

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 19, 2012

The Honorable John Rockefeller  
Chairman  
Commerce, Science & Transportation  
Committee  
United States Senate  
254 Russell Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison  
Ranking Member  
Commerce, Science & Transportation  
Committee  
United States Senate  
560 Dirksen Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mark Begich  
Chairman  
Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries & Coast  
Guard Subcommittee  
United States Senate  
254 Russell Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Olympia Snowe  
Ranking Member  
Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries & Coast  
Guard Subcommittee  
United States Senate  
560 Dirksen Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairmen Rockefeller and Begich and Ranking Members Hutchison and Snowe:

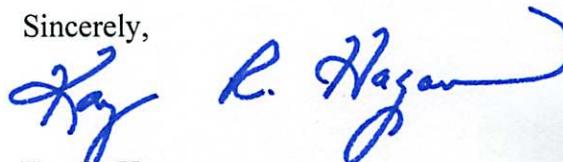
I am writing to request that a fishing endorsement be granted for the Texas Star Casino vessel (IMO# 7722047) as part of the Senate Coast Guard Authorization Act (S.1665).

It is my understanding that the Wanchese Fishing Company of Wanchese, North Carolina, would like to acquire the Texas Star Casino. The vessel will be retrofitted and incorporated into Wanchese's fishing vessel fleet. It is also my understanding that the American Maritime Partnership has rescinded its opposition to granting a fishing endorsement to the Texas Star Casino.

The Wanchese Fishing Company is an important part of North Carolina's commercial fishing industry and to my state's coastal economy. Granting a fishing endorsement for the Texas Star Casino would enable Wanchese to expand its operations and hire new employees. These new jobs are much needed in North Carolina's coastal communities, which continue to struggle during these difficult economic times.

Thank you for considering this request. Should the Committee have any further questions, please contact Aaron Suntag on my staff at 4-9025.

Sincerely,



Kay R. Hagan  
United States Senator