

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Mikayla <vanlandinghammikayla@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 1:11 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642: Sharks and Rays

I support the Anti-Shark Fishing Bill because it is a natural protection of animal rights. It is so important to protect this important species in our ecosystems because they're already endangered and their prey would likely easily die out without them. This would easily devastate the food chain and result in major environmental catastrophe if they were to go extinct.

Sent from my iPhone

LATE

gabbard2 - Donna

From: brett fagan <s1.bfagan@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 1:13 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642:SHARKS AND RAYS

Please stop the fishing of sharks and rays in Hawaii to create a more balanced oceanic ecosystem.

Mahalo,

Brett Fagan

gabbard2 - Donna

From: CHRISTINE MONTOYA <cmontoya198@cnm.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 1:15 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support sb2642: sharks and rays

Conservation of this planet is the upmost important thing to focus on. By allowing for another species to be legally fished we are contributing to the extinction of this species in a very unnatural way. Have compassion for something that doesn't know what money is and what it can "buy" a person, allow them to live life in their own habitat, reproduce, and manage in its own ways to the side effects of the human footprint.

From: Ashley Ocampos <ashleyocampos223@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 1:17 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642 Sharks and Rays

I am a student majoring in marine biology for the soul purpose of saving marine animals and all animals for that matter from extinction just because of human greed. Enough is enough. It is not only sharks and rays it is also dolphins in japan, and a lot more animals around the world being slaughtered just for a piece of the animal.!85 is disgusting and outrageous. These creatures are detrimental to the ecosystem. If this continues the world we live in will only get worse and never get better. Put an end to this. Go down in history by saving these creatures instead of making a mark in history for their extinction.

Sincerely,

Ashley Ocampos

gabbard2 - Donna

From: rapp.jayden.2018 <rapp.jayden.2018@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 1:17 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: "Support SB2642;sharks and rays"

Dear Senator of Hawaii,

I live in Washington and I am now a sophomore in highschool. It has been my goal since I was 5 years old to work as a marine biologist for NOAA in hawaii and I love marine life more than anything.

I remember going to Hawaii when I was ten and seeing tiger sharks... they were so pretty to watch with the way their body moved and the way they looked... I could watch them for hours and dive with them... I want other people to experience this as well as not be afraid of sharks or know them as what they use to be- extinct. It's not fair to them or to us to keep killing off sharks as much as the world does as well as rays. The world use to have a major shortage of food and now in the 21st century we have too much food that doesn't even need to be made such as shark fin soup which is really an irrelevant dish since I've heard from many people, it doesn't taste like anything... we are destroying this planet and so many animals that people thought would never go extinct are on the verge of never coming back to what they use to be... make sharks and rays in Hawaii something to enjoy to look at and experience in the clear tropical waters, not some tasteless food to be eaten while turning the blue clear water to a red bloody mess.... how would u feel if you saw someone cutting the paws off of a puppy or kitten and then dropping them in the water to drown... even though they did nothing to deserve it. Humans kill more sharks a year than sharks kill humans... by thousands. We keep continuing this inhumane act. Let's stop this and make some changes to our water.

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE smartphone

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Olivia Irving <oliviairving20@outlook.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 1:55 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642 ; sharks and rays

Dear sirs,

You may have retrieved many emails about this subject . But I hope it helps to support the fact that so many people are against of shark fishing .

And I really hope and wish that these emails and other letters will be able to start the shark fishing ban in Hawaii.

I support the anti shark fishing bill because sharks kill up to 70 people globally a year . 70.

We, humans kill 11,000 sharks an hour.

Which means our waters will be shark less in the next 20 years if we don't start doing anything about it.

Killing sharks is going to upset the ecosystem in the oceans , going to result in damaged and unhealthy coral and reefs, which means less food for crustaceans - less food for fish - less food for humans .

I can't put into words how much it upsets me that I am living in the 21st century with the possibility of cures for cancers and renewal able energy used on a hourly basis; and we still allow sharks to be killed for food , for medicines and for 'safety at the beach' .

I support anti shark fishing and I hope enough people do .

Kind regards

Olivia Irving

gabbard2 - Donna

From: larswj <larswj@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 1:55 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642; SHARKS AND RAYS

To whom it may concern,

One ocean dwelling animal has been demonized more than any other. It is, of course, the shark. However, I feel mankind's fascination & fear of sharks is no reason to kill them. Sharks often take 10-15 years to raise their young, yet sharks have been dwindling in numbers radically in the past 5 years alone! If sharks are allowed to be hunted at this rate there won't be any to speak of in a century. I employ you to be a leading nation, and pass legislation banning shark hunting. I don't have to thank you for such a thing. The world will thank you, and I will sleep well again.

