

**TESTIMONY**  
**SCR 17 & SR 11**  
**LATE**

## testimony

---

**From:** anitabanana@hawaiiantel.net  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2008 3:31 PM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Support for SR 11 & SCR 17

Committee: Senate Water & Land Committee

Committee-Chair: Senator Hee

Hearing-Date: Friday, March 28, at 2:45pm

My Testimony is: Dear Senator Hee & Members of the Senate Water & Land Committee, I support SR 11 and SCR 17 to urge DLNR/DAR to establish and enforce bag limits on â€œornamentalâ€œ reef fish.

Aquarium collectors are now unlimited on Hawaii reefs. Neither the number of collectors nor the number of fish they can take is regulated or limited in Hawaii. Reefs around the world are in peril. No reef extraction should continue without limits and enforcement.

Please urge DLNR/DAR to begin responsible protection of these species and habitats.

Thank you.

Name: anita wintner

Name-of-my-island: Maui

Phone: 808 874-8407

SendTestimony: Send Testimony

email: anitabanana@hawaiiantel.net

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**LATE TESTIMONY**

## testimony

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**From:** ajcheney@mac.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2008 4:16 PM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Support for SR 11 & SCR 17

Committee: Senate Water & Land Committee

Committee-Chair: Senator Hee

Hearing-Date: Friday, March 28, at 2:45pm

My\_Testimony\_is: Dear Senator Hee & Members of the Senate Water & Land Committee, I support SR 11 and SCR 17 to urge DLNR/DAR to establish and enforce bag limits on â€œornamentalâ€ reef fish.

Aquarium collectors are now unlimited on Hawaii reefs. Neither the number of collectors nor the number of fish they can take is regulated or limited in Hawaii. Reefs around the world are in peril. No reef extraction should continue without limits and enforcement.

Please urge DLNR/DAR to begin responsible protection of these species and habitats.

Thank you.

Name: Amy Cheney

Name-of-my-island:

Phone: 510-636-0689

SendTestimony: Send Testimony

email: ajcheney@mac.com

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# LATE TESTIMONY

## testimony

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**From:** p.tavares@earthlink.net  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2008 4:16 PM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Support for SR 11 & SCR 17

Committee: Senate Water & Land Committee

Committee-Chair: Senator Hee

Hearing-Date: Friday, March 28, at 2:45pm

My\_Testimony\_is: Dear Senator Hee & Members of the Senate Water & Land Committee,

I support SR 11 and SCR 17 to urge DLNR/DAR to establish and enforce bag limits on a ornamental reef fish.

Aquarium collectors continue to rape our reefs. No reef extraction should continue without limits and enforcement.

It is time to urge DLNR/DAR to begin responsible protection of these species and habitats.

In my decades in Hawaii, I have personally observed the diminishing supply of reef fish when I snorkel. Do we wait till there are none? The time is upon us to do something now to save the reef and the fish. Everything is so interrelated, it becomes an avalanche when one part of an eco system fails, another part begins to fail and so on. You are in a position to do what is pono.

Phyllis Tavares  
Maui-Hawaii  
Name: Phyllis Tavares  
Name-of-my-island: Maui  
Phone: 808 572-3499  
SendTestimony: Send Testimony  
email: p.tavares@earthlink.net

---

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**From:** Tashinaaloha@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2008 4:16 PM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Support for SR 11 & SCR 17

Committee: Senate Water & Land Committee

Committee-Chair: Senator Hee

Hearing-Date: Friday, March 28, at 2:45pm

My Testimony is: Dear Senator Hee & Members of the Senate Water & Land Committee, I support SR 11 and SCR 17 to urge DLNR/DAR to establish and enforce bag limits on a ornamental reef fish.

Aquarium collectors are now unlimited on Hawaii reefs. Neither the number of collectors nor the number of fish they can take is regulated or limited in Hawaii. Reefs around the world are in peril. No reef extraction should continue without limits and enforcement.

Please urge DLNR/DAR to begin responsible protection of these species and habitats.

Thank you.

Name: Tashina Wilkinson

Name-of-my-island: Maui

Phone: 541227-9986

SendTestimony: Send Testimony

email: Tashinaaloha@yahoo.com

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# LATE TESTIMONY

## testimony

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**From:** spiloga@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2008 4:16 PM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Support for SR 11 & SCR 17

Committee: Senate Water & Land Committee

Committee-Chair: Senator Hee

Hearing-Date: Friday, March 28, at 2:45pm

My\_Testimony\_is: Dear Senator Hee & Members of the Senate Water & Land Committee, I support SR 11 and SCR 17 to urge DLNR/DAR to establish and enforce bag limits on â€œornamentalâ€œ reef fish.

Aquarium collectors are now unlimited on Hawaii reefs. Neither the number of collectors nor the number of fish they can take is regulated or limited in Hawaii. Reefs around the world are in peril. No reef extraction should continue without limits and enforcement.

Please urge DLNR/DAR to begin responsible protection of these species and habitats.

Thank you.

Name: mary sherman

Name-of-my-island: california

Phone: 4152150957

SendTestimony: Send Testimony

email: spiloga@yahoo.com

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## testimony

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**From:** mel\_s\_gbf@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2008 4:31 PM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Support for SR 11 & SCR 17

Committee: Senate Water & Land Committee

Committee-Chair: Senator Hee

Hearing-Date: Friday, March 28, at 2:45pm

My Testimony is: Dear Senator Hee & Members of the Senate Water & Land Committee, I support SR 11 and SCR 17 to urge DLNR/DAR to establish and enforce bag limits on ornamental reef fish.

Aquarium collectors are now unlimited on Hawaii reefs. Neither the number of collectors nor the number of fish they can take is regulated or limited in Hawaii. Reefs around the world are in peril. No reef extraction should continue without limits and enforcement.

Please urge DLNR/DAR to begin responsible protection of these species and habitats.

Thank you.

Name: Melanie Stephens

Name-of-my-island: Maui

Phone: 808 573 9260

SendTestimony: Send Testimony

email: mel\_s\_gbf@yahoo.com

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## testimony

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**From:** explormau@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2008 4:45 PM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Support for SR 11 & SCR 17

**LATE TESTIMONY**

Committee: Senate Water & Land Committee

Committee-Chair: Senator Hee

Hearing-Date: Friday, March 28, at 2:45pm

My\_Testimony\_is: Dear Senator Hee & Members of the Senate Water & Land Committee, I support SR 11 and SCR 17 to urge DLNR/DAR to establish and enforce bag limits on a ornamental reef fish.

Aquarium collectors are now unlimited on Hawaii reefs. Neither the number of collectors nor the number of fish they can take is regulated or limited in Hawaii. Reefs around the world are in peril. No reef extraction should continue without limits and enforcement.

Please urge DLNR/DAR to begin responsible protection of these species and habitats.

Thank you. MiQe Klemme

Name: MiQe Klemme

Name-of-my-island: Maui

Phone: 808-875-6181

SendTestimony: Send Testimony

email: explormau@yahoo.com

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**testimony**

**LATE TESTIMONY**

**From:** lori.higgins1@mac.com  
**Sent:** Friday, March 28, 2008 7:31 AM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Support for SR 11 & SCR 17

Committee: Senate Water & Land Committee

Committee-Chair: Senator Hee

Hearing-Date: Friday, March 28, at 2:45pm

My\_Testimony\_is: Dear Senator Hee & Members of the Senate Water & Land Committee, I support SR 11 and SCR 17 to urge DLNR/DAR to establish and enforce bag limits on â€œornamentalâ€œ reef fish.

Aquarium collectors are now unlimited on Hawaii reefs. Neither the number of collectors nor the number of fish they can take is regulated or limited in Hawaii. Reefs around the world are in peril. No reef extraction should continue without limits and enforcement.

Please urge DLNR/DAR to begin responsible protection of these species and habitats.

