

Amendment to the Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute to H.R. 4690
Offered by Mr. Graves of Louisiana

At the end of Section 205, insert the following and redesignate the subsections accordingly:

(a) “The Inspector General of the Department of Commerce shall conduct an audit regarding Limited Access Privilege Programs for federally-managed fisheries in the United States.

(1) The audit shall determine and disclose the following:

(A) the amount of harvest privileges or transferable quota that were actively harvested each year from 2017 and 2022;

(B) the amount of harvest privileges or transferable quota that were leased to other parties or entities each year from 2017 and 2022;

(C) the names of corporations, partnerships, or other authorized entities that currently hold harvesting privileges or transferable quota in federal fisheries;

(D) the proportion of transferable quota holders (both individuals and authorized entities) who are actively fishing their harvesting privileges;

(E) the average cost of a transferable harvest share in each federally-managed limited access privilege program; and

(F) the average leasing cost of a transferable harvest share in each federally-managed limited access privilege program where leasing is occurring;

(2) Additionally, the audit shall:

(B) evaluate the Secretary’s performance overseeing limited access privilege programs in accordance with 16 U.S.C. 1853a(c)(1)(J); and

(A) recommend policies to strengthen transparency and achieve full disclosure of ownership of harvest privileges in limited access privilege programs;

(3) Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this act, the Inspector General shall brief the appropriate committees of Congress on the preliminary findings of this study.

(3) Not later than 30 days after the date on which a briefing occurs under paragraph (3), the Inspector General shall submit to Congress a final report setting forth the results of the study conducted under subsection (a)(1).”