

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 House Committee on
FINANCE**

**Tuesday, April 4, 2017
3:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 1240, SENATE DRAFT 2, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO AQUATIC LIFE**

Senate Bill 1240, Senate Draft 2, House Draft 1, proposes to require the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to submit proposed legislation to the legislature by the 2019 regular session including a definition of “sustainable”, a policy for sustainable collection practices of near shore aquatic life, and limits on the total number of species and sustainable rates of collection, and include any additional resources that would be required by the Department. The measure also prohibits the issuance of new aquarium permits and the transfer of existing aquarium permits. **The Department appreciates the intent of the measure and supports sustainability, but opposes this measure, with respect to setting sustainable rates of collection, as we could not possibly establish catch limits for all reef species by 2019, and likely not for all aquarium fish species by 2019 and there is no biological basis to prohibit the issuance of new aquarium permits.** The Department provides the following comments.

The Department is currently engaged in statewide marine planning efforts, and plans to incorporate sustainable collection practices into all of our fisheries management policies and rules in accordance with the intent of this measure.

However, determining take limits for all species (presumably fish species) based on existing data will be practically impossible given that relatively little is known about the life cycle of most local species, large data gaps on the abundance of most reef species in waters around the State, and very limited resources to answer develop the necessary information (i.e., stock assessments, etc.). The Department could not possibly comply with this provision given its existing resources.

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

The Department would need a minimum budget of approximately \$10 million/year for the next five years to begin to determine catch limits. This is based on \$1 million for each of the eight main Hawaiian Islands, plus \$2 million for boats, diving gear and other equipment to do the necessary stock assessment surveys. Even if the Department had these resources, the Department would need at least a five year timeline to collect the data necessary to establish catch limits as population status cannot be determined using only one or two years of data. Further, it is impractical to think that the Department would be able to survey the over 1,225 fish species in the Hawaiian Islands (Mundy, 2005), and over 3,000 invertebrate species (Miller and Eldredge, 1996).

If the intent of the measure is to identify specific aquarium fish species rather than all fish species, survey those, and determine sustainable rates of collection, the Department respectfully requests clarifying language to that effect, and funding to survey aquarium fish where data gaps exist.

The Department has required commercial aquarium collectors to report monthly fishing information under Section 189-3, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), for over forty years. These reports, which document the reported commercial aquarium landings during this time, are the most extensive and long-term data in existence for the Hawai'i aquarium fishery. These data indicate that the aquarium fishery operates primarily on Oahu and Hawai'i Island, more specifically, West Hawai'i. On O'ahu, these reports show the aquarium fishery operating at relatively stable catch levels over several decades, while commercial catch data for "resource" (edible) fish have shown significant declines. The aquarium fishery on O'ahu collects much fewer (in total numbers) animals but more species. Also, the fishery is shifting in recent years from fish to invertebrates, such as crabs, worms, and shrimp, which reproduce more quickly than fish. In addition to these commercial aquarium reports, the Department conducts statewide visual underwater surveys to complement the information in the commercial reports.

The Department has extensive baseline data for aquarium fish on West Hawai'i. The Department has collected extensive underwater visual survey data on the status of reef fishes along the Kona Coast of West Hawai'i Island for over fifteen years. A report of these surveys was submitted to the 2015 Legislature in compliance with Section 188F-5, HRS. The data indicates that the West Hawai'i aquarium fishery is currently operating at a level that does not indicate significant population declines or major shifts in species diversity in areas where collecting is occurring.

The West Hawai'i Aquarium Project (WHAP) has been monitoring West Hawai'i reefs since 1999 and a number of long-term studies extend over multiple decades. Over 16 years of monitoring, a total of 70 survey divers have conducted over 6,700 transects for the WHAP project in addition to hundreds of other surveys for related projects. Fifteen years after closure, the population of Yellow Tang has increased 64.5% in the closed areas while its abundance in the open areas has not declined significantly. Overall, Yellow Tang abundance in the 30'-60' depth range over the entire West Hawai'i coast has increased 58% (over 1.3 million fish) from 1999/2000 to 2012-2013 to a current population of 3.6 million fish.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



Environmental Caucus
of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB1240 HD1
April 3 2017

Dear Chair Luke and Committee Members:

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports SB1240 HD1 and urges you to strengthen the bill language to end commercial extraction of reef wildlife for aquarium collection in Hawai'i. The time is now to take action given what we know about climate change, ocean acidification, coral bleaching and the decline in many rare plant and animal species. As the endangered species capitol of the world, we must do better at this critical moment in time, for ourselves and future generations.

The simple solution is for the state to end commercial extraction of Hawai'i native reef wildlife, as we have done for rocks and corals. This will significantly benefit the economy in the short and long term, protect and increase reef wildlife, reduce animal cruelty and decrease government expenditures. If there are concerns about the existing, small number of legal, commercial collectors, they have been addressed in the revised language of this bill as the language provides existing permittees being phased out over time (making this a win-win-win solution; a BIG win for Hawai'i).

Mahalo for your consideration.

Jessica Wooley

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii hopes that you will join us in securing an environmentally sustainable future for Hawai'i and its Ohana.

627 South Street Honolulu, HI 96813
website: hawaiigreencaucus.org email: ecodemhi@gmail.com



COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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Rep. Matthew S. LoPresti	

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Tuesday, April 4, 2017
TIME: 3:00 P.M.
PLACE: Conference Room 308

**TESTIMONY OF THE OCEAN TOURISM COALITION IN SUPPORT OF
SB1240,SD2,HD1**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and Members of the FIN Committee:

My name is James E. Coon, President of the Ocean Tourism Coalition **speaking in Support of SB 1240, SD2,HD1**. The OTC represents over 300 small ocean tourism businesses state wide. Most of these are family businesses which are locally owned and operated. Many of these companies operate snorkel and dive excursions. A healthy and vibrant reef ecosystem is vital to the success of these excursions. Our members are responsible stewards of our environment and have led the movement of day use moorings, no fish feeding, no harvesting of stony coral, shore side waste disposal and many others.

We agree with the intent of this bill and protecting the reef from over harvesting the fish that are so vital to this ecosystem.

Please pass this important piece of environmental legislation.

Sincerely,


James E. Coon, President

Ocean Tourism Coalition



**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 Finance
By the Conservation Council for Hawai'i
Hearing: Tuesday, April 4, 3 pm
Room 308

Support for SB 1240 SD 2 HD 1 Relating to Aquatic Life

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee,

Aloha. The Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports SB 1240 SD 2 HD 1, which requires DLNR to submit proposed legislation to the legislature by the 2019 regular session including a definition of "sustainable," a policy for sustainable collection practices of near shore aquatic life, limits on collection, and any additional resources required by the department; prohibits the issuance of new aquarium permits and transfer of existing aquarium permits.

Our preference would be to ban the collection of marine life from our reefs for the aquarium traded. Please include language calling for a moratorium until a definition of "sustainable" and sustainable practices and limits are proposed to the legislature and enacted.

If commercial wildlife collectors were removing native Hawaiian birds – even common ones – from our forests to be sold as caged-bird pets, the public would be up in arms. We feel the same way about removing marine life from our reefs for commercial sale to aquarium enthusiasts. The practice of removing marine life for the aquarium trade is unnatural, unnecessary, and wasteful with high levels of wildlife mortality.

