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NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION • US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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NOAA Administrator Applauds Senate Bill to Combat Illegal Fishing

Retired Navy Vice Admiral Conrad Lautenbacher, Ph.D., Undersecretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and NOAA Administrator, today applauded the Senate Commerce Committee for reporting S. 2907, the International Fisheries Stewardship and Enforcement Act, out of committee. Among its provisions, this legislation would clarify and strengthen the Department of Commerce's enforcement authority to help combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, and enhance efforts to build capacity in other countries to address these activities.

"Today, the Senate Commerce Committee has taken strong steps to improve the conservation and management of fish stocks globally and help prevent illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing," said Lautenbacher. "I want to thank Senators Inouye and Stevens for their leadership in addressing these important issues. S. 2907 would provide the Department of Commerce with the additional authority and tools that will help the United States take more aggressive action against IUU fishing."