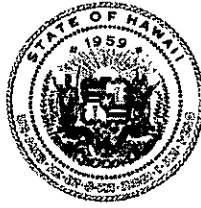
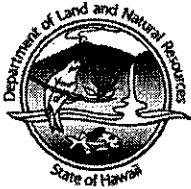


LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
LAURA H. THIELEN
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
JUDICIARY**

**Tuesday, March 30, 2010
2:30 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 2169, SENATE DRAFT 2, HOUSE DRAFT 2
RELATING TO SHARK FINS**

Senate Bill 2169, Senate Draft 2, House Draft 2 would prohibit the harvest, possession, sale or distribution of a shark or shark parts unless landed whole and harvested under a commercial marine license issued by the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department), and would place additional restrictions on possession or sale under the authorities of the Hawaii Food, Drug and Cosmetics Act. The Department has concerns with the current draft and asks consideration of further amendments to the bill as provided in the attached document.

The attached version of the bill addresses the proposed prohibition on recreational take, eliminates the exceptions for commercial take of select species only, the transshipment issue, and clarifies provisions under the Food and Drug Act. This alternative version would make it clear that possession of fins not attached to the shark is a violation. The Department doesn't believe the noncommercial catch of whole shark should be criminalized, as that would affect unintended bycatch by shore fishers including children and the limited amount of noncommercial catch of shark for food. The alternative version the Department is proposing would also strengthen the prohibition against finning by making it clear that possession of fins is illegal. Lastly, this alternative version also requires transshipments to keep fins in sealed and closed containers to prevent any supplementation of shipments with local caught sharks. An unsealed or open container would be deemed to be a violation of the law.

LAURA H. THIELEN
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

RUSSELL Y. TSUJI
FIRST DEPUTY

KEN C. KAWAHARA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

RELATING TO SHARK FINS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

SECTION 1. Sharks are one of the top predators in the marine food chain and play an important role in our ocean's ecosystem. Sharks have characteristics that make them more vulnerable to overfishing than most fish, and data from state, federal, and international agencies show a decline in the shark populations both locally and worldwide. Unlike other fish species, most sharks do not reach sexual maturity until seven to twelve years of age and then only give birth to a small litter of young. Thus, sharks cannot rebuild their populations quickly once they are overfished.

The practice of shark finning, where a shark is caught, the fin is cut off, and the shark is returned to the water, causes tens of millions of sharks to die a slow death each year. Some sharks starve to death, others are slowly eaten by other fish, and some drown, because most sharks need to keep moving to force water through their gills for oxygen. Shark fins are the principal ingredient in shark fin soup, and the demand for the delicacy has skyrocketed in recent years. Despite state and federal laws to ban the practice of shark finning, fishers

continue the practice on a massive scale. Since 1972 the number of blacktip sharks has fallen by ninety-three per cent, tiger sharks by ninety-seven per cent, and bull sharks, dusky sharks, and smooth hammerheads by ninety-nine per cent. The rapid reduction of sharks is disrupting the ocean's equilibrium.

Sharks are an essential element of the ocean's ecosystem, and by reducing the demand for shark fins, Hawaii can help ensure that sharks will not become extinct.

SECTION 2. Chapter 188-40.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

"§188-40.5 Shark fins; prohibitions; administrative penalties. (a) ~~[No]~~ Other than as provided in subsection (f), no person shall knowingly harvest [shark fins from the territorial waters of the State, or land shark fins in the State, unless the fins were taken from a shark landed whole in the State.], possess, sell, distribute, or otherwise transfer any shark fin of any shark, which is not naturally attached to the whole shark.

(b) Any person violating this section or any rule adopted thereunder shall be subject to:

~~[(1) Seizure and forfeiture of shark fins, commercial marine license, vessel, and fishing equipment; and~~
~~(2)] (1) An administrative fine of not less than \$5,000 and not more than \$15,000[. In addition, the violator may be assessed]; and~~

(2) Any additional applicable administrative fees, fines,
and costs, and attorney's fees and costs.

(c) Any shark fins, commercial marine licenses, vessels,
and fishing equipment involved in a violation of this section
may be subject to seizure and forfeiture pursuant to chapter
712A.

~~[(e)]~~ (d) Any criminal prosecution or penalty imposed for a
violation of this section or any rule adopted thereunder shall
not preclude seizure and forfeiture pursuant to chapter 712A, or
the imposition of any administrative fines and costs or
attorney's fees and costs under this section.

~~[(d)]~~ (e) ~~[This section]~~ When located outside the
territorial waters of the state, subsection (a) shall apply to
~~[the following vessels when fishing outside the territorial~~
~~waters of the State]~~ persons aboard the following:

- (1) Vessels that hold a fishing license or permit issued
by the State as a prerequisite to participation in the
fishery, or that have owners or captains who hold a
fishing license or permit issued by the State as a
prerequisite to participation in the fishery;
- (2) Vessels that are registered under section 200-31; or
- (3) Vessels with federal documentation that lists as a
homeport a location within the State;

provided that the enforcement of this section on these vessels
outside the territorial waters of the State shall not apply if

enforcement of this section is in violation of, or in conflict with, federal law.

~~[(e)]~~ (f) ~~[Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, this section shall apply only to vessels that off-load cargo in the State or its territorial waters.]~~ Subsection (a) shall not apply to the transshipment of shark fins originating from outside of the State, provided that all containers holding said shark fins remain closed and sealed while within state lands, harbor facilities, or waters. Open or unsealed containers of shark fins within state lands, harbor facilities or waters shall be deemed to be possession in violation of this chapter.

~~[(f)]~~ (g) As used in this section:

"Harvest" means to remove any shark fin from the body of the shark.

"Land" or "landed" means when a shark or shark fin is first brought to shore.

"Shark fin" means any part of the raw or dried fin of a shark ~~[with the shark carcass removed.]~~, including the tail.

"Whole" means the entire shark with its head ~~[and flesh]~~, body, and fins intact, allowing only for the removal of the blood, internal organs, [and tail at sea] and meat fillets without cartilage.

(h) The department is authorized to adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91 necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

(i) If any provision of this section or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the section which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this section are declared to be severable."

SECTION 3. Section 328-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

"§328-6 Prohibited acts. The following acts and the causing thereof within the State by any person are prohibited:

- (1) The manufacture, sale, delivery, holding, or offering for sale of any food, drug, device, or cosmetic that is adulterated or misbranded;
- (2) The adulteration or misbranding of any food, drug, device, or cosmetic;
- (3) The receipt in commerce of any food, drug, device, or cosmetic that is adulterated or misbranded, and the delivery or proffered delivery thereof for pay or otherwise;
- (4) The sale, delivery for sale, holding for sale, or offering for sale of any article in violation of section 328-11, 328-12, or 328-17;
- (5) The dissemination of any false advertisement;
- (6) The refusal to permit entry or inspection, or to permit the taking of a sample, as authorized by

sections 328-22 and 328-23 to 328-27, or to permit access to or copying of any record as authorized by section 328-23;

- (7) The giving of a guaranty or undertaking which guaranty or undertaking is false, except by a person who relied on a guaranty or undertaking to the same effect signed by, and containing the name and address of the person residing in the State from whom the person received in good faith the food, drug, device, or cosmetic;
- (8) The removal or disposal of a detained or embargoed article in violation of sections 328-25 to 328-27;
- (9) The alteration, mutilation, destruction, obliteration, or removal of the whole or any part of the labeling of, or the doing of any other act with respect to a food, drug, device, or cosmetic, if the act is done while the article is held for sale and results in the article being adulterated or misbranded;
- (10) Forging, counterfeiting, simulating, or falsely representing, or without proper authority using any mark, stamp, tag, label, or other identification device authorized or required by rules adopted under this part or regulations adopted under the Federal Act;
- (11) The use, on the labeling of any drug or in any advertisement relating to the drug, of any

representation or suggestion that an application with respect to the drug is effective under section 328-17, or that the drug complies with that section;

(12) The use by any person to the person's own advantage, or revealing other than to the department of health or to the courts when relevant in any judicial proceeding under this part, any information acquired under authority of section 328-11, 328-12, 328-17, or 328-23, concerning any method or process which as a trade secret is entitled to protection;

(13) In the case of a prescription drug distributed or offered for sale in this State, the failure of the manufacturer, packer, or distributor thereof to maintain for transmittal, or to transmit, to any practitioner who makes written request for information as to the drug, true and correct copies of all printed matter which is required to be included in any package in which that drug is distributed or sold, or such other printed matter as is approved under the Federal Act. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to exempt any person from any labeling requirement imposed by or under other provisions of this part;

(14) (A) Placing or causing to be placed upon any drug or device or container thereof, with intent to defraud, the trade name or other identifying

mark, or imprint of another or any likeness of any of the foregoing; or

(B) Selling, dispensing, disposing of, or causing to be sold, dispensed, or disposed of, or concealing or keeping in possession, control, or custody, with intent to sell, dispense, or dispose of, any drug, device, or any container thereof, with knowledge that the trade name or other identifying mark or imprint of another or any likeness of any of the foregoing has been placed thereon in a manner prohibited by subparagraph (A); or

(C) Making, selling, disposing of, or causing to be made, sold, or disposed of, or keeping in possession, control, or custody, or concealing, with intent to defraud, any punch, die, plate, or other thing designed to print, imprint, or reproduce that trade name or other identifying mark or imprint of another or any likeness of any of the foregoing upon any drug, device, or container thereof;

(15) Except as provided in part VI and section 461-1, dispensing or causing to be dispensed a different drug or brand of drug in place of the drug or brand of drug

ordered or prescribed without express permission in each case of the person ordering or prescribing;

(16) The distribution in commerce of a consumer commodity as defined in this part, if such commodity is contained in a package, or if there is affixed to that commodity a label, which does not conform to this part and of rules adopted under authority of this part; provided that this prohibition shall not apply to persons engaged in business as wholesale or retail distributors of consumer commodities except to the extent that such persons:

(A) Are engaged in the packaging or labeling of such commodities; or

(B) Prescribe or specify by any means the manner in which such commodities are packaged or labeled;

(17) The selling or dispensing in restaurants, soda fountains, drive-ins, lunch wagons, or similar public eating establishments of imitation milk and imitation milk products in place of fresh milk and fresh milk products respectively; of liquid or dry products which simulate cream but do not comply with content requirements for cream in place of cream; of non-dairy frozen desserts which do not comply with content requirements for dairy frozen desserts in place of dairy frozen desserts; and of any other imitation food

or one made in semblance of a genuine food in place of such genuine food, unless the consumer is notified by either proper labeling or conspicuous posted signs or conspicuous notices on menu cards and advertisements informing of such substitution, to include but not limited to the substitution of imitation milk in milk shake and malted milk drinks;

- (18) Wilfully and falsely representing or using any devices, substances, methods, or treatment as effective in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or alleviation of cancer. This paragraph shall not apply to any person who depends exclusively upon prayer for healing in accordance with teachings of a bona fide religious sect, denomination, or organization, nor to a person who practices such teachings;
- (19) The selling or offering for sale at any food facility which serves or sells over the counter directly to the consumer an unlabeled or unpackaged food that is a confectionery which contains alcohol in excess of one-half of one per cent by weight unless the consumer is notified of that fact by either proper labeling or conspicuous posted signs or conspicuous notices on menu cards and advertisements;

(20) The sale to a person below the age of twenty-one years of any food which is a confectionery which contains alcohol in excess of one-half of one per cent by weight.

(21) The possession, sale, delivery for sale, holding for sale, or offering for sale of any shark fin or part of any shark fin."

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2010.

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



CHIYOME LEINAALA FUKINO, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

Committee on Judiciary

SB 2169, SD2, HD2, RELATING TO SHARK FINS

**Testimony of Chiyome Leinaala Fukino, M.D.
Director of Health**

**March 30, 2010
2:30 p.m.**

1 **Department's Position:** We respectfully oppose the bill's amendment of HRS Chapter 328. The
2 Department appreciates the intent of the bill, but has concerns regarding its application to the State Food
3 and Drug law.

4 **Fiscal Implications:** The administrative costs of enforcement are as yet unquantified.

5 **Purpose and Justification:** In part, this bill amends HRS Chapter 328 by prohibiting the possession,
6 sale, delivery for sale, holding for sale, or offering for sale, of any shark fin or part of any shark fin.

7 We defer to the Department of Land and Natural Resources regarding proposed changes to HRS
8 Chapter 188.

9 We acknowledge the cruel nature in which the shark fins are harvested, the waste of the
10 remainder of the shark, and the potential harm to the food chain and ecosystem. However, the
11 Department does not believe the inclusion of language in HRS Chapter 328 prohibiting the sale of shark
12 fins is appropriate and requests its removal.

13 First, the bill is internally inconsistent. The amendment to HRS Chapter 188 bans all but a
14 certain form of shark fishing. The amendment to HRS Chapter 328 bars all sales of shark fins without
15 limit. If a certain type of fishing is allowable, the amendment to HRS Chapter 328 should be deleted.

1 Second, the primary purpose of HRS Chapter 328 is to ensure food, drugs, cosmetics and
2 medical devices that are sold are not adulterated, contaminated, and/or misbranded. The use of HRS
3 Chapter 328 to ban specific foods that are considered unpalatable and morally objectionable greatly
4 changes the nature of the law. Many people find certain ethnic or traditional foods or their method of
5 production objectionable. For example, many people refuse to eat veal because of how calves are
6 raised. However under HRS Chapter 328, as long as these food products are prepared under sanitary
7 conditions, are properly labeled and are fit for human consumption, they are allowed into commerce.

8 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



SB 2169 SD 2, HD 2
RELATING TO SHARK FINS
House Committee on Judiciary

March 30, 2010
Room: 325

2:30 p.m.

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** SB 2169, SD 2, HD 2, which would prohibit the possession, sale and distribution of sharks or shark fins in Hawai'i, unless already allowed under various exceptions; and would prohibit the sale or possession of shark fins under the Hawai'i Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.

As the Legislature is aware, manö hold special significance for Native Hawaiians. Beyond being apex predators, which help hold the entire ocean ecosystem in balance, some manö also are kinolau of Hawaiian gods, ancestral guardians or yaumakua for various families, part of the genealogy of all Native Hawaiians through the Kumulipo, and a collective part of the indigenous natural resources of Hawai'i - all of which is sacred and culturally imperative.

Shark finning - which usually includes the slow, painful death of the shark after its fin has been removed and it is left to bleed to death, essentially swimming rudderless - has long been seen as a cultural affront and a desecration of Hawaiian cultural and spiritual beliefs, as well as the murder of ancestral manifestations. Many Native Hawaiians believe that they have a cultural mandate to protect manö, as the manö have protected and cared for them over the centuries. Further, the Hawai'i State Constitution mandates us all to "protect all rights, customarily and traditionally exercised for subsistence, cultural and religious purposes" by Native Hawaiians (see, Art. XII, Sec. 7).

OHA appreciates the amendments that were made to the last draft of the bill, making this draft more comprehensive, clear and enforceable.

Therefore, OHA urges the Committee to PASS SB2169, SD 2, HD 2. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Shawn Heinrichs [shawn.heinrichs@bluespheremedia.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 25, 2010 5:32 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: Testimony for: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Testimony for:
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, March 30, 2010
TIME: 2:30 p.m.

JUDtestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

RE: Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2
Relating to Shark Fins

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to voice my support to pass the proposed shark fin legislation. Hawaii has the unique opportunity to take the lead in the United States in conserving shark populations. Over-fishing, driven primarily by demand for shark fin soups has devastated shark populations. Worldwide, scientists estimate that between 50 and 100 million sharks and rays are killed each year. Many shark populations have declined by 90 percent, with some species facing imminent extinction. Most of this decline has occurred in the past 20 years. Shark-fin soup is the leading driver of shark-finning.

If the trend continues, we will expect to see massive imbalances in our ocean ecosystems. For the state of Hawaii, this could prove disastrous. Many of your industries including tourism and fisheries, depend upon healthy oceans for their survival. I vote for this bill is a vote for the long-term well being of Hawaii and all it's residents. For those in opposition, the fear of loss of near term profits must be overcome by a sense of obligation to safeguard the future of Hawaii.

I believe if this message is communicated with conviction, the citizens of Hawaii will applaud and celebrate this decision. I ask that you take a stand in support of this important bill.

Best regards,

Shawn Heinrichs - Found - Blue Sphere Media



March 26, 2010

TO: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

RE: Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2; Relating to Shark Fins; In Support

Dear Chairman Karamatsu and Vice Chairman Ito,

Shark Savers, an international organization with over 10,000 members including many in Hawaii, is delighted that a bill is pending before your Senate to decisively prohibit the trafficking of shark fins.

As the Measure so eloquently describes, sharks have a profoundly positive impact on maintaining a healthy ocean eco-system. Sharks keep other marine species in proportion and viable. Studies show that the loss of sharks can cause the loss of commercially important species further down the food chain.

No other state within our nation is as dependent on its relationship with the ocean as Hawaii. It is wise for you and your colleagues in the Senate to take this act of leadership by ensuring sharks are not being slaughtered for their fins.

The wide scale decimation of shark populations for shark fins is happening worldwide, but also in and around Hawaiian waters. This trade benefits few because it resides primarily underground. But it endangers many. Shark fins are unhealthy because they are likely to contain unacceptable levels of toxic mercury. The shark fin trade is bad for Hawaii, as the loss of sharks will disrupt commercial fisheries and the tourism that is attracted to your healthy reefs.

We thank you as you provide this Measure the serious consideration it deserves. Our members will remain very interested in your progress. Please do not hesitate to call upon us to provide any information you may need or further support for the passage of this Measure Relating to Shark Fins.

With best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Skoletsky".

Michael Skoletsky, Executive Director



karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Choy Aming [miniaturegiraffe@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2010 5:10 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: IN SUPPORT of Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2

My name is Choy Aming and I run the Bermuda Shark Project. I am writing to you to kindly ask that you pass the bill against shark finning. There are lots of problems in the world, but this one is horrible because it is unnecessary. Up to 50 million sharks a year are slaughtered and that number is obviously not sustainable. The ocean has been decimated to the point that all the creatures alive today constitute the last 10%.

I love knowing that there is a world out there beyond me filled with all kinds of amazing things and I hope it stays that way. Right now we are satellite tagging tiger sharks for the first time in the Atlantic. It appears that we may have stumbled across some kind of trans-Atlantic migration in tiger sharks. The first time something like this has been seen. Keep the mysteries alive and help the ocean Thank you.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Oceanic Defense [info@oceanicdefense.org]
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2010 5:19 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: Rep. Jon Karamatsu
Subject: *****SPAM***** RE: Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2 Relating to Shark Fins

Honorable Members,

Thank you for this opportunity to share with you our support for Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2. As we all know sharks are critical to healthy ecosystems. Sharks regulate our oceans; they keep populations in balance and ensure aquatic stability. Without them we see effects that impact other species and ultimately ourselves. (*ie Atlantic Cownose stingray populations increase due to the removal of Hammerhead sharks leading to the collapse of the mollusk industry.*)

As its largest industry; Hawaii depends on tourism; in 2005 183,000 jobs were tourism related. Without healthy oceans surrounding the islands revenues will suffer and many more people will be impacted by the loss of sharks in state and surrounding waters. This decision will not only impact the shark fin trade but every single one of your constituents relying on you to represent them as your voting public.

In a interview on local Khon2 news, reporter Andrew Pereira asked a local restaurant owner David Ho about the sale of shark fin his response was: "If the ban shark fishing they should ban all big fish fishing too" Mr. Ho has a very good point. The larger the fish is the more mercury that fish contains. Due to methylmercury; women and children are urged to NOT eat certain large predatory fish including swordfish, tuna and shark. If we must eat fish and seafood we need to eat much lower on the food chain.

It has been proven that the shark fins contained within a bowl of soup adds zero flavor to the dish, it is a misguided fable that sharks have magical powers that if eaten are transferred to the person ingesting the shark. Shark fin soup is a status symbol a way to appease the ego of humans. By supporting the shark fin trade we are not only hurting our oceans but every single person on the islands of Hawaii and around the world.

Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2. and protect not only sharks but Hawaii's pristine environment and beautiful surrounding waters. The world is awaits your decision.

Respectfully.

--
Jeff Shaw - Founder | Executive Director
Oceanic Defense - Activation Through Education

--
<http://www.oceanicdefense.org> | info@oceanicdefense.org

--
Join the Aquatic Army
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Follow us on Twitter
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Read our Blog
<http://oceanicdefense.blogspot.com>

--
a non-profit volunteer driven organization

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Celia Faircloth [Celia@hawaiiisharkencounters.com]
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2010 8:26 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: IN SUPPORT of Measure SB2169 SD2 HD2 Relating to Shark Fins

MEASURE: Bill SB2169 SD2 HD2 Relating to shark fins

DATE: Tuesday, March 30, 2010

TIME: 2:00 PM

NAME: Celia Faircloth

ORGANIZATION: Hawaii Shark Encounters

DISTRICT: Honolulu

SUPPORT: YES

I am in strong support of SB1269 SD2 HD2.

The passing of this bill will place Hawaii as a leader in shark conservation. We should be setting the example for the rest of the world.

The wasteful slicing off of a shark's valuable fins and discarding the body at sea is outrageous.

There is a link between sharks and our future:

Phytoplankton, algae, and green plants currently produce about 70% of our Oxygen. Small fish and crustaceans eat these plants. Sharks, whales and big fish eat these small fish and crustaceans and therefore ensure that plants, algae and plankton are not over-consumed.

As numbers of sharks and whales drop their prey species continue to flourish in ever greater numbers. These consume larger and larger quantities of what is in essence our life line. Once shark numbers drop low enough and their prey are unchecked, the population explosion will cause a rapid drop in O2 levels around the globe and a rapid rise in CO2.

As we all know increased CO2 means that global temperatures will increase. An increase of 2 to 3 degrees will result in methane-hydrate, a chemical compound which when in it's liquid state is slightly heavier than sea water, but with only a 2-3 degree temperature increase it will revert from a liquid to a gas. And when all of that methane escapes into the atmosphere all at once, it will strip us of our ozone layer in about 2 hours or less. No Ozone = no UV protection. No UV protection = no plants! All dead in about 2 weeks!

This will cause, what Researcher Erik Brush calls the "The Sixth Extinction", an EEE (Elasmobranchii-cetacea Extinction Event). It will of course include the extinction of most or all of human life in a very short period of time.