Please protect our reef ecosystems and pass SB 1240 SD 2 HD 1. Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Marjorie Ziegler

Marjorie Ziegler



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 215 | Honolulu, HI 96814
President: Wayne Tanaka | Vice President: Koalani Kaulukukui | Secretary: Rachel Sprague
Treasurer: Les Welsh | Director: Anne Walton
Executive Director: Marjorie Ziegler | Administrator: Jonnetta Peters





TO: Honorable Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Finance Committee Members, 4-4-17, 3:00 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY: Keith Dane, Hawaii Policy Advisor, State Affairs, Humane Society of the United States, kdane@humanesociety.org, Tel: 301-312-1489; and Teresa M. Telecky, Ph.D., Director, Wildlife Department, Humane Society International, ttelecky@hsi.org, Tel: 301.258.1430

RE: SUPPORT for SB1240 SD2, HD1 Relating to Aquatic Life

The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) and Humane Society International (HSI), support SB1240 SD2, HD1 which would, if enacted, require the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to submit proposed legislation, including a definition of "sustainable," a policy for "sustainable collection practices" of nearshore aquatic life, collection limits, and additional resource requirements to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the 2019 Regular Session. We sincerely thank the Committee for addressing this important matter that affects the lives of more than 700,000 animals per year. The bill also answers the call of the majority of Hawaii residents who, as shown in a [poll](#), cited environmental concerns as the main reason for wanting to ban the collection of coral reef wildlife for the aquarium trade.

In 1998, a DLNR State of the Reefs report listed the collection of fish for the aquarium trade as a major cause of coral reef degradation in Hawaii (DLNR, 1998). Since then, numerous studies have documented substantial population declines of between 45 to 90 percent in certain reef fish species heavily targeted by the trade on Oahu and Hawaii Island (UH Hilo/DAR, 1998; Tissot and Hallacher, 2003; DAR/HCRI-RP, 2007; DLNR/DAR 2010; DLNR/DAR 2015; Grabowsky, in prep).

Since 2000, approximately 35% of West Hawaii reefs have been closed to collection of fish for the aquarium trade. In these closed areas, studies have since shown population size increases for some, but not all, of the top 10 targeted species (DLNR/DAR 2010; DLNR/DAR 2015). In stark contrast, these same studies confirm that fish population sizes are significantly diminished in the 65% of West Hawaii reefs that remain open to aquarium trade collection. For example, study data shows that since 2000, yellow tang populations in the open areas are 60 percent lower, on average, than populations in West Hawaii's long

term reserves which were established before 2000.

Aquarium fish catch reports show the number of fish collected for the aquarium trade in West Hawaii is enormous; to wit, at least 3.5 times more fish are taken in West Hawaii than are taken from the entire Great Barrier Reef, which comprises an area that is 21 times greater than Hawaii's entire land mass (The State of Queensland, 2011). This intense collection pressure on the 65% of West Hawaii reefs that remains open to aquarium trade collection shows no sign of slowing down and poses a serious threat to the health of fish populations and the coral reef itself.

Aquarium fish catch reports since 1976 also demonstrate the depletion by the aquarium trade of the most heavily targeted fish species. For example, five butterflyfish species were among the top ten fishes targeted by the trade in 1976. In 2008, DLNR's Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR) reported that butterflyfish abundance on some parts of West Hawaii had declined by an average of 70 percent, and the teardrop butterflyfish, formerly among the top ten, had declined by 90 percent (DAR, 2008). By 2016 none of these five butterflyfishes still held a spot among the top ten most captured fishes. Between 1976 and 2016, catch of these five butterflyfish species declined by a startling 91 percent; this is an indication of severe unsustainable take by the aquarium trade.

A second compelling example of catch reports documenting fish population changes comes from leeward Oahu where yellow tang populations collapsed in the 1980s as a result of hurricanes and over-collection (Walsh et al., 2004). While yellow tang catch began to inch up about a decade ago, it is still 75 percent lower than before the crash (Walsh et al., 2004; DLNR, 2013).

Yet despite the foregoing evidence, in February 15, 2017 testimony on this measure, DLNR wrote that "data indicates that the aquarium fishery is currently operating at a level that does not indicate significant population declines or major shifts in species diversity in areas where collecting is occurring." This statement is patently false but may help explain why DLNR wrote in subsequent testimony on March 2nd that, in its current statewide marine planning efforts to incorporate "sustainable collection practices" into their fisheries management policies, there are no plans to establish take limits for all the species taken for aquarium purposes. In that testimony, DLNR offered no information on whether take limits would be established for *any* of these species but did explain that establishing take limits for all of them would be "practically impossible" because "relatively little is known about the life cycle of most local species", and there are "large data gaps on the abundance of most reef species in waters around the State." DLNR concluded that they would not be able to comply with the requirement to establish take limits given its existing resources.

In fisheries management terms, "sustainable" typically refers to "maximum sustainable yield" (MSY), which is the highest possible annual catch that can be sustained by a species over time. In some cases, populations may be reduced by up to 80 percent and the catch may

still be considered “sustainable.” But this terminology does not take into account the role of the species in its ecosystem and negative impact on ecosystem function when populations of one or more species are reduced to such an extent. In complex ecosystems such as coral reefs, the reduction of a population of one fish—such as an herbivore that plays an important role in keeping algae from covering coral—can have negative, cascading effects on the function and resiliency of the entire reef ecosystem. This, in turn, will not only negatively impact the coral reef ecosystem but the people who rely on that ecosystem.

Indeed, Hawaii’s aquarium fishery exploits nearshore, shallow coral reefs. Areas impacted by this trade are literally extensions of the human communities adjacent to them and may be no more than a stone’s throw away. Community members and other stakeholders are intimately linked to these reefs and derive numerous socio-economic benefits from them (HCRI-NOAA, 2008). The diminished fish populations and degraded reefs that result from the collection for the aquarium trade, though described by some as “sustainable”, in fact seriously harm the benefits associated with healthy, abundant and beautiful coral reefs.

DLNR’s Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR) leadership has recently called into question the sustainability of the collection of fish for the aquarium trade. In October 2014, a Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) meeting was held on a rule proposal fashioned by the aquarium trade to set so-called “limits” on their activities. One of the proposed limits was to allow take of 100 immature yellow tang per person per day (with no limits on the number of people doing so). The HSUS/HSI, environmental organizations, and community members voiced strong opposition to the rule package for its lack of meaningful change and maintenance of the status quo. In an unprecedented move, DAR’s administrator and respected marine biologist, Frazer McGilvray, also submitted testimony in opposition. Mr. McGilvray testified on the unsustainability of the proposed rules, noting that:

- “The majority of yellow tang taken by the trade are immature and have not contributed to the future of the species. The take of juveniles is generally prohibited.”
- “The proposal to allow take of 100 immature yellow tang per person per day, is driven by the demands of the trade and is contrary to good natural resource management. There appears to be no scientific basis for the proposed bag limits for each species.”
- “The proposed rule is akin to setting a speed limit at 400 MPH.”
- Community input is key but their concerns have been completely ignored.

BLNR approved the rule package despite strong opposition, but at the request of two board members, an agreement was made to explore additional steps in informal meetings with stakeholders (including The HSUS and HSI) and scientists who had been left out of the process. Two separate meetings of stakeholders and scientists were subsequently held in the following months. After one of the meetings, acting DAR administrator Alton Miyasaka disseminated notes from the meeting to the stakeholders demonstrating that DAR does not know what sustainable means or how it should be measured:

“...The main management questions remained unanswered. Those questions are, What does sustainable mean, how do you measure it, what are the management goals, and how do you know if you are meeting those goals” (emphasis added).