Kind humane regards,
Lars Johnson
Juneau, Alaska

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Aimee Molnar <aimee.mole@logic1.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 1:55 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

I support this bill wholeheartedly.

We need to take more measures as a united world to protect those who cannot protect themselves. It's unfortunate that our human selfishness has caused it to come to this. Every small step we take together can help repair the damage caused by the pig headedness and arrogance of those who think they have the right to hunt and kill as they please. This stands for all situations like this whether it be whales, lions, tigers etc...

I'm sick and tired of seeing sharks and rays labelled as the bad guys. As an Australian, we watched one of our biggest wild life conservationists Steve Irwin die due to an encounter with a ray. And yet we still work hard as a nation to protect them.

Whether the fishing be for food, sport or just sheer pleasure. There has to be a line drawn to help protect their future.

Sharks and rays are awesome, can we keep them???

Regards,

Aimee Molnar,
Vic, Australia.

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Aimee Molnar <aimee.mole@logic1.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 1:55 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

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Whether the fishing be for food, sport or just sheer pleasure. There has to be a line drawn to help protect their future.

Sharks and rays are awesome, can we keep them???

Regards,

Aimee Molnar,
Vic, Australia.

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Sofia Fernandes <fia4flower@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 1:56 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: support sb2642; sharks and rays

Sent from my iPhone

gabbard2 - Donna

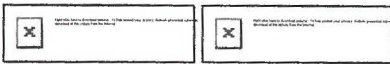
From: Ashley Steyaert <ashleysteyaert@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 1:56 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks & Rays

Aloha,

I'm writing to express my support for SB2642 protecting Hawaii's sharks and rays. Please help us save our marine life!

Thank you,
Ashley

--
Ashley Steyaert
Founder
One Balance Wellness & Yoga



From: Zachariah Grief <zgrief17@bu.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 1:58 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

To whom it may concern,

I am emailing to voice my support for the anti-shark fishing bill. There are many reasons why I support this bill, most of them stemming from my love of the Ocean.

Sharks, as you have likely been informed, are apex predators and are considered to be keystone species. This means that without sharks, we risk the overpopulation of prey species, which in turn has a catastrophic effect on lower trophic levels. Simply put, the marine ecosystem, which is a vital part of Hawaii's community and economy, would collapse without these amazing creatures.

Sharks also have a cultural importance to the Hawaiian culture and are involved in their legends of aumakua or family deities. The Ancient Hawaiians respected the Ocean and I believe this value should continue in the state of Hawaii.

My last reason stems from the hope that humanity can learn to exist with other creatures in this world. While many people fear sharks, consider the fear that sharks must have if we continue to allow them to be hunted. While shark behavior is complex and unpredictable, they are much more likely to be aggressive when provoked or frightened. Furthermore, attacks are much more likely to occur in murky water when a shark mistakes a human for its prey. Proper education on how to react when encountering a shark should be more widespread, as well as proper warnings for hazardous swimming conditions.

I hope that the Senate will consider these points and listen to those fighting to save these creatures. The Ocean is Hawaii's greatest asset and should be protected at all costs.

Thank you for your time.

Zachariah Grief

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From: Abigail Lenore West <alw538@nyu.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:01 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; sharks and rays

I want to stop shark fishing because it damages the the marine ecosystem and sharks are a necessary part of marine life.

Abigail west
New York University

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Joyce.Dykema@us.tdk-lambda.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:02 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642; SHARKS AND RAYS

We are racing extinction for so many species now, that we must take swift and drastic actions if we hope to save our planets animals. A ban on shark fishing in Hawaii would at least allow the population to grow, when in so many places around the world they are being wiped out. Consider the millions of sharks already killed every year in Asia. Please do the right thing and be human. Before it's too late.

Pass SB2642 to ban shark fishing.

