

Senator John Breaux
Presentation

*Lyles
Award*

CHARLES H. LYLES AWARD

The Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission has only one annual expression of recognition of outstanding contributions to the betterment of the fisheries of the Gulf of Mexico through significant biological, industrial, legislative, enforcement or administrative activities. This is called the Charles H. Lyles Award. We present the award each year at the October meeting. The Commission is pleased to honor a Louisiana resident at this time.

This year we have the privilege to give our highest award to a man who has done much for us all. Over the years he has provided his talent, wisdom, and energy on behalf of the fishing community in the Congress of the United States on such matters as:

- Magnuson Fisheries Conservation and Management Act - Offshore Councils
- Fisherman's Contingency Fund - providing for payment to fishermen for the loss of fishing gear due to oil and gas exploration and production
- Securing the research vessel CHAPMAN from Alaska for Gulf research
- Untold help with the Appropriations Committee for vital marine fisheries programs
- Rewriting the Magnuson Fisheries and Conservation Act to phase out foreign fishing

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- National Artificial Reef legislation
- Passage of Breaux/Wallop legislation which expanded funding for recreational programs of the States from 30 million to over 130 million dollars annually -- also mandating equitable sharing by marine programs
- Marketing legislation to establish boards to promote fishery products.

That Ladies and Gentlemen is only a partial list of things our recipient has done.

This is a man who all marine as well as inland fisheries people know and appreciate. This years recipient currently serves on the Commerce, Science, Transportation Committee (which deals with marine fisheries matters), Environment, Public Works Committee and the Committee on Aging. We in the Gulf still remember him affectionately as the Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and the Environment. He is a strong leader who will move swiftly to the top in the Senate. As he once said, "Think what a fish man can do in the Senate".

Thank you,