Thank you.

Name: Lori Higgins

Name-of-my-island: Maui

Phone: 808-268-0756

SendTestimony: Send Testimony

email: lori.higgins1@mac.com

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## testimony

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**From:** lynn.all@maui.net  
**Sent:** Friday, March 28, 2008 6:31 AM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Support for SR 11 & SCR 17

**LATE TESTIMONY**

Committee: Senate Water & Land Committee

Committee-Chair: Senator Hee

Hearing-Date: Friday, March 28, at 2:45pm

My Testimony is: Dear Senator Hee & Members of the Senate Water & Land Committee, I support SR 11 and SCR 17 to urge DLNR/DAR to establish and enforce bag limits on ornamental reef fish.

Aquarium collectors are now unlimited on Hawaii reefs. Neither the number of collectors nor the number of fish they can take is regulated or limited in Hawaii. Reefs around the world are in peril. No reef extraction should continue without limits and enforcement.

Please urge DLNR/DAR to begin responsible protection of these species and habitats.

Thank you.

Name: Lynn Allen

Name-of-my-island: Maui

Phone: 283-5371

SendTestimony: Send Testimony

email: lynn.all@maui.net

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## testimony

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**From:** email@markschacht.com  
**Sent:** Friday, March 28, 2008 4:01 AM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Support for SR 11 & SCR 17

**LATE TESTIMONY**

Committee: Senate Water & Land Committee

Committee-Chair: Senator Hee

Hearing-Date: Friday, March 28, at 2:45pm

My\_Testimony\_is: Dear Senator Hee & Members of the Senate Water & Land Committee, I support SR 11 and SCR 17 to urge DLNR/DAR to establish and enforce bag limits on â€œornamentalâ€ reef fish.

Aquarium collectors are now unlimited on Hawaii reefs. Neither the number of collectors nor the number of fish they can take is regulated or limited in Hawaii. Reefs around the world are in peril. No reef extraction should continue without limits and enforcement.

Please urge DLNR/DAR to begin responsible protection of these species and habitats.

Thank you.

Name: Mark Schacht/Green Divers Productions

Name-of-my-island: California

Phone: 510-812-5399

SendTestimony: Send Testimony

email: email@markschacht.com

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## testimony

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**From:** christine@facesinnature.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2008 10:46 PM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Support for SR 11 & SCR 17

## LATE TESTIMONY

Committee: Senate Water & Land Committee

Committee-Chair: Senator Hee

Hearing-Date: Friday, March 28, at 2:45pm

My\_Testimony\_is: Dear Senator Hee & Members of the Senate Water & Land Committee, I support SR 11 and SCR 17 to urge DLNR/DAR to establish and enforce bag limits on â€œornamentalâ€œ reef fish.

There are so many people unaware of or unconcerned about the status of our resources that they overfish or destroy, just like the elderly people who handed me a can of Cheeze Whiz one day to feed the fish because, they said, the fish love this stuff!

Can you believe it? Well no, I couldn't either but it's true, WE MUST PROTECT OUR RESOURCES!!! As well, we would love to FINALLY have the PSA on the airplanes that make this happen. It is really SO EASY!

What are you waiting for? Stocks to disappear altogether before you use the power you were elected to use for the people, not just the special interests.

Aquarium collectors are now unlimited on Hawaii reefs. Neither the number of collectors nor the number of fish they can take is regulated or limited in Hawaii. Reefs around the world are in peril. No reef extraction should continue without limits and enforcement.

Please urge DLNR/DAR to begin responsible protection of these species and habitats.

Thank you.

Name: Christine Nonnenmacher

Name-of-my-island: Maui

Phone: 808-276-8250

SendTestimony: Send Testimony

email: christine@facesinnature.com

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## testimony

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**From:** tonyh@hawaii.rr.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2008 8:01 PM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Support for SR 11 & SCR 17

Committee: Senate Water & Land Committee

Committee-Chair: Senator Hee

Hearing-Date: Friday, March 28, at 2:45pm

My\_Testimony\_is: Dear Senator Hee & Members of the Senate Water & Land Committee, I support SR 11 and SCR 17 to urge DLNR/DAR to establish and enforce bag limits on â€œornamentalâ€ reef fish.

Aquarium collectors are now unlimited on Hawaii reefs. Neither the number of collectors nor the number of fish they can take is regulated or limited in Hawaii. Reefs around the world are in peril. No reef extraction should continue without limits and enforcement.

These protections are very important for the health of Hawai'i's reef habitats. The reefs and wildlife of Hawai'i are so important to both locals and visitors. Our future and economy are tied to the health of our environment. Please take this opportunity to protect our reefs.

Mahalo,

Tonghi Hall

Name: Tonghi Hall

Name-of-my-island: Oahu

Phone: 923-1077

SendTestimony: Send Testimony

email: tonyh@hawaii.rr.com

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# LATE TESTIMONY

## testimony

---

**From:** testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2008 7:31 PM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Support for SR 11 & SCR 17

Committee: Senate Water & Land Committee

Committee-Chair: Senator Hee

Hearing-Date: Friday, March 28, at 2:45pm

My\_Testimony\_is: Dear Senator Hee & Members of the Senate Water & Land Committee, I support SR 11 and SCR 17 to urge DLNR/DAR to establish and enforce bag limits on a "ornamental" reef fish.

Aquarium collectors are now unlimited on Hawaii reefs. Neither the number of collectors nor the number of fish they can take is regulated or limited in Hawaii. Reefs around the world are in peril. No reef extraction should continue without limits and enforcement.

Please urge DLNR/DAR to begin responsible protection of these species and habitats.

Thank you.

Name: Marc Morris

Name-of-my-island:

Phone:

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email:

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# LATE TESTIMONY

## testimony

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**From:** djwerner@ix.netcom.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2008 7:16 PM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Support for SR 11 & SCR 17

Committee: Senate Water & Land Committee

Committee-Chair: Senator Hee

Hearing-Date: Friday, March 28, at 2:45pm

My\_Testimony\_is: Dear Senator Hee & Members of the Senate Water & Land Committee, I support SR 11 and SCR 17 to urge DLNR/DAR to establish and enforce bag limits on â€œornamentalâ€œ reef fish.

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Please urge DLNR/DAR to begin responsible protection of these species and habitats.

Thank you.

Name: Donna Werner

Name-of-my-island: Maui

Phone: 808-879-5527

SendTestimony: Send Testimony

email: djwerner@ix.netcom.com

-----  
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**From:** joanl@snorkelbob.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2008 5:01 PM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Support for SR 11 & SCR 17

Committee: Senate Water & Land Committee

Committee-Chair: Senator Hee

Hearing-Date: Friday, March 28, at 2:45pm

My\_Testimony\_is: Dear Senator Hee & Members of the Senate Water & Land Committee, I support SR 11 and SCR 17 to urge DLNR/DAR to establish and enforce bag limits on â€œornamentalâ€œ reef fish.

Aquarium collectors are now unlimited on Hawaii reefs. Neither the number of collectors nor the number of fish they can take is regulated or limited in Hawaii. Reefs around the world are in peril. No reef extraction should continue without limits and enforcement.

Please urge DLNR/DAR to begin responsible protection of these species and habitats.

Thank you.

Name: Joan Lloyd

Name-of-my-island: Maui

Phone: (808)269-0102

SendTestimony: Send Testimony

email: joanl@snorkelbob.com

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# LATE TESTIMONY

Diane Garrison

Volunteer with Reef Check Hawaii on Kauai

808 742 7046

**Support for S.R. No. 11 and SCR No. 17, Urging the Department of Land and Natural Resources to develop and adopt administrative rules regarding the creation and enforcement of bag limits for ornamental reef fish.**

I am a volunteer with Reef Check Hawai'i, a non-profit community-based coral reef conservation and education program that conducts surveys of coral reefs in our local waters. I support Senate Resolution 11 and Senate Concurrent Resolution 17.