Thank you

Joyce Dykema | Senior Inside Sales Manager | TDK-Lambda Americas Inc.
401 National City Blvd, Suite 325, National City, CA 91950
Tel +1 800.275.5224 Dir +1 619.628.2876 Mob +1 619.204.3138 Fax +1 619.575.7185
E-mail: joyce.dykema@us.tdk-lambda.com Web: <http://www.us.tdk-lambda.com/lp/>

 *Think before you print!*

This email has been scanned by the MessageLabs Email Security System for TDK-Lambda Americas Inc. For more information please visit <http://www.messagelabs.com/email>

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Kevin Reich <kevinreich@tampabay.rr.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:03 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642

I support the Anti-Shark fishing bill in the state of Hawaii. With shark populations clearly on the decline, I think that allowing people to fish sharks and rays is not a good option. I spend a lot of time in hawaii s waters with many people who have spent there entire life studying Hawaii s marine life, and the information the they relay to me is that every year there are notably less and less sharks. Now with that being said, sharks are apex predators of our oceans. And it has been proven time and time again that an ecosystem without the presence of apex predators will collapse. There is also an economic gain in a live shark vs a dead one. Hawaii already has many ecotourism companies who take people out to encounter these animals in there environment, and it appears that the number of these shark encounter tours seems to be a growing market. A prime example of this is the islands of the Bahamas. In the Bahamas shark fishing was banned years ago. Since that studies have showed an increase in shark populations and fish populations. The Bahamas also draws people from all over the world to come dive and encounter sharks, this shark diving industry is a multi- million dollar industry in the Bahamas. Bottom line I think in the best interest of our oceans health and the people who rely on it shark and Ray fishing should be banned in Hawaii .

Sent from my iPhone

gabbard2 - Donna

From: claire paris <cparis@rsmas.miami.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:07 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; sharks and rays

Support SB2642; sharks and rays
In support of anti shark fishing bill
Thank you
Prof. Claire Paris
Sent from iPhone - apologies for typos

gabbard2 - Donna

From: O. Fletcher <livvy516@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:14 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; sharks and rays

Please make the fishing of sharks and rays illegal. These animals are a necessary part of the ocean that allow it to stay balanced. We don't know how many sharks and or rays are in the ocean and we could be fishing them to extinction without even realizing it. They deserve to be on this earth just as much as we do, please help protect them.

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Grace Dodillet <gracedodillet2016@u.northwestern.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:15 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: SB2642; Sharks and Rays

To whom it may concern,

I support the anti shark fishing bill because sharks are essential in maintaining the fragile balance of our entire marine ecosystem. Additionally, studies have shown that a collapse of the shark population leads to the collapse of populations of other commercially important fish species, which could take a major toll on the local economy. Please support the implementation of the anti shark fishing bill, for the sake of Hawaii and for the sake of the health of our oceans as a whole.

Thank you,

Grace

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Comcast Email <bpdevlin@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:14 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support sb2642; sharks and rays

I support the anti shark fishing bill because killing sentient beings for recreation (in a society with too much food) cannot be morally justified.

Thank you for your time.

BD

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Richard Szabo <mennytourist@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:17 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

Representatives of Hawaii,

Sharks and Rays are a vital part of the ecosystem and Hawaii's culture and economy. Protect sharks by banning fishing for sharks.

Richard Szabo

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Mariah Ramsey <mariahramsey@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:20 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642; SHARKS AND RAYS

Hello,

I just wanted to show my support for the anti-shark fishing bill. Shark fishing is a barbaric industry, and should be illegal. We should be protecting sharks and rays, especially around Hawaii. Please think of the future of our ocean, as well as our future generations.

Thank you,
Mariah Ramsey

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Cody Barton <cujos_number1@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:21 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support sb2642; Sharks and rays

Sharks are the apex predators of the ocean. The entire oceanic ecosystem, (fish, aquatic plants, the reef, etc.) rely on the existence of sharks to keep everything in balance. Without sharks, the ocean and our planet will suffer greatly due to the unbalance within the food chain. The fins for which sharks are harvested have no nutritional value, or special healing properties, which they are supposedly harvested for. The overfishing of sharks for needless products must stop. Our world needs sharks to survive.

Sent from my iPhone

gabbard2 - Donna

From: michael mcnamara <michaelmcnamara49@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:23 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; sharks and rays

Sharks and rays are an essential piece of our oceans. Please ban shark fishing in Hawaii

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Kate Sutliff <katemsutliff@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:22 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642: Sharks and Rays

Sharks and rays are cornerstones of our ecosystem. Over fishing them will create a huge problem in the local environment - and likely beyond.

