



# **Consideration of a Resolution Encouraging Governor Henry McMaster to Declare an Economic Disaster Due to the Dumping of Imported Shrimp into the United States Market**

Presentation to Town Council  
December 12, 2023  
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# What is Dumping?



- Dumping occurs when a foreign producer sells a product in the United States at a price that is below that producer's sales price in the country of origin ("home market"), or at a price that is lower than the cost of production.



# What is the Purpose?



- The declaration of an economic disaster would authorize the Governor to submit a request for a fishery resource disaster determination to be made by the U.S. Secretary of Commerce, in accordance with the Fishery Resources Disasters Improvement Act.
- This determination would allow for the imposition of controls on the activities that tend to increase the likelihood of economic damage to the economy of the Town of Bluffton and the entire region.
- Implemented controls would make financial fisher disaster assistance available to shrimpers.

# Why?



- Bluffton and Beaufort County account for nearly 25% of the annual amount of wild caught shrimp in the State;
- Shrimp is one of the state's top 4 fisheries;
- The fishing and shrimping community contributes to the local tourism based economy and is an integral part of the local culture;
- The tidal marshes of Bluffton provide highly productive nursery grounds for numerous commercially and recreationally important species, including shrimp;
- Blueprint Bluffton includes encouraging and supporting ecotourism in the May River Watershed, which has become a sanctuary for shrimp, crabs, oysters, and saltwater fish; and
- United States' imports of frozen warmwater shrimp nearly doubled from 2013 to 2021 to an unprecedented level of 1.8 billion pounds.



# ***QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION***

# Proposed Recommended Motion



*"I move to <APPROVE, approve with modifications, deny, table> the Resolution and attached letter addressed to Governor Henry McMaster"*