I believe that effective management of the marine aquarium trade is necessary, including the establishment of bag limits as required to reestablish the fish populations that are an essential component of a healthy reef ecosystem. Hawai'i's coral reefs are important resources that protect our shores from erosion, contribute millions of dollars to our economy, provide food and recreation for the people who live here, and serve as the foundation for our unique island lifestyle. We must protect these important natural resources.

Earlier this year, the legislature recognized that 2008 has been designated as the International Year of the Reef. Resolutions S.R. No. 11 and SCR No. 17 translate this recognition into action by helping our islands to sustainably manage important natural resources that are being overexploited to the detriment of the reef. I urge the committee to pass S.R. No. 11 and SCR No. 17.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Diane Garrison

Email to: Testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Fax: 586-6659  
Neighbor Islands Fax: 1-800-586-6659

LATE TESTIMONY

**Ryan Pierce**  
**Volunteer with Reef Check Hawai'i on (Oahu)**  
**808-343-3036**

**Support for S.R. No. 11 and SCR No. 17, Urging the Department of Land and Natural Resources to develop and adopt administrative rules regarding the creation and enforcement of bag limits for ornamental reef fish.**

I am a volunteer with Reef Check Hawai'i, a non-profit community-based coral reef conservation and education program that conducts surveys of coral reefs in our local waters. I support Senate Resolution 11 and Senate Concurrent Resolution 17.

I believe that effective management of the marine aquarium trade is necessary, including the establishment of bag limits as required to reestablish the fish populations that are an essential component of a healthy reef ecosystem. Hawai'i's coral reefs are important resources that protect our shores from erosion, contribute millions of dollars to our economy, provide food and recreation for the people who live here, and serve as the foundation for our unique island lifestyle. We must protect these important natural resources.

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Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Ryan Pierce

# LATE TESTIMONY

## testimony

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**From:** Wanda Rowan [wander\_rowan@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 28, 2008 8:25 AM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Committee on Water & Land, Friday, March 28, 2008, 2:45 p.m.

**Wanda Rowan**  
**Volunteer with Reef Check Hawai'i on Big Island**  
**71-1622 Puu Lani Place**  
**Kailua-Kona, HI 96740**

**Support for S.R. No. 11 and SCR No. 17, Urging the Department of Land and Natural Resources to develop and adopt administrative rules regarding the creation and enforcement of bag limits for ornamental reef fish.**

I am a volunteer with Reef Check Hawai'i, a non-profit community-based coral reef conservation and education program that conducts surveys of coral reefs in our local waters. I support Senate Resolution 11 and Senate Concurrent Resolution 17.

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Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Wanda Rowan

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*"The cure for anything is salt water; sweat, tears or the sea." - Isak Dinesen*

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# LATE TESTIMONY

## testimony

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**From:** Joakim Hjelm [joakim\_hjelm@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 28, 2008 9:02 AM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Support for S.R. No. 11 and SCR No. 17, hearing this Friday, March 28, at 2:45

**Joakim Hjelm**  
**Volunteer with Reef Check Hawai'i on (Island)**  
**808-224-0309**  
**2409 Holomua Pl, Honolulu, HI 96816**

**Support for S.R. No. 11 and SCR No. 17, Urging the Department of Land and Natural Resources to develop and adopt administrative rules regarding the creation and enforcement of bag limits for ornamental reef fish.**

I am a volunteer with Reef Check Hawai'i, a non-profit community-based coral reef conservation and education program that conducts surveys of coral reefs in our local waters. I support Senate Resolution 11 and Senate Concurrent Resolution 17.

I believe that effective management of the marine aquarium trade is necessary, including the establishment of bag limits as required to reestablish the fish populations that are an essential component of a healthy reef ecosystem. Hawai'i's coral reefs are important resources that protect our shores from erosion, contribute millions of dollars to our economy, provide food and recreation for the people who live here, and serve as the foundation for our unique island lifestyle. We must protect these important natural resources.

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Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Joakim Hjelm

Elaine Blank

Volunteer with Reef Check Hawai'i on (Big Island of Hawaii)  
75-217 Nani Kailua Kona Dr. #140 Kailua Kona, HI 96740

Deleted: Your name

Deleted: Your contact number or  
address

**Support for S.R. No. 11 and SCR No. 17, Urging the Department of Land and Natural Resources to develop and adopt administrative rules regarding the creation and enforcement of bag limits for ornamental reef fish.**

I am a volunteer with Reef Check Hawai'i, a non-profit community-based coral reef conservation and education program that conducts surveys of coral reefs in our local waters. I support Senate Resolution 11 and Senate Concurrent Resolution 17.

I believe that effective management of the marine aquarium trade is necessary, including the establishment of bag limits as required to reestablish the fish populations that are an essential component of a healthy reef ecosystem. Hawai'i's coral reefs are important resources that protect our shores from erosion, contribute millions of dollars to our economy, provide food and recreation for the people who live here, and serve as the foundation for our unique island lifestyle. We must protect these important natural resources.

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Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Elaine Blank

Deleted: Insert Your Name

**LATE TESTIMONY**

## testimony

---

**From:** Terry Shimabukuro [shimabukurot@asme.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 28, 2008 10:23 AM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Support for S.R. No. 11 and SCR No. 17

Terry Shimabukuro  
Volunteer with Reef Check Hawaii on Oahu  
92-108 Puliko Pl  
Kapolei, HI 96707-2315

**LATE TESTIMONY**

Support for S.R. No. 11 and SCR No. 17, Urging the Department of Land and Natural Resources to develop and adopt administrative rules regarding the creation and enforcement of bag limits for ornamental reef fish.

I am an avid kayaker, responsible fisherman and snorkeler. I have recently volunteered with Reef Check Hawaii on Oahu and have been made aware of Senate Resolution 11 and Senate Concurrent Resolution 17. I support both of these resolutions.

As a child I have many fond memories of fishing along the shoreline with family and friends. I was not able to pass this enjoyment on to my son because there are so few fish to catch that it was too boring for him as a child. A couple of years ago my family spent a weekend at Kawela Bay.

This small, isolated bay on Oahu's North Shore should be teeming with ocean fauna. I was wholeheartedly disappointed by the lack of marine life in this beautiful bay.

I believe that effective management of the marine aquarium trade is necessary, including the establishment of bag limits as required to reestablish the fish populations that are an essential component of a healthy reef ecosystem. Hawaii's coral reefs are important resources that protect our shores from erosion, contribute millions of dollars to our economy, provide food and recreation for the people who live here, and serve as the foundation for our unique island lifestyle. We must protect these important natural resources.

Earlier this year, the legislature recognized that 2008 has been designated at the International Year of the Reef. Resolutions S.R. No. 11 and SCR No. 17 translate this recognition into action by helping our islands to sustainably manage important natural resources that are being overexploited to the detriment of the reef. I urge the committee to pass S.R. No. 11 and SCR No. 17.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,  
Terry Shimabukuro

testimony

**LATE TESTIMONY**

**From:** Mel [melhono@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 28, 2008 10:18 AM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND SR11 and SR17

COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND  
SR11 and SR17

Hearing

**DATE:** Friday, March 28, 2008  
**TIME:** 2:45 p.m.  
**PLACE:** Conference Room 414

**Support for S.R. No. 11 and SCR No. 17, Urging the Department of Land and Natural Resources to develop and adopt administrative rules regarding the creation and enforcement of bag limits for ornamental reef fish.**

I am a volunteer with Reef Check Hawai'i, a non-profit community-based coral reef conservation and education program that conducts surveys of coral reefs in our local waters. I support Senate Resolution 11 and Senate Concurrent Resolution 17.

