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## SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO DEVELOP AND ADOPT ADMINISTRATIVE RULES REGARDING THE CREATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF LIMITS FOR THE COLLECTION OF ORNAMENTAL REEF FISH AND URGING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FISH REPLENISHMENT AREAS FOR THE WATERS OF OAHU AND MAUI TO REGULATE THE COLLECTION OF ORNAMENTAL, NON-CONSUMPTIVE FISH ONLY.

1           WHEREAS, the International Coral Reef Initiative has  
2 designated the year 2008 as the International Year of the Reef;  
3 and  
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5           WHEREAS, various events are scheduled throughout the year  
6 to commemorate the International Year of the Reef that will  
7 focus on increasing awareness about the economic, social,  
8 ecological, and cultural value of Hawaii's coral reefs; and  
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10           WHEREAS, the International Year of the Reef designation is  
11 an opportunity to bring attention to the threats that could or  
12 are currently endangering the health of Hawaii's marine  
13 ecosystems and propose and take action on international and  
14 local levels to mitigate or avoid these threats; and  
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16           WHEREAS, the State is home to a majority of the nation's  
17 coral reefs, including the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National  
18 Monument established in December 2006; and  
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20           WHEREAS, Hawaii's reefs are vibrant, living organisms,  
21 which support over seven thousand known species of marine plants  
22 and animals; and  
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24           WHEREAS, the ocean and its living creatures who occupy its  
25 reefs and waters held great significance and continue to hold  
26 great importance in Native Hawaiian culture; and  
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28           WHEREAS, the health of Hawaii's reefs and the ecosystems  
29 associated with these reefs are an integral part to the health  
30 of Hawaii's largest economic engine - the visitor industry; and  
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1 WHEREAS, large volumes of ornamental reef fish, which are  
2 all critical to the health of Hawaii's reefs, are being  
3 collected for aquariums, including herbivores such as yellow  
4 tang and other surgeon fish, Hawaiian cleaner wrasse, and  
5 butterfly fish; and

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7 WHEREAS, the collection of reef fish for aquariums is not  
8 effectively regulated and enforced as it is difficult to  
9 quantify the exact number of ornamental reef fish taken from the  
10 State's reefs; and

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12 WHEREAS, the development and implementation of rules  
13 regarding the regulation of taking ornamental reef fish for  
14 aquarium use will assist in the protection and conservation of  
15 Hawaii's reef fish and the health of their delicate ecosystems;  
16 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,  
20 that the Department of Land and Natural Resources, in  
21 consultation with the University of Hawaii School of Ocean and  
22 Earth Science and Technology, Department of Oceanography, Hawaii  
23 Institute of Marine Biology, and the Waikiki Aquarium, is urged  
24 to develop and adopt administrative rules regarding the  
25 collection of ornamental reef fish for aquarium use from  
26 Hawaii's reefs; and

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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and  
29 Natural Resources is urged to develop and adopt administrative  
30 rules, that will recommend to the Board of Land and Natural  
31 Resources appropriate and reasonable limits on the collection of  
32 ornamental reef fish, including the establishment of limits to  
33 facilitate the restoration and preservation of reef fish in  
34 Hawaii's waters; and

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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and  
37 Natural Resources is urged to establish fish replenishment areas  
38 for the waters surrounding Oahu and Maui, the purpose of which  
39 shall be limited to the replenishment of ornamental, non-  
40 consumptive fish. The fish replenishment areas for Oahu and  
41 Maui are requested to be modeled after the program established  
42 by the West Hawaii Fisheries Council; and

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; the Chairperson of  
3 the Board of Land and Natural Resources; the Director of  
4 Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; the Administrator  
5 of the Division of Aquatic Resources; the Administrator of the  
6 Division of Conservation and Enforcement; the Administrator of  
7 the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; the Mayor, City and County of  
8 Honolulu; the Mayor, County of Hawaii; the Mayor, Maui County;  
9 the Mayor, Kauai County; the City Council Chairperson of the  
10 Honolulu City Council; the County Council Chairperson of the  
11 Hawaii County Council; the County Council Chairperson of the  
12 Maui County Council; the County Council Chairperson of the Kauai  
13 County Council; the President and Chief Executive Officer of the  
14 Hawaii Tourism Authority, and representatives of the University  
15 of Hawaii School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology,  
16 Department of Oceanography, the Hawaii Institute of Marine  
17 Biology, and the Waikiki Aquarium.