We are planning our honeymoon to Hawaii as we speak. 90% of the reason we choose your state as our destination was due to the amount of diverse wildlife. Do not let over fishing damage the your tourism industry. Please choose Hawaii due to its wild life.

Please do the right thing.

--
Sincerely,
Kate Sutliff

We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act but a habit.
Aristotle

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Suzanne Archer <s.mh.archer@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:24 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; sharks and rays

I support the anti shark fishing bill.

Reasons:

They are beautiful creatures

Need them in the Eco system

They're tasteless to eat and does not benefit the human body.

They are harmless unless provoked or intrigued (we are entering their territory of course they're going to interested).

Been proven that they do not react to humans the same way they react to fish.

There are more shark survivors then deaths.

I want my 3 month old daughter to be able to live with sharks in her world, we've already lost too many animals from our own doing. Don't make sharks join the extinct list please.

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Adam Turner <turner.adam23@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:24 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642 Sharks and Rays

Stop terrorizing the ocean with shark fishing. Leave the sharks and rays alone. It's like entering their home and killing them. It's mind boggling that this is a thing that needs to be stopped and put an end too. It is going to disrupt the Eco system and cause numerous problems. They deserve to live in their home and not be touched. By killing off the Sharks and rays you are ruining our eco system and planet as we know it will not exist.

Sincerely,
A kid who actually cares are our oceans
-Adam Turner
Sent from my iPhone

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Grace Dodillet <graciedo15@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:26 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: SB2642; Sharks and Rays

Good Afternoon,

I support the anti shark fishing bill because sharks are amazing, and an ocean without sharks is not a healthy ocean. Fishing sharks will lead to the death of countless sharks each year, which is devastating from an environmental perspective, and foolish from an economic perspective. A live shark is worth much more than a dead shark, particularly when it comes to ecotourism opportunities. I encourage you to support this bill as well and make the right decision with the health of the oceans in mind.

Thank you for your time,

Gracie

gabbard2 - Donna

From: buttermilkjones@comcast.net
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:26 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

I support the anti-shark fishing bill because without sharks, there is no ocean. Sharks are a vital part of the ecosystems that they inhabit and the fact that their numbers are dwindling is a very concerning for our oceans' future. We all need to do our part to ensure these incredible creatures are protected so that our ecosystems may flourish.

Best Regards,

Charles

gabbard2 - Donna

From: hunn.dunn@yahoo.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:28 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support sb2642; sharks and rays

We have to make changes TODAY for a better TOMORROW. Once something is gone, you can't get it back. Wildlife and nature are in danger from human actions everyday let's take a stand for planet earth. Let us speak up for all the animals extinct because of our ancestors, let's stand up and voice for the creatures of this world who can't.

Please consider the world preservation over sport killing of all creatures.

Sincerely
Hunter Dunn

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Aaron Sutliff <aaronsutliff@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:30 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to throw in my support on the shark and ray fishing ban. Hawaii has one of the most beautiful and amazing ecosystems on this planet. These animals are not only important to the balance of that system, but also a huge tourist draw by themselves. Shark and ray swimming have drawn in millions of additional tourist dollars. Please move this bill through. I'm certain that your conscience will be your guide.

Sincerely,

Aaron Sutliff

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Paul Schoening <paulsch27@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:31 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support sb2642; sharks and rays

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Luis Lopez <lopezl90@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:32 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Re: BAN SHARK FISHING

Support HV1734 Sharks & Rays & Support SB2642

Luis Lopez

On Wednesday, February 10, 2016 7:22 PM, Luis Lopez <lopezl90@yahoo.com> wrote:

Dear Hawaii Capitol,

I am writing you this email in support of shark conservationist Ocean Ramsey and her team at One Ocean Diving. I truly believe that banning shark fishing is a crucial and necessary step that your state, along with the rest of the world, needs to take in order to help save the marine ecosystem. I hope that this message is heard and a law is passed in the near future. Thank you for your time and have a great day!

Sincerely,

Luis Lopez

gabbard2 - Donna

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:37 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Cc: jmclur@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2642 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM*

SB2642

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
jon mcclure	Individual	Oppose	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Wyatt Russo <wgrusso@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:37 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642; SHARKS AND RAYS

Hello, I support the anti-shark fishing bill. We need them in our oceans, not on our plates. They serve an important role in the ecosystem and their dwindling numbers negatively affect our future. It is also a very cruel and inhumane practice. I am an annual visitor to HI and I love it there. I would love it even more if you passed this bill to protect sharks.