SB 1240 SD2, HD1 will ensure that, at some point in the coming years, these basic management questions are answered. However, Hawaii’s reefs and wildlife populations are in dire straits and an entire family of iconic species may be at risk. One urgent question is whether a pattern similar to Oahu’s yellow tang collapse is emerging for Hawaii’s butterflyfishes. Have decades of over-collection combined with high coral mortalities from the unprecedented and devastating coral bleaching events in 2014 and 2015 taken a toll? Hawaii’s corals serve as both as a primary food source and habitat for these fishes. A 2016 study showed that up to 90 percent of Hawaii’s bleached corals died in some West Hawaii areas. It’s imperative to protect and restore Hawaii’s remaining butterflyfish populations. Therefore, we urge you to consider amending this measure to include the original moratorium on the issuance of aquarium fish collection permits until the required definition, policy and collection limits are enacted.

Before closing, we would like to point out that the bill only addresses collection of fish with fine mesh nets for the aquarium trade; whereas, important fishes such as sharks and eels, and invertebrates are also collected for this trade. Invertebrates, taken by the hundreds of thousands in some years, feed on algae, waste and other debris, provide calcium carbonate, key to reef development and protection against impacts of ocean acidification, and perform other essential ecosystem services necessary for healthy coral reefs. Known as “clean-up crews” in the aquarium hobby, these hermit crabs, sea cucumbers and feather-dusters are taken for the same services they provide, over the course of shortened lives, in tanks. These invertebrates are not captured with nets but, instead, are plucked by hand from their environments. Those taking invertebrates and other aquatic animals without fine mesh nets are not required to obtain an aquarium fish permit under HRS 188-31. We, therefore, also suggest the bill be amended to prohibit collection by any means of aquatic life for aquarium purposes.

HSUS and HSI sincerely thank the Committee for taking up this important matter. ***We urge the Committee to pass SB1240 SD2, HD1*** and to consider amending it to reinsert the moratorium language and to include all marine life taken for aquarium purposes and restore wildlife abundance and health to Hawaii’s reefs.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2017 12:11 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mmmmahalo2000@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/1/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Moran	Kihei Community Association (KCA)	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Luke and FIN members. Please support this measure. We need to support Hawaii's' natural resources and stop sending off to other places to make materiel wealth for a few guys. We need more and better controls in place and enforce them. Please vote in favor Mahalo, Mike Moran for KCA

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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TO: House Finance Committee
April, 4, 2017, 3pm

FROM: Inga Gibson, West Hawaii Humane Society
PO Box 1208, Kailua-Kona, 96745

RE: SUPPORT SB1240; Marine Wildlife-Aquarium Collection; Sustainability

Dear Chair Luke and Finance Committee members,

The West Hawaii Humane Society (WHHS) **strongly supports SB1240** and the need for immediate and further review and regulation of the aquarium collection industry.

This is an issue that WHHS, thousands of Hawaii residents and dozens of organizations have been working on for many years. Representatives from DLNR's Division of Aquatic Resources have continually stated that this trade is *sustainable* however, they have never been able to answer the repeated question regarding what science defines as "sustainable." I have included minutes from the Oahu Board of Land and Natural Resources meeting from 2014 where again this and other questions of sustainability were repeatedly raised. Further, the discussions that the BLNR members noted should next take place have never occurred. The so-called "limits" in the rules that were ultimately adopted allowed for take of yellow tangs that far exceeded historic take levels so this was by far no regulation or reduction in commercial extraction as it was portrayed by those in the industry. We are now seeing a dramatic decline in the population of Butterflyfish. **Last year (2016) take of 5 butterflyfishes had dropped to 91% of historic levels** – down an additional 17% from the prior 5 year average (2011 – 2015).

We fully support an immediate moratorium on the commercial aquarium collection trade if and until sustainable can be adequately defined and determined, and regulations passed to enforce those numbers. Further, we ask for the Committees consideration of the following modest but critical amendments which is essential for accurate data on current and proposed collection rates:

- 1) Immediately discontinue the issuance of any new aquarium collection permits**
- 2) Cancel and/or revoke those permits/permitholders which have not reported take/collection for 12 months. Permitholders are required to submit monthly catch reports even if take is zero. Earlier records show more than 100 permits as inactive and not reporting any catch.**

Marine wildlife is Hawaii's natural resource; that belong to all the peoples of Hawaii, with many species found nowhere else in the world. It is incumbent upon legislative leaders to ensure our precious wildlife remains protected from harm and ultimate loss. Further, the socio-economic value of this wildlife when left on the reef, far surpasses the one-time and miniscule gain from their capture and sale for personal aquariums on the mainland. Thank you for your consideration of this testimony.

Inga Gibson
West Hawaii Humane Society

westhawaiihumanesociety@gmail.com

808.922.9910

Oahu AQ Rule Proposal: Minutes Excerpt from BLNR minutes on 10.24.14

Item F-2 Request for Final Approval to Adopt New Hawai 'i Administrative Rules, Chapter 13-77, O'ahu Aquarium Life Management, to Establish new Regulations on Gear, Bag, and Size Limits for Aquarium Collecting on Oahu.

The Rules can be reviewed online at <http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/dar/rules-and-public-notice/> or can be reviewed or obtained in person at the Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR) offices on Oahu at 1151 Punchbowl St. Room 330 Honolulu, Hawaii 96809 from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm, Monday through Friday, except Holidays.

Alton Miyasaka represented the Division of Aquatic Resources-DAR on item F-2. This is a new proposed rule to better manage the aquatic resources that are being taken by aquarium collectors on the island of Oahu. The rules are primarily intended to reduce waste and overcrowding by the collectors. This is part of a process that began with members of the commercial aquarium industry.

Randy Fernley signed up to testify, but he had to leave, however a representative read Fernley's testimony in support of the rule package.

Mike Sur testified in support.

Dr. Gail Grabowski (handed out document), Environmental Studies Director at Chaminade University explained that she supported fisheries and management, however she had done research with her students over the years, counting fish and she doesn't support these limits. These are no limits at all. Grabowski said she asked for the State's records on how many fish were reported to be collected by collectors over the past 10 years and took those numbers and used them to determine if the proposed limits would actually be reducing any of the fish that are being collected and the answer is no. Grabowski explained her handout, showing that these aren't limits. She said that the data needs to be looked at. The cover letter says there is no data, but she brought 5 abstracts from 5 papers that discuss aquarium fish, and the depletion collecting is causing. Grabowski felt like there needs to be protected areas that really have limits. She explained that if this is passed, it will look like there are limits that are being proposed but will actually not be limits. She said there needed to be limits that would ensure that the collecting is sustainable.

Member Gomes asked Grabowski if she had any proposals. Grabowski's proposal was that we take time and have a discussion, look at what has been done and work together to come up with a plan. Member Gomes then ask

ed Grabowski if she had a concept of what would be realistic. Grabowski said that the fish in Hanauma Bay are about 10 times more than anywhere else.

Member Woodside asked Grabowski if she thought Hanauma Bay was a healthy system. Grabowski thought Hanauma Bay was small, but since the fish are depleted outside of Hanauma Bay, they are not getting the recruitment because their larvae goes out.

Chair Aila asked Grabowski if she had information on catches prior to 1982. She said she only asked for data 20 years back, although she has seen the plot, and knows that the intensity was greater back in time. Chair Aila offered his explanation; in 1982 hurricane Iwa and hurricane Iniki in 1992 and the reason there were larger catches after the hurricanes is that they leveled the grounds off western and southern Oahu so only a few places had any structure that concentrated the fish and made collecting easier and more productive. The environment was different after the two hurricanes. Grabowski said that didn't explain why Hanauma Bay has 10 times more fish. Chair Aila said it was because Hanauma Bay was not hit as bad as the south and west shores.