Researcher Erik Brush has published his book in January 2010, which describes his research and conclusions and which will serve as a platform to launch a series of huge campaigns to get the WEECs Act passed into law in the EU and UN. The WEEC Act (World Extinction Event Crimes Act) is an initial draft document, which has been drawn up with the help of an international marine attorney. Among its proposals are making shark poaching and cetacean hunting a WEEC violation which would be treated the same as crimes against humanity. The WEECs Act would also make shark netting illegal globally, as well as polluting the oceans, longline fishing, and gillnetting. An international law enforcement agency called IMEC (International Marine Enforcement Commission) would be set up with far-reaching powers to ensure that no illegal activity takes place.

I urge you to read this book. It explains the relationship between the decimation of shark populations for the shark fin soup trade with the increasing climate chaos caused by global warming. It outlines the dangers of the growing global mass extinction event, and offers solutions to combat the problem.

Celia Faircloth

Hawaii Shark Encounters, Inc.

P.O. Box 400

Haleiwa, HI 96712

<http://www.hawaiiisharkencounters.com>

Ph 808-351-9373 Cell 808-351-9372

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Conservation Council for Hawai'i

Testimony Submitted to the House Committee on Judiciary

SB 2169 SD 2 HD 2 Relating to Shark Fins
Hearing: Tuesday, March 30, 2010 2:30 pm Room 325

In support of SB 2169 SD 2 HD 2

Aloha. Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports SB 2169 SD 2 HD 2, which prohibits the harvest, possession, sale, or distribution of a shark or shark parts unless landed whole and harvested under a commercial marine license. Prohibits under Hawaii Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, possession or sale of shark fins. Effective July 1, 2050. (SB2169 HD2)

The practice of removing fins from live sharks and throwing the sharks back into the water is wasteful and unnecessary. We have heard only 10% of the shark fins that come into the state are actually sold or consumed here, and that 90% are transported elsewhere. Therefore, this bill should not cause economic hardship on anyone here in Hawai'i.

We should not allow shark finning or the sale or distribution of shark fins in our state. Nor should we wait until the federal government prohibits such fins from entering our state, or from being imported to America. Instead, we should send a strong message that we will not encourage or reward this practice in Hawai'i. Our understanding is that, although shark finning is banned in the Atlantic (including the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea), shark fins currently enter Hawai'i ports (unattached to the carcasses) because of a loophole in the federal law and a federal court interpretation in the 9th Circuit that allows the fins to be transferred from a shark-fishing boat to a boat that does not contain fishing gear. Shark fins are also imported to Hawai'i and this country via non-fishing boats, such as container ships and the like.

Please pass SB 2169 SD 2 HD 2. Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Marjorie Ziegler



Hawai'i's Voice for Wildlife – *Ko Leo Hawai'i no na holoholona lohiu*

Telephone/Fax 808.593.0255 • email: info@conservehi.org • web: www.conservehi.org
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President: Maura O'Connor * Treasurer: Kim Ramos * Secretary: Douglas Lamerson
Directors: Madelyn D'Enbeau * Maka'ala Ka'aumoana * Hannah Springer
Executive Director: Marjorie Ziegler

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MANOA

Kewalo Marine Laboratory
Pacific Biosciences Research Center
41 Ahui Street, Honolulu, HI 96744

March 26, 2010

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair

Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Twenty Fifth Legislature

Hawaii State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street

Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Representative Karamatsu and Committee Members,

I am writing in strong support of Measure No. 2169, SD2, HD2, "Relating to Shark Fins." As apex predators, sharks provide an essential service for marine ecosystem stability. Numerous studies have documented the rapid rate of decline of oceanic and coastal shark species, tied to the practice of finning for product destined for Asian markets. Hawaii is an ocean state and should set an example for the nation and world for sustainable marine resource and ecosystem management and conservation. The state can do its part by banning the practice as well as the sale and transshipment of shark fins through our islands. Additional actions should be considered against companies and their subsidiaries that participate in the shark fin market elsewhere, such as prohibiting their entry into any of Hawaii's ports and markets.

I highly commend you and your colleagues for introducing this bill and hope the Hawaii State Legislature will follow your leadership on this important and highly relevant issue.

Respectfully,



Robert H. Richmond, Ph.D.
Research Professor
Pew Fellow in Marine Conservation

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Erika Marchino [erika@dorsalfriends.org]
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2010 7:20 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: Testimony for Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2 Relating to Shark Fins

Testimony for:
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, March 30, 2010
TIME: 2:30 p.m.

RE: Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2
Relating to Shark Fins

As the Director of a Los Angeles based shark conservation group, I am painfully aware of the consequences that shark finning has had on our marine ecosystem. The devastation that this unsustainable practice has caused to our shark populations is jaw dropping, and some species have declined by 98% in the past 30 years. Shark finning is wasteful, inhumane, and most importantly illegal in the U.S. The sale of these fins is an obvious contradiction to the progress this country had made in terms of shark conservation and protecting our most precious resource, the ocean. With over one billion humans relying solely on seafood as their only source of protein, we need sharks in the oceans. Without them the fragile ecosystem will crumble, weakening our fish stocks, and essentially transforming our oceans into desolate wastelands.

Shark fins are non-nutritional and are also a health risk, containing methyl mercury levels that highly exceed the recommendations of the FDA as well as varied toxic chemicals used as bleaching agents. Hawaii is now presented with an opportunity to set an example for the rest of the U.S. and internationally. If passed, this bill would only affect a small minority, but has the potential to protect so much. This is a critical time in which we must change the way we view sharks and start respecting the balance of the marine ecosystem.

I strongly encourage you to support SB 2169 for the health of sharks, our ocean, and ultimately our future.

Respectfully,

Erika Marchino
Director
Dorsal Friends

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Marie Levine [srilevine@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 2:25 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: RE: Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2

To the Committee on Judiciary, the Honorable Jon Riki Karamatsuu and the Honorable Ken Ito:

RE: Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2

I urge you to assist in passing MEASURE SB2169, SD2, HD2. This is vitally important legislation because it is a giant step in ending the shameful and brutal practice of shark finning.

At the moment, I am leaving Doha, Qatar, for the USA. I have been attending the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), a United Nations Treaty Organization. I have attended CITES' Convention of Parties for the past eight years and have witnessed the growing abandonment of the treaty's mandate to protect endangered species when they have any commercial value. For example, because ICCAT has repeatedly ignored their own scientists to limit catches of Atlantic bluefin tuna, the species was proposed for CITES Appendix II. Despite data indicating the species is being fished at unsustainable levels and population crash is imminent, the proposal was defeated. Particularly outrageous to observers and the media was the rejection of the USA's proposal to protect 8 species of sharks whose populations have declined up to 99.9%!

At present 73 to 100 million sharks are being slaughtered annually. Some are bycatch, but most are targeted solely for their fins, an ingredient in shark fin soup. Shark fin soup is a not a staple, it is luxury dish served as a status symbol. Many of the sharks are hauled onboard where their fins are cut off while the animal is still alive, then the mutilated animal is tossed overboard. If such cruelty was practiced to dogs or cats, the public outrage would be deafening, As more and more people are becoming aware of the cruelty of shark finning they are demanding that it be stopped.

Sharks are absolutely critical to the health of the ocean ecosystem – the ecosystem on which all life on earth depends. With passage of MEASURE SB2169, SD2, Hawaii makes a statement that its legislators are stewards of the ocean.

On behalf of the Shark Research Institute's 8,000 members, I join our President Jupp Baron Kerckerinck zur Borg, in urging the Committee on Economic Revitalization, Business & Military Affairs, to accept Measure SB2169 SD2, HD2

Sincerely,
Marie Levine
Executive Director
Shark Research Institute
Princeton, New Jersey
USA

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Richard Theiss [rtsea@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 5:58 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: *****SPAM***** RE: IN SUPPORT of Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2Relating to Shark Fins
Attachments: image.png

Respectfully to the Committee on Judiciary:

Regarding SB2169, I am sure that the committee has received considerable input from conservationists and commercial supporters alike. As a recognized filmmaker and ocean conservationist, I would strongly recommend that the bill move forward to ultimate passage. I realize that the passage of SB 2169 would impact certain commercial interests in your state, but my personal experience in studying and supporting shark conservation worldwide compels me to urge for the bill's passage.

By allowing for shark finning and the processing and distribution of shark products (particularly shark fin soup), Hawaii has become a focal point for this activity. But the research is clear that the continued hunting of sharks represents a clear threat to a valuable and critically important ocean resource, the loss of which would have dramatic consequences. On a personal level, I have been working with various researchers studying the effects of the loss of "apex" predators such as sharks, and there are already clear signs of disruptions in other commercial fisheries due to the loss of sharks that help to keep other predatory species in check. Sharks do not exist within a vacuum and with their loss, other predatory species will take their place but with disastrous results. Evidence of this is already occurring throughout the world.

This is an issue that I am sure commercial shark fisheries understand but resist taking appropriate steps due to the lucrative demand for shark fins in Asian markets. However, in deference to Asian culture, we in the United States, including Hawaii, must take a stand against shark products that have no proven nutritional value (as is the case with shark fins) and that can actually be harmful due to the pollutants and toxins, like mercury, that accumulate in the cartilaginous tissues of sharks.

SB2169 exists because there are issues of 1.) inhumanity regarding the shark finning process, 2.) disruption of marine ecosystems, and 3.) increasing health threats due to the consumption of tainted shark products. I respectfully urge you to move forward on passage of SB2169. This is one of those instances where ecological balance and public health safety supersedes commercial interests.

Respectfully,

Richard Theiss
RTSea Productions
rtsea@rtsea.com
<http://www.rtsea.com>
<http://rtseablog.blogspot.com>
<http://www.youtube.com/user/RTSeaTV>
<http://www.igws.us>
949-645-4304 Phone
949-294-9876 Cell



karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 11:26 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: anitabanana@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: anita wintner
Organization: Snorkel Bob's
Address: kihei hi
Phone: 8088748407
E-mail: anitabanana@hawaiiantel.net
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:
Ban shark finning now

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 7:08 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: robertw@snorkelbob.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Robert Wintner
Organization: The Snorkel Bob Foundation
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: robertw@snorkelbob.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2010

Comments:

Here is one more opportunity for Hawaii to protect its heritage & culture. Please facilitate quick, strong passage of SB 2169. It reflects who we are, what we stand for.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Mary O'Malley [maryomalley@mac.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 3:34 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2 Relating to Shark Fins

Testimony for:
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, March 30, 2010
TIME: 2:30 p.m.

RE: Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2
Relating to Shark Fins

Dear Rep. Karamatsu and Rep. Ito,

On behalf of Shark Safe Network, which includes thousands of individual members and twenty-four organizations, I respectfully submit the following testimony in support of Senate Bill 2169, regarding the possession, sale, and distribution of shark fins. This bill has a great deal of support among the Hawaiian people and around the world. And we appreciate very much that you have given your time and attention to schedule Tuesday's hearing.

The shark fin trade is lucrative for a few in the short term, while in the long term devastating to marine ecosystems on which countless Hawaiians and people throughout the world depend for their livelihoods, food and recreation. Sadly Hawaii, mainly due to its geographic location as a Pacific gateway to ports in Asia, has become a significant contributor to this highly destructive and often illicit trade.

Following are reasons why SB 2169 is good for Hawaii and why supporting this bill is the right thing to do. I've also included references for the facts provided.

Why SB 2169 is good for Hawaii:

- * Healthy shark populations are vital to maintaining healthy marine ecosystems in Hawaii. Declines in shark populations upset delicate balances leading to trophic cascades that can devastate stocks of commercially important species and degrade the health of coral reefs. [1, 2, 3]. On the other hand, areas in which shark populations are relatively healthy have been demonstrated to have greater abundance of fish. [4] These ocean ecosystems are vital to tourist, fishing and recreational businesses, as well as to the enjoyment of Hawaii's natural beauty.
- * Sharks are culturally important to native Hawaiians. Not allowing Hawaii to be a key contributor to a trade that is devastating shark populations all for the sake of delicacy, shows a great deal of respect to this important aumakua.
- * SB 2169 SD2 significantly simplifies enforcement by requiring that legal shark species be landed whole with the fins attached, and by placing the burden on the defendant to identify the species and where it was caught. This burden is not inappropriate, since any fisherman should reasonably be expected to provide this information. And the requirement to land sharks whole with the fins naturally attached prevents violation of

shark finning regulations. Many other coastal states, including the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, already have this requirement. [5]

* Much of the shark fin trade involves organized crime, often trading in shark fins as a way to launder drug money. [6,7] By prohibiting the sale and distribution of shark fins, Hawaii will no longer inadvertently support these illegal enterprises. Furthermore, Hawaii will be setting a brilliant example that other states and countries throughout the world can follow.

Why supporting SB 2169 is the right thing to do:

* The shark fin trade is unsustainable and has already led to drastic declines in the populations of many shark species. For example, hammerhead sharks, whose fins are especially prized in shark fin markets, have declined in the Northwest and Western Central Atlantic by 89% since 1986 [8], by greater than 99% in the Mediterranean Sea since the early 19th century [9], by 64% (Scalloped) and 79% (Great) in South Africa from 1978 to 2000 [10], by 80% in the Eastern Atlantic [11], by 85% over 44 years off the Queensland coast in Australia [12], and landings of great hammerheads have collapsed in West Africa [11]. Great and Scalloped Hammerheads are classified by the IUCN (International Union for the Conservation of Nature) as "Endangered", defined as "Very High Risk of Extinction in the Wild". [13]

* The shark fin trade provides short term benefits to a limited group of people, while causing harm to the majority through destruction of ecosystems and important sources of protein to subsistence fishing communities. The small fishermen from poor nations who contribute to the shark fin trade are barely scraping by and are having to travel farther and farther from home to even find sharks as their populations disappear. [14] On the other hand, shark protection programs put in place by a handful of governments and private organizations are providing stable and long term income to fishermen and their communities while protecting the environment for the benefit of everyone, including future generations. Examples include Palau [15], the Maldives [16], Fiji [17] and the Misool region of Raja Ampat, Indonesia [18].

Please support the passage of this very important bill. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Aloha and Mahalo!

Mary O'Malley
Co-Founder
Shark Safe Network
<http://www.sharksafenetwork.com>
info@sharksafenetwork.com
Ph: 305-632-3688

References:

[1] "Sharks are Vital for Coral Reef Health" New Scientist - April 2005 - Enric Sala - Scripps Institution of Oceanography - <http://www.newscientist.com/article/mg18624966.000-sharks-are-vital-for-coral-reef-health.html>

[2] "Cascading Effects of the Loss of Apex Predatory Sharks from a Coastal Ocean" Myers et al 2007
<http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/abstract/315/5820/1846?hits=10&RESULTFORMAT=&FIRSTINDE X=0&maxtoshow=&HITS=10&fulltext=myers+shark&searchid=1&resourcetype=HWCIT>

[3] "Fish Conservation: a guide to understanding and restoring global aquatic biodiversity and fisheries resources" Helfman 2007.

- [4] "High predator biomass on remote Pacific Islands" Stevenson et al. 2007. Stanford University <http://www.springerlink.com/content/k061q26322700um3/>
- [5] ASMFC: Interstate Fisheries Management Program Overview - Coastal Sharks <http://www.asmfc.org/commissionerManual/ISFMP/13.%20Coastal%20Sharks%202008.pdf>
- [6] Report of the U.N. Secretary-General (2002), p. 6; Report of the U.N. Secretary-General (2003) p. 11; The International Wildlife Trade and Organised Crime, p. 15.
- [7] August 2003 Globe and Mail article referring to gang violence related to the shark fin trade – including in Hawaii. <http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/fish/sharks/innews/sharksoup2003.htm>
- [8] Baum et al. 2003; Jiao et al. 2009
- [9] Ferretti et al. 2008
- [10] Dudley and Simpendorfer 2006
- [11] Rapport de la premiere reunion de coordination du Plan Sous-Regional d'Action pour la Conservation et la Gestion des populations de Requins, Commission Sous-Regionale des Peches. Secretariat Permanent. Saly-Portuda
- [12] Australian-Queensland Shark Control Program - CITES CoP15 2009
- [13] IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria version 3.1 - <http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/categories-and-criteria/2001-categories-criteria#categories>
- [14] Personal interviews March 2010
- [15] "Palau Pioneers Shark Sanctuary" BBC News Sept. 25, 2009 <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/8272508.stm>
- [16] "Maldives Ban Fishing of Sharks" NY Times March 9, 2010 <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/03/10/world/asia/10iht-shark.html>
- [17] "The Shark Reef Marine Reserve: a marine tourism project in Fiji involving local communities" Dr. Juerg M. Brunnschweiler - Journal of Sustainable Tourism 2009. http://www.shark.ch/Foundation/Publications/Brunnschweiler_JST_2009_1.pdf
- [18] Misool Eco Resort News March 2010 <http://misoolecoresort.com/news.html>

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: wild@aloha.net
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 5:32 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: IN SUPPORT of Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2

Testimony for:
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, March 30, 2010
TIME: 2:30 p.m.

JUDtestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

RE: IN SUPPORT of Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2 Relating to Shark Fins

Dear Chairman Karamatsu:

I am writing on behalf of Hawai'i wildlife Fund, a non-profit marinelife conservation organization based on Maui and Hawai'i island, to support SB 2169, SD2, HD2 to stop the selling of shark fins. As a marine biologist and conservationist working to support the recovery of the health of our planet's oceans, I am impressed with the testimony of another Maui resident, and ocean lover, David Fleetham. I quote his testimony below because I agree with his perspective and have witnessed a similar decimation of our ocean's bounty and beauty during my own 30 years of working, playing and living in it and because of it:

..."I have spent over thirty years documenting the life in our planets oceans and watched the unwitting decay and deterioration of our marine resources first hand. The situation is dire for sharks as they are being emptied out of our oceans and into bowls of soup at an alarming rate. Sharks have been slaughtered in astonishing numbers to the point where several species are now considered completely wiped out in some areas with little hope of them ever being found there again. A combination of misinformation from Hollywood depicting sharks as blood thirsty killers and ignorance has brought these calm, careful, cautious and magnificent creatures to their collective knees.

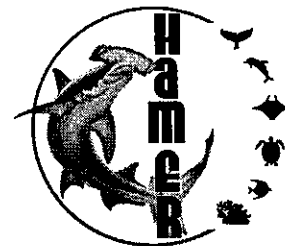
A great majority of mankind are unaware of how essential the oceans are to our planet and it's functions. The world's carbon emissions are now above the 'worst case' scenario predicted by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Rising acid levels are already proving destructive to some forms of plankton and shellfish, not to mention the oncoming global warming. Add the assault from over-fishing, toxic pollution and disease to this mixture and we find many forms of marine life that are unable to withstand this growing list of stresses. Past geological ages are divided by marked sudden losses of species. If our course of action does not change we may be on our way to entering a new age. One that may, or may not, include mankind. For some the oceans are a massive mystery, too great to comprehend. Day to day life, for many of the earth's residents, is too great a struggle to be able to be concerned. There is an unspoken responsibility for those of us who are lucky enough to spend time in the liquid side of our world. We must do our utmost to bring attention to this dire track that we find ourselves on. No effort is too small and SB169 is a positive step in the right direction.

All the arguments against SB169, are based on a lack of knowledge and/or greed and selfishness. As we lose biodiversity in the oceans we come closer to collapsing ecosystems that the entire planet depends upon for its existence. Sharks are an integral piece of the oceans puzzle that should not be wiped out for bowls of soup. Decisions that affect our

oceans need to be made from a point of knowledge, not senseless paranoia. It is my hope that clear thinking will somehow prevail in this case. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me. - David Fleetham"

Mahalo for your kind consideration,
Hannah Bernard
President, Hawai'i Wildlife Fund

The Hawaii Association for Marine Education and Research, Inc.



4993 L. Honoapiilani Rd
Lahaina, HI, 96761, USA
Phone: 808-280-6448
Fax: 808-669-8998
Email: deakos@hawaii.edu
www.hamerinhawaii.org

**Testimony in Support of SB2169
Relating to Shark Fins**

Mark 27, 2009

Attn: Hawaii State Legislature
Judiciary Committee

Dear members of the Judiciary Committee,

As the director of the Hawaii Association for Marine Education and Research, Inc., and marine biologist with the University of Hawaii, I am asking you to support SB2169 to make it illegal to harvest, possess, sell, trade, transfer, or distribute any shark or parts of a shark unless the shark has been landed whole.

The rapidly increasing and largely unregulated trade in shark fins represents one of the most serious threats to shark populations worldwide. In Hong Kong, the most important shark fin trade market in the world, increased shark fin imports more than 214% from 2648 metric tons in 1985 to 8323 metric tons in 1998 (Vannuccini, 1999; Hong Kong Census and Statistics Department, 2001). Similarly, Thailand imports have increased 42% from 97 metric tons to 138 metric tons (Food and Agriculture Organization, 2001). Despite these increasing demands, and the destruction of shark populations all over the world, little has been done to protect these keystone species.

The natural history of sharks make them extremely vulnerable to overexploitation. They grow slowly, take a long time to mature, and have very few offspring. Therefore once populations have been depleted, recovery is extremely slow.

Dedicated to Preserving Hawaii's Marine Resources

Sharks are an integral part of our marine ecosystems and the unsustainable cultural practice of eating shark fin soup has contributed to the depletion of over 90% of shark species worldwide. Hawaii must take an active role in protecting our oceans and its resources by sending a message that barbaric slaughter of sharks for their fins must be stopped, and anyone participating in the possession or trade of shark fins in Hawaii will be prosecuted.

Please help restore the balance of our oceans and help to put a stop to destructive practice of shark fining by supporting SB2169.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark H. Deakos', written in a cursive style.

Mark H. Deakos

Director of The Hawaii Association for Marine Education and Research, Inc.
Member of the Maui Nui Marine Resource Council
Ph.D. Student, University of Hawaii at Manoa
Marine Biologist

Literature Cited

Vannuccini, S., 1999. *Shark utilization, marketing and trade*. FAO Fisheries Technical Paper No. 389, FAO, United Nations, Rome, 470 pp.

Food and Agriculture Organization, 2001. *FAO Yearbook, Fishery Statistics Commodities*. FAO, Rome.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 11:36 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: Juppca@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Josef Baron Kerckerinck zur Borg
Organization: Shark Research Institute
Address: 4416 Rte 44 Millbrook, NY 12545
Phone: 845-6775795
E-mail: Juppca@gmail.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

Dear Representative Karamatsu:

I want to take this opportunity to ask for your help with MEASURE SB2169, SD2 which, if passed, will be the most helpful piece of legislation for the sharks, that I have seen. I want to urge you, Sir, to do whatever you can to get this measure passed, so that the law will put an end to the horrible practice of finning.