Thank you,
Wyatt Russo
Dallas, TX

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Hunter Brown <hunterprestonbrown@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:46 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

Dear Elected Official(s),

Please vote in favor of protecting sharks and rays. The rise in commercial fishing and demand for shark fin soup has led to shark populations worldwide plummeting 90%. We need sharks to keep our ecosystems healthy, and invasive fish species' populations down. There is also an economic benefit to protecting sharks; tourism in the Bahamas and in the Asian pacific islands is strong from people coming to dive with sharks. We have more to gain by keeping sharks alive and healthy rather than using them for one singular purpose like soup. Thank you for your time.

Regards,
Hunter Brown
Atlanta, GA

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Water Inspired <waterinspired@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:48 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Fwd: SUPPORT SB2642 SHARKS & Rays -RESEARCH DATA

Waterinspired.Org
Oneoceandiving.com
Lead Conservationist, Biologist, Photographer, & Dive safety officer

PADI MSDT 197766
EFR 1st Aid & CPR instructor
DAN 02 & AED instructor
808-722-0969
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www.oceanramsey.com
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Facebook ocean ramsey
Twitter: oceanicramsey

"In the end people will only protect what they love, and only love what they understand . . ." Sengalese environmentalist Baba Dioum

"We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop." – Mother Teresa

Begin forwarded message:

From: Water Inspired <waterinspired@yahoo.com>
Date: February 10, 2016 at 2:38:41 PM HST
To: WLATESTIMONY@Capitol.hawaii.go
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642 SHARKS & Rays -RESEARCH DATA

Aloha,
I am a Hawaii resident, marine biologist, & shark ethologist. I study specifics on shark behavior, body language, and have data for correlation studies on shark populations and predatory game fish, as well as data on movements by species, gender, and season. I would love to share the data on population trends at aggregate sites as the current trend still shows heavy declines in shark populations with only a gradual decrease in yearly % decline shortly after finning was banned in

2010. There is a correlating fish stock decline in aggregates zones where shark populations have declined except in relation to harbor mouth entrances.

Sharks have long gestation periods, reach sexual maturity late in life, & pup few young. They have been shown world wide to be an unsustainable fishery except for a few smaller bottom dwelling species in the fish and chips industry.

Hawaii receives millions of dollars every year from visiting tourists who join local businesses to view live sharks from a cage.

There are public pelagic life programs that highlight shark research & give persons the opportunity to see live sharks funding on going research on the behavior, population trends, and ecological impacts of sharks on other marine life. These programs also support educational programs for local Keiki all the way up through university. Shark eco-tourism is helping support research, educational programs, and other conservation efforts like reef and beach clean ups. The importance of the ocean as a source of sustenance and sharks as an vital part of healthy marine ecosystems is proven scientifically and respected traditionally in Hawaiian culture.

There is evidence to support that there is continual targeted killing of sharks despite their cultural and scientific importance. Examples of recent targeted killing are:

Targeted killing of the Tiger shark off Papiloa, North shore by Edwin Basuey, because he said the sharks were taking his fish. He confessed to shooting several sandbar sharks who approached his boat while night fishing.

Three weeks ago a sandbar shark was killed off west Oahu for no other reason than just because the fisherman wanted to take its picture for snap chat, a photo sharing app.

With a high mercury and toxin content sharks are not a good source of nutrition. Finning is already banned. There should be no reason not to be in full support of the bill for the ban of purposeful killing of sharks and rays.

I would like the opportunity to share my data on shark & fish stock population trends at aggregate study sites around Hawaii.

Mahalo for you time & supporting shark and marine research and conservation.

Aloha,
Ocean

Waterinspired.Org

Oneoceandiving.com

Lead Conservationist, Biologist, Photographer, & Dive safety officer

PADI MSDT 197766

EFR 1st Aid & CPR instructor

DAN 02 & AED instructor

808-722-0969

Www.waterinspired.com

Www.oceanramsey.com

Www.oneoceandiving.com

Instagram: oceanicramsey

Facebook ocean ramsey

Twitter: oceanicramsey

"In the end people will only protect what they love, and only love what they understand . .
." Sengalese environmentalist Baba Dioum

"We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be
less because of that missing drop." – Mother Teresa

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Jacob Roberts <jacob.roberts@presidio.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:49 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642: Sharks and Rays
Attachments: PastedGraphic-3.tiff

With 15 minutes before the next hearing, I wanted to add my two cents. As a marine biologist and staunch advocate for ocean protection, it is vital that we do everything that we can to protect sharks, rays, and other essential predators. They constitute an integral part of the ecology of a system and add millions of dollars in value for both ecosystem services and tourism. Humans have been taking sharks at too fast a rate for far too long, doing untold damage to the systems that they help maintain, and ruining people's chance to experience one of nature's best designed creatures.

