

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 13, 2014

Dr. Kathryn D. Sullivan  
Administrator  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Room 5128  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Dr. Sullivan,

Thank you for your work to distribute the fishery disaster funds promptly in New England. We appreciate your agency's thorough engagement of local ideas and your commitment to transparency throughout this process.

We understand it has been difficult for the New England states to reach a unanimous agreement on how best to distribute these funds. As you proceed, we urge you to ensure that the funding provides direct support for those with the greatest need and does not cause irrevocable harm to the long-term diversity and sustainability of our fishing fleet.

New Hampshire is unique in New England because of our small boat fleet and the severity of the economic harm our fishermen have suffered. State governments are best positioned to know the needs of their communities and the most effective strategies for allocating funds within their borders.

We appreciate your thorough consideration of this issue.

Sincerely,



KELLY AYOTTE  
U.S. Senator



JEANNE SHAHEEN  
U.S. Senator