

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of
CARTY S. CHANG
Interim Chairperson

Before the House Committee on
OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Wednesday, February 18, 2015
9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1339
RELATING TO SHARK AND MANTA RAY PROTECTION

House Bill 1339 proposes to prohibit any person from knowingly capturing, harming, or killing any species of shark or manta ray in State waters. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources appreciates the intent of this measure and offers the following comments.**

This measure proposes to prohibit persons from capturing, taking, or killing a shark in state waters but exempts the same in federal waters. Sharks occur in both state and federal waters around the Hawaiian Islands. Enforcement of this provision would require the enforcement officer to observe, at the time of capture, if the shark was caught in state or federal waters in order to determine if a violation had occurred. This would be an extremely difficult measure to properly enforce.

For this Committee's information, the federal Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act requires that sharks be managed under an annual catch limit (ACL) that is reviewed annually, to ensure that the sharks are not over harvested. The 2013 ACL for reef sharks was over 110,000 pounds with a reported commercial catch of less than 3,000 pounds for 2012 and 2013. It appears that with the adoption of Section 188-40.7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, in 2010, which prohibited the possession, sale, offering for sale, trade, or distribution of shark fins, the local market for sharks has essentially disappeared.

This measure also proposes to prohibit persons from capturing, taking, or killing a manta ray in State waters but exempts the same in federal waters. As manta rays also occur in both state and federal waters around the Hawaiian Islands, the same enforcement burden at the time of capture would exist as described in the previous discussion on shark enforcement.

CARTY S. CHANG
INTERIM CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

DANIEL S. QUINN
INTERIM FIRST DEPUTY

W. ROY HARDY
ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS



THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES



HUMANE SOCIETY
INTERNATIONAL

February 18, 2015

To: Honorable Chair Ing, Vice-Chair Lowen and Committee Members
House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, Hawaiian Affairs

From: Inga Gibson, Hawaii State Director, The Humane Society of the United States-Humane Society International, PO Box 891131, Honolulu, HI 96830, igibson@humanesociety.org

RE: SUPPORT FOR HB 1339; Relating to Shark and Ray Protections

On behalf of The Humane Society of the United States members and supporters across Hawaii and The HSUS's international arm, Humane Society International (HSI), we urge your support of H.B. 1339, based on the following:

- In 2010, Hawaii became the first state in the world to enact a prohibition on shark-finning and the sale of shark-fins or fin products. This measure would complement this existing law, which has now become a global initiative, by again poising Hawaii to be a leader in shark and marine conservation.
- More than 70 million sharks are estimated to be killed annually for their fins. While laws such as the above are helping to improve shark populations, many species are still threatened and face possible extinction.
- Recent research from the University of Hawaii has shown that many species of shark, such as tiger and hammerhead, frequent state waters, especially the marine shelf around Maui. While this measure does NOT preempt or impact federal fishing laws, and only applies to Hawaii state waters (3 nm), prohibiting take within state waters could protect potentially thousands of sharks.
- There have been numerous incidents, one most recently on the Big Island (Honokohau Harbor) where sharks were harassed and harmed for no purpose other than cruel enjoyment. This measure would prohibit the "recreational" take of sharks, which is disrespectful to native Hawaiians who revere sharks as aumakua.
- While we don't currently have any large-scale shark-hunting tournaments like those on the East Coast of the U.S., this would prohibit any future "tournaments" where sharks are taken simply as a 'challenge' as to who can kill the largest.
- Sharks are apex predators; when they are removed our entire marine ecosystem is negatively impacted.
- This law would not apply to those who unintentionally capture shark while fishing for other species and only applies to intentional take and landing. Responsible fishers release sharks that may be accidentally caught as by-catch. This bill would reinforce that responsible and pono practice.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important marine conservation issue.

ing2-Mary

From: Ginger Towle <towle@hawaiiintel.net>
Sent: Monday, February 16, 2015 9:23 PM
To: omhtestimony
Subject: Support Bill HB 1339 - Shark and Ray protection

Marine Resources and Hawaiian Affairs Committee

HB1339 - Shark and Ray Protection

These animals are predators whose survival is extremely necessary for the very survival of our ocean ecosystems. Penalties are necessary for protection of these important creatures.

West Hawaii Humane Society supports this legislation and asks that you please pass important Bill.

Ginger Towle - President
West Hawaii Humane Society
Box 1208
Kailua-Kona, Hi. 96745

808-329-2051



**Conservation Council
for Hawai'i**

Hawai'i's voice for wildlife

Kō Hawai'i / leo no nā holoholona lōhiu



Testimony Submitted to the
House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, and Hawaiian Affairs
Hearing: Wednesday, February 18, 2015 9am, Room 325

In Support of HB 1339 Relating to Shark and Manta Ray Protection

Aloha, Chair Ing, Vice Chair Lowen, and Members of the Committee. The Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports HB 1339, which creates administrative penalties for any person who knowingly captures, kills, or takes any shark or manta ray within state marine waters, and provides exemptions for native Hawaiian gathering rights and cultural practices, research purposes, and public safety.

We agree with the following points made by the Humane Society of the United States in support of HB 1339:

- In 2010, Hawai'i became the first state in the world to enact a prohibition on shark-finning and the sale of shark-fins or fin products. This measure would complement this existing law, which has now become a global initiative, by again poising Hawai'i to be a leader in shark and marine conservation.
- More than 70 million sharks killed annually for their fins. While legal protection helps increase shark populations, many species are still threatened and face possible extinction.
- Recent research from the University of Hawai'i has shown that many species of shark, such as tiger and hammerhead, frequent state waters, especially the marine shelf around Maui. While this measure does not preempt or impact federal fishing laws, and only applies to Hawai'i state waters (out to 3 nm), prohibiting take within state waters could protect potentially thousands of sharks.
- There have been numerous incidents, one most recently on the Big Island at Honokohau Harbor in which sharks were harassed and harmed for no purpose other than cruel enjoyment. This measure would prohibit the "recreational" take of sharks, which is disrespectful to native Hawaiians who revere sharks as 'aumakua.
- Sharks are apex predators; when they are removed our entire marine ecosystem is negatively impacted.
- This law would not apply to those who unintentionally capture shark while fishing for other species and only applies to intentional take and landing. Responsible fishers release sharks that may be accidentally caught as by-catch. This bill would reinforce that responsible and pono fishing practices.

Conservation Council for Hawai'i is a nonprofit, environmental membership organization dedicated to protecting native Hawaiian plants, animals, and ecosystems for future generations.

Established in 1950 and based in Honolulu, CCH is one of the largest and most effective wildlife organizations in Hawai'i with more than 5,000 members and supporters, including concerned citizens, educators, scientists, government agencies, and elected officials.

Through research, education, service, organizing, and legal advocacy, CCH works to stop the destruction of native wildlife and wild places in Hawai'i.

Since 1973, CCH has served as the Hawai'i state affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation.

Telephone/Fax: 808.593.0255 | email: info@conservehi.org | web: www.conservehi.org
P.O. Box 2923 | Honolulu, HI 96802 | Office: 250 Ward Ave., Suite 220 | Honolulu, HI 96814

President: Hannah Kihalani Springer | Vice-President: Julie Leialoha | Treasurer: Bianca Isaki | Secretary: Wayne Tanaka
Directors: Rick Barboza | Ryan Belcher | Maka'ala Ka'aumoana | Koalani Kaulukukui
Executive Director: Marjorie Ziegler | Administrator: Jonnetta Peters