Jacob Roberts
MBA Candidate (C23)
Presidio Graduate School
San Francisco, CA 94129
P: 520.971.2844
presidio.edu
[Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [LinkedIn](#)
jacob.roberts@presidio.edu



PRESIDIO
GRADUATE SCHOOL

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Ann Morgan <californiastyles1243@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:55 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: support SB2642; SHARKS AND RAYS

i GREW UP WITH THE SHARKS, RAYS AND OTHER BEAUTIFUL AND VITAL ANIMALS OF THE OCEANS. YOU CANNOT ALLOW THEM TO BE HUNTED DOWN. THEY KEEP OUR OCEANS ALIVE WITH THE BEST AND HEALTHIEST HABITAT, FISH, AND ANIMALS. THEY ARE VITAL TO THE HEALTH OF THE OCEANS. THERE IS NO NEED TO ALLOW THEM TO BE DESTROYED AND THEREBY CONDEMN THE HEALTH OF OUR OCEANS. IT'S A VERY INTRICATE SYSTEM. MAN WILL SURVIVE JUST FINE WITHOUT SHARKS AND RAYS ON THE DINNER PLATE. THE OCEAN WILL NOT SURVIVE AND THEN MAN TOO WILL FALL.

PLEASE MAKE THE RIGHT DECISION. IT'S FAR MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE MONEY IT MAY CREATE. MONEY IS NO GOOD WITHOUT A HEALTHY PLANET AND HEALTHY INTELLIGENT PEOPLE.

SINCERELY,

SANDRA GREEN

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Kabir Teja <kabirimaccount@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:58 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

As an active diver and ecotourist obviously I support the anti-shark fishing bill for many reasons, but I would highlight (i) the rapidly growing, income generating ecotourism industry that relies on it (that will only become more valuable as the rest of the ocean is overfished) and (ii) to set an example and framework for other states to protect future species that are otherwise doomed to extinction. It is the right thing to do and, in the scheme of things, it is not an overly expensive compromise to ensure that our children can see sharks and rays outside of history books.

Thank you,

Kabir Teja

gabbard2 - Donna

From: tracey.tomtene@gmail.com on behalf of Tracey Tomtene <tracey@traceytomtene.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 3:00 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642 Sharks and Rays

I support the anti-shark fishing bill!

Firstly, it is a cruel and disgusting practice and should have been outlawed eons ago.

But if one doesn't care about the inhumanity of it all, sharks are a MAJOR part of our eco system. Without them, the fish they eat will overpopulate. These fish eat plankton. The plankton that provides up to 70% of the earth's oxygen. The air we breathe.

Without sharks, the human race won't be able to sustain itself along with so many other catastrophic consequences.

Thank you for your time.

Kind Regards,

TT



Tracey Tomtene

Mobile: 778-829-9574

tracey@traceytomtene.com | <http://www.traceytomtene.com>



My latest item: [To the Sea Nautical Hand Stamped Necklace - starfish, seahorse, seashell](#) by traceytomtenephoto



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gabbard2 - Donna

From: Moritz Fruhmann <moritz.fruhmann@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 3:00 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

If we don't stop killing sharks we are going to destroy our oceans and our planet!

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Kathleen Williamson <kathleenmariew@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 3:03 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; sharks and ray

We support the anti shark and ray fishing bill!! These are beautiful creatures and more importantly a crucial part of the ocean ecosystem who desperately need our protection at this critical point in history. There is no reason for recreational or commercial fishing of sharks or rays. It is well understood that fishing and killing of apex predators is extremely harmful to the entire ocean. Please do the right thing and protect these important animals.

Sincerely and thank you,
Kathleen Williamson, MD & Aaron Villarreal, MD Lafayette, IN married in Maui, Aug 2014

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Kohan, Sarah <skohan@g.harvard.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 3:05 PM
To: WLA Testimony; omhtestimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB1734 AND SB2642; sharks and rays

i support the bill to help save sharks because they are the white blood cells of our oceans!! more sharks mean more fish and thus a healthier ecosystem.