I am writing to you from Doha/Qatar, where I attended the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). It was a very depressing and frustrating event for me because some countries, have blocked every proposal to stop International trade in endangered animals. The bluefin tuna, which has already been reduced by 85% in the Atlantic and the Mediterranean, is being fished regardless of the danger of being extinct. Here is the money to be made much more important than the environment and our oceans, which, after all, are our life support system.

The red corral were supposed to be protected but they also have been voted down. The same happened to several shark species, which are at the brink of extinction. They did not make the Appendix II, which only means that the trade in those species would be monitored and would need approval of CITES. But the people did not care for the ocean and I wonder what will happen when our children and their children are living on this planet. Don't they deserve at least the life we have now?

Shark fins are not a food item they are a luxury item and poor people cannot afford a bowl of shark fin soup anyway. Do we have to watch how some rich people and countries enjoy what they call their birth right, while normal folks will no longer be able to enjoy any kind of seafood?

According to 1,000 scientists there will be no more fish in the ocean by the middle of this century, if we continue fishing the way we do now. That's exactly what they have stated in a letter to the UN. What will we do with an ocean without fish? I think that is a horrible thought. We will lose our life support and for what? A soup?

100,000,000 sharks are being killed every year, which is almost 250,000 per day. Many of those will get their fins cut off while they are still alive. How much longer can we continue to be looting the oceans and robbing future generations of their birthright: fresh air, clean water and indeed, a world to live in? What would we think of someone who cuts the legs off a

dog or a cat and throws the animal back into the brush? That's what happens to millions of sharks and we don't even try to stop it? What kind of monsters have we become?

The State of Hawaii will be taking a leading role in the U.S. as far as the protection of sharks and of our oceans is concerned. Other states will follow your courageous example. Live sharks are so much more valuable than dead sharks, because they bring more tourism to your beautiful State. I also know about the special place sharks have in the hearts of the people of Hawaii. The native culture has so much more wisdom than we have today; they knew how to deal with nature.

Unfortunately, many of us have lost this knowledge.

Sharks are the most important animals in our oceans, because they maintain the biological balance in this very complex ecosystem. I am afraid that we will lose them all, if we don't start saving them now.

If we lose the sharks we shall also lose the oceans and when that happens the human race will not survive either. On behalf of our 8,000 members I urge every member of the Committee on Economic Revitalization, Business & Military Affairs, to vote in favor of this measure. Please help to prevent the slaughter. I urge you to hear SB2169. It is so important for Hawaii and the rest of the US, if not the world.

The desire for people to eat shark fin soup should not override the decision to pass this bill. A delicacy should not cause the destruction of the oceans. Our oceans, your oceans.

Sincerely,

Jupp Baron Kerckerinck zur Borg
President/Shark Research Institute



**Ziggy Livnat, MFA
Producer / President
For The Sea Productions
P.O. Box 303
Kamuela, HI 96743**

March 28th, 2010

Dear state House Judiciary committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a testimony.

As an underwater filmmaker, educator and researcher I strongly support SB 2169, prohibiting the harvest, possession, sale, or distribution of a shark or shark parts unless landed whole and harvested under a commercial marine license and prohibiting the possession or sale of shark fins.

Sharks are the cleaners of our oceans and play an important role in healthy ecosystem. Shark finning is wasteful and disrespectful and it should not be allowed in Hawaii's waters.

Mahalo,

**Ziggy Livnat
For The Sea Productions**

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Catherine Goeggel [selkie@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 8:30 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: SB2169

Chair Karamatsu and Members of the Judiciary Committee:

On behalf of Animal Rights Hawai'i and our supporters, I urge you to pass SB 2169, SD2, HD2 (HSCR889-10)

The cruel and wasteful practice of shark finning must end- for the health of our oceans and for the continuance of the species as well as a message to future generations to respect our planet.

Mahalo!

With aloha,
Cathy Goeggel
President

for hearing Tuesday, March 30, 2010 at 2:30 pm in Conference Room 325

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear sirs,

I would like to express my support for Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2, concerning the shark fin ban.

As apex predators, sharks play a vital role in our oceans ecosystem. They regulate the health and numbers of species below them on the food chain and in doing so they are responsible for maintaining a healthy underwater gene pool.

Sharks mature slow and give birth to small litters, which makes them extremely vulnerable to overfishing. They need a lot of time to rebuild their populations.

The numbers of sharks worldwide have decreased considerably, even dramatically. Some species have plummeted to only 1% of their population levels in the last 3 decades alone. The sharks are harvested mainly for their fins, to provide for the very high demand of shark fin soup, which is a delicacy in Eastern countries.

This "finning" is a practice where the fins are cut of the shark while it is still alive and the animal is then thrown back into the water. It causes the sharks to die a slow and very painful death. Some starve to death, some are slowly eaten by other fish but most simply drown as they need to keep moving to force water through their gills to breath.

It has been proven that big fish as sharks contain methyl mercury. Eating them can lead to mercury poisoning. The World Health Organization says there are no known safe levels and advises to eliminate the consumption of mercury whenever possible. Mercury poisoning causes impairment of vision, speech, hearing, memory and can lead to sterility and sexual dysfunction.

To prevent sharks from becoming extinct, it is my opinion that all harvest, possession, sale, transfer or distribution of any species of shark or parts of sharks should be forbidden.

As Hawaii depends on tourism as its largest industry, it needs healthy oceans surrounding the islands, so it would be in it's own interest to protect the sharks that keep these reefs and waters healthy.

Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,

Joey Racano, Director

Ocean Outfall Group (501c-3)

www.oceanoutfallgroup.com

United States of America

A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: dorsonstudios@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 11:32 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: MEASURE SB2169, SD2. HD2 -- Relating to Shark Fins -- IN SUPPORT

MEASURE SB2169, SD 2, HD2 -- Relating to Shark Fins -- IN SUPPORT

From:
Edward Dorson
Director of Conservation Strategies
Shark Research Institute
<http://www.sharks.org>

Testimony for:
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair.
Hearing: on Tuesday, March 30, 2010
Time: 2:30 p.m.

Re: MEASURE SB2169, SD2, HD2 **IN SUPPORT**
Relating to Shark Fins;
Sale and Distribution of Shark Fins;
Prohibits the sale and distribution of shark fins in the State

March 28, 2010

Dear Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu and Rep. Ken Ito,

I'm Edward Dorson, Director of Conservation Strategies for the Shark Research Institute, a USA-based non-profit organization. I'm representing the views of over 8,500 people in our membership in writing this letter to you.

I appeal to you to enact SB2169 for the preservation of sharks and our shared oceanic heritage and to set a precedent for others to stop the unsustainable worldwide slaughter of sharks.

The world's sharks are quickly vanishing. Almost a quarter million sharks are killed each day. Some shark populations are already functionally extinct, having declined by as much as 99%. The demand for this perpetual massacre is mostly generated to have their fins sliced off as an ingredient for a status symbol soup served at weddings and banquets.

The sharks targeted by finners aren't taken whole; their valuable fins (which fetch up to US\$700 a kilo) are hacked off and the less valuable finless shark is tossed back into the sea to sink and slowly die. That's not only despicably inhumane; it wastes over 95% of the shark that could go for consumption. The obliteration of 400 million years of evolution for some perceived social status with serving shark fin soup isn't just incredibly wasteful and cruel -- it's tragic:

Sharks, as apex predators, are required in nature to regulate species abundance and the distribution necessary to maintain an intricate ecosystem full of diversity and life. A healthy ocean vitally depends on sharks. The removal of sharks is causing devastating impacts with harmful results rebounding into the food chain.

These "cascade" events demonstrate how the elimination of sharks ruins both ecosystems and economies. One such example began in the western north Atlantic in the late 1990's as shark populations were depleted. The rays and skates the sharks had once fed upon underwent a population explosion. The rays and skates, in turn, rapidly depleted the scallops, oysters, and clams. Once shellfish stocks collapse, their beneficial role in filtering toxins from the water ceases, and results in algal blooms that are harmful to all marine life. Events such as this disrupt tourism and devastate coastal economies.

Obviously, any cultural or traditional excuse that enables species extinction -- and thus that tradition's extinction as well -- must be seen as an irrational and destructive practice. A wise tradition that marks all of mankind's progress is the fundamental responsibility of all generations to ensure that the world left to the next generation is at least as vital and habitable to the one we live within today.

Finite resources and natural processes simply can't be compromised, and the ecological and economical consequences of an ocean without sharks is staggering. As the ocean is the very engine that runs the systems that maintain all life, this hidden holocaust will critically impact life on land as well. Grotesque greed and indifference must be denied for the sake of the sharks and a planet that absolutely requires their continuing existence.

All reasoning people must now reach a threshold that says no more to the senseless slaughter of the world's sharks for soup. Please consider the passage of SB2169 as a bold statement that Hawaii has reached its own tipping point on this very critical issue.

Sincerely,
Edward Dorson
Director of Conservation Strategies
Shark Research Institute
Princeton, NJ, USA

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Dr. Andreas Keppeler [dr.a.keppeler@sharkproject.org]
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 7:34 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2, Relating to Shark Fins

Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2 Relating to Shark Fins on Tuesday, March 30, 2010 TIME:2:30 p.m.

Testimony for: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear honourable Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu Chair and Rep. Ken Ito Vice Chair,

we got knowledge of the introduction of your senate bill 2169!
(http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2010/lists/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=2169)

Congratulation and highest respects from our organisation and the community of environmental protection organisations in Germany, as well as the consumers protection organisations!

Your senate bill proposal explains in an obvious manner the destruction of the equilibrium in the marine ecosystem by extincting the shark populations in the ocean.

To stop finning alone, does not solve the problem of overfishing the sharks!

To stop this unspeakable killing it is necessary to generate a deep understanding of sustainable management of human actions in the nature. It is absolutely correct to stop the sale and distribution as well as the practice of finning itself to protect these endangered species.

How about the factual finding of proprietors of fins? Is it unlawful to simply possess shark fins?

In Germany people would just say, I'm just the proprietor of these fins, but they are not for sale or distribution! This way they would get along without penalty...

One of the strongest arguments against the demand of shark products is the high contamination with the organic compound of mercury, the methyl mercury! It can cause birth defects, cancer, intellectual deficits in children and adults, can cause alzheimers disease and fertility dysfunction.

To serve toxic food should be unlawful as well, so every distributor of any shark product would have to fear a lawsuit and the fine would be much higher.

- Good for the oceans and the challenge to pass this living planet to our descendants.

It is our obligation, to protect the functioning marine ecosystem from global extinction of vital key organisms like the sharks. If we do not succeed in this achievement, we will not be able to pass this planet in vital condition to the next generation!

Consider, the marine ecosystem produces the 72% of the oxygen of the global atmosphere. The destruction of the marine food web, which is endangered by the extinction of the animal class of the sharks, will be a major share of an irreversible process. The global attempt of the

United Nations Environmental Program to succeed in the conservation challenge of the sharks will not work without responsible politicians like you.

I send you our highest respects and want to encourage you to hear the bill and pass it through the Judiciary committee. Don't let the bill 2169 die, it could be a cardinal sign of our global civilisation, that there are some clear minded politicians who do their homework in an excellent manner!

It cannot be a higher value to serve toxic food to the guests and earn money with it, than to protect the consumers from carcinogenic methyl mercury and the marine ecosystem from mortal, irreversible loss of key organisms. I'm sure, you have understood this coherence.

Again our deepest tribute to this wise senate bill 2169!

Sincerely

Dr med Andreas Keppeler
president Sharkproject Germany e.V.
National Organisation to protect the sharks and the marine ecosystem

--

Dr.med. Andreas Keppeler
Präsident
SHARKPROJECT Germany
Internationale Initiative zum Schutz der Haie und der marinen Ökosysteme

Frankfurter Str. 111 B
D 63067 Offenbach am Main
Germany

Tel. 0049 163 666 20 30
Fax. 0049 69 986453 30
dr.a.keppeler@sharkproject.org
www.sharkproject.org

Präsident: Dr.med.Andreas Keppeler
Vizepräsidenten: Dr. Carsten Finger und Ulrike Simon VR 5194 Amtsgericht Offenbach

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karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 6:06 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: george@georgerpierce.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: George R. Pierce, CFP
Organization: George R. Pierce & Ass., LLC
Address: 1200 Westlake N., suite 707 Seattle, WA 98109
Phone: 206 281-7700
E-mail: george@georgerpierce.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:



Coalition to Protect Ocean Diversity

PO Box 42523, Portland, OR 97242 www.c-pod.org

March 6, 2010

To: Committee on Economic Revitalization, Business & Military Affairs
Chairman Angus L.K. McKelvey

Re: Hearing on Tuesday, March 9, 2010, 8am
MEASURE SB2169, SD2 **IN SUPPORT**

Testimony

Protecting sharks just makes sense. It makes sense economically and environmentally. According to economic reports "[t]ourism remains Hawaii's leading employer, revenue producer, and growth sector." Sharks are one of the key attractions that draw people here from all over the world for the chance to dive and see one. Economic reports statistically bear out that sharks are worth more alive than dead by vast amounts of tourist dollars.

They are also a key contributor to the pristine beauty that draws others, who aren't coming to see sharks per se but to enjoy the magnificent ocean beauty, coral reefs and under water wonderland. Environmentally, as top predators sharks are critical to maintaining a thriving ocean ecosystem; Hawaii's main attraction. Tourists flock to Hawaii for its breathtaking natural beauty. Studies have proven that coral reefs and other underwater jewels thrive where sharks are in natural numbers not depleted by the fin trade.

There is no benefit to Hawaii from the fin trade. The money gained through the fin trade falls primarily into the hands of black-market syndicates, creating an obscene imbalance in distribution of wealth, benefiting only a corrupt few at the cost of the many. The threat of extinction of most shark species due to finning threatens to undermine Hawaii's leading economic sector, and unleash widespread destruction of its pristine ocean environment by removing this top predator.

Hawaii can be, and should be a leader to the world with this bill. Many steps are in process around the globe to bring the necessary protections to this shark species and stem the wanton destruction of the finning industry: e.g. the EU recently passed a "fins attached" mandate for landing sharks; and the Shark Conservation Act is currently pending in the U.S. Senate to tighten regulations to actually prevent finning.

Hawaii already prohibits harvesting shark fins in State waters, or landing shark fins in the State unless the shark is landed whole with fins attached. [§188-40.5] This bill is the next logical and critical step. Hawaii is well positioned to lead the way. As a distribution point for Pacific freight traffic, Hawaii can significantly affect the end of the fin trade in many ways with this bill. I respectfully request that the Committee move this bill forward and give it swift passage into law. The world is watching.

Paula Walker, J.D.
Executive Director C-POD (Coalition to Protect Ocean Diversity)



NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION®

Pacific Regional Center
6 Nickerson Street, Suite 200
Seattle WA 98109
206-285-8707
www.nwf.org

March 29, 2010

Testimony Submitted to the House Committee on Judiciary
SB 2169 SD 2 HD 2 Relating to Shark Fins
Hearing: Tuesday, March 30, 2010 2:30 pm Room 325
In support of SB 2169 SD 2 HD 2

National Wildlife Federation, Pacific Regional Center supports SB 2169 SD2 and HD 2, which prohibits the harvest, possession, sale, or distribution of a shark or shark parts unless landed whole and harvested under a commercial marine license. Prohibits under Hawaii Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, possession or sale of shark fins. Effective July 1, 2050. (SB2169 HD2).

We should not allow shark finning or the sale or distribution of shark fins in Hawai'i. Nor should we wait until the federal government prohibits such fins from entering the state, or from being imported to the U.S. Instead, we should send a strong message that we will not encourage or reward this practice in Hawai'i. Although shark finning is banned in the Atlantic (including the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea), shark fins currently enter Hawai'i ports (unattached to the carcasses) because of a loophole in the federal law and a federal court interpretation in the 9th Circuit that allows the fins to be transferred from a shark-fishing boat to a boat that does not contain fishing gear.

We would ultimately like to see the end of these practices nationwide through Congressional action. SB 2169 would set a standard for other states to follow, by helping to dry up the demand for shark fins and remove the financial incentive for killing these creatures at sea.

Please pass SB 2169 SD 2 HD 2.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Matt Little,
Regional Representative,
Pacific Regional Center,
National Wildlife Federation



For the Protection of Hawaii's Native Wildlife

HAWAII AUDUBON SOCIETY

850 Richards Street, Suite 505, Honolulu, HI 96813-4709

Phone/Fax: (808) 528-1432; hiaudsoc@pixi.com

www.hawaiiudubon.com

March 28, 2010

TO: Committee on Judiciary
Representative Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Representative Ken Ito, Vice Chair

HEARING: Tuesday, March 30, 2010; 2:30 P.M., Conference Rm. 325

Re: SB2169, SD2, HD2 – Relating to Shark Fins

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT

Chair Karamatsu, Vice Chair Ito, and members of the Committee on Judiciary. On behalf of the Hawai'i Audubon Society, I offer this testimony in support of SB2169, SD2, HD2 which would prohibit the harvesting, possession, sale, or distribution of a shark or shark parts unless landed whole and harvested under a commercial marine license. Further it prohibits under Hawaii Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, possession or sale of shark fin.

For the past 71 years, the Hawai'i Audubon Society's mission has been the protection of Hawai'i's native birds, wildlife and habitats, and our ocean resources; and the restoration of endemic ecosystems. The Society has an established and active partnership with the Pacific Fisheries Coalition, and together we have advocated for various measures that protect our oceans and coastal waters from the Big Island of Hawai'i to Kure in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

The Audubon Society fully concurs with the hundreds of individuals and organizations that have offered prior testimony that shark finning is wasteful and causes the destruction of 100 to 200 million sharks per year.

As predators, sharks have evolved to play an important role in controlling the population of prey, especially those in the upper echelons of the food chain. Their disappearance in various locations has resulted in the collapse of entire marine food webs. The overfishing of sharks, cascades into a sudden uprising of the species they prey on; causing an abundance of skates, rays and smaller sharks, which then steadily devastate populations of animals further down the food chain, like shellfish. In Tasmania, the demise of sharks led to the collapse of the spiny lobster industry. In our own Chesapeake Bay, excessive shark hunting led to a decline in the population of scallops and clams resulting in clam chowder being removed from the menu in restaurants across the East Coast for a period of time.

We believe that the current measure now addresses many of the legal concerns that were articulated during previous hearings. We would urge the committee to pass SB2169, SD2, HD1, for final consideration by the full House.

Sincerely,

George Massengale, JD
Legislative Analyst



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES**

TO: Honorable Chair Karamatsu, Vice-Chair Ito

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

DATE: Tuesday, March 30, 230pm, Rm 325

**RE: Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of SB 2169 SD 2 HD 2; Relating to Shark Fins,
with suggested amendments.**

Submitted by: Inga Gibson, Hawaii State Director, The Humane Society of the United States,
P.O. Box 89131, Honolulu, HI 96830, igibson@hsus.org, 808-922-9910

Dear Chair Karamatsu, Vice-Chair Ito and Committee Members,

On behalf of our more than 49,315 members and supporters in Hawaii, The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) thanks you for your support and consideration of SB 2169; relating to shark-finning, and the below amendments, at the request of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. Specifically, we thank Vice-Chair Ito for his leadership on this measure in his Water, Land and Ocean Resources Committee on both the Senate and House measures related to this issue.

Each year, tens of millions of sharks are caught, have their fins sliced off, and are then thrown back into the ocean-- dead or dying, to supply the high demand for shark fin soup. From 1991 to 1996 alone, as the price of fins doubled, the shark catch reported at Hawaii's docks jumped 22-fold: from an estimated 200,000 pounds to 4.5 million pounds. Experts note that shark-finning is a major contributing factor to the global decline of shark species, including the Blue Shark, which, according to the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, is near threatened globally due to demand for their fins. In addition, this week the Parties to the UN Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) will meet to decide whether to protect three hammerhead species who are harvested for their fins throughout the Pacific, and whose populations are now in serious decline.

Hawaii has been a leader in establishing strong legislation and enforcement mechanisms to prevent sharks from being finned, however, loopholes remain. For example, in 2002 the U.S. Coast Guard confiscated more than 32 tons of shark fins from the King Diamond II, a vessel operating out of Hawaii. The vessel fought this seizure in court and won its case due to an unintended loophole in the law that applies only to "fishing" vessels and not all vessels. This exposure of a serious weakness in the regulations prompted a reassessment of the existing Federal law, which relied upon an imprecise weight ratio of fins to carcasses in order to detect violations of the law.

In response to this, the National Marine Fisheries Service implemented regulations that require federal shark fisheries in the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico to land sharks with their fins still naturally attached. Atlantic states followed suit. Congress is now in the process of considering the Shark Conservation Act (H.R. 81/S. 850), which has been passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate Commerce Committee, and which also stipulates that all sharks should be landed with their fins naturally attached.



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES**

Unfortunately, even with Hawaii's current "fins- attached" law and the future passage of the federal Shark Conservation Act, loopholes and enforcement challenges remain. The best way to ensure the necessary protection of sharks, and ultimately, the health and future of our ocean is to prohibit the sale and distribution of shark fins and products containing fins, and only allow for the take of certain species of sharks which are not harvested for their fins.

The HSUS and Humane Society International have been working with the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Division of Aquatic Resources and other stakeholder organizations on amendments that would ensure the best and most efficient enforcement of such as law. For this reason, we do not object to the following amendments:

- Removal of the reference to the commercial take of mako and thresher sharks; allowing for the continued harvesting of sharks, assuming the sharks are landed whole (with fins naturally attached as in our current law) AND assuming that fins are to be discarded and/or appropriately disposed of after landing and harvesting.
- We also do not object to DLNR's proposal that this section apply to vessels under certain circumstances and, assuming that shark fins harvested in federal waters are not in violation of federal law, cargo/containers that are not opened in state waters.

Across the world, Hawaii is renowned for its precious marine life--passage of this legislation would rightfully make Hawaii the nation's leader in shark and ocean protection. An affluent few can live without shark fins and fin by-products unfortunately, our sharks and oceans cannot.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this most important measure. We urge your support of SB 2169.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2010 9:00 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: robert@eco-gear.ca
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: robert hii
Organization:
Address: 3251 Kennedy Rd # 23 Scarborough ON
Phone: 416 616 1577
E-mail: robert@eco-gear.ca
Submitted on: 3/26/2010

Comments:

We in North America must stop the sale of shark products.
If we continue to reduce the numbers of this top predator, the collapse of the natural order in the oceans will be catastrophic.

