
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO AMEND
ITS ADMINISTRATIVE RULES TO PROHIBIT THE USE OF LAY GILL
NETS FOR CATCHING OIO.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii is an island state with a unique marine
2 environment that consists of numerous species of fish and marine
3 life, including the bonefish, which is more commonly referred to
4 as oio in Hawaii; and

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6 WHEREAS, oio is one of the premiere sport fishes in the
7 world; and

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9 WHEREAS, oio are used in food products, such as fishcake;
10 and

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12 WHEREAS, a growing number of sport fishers, particularly,
13 fly fishers, are seeking out areas to fish for oio; and

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15 WHEREAS, this has made oio into an economic resource beyond
16 the value of a commercial catch; and

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18 WHEREAS, for example, in areas such as Florida, a single
19 oio can generate approximately \$3,500 worth of revenue for the
20 state, taking into account the value of plane tickets, guide
21 services, fishing tours, and equipment rentals; and

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23 WHEREAS, Hawaii's commercial oio catch using fish nets in
24 2010 was 1,500 fish; and

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26 WHEREAS, if Florida revenue estimates were applied to
27 Hawaii's oio catch through netting, the value of that catch
28 would be approximately \$5,250,000; and

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30 WHEREAS, although lay gill nets have been used in Hawaii
31 for decades, they are destructive because while efficient, lay



1 gill nets are indiscriminate in the fish and marine life that
2 they catch; and

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4 WHEREAS, abandoned lay gill nets continue to kill marine
5 life, can break off or destroy coral formations, and create
6 marine debris; and

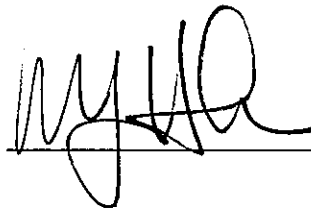
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8 WHEREAS, in an attempt to protect nearshore waters from
9 overfishing, the Department of Land and Natural Resources has
10 established administrative rules that regulate the use of lay
11 gill nets by prohibiting them in certain areas, including around
12 the entire island of Maui, along portions of the west coast of
13 the island of Hawaii, and along portions of the southeast shores
14 of the island of Oahu; and

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16 WHEREAS, expanding this prohibition to include the taking
17 of oio from all waters of the State using lay gill nets would
18 help to protect this species of fish and would allow for the
19 establishment of a sport fishing revenue generator for the State
20 of Hawaii; now, therefore,

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22 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
23 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
24 of 2012, that the Department of Land and Natural Resources is
25 requested to amend its administrative rules to prohibit the use
26 of lay gill nets for catching oio in the waters of the State;
27 and

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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
30 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor,
31 Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, and
32 Attorney General.

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35 OFFERED BY:



MAR 14 2012

