

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **553**

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 06 2009

RE: S.B. No. 1199
S.D. 1

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2009
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 1199 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FISHING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to create and amend fishing provisions that affect the community on the island of Molokai.

Specifically, this measure establishes a community-based subsistence fishing area around the island of Molokai to protect the fish stocks and coral reef habitats.

Testimony in support of this measure was submitted by one organization and fifteen public citizens. One organization supported the intent of the measure. Testimony in opposition was submitted by one state agency and two public citizens. Written testimony presented to your Committee may be reviewed on the Legislature's website.

Your Committee finds that the people of Molokai maintained a sustainable and self-sufficient food supply for over a thousand years, and modernization and abandonment of traditional resource management have led to the severe decline of Molokai's fishery. Today, thirty-five per cent of Molokai residents rely on some form of subsistence for their food supply. Your Committee finds that this measure will protect fish stocks and coral reef habitats around the island of Molokai to ensure that Molokai residents may continue subsistence practices, and that traditional resource

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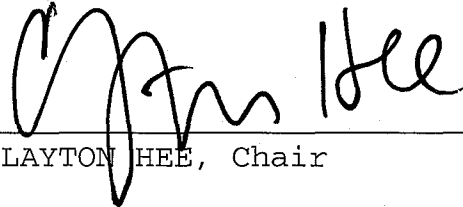
management practices may be utilized to restore the Molokai fisheries.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Establishing the boundaries of the subsistence fishing area as one mile offshore parallel to the contours of the shoreline of the island of Molokai;
- (2) Removing the subsection requiring the Department of Land and Natural Resources to consult with Molokai community members for rule development; and
- (3) Amending the effective date to July 1, 2050 for the purpose of encouraging further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1199, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1199, S.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Water, Land,
Agriculture, and Hawaiian
Affairs,



CLAYTON HEE, Chair