Testimony in opposition to SB 2169
Committee on Judiciary

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to SB 2169, Relating to Shark fins. It is unclear how the taking of sharks for their fins is a major contributor to the decline in the population of coastal sharks (0 – 3 miles). The major contributor would appear to be the loss of nearshore habitat exacerbated by development, loss of freshwater input and degraded environments. This is ethnocentrism and cultural discrimination.

As stated in line 17, page 1, of the legislation, "Shark fins are the principal ingredient in shark fin soup, and the demand for the delicacy has skyrocketed in recent years," this legislation plainly supports discrimination against Chinese which, given the history of Chinese in the United States, is not unheard of, and discrimination against native Hawaiians, whose use of coastal sharks in cultural practices: the making of pahu, traditional woodworking and the making of traditional cutting implements, is threatened.

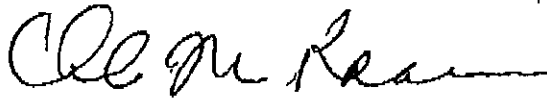
How prevalent is the finning of coastal sharks in Hawaii and what impact will this ban have on the world market? My guess would be that the effect will be negligible but these are the facts that must be part of the legislation for the legislation not to be seriously flawed.

The mixing of coastal and pelagic species in this legislation demonstrates a profound indifference to the realities of shark biology, coastal and pelagic environments, and ecosystem balance.

Haven't we gone down this path with the green sea turtles? The taking was banned because of worldwide decline in the population. The Hawaii population recovers so quickly (25 years) that it begs the question of whether the Hawaii ban was necessary. The world population is still in decline and native Hawaiians have lost that traditional right to harvest a healthy resource because the practice was not *continuous*.

Natural resources should be managed. Prohibition like this is not management.

O wau no,



Charles M. Ka'ai'ai

From: Kim Holland [kholland@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 8:09 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: Testimony regarding SB 2169, SD2, HD2 - relating to shark fins

I am opposed to these bills for reasons described below -

My name is Kim Holland. I am a member of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) Shark Specialist Group. The IUCN is a widely recognized international organization dedicated to the survival of the earth's wildlife. I am also the leader of the Shark Research Group at the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, University of Hawaii.

While I am in complete agreement with the sentiment behind these bills, **in their current format they may do more harm to sharks than good.** Hawaii is a worldwide leader in shark research - both in terms of basic biology and population management. As written, these bills will severely impact (or even eliminate) the type of research that has already borne fruit in terms of identifying the habitats that are essential to the well being of sharks and in the formulation of public policy regarding the risk of sharks to public safety and shark population management.

Although many shark populations around the world have experienced significant declines, this is not true in Hawaii where coastal shark populations are not targeted for fishing and are very healthy. In my opinion, these bills will add very little to the conservation of local shark resources but could have a crippling impact on shark-related research – the type of research that we need to make informed conservation decisions.

The activities that these bills seek to prohibit (and rightly so) concern the consumption and trading of shark fins after they are landed – in Hawaii or elsewhere. **We do not need additional local legislation regarding harvesting in our region – the rules already in place are sufficient for these purposes.**

If these bills are to progress at all, they should focus on the trade of fins rather than the capture of sharks and they should contain explicit language that excludes research and education activities from their purview. Further, I am opposed to any language that would require any form of new permitting process for research and education activities because these types of permits usually involve so many competing departments and bureaucratic confusion that requiring a permit is tantamount to killing an activity.

The underlying motivation behind these bills is laudable but these bills are not well constructed in terms of their overall impact on the well being of sharks. As written, I strongly oppose these bills.

I strongly **oppose** bill SB 2169 on for the following reasons.

- There is a State law already managing the taking of Sharks in Hawaii, this bill is redundant.
- Sharks are not an endangered species and should not be managed as such
- Preventing the take and use of sharks will cultural discriminate against many local ethnic cultures in Hawaii in particular Asians, Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, Japanese, and Hawaiians. All have traditionally taken and eaten sharks.
- Sharks in Hawaii's fishery is mainly a " by-catch fishery" only certain sharks are retained for food. Most sharks caught in Hawaii are release alive according to statics from Noaa fisheries. There is no real targeted "shark fishery" in Hawaii.
- Sharks provide a good source of protein to our markets
- Shark fins used in soup is a significant part of the Chinese culture as the soup provides health and spiritual benefits.

Sincerely,

Clay Tam

Voting, Tax paying, Fishermen of Hawaii.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 10:05 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: dean@HawaiiGoesFishing.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM
Attachments: shark finning.txt

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Dean Sensui
Organization: Hawaii Goes Fishing
Address: PO Box 893640 Mililani, HI 96789
Phone: 808-265-8875
E-mail: dean@HawaiiGoesFishing.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2010

Comments:

shark finning

This testimony is in opposition to the proposed bill, SB2169.

Local fishermen do not consider sharks a target species. They might be fished elsewhere but I have yet to meet someone in our state who intentionally catches and keeps sharks here. In fact, many native Hawaiians hold these fish in high esteem and wouldn't dream of harvesting them.

As far as I know, sharks are considered nuisance bycatch among recreational fishers in Hawaii. There isn't a single one who gets excited when they hook a shark, and no one has ever gotten fired up over the possibility of making extra spending money off their fins.

In every instance the shark was unhooked and released. In a recent episode of "Hawaii Goes Fishing" there's a sequence in the credits at the end of that show which features members of the Atlapac Fishing Club releasing a small tiger shark which was inadvertently hooked.

There was also another story in our show in which a kayaker caught a shark while fishing for other species. The shark was released unharmed. If anyone considered these fish of any economic or culinary value, they would have been kept.

The proposed bill, SB2169, states, "... data from state, federal, and international agencies show a decline in the shark populations both locally and worldwide."

What data or studies are being cited? And is it specific to Hawaiian waters?

Furthermore, the State's Division of Aquatic Resources already has a restriction against the practice of shark finning:

Shark Finning - HRS 188-40.5

Unlawful to knowingly harvest shark fins from State waters, or land shark fins in the state regardless of the waters in which the sharks were caught, unless fins were taken from a shark landed whole in the State.

Violators subject to seizure and forfeiture of shark fins, commercial marine license, fishing vessel, and fishing equipment; plus fines of not less than \$5,000, nor more than \$15,000, plus administrative and attorney's fees and costs.

Lastly, it's been discovered that there are campaigns being conducted outside of this state to encourage non-residents from other parts of the country to testify on this bill. Such testimony should not be given consideration as it comes from people who have no knowledge nor interest in our fisheries. It's doubtful that these individuals could identify a half dozen beaches, much less have any understanding of this unique fishery and the people who depend upon it.

The people of Hawaii shouldn't be determining the fate of deer hunting in Minnesota. And others from outside our state shouldn't be telling us how to manage our resources, either.

In this instance, what can best protect this particular part of the fishery is active enforcement of regulations that already exist. Let's not make it unnecessarily complicated and restrictive.

Aloha,
Dean Sensui, executive producer
Hawaii Goes Fishing

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 11:26 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: whalesdolphins@optusnet.com.au
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Agnes Hall
Organization: Individual
Address: 88 Southgateway Langwarrin Victoria Australia
Phone:
E-mail: whalesdolphins@optusnet.com.au
Submitted on: 3/28/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 30, 2010 7:08 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: kgroleau@alumni.nmu.edu
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kimberly Williams
Organization: Individual
Address: 94-1335 Kulewa Lp Apt D Waipahu, HI
Phone:
E-mail: kgroleau@alumni.nmu.edu
Submitted on: 3/30/2010

Comments:

The affects of allowing this messes up an entire eco system in the ocean. Affects would be detrimental.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Victoria B. Anderson [vanderso@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2010 2:42 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: Please ban shark fin distribution and sales!

Dear Chair Karamatsu, Vice Chair Ito and Committee,

Please do all you can to stop the unsustainable and inhumane slaughter of sharks for their fins. This cruel practice affects not only the sharks, but ocean ecology in general, and further endangers many shark species. Please make Hawaii an example of good stewardship of the world's resources.

Sincerely yours,

--

Victoria Anderson
Associate Professor of Linguistics
University of Hawai'i at Manoa
[http://www2.hawaii.edu/~vanderso/
vanderso@hawaii.edu](http://www2.hawaii.edu/~vanderso/vanderso@hawaii.edu)
Office: 808-956-5830
FAX: 808-956-9166

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Joel Fischer [jfischer@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2010 12:03 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: SB2169; JUD; 3/30; 2:30PM; Rm 325

Importance: High

SB2169, SD2, Relating to Shark Fins
JUD; Chair, Rep Karamatsu

PLEASE PASS THIS BILL!

The practice of shark-finning is as brutal and inhumane as any human activity could be. It treats our water-borne cousins, the amakua of many Pacific Islanders, as though they are worthless with no feelings of pain whatsoever. This is the cruelest form of speciesism, in which other living species are treated as so inferior to humans that they can be tortured and exploited by us.

Shark-finning has tortured and destroyed literally MILLIONS of sharks around the world, just so some humans can enjoy a soup! This is too unbelievable for words!

Please join me in showing that we care about animals in Hawai'i enough to ban these barbaric practices.

Thank you.

Aloha, joel

Dr. Joel Fischer, ACSW
Professor Ret.
University of Hawai'i, School of Social Work
Henke Hall
Honolulu, HI 96822

"It is reasonable that everyone who asks justice should DO justice."
Thomas Jefferson

"There comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular, but one must take it because one's conscience tells one that it is right."
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

"Never, never, never quit."
Winston Churchill

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: timrock@doubleblue.com
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2010 12:55 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: shark fin bill, please pass and support

Dear Representative Karamatsu and Committee,

Humans can live without shark fin soup and have done so for most of mankind's time on Earth.

The Earth and its seas have not lived in balance without sharks in the seas for millions of years.

There is a huge difference here. It really is apples and oranges. Do the right thing.

Thank you.

Timothy Rock
Marine Photojournalist

--

Tim Rock
P.O. Box 24666 GMF
Barrigada, Guam 96921 USA
671-646-1265

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Tim's Blog: <http://www.guammicronesiadvetravel.com>

E-Mail: timrock@doubleblue.com

QUOTE: There is one word in the English language that describes why the human race never does and never will reach it's full potential.

That word is "Meetings".

and

"But I don't want comfort. I want God. I want poetry. I want real danger. I want freedom. I want goodness. I want sin." - Aldous Huxley

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 25, 2010 5:15 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: kent@trisland.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kent Fonoimoana
Organization: Individual
Address: Kahuku, Hawai'i
Phone:
E-mail: kent@trisland.com
Submitted on: 3/25/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Pete Atkinson [yachtvigia@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 25, 2010 7:20 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: *****SPAM***** Testimony for: Jon Riki Karamatsu, Ken Ito

RE: IN SUPPORT of Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2
Relating to Shark Fins

DATE: Tuesday, March 30, 2010
TIME: 2:30 p.m.

Dear Representatives

I lived on a yacht for 20 years, sailing all over the Pacific (including Hawaii) photographing sharks. The positive feedback loop between rarity and price will send many species of sharks to extinction. Higher prices of fins will increase fishing effort which will increase the "face" people think they are buying when they eat shark fin soup or present it to guests at weddings. In normal markets, higher prices leads to less demand. With fins these norms break down with higher prices leading to more face bought. This will result in extinctions.

Hawaii has the opportunity to be a world leader in preventing this idiocy.

Sincerely

Pete Atkinson

(UK citizen living in Asutralia.)

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karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Carole Crist [chorse@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2010 6:33 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: IN SUPPORT of Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2Relating to Shark Fins

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, March 30, 2010
TIME: 2:30 p.m.

RE: IN SUPPORT of Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2
Relating to Shark Fins

I am writing to urge you to support the ban of shark finning in the state of Hawaii. Shark Fins are not food. Sharks play a vital role in the health of the ocean. Our world environment is at risk when the top predator in the ocean is endangered. Please, I beg you to pass a bill that is strong and enforceable to save the shark.

The recent argument defending the practice of eating Shark fin soup, claiming that it is part of Asian culture and should be allowed, is illogical and has no place in a civilized society. The practice of finning the shark while it is still alive, and dumping it's body back into the sea to drown is barbaric. The soup is a novelty, providing no real nutritional benefits. Allowing finning (risking the health of the ocean) so that a minority can eat shark fin soup is outrageous. The argument that consumption of shark fins is vital cultural practice holds no merit when compared to the outcome for the world if we continue to slaughter sharks at the current rate. To make a comparison, certain tribes in New Guinea and the South Pacific could claim that cannibalism is cultural and should be allowed. As law makers you would never consider allowing the consumption of post mortem humans (long pig) even if the argument was, "it's our culture". I am sure if the issue of Long Pig came before you as lawmakers, it would be easy to firmly stand against such activities with the simple attitude that this is Hawaii not New Guinea. I am begging you to adopt this same attitude in regard to shark fin soup. It should be clear, if the practice is barbaric, endangers the ocean and therefore the world, why would it be allowed? This is Hawaii, this is where the largest marine sanctuary currently exists, this is where the shark should be safe.

Thank you
Carole Crist
92-1447 Palahia St
Kapolei, HI 96707

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Frank Baensch [rct@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2010 8:30 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: IN SUPPORT of Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2

Testimony for:
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

RE: IN SUPPORT of Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2 Relating to Shark Fins

DATE: Tuesday, March 30, 2010
TIME: 2:30 p.m.

Aloha,

I am a marine biologist, fish farmer and underwater photographer living on Oahu. Shark finning is inhumane, wasteful and the reason why shark populations are endangered worldwide.

I am well aware of this activity outside of US waters but was shocked to find out that finning and fin transport is legal here in Hawaii.

The high demand for shark fin soup makes this practice very lucrative.

But at what cost?

Finning has effectively removed 90% of sharks in the ocean.

Scientists are now overwhelmingly finding that removing this top level predator is causing irreparable damage to valuable commercial seafood stocks, coral reefs and the overall marine ecosystem balance.

Hawaii's ocean supports a wealth of resources for local people as well as tourists. Sharks play an important role in maintaining these resources.

They act on all levels of the food chain, removing sick/weak animals from the population and keeping animals from over-consuming their prey.

Besides, the practice and consequences of shark finning is rapidly becoming main stream and the people are siding with the sharks.

Hawaii's position on the matter will no doubt become public.

All activity related to shark finning, including the transport of fins through Hawaii's ports, should be outlawed without question.

Thank you for supporting this bill.

Frank Baensch

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: William W Spurlock [krinlock@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2010 10:12 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2. IN SUPPORT

TESTIMONY FOR:

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, March 30, 2010
TIME: 2:30PM

JUDtestimony @ Capitol.hawaii.gov
RE: IN SUPPORT of Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2 Relating to

Shark Fins

This is an important Bill - probably the first of it's kind in the United States. It is long over due. The fishing vessels that catch these sharks for their fins, cut the fins off while the sharks are still alive and throw them back in the ocean. What a horrible way to die, not to mention the imbalance to the ocean environment with the continued loss of shark populations.

You might think that I am a misplaced tree hugger. That is not the case at all. My son spent 7 years out on the fishing boats in the Pacific. It is not nice. Ask any Micronesian or Pacific Islander what has happened to all the sharks around their island waters.

Not very long ago the Republic of Palau caught 2 fishing vessels illegally fishing in their waters. The boats were full of shark fins. The Government confiscated the vessels, BURNED THE SHARK FINS as a reminder to other nations of Palau's zero tolerance for this kind of thing. Palau could have sold those fins for big bucks on the asian market. They chose instead to set an example.

It sure would be nice if Hawaii would be as progressive as Palau.

I thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

Respectfully,

Marilee Krinitt
Puna District, Big Island

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Cindy Moragrega [cindym@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2010 10:39 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: IN SUPPORT of Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2 Relating to Shark Fins

Testimony for:
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Please support the bill that will prohibit the sale, trade and possession of shark fins and shark fin products! The current practice of finning is not only devastating the world's shark populations but has huge repercussions to the entire ocean ecosystem. It is a wasteful and immoral practice that must be stopped! The desire for people to eat shark fin soup should not override the decision to pass this bill.

A perceived "delicacy" should not cause overwhelming destruction to the ocean! By having your support of this bill we are one step closer to having Hawaii lead the way in passing this imperative legislation and setting a positive and powerful example for the rest of the world.

Sincerely,
Cynthia Moragrega
Maui District

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: MMMMahalo2000@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2010 12:28 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: Support SB 2169

ALOHA CHAIR KARAMATSU, VICE-CHAIR ITO

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

SB 2169

March 30, 2:00 PM, Rm 325

WILL NOT BE PRESENT

SUPPORT SB 2169

This practice has no place anywhere, but especially in Hawaii

Mike Moran

Kihei, HI

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2010 2:22 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: octopus@maui.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Rene Umberger
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: octopus@maui.net
Submitted on: 3/26/2010

Comments:

In strong support. Hawaii's sharks are desperately in need of these protections. They are essential, not optional for healthy reef ecosystems significantly important to the Hawaiian culture, as well.

Please pass this bill!

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2010 2:23 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: lynn.all@maui.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lynn Allen
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: lynn.all@maui.net
Submitted on: 3/26/2010

Comments:
In strong support.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov .
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2010 2:31 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: chris@northshoreexplorers.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Chris Quarre
Organization: Individual
Address: 111 Kupalaiki Loop Kihei, HI 96753
Phone: 8087570011
E-mail: chris@northshoreexplorers.com
Submitted on: 3/26/2010

Comments:

This will be a brave & historic move for Hawaii. We have the opportunity to be conservation leaders. Shark Fining is a cruel, wasteful act that is depleting our oceans of a very important apex predator, ultimately the oceans will suffer greatly if this is not curtailed. Trying to continue this despicable act by saying shark fin soup is an important part of your culture is just ridiculous, will continuing cannibalism be the next argument?

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Amarisa Marie [amarisamarie@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2010 3:06 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: Please Support SB 2169

Aloha Committee Members,

While I do not agree with the effective date of July 1, 2050, I support the body of the Bill SB 2169, which prohibits the harvest, possession, sale, or distribution of a shark or shark parts unless landed whole and harvested under a commercial marine license. I agree with the prohibition of possession or sale of shark fins under the Hawaii Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. This issue is urgent and can not wait 40 years. This is no way to manage a species by projecting this far into the future. There will be no direct effect on the economy of Hawaii if we do or don't do this now, but there will be a significant and lasting effect on Hawaiian marine ecosystems if this practice is allowed to go on without management. Shark finning is wasteful, it may have a significant negative affect on marine ecosystems, it is disrespectful to some families, and it should stop now, not in 40 years. By endangering our marine ecosystems we place other major components of our society and environment at risk to indirect negative consequences.

Mahalo for your support and kokua,
amarisa marie

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Kaneohe, HI 96744

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karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Janice Palma-Glennie [palmtree7@earthlink.net]
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2010 3:04 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: Ban shark finning--support SB 2169

Aloha,

Please support SB 2169, which prohibits the harvest, possession, sale, or distribution of a shark or shark parts.

Shark finning is cruel, wasteful, and un-environmental.

Mahalo,
Janice Palma-Glennie
PO Box 4849
Kailua-Kona, HI 96745

From: Jo-Ann M. Adams [jadamsesq@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2010 3:29 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: In support of SB 2169 SD 2 HD 2 (banning shark finning in Hawai'i)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair

Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti	Rep. Hermina M. Morita
Rep. Rida Cabanilla	Rep. Blake K. Oshiro
Rep. Mele Carroll	Rep. Joseph M. Souki
Rep. Robert N. Herkes	Rep. Clift Tsuji
Rep. Sylvia Luke	Rep. Glenn Wakai
Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey	Rep. Barbara C. Marumoto
Rep. John M. Mizuno	Rep. Cynthia Thielen

FOR HEARING SCHEDULED:

DATE: Tuesday, March 30, 2010

TIME: 2:30 p.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 325

I support SB 2169, which prohibits the harvest, possession, sale, or distribution of a shark or shark parts unless landed whole and harvested under a commercial marine license. This bill prohibits possession or sale of shark fins under Hawaii Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.

Shark finning involves catching a shark, slicing off its fins, and discarding the shark (often while the shark is still alive). Most of the sharks fins harvested here are shipped to out-of-state. Therefore, this bill will have minimal, if any, effect on our local economy.

Shark finning is wasteful. It may have a significant negative affect on marine ecosystems. It is disrespectful to some local families. It should stop.

Please pass SB2169.

Jo-Ann M. Adams, Esq.
LAW OFFICES OF JO-ANN M. ADAMS, LLLC
Seven Waterfront Plaza, Suite 400, Honolulu, Hawaii
Mailing Address: PO Box 75472, Honolulu, HI 96836
Telephone: (808) 528-2100 Fax: (866) 370-0259

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2010 3:47 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: rob@electronicinsight.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Robert Barreca
Organization: Individual
Address: 3535 Maluhia St Honolulu, HI
Phone: 808-224-1905
E-mail: rob@electronicinsight.com
Submitted on: 3/26/2010

Comments:

I support SB 2169, which prohibits the harvest, possession, sale, or distribution of a shark or shark parts unless landed whole and harvested under a commercial marine license.

Shark finning is wasteful, it may have a significant negative affect on marine ecosystems, it is disrespectful to some families, and it should stop.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2010 3:59 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: tako-belle@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Linda Jerome
Organization: Individual
Address: 15 Kulanihakoi, 6g Kihei, HI
Phone: 808280-8625
E-mail: tako-belle@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 3/26/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Waimea Williams [williamsw011@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2010 5:33 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: SB 2169

Respected Legislators and Public Servants,

The bill currently under consideration to ban the terrible practice of shark finning has my full and passionate support. Sharks have until recently been taken for granted but are now under threat of becoming endangered. Their slaughter via finning, for commercial purposes (thinly disguised as "traditional"), is as immoral as the endless, wasteful slaughter of the American buffalo in the 19th century--which today is looked back on as barbarous.

Please pass SB 2169.

Aloha,
Waimea Williams

'Ahahui Malama i ka Lokahi
Haiau Mele

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Lydia Garvey [wolfhowlmama@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2010 5:53 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: mz@conservehi.org
Subject: testing- NIX shark 'finning'/killing- Support S.B. 2169!

This 'practice' is highly disrespectful & wasteful. Predators are vital to ecosystem balance, when they fall- so does the rest. Sharks are endangered & need to be protected.

Your attention to this most urgent matter would be much appreciated by all present & future generations of all species.

