
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO PLACE A
MORATORIUM ON ANY NEW PERMITS FOR OPEN WATER COMMERCIAL
MARICULTURE FINFISH OPERATIONS.

1 WHEREAS, mariculture is a specialized branch of aquaculture
2 that involves the cultivation of marine organisms for food and
3 other products in the open ocean, tanks, or enclosed section of
4 the ocean; and

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6 WHEREAS, commercial mariculture operations have caused many
7 problems, including failing to respect the rights of native
8 Hawaiian fishing traditions, threatening the marine environment
9 with escaped farmed fish, polluting local waters with heavier
10 concentrations of nitrogen from fish fecal contamination, and
11 interfering with marine wildlife; and

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13 WHEREAS, the open water commercial finfish mariculture
14 industry has not justified its existence, demonstrated an
15 appreciable level of economic viability, or contributed to local
16 food security concerns; and

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18 WHEREAS, the implementation of modern technologies to
19 alleviate the problems associated with open water commercial
20 finfish mariculture operations have not been successful and has
21 done little to curb the environmental, cultural, and economic
22 problems associated with the industry; and

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24 WHEREAS, due to the shortcomings of open water commercial
25 finfish mariculture, the State and the local commercial fishing
26 industry as a whole are focused on safer alternatives, including
27 the development of land-based, closed-loop re-circulating
28 aquaculture systems; now, therefore,

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30 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
31 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session



H.C.R. NO. 326

1 of 2010, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature requests
2 that the Board of Land and Natural Resources place a moratorium
3 on any new permits for commercial finfish mariculture operations
4 in the State; and
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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
7 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to Chairperson of the Board
8 of Land and Natural Resources.
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OFFERED BY:

Melle Carroll

Karen A. Quinn

MAR 10 2010

