

## SENATE RESOLUTION No. 105

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 1, 1997

By Senators CONNORS and BASSANO

1   **A SENATE RESOLUTION** memorializing the Congress of the United States to  
2       enact as soon as possible H.R. 1855, which would impose a moratorium  
3       on the use of large fishing vessels to fish for Atlantic herring or Atlantic  
4       mackerel within the United States' exclusive economic zone.

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6   **WHEREAS**, Atlantic herring and Atlantic mackerel are key links in the marine  
7       food chain, preyed upon by many other fish that are important for both the  
8       commercial and recreational fisheries along the Nation's coastline; and

9   **WHEREAS**, Large factory trawlers and their associated fishing fleets tend to  
10      overharvest fish, thus threatening the continued viability of the resource and  
11      severely impacting the economic well-being of the remainder of the  
12      commercial fishing industry as well as the recreational fishing industry; and

13   **WHEREAS**, Reportedly, a U.S.-built, 340-foot ship is being refitted in Norway  
14      so that it will have the capacity to harvest and process about 50,000 metric  
15      tons per year of Atlantic herring and Atlantic mackerel; and the harvest of  
16      such quantities of those species of fish could be devastating to owners of  
17      small and medium commercial fishing boats as well as the recreational  
18      fishing industry along the Nation's coastline; and

19   **WHEREAS**, H.R. 1855, introduced June 10, 1997 by Congressmen Saxton,  
20      Pallone and others, would provide that no large fishing vessel (equal to or  
21      greater than 165 feet in length overall, with an engine of more than 3,000  
22      horsepower, that does not have a documented landing in any East Coast  
23      port as of May 1, 1997, of one pound or more of any species of fish  
24      caught pursuant to a federal or state fishing or landing permit or license)  
25      may engage in fishing for Atlantic herring or Atlantic mackerel within the  
26      exclusive economic zone of the United States until (1) the National Marine  
27      Fisheries Service has completed a new population survey into the  
28      abundance of the discrete spawning stocks of Atlantic herring and Atlantic  
29      mackerel, and (2) the Secretary of the United States Department of  
30      Commerce has approved and implemented fishery management plans  
31      developed by the appropriate regional fishery management council for  
32      Atlantic herring and Atlantic mackerel, which specifically allow large fishing  
33      vessels to participate in those fisheries; now, therefore,

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35    **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate of the State of New Jersey:*