Thank you Lydia Garvey 429 S 24th Clinton OK 73601

From: Mardi LaPrade [mardilaprade@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2010 9:38 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: Support SB 2169 to prohibit shark finning

Dear Sirs,

Please support SB 2169 to prohibit the harvest, possession, sale, or distribution of shark or shark parts unless landed whole and harvested under a commercial marine license. It also prohibits under Hawaii Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, possession or sale of shark fins. Effective July 1, 2050. (SB 2169 HD2)

Shark Finning is a cruel practice because it involves dismemberment often while the animal is still living. Most of these fins from Hawaiian waters are sent elsewhere, so the bill would not affect the economy here. Shark finning is disrespectful and wasteful. Please pass SB 2169.

Thank you,

Mardi LaPrade

- I support SB 2169, which prohibits the harvest, possession, sale, or distribution of a shark or shark parts unless landed whole and harvested under a commercial marine license. Prohibits under Hawaii Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, possession or sale of shark fins. Effective July 1, 2050. (SB2169 HD2)
- Shark finning involves catching a shark, slicing off its fins, and discarding the shark (often still alive) at sea for subsequent distribution and sale.
- Most of the shark fins currently landed in Hawai'i are shipped to the mainland or elsewhere. This bill will not affect the economy here.
- Shark finning is wasteful, it may have a significant negative affect on marine ecosystems, it is disrespectful to some families, and it should stop.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Paul Munzinger [uw-media@t-online.de]
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2010 10:47 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: *****SPAM***** Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2 Relating to Shark Fins
Importance: High

Honorable Members,

We are living far away from you nice islands in germany,
but we are looking very exact, what happens in your oceans and round the world.

We got as a info the letter from Jeff Shaw (Oceanic Defense), for we are also engaged in some
organisations for endangeroured species,
and can only emphasize, what he has written!

Its a really shame, what happens worldwide with the sharks and some other fishes.
and if some people or nations argue, that shark-fish-soup is a part of their culture, we definitely can not
follow them.

It cannot be a culture , that species will be killed off: Its only a thinking, to make profit as soon as
possible, nothing more.
All their arguments can be disproved, thats the really truth.

We want not be blamable for our children in the future if their is sometimes the headline in the media:

„They have thought about that without results, have done nothing, but money...“

Please think about that- and enact a law

Best regards from gemany

Respectfully

Paul Munzinger
www.uw-media.de

From: Oceanic Defense [mailto:info@oceanicdefense.org]
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2010 8:19 AM
To: 'JUDtestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov'
Cc: 'repkaramatsu@Capitol.hawaii.gov'
Subject: RE: Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2 Relating to Shark Fins

Honorable Members,

Thank you for this opportunity to share with you our support for Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2. As we all know sharks are critical
to healthy ecosystems. Sharks regulate our oceans; they keep populations in balance and ensure aquatic stability.

Without them we see effects that impact other species and ultimately ourselves. (ie Atlantic Cownose stingray populations increase due to the removal of Hammerhead sharks leading to the collapse of the mollusk industry.)

As its largest industry; Hawaii depends on tourism; in 2005 183,000 jobs were tourism related. Without healthy oceans surrounding the islands revenues will suffer and many more people will be impacted by the loss of sharks in state and surrounding waters. This decision will not only impact the shark fin trade but every single one of your constituents relying on you to represent them as your voting public.

In a interview on local Khon2 news, reporter Andrew Pereira asked a local restaurant owner David Ho about the sale of shark fin his response was: *"If the ban shark fishing they should ban all big fish fishing too"* Mr. Ho has a very good point. The larger the fish is the more mercury that fish contains. Due to methylmercury; women and children are urged to NOT eat certain large predatory fish including swordfish, tuna and shark. If we must eat fish and seafood we need to eat much lower on the food chain.

It has been proven that the shark fins contained within a bowl of soup adds zero flavor to the dish, it is a misguided fable that sharks have magical powers that if eaten are transferred to the person ingesting the shark. Shark fin soup is a status symbol a way to appease the ego of humans. By supporting the shark fin trade we are not only hurting our oceans but every single person on the islands of Hawaii and around the world.

Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2. and protect not only sharks but Hawaii's pristine environment and beautiful surrounding waters. The world is awaits your decision.

Respectfully.

--

Jeff Shaw - Founder | Executive Director
Oceanic Defense - Activation Through Education

--

<http://www.oceanicdefense.org> | info@oceanicdefense.org

--

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<http://oceanicdefense.blogspot.com>

--

a non-profit volunteer driven organization

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Brendal Davis [brendal.davis@sharksavers.org]
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 1:47 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: Testimony on Shark Fin Soup

TO: Testimony for:
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, March 30, 2010
TIME: 2:30 p.m.

JUDtestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

RE: Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2
Relating to Shark Fins

Please take into consideration your own backyard and protect the sharks that roam Hawaii waters. It is important to everyone, the whole world, and our ecosystems that shark fin soup is stopped. This inhumane desire to eat shark fin soup should not override the decision to pass this bill and this is your chance to help take the lead in shark conservation.

I am not a tree-hugger or an extreme conservationist, I am a dive instructor who loves the ocean and everything that lies beneath it. I am not sure if you really understand the problem with the world wide shark decline. Hawaii's seafood industry and eco system will collapse without apex predators patrolling the waters. It has already been seen throughout the world. When will we stop being so greedy as humans and actually put our own environment before our selfish needs? I was planning on taking a trip with my friends at the end of May to Hawaii, since its known for its beauty and abundant marine life, I will not be taking this trip, if the bill does not pass. I am just one person, of course, but I can assure you many people will follow in my footsteps and stop coming to Hawaii. A few people can turn into thousands and drastically hurt your economy. Even if people don't like sharks in particular, they will stop coming because you decided to take a step back in conservation, not a positive step forward into protecting our ecosystems.

What happened to the quality of life? Hawaii is known to be a beautiful sacred place that has a lot of amazing diving and other eco-tourism adventures. People from all around the world will stop coming to your island out of respect for the ocean and because there isn't anything to see anymore. And why? because fisherman cannot find another job in the world? Economy is tough for everyone right now, not just fisherman. As you know, Sharks are worth a lot more alive then they are dead.

Please, please, push this bill forward. For everyone's sake, including the fisherman who depend on eco system health for their own survival.

Thank you for your time,

Brendal Davis
PADI MSDT Dive Instructor
Florida Volunteer Team Leader

Shark Savers, Inc.
419 Lafayette Street, 2nd floor
New York, NY 10003
<http://www.sharksavers.org/>
brendal.davis@sharksavers.org
www.sharksavers.org
561-702-8155

"To save the world and the creatures that dwell upon earth, we must change the ideas of the human race first"

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear sirs,

I would like to express my support for Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2, concerning the shark fin ban.

As apex predators, sharks play a vital role in our oceans ecosystem. They regulate the health and numbers of species below them on the food chain and in doing so they are responsible for maintaining a healthy underwater gene pool.

Sharks mature slow and give birth to small litters, which makes them extremely vulnerable to overfishing. They need a lot of time to rebuild their populations.

The numbers of sharks worldwide have decreased considerably, even dramatically. Some species have plummeted to only 1% of their population levels in the last 3 decades alone. The sharks are harvested mainly for their fins, to provide for the very high demand of shark fin soup, which is a delicacy in Eastern countries.

This "finning" is a practice where the fins are cut of the shark while it is still alive and the animal is then thrown back into the water. It causes the sharks to die a slow and very painful death. Some starve to death, some are slowly eaten by other fish but most simply drown as they need to keep moving to force water through their gills to breath.

It has been proven that big fish as sharks contain methyl mercury. Eating them can lead to mercury poisoning. The World Health Organization says there are no known safe levels and advises to eliminate the consumption of mercury whenever possible. Mercury poisoning causes impairment of vision, speech, hearing, memory and can lead to sterility and sexual dysfunction.

To prevent sharks from becoming extinct, it is my opinion that all harvest, possession, sale, transfer or distribution of any species of shark or parts of sharks should be forbidden.

As Hawaii depends on tourism as its largest industry, it needs healthy oceans surrounding the islands, so it would be in it's own interest to protect the sharks that keep these reefs and waters healthy.

Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,

Katrien Vandevelde
Belgium
A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 2:36 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: calthy.dezwartekat@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: mathy merbis
Organization: Individual
Address: vraagheideweg 6 schilde, belgië
Phone: 0472710771
E-mail: calthy.dezwartekat@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 2:47 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: lkoehl@snet.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lisa Koehl
Organization: Individual
Address: 26 Mason Hill Road Brooklyn, CT
Phone:
E-mail: lkoehl@snet.net
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear Honorable Sirs,

I write with personal sincerity and respect to voice my full support for Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2, concerning the critical shark fin ban.

As apex predators, sharks play a key and critically important role in our oceans ecosystem. They regulate the health and numbers of species below them on the food chain and in doing so they are responsible for maintaining a healthy underwater gene pool.

Sharks mature slow and give birth to small litters, which makes them extremely vulnerable to overfishing. They need a lot of time to rebuild their populations.

The numbers of sharks worldwide have decreased considerably, even dramatically. Some species have plummeted to only 1% of their population levels in the last 3 decades alone. The sharks are harvested mainly for their fins, to provide for the very high demand of shark fin soup, which is a delicacy in Eastern countries.

This "finning" is a practice where the fins are cut of the shark while it is still alive and the animal is then thrown back into the water. It causes the sharks to die a slow and very painful death. Some starve to death, some are slowly eaten by other fish but most simply drown as they need to keep moving to force water through their gills to breath.

It has been proven that big fish as sharks contain methyl mercury. Eating them can lead to mercury poisoning. The World Health Organization says there are no known safe levels and advises to eliminate the consumption of mercury whenever possible. Mercury poisoning causes impairment of vision, speech, hearing, memory and can lead to sterility and sexual dysfunction.

To prevent sharks from becoming extinct, it is my opinion that all harvest, possession, sale, transfer or distribution of any species of shark or parts of sharks should be forbidden.

As Hawaii depends on tourism as its largest industry, it needs healthy oceans surrounding the islands, so it would be in it's own interest to protect the sharks that keep these reefs and waters healthy.

Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,

Name

Country

A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

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Respectfully,
PERTHUISOT Marie
FRANCE

A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 3:04 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: christophe.jurdan@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Christophe Jurdan
Organization: Individual
Address: rue des Bruyeres 513 4520 Moha
Phone: ++32498786932
E-mail: christophe.jurdan@gmail.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 3:15 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: Brettmayberry@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Brett Mayberry
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: Brettmayberry@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear sirs,

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Respectfully,

Brett Mayberry

USA

A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

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Respectfully,

Dr. Kerstin Huf
Germany
A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 3:43 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: scooby.srh1@talk21.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: stuart hastie
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: scooby.srh1@talk21.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

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Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,
stuart hastie
A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 4:00 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: tnthomps@frii.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Terry Thompson
Organization: Individual
Address: 512 Mustang Dr. Loveland, CO
Phone: 970-667-5154
E-mail: tnthomps@frii.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear sirs,

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Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,

Claire Drake
United Kingdom
A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 4:27 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: Outgirlint@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Elaine Suranie
Organization: Individual
Address: 623 Maltman Avenue Los Angeles, CA
Phone: 323-559-1157
E-mail: Outgirlint@aol.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:
It's about time we stop the torturing of these animals!

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair

Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear sirs,

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Respectfully,

Keith Gilles

United Kingdom

A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 4:34 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: lesleyt@frii.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Ellen Thompson
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: lesleyt@frii.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair

Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear sirs,

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Respectfully,

Name George Rix

Country United Kingdom

A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

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Respectfully,

Alex Pierpaoli

USA

"A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative"

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 6:07 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: hccolby1@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Helen Colby
Organization: Individual
Address: 8615 SW 126 Terrace FL
Phone:
E-mail: hccolby1@aol.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

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As Hawaii depends on tourism as its largest industry, it needs healthy oceans surrounding the islands, so it would be in it's own interest to protect the sharks that keep these reefs and waters healthy.

I was lucky enough to visit Hawaii this year for the very first time to attend the International White Shark Symposium in Honolulu. I was so impressed with the Hawaiian's respect for nature that I witness first hand and can imagine the passing of this bill as the only possible outcome acceptable to you and your fellow Hawaiians.

Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,

Hannah B. Medd, Marine Biologist
United States of America
A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 7:17 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: christy.101@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Christina Cure
Organization: Individual
Address: Makaha, HI
Phone:
E-mail: christy.101@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 7:19 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: melissathefob@aim.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Melissa Gomez
Organization: Individual
Address: 48-11 186 street Fresh Meadows NY
Phone: 3474001330
E-mail: melissathefob@aim.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

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Respectfully,

Name: Colette Bastin
Country: Apartado 215, 11140 Conil de la Frontera, Spain

"A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative"

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

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Respectfully,

Name: Johannes W. Zink
Country: Apartado 215, 11140 Conil de la Frontera, Spain

"A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative"

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 7:28 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: sethnwaller@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Seth Waller
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: sethnwaller@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 7:30 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: keithc@snorkelbob.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Keith Christie
Organization: Individual
Address: 1725 Olinda Rd. Makawao, HI
Phone: (808) 573-2456
E-mail: keithc@snorkelbob.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 8:10 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: judyleon_77@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: judith leon
Organization: Individual
Address: 9975 peace way las vegas nv
Phone: 7027872349
E-mail: judyleon_77@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:
Dear sirs,

I would like to express my support for Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2, concerning the shark fin ban.

As apex predators, sharks play a vital role in our oceans ecosystem. They regulate the health and numbers of species below them on the food chain and in doing so they are responsible for maintaining a healthy underwater gene pool.

Sharks mature slow and give birth to small litters, which makes them extremely vulnerable to over-fishing. They need a lot of time to rebuild their populations.

The numbers of sharks worldwide have decreased considerably, even dramatically. Some species have plummeted to only 1% of their population levels in the last 3 decades alone. The sharks are harvested mainly for their fins, to provide for the very high demand of shark fin soup, which is a delicacy in Eastern countries.

This "finning" is a practice where the fins are cut of the shark while it is still alive and the animal is then thrown back into the water. It causes the sharks to die a slow and very painful death. Some starve to death, some are slowly eaten by other fish but most simply drown as they need to keep moving to force water through their gills to breath.

It has been proven that big fish as sharks contain methyl mercury. Eating them can lead to mercury poisoning. The World Health Organization says there are no known safe levels and advises to eliminate the consumption of mercury whenever possible. Mercury poisoning causes impairment of vision, speech, hearing, memory and can lead to sterility and sexual dysfunction.

To prevent sharks from becoming extinct, it is my opinion that all harvest, possession, sale, transfer or distribution of any species of shark or parts of sharks should be forbidden.

As Hawaii depends on tourism as its largest industry, it needs healthy oceans surrounding the islands, so it would be in it's own interest to protect the sharks that keep these reefs and waters healthy.

Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 8:22 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: noranigg@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Nora Nigg
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: noranigg@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear sirs,

I would like to express my support for Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2, concerning the shark fin ban.

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Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,

Alex Antoniou, Ph.D.
USA
A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

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Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,

Alexander Buttigieg
Sharkman's World Org.
Malta

A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

End Shark Finning

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear sirs,

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Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,

Sandi walker
Canada
A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear sirs,

I would like to express my support for Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2, concerning the shark fin ban.

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Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,

Michael Keller
Brunswick, Ohio
A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 9:48 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: ltommasi.lt@libero.it
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169.

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Luigi Tommasi
Organization: Individual
Address: Via Gramsci, 34 Calimera (Le), Italy
Phone: 39 0832 875611
E-mail: ltommasi.lt@libero.it
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 9:58 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: mark@greendiversproductions.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Mark Schacht
Organization: Green Divers Productions
Address: 555 Pierce Street Albany Ca 94806
Phone: 510-528-2653
E-mail: mark@greendiversproductions.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

This measure allows the appropriate taking of sharks by licensed commercial fisherman and therefor poses no threat to legitimate businesses. It deserves to pass and be enacted into law.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 10:18 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: david@sharkville.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: David Amack
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: david@sharkville.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

Dear sirs,

I would like to express my support for Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2, concerning the shark fin ban.

As apex predators, sharks play a vital role in our oceans ecosystem. They regulate the health and numbers of species below them on the food chain and in doing so they are responsible for maintaining a healthy underwater gene pool.

Sharks mature slow and give birth to small litters, which makes them extremely vulnerable to overfishing. They need a lot of time to rebuild their populations.

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It has been proven that big fish as sharks contain methyl mercury. Eating them can lead to mercury poisoning. The World Health Organization says there are no known safe levels and advises to eliminate the consumption of mercury whenever possible. Mercury poisoning causes impairment of vision, speech, hearing, memory and can lead to sterility and sexual dysfunction.

To prevent sharks from becoming extinct, it is my opinion that all harvest, possession, sale, transfer or distribution of any species of shark or parts of sharks should be forbidden.

As Hawaii depends on tourism as its largest industry, it needs healthy oceans surrounding the islands, so it would be in it's own interest to protect the sharks that keep these reefs and waters healthy.

Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,

Name: Kerstin

Country: Malta

"A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative"

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 10:34 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: jmercer@halealii.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Janet Mercer
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: jmercer@halealii.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

I strongly support SB 2169 which prohibits the harvest, possession, sale, or distribution of a shark or shark parts unless landed whole and harvested under a commercial marine license and prohibiting the possession or sale of shark fins. Cutting off a shark's fins and then dropping it back into the water to drown is a cruel and inhuman. This practice must be stopped now.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 10:49 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: ririelsa@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: diane allen
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: ririelsa@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 10:56 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: cadiza005@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Patricia Cadiz
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: cadiza005@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

I support SB 2169, prohibiting the harvest, possession, sale, or distribution of a shark or shark parts unless landed whole and harvested under a commercial marine license and prohibiting the possession or sale of shark fins.
Shark finning involves catching a shark, slicing off its fins, and discarding the shark (often still alive) at sea.
Shark finning is wasteful and disrespectful to some families, and it should stop.
Sharks are essential for healthy marine ecosystems.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 11:47 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: jcustom760@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jess Leach
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: jcustom760@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 12:00 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: LisRotary@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lis Richardson
Organization: Individual
Address: 95 Hoohale St Kihei
Phone: 808-344-5777
E-mail: LisRotary@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 12:27 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: kineticaussie4u@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: preston king
Organization: Individual
Address: APO-AP
Phone:
E-mail: kineticaussie4u@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 12:27 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: PATTI@HALEALII.COM
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: PATTI HAWKINS
Organization: Individual
Address: 1350 KAUPAKALUA RD HAIKU HI
Phone: 808-870-8707
E-mail: PATTI@HALEALII.COM
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 1:22 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: danni_670@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Danielle Slattery
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: danni_670@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear sirs,

I would like to express my support for Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2, concerning the shark fin ban.

As apex predators, sharks play a vital role in our oceans ecosystem. They regulate the health and numbers of species below them on the food chain and in doing so they are responsible for maintaining a healthy underwater gene pool.

Sharks mature slow and give birth to small litters, which makes them extremely vulnerable to overfishing. They need a lot of time to rebuild their populations.

The numbers of sharks worldwide have decreased considerably, even dramatically. Some species have plummeted to only 1% of their population levels in the last 3 decades alone. The sharks are harvested mainly for their fins, to provide for the very high demand of shark fin soup, which is a delicacy in Eastern countries.

This "finning" is a practice where the fins are cut of the shark while it is still alive and the animal is then thrown back into the water. It causes the sharks to die a slow and very painful death. Some starve to death, some are slowly eaten by other fish but most simply drown as they need to keep moving to force water through their gills to breath.

It has been proven that big fish as sharks contain methyl mercury. Eating them can lead to mercury poisoning. The World Health Organization says there are no known safe levels and advises to eliminate the consumption of mercury whenever possible. Mercury poisoning causes impairment of vision, speech, hearing, memory and can lead to sterility and sexual dysfunction.

To prevent sharks from becoming extinct, it is my opinion that all harvest, possession, sale, transfer or distribution of any species of shark or parts of sharks should be forbidden.

As Hawaii depends on tourism as its largest industry, it needs healthy oceans surrounding the islands, so it would be in it's own interest to protect the sharks that keep these reefs and waters healthy.

Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,

Name: Danielle Slattery

Country: AUSTRALIA

"A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative"

shark ban hawaii

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear Representatives

Re: Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2, banning shark fin trade

Sharks are apex predators. You cannot remove an apex predator from ANY ECOSYSTEM without its collapse.

This was witnessed in Yellowstone National Park with the removal of the wolves. There is much content on the web to confirm how this great park started to die until the wolves were recently re-introduced.

Sharks control our oceans' ecosystems. They regulate the health and numbers of species below them on the food chain and in doing so they are responsible for maintaining a healthy underwater gene pool and for the release of more than 50% of the planet's oxygen.

Sharks mature slow and give birth to small litters, which makes them extremely vulnerable to overfishing. They need a lot of time to rebuild their populations.

The numbers of sharks worldwide have decreased considerably, even dramatically. Some species have plummeted to only 1% of their population levels in the last 3 decades alone. The sharks are harvested mainly for their fins, catering to the very high demand of shark fin soup, particularly since the economic rise in China. Over a billion people folks, demanding the greatest symbol of their newfound wealth - shark fin soup. DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY CHINESE ARE EATING THIS PER DAY????!!! How about these figures - 100 million sharks slaughtered per year for a bowl of soup.

Shark extinction = human extinction. We can't have it all. We don't own the oceans, sharks do. All harvesting, possession, sale, transfer or distribution of any species of shark or parts of sharks has to cease NOW!...NOW!...NOW!

Hawaii depends on tourism... its largest industry! Healthy oceans means healthy tourists spending healthy dollars. Word gets out fast these days...the information superhighway can tell a lot of divers there's nothing left to see in Hawaii's waters accept murky oxygen-less waters where dead bleached coral abounds. You think I'm joking? wait and see what happens to your waters surrounding Hawaii when the sharks are gone. Jellyfish will abound, making the waters dangerous for everyone to swim. Barricades along the beaches, signs warning swimmers, legal cases as tourists get stung claiming inadequate signage. Oh, yeah, the message is getting clearer now, right?

And so where to now? Pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive THAN DEAD.

Respectfully,
Lucette d'Angelique
worldwidewarrior@live.com.au
A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 1:56 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: LDMAUI@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lynley M. Dows
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: LDMAUI@aol.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

- * Shark finning is the removal of a sharks fins, and dumping of the animal back in the ocean still alive.
- * This is torturous, wasteful, and disrespectful to the environment and those who consider sharks their Amakua.
- * Due to the ability to pack far more fins on a vessel than whole fish it allows severe over-fishing, often of species that are threatened or endangered.
- * The possession of and sale of ALL products that include shark fin need to be banned in order to ensure the discontinuation of this practice.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: zhara.mahlstedt@gmail.com on behalf of Hawaii Shark Encounters
[reservations@hawaiisharkencounters.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 2:13 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: Stefanie Brendl
Subject: RE: IN SUPPORT OF SB2169 SD2, HD2 Relating to shark fins

Testimony for:
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, March 30, 2010
TIME: 2:30 p.m.

JUDtestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

RE: IN SUPPORT of Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2
Relating to Shark Fins

Dear Representatives Ito and Karamatsu,

I politely request that you support bill SB2169 as it relates to shark fins. This is an extremely important measure for a vast amount of reasons including that **sharks are a vital component to our ocean ecosystem**. Shark finning is contributing to the DECIMATION of the shark population. **Over 100 million sharks per year die!** We MUST take care of our oceans. If we do not ocean ecosystems WILL collapse.

Sincerely,
Zhara Mahlstedt
Hawaii Shark Encounters

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Zhara Mahlstedt [love.inspires@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 2:22 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: RE: IN SUPPORT of Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2

Testimony for:
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, March 30, 2010
TIME: 2:30 p.m.

RE: IN SUPPORT of Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2
Relating to Shark Fins

Aloha Representatives Karamatsu and Ito,

I urge you to take notice of the importance of passing Measure SB2169 in relation to shark fins. The shark finning industry is not only cruel and inhumane, it is contributing to the devastation of the ocean ecosystem's apex predator. Please realize that you have it within your power to take a step to save our oceans and pass this bill.

Regards,

Tavia Wilcox
Waialua, HI Community Member

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Bradley Wilcox [shemp1964@hotmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 1:25 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: stefanie@hawaiiisharkencounters.com
Subject: RE: IN SUPPORT of Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2

Testimony for:
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, March 30, 2010
TIME: 2:30 p.m.

RE: IN SUPPORT of Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2
Relating to Shark Fins

PLEASE prohibit any activity that has to do with shark finning in Hawaii. Sharks are necessary for our oceans to remain healthy and finning is the foremost activity that is wiping out the population not to mention it is one of the most inhumane acts that could be done to a living creature.

Sincerely,
Bradley P. Wilcox
Waialua, HI

With all the latest places, searching has never been easier. [Looking for a new home?](#)

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 3:27 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: annf@maui.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Ann Fielding
Organization: Individual
Address: 2560 Pololei Pl Haiku, HI 96708
Phone: 8085728437
E-mail: annf@maui.net
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 3:32 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: sndrbailey62@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Sandra Bailey
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: sndrbailey62@gmail.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 3:33 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: snv@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Victor Holmes
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: snv@hawaiiantel.net
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Judy Edwards [bodhi@maui.net]
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 3:47 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: If we really have to spell this out for you, your heart is a stone. I support SB 2169.

>

> I support SB 2169, which prohibits the harvest, possession, sale, or distribution of a shark or shark parts unless landed whole and harvested under a commercial marine license. Prohibits under Hawai'i Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, possession or sale of shark fins. Effective July 1, 2050. (SB2169 HD2)

> Shark finning involves catching a shark, slicing off its fins, and discarding the shark (often still alive) at sea for subsequent distribution and sale.

> Most of the shark fins currently landed in Hawai'i are shipped to the mainland or elsewhere. This bill will not affect the economy here.

> Shark finning is wasteful, it may have a significant negative affect on marine ecosystems, it is disrespectful to some families, and it should stop.

Judy Edwards
Kihei, Maui

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 3:51 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: lreese2@earthlink.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Linda Reese
Organization: Individual
Address: Fremont, CA
Phone:
E-mail: lreese2@earthlink.net
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear sirs,

I would like to express my support for Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2, concerning the shark fin ban.

As apex predators, sharks play a vital role in our oceans ecosystem. They regulate the health and numbers of species below them on the food chain and in doing so they are responsible for maintaining a healthy underwater gene pool.

Sharks mature slow and give birth to small litters, which makes them extremely vulnerable to overfishing. They need a lot of time to rebuild their populations.

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It has been proven that big fish as sharks contain methyl mercury. Eating them can lead to mercury poisoning. The World Health Organization says there are no known safe levels and advises to eliminate the consumption of mercury whenever possible. Mercury poisoning causes impairment of vision, speech, hearing, memory and can lead to sterility and sexual dysfunction.

To prevent sharks from becoming extinct, it is my opinion that all harvest, possession, sale, transfer or distribution of any species of shark or parts of sharks should be forbidden.

As Hawaii depends on tourism as its largest industry, it needs healthy oceans surrounding the islands, so it would be in it's own interest to protect the sharks that keep these reefs and waters healthy.

Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,

Linda Reese
United States
A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

Testimony for SB 2169

3/27/2010

Arlene Buchholz

PO Box 61250, Honolulu, HI 96839

Please pass SB 2169 to help to decrease the practice of shark finning. This bill will help to limit the cruel and wasteful practice of killing and wasting an entire shark to remove it's fins. Sharks have a limited number of offspring each year and numbers of sharks have been decreasing in oceans around the world.

Thank you for your interest and assistance in passage of this bill.

Sincerely,

Arlene Buchholz, DVM

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear sirs,

I would like to express my support for Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2, concerning the shark fin ban.

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As Hawaii depends on tourism as its largest industry, it needs healthy oceans surrounding the islands, so it would be in it's own interest to protect the sharks that keep these reefs and waters healthy.

Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive. These regional protection plans, will have a large impact on sharks survival as well as global awareness to the plight of the oceans.

Respectfully,

Karen Stone

Member of Global Shark Initiative

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: LMB [lmbelding@earthlink.net]
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 4:26 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: SB2169 HD2

Aloha,

My name is LM Belding and I am an active scuba diver. I have seen the effects on our reefs due to the lack of sharks.

It is time to start caring about the future of our reef systems. I know that by the time I am 90, there will be no reef left, due in part to the over-fishing of sharks in our waters.

I am writting to support SB2169 HD2.

LM Belding
590 Farrington Hwy
#524pmb161
Kapolei, HI 96707
808-221-0474

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 5:00 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: dive4mantas@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Warren Blum
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: dive4mantas@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

Shark finning is a practice that must be stopped. Please vote to stop this atrocity.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 5:28 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: derek.broussard@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Derek broussard
Organization: Individual
Address: 2888 ala ilima st HI
Phone: 808 554-5414
E-mail: derek.broussard@gmail.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

Shark Finning is decimating the shark population world wide. The effects of a dwindling shark population has started effecting everything from fisheries to reef life.

By supporting and passing bill SB2169, hawaii has the opportunity to lead the way In promoting a healthier relationship with the ocean. Its only right that we should since all of our lives revolve around the ocean.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 6:08 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: teridiver@earthlink.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Teri Leonard
Organization: Individual
Address: Kihei, HI
Phone:
E-mail: teridiver@earthlink.net
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear sirs,

I would like to express my support for Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2, concerning the shark fin ban.

As apex predators, sharks play a vital role in our oceans ecosystem. They regulate the health and numbers of species below them on the food chain and in doing so they are responsible for maintaining a healthy underwater gene pool.

Sharks mature slow and give birth to small litters, which makes them extremely vulnerable to overfishing. They need a lot of time to rebuild their populations.

The numbers of sharks worldwide have decreased considerably, even dramatically. Some species have plummeted to only 1% of their population levels in the last 3 decades alone. The sharks are harvested mainly for their fins, to provide for the very high demand of shark fin soup, which is a delicacy in Eastern countries.

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It has been proven that big fish as sharks contain methyl mercury. Eating them can lead to mercury poisoning. The World Health Organization says there are no known safe levels and advises to eliminate the consumption of mercury whenever possible. Mercury poisoning causes impairment of vision, speech, hearing, memory and can lead to sterility and sexual dysfunction.

To prevent sharks from becoming extinct, it is my opinion that all harvest, possession, sale, transfer or distribution of any species of shark or parts of sharks should be forbidden.

As Hawaii depends on tourism as its largest industry, it needs healthy oceans surrounding the islands, so it would be in it's own interest to protect the sharks that keep these reefs and waters healthy.

Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,

Ashley Pacicco

USA

A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 7:17 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: akamu14@msn.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Brandon Adams
Organization: Individual
Address: 525 Pepeekeo Street Honolulu, HI
Phone: 808-394-2330
E-mail: akamu14@msn.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

I am both native Hawaiian and Chinese and I support this bill because it is not only about culture, it is about what is the right thing to do for our ecosystem and our global community.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 7:19 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: chickab@clearwire.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Brandi-Leigh Adams
Organization: Individual
Address: 525 Pepeekeo Street Honolulu, HI
Phone: 808-394-2330
E-mail: chickab@clearwire.net
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

I am both native Hawaiian and Chinese and I support this bill because it is not only about culture, it is about being a global citizen and stopping the capitalization that goes on in the shark finning industry. The legislators need to watch the documentary Shark Waters to get an idea on what is happening globally.

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear sirs,

I would like to express my support for Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2, concerning the shark fin ban.

As apex predators, sharks play a vital role in our oceans ecosystem. They regulate the health and numbers of species below them on the food chain and in doing so they are responsible for maintaining a healthy underwater gene pool.

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As Hawaii depends on tourism as its largest industry, it needs healthy oceans surrounding the islands, so it would be in it's own interest to protect the sharks that keep these reefs and waters healthy.

Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,

Name: Alan Winstanley
Country : Australia
A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 27, 2010 10:46 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: al.bayless@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Allan Bayless
Organization: Individual
Address: 1002 S. Kihei Rd., Unit 112 Kihei, HI
Phone:
E-mail: al.bayless@gmail.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2010

Comments:

Please stop this cruel and barbaric treatment of sharks. They are rapidly becoming endangered and need your help.

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear sirs,

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Respectfully,

Char Miller
Ontario, Canada
A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

Testimony of Vicky Cayetano in Support of S.B. No. 2169, Relating to Shark Fins

March 29, 2010

My name is Vicky Cayetano and I am testifying as an individual in support of this bill. The practice of cutting off the fins of a shark and letting it drown a slow, painful death in order to indulge the palates of some is cruel and unacceptable. In addition, we must realize what is at stake here:

- Sharks are apex predators whose survival affects all other marine species and the entire ocean's ecosystem.
- Unlike other fish species, sharks produce few pups and thus, many are endangered and/or threatened due to the fin trade.
- Hawaii is internationally renowned for its treasured marine life; this measure would rightfully make Hawaii the nation's leader in shark and ocean protection.

This measure makes it unlawful for any person to sell, offer for sale, trade, or distribute shark fins. I would like to suggest that the terms "possession" and "use" be also added to the provision in Section 2 of the bill in order to make it more practical to enforce.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair

Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear Sirs,

I would like to express my support for Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2, concerning the shark fin ban.

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Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,

Hani,

Egypt,

A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

28 March 2010

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY Rep.
Jon Riki Karamatsu,
Chair Rep.
Ken Ito, Vice Chair

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Respectfully,
David Denny:
Singapore:

"A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative"

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

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Respectfully,

Name K. Curtis Pike

Country

A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

pismo1

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Respectfully,
Andrej Gajic

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 5:39 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: kowalski@hawaii.edu
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Stephanie M Kowalski
Organization: Individual
Address: 148 Halaulani Street Makawao, HI
Phone: 808 205-4946
E-mail: kowalski@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 3/28/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 7:05 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: berney@kiheibeachbums.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Berney Coleman
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: berney@kiheibeachbums.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 7:19 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: johncesere@c3submerged.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: John Cesere
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: johncesere@c3submerged.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 7:20 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: dancesere@c3submerged.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Dan Cesere
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: dancesere@c3submerged.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 7:21 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: mauigwen@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Gwen Cesere
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: mauigwen@gmail.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 7:21 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: mikecesere@c3submerged.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Mike Cesere
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: mikecesere@c3submerged.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 7:39 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: margeb@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Marjorie Bonar
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: margeb@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2010

Comments:

What a waste. A necessary part of the ecosystem is slaughter for a few ounces of cartilage.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 8:18 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: anitabanana@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: anita wintner
Organization: Individual
Address: 6689 makena Rd kihei HI
Phone: 8088748407
E-mail: anitabanana@hawaiiantel.net
Submitted on: 3/28/2010

Comments:
Stop this inhumane killing of sharks for shark fin soup!

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: David and kathy [dvspier@aloha.net]
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 8:58 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: Testimony on SB 2169

I wish to express my support of SB 2169, which prohibits the harvest, possession, sale, or distribution of a shark or shark parts unless landed whole and harvested under a commercial marine license and prohibits possession or sale of shark fins.

I find catching a shark, slicing off its fins, and discarding the shark (often still alive) at sea for subsequent distribution and sale to be both inhumane and wasteful. At a time when our fisheries are collapsing due to overfishing we need to take every measure possible to save what marine life we can, lest it go the way of the buffalo and Atlantic cod. It is disrespectful not only to nature, but also to local families whose *amakua* are sharks. Please help stop shark finning by voting for SB 2169.

Mahalo,
Kathy Valier
4771 B Powerhouse Rd.
Hanalei, HI 96714
826-7302

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 9:03 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: Servite888@msn.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: John W. Chung, DDS
Organization: Individual
Address: 2334 Cedar Street Ventura, Ca. 93001
Phone: (805) 652-1733
E-mail: Servite888@msn.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2010

Comments:

Please look at a larger picture regardind this animal and our enviroment.

File attachment: AcroRd32.exe

The file attached to this email was removed because the file name is not allowed.

File attachment: AcroRd32.exe

The file attached to this email was removed because the file name is not allowed.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 9:06 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: dnacole@roadrunner.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Amy Cole
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: dnacole@roadrunner.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 9:12 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: cvdv@alento.nl
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM
Attachments: 20100328CvdV-Hawaii_COJ.txt

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: CP VanderVelde
Organization: Individual
Address: VanSpeykstraat 23B The Hague, ZH, Holland
Phone: 31628122071
E-mail: cvdv@alento.nl
Submitted on: 3/28/2010

Comments:
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear sirs,

I would like to express my support for Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2, concerning the shark fin ban.

As apex predators, sharks play a vital role in our oceans ecosystem. They regulate the health and numbers of species below them on the food chain and in doing so they are responsible for maintaining a healthy underwater gene pool.

Sharks mature slow and give birth to small litters, which makes them extremely vulnerable to overfishing. They need a lot of time to rebuild their populations.

The numbers of sharks worldwide have decreased considerably, even dramatically. Some species have plummeted to only 1% of their population levels in the last 3 decades alone. The sharks are harvested mainly for their fins, to provide for the very high demand of shark fin soup, which is a delicacy in Eastern countries.

This "finning" is a practice where the fins are cut of the shark while it is still alive and the animal is then thrown back into the water. It causes the sharks to die a slow and very painful death. Some starve to death, some are slowly eaten by other fish but most simply drown as they need to keep moving to force water through their gills to breath.

It has been proven that big fish as sharks contain methyl mercury. Eating them can lead to mercury poisoning. The World Health Organization says there are no known safe levels and advises to eliminate the consumption of mercury whenever possible. Mercury poisoning causes impairment of vision, speech, hearing, memory and can lead to sterility and sexual dysfunction.

To prevent sharks from becoming extinct, it is my opinion that all harvest, possession, sale, transfer or distribution of any species of shark or parts of sharks should be forbidden.

As Hawaii depends on tourism as its largest industry, it needs healthy oceans surrounding the islands, so it would be in it's own interest to protect the sharks that keep these reefs and waters healthy.

Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,

CP VanderVelde, The Netherlands
A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear sirs,

I would like to express my support for Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2, concerning the shark fin ban.

As apex predators, sharks play a vital role in our oceans ecosystem. They regulate the health and numbers of species below them on the food chain and in doing so they are responsible for maintaining a healthy underwater gene pool.

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Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,

CP Vanderveelde, The Nnetherlands
A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

=====

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 9:22 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: bryce@livingoceanproductions.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM
Attachments: LETTER TO ADVERTISER – Bait and Kill vs Bait and View.doc

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Bryce Groark
Organization: Living Ocean Productions
Address: PO BOX 390555 HI
Phone: 808 345-4538
E-mail: bryce@livingoceanproductions.com Submitted on: 3/28/2010

Comments:

Please see attached letter to the editor which was seen in both the Advertiser and Star Bulletin regarding this issue. Let's be world leaders on this important topic for the ocean - please ban shark finning in all Hawaiian waters.

Aloha,
Bryce Groark
Living Ocean Productions - Kona, Hawaii
bryce@livingoceanproductions.com

LETTER TO ADVERTISER – Bait and Kill vs Bait and View?

As seen in the Honolulu Advertiser and Honolulu Star Bulletin

Did you know that right now it is legal to chum for sharks in Hawaiian waters – so long as you are doing it to kill them? With all the buzz right now to ban shark “viewing” operations in Hawaii, I’m curious why no one is talking about banning shark “killing” operations?

Newly proposed Bill 67 states “sharks have great cultural, historical and spiritual significance for many Native Hawaiians.” The bill also says that shark operators “may be disruptive of ocean ecology and the natural environment.” How can the act of bringing tourists to view sharks be more disrespectful to the species than killing them? And how are snorkelers more disruptive to the “ocean ecology and the natural environment” than fisherman and the long-lining industry?

Shark fins are a huge industry in Asia and are used foremost for shark fin soup. While it is illegal to harvest shark fins in Hawaiian waters – there are still businesses operating in Hawaii selling shark fins. They claim that the fins are caught overseas and they simply process the fins in the state of Hawaii where they are then shipped on to Asia in mass quantities. Where is the respect for the *Aumakua* in this?

In honor of the greatest *Aumakua*, if we are to ban the “chum to view” activity – we must ban the “chum to kill” practice as well.

Bryce Groark is a Big Island resident and owns Living Ocean Productions – an underwater imaging and production business that focuses on raising awareness for the marine environment.

Bryce Groark

808.345.4538

bryce@livingoceanproductions.com

www.livingoceanproductions.com

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 10:00 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: go2pako@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Paul Kohman
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: go2pako@gmail.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2010

Comments:

- * I support SB 2169, prohibiting the harvest, possession, sale, or distribution of a shark or shark parts unless landed whole and harvested under a commercial marine license and prohibiting the possession or sale of shark fins.
- * Shark finning involves catching a shark, slicing off its fins, and discarding the shark (often still alive) at sea.
- * Shark finning is wasteful and disrespectful to some families, and it should stop.
- * Sharks are essential for healthy marine ecosystems.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 10:41 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: severns@mauigateway.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Pauline Fiene
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: severns@mauigateway.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2010

Comments:

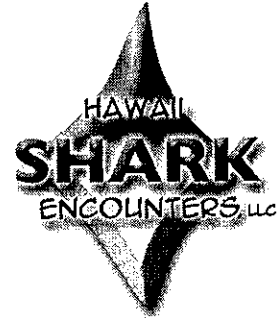
The cruelty and waste of this practice is so well-documented that there is little else to say.

Testimony in Support of SB2169 Relating to Shark Fins
Date: Tuesday March 30, 2010 Time: 2:30 PM



TO: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair
FROM: Stefanie Brendl
President "Shark Allies"
Owner "Hawaii Shark Encounters"

IN SUPPORT



Dear Committee Chair and Members,

I am in strong support of SB2169 for the following reasons:

- >> **Shark finning is a barbaric and wasteful practice that can no longer be tolerated.** More than 100 million sharks are slaughtered per year.
- >> **Shark finning steals the food for millions of people.** Coastal communities that depend on sharks as their major source of protein can no longer catch sharks because fleets of long-line fishing boats have assaulted and cleaned out their waters.
- >> **Shark fins alone have no nutritional value.** They are merely a status symbol, a meal served to impress. Killing sharks for fins is the same as killing rhino for their horn, groupers for their lips or elephants just for their tusks.
- >> **Finning** has grown into such a lucrative industry that it **continues whether it is legal or not.** The practice continues at a devastating rate all over the world, in even the most pristine ocean preserves.
- >> **Hawaii is a distribution point for shark products.** We have to take a stand with strong legislature that is simple, broad and all-inclusive.
- >> **With this bill** we are not only doing the right thing for Hawaii and for the protection of our marine life, but **we can also set an example** for other states and countries to follow.

Passing this bill would put Hawaii in the forefront of shark conservation world wide, being surpassed only by the island nation of Palau, which has become the first Shark Sanctuary in the world.

The world is watching to see what Hawaii and your committee is going to do with bill 2169. Please show us what strong leadership can do and help this bill pass into law.

Stefanie Brendl

stefanie@sharkallies.org 808 778-6740
www.sharkallies.org
ww.hawaiisharkencounters.com

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 11:13 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: mike.silver17@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Michael Silver
Organization: Individual
Address: 11808 Harley Rd Mason Neck, VA
Phone: 7035508962
E-mail: mike.silver17@gmail.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2010

Comments:

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair

Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear sirs,

I would like to express my support for Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2, concerning the shark fin ban.

As apex predators, sharks play a vital role in our oceans ecosystem. They regulate the health and numbers of species below them on the food chain and in doing so they are responsible for maintaining a healthy underwater gene pool.

Sharks mature slow and give birth to small litters, which makes them extremely vulnerable to overfishing. They need a lot of time to rebuild their populations.

The numbers of sharks worldwide have decreased considerably, even dramatically. Some species have plummeted to only 1% of their population levels in the last 3 decades alone. The sharks are harvested mainly for their fins, to provide for the very high demand of shark fin soup, which is a delicacy in Eastern countries.

This "finning" is a practice where the fins are cut of the shark while it is still alive and the animal is then thrown back into the water. It causes the sharks to die a slow and very painful death. Some starve to death, some are slowly eaten by other fish but most simply drown as they need to keep moving to force water through their gills to breath.

It has been proven that big fish as sharks contain methyl mercury. Eating them can lead to mercury poisoning. The World Health Organization says there are no known safe levels and advises to eliminate the consumption of mercury whenever possible. Mercury poisoning causes impairment of vision, speech, hearing, memory and can lead to sterility and sexual dysfunction.

To prevent sharks from becoming extinct, it is my opinion that all harvest, possession, sale, transfer or distribution of any species of shark or parts of sharks should be forbidden.

As Hawaii depends on tourism as its largest industry, it needs healthy oceans surrounding the islands, so it would be in it's own interest to protect the sharks that keep these reefs and waters healthy.

Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,

Andy Davis

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 11:30 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: jeffleicher@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jeff Leicher
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: jeffleicher@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2010

Comments:

I support full protection for all sharks. They should not even be harvested when landed whole. But shark finning is the worst form of shark fishing. It's wasteful, environmentally irresponsible, cruel, and any law that makes the ban more enforceable is good. Thanks.

