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April 27, 2007

The Honorable Haley Barbour
Governor of Mississippi
P.O. Box 139
Jackson, Mississippi 39205

Dear Governor Barbour:

Mississippi has been a leader in the development of farm raised aquaculture for over 40 years, specifically farm raised catfish. We produce products which are wholesome and safe, as well as provide jobs and economic viability to the communities where we live and work.

Over the past several weeks, numerous health related issues have surfaced regarding imported seafood and aquaculture products. As early as Wednesday of this week, the state of Alabama has prohibited the import and sale of all Chinese catfish because of the presence of banned substances detected in the product. These substances have been banned in the US for over 10 years.

Catfish Farmers of Mississippi would respectfully ask you to call a special session of the legislature to address these issues, and specifically to require Country of Origin Labeling (COOL) on all catfish at both the retail and restaurant level in order to preserve the health and welfare of the citizens of Mississippi.*

Sincerely,

CATFISH FARMERS OF MISSISSIPPI

BY:

Keith C. King, President

*Adopted by CFM Membership April 26, 2007

cc: Dr. Lester Spell
Catfish Farmers of America
Catfish State Associations
Other Interested Parties