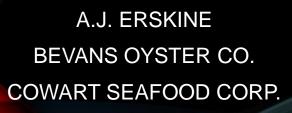
### CHALLENGES FACING VIRGINIA'S SEAFOOD PROCESSORS





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### OUTLINE

- H-2B TEMPORARY SEASONAL VISA PROGRAM
- SHELLFISH HATCHERY WATER QUALITY MONITORING
- ANNUAL CRAB SURVEY

# H-2B PROGRAM AND SEAFOOD PROCESSORS

- LOCAL LABOR FORCE DECLINE
- HISTORY OF PARTICIPATION IN PROGRAM
- COST AND REGULATORY BURDEN
- NUMBER OF AVAILABLE VISAS
- NON-AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM

#### LIMITATIONS OF H-2B PROGRAM

- COMPETITION FROM SERVICE BASED INDUSTRIES
- SEAFOOD PROCESSING PRECLUDES PARTICIPATION IN H-2A
- INCONSISTENT DETERMINATIONS FROM DOL AND DHS
- LOTTERY BASED DISTRIBUTION OF SEASONAL VISAS
- UNSTABLE LABOR FORCE AND IMPACT ON SEAFOOD MARKET

# UNIQUENESS OF SEAFOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRY

- MANUFACTURING NOT SERVICE BASED
- PERISHABLE DOMESTIC SEAFOOD PRODUCT
- COMPETE WITH FOREIGN IMPORTS
- VISA REQUESTS REMAIN STABLE
- CURRENT FEDERAL LAW EXEMPTS SOME SEAFOOD

### H-2B CAP EXEMPTION

- DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT OF 2005
- FISH ROE PROCESSING RECOGNIZED AS CAP EXEMPT
- SEAFOOD INDUSTRY IS THE ONLY SECTOR WITHIN THE PROGRAM TO HAVE AN EXEMPTION
- STRATEGY TO EXPAND 'FISH ROE' EXEMPTION
- COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM DEBATE

#### **EXAMPLE LANGUAGE:**

SEC. 14006. The numerical limitation contained in section 214(g)(1)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1184(g)(1)(B)) shall not apply to any non immigrant alien issued a visa or otherwise provided status under section 101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(b) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(b)) who is employed (or has received an offer of employment)—

- (1) on a commercial fishing vessel or shrimp trawler; or
- (2) in the processing of—
  - (A) fish or fishery products; or
  - (B) baitfish.

Terms used in this section have the meanings given such terms in section 123.3 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations.

### ASK: H-2B SEAFOOD PROCESSING

SUPPORT AMENDMENT IF OFFERED BY SENATOR VAN HOLLEN (MD) TO EXPAND H-2B SEAFOOD EXEMPTION

CONTACT U.S. SENATE MEMBERS ON APPROPRIATIONS TO ENCOURAGE
PASSAGE OF AMENDMENT

## OYSTER HATCHERY WATER QUALITY MONITORING PROGRAM

- PARTNERSHIP WITH VIMS-CB NERR
- INITIATED IN JANUARY 2020
- MULTI-PRONG APPROACH TO MONITOR SEAWATER CHEMISTRY
- IMPORTANT TO ADAPTIVELY MANAGE HATCHERY PRODUCTION
- NEXT STEP IS FUNDING TO ASSESS PARAMETERS IMPACTING SPAWNING FAILURES INSIDE THE HATCHERY



#### Madison Refuge Salisbury Lusby Berlin Ocean City Fruitland Hicks Landing, VA Locust Grove Fredericksburg California dsville King George Nanticoke Orange uckersville Kendale Farm, VA Spotsylvania Princess Anne St Marys City Courthouse Deal Island Port Royal Snow Hill Historic District Gordonsville Woodford Coan River, VA Montross Pocomoke City Bowling Green Louisa Crisfield Zion Bumpass Crossroads Bowlers Wharf, VA Chincoteague Ruther Glen Tappaha Doswell Palmyra Wallops Island Corrotoman River, VA Tangier Aylett Fork Union Ashland Christchurch School, VA -Kilmarnock King William Glen Allen Urbanna Gwynn's Island, VA Mechanicsville Powhatan West Point Richmond Exmore New Kent Midlothian Cumberland Providence Mathews Forge Gloucester Chester Amelia Eastville Court House armville Williamsburg Cape Charles Yorktown Petersburg Jamestown Crewe Surry Poquoson Newport News Blackstone Dinwiddie Waverly Lafavette River. Va Victoria McKenney Smithfield Elizabeth River, VA Wakefield Kenbridge Stony Creek Carrollton Warfield Virginia Beach Norfolk Jarratt Windsor ---K 1 11 . . M 1. 0000

Result Date	Result Time	EXO2(Temp_C)	EXO2(SpCond_mS_cm)	EXO2(Sal_psu)	EXO2(ODO_pctplus_pct)	EXO2(ODO_Concplus_mg_L)	EXO2(pH)	EXO2(Depth_meters)	EXO2(Turbidity_NTU)	EXO2(Chlorophyll_ug_L)
11/02/2021	07:30:00	17.43	27.24	16.77	97.22	8.42	8.11	1.44	2.63	4.81
11/02/2021	07:15:00	17.43	27.24	16.78	97.76	8.47	8.11	1.43	2.91	4.72
11/02/2021	07:00:00	17.45	27.25	16.78	93.28	8.08	8.08	1.41	2.62	3.61
11/02/2021	06:45:00	17.44	27.26	16.79	94.52	8.18	8.09	1.39	2.72	4.41
11/02/2021	06:30:00	17.45	27.26	16.79	94.04	8.14	8.06	1.38	2.34	3.49
11/02/2021	06:15:00	17.45	27.26	16.79	96.86	8.38	8.1	1.35	2.73	4.42
11/02/2021	06:00:00	17.4	27.27	16.79	96.13	8.33	8.1	1.33	2.89	4.87



#### CRAB DREDGE SURVEY

- MESSAGING AND HEADLINES THAT INADVERTENTLY HURT CRAB MARKETS
- CRAB DREDGE SURVEY MAY MISS LARGE POPULATIONS OF JUVENILES— LIMITATION IN SAMPLING GEAR AND VESSEL TO ACCESS SOME AREAS
- ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE NUMBER OF CRAB POTS DEPLOYED PER LICENSE
- BETTER DETERMINE EFFORT IN THE FISHERY