
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO PROCLAIM JUNE
8TH OF EVERY YEAR AS WORLD OCEAN DAY.

1 WHEREAS, the concept of World Ocean Day was established in
2 1992 at the United Nations Earth Summit; and
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4 WHEREAS, it is an opportunity for the world to celebrate
5 and recognize the significance of the world ocean to our lives;
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8 WHEREAS, protecting the world ocean is critical to
9 maintaining our planet's ecosystem and essential to human health
10 and well-being; and
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12 WHEREAS, the world ocean encompasses seventy per cent of
13 the surface of our planet, yet less than one per cent of the
14 world ocean habitat is protected; and
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16 WHEREAS, ocean environments around the world are
17 collapsing, primarily due to over-fishing, pollution, invasive
18 species, and unsustainable coastal development; and
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20 WHEREAS, Hawaii's isolation in the middle of the Pacific
21 Ocean and its distinction as being the farthest removed islands
22 from any other body of land in the world make it an appropriate
23 participant in World Ocean Day; and
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25 WHEREAS, the early Hawaiians were masters at understanding
26 and respecting the ocean through long distance voyaging and
27 careful resource management; and
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29 WHEREAS, Hawaii is the proud steward of the largest
30 portions of protected ocean in the world with coral reef
31 ecosystems that contain over five thousand known species of
32 marine plants and animals; and



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2 WHEREAS, roughly twenty-five per cent of the marine plants
3 and animals found in Hawaii's ocean are found nowhere else in
4 the world; and

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6 WHEREAS, World Ocean Day will help commemorate the progress
7 toward the effective management of Hawaii's native ecosystem;
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10 WHEREAS, the ocean is an integral part of every facet of
11 the lives of the people of Hawaii; and

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13 WHEREAS, World Ocean Day is an opportunity to promote
14 public awareness and educate the public, adults and children
15 alike, about conserving and protecting our fragile marine
16 environment; now, therefore,

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18 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
19 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, the
20 House of Representatives concurring, that the President of the
21 United States is requested to proclaim June 8th of every year as
22 World Ocean Day, to promote and help increase awareness of our
23 ocean's fragile ecosystem through cultural exchanges,
24 educational projects, and mindful consideration by all; and

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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
27 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
28 United States, the Governor of the State of Hawaii, Hawaii's
29 congressional delegation, the Mayor and the Chairperson of the
30 Council of each county, the United States Department of Fish and
31 Wildlife Services, United States National Marine Fisheries
32 Services, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration,
33 Department of Land and Natural Resources and its divisions of
34 Aquatic Resources and Boating and Ocean Recreation, United
35 States Environmental Protection Agency, Kai Makana, Malama
36 Hawaii, Save Honolulu Coalition, Polynesian Voyaging Society,
37 Hawaii Wildlife Fund, Girl Scouts of America, Parents and
38 Children Together Program, Youth Conservation Corp, Damien High
39 School, Farrington High School, Punahou High School, Radford
40 High School, Chaminade University, Hawaii Pacific University,
41 Keahiakahoe Canoe Club, and Pearl Harbor Canoe Club.