Rene Umberger Director, For the Fishes, and a Coral Reef consultant for Humane Society International (I think Humane Society of the United States) said that she has been educating the communities on the impacts on the aquarium trade since 2008. She said she was one of the 4,000 people that submitted testimony against this rule two years ago and was present today to ask that the Board hold this item. Fisheries limits should be science based and limit based, and neither is true in this rule. They should at least be community based, formulated in close collaboration with stakeholders that are impacted. As they stand, the proposed limits are founded on the misconception that aquarium fish are not depleted. Umberger said she found it odd that the submittal was written by the Chairperson, not the DAR Administrator. Chair Aila said he would be completely honest, and said he didn't agree with the Administrator, and that is why this submittal is before us. Umberger explained that science based management is needed.

Louis Crouser read a letter from a friend, Kitty Courtney wrote to Chair Aila in December of 2012. The letter was in response to the proposed modifications to chapter 77 of title 13 Hawaii Administrative rules "Oahu Aquarium Life Management". The letter was written in opposition because the proposed impacts are not based on any scientific evidence; there has been no environmental impact of the aquarium trade. Daily bag limits would apply to an unlimited, unknown number of collectors and there is no limit on the number of commercial permits issued.

Chair Aila clarified that the State was sued for the environmental impact statement, and the State was successful in defending that suite, at least for the first round. It has been appealed.

Crouser then read the letter that was given to her today by Courtney, again in opposition. Crouser next read her own testimony in opposition. She asked that there be no catch allowances for commercial aquarium fishes. Crouser asked that the department speak to those in the communities.

4:40 PM Member Roehrig departed.

Makani Christensen a commercial fisherman testified in support.

Alan Hong testified that the points made by Gabrowski and Umberger were important, however after working at Hanauma Bay he has learned that any regulations will lead you to success.

Gary Aisha testified in support because these are real restrictions.

Makaala Kaaumoana of Hui Hoomalu testified in opposition.

Matthew Ross a fisherman testified in support. Ross read a statement from an individual that wasn't able to make it.

Dennis Yamaguchi read his testimony in support.

Wayne Sugiyama a buyer of aquarium fish from divers testified in support. Sugiyama read a letter from Dr. Bruce Carter, former Director of the Waikiki Aquarium.

Eric Midick, Alika Garcia and Corinne Sugiyama all testified in support.

Frazier McGilvery testified since it was long after 4:30pm, he was no longer employed as the Administrator for DAR he was testifying on his own behalf. He indicated that yes he and the Chair had a disagreement as to what the submittal should be. McGilvery handed out copies of what his submittal was that he submitted. Attached was data that was collected that showed what were in excesses of the numbers that were being taken out. He pointed out that he did not believe in a ban on the aquarium trade. He felt these rules should be sent back and worked on more, because he didn't believe these rules were based on any science. He believes in a multi-stakeholder approach and doesn't believe that was done. By doing these in one meeting, and having one staff person meeting with one staff member from the University shows the Departments naivety. He encouraged staff work with all stakeholders and that everyone's opinion should be taken into account.

Chair Aila asked what would be the impact on passing these rules. McGilvery said that the impact on passing these rules is like karma and the government coming together and saying that they want speed limits set at 400 mph. If these rules were passed right now, changing the rules would be more difficult than sending them back to the division and come back to the board. This needs to be brought back with more scientific numbers.

Chair Aila asked if he was okay with not having a speed limit at all (not having any rules passed). McGilvery said he would rather have no speed limit and then coming back with a rule that is acceptable to everyone and all stakeholders.

Member Gomes asked McGilvery if he thought a 12 month period would be enough time to come back to the Board. McGilvery said he would hope so.

Member Yuen was curious as to why the numbers taken on a day was a big issue. McGilvery said they weren't accurate; the numbers aren't based on science. If there was a rule that had bag limits based on science then that would be more robust. He said he was in favor of quotas as long as they were favorable and transferrable.

Member Yuen didn't get how you would get from a daily bag limit whether you would get 10,000; 20,000 or 5,000 based on the fisheries. McGilvery said it was all mathematical, if your limit is 10,000; then you set your li

mit at 10,000. Member Yuen asked if it mattered how many fish they catch a day. McGilvery said that was catch shares, if you go into a catch share, then you are moving toward comprehensive management. Chair Aila commented that was also privatizing the fishery. McGilvery said you could privatize or have bag limits or you could have freedom of the commons which is what we have now.

Member Yuen asked if we have the ability to determine a sustainable level of fisheries for these various species of aquarium fish on Oahu, and that can be presented in a year's time. McGilvery said yes, that he would hope that it could be presented in a year, but it would have to be multi-stakeholder like earlier today with Haena.

Member Yuen said he still didn't understand the bag limits, it's not going to control anything. McGilvery said he's just asking for a multi-stakeholder approach. Member Yuen said the key thing is not the daily bag limit, but if and when you hit that number of 10,000; 20,000 or whatever it is. McGilvery said he would agree with that then with the daily bag limit.

Member Yuen summarized what he thought was going on was that the aquarium fish guys are saying that there are no rules now, so this is a step forward; McGilvery is saying we can do better, and the others in opposition are putting this as an opportunity lost; they want a much more comprehensive set of rules. McGilvery said he felt if this was passed it would be put away and never seen again, if not then the division needs to go back and refine it in a multi-stakeholder transparency.

Member Gomes asked McGilvery if he thought this would have to be community based also, other than scientific. McGilvery said yes, it would have to be.

Chair Aila indicated that this has been done before, and of the 4,000 people majority of them have said they don't want any aquarium fishing, so he didn't know how they would get to that community based process.

Chair Aila asked McGilvery, being a fisheries manager if fishery X catch per unit had remained stable for 20 years what's wrong with that fishery. McGilvery said it depends, other things needed to be taken into effect. Chair Aila asked the same question, but if technology had remained the same for 10 years. McGilvery said he would have to defer to the numbers on the submittal he wrote. He you don't have enough information. McGilvery left the meeting.

Chair Aila called Miyasaka and asked him how this fishery has been for the past 20 years. Miyasaka said it has been stable. Chair Aila made it known that it has been stable and the fisherman have been asking for rules. He is no longer an aquarium fisherman, he has spent years in these waters, he went through hurricane Iniki, Iwa and know what the reefs look like, and he knows what recruitment looks like, he knows what they take out. Chair Aila said the catch per unit effort, the standard way of measuring a fishery's status, indicates this fishery is healthy.

Dan Purcell testified that this isn't about subsistence, it's about a vanity business. Purcell commented that Chair Aila was leading the testifier.

A hunter testified if you ban this, you bloom all the fish around the islands, but what is going to sustain them.

Member Char made a motion to accept staff recommendation and approve the regulations. Member Woodside seconded.

Member Char commented that he was troubled. The commercial fishermen are entitled to some regulation and it seems as though they have made an attempt to come forward. Member Char said there needs to be a compromise, and doesn't know why it would take a year to study everything. He feels these rules need to pass now so that it will give everyone the opportunity to look at this and in 6 months to a year, we can come back and make an adjustment. He didn't see this going back to the legislature.

Member Gomes said he was on the fence with this, and sees both sides, but thinks it's a great strive for the commercial fishermen to come forward to get guidelines. He agreed with Member Char that this can be revisited in about 6 months to see where we are at with this and come to a compromise all the way around.

Chair Aila asked if that was an amendment.

Member Char said he is for passing this and would like to get a written report back at some point. He said an amendment to the motion to pass and bring back a report in 6 months was fine with him, unless the division didn't feel like this was something that could be completed in 6 months.

Member Woodside suggested directing the department to hold rule review meetings to be inclusive of stakeholders and report back.