I believe that effective management of the marine aquarium trade is necessary, including the establishment of bag limits as required to reestablish the fish populations that are an essential component of a healthy reef ecosystem. Hawai'i's coral reefs are important resources that protect our shores from erosion, contribute millions of dollars to our economy, provide food and recreation for the people who live here, and serve as the foundation for our unique island lifestyle. We must protect these important natural resources.

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Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Mel Wilson

Volunteer with Reef Check Hawai'i on Oahu

# LATE TESTIMONY

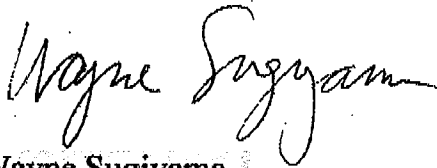
Committee on Water and Land

March 28, 2008

2:45 p.m.

Dear Chairman Hee,

I am in SUPPORT OF S.C.R. NO. 17, but with removal of any reference to bag limits. DLNR already is working on ornamental fish regulations and this would conflict with their program.



Wayne Sugiyama



Email to: Testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Fax: 586-6659  
Neighbor Islands Fax: 1-800-586-6659

LATE TESTIMONY

**Dea L. Hollingsworth**  
**Director, Reef Check Hawai'i**

RCH: 4224 Waialae Ave Suite 621  
Honolulu, HI 96816

Home: 337 A Kalama Street  
Kailua, HI 96734  
808-263-2521

**Support for S.R. No. 11 and SCR No. 17, Urging the Department of Land and Natural Resources to develop and adopt administrative rules regarding the creation and enforcement of bag limits for ornamental reef fish.**

Reef Check is a non-profit community-based coral reef monitoring and education program that strives to conserve tropical coral reef ecosystems. Reef Check operates in over 80 countries worldwide, and is the United Nations' official community-based reef monitoring program.

Reef Check Hawai'i, the Hawai'i affiliate of the Reef Check foundation, strives to

- A) educate the people of Hawai'i about the importance and value of coral reefs;
- B) create a regional network of volunteer teams, trained and led by scientists, that regularly monitor and report on reef health using a standard method;
- C) facilitate collaborative use of reef health information by community groups, governmental agencies, universities and businesses to design and implement ecologically sustainable solutions;
- D) stimulate local action to promote reef conservation and protect remaining pristine reefs and rehabilitate damaged reefs in the Hawaiian Islands.

One component of the Reef Check monitoring protocol is a fish transect that quantifies the presence or absence of key indicator fish species. These fish were chosen because they represent fish that are A) heavily targeted by marine aquarium collectors; B) prized food fish; or C) are introduced, invasive alien fish species.

The general theme for the sites our volunteers have surveyed is the complete absence or extremely low abundance of indicator fish that belong to the first two categories (i.e., targeted by marine aquarium collectors or prized food fish).

Therefore, I support S.R. No. 11 and SCR No. 17, which urges the Department of Land and Natural Resources to develop and adopt administrative rules regarding the collection of ornamental reef fish for aquarium trade from the waters of Hawai'i, including creation and enforcement of bag limits.

I believe that effective management of the marine aquarium trade is necessary, including the establishment of bag limits as required to reestablish the fish populations that are an essential component of a healthy reef ecosystem. Hawai'i's coral reefs are important resources that protect our shores from erosion, contribute millions of dollars to our economy, provide food and

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Fax: 586-6659  
Neighbor Islands Fax: 1-800-586-6659

recreation for the people who live here, and serve as the foundation for our unique island lifestyle. We must protect these important natural resources.

Earlier this year, the legislature recognized that 2008 has been designated at the International Year of the Reef. Resolutions S.R. No. 11 and SCR No. 17 translate this recognition into action by helping our islands to sustainably manage important natural resources that are being overexploited to the detriment of the reef. I urge the committee to pass S.R. No. 11 and SCR No. 17.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Lea L. Hollingsworth". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, prominent initial "L".

Lea L. Hollingsworth

testimony

LATE TESTIMONY

**From:** ogmots@aol.com  
**Sent:** Friday, March 28, 2008 12:31 PM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Support for SR 11 & SCR 17

Committee: Senate Water & Land Committee

Committee-Chair: Senator Hee

Hearing-Date: Friday, March 28, at 2:45pm

My\_Testimony\_is: Dear Senator Hee & Members of the Senate Water & Land Committee, I support SR 11 and SCR 17 to urge DLNR/DAR to establish and enforce bag limits on â€œornamentalâ€œ reef fish.

Aquarium collectors are now unlimited on Hawaii reefs. Neither the number of collectors nor the number of fish they can take is regulated or limited in Hawaii. Reefs around the world are in peril. No reef extraction should continue without limits and enforcement.

Please urge DLNR/DAR to begin responsible protection of these species and habitats.

Thank you.

Name: Chaz Dryden

Name-of-my-island: Maui

Phone: 808-385-6422

SendTestimony: Send Testimony

email: ogmots@aol.com

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This e-mail was generated from a form submission on your website:  
savehawaiianreefs.org

# LATE TESTIMONY

## testimony

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**From:** Ron Tubbs [rtmb@hawaiiantel.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 28, 2008 12:45 PM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Opposed to SCR 17 and SCR 11 WLO committee Rm 414 2:45 pm 3-28-08

From Ron Tubbs B.S. N.D. UHM (8 Years Ecology and Marine Biology)  
 Tropical Fish Diver for 28 years  
 HTFA, RT Distributors

Dear Senator Hee,

There are major restrictions on aquarium fish caught already-boats are limited to on average 75 fish per load. It takes 300 gallons of water to keep this many fish alive. This is all the space a 20 foot boat can handle. If the fish are larger then 25 to 50 are all that can be transported efficiently. It is not like eating fish where a cooler can hold alot of dead fish. Diving lasts 10 to 45 minutes with one hour at least decompression time between dives. This limits diver's catch and ability to take very many fish. This plus the fact that 80 to 90 percent of the main Hawaiian Islands are untouched by tropical fish divers makes bag limits not a good idea! It is unfair to pick on such a small industry while eating fish takers have no intention of bag limits. **TO BE FAIR BAG LIMITS SHOULD APPLY TO ALL NOT JUST A SELECT FEW. ACLU WOULD NOT APPROVE!**

I would like to share some information with you regarding Bag Limits on Aquarium fish. As a UH graduate I hope you will see through the inaccuracies and lies of Snorkle Bob's, his website, and others supporting this bill. They are good intentioned but uneducated in this area. This bill would basically close the Aquarium fish industry. Competition from abroad and costs would prohibit the business with such a small catch limit. I am an ecologist with 8 years of college from UH. I am also an aquarium fish collector. I am biased in favor of the aquarium fish industry. For this reason I will stick only to some **important facts** regarding this bill.

The State of Hawaii has the strictest laws of any State in the US. Aquarium fish taking is highly regulated and they answer to Fish and Wildlife, DNLN enforcement, Department of Agriculture and the USDA. Tropical fish require Veterinarian inspections when shipped to certain areas. Health and quality of fish is everything. Size limits, preserves, Marine Protected Areas, and nearly 100 laws regulate Tropical fish collecting.