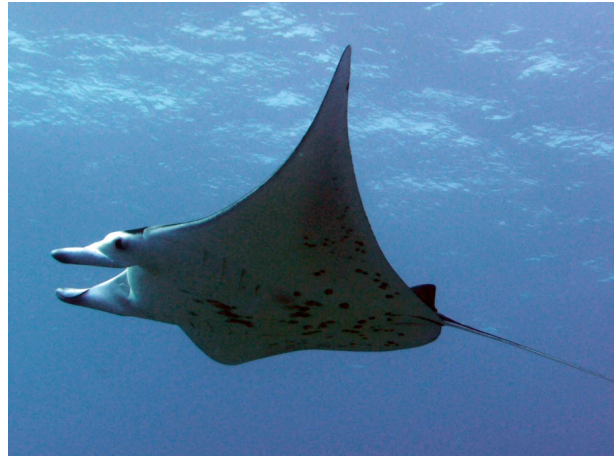
Sharks and manta rays are part of our rich natural and cultural heritage in Hawai'i. We have a moral responsibility to care for the future of our children and generations to come by leaving a wildlife legacy to know and enjoy as we do. Please kokua.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Ziegler

Marjorie Ziegler



ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2015 10:44 AM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: cathyg@animalrightshawaii.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 18, 2015 09:00AM*

HB1339

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 18, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cathy Goeggel	Animal Rights Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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ing2-Mary

From: owlit1@gmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2015 10:38 AM
To: omhtestimony
Subject: Support HB1339

Shark and Ray Protection (HB1339) Sharks are key apex predators whose survival is key to the health of our ocean ecosystems. This bill would create penalties for unlawfully killing a shark or ray in state waters. Exemptions are provided for native Hawaiian practices, research, and public safety removals. **This bill has been scheduled for a hearing on Wednesday, February 18th at 9am in the House Ocean, Marine Resources and Hawaiian Affairs Committee. Email “SUPPORT for HB1339” to OMHTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov**

I, France Pueo, support Shark and Ray Protection HB 1339. It is time as the caregivers of this earth that we step forward to protect the animals that keep the ocean biosphere clean and health.

France Pueo, (808) 769-1128
P.O. Box 943,
Mt View, Hi 96771

ing2-Mary

From: Laurie Pottish <pottishl001@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2015 9:20 AM
To: omhtestimony
Subject: Support for HB1339

Aloha:

This email s to voice my support of HB1339 re sharks and rays.

Thank you,
Laurie Pottish
Makawao, Hi 96768

ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2015 9:10 AM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: matt.htfa@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 18, 2015 09:00AM

HB1339

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 18, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Matthew Ross	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please do not pass this bill. Reasonable fishing regulations are a good thing, but a total ban on the taking of sharks is going too far. Sharks are important for public aquariums, without which most people would never have the chance to see and appreciate these majestic creatures.

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ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 13, 2015 7:33 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: babyjean@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 18, 2015 09:00AM

HB1339

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 18, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ronnie Perry	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this bill. We need to protect our oceans and prevent the destruction of the shark and the rays that are killed by the millions each year. Please support this bill. Mahalo, Ronnie Perry

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ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 16, 2015 2:45 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: mmmmahalo2000@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 18, 2015 09:00AM

HB1339

Submitted on: 2/16/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 18, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Moran	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support. It is long overdue, but not too late. Let's follow those leading the way as other Pacific Islanders are protecting their oceans & the creatures within. Mahalo, Mike Moran Maui

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ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2015 8:24 AM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: douglasperrine@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 18, 2015 09:00AM

HB1339

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 18, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Douglas Perrine	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Sharks are slow-growing, late-maturing animals with limited reproductive capacity that cannot sustain any significant levels of fishing mortality. As apex predators that serve a vital role in maintaining the health of the entire ocean ecosystem. By all indications, many species are currently overfished in Hawaiian waters, and in urgent need of protection. Protection is also warranted by the important role of sharks in Hawaiian cultural traditions, and additionally by their increasing value as an ecotourism attraction.

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ing2-Mary

From: reports800 <reports800@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 16, 2015 10:19 PM
To: omhtestimony
Subject: I support Shark and Ray Protection (HB1339)

Dear Sir, Madam,

I support **Shark and Ray Protection (HB1339)**

Sharks are key apex predators whose survival is key to the health of our ocean ecosystems. This bill would create penalties for unlawfully killing a shark or ray in state waters. Exemptions are provided for native Hawaiian practices, research, and public safety removals.