Miyasaka said that if the Board was asking for a maximum sustainable yield number, that can be done in 6 months, but if they are asking for a quota in 6 months, that can't be done. A quota system requires that there be a stock assessment of some kind, and the stock assessment that the Feds are in the process of doing a coral reef stock assessment but that's not due until 2016. They may consider all the species as one species in a stock assessment. When you do a stock assessment you look at one species over time and look at how changes in the fishery over the year affect the total take of that fishery. A stock assessment of one species can take a lot of time, over a year. Here we are talking about over 300 species. Even the federal government can't do that. A general fisheries stock assessment can be done, or it can be broken down into families.

Member Char asked if they could do 6 months, with 6 fish. Miyasaka explained that the department doesn't have the internal capacity to do that.

Member Yuen thought McGilvery said that in a reasonably short time they could determine what the catch limit could be. Chair Aila said you would have to agree on where the fish counts would occur that alone might take 6 months. Right now there is a disagreement on where the fish are.

Member Yuen was also concerned that this becomes the end of story and concerned about making decisions on something that hasn't been presented. He asked if biology to come up with sustainable catch levels would need a lot more work. Miyasaka told Member Yuen that if he was asking the maximum sustainable yield by family, then they have that information already. At the present time, he cannot do individual species within each family. It would be hard to calculate a daily bag limit from an annual catch limit.

Member Yuen asked if Oahu was at the maximum sustained yield. Miyasaka said the assessment is based on a statewide average, it doesn't break it down by island. Statewide, we are under the MSY (maximum sustainable yield). There are some families whose catch are over the Annual Catch Limit, which is not the same as MSY, like parrot fish.

Member Yuen said the present motion is to adopt the rules, direct the department to come back in 6 months after consultation with all affected groups, look at the catch situation, and see what needs to be done about that.

Member Woodside asked staff if getting more specific on what they would like to see back in 6 months would be more helpful. She senses that the methodology and the metrics are not in agreement. If the bar is too low, then aim in 6 months to come back on agreement on what is going to be the metric and how the science is going to be collected. She was inclined to approve today but would like to be realistic as to the time frame.

Member Char said he sensed the motion was to approve the rule, have staff gather more data and come back with any suggestions, and just generally report back in 6 months. If more time is needed then it can be looked at, at that time.

Chair Alia said there needs to be some objectivity. He asked if the Oahu members would be willing to work with everyone. Member Char and Woodside agreed.

Unanimously approved as amended (Char, Woodside)

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 10:15 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: tru.carrie@live.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carrie Trujillo	Maui Island Mermaids LLC	Support	No

Comments:

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Testimony For SB 1240



On behalf of Keiko Conservation I would like to voice our support for SB 1240. Our first and foremost concern is, of course, the degradation of our fragile reef ecosystems which are already being plagued with invasive species, warmer water temperatures, and increased acidity.

I am sure most are more concerned about the economic impact of this bill, especially as nearly all of those in opposition are benefiting from the personal financial gain of this exploitive trade.

However, the economical element is much different to the rest of Hawaii than it is to the fish collectors. A large majority of the nearly 8 million people that visit Hawaii each year are lured by the reef and wildlife. These visitors expenditures totaled up to 14.7 billion dollars in 2014 and continue to rise. Tourists come here to snorkel and scuba, employing thousands of Hawaii's residents, and providing the backbone of our state's financial standing, contributing to one billion in taxes alone.

If you are still leaning towards opposing this bill we urge you to please consider the question: Why allow the aquarium trade to destroy our reef and put jobs, local economy, and above all the health of the oceans and reef at risk so a small group of people who have chosen this career so can benefit?

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 4:02 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jtmnature@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
marina kulakova	keiko conservation	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:56 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: dediemar@sbcglobal.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christopher Hamilton	Turtle Island	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this bill to ensure a more sustainable take from Hawaii's near-shore waters. I visit Hawaii and treasure snorkeling adventures to see the fish and other creatures in your waters. Please end excessive taking, especially for the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 9:57 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: seatour@aloha.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ronnie Grover	Kauai Sea Tours	Support	No

Comments: YES, I support SB1240 and no new aquarium permits or the transfer of existing aquarium permits. The aquarium trade is not sustainable. It is not about catching fish to feed Hawaii and not about the future. It is extraction of reef wildlife for export and entertainment.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2017 7:03 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: keomaivg@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/1/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kealoha Pisciotta	Kai Palaoa and Mauna Kea Anaina Hou	Support	No

Comments: Testimony is SUPPORT of SB 1240 RE: Aquarium Trade and Trafficking Aloha Lawmakers, I wish to thank you for this opportunity to speak to this very important issue and to the proper and compassionate care of our beloved ocean and reef family. My name is Kealoha Pisciotta, I am President of Mauna Kea Anaina Hou and Founder of Kai Palaoa. Kai Palaoa is a marine protection group dedicated to promoting the health, well being and survival of our oceans and all life. Our family and Hanai (extended family) are Hawaiian Practitioners *, artists, grass roots activists, inventors, scientists, advocates, surfers, divers, fishers, educators and entrepreneurs who believe change in the world is possible and who dedicate themselves to the promotion of a more beautiful, clean, healthful, sustainable and just world for our future generations. I am here to testify in SUPPORT of SB1240. To be clear we wish the bill went further and we would support a complete ban on the Aquarium Fish Collection Trade altogether. But we are here because we believe at a minimum this bill helps to return some COMPASSION back into and otherwise cruel, senseless and totally unsustainable taking of our reef fishes and family. I understand there are some saying there is no science--to support this bill but this is false--there is science and it called the KAPU system which was a truly sustainable system that supported the People--and feed them and protected ecosystem for thousand so years--in Hawai'i. That is science--however it could not support this industry because the KAPU system was for protecting food stocks--here with the Aquarium Fish Trade and Trafficking we are not taking about people fishing for food to supporting or to feed their families and community --the Trade Collectors are just taking the fish and shipping them off to live a stressed and very short live all for someone's entertainment. So don't be confused this issue is not about fishing as this is not a fishery at all, it is simply about taking--because wild reef fish are free. The reef wildlife are being sold and ship somewhere else--and this is Not Pono Fishing and is therefore is a taking from the greater public good. For a system to be construed as "sustainable" at a minimum there must be a replenishment of what is taken--and in the ideal you must replace more than what was taken--so this industry can in no way be construed as sustainable --it is about taking! Lastly, it is not only fish but also other sea animals such as Puhī (Eels), baby Mano (sharks) and He'e (Octopus) and many more

that are being taken -- many of which are 'Aumakua belonging to different families and that is not appropriate either--as it upsets the balance of our spiritual harmony as well as that of the reef and the whole Ecosystem. For these reasons I ask you to please pass SB1240 and I pray that you may seek in the near future to adopt measures to ban the Aquarium Trade and Trafficking Forever ! In Aloha I remain. I thank you very much for your time and consideration. Kealoha Pisciotta keomaivg@gmail.com

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2017 12:59 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: robertw@snorkelbob.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/1/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Wintner	Snorkel Bob's Hawaii	Support	Yes

Comments: Snorkel Bob's across Hawaii supports SB1240. No new aquarium permits ever in the State of Hawaii. Freeze existing permits until DLNR can develop a comprehensive sustainability plan, beginning with a definition of sustainability and plan management that excludes aquarium collectors. The FINANCE component of this issue is that the aquarium trade reports a catch estimated at 1/10 the actual catch. 90% of aquarium trade revenue is tax free, and it's severely impacting reef-based tourism because it severely impacts reef habitat and species. Beyond tax free, DLNR now spends big money on a bogus plan managed by aquarium collectors. The current manager, Alton Miyasaka, was/is an aquarium collector and still sells a how-to book on aquarium collecting on amazon. Former DLNR Director William Aila was/is an aquarium collector. And former Lingle Chief Policy Advisor Linda Smith was/is an aquarium wholesaler. Pono policy will not mandate the fox to manage the henhouse—not even in Hawaii. Please pass SB1240 to end aquarium permits in Hawaii with a freeze on existing permits until DLNR comes clean, comes honest, spells out the definition of sustainable with meaningful parameters instead of smoke! Thank you.