**THE BIG QUESTION IS SUSTAINABILITY? Marine fish are THE MOST RENEWABLE RESOURCE.** Marine fish are the most efficient breeders on the planet. Each species can spread or lay **several hundred thousand to half a million eggs at one breeding**. Fish breed once to twice a year and most can reach breeding size in one year. Large overpopulation fish blooms occur –in 2003 very large population occurred in the Aweoweo, Yellow tang, Morish idols and Potters angels. Reports of this bloom were reported in the news and media. The ocean covers most of this planet with fish out numbering any other species on earth. Hawaii has over 4508 square miles of dive able ocean. Most of the Hawaiian Islands are untouched by Tropical fish collecting. Collecting is limited to patches on the Kailua Kona coast (30% of which is protected by MPA - Marine Protected Areas) and West and South shores of Oahu. Some patches of other areas are fished occasionally. **EIGHTY PERCENT OF THE BIG ISLAND, ALMOST ALL MAUI, ALL MOLOKAI, ALL KAHOO LAWE, ALL LANAI, ALL MOLOKAI, 50% OAHU, ALL KAUAI, ALL NIIHAU AND THE NORTHWEST HAWAIIAN ISLANDS ARE NOT FISHED BY TROPICAL FISH DIVERS.** 2001 and 2002 Great annual fish counts conducted on several islands ([www.reef.org](http://www.reef.org)) showed an increase of fish in areas counted by 2% to 23% for most species showing **an overall increase in State's fish populations.** The DNLN 3 million MPA study showed an increase there as well (some species declined in counts there due to overpopulation-species crowding-ecosystems can only support a certain population). UH fish counts in Kaneohe Bay show fish increases and fish counts at all artificial reefs like the YO57 ship off Waikiki show

increased fish counts. **THERE IS NO SCIENTIFIC DATA SHOWING POPULATION SCARCITY FROM TROPICAL FISH COLLECTING. NO FISH IN HAWAII HAS BECOME EXTINCT!**

**One of DNLN's next steps is regulations based on data regarding species of significant interest. Tropical Fish Collectors support protecting species which have population declines or are in need of protection due to possible extinction. I am sure the DNLN will introduce legislation after their scientific studies. THIS WOULD SOLVE ANY PROBLEMS REGARDING BAG LIMITS WHICH HAVE BEEN PROPOSED. See DNLN website for more info.**

**There are at most 60 divers in all Hawaii who collect tropical fish.** More are licensed but dive rarely if at all. There are far more ex tropical fish diver permits than current divers. Most of these have side jobs or cannot dive full time due to weather restrictions. Collectors rotate their spots and have been in business for as long as 40 years. Tropical fish collectors make money long term diving the same rotated areas. Due to decompression limits a diver can cover at most 50 square feet per dive at 60 feet with a 2-4 dives a day limit. Divers go out just a few days a week. Fish are smart and run from the divers. Hiding spaces, coral, artificial reefs, rocks ect. prevent the capture of most fish in any area. Big breeders take up too much space in the catch bucket so abundant smaller fish are caught. Most small fish do not reach adulthood due to predators and food supply. In the long run overall populations are not impacted. It would be impossible to catch all fish from one area. Divers have an interest to leave breeders to increase populations. Rotating spots insures future money from diving. **HAWAII HAS 28 MILLION SQUARE FEET OF DIVE ABLE OCEAN.**

**THE POOR LITTLE FISH.** Aquarium fish hobbyists spend a lot of money to keep the fish they buy healthy and happy. Enriched foods, controlled environments, medications and lack of predators greatly increase the lifespan of fish. Breeders are successfully breeding many species caught in Hawaii and may become future main suppliers for Hawaiian indigenous fish. Local fish have been kept alive for 12 years. This same fish normally could only survive in the wild for a couple years. Tropical fish divers only get paid for live healthy fish so care and health is the only way to make money in the business.

**THE INDUSTRY IS DECLINEING IN DEMAND FOR TROPICAL FISH.** THE SAME FISH THAT COME FROM HAWAII ARE SOLD FROM INDONESIA AND THE PHILIPINES FOR .25 CENT TO JUST ONE DOLLAR. COMPUTERS AND ADVANCES IN MEDIA HAVE DRASTICALLY REDUCED THE MARKET FOR TROPICAL FISH. MOST OF THE YEAR DIVERS ARE TOLD NOT TO DIVE AS THERE IS NOT ENOUGH DEMAND FOR THE FISH. DNLN FISH COUNTS HAVE SHOWN INCREASED FISH COUNTS DUE TO MANDATORY FILING OF FISH CATCH REPORTS (A COUPLE OF YEARS AGO RULES ENACTED STATE: IF YOU DO NOT FILE-PERMITS ARE NOT RENEWED). **In actuality fish catches have declined and demand has declined. The industry has seen many divers and wholesalers leave the business.**

Increased laws have also played a role in the decline of the industry.

**THERE IS SO MUCH MISINFORMATION REGARDING TROPICAL FISH COLLECTING THAT IT WOULD TAKE PAGES MORE TO COVER IT ALL. PLEASE RESPOND TO THIS EMAIL WITH ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS. FISH COUNTS AND PAPPERS CAN BE SUPPLIED TO BACK UP THE ABOVE FACTS UPON REQUEST. THE SYNOPSIS IS WE CAN HAVE A SUSTAINABLE TROPICAL FISH INDUSTRY WITH NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND THIS POTENTIAL LAW WOULD KILL ANY FUTURE OF THIS BISNESS.**

**Scientific based laws are needed to protect fish and Hawaii's oceans. THIS LAW WAS INTRODUCED TO ELIMINATE ALL TROPICAL FISH COLLECTORS.**

**Ron Tubbs**

**Hawaii Tropical Fish Association**

**LATE TESTIMONY****testimony**

**From:** ~~Ron Fudge~~ [rtmb@hawaiiantel.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 28, 2008 12:41 PM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** SCR 17 OPPOSED WLO committee Rm 414 2:45 PM 3-28-08

**Respectfully Submitted by Adam Snodgrass, Hawaiian Diver/Fisherman**

**AS A HAWAIIAN Opposed to SCR 11 and SCR 17  
 To the WLO Committee,**

**I thought the WLO committee and Senator Hee opposed closing the Aquarium fish industry and that you considered Bag Limits ineffective. When you changed SB 3225 from bag limits to 30% closure thus opposing bag limits this was the opinion we got. Now SCR 17 is being introduced?**

**I now dive on the Big Island and we could not survive with a bag limit. To afford the gas to go further due to 30% closures we must stay out for days and have specially modified bigger boats to hold the larger loads. Bag limits would kill the Big Island sustainable tropical fish industry-DNLR FISH COUNTS SHOW ALL FISH INCREASING!! WHY BAG LIMITS??**

**We are already suffering with an ineffective 30% closure.**

**As a diver and fisherman for ten years I have seen an increase in the fish population on the Waianae coast and now on the Kailua Kona coast. Every year I see an abundance of species blooming. In 2006 Potters bloomed on the west coast of Oahu. They are still very abundant more than I have seen in ten years.**

**I also see tourism using more of the ocean resources, like with the Dolphin Excursions, and dive charters, etc... Waianae has (4) 100ft. ships that go out daily full of tourists between Waianae and Koalina! You don't hear any complaints from them about not seeing any fish, do you? No, what you hear is complaints about how much rubbish is in the ocean, from all the runoff from the canals and developments. I believe a major driving force behind this bill is the tourist industry, which has hired ecologists to propose this bill. The need for this bill, is unfounded.**

**I do not understand what this bill is going to accomplish other than hurting everybody.**

**My livelihood depends on the natural resources from the ocean, as did my father's. If this bill does go into effect it will hurt me and my children's children. I am strongly against this bill because my life is based on the ocean, and I know nothing else, being born and raised Hawaiian, and currently residing in Kailua, Kona but originally from the Waianae Coast, where jobs are scarce.**

**I am diversified by aquarium fish diving and commercial (eating) fishing, but this bill would hurt both of these occupations, leaving me with no choice but to collect assistance from the state, an option which I have worked hard to avoid.**

**In the Big Island, 80% of the island was not left for open usage, with only 20% of one area left in preserve. Instead, they tricked the people, and took 20% of the coastline on each side of each harbor, leaving fishermen to have to travel generally 20 miles on the water before they can fish. What was once a day trip, now has to generally be an overnight trip, motoring or diving to**

**an available area. This is such a hardship. If this bill goes through, I can't see myself being able to survive – what with paying for the gas, expenses, and being away from my family for so long. Please pass legislation which provides reasonable scientific processes before legislation is passed. Please use the same process to review and remove non effective or outdated legislation.**

**Adam Snodgrass  
Tropical Fish Diver  
HTFA Member**



LIVE TESTIMONY

Committee on Water and Land

March 28, 2008

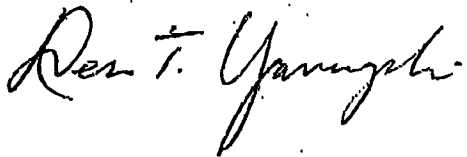
2:45 p.m.

