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Representative Ken Ito, Chair
Committee on Water, Land, Ocean Resources & Hawaiian Affairs

RE: **Support** for SB 2196 SD2 RELATING TO COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES ON OCEAN WATERS.

Dear Chair Ito and members of the Committee:

I **strongly support** SB 2196, SD2.

As a resident of the Wai`anae Coast and a former member of the Wai`anae Coast Neighborhood Board No. 24, I have heard of the numerous concerns brought forward by our fishermen regarding the increased near shore activities that occur along the Coast, especially the increase of non-fishing commercial activity i.e. marine mammal watching, snorkeling, diving, etc. Along with the increase of the near shore activities user conflicts have increased not only with the traditional fishing operations but also among the visitor industry ocean users competing to access specific natural resource areas, i.e. the areas common to resting spinner dolphins, and prime diving spots like the Mahi.

Currently, DLNR regulates commercial operators utilizing state facilities to access ocean waters but does not regulate commercial operators launching from private harbors, property or marinas.

This bill, by amending Chapter 200, would rectify that oversight and allow for better management of our ocean waters by the one agency that is charged with the stewardship of our ocean waters at all three levels, surface water, water, and submerged lands.

Therefore, I urge you to pass this bill to allow DLNR to do the total job they are charged with in providing the needed stewardship of our ocean water natural resources.

Sincerely,



Cynthia K.L. Rezendes
Wai`anae Resident