

**HB 2025,
HD1**

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE**

**Wednesday, March 16, 2016
3:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 2025, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO MARINE SPECIES**

House Bill 2025, House Draft 1, proposes to establish a marine species task force to identify ten vital marine species vulnerable to extinction if take levels of those species increases and recommend actions to ensure the sustainability of those species. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) opposes this measure.**

The Department already has the ability to informally convene advisory groups to discuss a number of subjects and to provide suggested guidance. A task force established by statute would involve considerable administrative burden.

The Department notes that the National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of Protected Resources (OPR), is regularly petitioned to review the status of many species in the area of the Hawaiian Islands. These reviews are to determine if any species already on the list of threatened or endangered species should change their status or if any new species needs to be added. Their review process is quite extensive, with staff and funding specifically provided to conduct this review for species status.

We work with OPR, the Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center (PIFSC), and others, whenever practical, to utilize not only their expertise, but their considerable resources, to determine species status. For marine mammals, OPR produces stock assessment reports (SARs), sometimes annually, depending on whether new information becomes available. OPR also produces recovery plans for many species to guide activities to eventually delist species that have recovered. Since these mechanisms already exist and we are using them, the task force is unnecessary. The work of the

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

KEKOA KALUHIWA
FIRST DEPUTY

JEFFREY T. PEARSON P.E.
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

proposed task force is already being done and is funded at the federal level, with procedures already in place.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



HB2025 HD1
RELATING TO MARINE SPECIES
Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture

March 16, 2016

3:00 p.m.

Room 224

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) offers the following **COMMENTS** on HB2025 HD1, which establishes a task force to identify and address the potential extinction of ten vital marine species.

OHA appreciates this measure's stated concerns regarding the potential loss of marine species that may be threatened, in part, by demand from the aquarium market. However, while OHA understands that there may be financial incentives to harvest specimens of relatively cryptic or rare species for the aquarium trade, it is unclear whether such harvesting pressure alone may pose the greatest threat to such species' existence. In addition, while Hawai'i does host a number of endemic species found nowhere else in the world, total global extinction might not be an appropriate benchmark to prioritize local threats to vital indigenous ocean resources that may also be found in other Pacific or tropical locations.

Accordingly, the Committee may wish to enable any task force created under this measure to examine the full range of threats facing our marine species, including but not limited to climate change, water and habitat quality, and stream or groundwater flow. Furthermore, the Committee may also wish to consider allowing the task force to identify and address vital species threatened with local extirpation, rather than global extinction. Finally, the Committee may wish to consider examining whether the state Endangered Species Recovery Committee, established under Hawai'i Revised Statutes section 195D-25, might be more appropriately suited to address the concerns expressed in this measure.

Should the Committee desire to move this measure forward, OHA also requests an amendment to page 2, line 16, to read as follows:

- (2) The administrator of the office of Hawaiian affairs, or the administrator's designee;

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: tony@pop-hawaii.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2025 on Mar 16, 2016 15:00PM
Date: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 8:14:17 AM

HB2025

Submitted on: 3/15/2016

Testimony for WLA on Mar 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tony Costa	Hawaii Nearshore Fishermen	Oppose	No

Comments: Fully oppose Not needed Federal redundancy

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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Cc: kulavista@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2025 on Mar 16, 2016 15:00PM
Date: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 10:29:55 AM

HB2025

Submitted on: 3/15/2016

Testimony for WLA on Mar 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wayne Sugiyama	Wayne's Ocean World	Oppose	No

Comments: There's enough laws in place already to protect marine wildlife, one more is not necessary.

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Cc: nahacky@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2025 on Mar 16, 2016 15:00PM
Date: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 6:43:11 AM

HB2025

Submitted on: 3/15/2016

Testimony for WLA on Mar 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anthony Nahacky	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This is already done, species are identified & regulated on an International Level by the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species which the US is a signatory and on the Federal Level by the Endangered Species Act. WE already pay tax to fund these organizations so we should use Hawaii Tax for Hawaii needs and not spend it on what is already being undertaken by well established and funded organizations.

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Cc: yamaguchd009@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2025 on Mar 16, 2016 15:00PM*
Date: Sunday, March 13, 2016 9:35:52 PM

HB2025

Submitted on: 3/13/2016

Testimony for WLA on Mar 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dennis Yamaguchi	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Cc: nathanabe@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2025 on Mar 16, 2016 15:00PM*
Date: Friday, March 11, 2016 11:53:33 AM

HB2025

Submitted on: 3/11/2016

Testimony for WLA on Mar 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments:

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Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2025 on Mar 16, 2016 15:00PM
Date: Sunday, March 13, 2016 1:37:25 PM

HB2025

Submitted on: 3/13/2016

Testimony for WLA on Mar 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shyla Moon	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: It is my understanding we already have current projects like this in Hawaii. Why are we making more of the same things? Let the current projects work on species recovery if need. Marine Mammal Protection Act is one of the programs that should be monitoring these animals. Just saying DLNR shouldn't overlap. Waste of time and money.

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Date: Friday, March 11, 2016 9:48:53 AM

HB2025

Submitted on: 3/11/2016

Testimony for WLA on Mar 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William K.Chang	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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