Animal Advocate,
Zoe Tom

ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 14, 2015 7:11 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: ndavlantes@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 18, 2015 09:00AM*

HB1339

Submitted on: 2/14/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 18, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Davlantes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 13, 2015 6:24 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: etvuong@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 18, 2015 09:00AM*

HB1339

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 18, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erik Vuong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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ing2-Mary

From: nextlink <nextlink@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, February 16, 2015 10:20 PM
To: omhtestimony
Subject: I support Shark and Ray Protection (HB1339)

Dear Sir, Madam,

I support **Shark and Ray Protection (HB1339)**

Sharks are key apex predators whose survival is key to the health of our ocean ecosystems. This bill would create penalties for unlawfully killing a shark or ray in state waters. Exemptions are provided for native Hawaiian practices, research, and public safety removals.

Animal Advocate,
Dan paxton

ing2-Mary

From: zojing@aol.com
Sent: Monday, February 16, 2015 11:50 AM
To: omhtestimony
Subject: I support Shark and Ray Protection (HB1339)

Dear Sir, Madam,

I support **Shark and Ray Protection (HB1339)**

Sharks are key apex predators whose survival is key to the health of our ocean ecosystems. This bill would create penalties for unlawfully killing a shark or ray in state waters. Exemptions are provided for native Hawaiian practices, research, and public safety removals.

Mahalo Niu Loa.

Animal Advocate,
Zojing Wong & QZ Tom
zojing@aol.com

ing2-Mary

From: alohacharm <alohacharm@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, February 16, 2015 10:18 PM
To: omhtestimony
Subject: I support Shark and Ray Protection (HB1339)

Dear Sir, Madam,

I support **Shark and Ray Protection (HB1339)**

Sharks are key apex predators whose survival is key to the health of our ocean ecosystems. This bill would create penalties for unlawfully killing a shark or ray in state waters. Exemptions are provided for native Hawaiian practices, research, and public safety removals.

Animal Advocate,
Wenda Ohata

ing2-Mary

From: java008 <java008@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, February 16, 2015 10:20 PM
To: omhtestimony
Subject: I support Shark and Ray Protection (HB1339)

Dear Sir, Madam,

I support **Shark and Ray Protection (HB1339)**

Sharks are key apex predators whose survival is key to the health of our ocean ecosystems.

This bill would create penalties for unlawfully killing a shark or ray in state waters. Exemptions are provided for native Hawaiian practices, research, and public safety removals.

Animal Advocate,
Linda Koa

ing2-Mary

From: Rodney & Terri Shishido <rodnod@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 16, 2015 1:42 PM
To: omhtestimony
Subject: HB1339

please support HB 1339 passage.

Theresa Shishido
1276 Kauhikoa Rd
Haiku HI 96708
808-575-2264

Sent from Windows Mail

ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 15, 2015 6:52 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: jonikamiya@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 18, 2015 09:00AM*

HB1339

Submitted on: 2/15/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 18, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joni Kamiya	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 13, 2015 6:42 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: nathanabe@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 18, 2015 09:00AM*

HB1339

Submitted on: 2/13/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 18, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nathan Abe	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Ocean Marine Resources and Hawaiian Affairs Committee

12-18-15 Wednesday 9:00 AM Room 325

I oppose HB 1339 Bill to ban the taking of sharks and manta rays as it stands.

The shark fin law passed last year has an unintentional restriction. If I take a shark for live for public aquarium purposes it is at this time illegal. With that law it may not be necessary for HB 1339 to make shark taking illegal? I must apply for a special permit with DLNR to get around this unintended result of last year's passage of the shark fin law. My application attached for you to see. Please clarify this problem with amendments in HB 1339.

We wish to harvest Scalloped Hammerhead sharks (*Sphyrna lewini*) from Kaneohe Bay maintain them alive and ship them to a large public aquariums for display and educational purposes. In the past we have taken white tip sharks and black tip sharks. Only 5 sharks total have been taken in 35 years but we wish to be able to for the public in the future too. The population of Scalloped Hammerheads is not an issue here in Hawaii at this time. They are also protected by cites right now and a federal permit is required to take them. See link for more data on these sharks:

(<http://scholarspace.manoa.hawaii.edu/bitstream/handle/10125/4191/vol25n2-133-144.pdf?sequence=1>).