From: Carl Berg [cberg@pixi.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 1:12 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: testing

- **I support SB 2169, which prohibits the harvest, possession, sale, or distribution of a shark or shark parts unless landed whole and harvested under a commercial marine license. Prohibits under Hawaii Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, possession or sale of shark fins. Effective July 1, 2050. (SB2169 HD2)**

Carl J. Berg, Ph.D.
808 639-2968 cberg@pixi.com

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 2:56 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: florko_c@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: catherine florko
Organization: Individual
Address: 343 river plantation road crawfordville, fl
Phone: 8509227706
E-mail: florko_c@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2010

Comments:
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear sirs,

I would like to express my support for Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2, concerning the shark fin ban.

As apex predators, sharks play a vital role in our oceans ecosystem. They regulate the health and numbers of species below them on the food chain and in doing so they are responsible for maintaining a healthy underwater gene pool.

Sharks mature slow and give birth to small litters, which makes them extremely vulnerable to overfishing. They need a lot of time to rebuild their populations.

The numbers of sharks worldwide have decreased considerably, even dramatically. Some species have plummeted to only 1% of their population levels in the last 3 decades alone. The sharks are harvested mainly for their fins, to provide for the very high demand of shark fin soup, which is a delicacy in Eastern countries.

This "finning" is a practice where the fins are cut of the shark while it is still alive and the animal is then thrown back into the water. It causes the sharks to die a slow and very painful death. Some starve to death, some are slowly eaten by other fish but most simply drown as they need to keep moving to force water through their gills to breath.

It has been proven that big fish as sharks contain methyl mercury. Eating them can lead to mercury poisoning. The World Health Organization says there are no known safe levels and advises to eliminate the consumption of mercury whenever possible. Mercury poisoning causes impairment of vision, speech, hearing, memory and can lead to sterility and sexual dysfunction.

To prevent sharks from becoming extinct, it is my opinion that all harvest, possession, sale, transfer or distribution of any species of shark or parts of sharks should be forbidden.

As Hawaii depends on tourism as its largest industry, it needs healthy oceans surrounding the islands, so it would be in it's own interest to protect the sharks that keep these reefs and waters healthy.

Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,
Catherine Florko

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Jami Pannell [jamipannell@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 4:52 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2 -- Relating to Shark Fins

Dear Chairman Karamatsu and Members of the Judiciary Committee:

I am writing to offer very brief supportive testimony re: SB2169, SD2, HD2 (relating to shark fins). Killing sharks solely for their fins to make shark fin soup, a delicacy eaten by an extremely small number of the world's citizens, does not justify the further destruction of the world's oceans. This bill is of international importance and demonstrates the Hawaiian people's forward thinking. The world is watching. I urge you to vote in favor of this bill.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jami Pannell
Portland, OR

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Jeff Petersen [jeffkurtpetersen@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 5:00 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2 -- Relating to Shark Fins

Dear Chairman Karamatsu and Members of the Judiciary Committee:

I am writing to offer very brief supportive testimony re: SB2169, SD2, HD2 (relating to shark fins). Killing sharks solely for their fins to make shark fin soup, a delicacy eaten by an extremely small number of the world's citizens, does not justify the further destruction of the world's oceans. This bill is of international importance and demonstrates the Hawaiian people's forward thinking. The world is watching. I urge you to vote in favor of this bill.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeff Petersen
Portland, OR

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair

Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear sirs,

I would like to express my support for Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2, concerning the shark fin ban.

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As Hawaii depends on tourism as its largest industry, it needs healthy oceans surrounding the islands, so it would be in its own interest to protect the sharks that keep these reefs and waters healthy.

Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,

Gisselle Camacho

United States

A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 6:26 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: cjbehrend@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Chris Behrend
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: cjbehrend@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 6:28 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: reeflections.mau@hotmai.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Mike Roberts
Organization: Individual
Address: Olani Kihei
Phone: 891 0082
E-mail: reeflections.mau@hotmai.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2010

Comments:

Please help respect and protect these beautiful animals that are necessary for the health of our oceans,

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 8:01 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: kinetic_com@earthlink.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Wendy Harvey
Organization: Individual
Address: 40 Hoonani St. Kihei, HI
Phone: 808 2986208
E-mail: kinetic_com@earthlink.net
Submitted on: 3/28/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 10:06 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: captamy@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Amy Venema
Organization: Individual
Address: Kihei, HI
Phone:
E-mail: captamy@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 10:09 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: jvniekerk@angloplat.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Julie van Niekerk
Organization: Individual
Address: Plot 74 8th Road Grasland Ten Acres
Phone:
E-mail: jvniekerk@angloplat.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2010

Comments:
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear sirs,

I would like to express my support for Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2, concerning the shark fin ban.

As apex predators, sharks play a vital role in our oceans ecosystem. They regulate the health and numbers of species below them on the food chain and in doing so they are responsible for maintaining a healthy underwater gene pool.

Sharks mature slow and give birth to small litters, which makes them extremely vulnerable to overfishing. They need a lot of time to rebuild their populations.

The numbers of sharks worldwide have decreased considerably, even dramatically. Some species have plummeted to only 1% of their population levels in the last 3 decades alone. The sharks are harvested mainly for their fins, to provide for the very high demand of shark fin soup, which is a delicacy in Eastern countries.

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As Hawaii depends on tourism as its largest industry, it needs healthy oceans surrounding the islands, so it would be in it's own interest to protect the sharks that keep these reefs and waters healthy.

Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,
Julie van Niekerk
South Africa
A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

Dear sirs,

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As apex predators, sharks play a vital role in our oceans ecosystem. They regulate the health and numbers of species below them on the food chain and in doing so they are responsible for maintaining a healthy underwater gene pool.

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The numbers of sharks worldwide have decreased considerably, even dramatically. Some species have plummeted to only 1% of their population levels in the last 3 decades alone. The sharks are harvested mainly for their fins, to provide for the very high demand of shark fin soup, which is a delicacy in Eastern countries.

This "finning" is a practice where the fins are cut of the shark while it is still alive and the animal is then thrown back into the water. It causes the sharks to die a slow and very painful death. Some starve to death, some are slowly eaten by other fish but most simply drown as they need to keep moving to force water through their gills to breath.

It has been proven that big fish as sharks contain methyl mercury. Eating them can lead to mercury poisoning. The World Health Organization says there are no known safe levels and advises to eliminate the consumption of mercury whenever possible. Mercury poisoning causes impairment of vision, speech, hearing, memory and can lead to sterility and sexual dysfunction.

To prevent sharks from becoming extinct, it is my opinion that all harvest, possession, sale, transfer or distribution of any species of shark or parts of sharks should be forbidden.

As Hawaii depends on tourism as its largest industry, it needs healthy oceans surrounding the islands, so it would be in it's own interest to protect the sharks that keep these reefs and waters healthy.

Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,
Ester Jansen
The Netherlands
A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

From: "Cheryl" <bellkat@bigpond.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2010 11:46 PM
Subject: Shark finning 1



Dear sirs,

I would like to express my support for Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2, concerning the shark fin ban.

As apex predators, sharks play a vital role in our oceans ecosystem. They regulate the health and numbers of species below them on the food chain and in doing so they are responsible for maintaining a healthy underwater gene pool.

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3/29/2010

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Respectfully,
Cheryl Bryant
Australia
A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

sharks

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear sirs,

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Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully
Mary Foley
Ireland
A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 12:05 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: elm@tibbles.co.za
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Eureka Morrison
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: elm@tibbles.co.za
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear sirs,

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karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 12:08 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: etichscuba@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Ed Tichenor
Organization: Palm Beach County Reef Rescue
Address: PO Box 207 Boynton Beach, FL 33425
Phone: 561 699-8559
E-mail: etichscuba@aol.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear sirs,

I would like to express my support for Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2, concerning the shark fin ban.

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Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,

Ed Tichenor, Director
Palm Beach County Reef Rescue
www.reef-rescue.org
A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

Frank Hagemann
Gerhard-Eisler-Straße 4
D - 14532 Kleinmachnow

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair

Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

March 29th, 2010

Dear Sirs,

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Respectfully,

Frank Hagemann
Germany

Mobil: 0174 - 314 37 55
Email: frank-hagemann@gmx.de

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear sirs,

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Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,

Aline Pizani Zunino
BRAZIL

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 6:48 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: heidi.wollum@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: heidi
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: heidi.wollum@gmail.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 6:53 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: erikawittmann@comcast.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: erika wittmann
Organization: Individual
Address: 236 montgomery st jersey city nj
Phone: 201 938 1208
E-mail: erikawittmann@comcast.net
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

Please give the sharks protection and stop all of the barbaric killings of these magnificent creatures. They are needed in the environment to keep the balance in our oceans!

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 7:23 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: scubaphotos@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: maren springer
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: scubaphotos@gmail.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 7:27 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: littlebeach65@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lisa Sloan
Organization: Individual
Address: Kumula au Ohia Lp Wailuku, HI
Phone: 808-281-1738
E-mail: littlebeach65@aol.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

Don't you think we've killed enough wild life!! We aren't Canada!!!! Let's not act like them by killing just for a stupid fin!

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 7:52 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: splashvideo@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Ananda Stone
Organization: Individual
Address: Lahaina, Hawaii
Phone:
E-mail: splashvideo@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

Sharks play an important role in our oceans ecosystem. Finning them and leaving them to suffer a slow painful death is not only humane, but very wasteful as well.

Eating shark fins is not a necessary tradition, practice or food source. It is merely to show off, to make people feel more important.

It is tragic and would surely lead to yet more imbalances of already troubled oceans.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 7:54 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: lori.oura@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lori Oura
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: lori.oura@gmail.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

Shark finning is ruining the delicate balance of the ocean's ecosystem. The slaughter of sharks purely for their fins is unacceptable and deplorable. I refuse to eat at any restaurant that serves shark fin.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 8:06 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: joanl@snorkelbob.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Joan Lloyd
Organization: Individual
Address: 3175 Hoomua Drive Kihei, HI 96753
Phone:
E-mail: joanl@snorkelbob.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 8:25 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: mark@marksheehan.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Mark Sheehan
Organization: Maui Tomorrow
Address: 630 E. Kuiaha Rd. Haiku, HI
Phone: 808-573-0111
E-mail: mark@marksheehan.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

Sharks are part of the ecosystem and necessary for maintenance of same.
Finning is culturally disrespectful and should be stopped.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Ginny [g2@hokua.org]
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 8:37 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: Re: Strong support for Senate Bill 2169; Relating to Shark Fins, Tuesday March 30, 2pm

To the Honorable Chair Karamatsu, Vice-Chair Ito,
House Committee on Judiciary,

Sharks are apex predators, whose survival affects all other marine species and therefore the entire ocean's ecosystem. Shark Fins Soup is an expensive delicacy, catering only to a very small and elite group. It is a status thing, which the average person cannot relate to. To cater to such decadence, at the expense of affecting the entire ocean's ecosystem, which affects ALL people, including generations to come, is ludicrous! If Shark Fins Soup is taken off the menu, yes, there will probably be a few (those who can afford it) who miss it for their personal pleasure, but I guarantee that it will not have an affect on our ecosystem. (And life will go on for these elitists.)

I am Chinese, and I can tell you that Shark Fins Soup is as much a part of our culture as the practice of binding women's feet was. It was ignorance that allowed such practices, but now we know better, and cannot use culture as an excuse for doing such irresponsible and cruel acts.

Hawaii is renowned for its unique marine life. This measure would make Hawaii the nation's leader in Shark and ocean protection.

I ask you to please use your position of power to do what is right for ALL the people of Hawaii, and not cater to the whims of a few.

Yours sincerely,
Ginny Tiu

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 9:03 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: krpiana@verizon.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM
Attachments: Protect Sharks.eml

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Katherine Reed Piana
Organization: Individual
Address: 9230 61st Ave W Mukilteo, Wa
Phone:
E-mail: krpiana@verizon.net
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:
Dear sirs,

I would like to express my support for Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2, concerning the shark fin ban.

As apex predators, sharks play a vital role in our oceans ecosystem. They regulate the health and numbers of species below them on the food chain and in doing so they are responsible for maintaining a healthy underwater gene pool.

Sharks mature slow and give birth to small litters, which makes them extremely vulnerable to overfishing. They need a lot of time to rebuild their populations.

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To prevent sharks from becoming extinct, it is my opinion that all harvest, possession, sale, transfer or distribution of any species of shark or parts of sharks should be forbidden.

As Hawaii depends on tourism as its largest industry, it needs healthy oceans surrounding the islands, so it would be in it's own interest to protect the sharks that keep these reefs and waters healthy.

Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,

Katherine Reed Piana

United States

A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 9:14 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: liholani11@msn.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Richard Woodford
Organization: Individual
Address: 2740 Liholani St. #11 Pukalani, HI
Phone: 8088700133
E-mail: liholani11@msn.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 9:38 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: shayla@blissfulhat.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Shayla Middleton
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone: 8088910287
E-mail: shayla@blissfulhat.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

I support SB 2169, prohibiting the harvest, possession, sale, or distribution of a shark or shark parts unless landed whole and harvested under a commercial marine license and prohibiting the possession or sale of shark fins.
Shark finning involves catching a shark, slicing off its fins, and discarding the shark (often still alive) at sea.
Shark finning is wasteful and disrespectful to some families, and it should stop.
Sharks are essential for healthy marine ecosystems.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 9:40 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: kane@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jerry Kane
Organization: Individual
Address: 71-1689 Puu Kamanu Loop Kailua Kona, HI
Phone:
E-mail: kane@hawaiiantel.net
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 9:43 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: dailer@hawaii.edu
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Meghan Dailer
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: dailer@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 9:56 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: mudiver1200@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Tim Clark
Organization: Individual
Address: 1708 Wilhelmina Rise Honolulu, HI
Phone: (808) 226-1853
E-mail: mudiver1200@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

I have been working as a marine biologist in Hawaii for over 15 years, and have had the opportunity to study coral reefs throughout the main Hawaiian Islands, the Northwest Hawaiian Islands, and many other Pacific islands. One thing that stands out in a healthy marine ecosystem is the presence of sharks as the apex predator. We see this clearly when we compare semi-pristine areas of the Northwest Hawaiian Islands with the highly fished main Hawaiian Islands. Sharks are important predators in our ecosystem, and the declining numbers of sharks throughout the world is frightening, and indicates that we are not doing our part to protect our resources. SB 2169 would protect sharks by prohibiting the wasteful practice of finning sharks, which takes a small piece of the shark and discards the rest. I hope you will pass SB 2169 and take a step towards protecting these very important species.

Mahalo,

Tim Clark
Science Advisor
Manta Pacific Research Foundation

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 10:00 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: wscnkona@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Wanda S. Carey
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: wscnkona@gmail.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 10:11 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: tmc farms@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Tom Carey
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: tmc farms@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 10:14 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: karenann@cfl.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Karen Tennison
Organization: Individual
Address: 8165 NW 4th LN Ocala, FL
Phone: 845-820-1318
E-mail: karenann@cfl.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

I'm just a voice from Florida trying to stop the vicious killing of sharks for their fins. However small, I hope I can make a difference and help others see that they can make a difference on behalf of these phenomenal creatures.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 10:40 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: kzolezzi@mauiocenter.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kate Zolezzi
Organization: Maui Ocean Center
Address: 192 Maalaea Rd. Wailuku Hi 96793
Phone: 808-2707098
E-mail: kzolezzi@mauiocenter.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

Maui Ocean Center educates the public 365 days a year on the need to protect sharks from overfishing and shark finning. Sharks are essential for a healthy marine ecosystem and they are considered guardian spirits or amakua to many Hawaiian people. This is a barbaric practice which is cruel, wasteful and disrespectful and should stop.

Laurel Beauprie
#211-8975 Jones Road
Richmond, BC V6Y 3Y7
Canada
(604) 270-8143
mlbeauprie@shaw.ca

JUDtestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Testimony for:
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, March 30, 2010
TIME: 2:30 p.m.

To The Honorable Committee:

RE: Measure SB2169, SD2, HD2 Relating to Shark Fins

I have attached my article "*Finning our Future*" published in the environmental magazine *Watershed Sentinel*, January/February 2010.

In that article I point out how over 73 million sharks per year are being killed for only their fins and almost entirely to make shark fin soup. We know that the eating of shark fin soup has been a cultural practice for a very long time and also sort of status thing. But, the reality of it is that shark fin soup is actually made from broth of another meat. The fin itself has little nutritional value and is virtually tasteless. In a way, the shark fin isn't really food at all; it's more of a garnish, like parsley. The problem is that we wouldn't kill anything just for parsley, but we are for shark fin.

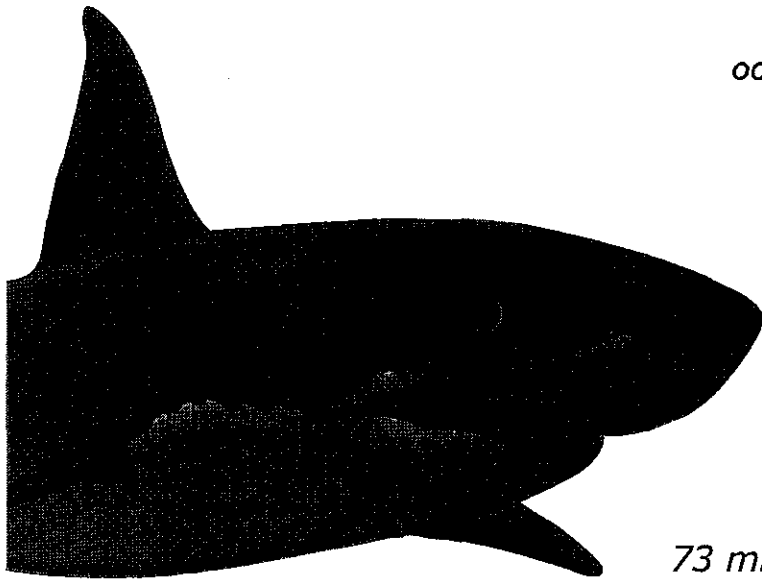
I'm not against the fishing industry, on the contrary, real fisherman provide an invaluable service for us all. However, real fishermen don't throw away 95% of their catch as waste back into the ocean. Shark finning is not fishing.

You might be reading this, or even listening to this being read and thinking, "I actually like shark fin soup". That's fine, but if you are then ask yourself for a moment, if there is even the smallest risk that the shark's existence impacts ocean health like the experts say it does, then what would I be willing to give up for that soup: increased ocean dead zones, lessened oxygen production, or such decreased supplies of fish and seafood that real fisherman who depend on it for their livelihoods can no longer feed their families?

If you agree that sharks have a unique place at the top of the ocean's food chain then I implore you to use your power and take a stand against the disruption of that food chain and ban the trade of shark fin.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurel Beauprie
Encl.



Finning Our Future

73 million sharks a year are being served up to make celebration soup

by Laurel Beauprie

It wouldn't be news if I told you our planet has its environmental problems. Sure, we're making some progress in controlling what we put into the air, put into our landfills and even put into our oceans. But we're not paying enough attention to what we are taking out of our oceans — sharks — and they're being killed at the rate of up to 73 million per year. That's million with a capital M and it refers to the number being killed only for their fins and almost entirely to make shark fin soup. You may not really care much about sharks but our oceans account for about half of the planet's oxygen supply and sharks play a key role in maintaining the health of those oceans.

I have to admit that until recently I didn't know much about sharks, or care to. Then I saw the television documentary "Sharkwater" and it changed forever the way I look at sharks. So I decided to do some research myself and, lo and behold, they weren't exaggerating a bit; the bulk of the shark population is being depleted for their fins.

If I was referring to the ever-happy dolphin or a baby seal instead of sharks, I'd have people lined up behind me. But, one mention of the "S" word sends a shiver down many a spine. Maybe you've seen the movie "Jaws" or heard a man-eating shark story, or both. Even if you've never seen a shark outside of your local city aquarium you probably still think of him as the villain. If you feel this way, you're not alone, but it might surprise you to know that although there are more than 350 distinct species of sharks, only a few even bother with humans. The giant Whale Shark doesn't even have teeth.

Now old Mother Nature really took her time when she created these nearly perfect beasts. Shark-like fish have been in existence for about 400 million years and even before the dinosaurs. She put them in every ocean but, because they are resilient, she built in a number of natural

controllers: relatively short life spans (20 to 30 years), long gestation periods, small number of young, and slow maturity rates. With all this, they basically regulate themselves. But what she didn't count on was the human factor.

As of late 2009, the world's population of sharks had already diminished by 50 to 75%. A North Atlantic population survey reports as much as an 89% decrease. Also the stats from the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources "IUCN" Red List of Threatened Species show that for the 181 species of sharks for which they have adequate data, over 64% of those popula-

tions are noted as "threatened" or "vulnerable". Of those, over 21% are categorized as "endangered" or worse. At least one species is already listed as "extinct in the wild." Sharks are a big link in the eco-chain and you'd deserve a gold star if you are questioning why, if sharks were entrusted with

something as important as ocean balance, we would allow their populations to be depleted at this alarming rate.

Millions of sharks are unintended catch or "bycatch" every year but sadly, far more are harvested merely for their fins. Sharks are pulled onto fishing boats where their fins are cut off and their bodies are thrown back into the ocean as waste. A large percentage of these animals are still alive and suffocate. Even though less than 5% of the shark is fin, the rest is usually thrown away because of the economics of it. Shark meat must be properly refrigerated and takes up a lot of space on a boat. Fins, however, can be cut off, bundled, and hung to dry in large nets. It is the fin that produces the largest profit by far and can be sold for hundreds of dollars per pound.

Now, it could be easily understood if we were talking about fishing, or even overfishing, to feed people. However, most sharks are harvested to make shark fin soup, or what is known in some cultures as "celebration soup," and the

Low and behold, they weren't exaggerating a bit; the bulk of the shark population is being depleted for their fins.

fin is little more than an additive or garnish. This once rare delicacy is now available at a vast number of restaurants even though the fin is primarily tasteless, has little nutritional value, and is added to a mainly chicken or other meat based soup.

Sharks are the ocean's apex predator because they are at top of the food chain and they have few predators. But this high rank doesn't come without duties; they are in charge of helping to keep the ocean's delicate balance of other fish and some marine mammals. Because they seem to eat whatever there is most of, they help control the overpopulation of any one species. This in turn keeps that species from depleting its food source, and so on, right to the last link in the food chain. On the bottom rung is where you'd find plant plankton or "phytoplankton." This little gem is what produces our oxygen. But this oxygen producer is already on a decline. Less oxygen production means that there is more carbon dioxide in our air and that can contribute to global warming.

