



Testimony to the Senate Committees on Economic Development and Technology and
Water, Land, and Hawaiian Affairs
March 30, 2012

Testimony in support of SCR 141

To: The Honorable Carol Fukunaga, Chair
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice-Chair
The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Malama Solomon, Vice-Chair
Members of the Committees

My name is Stefanie Sakamoto, and I am testifying on behalf of Fishing Tales with Mike Sakamoto, a company that was founded by my father in 1985, and the Mike Sakamoto Memorial Scholarship. In addition to producing a fishing show in Hawaii for 15 years, Mike Sakamoto was a tireless fishing advocate, whose philosophy was the preservation of fishing rights and ocean resources for future generations.

We are in strong support of SCR 141, Requesting the Week of October 1-7, 2012 be Recognized as "Hawaii Fishing and Seafood Week". The Pacific Islands Fisheries Group, along with many other members of the fishing and seafood community, established the Hawaii Fishing and Seafood Festival in 2005, and the event has seen yearly growth. Hawaii's fishing and seafood industries are an integral part of the culture, lifestyle, and economy of our island state, and the festival was established as a way to celebrate and promote it. By recognizing Hawaii Fishing and Seafood Week, the public is given even more of an opportunity to learn about the importance of our responsible fishing and seafood community. Only through education and awareness can we ensure that there will be "fish today for fish tomorrow".

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

Stefanie Y. Sakamoto
Chair, Mike Sakamoto Memorial Scholarship

fukunaga2 - Ashley-Jane

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2012 10:28 PM
To: EDTTestimony
Cc: kawamotok008@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SCR141 on 3/30/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for EDT/WLH 3/30/2012 1:15:00 PM SCR141

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kurt Kawamoto
Organization: Individual
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Submitted on: 3/29/2012

Comments:

Strong support. Fishing is an important part of our local cultural identity. It is a necessary activity that was done in the past to feed the people and even today it remains a viable sustainable source of healthy protein. Local fisheries form a vital part of Hawaii's food security net. The fresh catch from the commercial fisheries are a large part of the Hawaiian experience that our visitors all return for.