Dear Chairman Hee,

I support S.C.R. No. 17, but any and all reference to bag limits needs to be taken off this resolution.

DLNR already is working on regulations for ornamental fish and this would conflict with their plans for bag limits.

Dennis Yamaguchi



Committee on Water and Land

LATE TESTIMONY

March 28, 2008

2:45 p.m.

Dear Chairman Hee,

I am in **SUPPORT OF** S.C.R. NO. 17, but the reference to bag limits on the second page, second to last paragraph needs to be removed.

DLNR already is working on ornamental fish regulations and this would conflict with their plans for bag limits.

*Carina Sugiyama*  
**Carina Sugiyama**

# LIE TESTIMONY

## testimony

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**From:** [REDACTED]mb@hawaiiantel.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 28, 2008 12:59 PM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** NO TO SCR 17, WLO Room 414 2:45pm 3-28-08

### Testimony Opposed To SCR 17

Hawaii Tropical Fish Association  
Kabua Ntiua  
Aiea, Hawaii

The lies associated with the user conflicts:

- It was reported that 9 million Aquarium fish are taken from Hawaii's waters annually. The truth is approximately 250,000 fish are taken annually. Hawaii Tropical Fish Association-(HTFA) numbers and DNLN estimates are higher due to statistically adjusted for non reporting but are close to HTFA numbers. No where near 9 million!
- Ecology groups have run daily TV commercials claiming 75% of all fish are gone from Hawaii's waters. The true scientific statement was that 75% of the world's oceans have been impacted by man's activities.
- Maui groups say most of the fish are gone and tropical fish divers took them. The truth: The great American Fish Count- sponsored by and done with some of the same groups who oppose tropical fish showed an increase in numbers of identified species on all Islands. Even though the counts were done by amateurs and thus not scientific they are still useful. DNLN Bill Walsh's fish count analysis study, revealed inexperienced people cannot count the fish correctly, that their counts are too low because they cannot identify fish correctly. Thus the counts should actually be higher.

There were so many lies from groups and individuals trying to protect fish at all cost, even to the point of perpetuating lies in numerous media ads, We must slow down, assess the issues and logically and scientifically address the future of our oceans.

# LATE TESTIMONY

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senator Russell S. Kokubun, Vice Chair  
Committee on Water and Land  
Friday, March 28, 2008

In opposition to SR 11 and SCR 17

As an aquarium fish collector on Oahu, I depend upon Hawaii's fish to earn a living. My fellow fishermen and I have no desire to see our resources depleted, and would welcome meaningful regulations to ensure that our fisheries are managed in a sustainable and responsible manner. Appropriate and reasonable regulations will not only help to sustain our business for the future, but ensure that others are able to enjoy our reef fish through ocean recreation and other activities.

However, SR 11 and SCR 17 do not propose appropriate measures for proper management of the aquarium fishery. The key problem with these resolutions is the adoption of bag limits, which have been shown to be an ineffective and inappropriate method of managing commercial fisheries. I would like to remind the committee that, after the hearing for SB 3225 earlier this year, the Water and Land Committee acted on the advice of the DLNR and voted unanimously to remove all mention of bag limits from the bill. A better solution can be found in HCR 347, which proposes a much better approach to creating regulations and has been endorsed by fishermen and environmental groups alike.

I urge the committee to defer SR 11 and SCR 17, and instead endorse HCR 347 when it is passed to the senate. If the committee feels that these resolutions should be passed, please remove the provisions for bag limits.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify,



Matthew Ross

Commercial Aquarium Permit #17653

# LATE TESTIMONY

## testimony

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**From:** [REDACTED]@hawaiiantel.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 28, 2008 1:02 PM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Opposed to SCR 17, 2:45pm, Room 414, 3-28-08

### OPPOSED TO SCR 17

-  
-  
-

Dearest Legislative members,

My name is Mamoa Ntiua, I am from Christmas Island. My husband collects fish from Christmas Island to help and support our family and also our new born child. About eighty percent of our countries economy depends on tropical fish. All these tropical fish are sold to the Hawaiian Marine Fish Wholesalers. Our whole economy depends on Hawaii's Tropical Fish Industry. Please do not restrict and take away this opportunity away from us for this industry. Like Hawaii our fishing industry has sustained catches for 30 years and more. Aquarium Fish industry is sustainable unless ecology groups are allowed to shut us down. Thanks you for your time.

Respectfully, Mamoa Ntiua /

**LATE TESTIMONY****testimony**

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**From:** [REDACTED] [rtmb@hawaiiantel.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 28, 2008 1:03 PM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Do Not Pass SCR 17 , 2:45 3-28-08 ROOM 414

Please vote **NO** to **SCR 17**

I love and care for tropical fish 24/7. I own an aquarium fish shop and rely on these fish to feed my family and pay my bills, as well as my suppliers. You may see those making aquariums and order aquarium supplies for these fish and also rely on their business. This billion dollar industry needs your support in this time of economic down turn.

We take very good care of our tropical fish. there's many different lines of tropical fish specialty foods. Our fish are well fed and taken care of. None suffer and very few die. We have a 99% arrive alive rate and have been in business for 21 years read Thanks for listening to what I had to say. I gladly appreciate it.

Sincerely Yours,

**Milly All Seas Fisheries**

# LATE TESTIMONY

## testimony

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**From:** WOWHAWAII@aol.com

**Sent:** Friday, March 28, 2008 12:52 PM

**To:** testimony

**Subject:** WATER AND LAND COMITTEE SCR NO.17 March 28, 2008 2:45PM

Committee Chairman Hee,

With the removal of any reference to bag limits, I am in support of SCR NO. 17

DLNR is already working on their own plan for bag limits, and this would conflict with their program.

Wayne Sugiyama

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Create a Home Theater Like the Pros. [Watch the video on AOL Home.](#)

**LATE TESTIMONY****testimony**

**From:** [REDACTED] [rtmb@hawaiiantel.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 28, 2008 12:52 PM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Opposed to SCR 17 and SCR 113-28-08 Rm 414 2:45 Pm

**OPPOSED TO SCR 17 AND SCR 11**

Dear Senators PLEASE READ,

To place a bag limit of five yellow tangs and twenty fish per day would shut down the tropical fish business(SB 3225). To outlaw the taking of puffers, box fish, potters angel, coralvores and ells just doesn't make since. With such limits divers could not even pay for the truck gas, boat gas, tanks fills and maintenance to get to the fish. The high cost of going out is why dive trips are done only a couple of times a week with many doing overnight trips and sleeping on there boats. Why are we revisiting 3225 baglimits when WLO committee did not pass this last time?

Many Jobs will be lost and economy of Hawaii will suffer as a result. Nearly half the cost of getting a fish to market is for air freight. My business alone spends 140,000 a year to Aloha and Hawaiian Airlines. The other airlines revenues from my business are around 208,000 a year and there are 9 other wholesalers like me. After the 60 divers loose there jobs then around 120 in direct packing, aquarium maintenance and support businesses will also loose there jobs also. In addition box suppliers get 60,000 a year from just my business too. You are talking a lot of jobs before you even consider who we sell the fish too and there employees too.