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TO: Honorable Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Finance Committee Members, 4/04/17, 3:00 p.m.

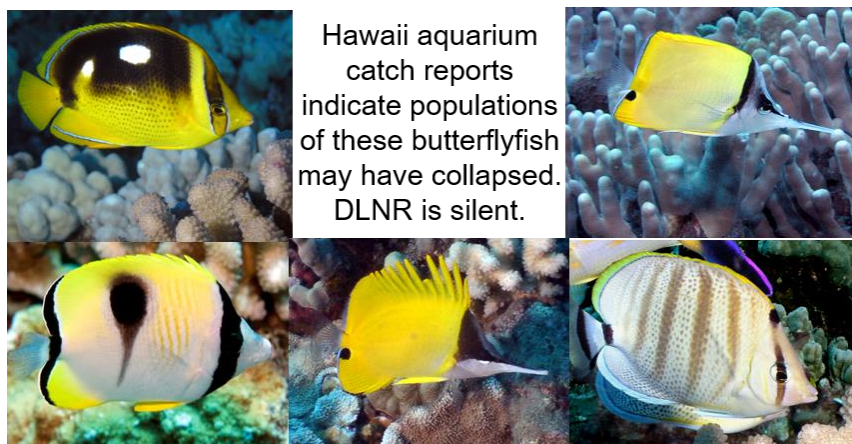
FROM: Rene Umberger, Executive Director, For the Fishes, rene@forthefishes.org; tel: 808-283-7225

RE: SUPPORT for SB1240 SD2, HD1 – with Amendments; Relating to Aquatic Life

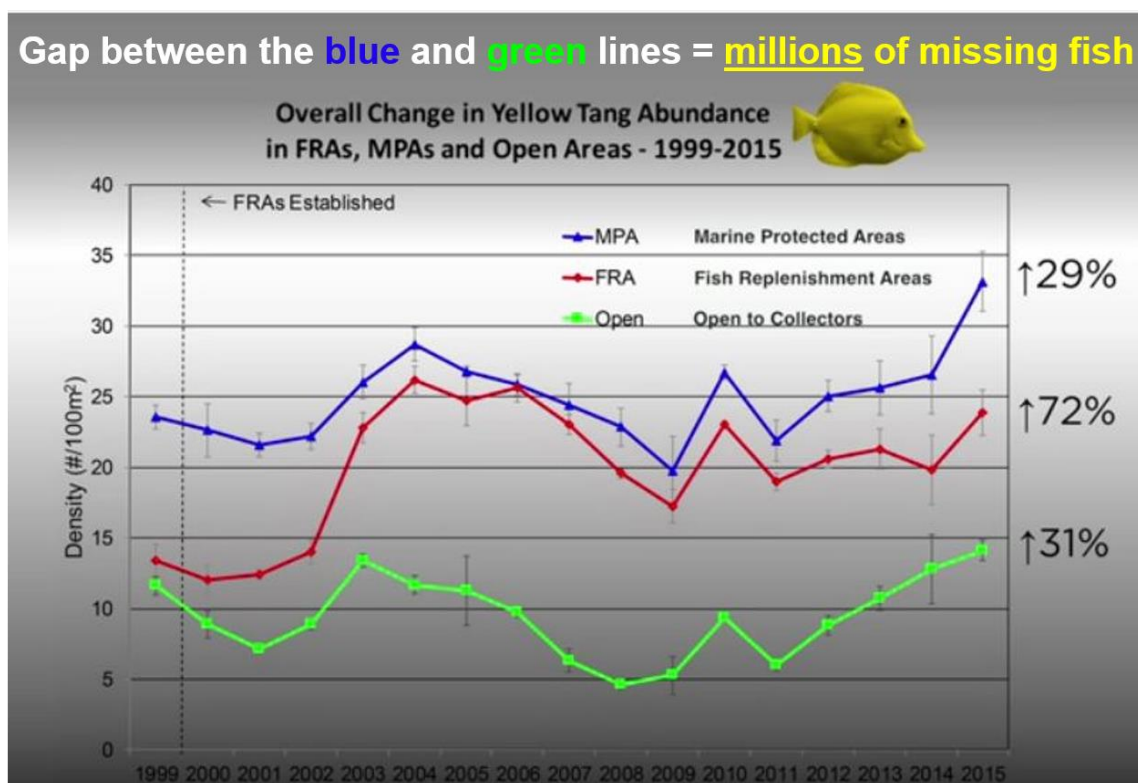
For the Fishes strongly supports SB1240 SD2, HD1 which would prohibit new aquarium permits, and require DLNR to define "sustainable" and develop practices and limits designed to achieve sustainability. We also urge you to consider amending this measure to reinsert a moratorium on take for aquarium purposes and also ensure that the measure includes aquatic life *taken by any means* for aquarium purposes. The possession of an aquarium permit under HRS188-31 is not necessarily required to take aquatic life for aquarium purposes. For example, in its current form, the bill excludes important fishes such as sharks and eels, which may be captured by means other than fine mesh nets, and invertebrates such as hermit crabs, which are captured from tidepools and shallow reefs by hand, in numbers ranging from tens to hundreds of thousands annually.

For at least a decade, DLNR has referred to the "sustainability" of wildlife capture by the aquarium trade when opposing efforts aimed at reducing aquarium trade impacts and restoring abundance to a majority of Hawaii's reefs. These bills, rules, and resolutions, whether at the state, county or local levels, have proposed solutions ranging from take and permit limits, to area closures and total bans. In all cases, hundreds to thousands of Hawaii residents and concerned citizens elsewhere have urged the adoption of strong measures to address and mitigate the trade's degradation of Hawaii's reefs. Equally, in all cases, DLNR has based their opposition and inaction, either in part or whole, on the so-called "sustainable" level of take by the aquarium trade, inexplicably ignoring their own publications, staff reports and other experts documenting the opposite of sustainable:

- 2016 reported take of 5 butterflyfish species was down by 91% compared to historic take levels when they were among the top 10 most captured fish from 1976 – 1985 (DLNR 1976 – 2016 AQ catch reports)



- “Storm effects combined with overfishing resulted in the collapse of the aquarium fishery along [the southwest] portion of the Oahu coastline” (Walsh, et al./DLNR 2004).
 - It’s likely that recent unprecedented coral bleaching and mortalities on Hawaii’s reefs, combined with limitless aquarium take of fishes has caused a similar statewide collapse of butterflyfishes
- Aquarium fishing is a “main cause of coral reef degradation” on Oahu and Hawaii Island (DLNR, 1998)
- “a number of aquarium-targeted species have not responded to the increase in protected areas and have actually decreased in West Hawai’i since 1999” (Walsh, et al./DLNR 2010)
- Severe overfishing for aquarium trade occurs even in the United States: Aquarium fishes **outside** of reserves [in West Hawaii] experience significant declines – from 14% to 97% (U.S. Coral Reef Task Force, citing the West Hawai’i Aquarium Project Report, 2002).
- 2016 DLNR/West Hawaii Aquarium Project data shows that outside of reserves, yellow tang populations are diminished by 60% on average, compared to populations in the long-term reserves (aka MPAs). This equates to millions of yellow tangs missing from the majority of West Hawaii Reefs:



- DAR Administrator Frazer McGilvray testified against Oahu aquarium trade rules because they did not address ongoing unsustainable take and were contrary to good natural resource management. He referred to the rules as akin to setting a speed limit at 400 MPH (attached).
- Australia has sustainability measures in place for aquarium take on the Great Barrier Reef. Aimed at ensuring fish populations are not diminished by aquarium take, they allow a level of take that’s a fraction of that taken from Hawaii reefs annually (see attached).

