
HOUSE RESOLUTION

DECLARING SUPPORT FOR THE 2008 INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE REEF
AND HAWAII'S COMMITMENT TO PRESERVING HAWAIIAN REEFS.

1 WHEREAS, reefs around the world are suffering from
2 pollution, coral bleaching, trawling, and trophic imbalance in
3 the natural system; and
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5 WHEREAS, Hawaii has over 7,000 reef species, over 1,000 of
6 which are found nowhere else; and
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8 WHEREAS, reef-based tourism generates \$1 billion annually
9 for the people of Hawaii and commensurate tax revenues for the
10 State of Hawaii; and
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12 WHEREAS, revenues from snorkeling, diving, fishing, and
13 tourism industries depend on healthy reefs; and
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15 WHEREAS, 2008 will be the International Year of the Reef,
16 and the eyes of the world will be on locations that have reefs;
17 and
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19 WHEREAS, several species of reef fish, such as angel fish,
20 butterfly fish, moray eel, anthius, and Hawaiian turkeyfish, are
21 now listed by the Department of Land and Natural Resources'
22 Division of Aquatic Resources as "species of concern," because
23 of their continuing population decline; and
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25 WHEREAS, more than 10 million reef fish are exported each
26 year; and
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28 WHEREAS, the Hawaii state motto is "Ua mau ke ea o ka aina
29 i ka pono," which is translated to mean, "The life of the land
30 is perpetuated in righteousness"; now, therefore,



H.R. NO. 225

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
2 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
3 Session of 2007, that this body supports and calls attention to
4 the designation of 2008 as the International Year of the Reef;
5 and

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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body reinforces Hawaii's
8 commitment to the protection of our reefs as a fundamental
9 commitment at the core of our culture; and

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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body recognizes that
12 maintaining the health of Hawaii's unique coral reef system is a
13 moral obligation to the rest of the world that we accept with
14 honor and humility; and

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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
17 Resolution be transmitted to the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force and
18 the Director of Land and Natural Resources.

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21 OFFERED BY: J.L.A.

MAR 14 2007

