of South Carolina. I feel compelled to express my strong opposition to this proposal and specifically Alternatives four and six.

Salt water fishing is championed as a \$600 million industry in South Carolina alone. With the strain on the current economy, we can certainly not afford to lose such a tremendous engine of income for our state. Coastal areas of South Carolina depend on these dollars that are produced by tourists who visit the state to catch fish such as Grouper and Red Snapper.

As someone who truly enjoys the sport of fishing and the environment in which it takes place, this is an issue which about I feel strongly. Please let me know if you would discuss this further. Please do not hesitate to contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff Duncan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning.

Jeff Duncan

Cc: Mr. Tom DeLoach, President/CEO, BIPEC
Mr. Robert Boyles, Deputy Director, Marine Resources Division
Mr. Bo Petersen, Post and Courier