In 2014/2015, as participants in a BLNR directed process to engage stakeholders and scientists outside the aquarium trade in developing next steps for Oahu aquarium fishery rules, we learned that a definition for a sustainable aquarium fishery has never been determined by DLNR/DAR. In a Feb. 26, 2015 email disseminating meeting notes related to this process, then DAR acting administrator, Mr. Alton Miyasaka, summarized the

outcome, as follows: “The main management questions remained unanswered. Those questions are, What does sustainable mean, how do you measure it, what are the management goals, and how do you know if you are meeting those goals” (see attached).

We received that news with enthusiasm and hope, however it was extremely short-lived. On the very next day, Feb. 27, we attended the House JUD committee hearing on HB873 HD1, a bill with extensive community support that would have effectively managed the AQ trade for the first time in Hawaii’s history. The DLNR had submitted testimony opposing the bill and alluding to the sustainability of the trade. The DAR acting administrator was present at the hearing and answered various questions posed by committee members. In doing so, he directly contradicted the message sent on the day prior by stating to the committee that HB873 HD1 is unnecessary because AQ take is “sustainable”. Additional comments from the acting DAR administrator further mislead the committee by:

- Incorrectly portraying West Hawaii yellow tang abundance as having doubled.
- Neglecting to mention significant declines of other heavily targeted AQ species in West Hawaii.
- Neglecting to mention that the yellow tang fishery on leeward Oahu collapsed in the late 1980’s and has not recovered.
- Neglecting to mention that four months prior, his former supervisor and DAR administrator at the time, Mr. Frazer McGilvray, had refused to sign-off on the Oahu AQ rules because they were “contrary to good natural resource management”.

The glaring inconsistencies we’ve presented here are just some of the many examples that explain why SB1240 SD2, HD1 with an immediate moratorium on take, is so important. While we realize the financial challenges a moratorium could *potentially* cause some trade members, we urge you to consider the following when making your decision:

- “Full-time” work in the trade equates to 3 days/week (Stevenson, 2011)
- About 70 people, statewide, report aquarium fish capture and sale to DLNR – about half are “part-time” only.
- Holding commercial fishing licenses, many aquarium collectors already engage in fishing for “kau kau” fish and would be able to supplement incomes in that manner (per testimonies from trade members; and, William Aila, 2008).

We hope you’ll see the urgent need for this measure in order to reverse the depletion, collapse and degradation that’s been ongoing for decades and is surely unsustainable. We urge your support for SB1240 SD2, HD1 and we thank you very much for this opportunity to testify.



8403 Colesville Road, Suite 710
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3314
301-562-0777 tel 301-562-0888 fax
www.aza.org

April 3, 2017

Dear Honorable Members of the Hawai'i State Legislature:

On behalf of the 232 accredited member institutions of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), we would like to take this opportunity to express our concerns regarding SB 1240. We respectfully submit that if this bill were to pass, it would impact greatly the ability of AZA-accredited aquariums and zoos to educate and inspire millions of visitors with compelling exhibits that showcase the natural beauty of marine life and habitats, including coral reefs and coral reef fishes.

AZA is a non-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of accredited zoos and aquariums in the areas of animal care and husbandry, conservation, education, science and recreation. With more than 186 million visitors to 232 accredited zoos, aquariums, nature centers, and science centers, AZA's focus on connecting people and animals provides a critical link to helping animals in their native habitats.

AZA zoos and aquariums are committed to conserving the world's oceans for future generations of Americans and people around the globe. We do this by educating our audiences about issues related to ocean health, and encourage them to join us in reducing threats to fragile ocean ecosystems and wildlife. This is very important as a National Research Council study found that people learn as much as 90% of their science in informal settings such as accredited zoos and aquariums. We strongly believe that our message of respect, wonder and appreciation of the natural world contributes significantly to coral reef conservation and management.

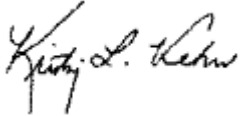
AZA-accredited zoos and aquariums fully understand, recognize, respect, and support Hawai'i's desire to maintain its unique and diverse coral reef habitat. We also acknowledge Hawai'i's marine aquarium fishery to be well-studied and well-managed. The fishery is a model for similar aquarium fisheries management programs around the world. We applaud the numerous efforts underway by state, federal and private organizations to accurately determine the health of this fragile ecosystem. Sustainably managed fisheries have a long-term positive impact by helping to assure that generations of children visiting our member institutions and viewing the species acquired from these fisheries will be inspired to a lifetime of proactive stewardship of all our collective marine resources.

Thirty years ago, opponents of fish collecting warned that Hawai'i's fish species were going extinct from overcollecting. Today, with excellent management from the State of Hawai'i, none of Hawai'i's fish species is close to endangered or threatened status. Current management practices are working as intended. Coastal fisheries can be managed by monitoring fishermen and establishing protected areas where no fishing is allowed. In the tropics, many reef fishes spawn thousands of eggs every day throughout the year, and the eggs and larvae are widely distributed, including to areas where fish collecting is permitted. This is the management system that allows extraction to continue on a sustainable basis.

The AZA and its members consider themselves to be partners with the State of Hawai'i and its counties in conserving your natural resources. We have the well-documented ability to speak to hundreds of millions of visitors annually about marine conservation needs. AZA-accredited facilities agree that a common-sense regulatory approach that governs the humane take, the husbandry and transport of coral reef species in a fully sustainable manner is a required step in enhancing the coral reef fishery populations throughout the State.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on these important decisions.

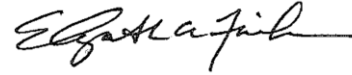
Respectfully,



Kristin L. Vehrs
Executive Director
Association of Zoos and
Aquariums



Bruce Carlson
Director Emeritus
Waikiki Aquarium



Elizabeth Firchau
Chair, AZA Marine Fish TAG
Audubon Aquarium of the
Americas

Opposed to SB 1240

OMH 3-14-17 Room 312 10 AM

There is no science or facts that support such a need to pass SB 1240. The wording of the SB 1240 is based in non-fact. The one study in nature was quoted but is not relevant to the fishery in question.

Fishery Sustainable Dr. Bill Walsh, Richard Pyle and NOAA Video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=50L6JcMOVLQ&t=219s>

Hundreds testified in support of moratorium to the permits a section now removed and nearly every one of those testimonies was from snorkelers from the mainland who visited here. They say many things they were told to say by those opposing the fishery.

What they did not mention is that the fishery does not dive or collect in nearly every area they go to or complained not seeing fish in. Aquarium fish divers go 60 feet deep and deeper for nearly every fish caught. Only a small area on the big Island and some areas deeper on Oahu are fished. NO AQUARIUM FISHERMEN DIVE MAUI, LANAI, OR KAUAI. These large numbers testifying from those areas are mistaken as to blame the fishery for missing fish!

DLNR fish counts and millions of dollars studying the fishery show sustainability and no need for more studies. Just continue with the studies already in progress. We do welcome more funding for DLNR and sustainability studies just not based on false science or fiction from those in user conflict.

With the permit moratorium section removed we can now support the intent of SB 1240 HD2 but the science does not support the need for further studies.

The number of aquarium fish collectors is low around 60 and catches are small compared to resource; it is very sustainable. DLNR already has great handle on sustainability and give educational talks on the subject. They have worked with and created many new laws over past several years. The DLNR with help from the aquarium fishermen created new rules and now laws for both Oahu and Kona. DLNR has also done a great job with new closed areas. Listen to DLNR researchers and work with them for what is best is the goal of our fishery.