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Fanning, John <John.Fanning@Timet.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 3:05 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

We are not Hawaii residents, but we support this effort because we vacation once or twice per year in Hawaii (especially the North Shore of Oahu) and the opportunity to snorkel with sharks in their natural habitat is a major factor in our vacation travel planning.

Sincerely,
John Fanning
Henderson, NV 89002

This email and any attachments may contain confidential and proprietary information and must be treated as such. In addition, export or re-export of the information contained in or attached to this message may be prohibited under export control laws.

gabbard2 - Donna

From: S. Green <sgreenatthesas@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 3:06 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642; SHARKS AND RAYS

PLEASE DO NOT HARM THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT OF THE OCEAN. THE SHARKS, AND RAYS ARE VITAL TO MAINTAINING A CLEAN, HEALTHY, OCEAN ENVIRONMENT! MAN DOESN'T NEED TO HUNT SHARKS AND RAYS! I HAD THE PLEASURE OF LIVING ON THE ISLANDS AS A YOUNG PERSON AND LEARNING HOW BEAUTIFUL THE SHARKS, RAYS, WHALES, ETC., ARE AND HOW IMPORTANT THEY ARE. WE DON'T NEED THEM ON OUR DINNER PLATES! THAT MONEY IS "SICK" SO PLEASE BE INTELLIGENT AND DO NOT ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN! WE CANNOT SURVIVE WITHOUT HEALTHY OCEANS! WE NEED OUR PLANET!

SINCERELY,

SACRAMENTO AQUARIUM SOCIETY

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Nico Rodriguez Mateo <nicorodriguezmateo@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 3:23 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and rays

Not only I truly think that sharks and rays are amazingly beautiful animals, but they also play a crucial role within the environment. As top predators they keep the ocean "health" by cleaning it from diseased animals. Therefore ensuring the health and growth of sharks and rays means ensuring the health and growth of our oceans. This thriving of the ocean eventually brings many benefits in form of tourism, fishing business etc.

Thanks for your time. I am hopeful that you will take the right decision.

Nico Rodríguez

gabbard2 - Donna

From: One Punch Girl <bayyyle@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 3:28 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; SHARKS AND RAYS

I believe you should quit shark fishing, I do not believe it serves a reasonable purpose at all and it is nothing but senseless and useless cruelty done to animals, we have enough of that going on in the world and let this be one less animal we make suffer. End this now!

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Madison Soullier <madisonsoullier@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 3:37 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

Good evening,

I am writing in support of the anti-shark fishing ban. This is a rather important issue that I believe needs to be resolved. In fact, I actually live in Rhode Island and find it essential to have some voice in this matter, though it isn't really directly relative to my life. What I am doing is fighting for the nature which cannot justify or defend itself, and, consequently, the nature that often is abused by selfish acts of humanity.

There is no reason to fish for sharks or rays. They are such majestic and beautiful animals that should not suffer at the expense of simple sport. Look at whale poaching, or really the killing of any grand and rare animal. Trends demonstrate they they are fished, hunted, or trapped unto the point of near extinction. Though I know fishing does not necessarily entail the death of the animal in capture, and statistics reflect otherwise. Nearly "93 to 99 percent of all large sharks off the east coast of North America have been destroyed" (online sharkangles.org). These precious animals are being dispensed at the pleasure and leisure of humans. As previously stated, there is no real justification as to the necessity of fishing for sharks and rays. Humans should not kill precious animals at the expense of marketing or value. Life is more precious than anything.

Where did the humanity go? Why must people take advantage of such innocent creatures? As humans, it is our duty to care for this world- to support and protect it. We must respect all living creature as a reflection of the morality of our race. In this world humans deem themselves as superior, but we are no greater than the animals that roam the earth. We are no more entitled to the resources of this earth than any other living create. As neighbors, humans must graciously share this Earth.

I do not want to be a bystander as this issue goes unnoticed. It is time to change the treatment of the environment, and it begins with this. A simple act. This bill could save the the conservatively estimated 100 million sharks that are slaughtered at the hands and reels of humans (online iflscience.com).

If I proved unmotivating or ineffective, take the beautiful words of Wallace Stegner (author of "The Sound of Mountain Water") into consideration: "Something will have gone out of us as a people if we ever let the remaining wilderness be destroyed."

