

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1522

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 12 2013

RE: S.R. No. 70

S.D. 1

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim
President of the Senate
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature
Regular Session of 2013
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.R. No. 70, S.D. 1, entitled:

"SENATE RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION TO COLLABORATE TO FORM A PERMANENT PLAN TO PROTECT HUMPBACK WHALES FROM VESSEL STRIKES WITHIN THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS HUMPBACK WHALE NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY AND REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE A PLAN TO PROTECT HUMPBACK WHALES AND WHALE-VESSEL CONTACT INFORMATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to protect humpback whales in state waters.

More specifically, this measure requests the Department of Land and Natural Resources to:

- (1) Collaborate with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to form a plan to protect humpback whales from vessel strikes within the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary (Marine Sanctuary);
- (2) Report to the Legislature, with the assistance of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, a plan for the Marine Sanctuary to address the threat from whale-vessel contacts, no later than twenty days before the convening of the Regular Session of 2014; and

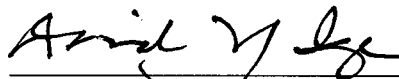


- (3) Report annually to the Legislature, beginning June 1, 2014, on confirmed whale-vessel contacts within the Marine Sanctuary in the preceding twelve months.

Your Committee finds that the humpback whale is protected by the Federal Endangered Species Act and the Marine Mammal Protection Act. Each year, approximately ten thousand humpback whales migrate to Hawaii's waters. Your Committee finds that, between the years of 1979 and 2013, there have been eighty confirmed contacts between whales and marine vessels and that these contacts cause significant harm to the whales. Accordingly, this measure encourages the creation of a permanent plan to protect humpback whales from vessel strikes.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.R. No. 70, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,

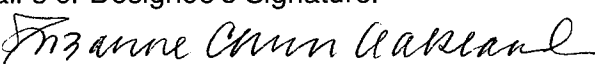


DAVID Y. IGE, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Seventh Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:* SR 70, SD 1	Committee Referral: WTL, WAM	Date: 4/5/13		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
IGE, David Y. (C)	✓			
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)	✓			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	✓			
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.	✓			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani	✓			
ESPERO, Will	✓			
KAHELE, Gilbert	✓			
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C.	✓			
KOUCHI, Ronald D.	✓			
RUDERMAN, Russell E.	✓			
THIELEN, Laura H.	✓			
TOKUDA, Jill N.	✓			
SLOM, Sam	✓			
TOTAL	13	0	0	0
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes