

**SB2169**

**SD1 Late**

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**From:** Celia Faircloth [Celia@hawaiiisharkencounters.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 22, 2010 5:51 PM  
**To:** JGO Testimony  
**Subject:** Measure SB2169 SD1 Relating to Shark Fins Decision Making Feb 23rd 2010

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS  
Measure SB 2169 SD1 Relating to Shark Fins  
Decision Making Feb 23rd, 2010

**LATE**

## IN SUPPORT OF MEASURE 2169 SD1

NAME: Celia Faircloth  
ORGANIZATION: Hawaii Shark Encounters  
DISTRICT: Honolulu  
SUPPORT: YES

I am in strong support of SB1269 SD1.

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.  
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**From:** Brooke Porter [brooke@pacificwhale.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 22, 2010 4:16 PM  
**To:** JGO Testimony  
**Subject:** SB2169

**LATE**

To Whom It May Concern:

We urge you to vote "YES" on SB2169 to prohibit the sale of shark fin in Hawaii.

Our mission at Pacific Whale Foundation is to promote appreciation, understanding and protection of whales, dolphins, coral reefs and our planet's oceans. We accomplish this by educating the public from a scientific perspective about the marine environment. We support and conduct responsible marine research and address marine conservation issues in Hawaii and the Pacific. Through educational ecotours, we model and promote sound ecotourism practices and responsible wildlife watching.

Sharks are a unique and vitally important resource we cannot afford to squander. The life history makes sharks highly susceptible to over exploitation. With slow growth, late reproductive maturity and minimal offspring, over exploited shark stocks will be slow to recover [2]. Further the present trade characterization of shark species is subject to many inaccuracies [1]. The lack of species-specific knowledge hinders the ability to properly assess the impact of the trade on shark stocks.

Shark fin as a food item is an absurdity mistaken for a delicacy. The soup, which has been described by many as "tasteless," represents a cruel and unnecessary practice. Looking beyond the ecological perspective to economics,

Please consider the environment before printing this email the practice and trade of shark fin does not support Hawaii as the majority of shark fins entering Hawaii are then shipped to support out-of-state markets.

Pacific Whale Foundation and it's 250,00 active supporters and members ask the Senate Committee vote "YES" to SB2169 and pass this important bill and thereby ensure that the protection of a critical species and set Hawaii law as a strong model for other states and countries.

Sincerely,  
Brooke Porter, MEd  
Director of Conservation

Pacific Whale Foundation  
300 Ma'alaea Road  
Suite 211  
Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793  
Work (808) 856-8341  
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[www.pacificwhale.org](http://www.pacificwhale.org)

REFERENCES:

[1] Clarke, S. C., J. E. Magnussen, D. L. Abercrombie, M. K. Mcallister, &

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**From:** Erika Marchino [erika@dorsalfriends.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 22, 2010 7:10 PM  
**To:** JGO Testimony  
**Subject:** In SUPPORT OF Measure 2169

**LATE**

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS  
Measure SB 2169 Relating to Shark Fins  
Decision Making Feb 23rd, 2010

IN SUPPORT OF MEASURE 2169

Dear Chairman Taniguchi,

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 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

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**From:** Lisa Diaz [lisadiaz@hawaii.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 22, 2010 10:30 PM  
**To:** JGO Testimony  
**Subject:** SB 2169 testimony in support

**LATE**

**Testimony in support of SB2169 – Hearing 2/22/10 10:00am JGO Committee**

**To: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

**Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair**

**Senator Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair**

**Aloha Chair Sen. Tanguchi, Vice Chair Sen. Takamine & JGO Committee Members:**

**I strongly support SB2169 that will protect Hawaii's important keystone shark species from the shark fin industry.**

**It is important for Hawaiian marine ecosystems to protect the apex predators that balance species in our oceans. Sharks have a very slow reproductive rate (some species do not mature until 10 – 20 years) and only give birth to 1-10 pups per year. Shark fining is a barbaric, in-humane and wasteful fishing practice motivated by greed and ignorance. Shark fins are not a nutritious or needed food source.**

**Shark fining should be stopped worldwide, as many shark species are being pushed towards extinction.**

**Please pass SB2169 to protect Hawaii's marine wildlife as soon as possible.**

**Mahalo for considering my testimony,**

**Lisa Diaz**

**76-223 Haoa Street**

**Kailua-Kona, HI 96740**

**Tel: 808-329-7928 E-mail: [lisadiaz@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:lisadiaz@hawaii.rr.com)**

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**From:** Jeremy Faircloth [sharkywaters@mac.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2010 7:52 AM  
**To:** JGO Testimony  
**Subject:** Measure SB2169 SD1 Relating to Shark Fins

**LATE**

Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations  
Measure SB2169 SD1 Relating to Shark Fins  
Decision Making February 23, 2010

IN SUPPORT OF MEASURE SB2169 SD1

NAME: Jeremy Faircloth

ORGANIZATION: Hawaii Shark Encounters

DISTRICT: HONOLULU

SUPPORT: YES

I urge you support SB2169 SD1 relating to shark fins. Without sharks the whole ecology of the ocean would be changed. Predators control the populations of their prey species in a beneficial way. They eliminate diseased and genetically defective individuals, and they stabilize population fluctuations.