If that wasn't enough, the removal of sharks can impact the entire ocean ecosystem causing a disruption of the ocean's balance. This is called "cascading" – when a decrease in one presence causes an increase in another, and so on. A diminished shark population leaves more of the middle prey and in turn decreases their prey. This would include "bivalves" like oysters, scallops and clams. "Bivalves" are part of the ocean ecosystem, not to mention one of our food sources. Significant ocean imbalances can produce decreased ocean oxygen resulting in dead zones, making it non-livable. Ocean imbalance is nasty business right from top to bottom.

It's frightening enough to think that by allowing shark finning we jeopardize their entire existence for the simple prestige of eating expensive soup. But when the shark population is depleted, no amount of money will be able to re-

verse the damage to our oxygen supply, ecosystems, fishing industries, and possibly a great deal of our own food supply, all in one fell swoop. Of course even the top experts are still learning about the intricacies of our ocean ecosystems and there is likely more than one opinion on what the biggest environmental problem is. But I'm sure most would agree that the basic law of nature is not to disrupt the food chain. Sort of a "don't break it first" and then try to figure out if it can be fixed later, idea.

Most countries now have laws against endangering the population of wild animals. Like elephants killed for only their ivory tusks or gorillas for trophies, it's still not too late to stop killing sharks for their fins. If we want to undo the damage we have done to most species, we must move quickly.

Unfortunately, although some countries have laws against local shark finning, even Canada still allows the unlimited import of shark fin, with the exception of "CITES" (Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species) listed endangered species. However the identification of species by the fin is extremely difficult as most are pre-skinned and dried prior to inspection sampling. The only way to be sure that the fin is not from an endangered species is DNA testing. Therefore, only a real change in the importing and fisheries regulations of any shark product worldwide, will allow their populations to recover. Tough new measures would have to include a ban on importing or exporting fins. With this, we can stop the damage the suppliers do.

The great prophet Nostradamus made predictions for the winter solstice of 2012. In those he included a great change in our environment, possibly even the destruction of it. It's possible he may have foreseen the extinction of sharks being the first fall in a line of environmental dominos.

Maybe when we stop the senseless depletion of sharks our future will be back on the menu, in place of "celebration soup." Now that would be something to celebrate.

Laurel Beauprie enjoys all kinds of writing and is working on a novel. When she's not writing, you'll find her on the golf course.

Some countries (like Canada) have laws against local shark finning, but still allow the unlimited import of shark fin.

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 Next Issue March 2010

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Christine Ogura [csogura@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 11:16 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: support SB2169

Dear members of the Judiciary Committee:

I support SB 2169, which prohibits the harvest, possession, sale, or distribution of a shark or shark parts unless landed whole and harvested under a commercial marine license. Prohibits under Hawaii Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, possession or sale of shark fins. Effective July 1, 2050. (SB2169 HD2)

Sharks are critical predators in the marine system and play a vital role in regulating populations. Though the mention of cultural aspects of shark finning have come up, other cultures, specifically Native Hawaiian, revere sharks as family deities. Should not these other cultures also be considered? If the species are gone, then what becomes of the culture that it purports to perpetuate?

Most of the shark fins currently landed in Hawai'i are shipped to the mainland or elsewhere. This bill will not affect the economy here, but by passing this bill, will make Hawaii a leader in marine conservation.

Thank you,
Christine Ogura
Oahu resident

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 12:00 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: squishytart@moose-mail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Denise Lytle
Organization: Individual
Address: 73 Poplar St. Fords, NJ
Phone:
E-mail: squishytart@moose-mail.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

I would like to express my support for Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2, concerning the shark fin ban.

As apex predators, sharks play a vital role in our oceans ecosystem. They regulate the health and numbers of species below them on the food chain and in doing so they are responsible for maintaining a healthy underwater gene pool.

Sharks mature slow and give birth to small litters, which makes them extremely vulnerable to overfishing. They need a lot of time to rebuild their populations.

The numbers of sharks worldwide have decreased considerably, even dramatically. Some species have plummeted to only 1% of their population levels in the last 3 decades alone. The sharks are harvested mainly for their fins, to provide for the very high demand of shark fin soup, which is a delicacy in Eastern countries.

This "finning" is a practice where the fins are cut of the shark while it is still alive and the animal is then thrown back into the water. It causes the sharks to die a slow and very painful death. Some starve to death, some are slowly eaten by other fish but most simply drown as they need to keep moving to force water through their gills to breath.

It has been proven that big fish as sharks contain methyl mercury. Eating them can lead to mercury poisoning. The World Health Organization says there are no known safe levels and advises to eliminate the consumption of mercury whenever possible. Mercury poisoning causes impairment of vision, speech, hearing, memory and can lead to sterility and sexual dysfunction.

To prevent sharks from becoming extinct, it is my opinion that all harvest, possession, sale, transfer or distribution of any species of shark or parts of sharks should be forbidden.

As Hawaii depends on tourism as its largest industry, it needs healthy oceans surrounding the islands, so it would be in it's own interest to protect the sharks that keep these reefs and waters healthy.

Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 12:32 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: reefgirlmaui@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Cheryl Sterling
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: reefgirlmaui@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

I have read and support HB2169 that will prohibit the harvest and sale of shark fins. This practice is harmful to the health of Hawaii's threatened marine ecosystems, wastes resources and cruel to the sharks.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 12:51 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: abuckman22@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Andrea Buckman
Organization: Individual
Address: Mokuahi St. Makawao, HI
Phone:
E-mail: abuckman22@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

I support SB 2169, which prohibits the harvest, possession, sale, or distribution of a shark or shark parts unless landed whole and harvested under a commercial marine license. Prohibits under Hawai'i Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, possession or sale of shark fins. Effective July 1, 2050. (SB2169 HD2) Shark finning involves catching a shark, slicing off its fins, and discarding the shark (often still alive) at sea for subsequent distribution and sale. Most of the shark fins currently landed in Hawai'i are shipped to the mainland or elsewhere. This bill will not affect the economy here. Shark finning is wasteful, has a significant negative affect on marine ecosystems, is disrespectful to local culture, and it should stop.

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear sirs,

I would like to express my support for Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2, concerning the shark fin ban.

As apex predators, sharks play a vital role in our oceans ecosystem. They regulate the health and numbers of species below them on the food chain and in doing so they are responsible for maintaining a healthy underwater gene pool.

Sharks mature slow and give birth to small litters, which makes them extremely vulnerable to overfishing. They need a lot of time to rebuild their populations.

The numbers of sharks worldwide have decreased considerably, even dramatically. Some species have plummeted to only 1% of their population levels in the last 3 decades alone. The sharks are harvested mainly for their fins, to provide for the very high demand of shark fin soup, which is a delicacy in Eastern countries.

This "finning" is a practice where the fins are cut of the shark while it is still alive and the animal is then thrown back into the water. It causes the sharks to die a slow and very painful death. Some starve to death, some are slowly eaten by other fish but most simply drown as they need to keep moving to force water through their gills to breath.

It has been proven that big fish as sharks contain methyl mercury. Eating them can lead to mercury poisoning. The World Health Organization says there are no known safe levels and advises to eliminate the consumption of mercury whenever possible. Mercury poisoning causes impairment of vision, speech, hearing, memory and can lead to sterility and sexual dysfunction.

To prevent sharks from becoming extinct, it is my opinion that all harvest, possession, sale, transfer or distribution of any species of shark or parts of sharks should be forbidden.

As Hawaii depends on tourism as its largest industry, it needs healthy oceans surrounding the islands, so it would be in it's own interest to protect the sharks that keep these reefs and waters healthy.

Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,



Brian Yannutz
164 Kaiulani St.
Hilo, HI 96720
United States
"A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative"

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 1:38 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: pwrbud@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Porter H Watson
Organization: TropicSea Visions
Address: 73-4692 Mamalahoa Hwy Kailua Kona, Hawaii
Phone: 1 808 325-2071
E-mail: pwrbud@hawaiiantel.net
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 2:09 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: aquaimages@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lynette Nelson-Peavy
Organization: Individual
Address: 2691 PuuHoolai Street HI
Phone: 808 8742880
E-mail: aquaimages@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:
Sharks are essential for healthy marine ecosystems.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 2:10 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: wanda.john@live.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Wanda Rowan
Organization: Individual
Address: 71-1622 Puu Lani Place HI
Phone: 808 854-9855
E-mail: wanda.john@live.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

I support SB 2169. Shark finning involves catching a shark, slicing off its fins, and discarding the shark (often still alive) at sea. Shark finning is wasteful and disrespectful - it must stop. Sharks are essential for healthy marine ecosystems.

House Committee on Judiciary

Hearing on Bill SB-2169 SD 2 HD 2 (Banning Shark Finning in Hawaii)

Room 325 on March 30, 2010 at 2:30 p.m.

To whom it may concern:

I am in full support of SB 2169 which prohibits the harvest, possession, sale, or distribution of a shark or shark parts unless landed whole and harvested under a commercial marine license. In addition, this will prohibit under the Hawaii Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, possession or sale of shark fins. Effective July 1, 2050. (SB2169 HD2).

The most recent failing of the global community to protect sharks world-wide due to heavy pressure from countries who say this will cause undue economic harm to them is a huge setback to conserving sharks across the planet. Therefore individual States and nations need to be part of the solution. I urge our lawmakers to ban shark finning in Hawaii once and for all. This practice often involves catching a shark, slicing off its fins, and discarding the shark (often still alive) at sea for subsequent distribution and sale. Most of the shark fins currently landed in Hawai'i is shipped to the mainland or elsewhere, therefore there is no economic benefit to Hawaii. This practice is wasteful and negative impacts from large scale removal of an apex predator from our marine ecosystem will have consequences. I fear that even if this Bill passes, that exploiters will find a way to transfer illegal catches to other vessels going into international waters, therefore I would support additional enforcement efforts where feasible.

Last, this is culturally insensitive to Native Hawaiians and the practice must be banned outright. The international community has failed in its leadership to protect sharks worldwide, let us not join them.

Sincerely

Julie A.K. Leialoha

P.O. Box 1792

Keaau, HI 96749

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 2:24 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: ovisions1@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Robert Gladden
Organization: Individual
Address: 73-4648 Old Mamalahoa Hwy. Kailua-Kona, HI.
Phone: 808 333-5759
E-mail: ovisions1@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:
It is wasteful and it is upsetting the balance of nature.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 2:56 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: dannygr@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Daniel Grantham
Organization: Individual
Address: POB 610 Haiku, HI
Phone: 808 572-4571
E-mail: dannygr@hawaiiantel.net
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

I support SB 2169, which prohibits the harvest, possession, sale, or distribution of a shark or shark parts unless landed whole and harvested under a commercial marine license.

Prohibits under Hawaii Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, possession or sale of shark fins.

Effective July 1, 2050. (SB2169 HD2) Shark finning involves catching a shark, slicing off its fins, and discarding the shark (often still alive) at sea for subsequent distribution and sale.

Most of the shark fins currently landed in Hawai'i are shipped to the mainland or elsewhere.

This bill will not affect the economy here.

Shark finning is wasteful, it may have a significant negative affect on marine ecosystems, it is disrespectful to some families, and it should stop.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 5:39 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: rroth2@cinci.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: roger roth
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: rroth2@cinci.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 6:54 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: melissa@pacific-exposure.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Melissa Meeker
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: melissa@pacific-exposure.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

I support SB 2169, prohibiting the harvest, possession, sale, or distribution of a shark or shark parts unless landed whole and harvested under a commercial marine license and prohibiting the possession or sale of shark fins.
Shark finning involves catching a shark, slicing off its fins, and discarding the shark (often still alive) at sea.
Shark finning is wasteful and disrespectful to some families, and it should stop.
Sharks are essential for healthy marine ecosystems.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 7:08 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: gabescotti@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Gabe Scotti
Organization: Kaimana Divers LLC
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: gabescotti@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

This would send a strong message to everyone that we value our sharks and understand that they are crucial to our marine ecosystem. Scuba Divers love seeing them and unfortunately we are seeing less and less each year..

Mahalo,

Gabe Scotti
Kaimana Divers LLC

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 7:46 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: rettig94@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: scott k rettig
Organization: Individual
Address: 3111 Lincoln Ave. honolulu, HI
Phone: 808-386-5016
E-mail: rettig94@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 7:47 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: mksolomon23@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Mary Scozzari
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: mksolomon23@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

* I support SB 2169, prohibiting the harvest, possession, sale, or distribution of a shark or shark parts unless landed whole and harvested under a commercial marine license and prohibiting the possession or sale of shark fins. Shark finning involves catching a shark, slicing off its fins, and discarding the shark (often still alive) at sea. Shark finning is wasteful and disrespectful to some families, and it should stop.

* Sharks are essential for healthy marine ecosystems.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 8:03 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: jim.t.mac@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: James Taroh MacDonald
Organization: Individual
Address: 702 Puget Lane Edmonds, WA
Phone: 425-7744769
E-mail: jim.t.mac@gmail.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

Please prevent shark finning, it will be good for the local industries of Hawaii such as diving and other marine-related activities.

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear sirs,

I would like to express my support for Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2, concerning the shark fin ban.

As apex predators, sharks play a vital role in our oceans ecosystem. They regulate the health and numbers of species below them on the food chain and in doing so they are responsible for maintaining a healthy underwater gene pool.

Sharks mature slow and give birth to small litters, which makes them extremely vulnerable to overfishing. They need a lot of time to rebuild their populations.

The numbers of sharks worldwide have decreased considerably, even dramatically. Some species have plummeted to only 1% of their population levels in the last 3 decades alone. The sharks are harvested mainly for their fins, to provide for the very high demand of shark fin soup, which is a delicacy in Eastern countries.

This "finning" is a practice where the fins are cut of the shark while it is still alive and the animal is then thrown back into the water. It causes the sharks to die a slow and very painful death. Some starve to death, some are slowly eaten by other fish but most simply drown as they need to keep moving to force water through their gills to breath.

It has been proven that big fish as sharks contain methyl mercury. Eating them can lead to mercury poisoning. The World Health Organization says there are no known safe levels and advises to eliminate the consumption of mercury whenever possible. Mercury poisoning causes impairment of vision, speech, hearing, memory and can lead to sterility and sexual dysfunction.

To prevent sharks from becoming extinct, it is my opinion that all harvest, possession, sale, transfer or distribution of any species of shark or parts of sharks should be forbidden.

As Hawaii depends on tourism as its largest industry, it needs healthy oceans surrounding the islands, so it would be in it's own interest to protect the sharks that keep these reefs and waters healthy.

Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,

Alison Thompson

Australia

A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Dear sirs,

I would like to express my support for Bill SB2169 SD2, HD2, concerning the shark fin ban.

As apex predators, sharks play a vital role in our oceans ecosystem. They regulate the health and numbers of species below them on the food chain and in doing so they are responsible for maintaining a healthy underwater gene pool.

Sharks mature slowly and give birth to small litters, which makes them extremely vulnerable to overfishing. It takes a great deal of time for them to rebuild their populations.

The numbers of sharks worldwide have decreased considerably, even dramatically. Some species have plummeted to only 1% of their population levels in the last 3 decades alone. The sharks are harvested mainly for their fins, to provide for the very high demand of shark fin soup, which is a delicacy in Eastern countries.

This "finning" is a practice where the fins are cut of the shark while it is still alive and the animal is then thrown back into the water. It causes the sharks to die a slow and very painful death. Some starve to death, some are slowly eaten by other fish but most simply drown as they need to keep moving to force water through their gills to breath.

It has been proven that sharks contain methyl mercury. Eating them can lead to mercury poisoning. The World Health Organization says there are no known safe levels of mercury ingestion and advises the elimination of mercury consumption whenever possible. Mercury poisoning causes impairment of vision, speech, hearing, memory and can lead to sterility and sexual dysfunction.

To prevent sharks from becoming extinct, it is my opinion that all harvest, possession, sale, transfer or distribution of any species of shark or parts of sharks should be forbidden.

As Hawaii depends on tourism as its largest industry, it needs healthy oceans surrounding the islands, so it would be in the interest of our state to protect the sharks that keep our reefs and waters healthy.

Please pass bill SB2169 SD2, HD2 and protect the sharks. They are worth a lot more to humanity alive.

Respectfully,

Brittany Dolan

Hawaii, United States of America

"A proud member of The Global Shark Initiative"

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: sara kim [nabs1004@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 9:27 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: JUD Cmte 3-30-10, 230pm, Rm 325, SUPPORT SB2169

Dear Honorable Chair Karamatsu, Vice-Chair Ito and House Judiciary Committee Members:

My name is Sara Kim and I am a resident of Makiki, and **STRONGLY SUPPORT SB 2169**; to prohibit the sale or possession of shark fins.

As a Korean-American this issue is very important to me. In my native country, and other countries in Asia, there are practices, such as whale and dolphin slaughter, that were once acceptable, when we as humans knew no better as to the larger impact on our ecosystems. Today, we know that millions of sharks are killed across the globe simply to supply the demand for shark-fin soup; a product that has no nutritional value and is purely consumed as a “status symbol.” We know that shark populations are in serious decline and that if we don’t act now to regulate this practice—our oceans and other fish species will be forever impacted.

Again, this issue is not about personal food choice or even the tradition or cultural practices of a few—this measure is about protecting the health and welfare of our oceans for generations to come.

Hawaii must take a stand and act now to protect our oceans and sharks.

I urge your support of this most important bill.

Thank you,

Sara Kim

926 Spencer St

Honolulu, HI 96822

808.343.6643

nabs1004@yahoo.com

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 10:23 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: zackss@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Zack Stoecker-Sylvia
Organization: Individual
Address: 965 Prospect St. #608 Honolulu, HI
Phone: 508-517-0362
E-mail: zackss@gmail.com
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

Please do everything in your power to protect our native wildlife from such cruel fishing practices.

From: Minminsback@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 10:40 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: testing

Mindy L. Barnes Student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa

Judiciary Committee

March 30, 2010

2:30 p.m.

In Support of S.B. NO 2169 S.D. 2 H.D. 2

Copies: 16

My name is Mindy Barnes and I am a master's level student at the Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I am in support of this bill (SB2169, SD2, HD 2) for the following reasons. As a future social worker in the state of Hawaii, I feel it is important to advocate not only for humans, but also for other species that depend on us to advocate for them.

Although sharks may be dangerous in some situations, it is imperative that they be protected and not be allowed to become extinct. Just imagine if we as humans were unable to advocate for ourselves and someone or something cut off one of our limbs and left us to die. If that happened to numerous people, we would eventually become extinct and the life cycle would stop. It can already be seen in some areas of the world that over fishing has had an impact on the size and evolution of fish and other marine life. This is even more important to remember when dealing with sharks since they do not reach sexual maturity as soon as some other fish. Therefore in order for them to be reproductive and continue growing, they need to be protected by humans from becoming extinct.

As citizens in the beautiful state of Hawaii, we need to protect the ecosystems around us to include both the human species and others such as the marine species. By passing this law and protecting the ocean environment, Hawaii's waters will continue to evolve and provide for the people. By passing this bill, the food chain in the ocean's marine life will be able to continue on with its evolving cycle. However, if the food chain is interrupted and damage is done to the cycle of marine life, we may eventually be affected in the long run.

Again, thank you to the committee for giving us the opportunity to testify for this bill.

Mindy L. Barnes
mindylb@hawaii.edu
808-554-9940

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: Michelle Hamilton [michelle_n_hawaii@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 11:51 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: JUD Cmte 3-30-10, 230pm, Rm 325, SUPPORT SB2169

Dear Honorable Chair Karamatsu, Vice-Chair Ito and House Judiciary Committee Members:

My name is Michelle Hamilton and I am a resident of Moilili, and strongly support SB 2169; to prohibit the sale or possession of shark fins.

Across the world tens of millions of sharks are killed each year; many in Hawaii, simply to supply the wasteful demand for shark fin soup. Shark populations cannot keep up at the current rate of their slaughter.

Furthermore, Sharks are apex predators (at the top of our oceans food chain) and whose survival affects all other marine species and the entire ocean's ecosystem

Unlike other fish species, sharks produce few young and thus, many are endangered and/or threatened due to the fin trade.

Hawaii is internationally renowned for its treasured marine life. This bill would rightfully make Hawaii the nation's leader in shark and ocean protection

I urge your support of this most important measure.

Thank you,

Michelle Hamilton
747 Hausten St
Honolulu HI 96826
michelle_n_hawaii@hotmail.com
808-551-7444

The New Busy is not the old busy. Search, chat and e-mail from your inbox. [Get started.](#)

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 30, 2010 1:47 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: punk_junkeez@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Anna Curtis
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: punk_junkeez@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 3/30/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 30, 2010 6:10 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: marthamurray58@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Martha Murray
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: marthamurray58@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 3/30/2010

Comments:

An act on any of our wildlife that causes unnecessary suffering and /or death for a body part is unconscionable. When numbers are decimated then what? Are people going to go after whales? Sharks are a part of the ocean ecosystem.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 30, 2010 6:55 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: isdunleavy@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: isabelle dunleavy
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: isdunleavy@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/30/2010

Comments:

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 30, 2010 8:29 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: michaelborger@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Michael Borger
Organization: Individual
Address: 833A Paahana St. HI
Phone: 808 351-3236
E-mail: michaelborger@gmail.com
Submitted on: 3/30/2010

Comments:

Shark finning is wrong on two main points. One, it is inhumane. The very act defies who we ought to be as a civilized society. We can split the atom and send people to the moon yet we slice fins off our own animals to make soup -- preposterous. Two, sharks are vital members of the marine ecosystem, which supports all life on earth. As top predators, they fulfill a crucial role in the health of our oceans. Our own livelihoods are absolutely dependent on a healthy marine ecosystem which cannot exist without sharks.

Sharks are evolutionary wonders. They have existed for millions of years, largely in their present form, indicating that they achieved a form of evolutionary 'end point' years ago, something that is not often seen in nature. However in the past few decades we have DECIMATED this unique of all animal types because of our short-sighted, inhumane, inefficient need for animal parts. It is time we step up to the plate and act as a human society in 2010 ought to act.

karamatsu1-Kenji

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 30, 2010 8:58 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: azuldivers@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2169 on 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JUD 3/30/2010 2:30:00 PM SB2169

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Dan Sherman
Organization: Individual
Address: 21130 78th Ave W Edmonds, WA
Phone: 206-755-5649
E-mail: azuldivers@gmail.com
Submitted on: 3/30/2010

Comments: