



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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March 3, 2016

City of New Bedford
ATTN: Dennis W. Farias, City Clerk
Office of the City Clerk
133 William Street
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Dennis,

Thank you for reaching out to me on the important issue of at-sea fish monitoring. I have supported and will continue to support the belief that fisherman should not have to bear the financial burden that comes with carrying at-sea fish monitors on their boats. Requiring our fisherman to foot the \$700 bill for carrying at-sea monitors on their boats is neither reasonable nor cost effective for our fisherman. The fishing industry is part of the back-bone of the New Bedford economy. If fishermen are required to foot the bill, our fisherman will be put out of business. This would have disastrous effects on our economy that is already struggling.

It is for these reasons, as well as those voiced by the New Bedford City Council, that I have already submitted a letter in September 2015 to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce, Penny Prizker. In the letter I echoed the same concerns and requests that Governor Baker and the Massachusetts Congressional delegation expressed in their August 2015 correspondence.

I will continue to support and assist my constituents on this matter in any way that I am able to. Thank you for your concerns and your attention to this critical issue.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Robert M. Koczera

Robert M. Koczera
11th Bristol District

CITY CLERK
NEW BEDFORD, MA
MARCH 7 12:16 PM