

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 13, 2025

The Honorable Howard Lutnick
Secretary
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Secretary Lutnick,

We, the undersigned members of the Georgia congressional delegation, write to express our strong support for the request to correct course on red snapper fisheries management and for an Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) to allow for state management of red snapper and other species of reef fish in the South Atlantic as outlined in a joint letter dated June 4, 2025 from Governors Brian Kemp, Ron DeSantis and Henry McMaster.

We are thankful to you and President Trump for your willingness to empower states to assume management of their own natural resources, including red snapper, in the South Atlantic and around the nation. Georgia's recreational fishing industry has long struggled under federal fisheries data that limit access and impose heavy-handed restrictions, often set by bureaucrats far removed from our coastal communities. State management, as proposed, would empower Georgia to tailor conservation and fishing policies to local needs, mirroring the successful Gulf of America model where state oversight allows for 127 fishing days compared to the Atlantic's single day under federal rules.

The governors' letter highlights the stark disparity in management outcomes while also noting that federal fishing policies prioritize control over sustainable use, a concern echoed by our constituents in the fishing sector. State-led management would enhance data collection, improve angler access, and ensure sustainable practices.

We urge the Department of Commerce to work with the administration to cut federal red tape and grant Georgia, alongside Florida and South Carolina, the authority to manage these fisheries.

Sincerely,



Earl L. "Buddy" Carter
Member of Congress



Austin Scott
Member of Congress



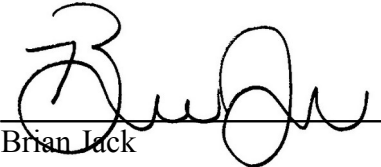
Mike Collins
Member of Congress



Rick W. Allen
Member of Congress



Barry Loudermilk
Member of Congress



Brian Jack
Member of Congress



Marjorie Taylor Greene
Member of Congress