

FRED UPTON, MICHIGAN
CHAIRMAN

FRANK PALLONE, JR., NEW JERSEY
RANKING MEMBER

ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115
Majority (202) 225-2927
Minority (202) 225-3641

December 21, 2016

Ms. Kim Gorton
President and CEO
Stade Gorton & Co., Inc.
225 Southampton Street
Boston, MA 02118

Dear Ms. Gorton:

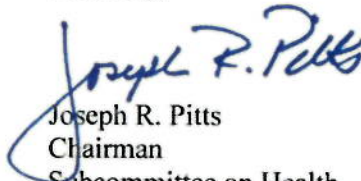
Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Health on December 7, 2016 to testify at the hearing entitled "Waste and Duplication in the USDA Catfish Inspection Program."

Pursuant to the Rules of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the hearing record remains open for ten business days to permit Members to submit additional questions for the record, which are attached. The format of your responses to these questions should be as follows: (1) the name of the Member whose question you are addressing, (2) the complete text of the question you are addressing in bold, and (3) your answer to that question in plain text.

To facilitate the printing of the hearing record, please respond to these questions with a transmittal letter by the close of business on January 8, 2017. Your responses should be mailed to Jay Gulshen, Legislative Clerk, Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 and e-mailed in Word format to jay.gulshen@mail.house.gov.

Thank you again for your time and effort preparing and delivering testimony before the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,


Joseph R. Pitts
Chairman
Subcommittee on Health

cc: The Honorable Gene Green, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Health

Attachment

Attachment — Additional Questions for the Record

The Honorable Joseph R. Pitts

1. How many years have you processed or sold domestic or imported catfish (siluriformes)?
2. In your experience, is catfish (siluriformes) a low-risk food?
3. Does domestic or imported catfish (siluriformes) present any unique food safety issues that would warrant a separate government program from all other seafood?
4. What is the impact of having USDA regulate catfish and FDA regulate all other seafood on your business?
5. Beyond the negative impact the USDA catfish program has on seafood processors, we understand that there are divisions even amongst U.S. catfish farmers regarding the USDA catfish program. Are you aware of why many U.S. catfish farmers oppose the USDA catfish program?