

Dear Representative *(delete this and fill in your Representative's name)*,

I am writing to ask you to **oppose any legislation that would weaken the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), including H.R. 4239, the SECURE American Energy Act.**

The MMPA is a landmark law providing protection for all marine mammals in the U.S. waters, including whales, dolphins, seals, sea lions, sea otters, and manatees. It recognizes the importance of marine mammals to maintaining a healthy ocean ecosystem, and protects marine mammals by prohibiting activities that harass, hunt, capture, or kill any marine mammal, or attempt to do so.

H.R. 4239 would gut core provisions of the law that require careful review before permits are issued to industrial users of the ocean, including oil and gas companies. The bill would remove standards in the law to limit harm to “small numbers” of marine mammals, and would fast-track approval of permits to harass marine mammals.

The MMPA provides vital protections that marine mammals cannot afford to lose. I urge you to maintain the Marine Mammal Protection Act in its current form by opposing H.R. 4239 and any other bills or amendments that aim to undermine or weaken this essential ocean conservation law.

Thank you,

(Delete this and insert your name)