
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AQUATIC RESOURCES.

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

1 SECTION 1. In July 1998, the department of land and
2 natural resources established bottomfish restricted fishing
3 areas in response to a federal assessment that indicated that
4 bottomfish stocks in Hawaii were approaching an over-fished
5 condition. In an effort to conserve the spawning populations of
6 the seven fish species identified as bottomfish, the department
7 prohibits any person from taking or possessing bottomfish within
8 bottomfish restricted fishing areas designated throughout the
9 Hawaiian islands.

10 However, recent stock assessments indicate that the
11 restricted bottomfish are neither overfished nor subject to
12 overfishing. Moreover, there is no evidence to suggest that
13 bottomfish restricted fishing areas are reducing the mortality
14 rates of bottomfish. Consequently, with no clear indication of
15 a return on investment, bottomfish restricted fishing areas
16 represent an unnecessary use of resources.

17 The purpose of this Act is to prohibit the department of
18 land and natural resources from establishing restricted fishing



1 areas within which the fishing or taking of bottomfish is
2 prohibited.

3 SECTION 2. Chapter 187A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
5 and to read as follows:

6 "§187A- Bottomfish restricted fishing areas;
7 prohibited. (a) The department shall not establish restricted
8 fishing areas within which the fishing or taking of bottomfish
9 is prohibited.

10 (b) For the purposes of this section:

11 "Bottomfish" includes the following fish species:

- 12 (1) 'Ula'ula koa'e, ruby or longtail snapper, or onaga
13 (Etelis coruscans);
14 (2) 'Ula'ula or ehū (Etelis carbunculus);
15 (3) Kalekale (Pristipomoides sieboldii);
16 (4) 'Opakapaka (Pristipomoides filamentosus);
17 (5) 'Ukikiki or gindai (Pristipomoides zonatus);
18 (6) Hapu'u, hapu'upu'u, or Hawaiian grouper (Epinephelus
19 quernus); and
20 (7) Lehi or rusty jobfish (Aphareus rutilans).

21 "Taking" means fishing for, catching, or harvesting, or
22 attempting to fish for, catch, or harvest, aquatic life."



1 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

2 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

3

INTRODUCED BY: _____

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink is written over a horizontal line. The signature is highly cursive and difficult to decipher, but it appears to be a name with a prominent initial.

JAN 24 2013



H.B. NO. 1336

Report Title:

DLNR; Bottomfish; Restricted Fishing Areas; Prohibited

Description:

Prohibits DLNR from establishing restricted fishing areas within which the fishing or taking of bottomfish is prohibited.

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