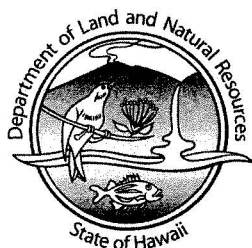
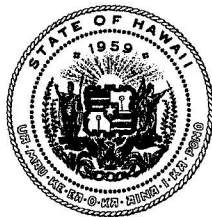


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HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

**TESTIMONY OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

**On HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 347/HOUSE RESOLUTION 288– URGING
THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO PROCEED
IMMEDIATELY WITH THE ADOPTION OF RULES TO REGULATE THE ORNAMENTAL
REEF FISH INDUSTRY IN SOUTH MAUI AND KANEOHE BAY.**

**BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
WATER, LAND, OCEAN RESOURCES AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

March 24, 2008

House Concurrent Resolution 347/House Resolution 288 urges the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to adopt rules for regulating the ornamental reef fish industry in south Maui, and in Kaneohe Bay on Oahu, and in the process of rulemaking, confer with all geographic stakeholders including the Aha Moku Council, Kaneohe Bay Regional Council, commercial aquarium fish collectors, commercial ocean recreation businesses and other potentially affected stakeholders. The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) opposes these resolutions because it considers the proposed time frame for rulemaking to be unrealistic, but does offer the following comments.

The current legislative session has witnessed wide ranging and constructive dialogue regarding the ornamental fish industry, and various means by which it might be further regulated. Based on this, the Department expects to initiate discussions with various sectors of the public on Maui and Oahu in regard to the issue, and to investigate options such as area-based management, limited entry for commercial fishers, and full protection for species considered to be at risk or of particular concern. The Department perceives that there is a clear need to move forward with some additional regulation of this fishery, but notes that the wide range of opinions regarding the proper course of action also necessitates considerable consultation with all stakeholders prior to such rulemaking. As such, it will require several years to accomplish such rulemaking in a properly balanced and inclusive fashion.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.