TO PREVENT THE TAKING OF THE SPACIFIC FISH LISTED SHOWS INGNORANCE OF THE FISH SITUATION REGARDING AQUARIUM FISH. PUFFERS AND BOX FISH ARE POISEN RELEASING FISH. THEY CANNOT BE KEPT WITH OTHER FISH IN A CLOSE OR SMALL AREA. PUFFERS AND BOX FISH ARE SOME OF THE MOST ABUNDANT near shore FISH IN HAWAII!! WHAT IS THE REASON FOR PROTECTING THESE SPECIES WHEN OTHERS ARE IN NEED OF PROTECTION?

WEST HAWAII MARINE FISHERIES COUNSEL AND TROPICAL FISH COLLECTORS HAVE WORKED TOGETHER FOR MONTHS TO MAKE A LIST OF SPECIES OF SIGNIFICANT INTEREST AND DNLR AND NOAA SCIENTISTS ARE DOING THE SAME.

POTTERS JUST HAD A LARGE BLOOM IN POPULATION ON OUR WEST SHORES. MORE POTTERS HAVE BEEN SEEN IN THE PAST TWO YEARS THAN ANYONE HAS SEEN IN TWETY YEARS. POTTERS ARE FOUND ON EVERY ISLAND IN THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS AND ARE LESS ABUNDANT IN SOME PLACES LIKE KONA. SEE FISH CATCH REPORTS COMPARISON DNLR. CLEANER WRASSE DUE TO THERE PARACITE CLEANING AND REEF HEALTH BENEFITS ARE A CONCERN BUT LIKE THE POTTERS THEY ARE VERY ABUNDANT. IT IS THE YEAR OF THE REEF BUT STOP THE TAKING OF ALL CORALVORES? CORALVORES EAT LIVE CORAL AND CONSUME A LOT OF CORAL EVERY YEAR. CORALVORES (WHAT SPECIES ARE WE TALKING ABOUT ANYWAY-WE NEED CLRIFICATION ON THIS). TROPICAL FISH COLLECTORS DO NOT TAKE MANY CORALVORES AS THEY DO POORLY IN NONCORAL AQUARIUMS.

EELS ARE PREDITORS WHICH EAT A LOT OF FISH. TROPICAL FISH COLLECTORS DO NOT TAKE MANY EELS THE ARE NOT AN IMPORTANT ITEM AND THEY ARE ALSO VERY VERY ABUNDANT.

WE DO NOT DIVE IN PRESEVERS AS DOES SNORKLE BOB. FISHERMEN AND DIVE AND SNORKLE GROUPS COMPLAIN THAT THERE ARE NO MORE FISH. Why? FISH RUN FROM DIVERS AND SNORKLERS AND IF NOT LEFT ALONE WILL LEAVE THE AREA. FISHERMEN ARE NOT CATCHING AS MANY FISH AS THEY WERE MANY YEARS AGO IN MANY NEARSHORE ARES DUE TO OVERFISHING THEIR AREAS. This does not mean fish populations have declined as many suggest. FISH ARE ALSO SMART AND WILL BECOME HOOKSMART VERY QUICKLY AND REMOVE THE BAIT WITHOUT TAKING THE HOOK. I HAVE SEEN TOUR BOATS WHO CATCH AND RELEASE FISH AFTER FISHING. THEY GO

3/28/2008



**TO THE SAME PLACES EVERY DAY. THE FISH LOVE THE FREE MEAL BUT KNOW THE HOOK IS THERE. FISH ARE NET SMART TOO. AS TROPICAL FISH DIVERS WE KNOW THEY LEARN VERY QUICKLY HOW TO AVOID THE NET AND DIVERS MUST MOVE ON. THIS ENSURES SURVIVAL OF THE FISH AND FISH SPOT ROTATION. IT IS FOOLISH FOR SOMEONE TO BLAME TROPICAL FISH DIVERS FOR LACK OF FISH IN MARINE PRESERVES.**

**PLEASE DO NOT SUPPORT A BILL LIKE THIS THAT MAKES NO ECOLOGICAL SENSE.**

DNLR and West Hawaii Marine Fisheries Counsel have been working for decades on protecting Hawaii's Marine Resources and one of their next step is Species Of Significant Interest. Bag limits would only eliminate an economically viable, sustainable, renewable resource business.

I would like to share some information with you regarding Bag Limits on Aquarium fish. As a college graduate I hope you will see through the inaccuracies and lies of Snorkle Bobs, his website, and other biased ecology groups supporting this bill. They are good intentioned but uneducated in this area. This bill would basically close the Aquarium fish industry. Competition from abroad and costs would prohibit the business with such a small catch limit. I am an ecologist with 8 years of college from UH. I am also an aquarium fish collector. I am biased in favor of the aquarium fish Industry. For this reason I will stick only to some **important facts** regarding this bill. *INFORMATION TAKEN FROM NUMEROUS RESEARCH STUDIES, MARINE BIOLOGY TEXTS, WEBSITE SOURCES ARE: DNLR, DAR, NOAA, HIMB AND NASA.*

The State of Hawaii has the **strictest laws of any State** in the US. Aquarium fish taking is highly regulated and they answer to Fish and Wildlife, DNLR enforcement, Department of Agriculture and the USDA. Tropical fish require Veterinarian inspections when shipped to certain areas. Health and quality of fish is everything. Size limits, preserves, Marine Protected Areas, and nearly 100 laws regulate Tropical fish collecting.

THE BIG QUESTION IS **SUSTAINABILITY?** **Marine fish are THE MOST RENEWABLE RESOURCE.** Marine fish are the most efficient breeders on the planet. Many species can spread or lay **several hundred thousand to half a million eggs at one breeding.** Most of Hawaii's fish are broadcast breeders repopulating wide areas. Most of Hawaii's fish species are found throughout the South Pacific. Fish breed once to twice a year and most can reach breeding size in one year. Large overpopulation fish blooms occur all the time –in 2003 very large population occurred in the Aweoweo, Yellow tang, Morish idols and Potters angels. Reports of this bloom were reported in the news and media. **Yellow Tang populations are out of control in preserve areas (MPA Marine Protected Areas of Kailua Kona) yellow tang counts are up %48 causing the decline of other species due to food supply ([www.CRAMP.com](http://www.CRAMP.com)) and DNLR website.**

The ocean covers most of this planet with **fish out numbering any other species on earth.** **Hawaii has over 4508 square miles of diveable ocean.** **Hawaii's corals grow 3 to 5 inches a year-** growth dependant on sunlight and depth. . Only very near shore reefs in run off areas with little current are in decline; see ([www.CRAMP.com](http://www.CRAMP.com)) study of Kaneohe and Maui. Hawaii's reef fish do not eat seaweeds which grow as a result of **Eutrophication**-runoff. There is over 6 feet deep of new coral in many of Kaneohe Bays reefs that were dredged in the 1940's. Most of the Hawaiian Islands are untouched by Tropical fish collecting. Collecting is limited to patches on the Kailua Kona coast (30% of which is protected by MPA - Marine Protected Areas) and West and South shores of Oahu. Some patches of other areas are fished occasionally. **EIGHTY FIVE PERCENT OF THE BIG ISLAND, ALMOST ALL MAUI, ALL MOLOKAI, ALL KAHOO LAWE, ALL LANAI, ALL MOLOKAI, 50% OAHU, ALL KAUAI, ALL NIIHAU AND THE NORTHWEST HAWAIIAN ISLANDS ARE NOT FISHED BY TROPICAL FISH DIVERS.** 2001 and 2002 Great annual fish counts conducted on several islands ([www.reef.org](http://www.reef.org)) showed an increase of fish in areas counted by 2% to 23% for most species showing **an overall increase in State's fish populations.** The DNLR 3 million MPA study showed an increase there as well (some species declined in counts there due to overpopulation-species crowding-ecosystems can only support a certain population). UH fish counts in Kaneohe Bay show fish increases and fish counts at all artificial reefs like the YO57 ship off Waikiki show increased fish counts. **THERE IS NO SCIENTIFIC DATA SHOWING POPULATION SCARCITY FROM TROPICAL FISH COLLECTING. NO FISH IN HAWAII HAS BECOME EXTINCT!**