Thank you for your attentiveness and I appreciate you taking the time to hear my voice.
- Madison

From: Eliette Esperanza <eliettesingleton@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 3:40 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

I support the anti-shark fishing bill because I would like to live in a world of less violence against sentient beings, and leave behind a world with the biggest ecosystem intact and thriving. Sharks and Rays are apex predators in our oceans and each and every one of them provide an innumerable amount of benefits to their habitat. They are not vicious creatures that kill for sport as portrayed in mainstream media. I believe strongly that humans are a ten times larger threat to sharks than sharks ever will be to humans and I hope that we can protect our ocean's beauty and shark's rights by banning shark fishing.

Thank you for your time

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Lauren Penza <diamondbutterflyphoto@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 5:00 PM
To: WLA Testimony; Erica Arce
Subject: Fwd: Support sb2642; sharks and rays

I support the anti-shark fishing bill because the fishing/overfishing of sharks negatively affects the oceanic food chain. Because sharks are at the top of the food chain, the depletion of shark numbers creates an unhealthy imbalance in the water's ecosystem and therefore our collective ecosystem. An imbalance in the ocean is an imbalance on our planet, as we rely on the health of the ocean for our own survival. Shark fishing is the equivalent of hunting lions to extinction. It's the equivalent of ensuring our own extinction.

--

Lauren R. Penza

diamond butterfly photo, llc
(973) 906-3308

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Caroline Nicholls <nichollscaroline@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 4:56 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: "Support SB2642;sharks and rays "

To whom it may concern,

We need to stop pillaging the oceans and creating imbalance and impending extinction of many marine life species before it's too late!

For years we have been told if we keep up with the current amount of fishing we will shortly have made extinct many species of marine life that can be saved by stopping the way we currently fish.

Sharks and rays and many other marine species are also treated with contempt when being hunted down and caught and die horrible painful unnecessary deaths!

It's time we all took a stand and started to treat all life with the respect it deserves!

Sincerely,

Caroline Nicholls

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Alex Reininger <areininger214@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 4:56 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642; Sharks and Rays

To whom it may concern,

My name is Alexandra Reininger. I am an undergraduate student studying marine biology at the University of Hawaii at Mānoa. I work for the Marine Option Program at UH Mānoa, under the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). My position for the Marine Turtle Biology and Assessment Program at NOAA is titled as "Student Stranding Assistant." I received a call from police dispatch this past Sunday morning regarding the shark that was purposefully killed, and later washed up on the beach. Unfortunately, I only specialize in sea turtles and was not able to retrieve the shark, but I passed this information on to Kim Holland with the shark lab at the Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology on Coconut Island. I am very passionate about the protection of all marine organisms here in Hawai'i.

I am going to make this short and sweet, because every email is going to sound the same. The fact is that if shark populations decrease, whether the cause be through over fishing or climate change, etc., the whole marine ecosystem is going to be drastically changed. As a key stone species, sharks play a vital role in the food chain. We need to protect these animals and stop the randomized killing of sharks and rays.

I sincerely thank you for your time, and appreciate you taking this bill into consideration.

With Aloha,

Alexandra Reininger

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Erica Arce <yoga.ericarce@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 4:47 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Cc: Lauren Penza
Subject: Support sb2642; sharks and rays

I support the anti-shark fishing bill because the fishing/overfishing of sharks negatively affects the oceanic food chain. Because sharks are at the top of the food chain, the depletion of shark numbers creates an unhealthy imbalance in the water's ecosystem and therefore our collective ecosystem. An imbalance in the ocean is an imbalance on our planet, as we rely on the health of the ocean for our own survival. Shark fishing is the equivalent of hunting lions to extinction. It's the equivalent of ensuring our own extinction.

gabbard2 - Donna

From: monicacottier@gmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 4:30 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support/SB2642; Shark & Rays

Dear Sir/Madam

I strongly support the anti Shark Fishing Bill.

Sharks are one of the most important species on our Oceans. We must continue to support them and not put barriers that endanger their lives even further.

Thanking you.

Kind Regards
Monica

Sent from my iPhone

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Danielle <dstelling@cogeco.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 4:28 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642; SHARKS & RAYS

Please protect the Sharks and rays!!! These beautiful creatures do not deserve to be killed for sport or food. Please allow them to live out their lives in the oceans where they belong. You are in a position to make a difference in the world so take this opportunity and be an example for conservation and protection!

Sincerely Danielle Stelling

Sent from my iPhone