Conservation of our natural resources is one of the responsibilities our government must take seriously, with the larger ecosystem view in mind.

*Jeremy Faircloth*

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**From:** Dusty Mulhearn [DustyMulhearn@hawaii.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2010 8:39 AM  
**To:** JGO Testimony  
**Subject:** Measure SB2169 SD1 Relating to Shark Fins

**LATE**

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

*Measure SB 2169 SD1 Relating to Shark Fins*

*Decision Making Feb 23rd, 2010*

IN SUPPORT OF MEASURE 2169 SD1

NAME: *Dusty Mulhearn*

ORGANIZATION: *Individual*

DISTRICT: *Honolulu*

SUPPORT: *YES*

*I urge you to pass SB2169 SD1 relating to shark fins. Sharks have been around for more than 400 million years but soon there won't be any. An estimated 100 million sharks are killed each year for their fins alone. Without sharks the oceans will team with fish and other ocean animals that live off the plant life in the sea. When the plants disappear so will the oxygen that the ocean produces. Please take immediate action to stop this travesty.*

*Thank you,*

*Dusty Mulhearn*

*Waialua, HI 96791*

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**From:** Dillon Mulhearn [DillonMulhearn@hawaii.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2010 8:48 AM  
**To:** JGO Testimony  
**Subject:** Measure SB2169 SD1 Relating to Shark Fins

**LATE**

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Measure SB 2169 SD1 Relating to Shark Fins

Decision Making Feb 23rd, 2010

IN SUPPORT OF MEASURE 2169 SD1

NAME: Dillon Mulhearn

ORGANIZATION: Individual

DISTRICT: Honolulu

SUPPORT: YES

I urge you to pass SB2169 SD1 relating to shark fins. The cruelty and waste of such an important part of marine life is unthinkable in these modern times. We need our sharks to keep the ecological balance in our oceans. Please stop this cruel and senseless slaughter of our oceans sharks.

Thank you,

Dillon Mulhearn

Waialua, HI 96791

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2010 9:20 AM  
**To:** JGO Testimony  
**Cc:** cdb@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2169 on 2/23/2010 10:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Testimony for JGO 2/23/2010 10:00:00 AM SB2169

Conference room: 016  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Constance Becker  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone: 808-269-2627  
E-mail: [cdb@hawaii.edu](mailto:cdb@hawaii.edu)  
Submitted on: 2/23/2010

Comments:

I support SB 2169, which makes it unlawful for any person in the state to possess, sell, offer for sale, trade, or distribute shark fins in Hawai'i. 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.

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**From:** Laleh Mohajerani [laleh@iemanya.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2010 10:29 AM  
**To:** JGO Testimony  
**Subject:** IN SUPPORT OF MEASURE 2169

**LATE**

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS  
Measure SB 2169 Relating to Shark Fins  
Decision Making Feb 23rd, 2010

Dear Senator Taniguchi,

Congratulations on your efforts to ban shark fin product sales in your State!! We are in support of Measure 2169 and hope a national ban on shark fin sales is next!

Sincerely,

Laleh Mohajerani  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
iemanya Oceanica/Adoptashark

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[www.adoptashark.com](http://www.adoptashark.com)

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**From:** Claudia Manno [claudiamanno@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2010 10:01 AM  
**To:** JGO Testimony  
**Subject:** FW: MEASURE 2169: Relating to shark fins

**LATE**

> Subject: MEASURE 2169: Relating to shark fins  
> Date: Sun, 21 Feb 2010 06:34:21 -1000  
> This bill ([http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2010/Bills/SB2169\\_SD1\\_.pdf](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2010/Bills/SB2169_SD1_.pdf))

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> MEASURE 2169: Relating to shark fins  
> Decision Making Feb 23rd, 2010

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> NAME: Claudia Manno  
> ORGANIZATION: American Medical Response, Oahu, HI  
> IN SUPPORT OF MEASURE 2169

>

> TESTIMONY:

> Shark finning is inhumane and wasteful and the reason why shark  
> populations are endangered worldwide.  
> I am shocked that it is legal in Hawaii.  
> I am well aware of the increasing demand and economic rewards of shark  
> fins for shark fin soup.  
> But at what cost?  
> Sharks are a vital part of the ocean ecosystem and help maintain  
> resources for Hawaii's local people and visitors.  
> All activity relating to shark finning should be outlawed, including  
> the transport of fins by foreign vessels through Hawaii's ports.  
> I would like to thank the committee and Senator Taniguchi for hearing  
> this bill.  
> It is very important that something is done about this now.

>

> Aloha,

>

> Claudia