**One of DNLR's next steps is regulations based on data regarding species of significant interest. Tropical Fish Collectors support protecting species which have population declines or are in need of protection due to possible extinction. I am sure the DNLR will introduce legislation after their scientific studies. THIS WOULD SOLVE ANY PROBLEMS REGARDING BAG LIMITS WHICH HAVE BEEN PROPOSED. DNLR website for more info.**

**There are at most 60 divers in all Hawaii who collect tropical fish. The 60 divers are split about evenly**

between Oahu and Kailua Kona. More are licensed but dive rarely if at all. There are far more ex tropical fish diver permits than current divers. Most of these 60 have side jobs or cannot dive full time due to weather restrictions. Collectors rotate their spots and have been in business for as long as 40 years. Tropical fish collectors make money long term diving the same rotated areas. Due to decompression limits a diver can cover at most 50 square feet per dive at 60 feet with a 2-4 dives a day limit. Divers go out just a few days a week. Fish are smart and run from the divers. Hiding spaces, coral, artificial reefs, rocks ect. prevent the capture of most fish in any area. Big breeders take up too much space in the catch bucket so abundant smaller fish are caught. Most small fish do not reach adulthood due to predators and food supply. In the long run overall populations are not impacted. It would be impossible to catch all fish from one area. Divers have an interest to leave breeders to increase populations. Rotating spots insures future money from diving. HAWAII HAS 28 MILLION SQUARE FEET OF DIVE ABLE OCEAN.

**THE POOR LITTLE FISH.** Aquarium fish hobbyists spend a lot of money to keep the fish they buy healthy and happy. Enriched foods, controlled environments, medications and lack of predators greatly increase the lifespan of fish. Breeders are successfully breeding many species caught in Hawaii and may become future main suppliers for Hawaiian indigenous fish. Local fish have been kept alive for 12 years. This same fish normally could only survive in the wild for a couple years. Tropical fish divers only get paid for live healthy fish so care and health is the only way to make money in the business.

**THE INDUSTRY IS DECLINEING IN DEMAND FOR TROPICAL FISH.** THE SAME FISH THAT COME FROM HAWAII ARE SOLD FROM INDONESIA AND THE PHILIPINES FOR .25 CENT TO JUST ONE DOLLAR. COMPUTERS AND ADVANCES IN MEDIA HAVE DRASTICALLY REDUCED THE MARKET FOR TROPICAL FISH. MOST OF THE YEAR DIVERS ARE TOLD NOT TO DIVE AS THERE IS NOT ENOUGH DEMAND FOR THE FISH. DNLR FISH COUNTS HAVE SHOWN INCREASED FISH COUNTS DUE TO MANDITORY FILING OF FISH CATCH REPORTS (A COUPLE OF YEARS AGO RULES ENACTED STATE: IF YOU DO NOT FILE-PERMITS ARE NOT RENEWED). **In actuality fish catches have declined and demand has declined. The industry has seen many divers and wholesalers leave the business.**

Increased laws have also played a role in the decline of the industry. The second largest wholesaler has see a loss of %90 in business and is on the way out right now. He represents one forth of all our business.

THERE IS SO MUCH MISINFORMATION REGARDING TROPICAL FISH COLLECTING THAT IT WOULD TAKE PAGES MORE TO COVER IT ALL. PLEASE RESPOND TO THIS EMAIL WITH ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS. FISH COUNTS AND PAPPERS CAN BE SUPPLIED TO BACK UP THE ABOVE FACTS UPON REQUEST. **THE SYNOPSIS IS WE CAN HAVE A SUSTAINABLE TROPICAL FISH INDUSTRY WITH NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND THIS POTENTIAL LAW WOULD KILL ANY FUTURE OF THIS BISNESS.**

Scientific based laws are needed to protect certain fish and Hawaii's oceans. HTFA (Hawaii Tropical Fish Association) supports species of significant interest and laws protecting Hawaii's reefs. **THIS LAW WAS INTRODUCED TO ELIMINATE ALL TROPICAL FISH COLLECTORS. THE TROPICAL FISH INDUSTRY CAN CONTINUE TO PROVIDE ECONOMIC BENIFIT TO HAWAII FOREVER WITH NO MAJOR IMPACT ON FISH POPULATION. WE NEED WISDOM AND YOUR SUPPORT.**

**Donna Namakin**

Wholesale Fish Importer rep.

# LATE TESTIMONY

## testimony

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**From:** Ron Tades [rtmb@hawaiiantel.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 28, 2008 12:56 PM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** NO to SCR 17 2;45 pm WLO Room 414

**Opposed to SCR 17  
VOTE NO SCR 17**

Dear Representative,

I have already lost \$75, 000 contracts due to People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (P.E.T.A.). They have unfairly targeted the aquarium businesses. Please do not give the ECO groups Hawaii's fisheries. They will not stop and nothing you can do will satisfy them except to close down a business. God gave the right to maternally care for his creatures and given by the fact that they will be taken away. These creatures would be able to have a safer home by which my family, my friends, my business associates, and I are willing to provide.

Respectfully,  
Greg Tades In Inc.

# LATE TESTIMONY

**David A. Krupp, Ph.D.**  
**Professor of Marine and Biological Sciences**

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Windward Community College  
45-720 Kea'ahala Road  
Kāne'ohe, HI 96816  
(808)-236-9121

Home: 337A Kalama Street  
Kailua, HI 96734  
(808)-286-5198

**Support for S.R. No. 11 and SCR No. 17, Urging the Department of Land and Natural Resources to develop and adopt administrative rules regarding the creation and enforcement of bag limits for ornamental reef fish.**

I am a coral reef biologist teaching marine and biological sciences and coordinating the Pacific Center for Environmental Studies (PaCES) and Marine Option Program at Windward Community College. I also hold an Affiliate Faculty position at the Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology where I study various aspects of the biology and ecology of coral reefs. As President of Reef Check Hawai'i, a non-profit coral reef monitoring organization, I am heavily engaged in promoting the conservation of Hawai'i's coral reefs. Finally, as Chair of the Kāne'ohe Bay Regional Council, I frequently hear from the community about the importance of protecting our reefs so that future generations of Hawai'i's people will have opportunities for partaking of the bounty these reefs have to offer.

My experiences tell me that Hawai'i's reefs are in trouble. From land-based pollution, to global environmental change, to invasive species, to destructive resource extraction practices (e.g., overfishing), Hawai'i's coral reefs need the additional help that legislative action can provide.

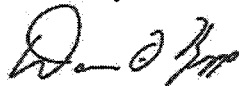
Therefore, I support S.R. No. 11 and SCR No. 17, which urges the Department of Land and Natural Resources to develop and adopt administrative rules regarding the collection of ornamental reef fish for aquarium trade from the waters of Hawai'i, including creation and enforcement of bag limits.

I believe that effective management of the marine aquarium trade is necessary, including the establishment of bag limits as required to reestablish the fish populations that are an essential component of a healthy reef ecosystem. Hawai'i's coral reefs are important resources that protect our shores from erosion, contribute millions of dollars to our economy, provide food and recreation for the people who live here, and serve as the foundation for our unique island lifestyle. We must protect these important natural resources.

Earlier this year, the legislature recognized that 2008 has been designated as the International Year of the Reef. Resolutions S.R. No. 11 and SCR No. 17 translate this recognition into action by helping our islands to sustainably manage important natural resources that are being overexploited to the detriment of the reef. I urge the committee to pass S.R. No. 11 and SCR No. 17.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



David A. Krupp

**TESTIMONY**  
**SCR 17 & SR 11**  
**LATE**  
**(END)**