Many large adult hammerhead schools numbering nearly 100 per school exist all around Oahu. It is estimated 10,000 pups travel through Kaneohe Bay alone every year. These pups come from an estimated 700 adults which give birth to 12-15 live pups in the Bay mostly from April to October. Most bays and near shore areas of Hawaii also have big hammerhead populations as any night fisherman can tell you.

We are asking for only a small number of sharks for only large public aquariums.

If HB 1339 is passed we would not be able to supply public aquariums around the world who will share them with the public and do research with them. The research done by researchers caring for them may help us understand and protect their ocean populations in the future.

Public aquariums are in many ways arks which helps maintain many fish and animal species for the future.

The transport of these sharks is well documents with high success.

Sharks are more and more abundant in Hawaiian waters. The fact is that with more fish comes more sharks. I see more fish than ever in Hawaiian waters and I would know I am an Aquarium Fish collector.

We dive not far from the north shore shark operations and we see lots of sharks and even schools of hundreds of hammerheads. Hawaii has no shortage of all types of sharks.

I took UH shark researchers out to find grey reef sharks. They explained to me they thought they were having population issues. When I explained I knew where there lots of them they had to go see for themselves. I took them out to the spot and sure thing they saw them.

The abundance of sharks and the resulting attack on people by mistaken identity is just an inevitability.

Fifteen shark attacks occurred last year alone. More fish than ever means more predators eating them. And more sharks!

Do I suggest we control the shark population. No. I see sharks many times a month and sometimes they get aggressive but in 50 years of tropical fish collecting no aquarium fish collector has ever been bitten by a shark! Lots of close calls though and many more recently with big tiger sharks.

We may however have to look eventually at protecting Hawaii's tourist beaches if attacks rise with the increased populations. You have a public safety clause in HB 1339 and you need to make sure you can use it if needed. I am seeing lots of big tiger sharks lately!

As for Manta rays I have seen many recently. Populations are up and they are a great resource for the tourist to see. As with shark finning rays can be taken by fishermen as mock crab meat so maybe protecting them is a good idea. Here to we may want to exclude for public aquariums even though their diet of krill or plankton would be difficult to meet in captivity it is still possible. The amount to be taken for that purpose would be small and should have no effect on overall populations.

I oppose HB Bill 1339 as it stands but think with the right changes I would gladly support it.

Thanks for your time,

Ron Tubbs B.S. N.D.

RT Distributors Inc.

Hawaii Tropical Aquarium Fish Association

ing2-Mary

From: Javier Mendez <mendezj@hawaii.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2015 12:35 PM
To: omhtestimony
Subject: Support for HB1339: Relating to Shark and Ray Protections

February 18, 2015

Honorable Chair Ing, Vice-chair Lowen, and Committee Members
House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, and Hawaiian Affairs

This is to urge your support of HB1339, the Shark and Ray protection bill. This measure will further Hawaii's position as a global leader in preservation of marine species, most of which are presently threatened and greatly reduced.

Prohibiting the taking of these fishes within state waters (3 nautical miles from shore) could protect thousands of animals.

HB1339 also bans the recreational take of sharks and rays, which would prevent harassment, harm, mutilation, and large-scale tournaments from happening in Hawaiian waters.

Sharks and rays are vital members of our pelagic and demersal ecosystems, on which health we rely for sustenance and recreation.

This bill does not apply to unintentional capture while fishing for other species. Pono fishermen release and return sharks and rays accidentally caught as bycatch.

Thank you for your kind attention to this important marine conservation measure.

Sincerely,

Javier Mendez
Marine Biologist

ing2-Mary

From: Javier Mendez <mendezj@hawaii.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2015 11:39 AM
To: omhtestimony
Subject: HB1339

This is to support HB1339, the Shark and Ray Protection bill. Mahalo!

Aloha!

Javier Mendez
Marine Biologist

ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2015 11:40 AM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 18, 2015 09:00AM*

HB1339

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 18, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2015 11:34 AM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: philferna@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 18, 2015 09:00AM

HB1339

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 18, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Philip Fernandez	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Sharks are already managed by DLNR and DAR. In West Hawaii several species of sharks are already banned from any take. Furthermore, DLNR has a study that was initiated in 2014 that should conclude in 2016 that will give us a stock assessment and determine whether sharks are at risk or not. Management of sharks should be based on good science, not on opinions from amateurs. Please remove all references to sharks in this bill.

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ing2-Mary

From: Shannon Noelle <shannon.noelle@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2015 11:25 AM
To: omhtestimony
Subject: SUPPORT for HB1339

Signed ,

Shannon Rivera
Zip:96817

ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2015 11:45 AM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: slwsurfing@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 18, 2015 09:00AM*

HB1339

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 18, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sharon willeford	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2015 2:18 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: teri@jacksdivinglocker.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 18, 2015 09:00AM

HB1339

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 18, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Teri Leicher	Jack's Diving Locker	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I am writing in support of this bill as I feel that it adds some teeth to the penalty for capturing, harming or killing a manta ray. Manta Rays are a very important part of our local economy and are very scarce or non existent in many parts of the world. I do have a concern that the bill allows for some "TAKES" and does not spell out details of how a decision is made to "TAKE" a manta. There are many "researchers" in the world. In Japan some are allowed to kill whales for research (and sell the meat). For what exact purpose can a researcher "TAKE" a manta in Hawaii? How many can be "TAKEN" HB 1339 also states that it is ok to "TAKE" mantas for native Hawaiian cultural practices. What are the documented practices that would allow a person of Hawaiian ancestry to kill or "TAKE" mantas? Please consider adding detailed explanation to the HB 1339. Mahalo, Teri Leicher

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2015 9:26 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: lbc@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 18, 2015 09:00AM



HB1339

Submitted on: 2/17/2015

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
lois crozer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This is great!! Please pass HB 1339. Sharks are extremely important in our ecosystem, and with the Chinese and Taiwanese killing them for their fins, there are many fewer around. They need to be protected!! Throw rays in there with them because they are majestic... Seriously, I hope you see the importance of this bill even if I can't explain all the scientific reasons and all the facts. Lois Crozer Kailua

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February 18, 2015

To: Honorable Chair Ing, Vice-Chair Lowen and Committee Members
House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, Hawaiian Affairs

From: Bryce Groark, Living Ocean Productions - PO Box, 390555 Keauhou, HI 96739

*****IN SUPPORT FOR HB 1339 - Relating to Shark and Ray Protections*****

Please support this measure. This law would continue to make Hawaii a leader in shark and ray conservation. Time to stop recreational fishing for the species here in Hawaii as they are so important to our state waters and the planet.

Mahalos -



Bryce Groark
Director
Living Ocean Productions and Ocean Preservation Alliance
Keauhou, Hawaii

ing2-Mary

From: Mary Markl <ahimsamary99999@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2015 9:05 PM
To: omhtestimony
Subject: HB1339

Please support this bill to help protect the sharks. Laws are needed since obviously there are people who will do anything for greed which is why strict animal protection laws are needed now. Thank you.

LATE

ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2015 9:46 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: sarihawaii@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1339 on Feb 18, 2015 09:00AM



HB1339

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sara Melcco	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We should not collect or kill any creatures for research purposes either. Why do we need to "know" more, when we can't even handle the knowledge we have ?

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ing2-Mary

From: Tim Dow <touchdown72@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2015 5:08 PM
To: omhtestimony
Subject: Support HB1339

Aloha House Members,

Please support HB1339 protecting sharks and rays in our states' waters. Sharks are our oceans greatest predators and keep the balance of life in order, needlessly destroying these animals will lead to further degradation of our marine life. Manta Rays are an integral part of Hawaii's ocean system and have now become a major tourist attraction in places like Kona, to protect these species makes sense, not only for the rays, but for Hawaii's overall culture and tourism. Please support this well thought out bill, and have the courage to make it a law.

Mahalo,

Timothy Dow
Waikiki

LATE