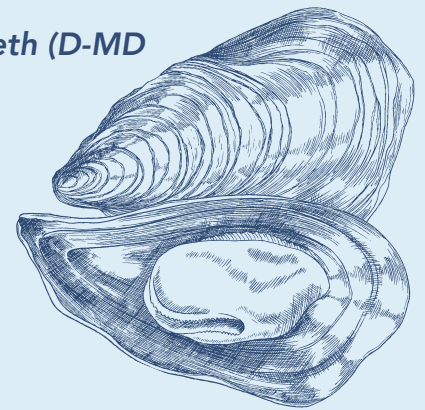


Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Control and Prevention Act of 2026

Bipartisan legislation led by **Reps. Tim Walberg (R-MI) and Sarah Elfreth (D-MD)**

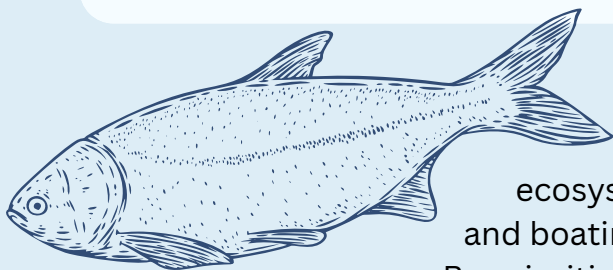
Aquatic invasive species (AIS) — including zebra mussels, invasive Asian carp, and sea lamprey — impose billions of dollars in costs annually, damaging fisheries, aquatic habitat, hydropower, irrigation, drinking water, and other water infrastructure nationwide. Because all 50 states and 13 federal agencies have responsibilities related to AIS prevention and control, effective management requires coordinated action across jurisdictional lines.



Building on the recommendations of the [Aquatic Invasive Species Commission](#) – led by the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership and including leading scientists, states and recreational fishing and boating organizations – this bill modernizes federal AIS authorities to better prevent, control and eradicate aquatic invasive species.

Major Provisions

- **Streamlined Coordination:** Modernizes the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 to enhance coordination among federal agencies, states and regional panels to prevent and control invasive species across shared waterways.
- **Strengthening State Management:** Increases support for state management plans to support on-the-ground projects to prevent, monitor and control AIS.
- **Rapid Response:** Supports faster, science-based action to contain or eradicate newly detected AIS outbreaks before they become established, costly management issues affecting fisheries and water infrastructure.
- **Science and Research:** Updates species management plans while supporting research, demonstration, and verification of practical tools to prevent, control, and eradicate AIS.



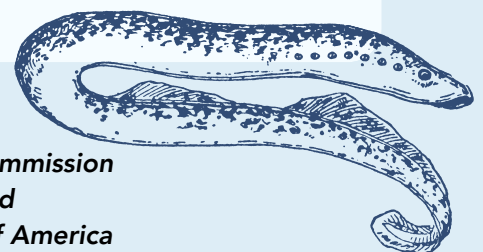
Protecting American Jobs & Infrastructure

The bill safeguards fisheries, waterways, and aquatic ecosystems that support the \$230 billion recreational fishing and boating economies and more than 1.1 million American jobs. By prioritizing prevention and rapid response, it also helps reduce long-term costs to water infrastructure and local communities.

Key Takeaways

The AIS Control & Prevention Act of 2026 modernizes outdated federal policy to:

- **Support** state-led, coordinated invasive species management
- **Protect** fisheries, boating access, water infrastructure and outdoor recreation economies
- **Improve** coordination across existing federal, state and regional AIS programs
- **Prioritize** prevention and rapid response to reduce long-term, costly management



Supporting Organizations

American Catfishing Association
American Fisheries Society
American Sportfishing Association
Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
Backcountry Hunters and Anglers
Bass Anglers Sportsman Society (B.A.S.S.)
Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS)
Bonefish & Tarpon Trust
Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation

Great Lakes Fishery Commission
Guy Harvey Ocean Fund
Izaak Walton League of America
Major League Fishing
Marine Retailers Association of the Americas
National Marine Manufacturers Association
National Professional Anglers Association
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
Wildlife Forever