We will gladly work with them to maintain sustainability and give back to the ocean we love.

Limits on collection are not needed at this time, as the fishery fish count numbers across the board are higher than ever before.

There are fish counts, researcher's studies and science from DLNR that proving the fishery is already sustainable.

Dr. Rossitor Waikiki Aquarium in testimony: "even if the number of fish collectors greatly increase they will still be sustainable"

I present to you below those facts and information direct from the researchers themselves. Even the opposition in the news link below tell of the incredible fish counts and millions of fish statewide.

Please hold SB 1240 and please do not add back in the permit moratorium section.

Thanks,

Ron Tubbs B.S. N.D. RT Distributors

"I made a special trip last week to see it and video it myself. It really is unlike anything anyone has ever seen," **Rene Umberger said**. Even **dive shop owner**, anti-fishing activists agreed there lots tons of reef fish right now all across Hawaii. TV link below!

The %33 percent Kona West Hawaii FRA aquarium fish closure and its success is not required for the rest of the state. The larger area of the big island fishery made it practical there. To do the same for other islands is counterproductive and just forces fishermen into less areas creating greater impact on any remaining open areas. Less area means less rotation of fishing spots and more impact not less.

We already have around 30% closure. Of the Main Hawaiian Islands another 30 percent is protected by Sanctuaries, Marine Protected Areas, Fish Replenishment Areas (FRA), Marine Life Conservation Districts (MCLD), Refuges, Fishery Management Areas (FMA), National Monuments, restricted military areas and the strictest laws of any State in the United States.

The vast majority of the Hawaiian Island shores are untouched by fishing and diving. High surf in the winter closes northern shores of all islands for many months. Summer surf affects southern shores. High winds from the east, for most of the year shut down east shores for diving. Poor accessibility too many areas due to distance, lack of harbors and roads, ensures these areas remain untouched. More than 90% of Hawaii is not impacted by fishing! Almost all of Hawaiian waters receive periods of "no catch" due to weather and inaccessibility. Untouched areas are already in place.

Most of isles' coral recover from mass bleaching (Corals did not bleach last year and nearly all recovered state wide!)

By Audrey McAvoy

POSTED: 04:53 a.m. HST, Jan 29, 2015 ASSOCIATED PRESS

The DLNR studied coral for bleaching -- a stress response that causes corals to lose algae and color from their tissue -- in Kaneohe Bay. Coral rely on algae for food and their survival.

Dlnr Hawaii coral bleaching report 2 news

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vwqagvw1a1g>

Hawaii Sees Major Fish Population Increase

Videos show tropical fish swarming state's reefs

<http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/story/26454840/videos-show-tropical-fish-swarming-states-reefs>

Fishery Sustainable Dr. Bill Walsh, Richard Pyle and NOAA Video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=50L6JcMOVLQ&t=219s>

HONOLULU (HawaiiNewsNow) -

It's being called a spawning event of "Biblical" proportions -- a summer swarm of fish over Hawaii's reefs. Aquarium fisherman and underwater photographer Ron Tubbs shot video off Oahu's coastline showing the population explosion.

"I made a special trip last week to see it and video it myself. It really is unlike anything anyone has ever seen," Rene Umberger said. Even **dive shop owner**, anti fishing activists agree there lots tons of reef fish right now all across Hawaii.

"In 35 years this is the most fish I have ever seen. For most species, it's just incredible. It's just amazing. Areas where you see hundreds of fish normally, that's a lot of fish for an area, you're seeing thousands of fish," Ron Tubbs said "This year the numbers are just exceptional." What about Aquarium fishing in Hawaii?

January 2014 saw the new Kona aquarium fish rules go into law. Aquarium fishermen and Kona DLNR scientists created stricter laws for an already sustainably fishery. Dr. Bill Walsh now advocates for these fishermen due to their cooperation and efforts to maintain fish populations. The same thing has been done on Oahu with the DLNR researchers there. The Oahu DLNR scientists also believe we are already sustainable but agree further regulations can help to protect our reef fish. The Oahu rules should go in to effect sometimes in 2015. As a result we have wide spread support from many members of Hawaii's legislature, DNLR and UH scientists and even private eco groups who once opposed us. Aquarium fishermen continue to work with researchers to make it the greatest sustainably fishery in the world. The oceans belong to all and to protect them and preserve it wonders is the job of all ocean users.

What do Hawaii's ocean researchers say about aquarium fish collecting?

Here are some shortened quotes from Public testimony Hawaii County Council testimony 2014, Hawaii news now and West Hawaii Today news excerpts.

Dr. Bill Walsh October 2014:

In my capacity as the West Hawai'i Aquatic Biologist for the Division of Aquatic Resources I have been involved in the management and biological monitoring of the West Hawai'i aquarium fishery for over 15 years.

I would like to share with you some of the results of our latest monitoring efforts as they relate to the issue at hand. Two species, the Yellow Tang and Kole make up over 93% of all aquarium fish caught in West Hawai'i. Since the no-aquarium collecting Fish Replenishment Areas (FRAs) were established in 1999 (protecting 35% of the coastline), the numbers of Yellow Tang have increased in the FRAs by almost 65% while not significantly decreasing in the remaining Open Areas. In the 30'-60' depth range alone, the numbers of Yellow Tang in West Hawai'i have increased by 1.3 million fish. Similarly Kole populations have increased not only in the FRAs (by 24%) but also in the Open Areas as well (by 28%). Kole populations in the same depth range have increased by over 2 million fish! Clearly resource management efforts are working in West Hawai'i.

Scientific studies which have indeed found high levels of mortality among aquarium fishes have typically been conducted in remote areas with poor handling capabilities. That is clearly not the case in Hawai'i.

~ Dr. William Walsh

Division of Aquatic Resources

State of Hawaii DLNR

Dr. Dan Polhemus:

It is a good thing for folks to scrutinize and ask questions about what's going on in our fisheries and on our reefs. These are important to all of us. A realistic perspective does need to be maintained however. Let me elaborate. On Maui in 2009 there were a total of 16,300 aquarium animals caught, representing 82 different species. Yellow tangs accounted for 69% while Kole was 7% of the catch. During that same year non-aquarium commercial fishers captured (and killed) 319,491 reef fishes of 75 species. While yellow tangs weren't caught to any degree there was considerable overlap in a number of the other species. To the commercial food catch one can add another 480,000 reef fish taken by recreational/subsistence fishers (extrapolated from 2006 NOAA Rec Fishing Survey data). So, in the grand scheme of things, the aquarium take on Maui is literally a drop in the bucket, representing less than 2% of the total mortality of reef animals that year. This serves to point out that undue focus and hyperbole about aquarium collecting and its impact on the reefs is dangerously shortsighted and counterproductive. We need to think and act holistically.

Hope I didn't overwhelm you with numbers. (as of 2014 no aquarium fish collectors were taking fish on Maui and the number of collectors state wide have decreased and so has catch.)

~ Dr. DAN A. POLHEMUS

Division of Aquatic Resources

State of Hawaii DLNR

Emily S. Munday, M.S.

For my master's research at Washington State University, I studied the West Hawaii aquarium trade from 2010-2012. Part of my study focused on holding and transport of live yellow tang in the West Hawaii aquarium trade.

My research on fish holding and transport indicated that the practices implemented by Hawaiian fish exporters do not cause mortality in yellow tang. In June of 2012, I collaborated with fishers and exporters in Kona, and caught 60 yellow tang from the reef, held them in a working export facility, and shipped them from Kona, HI to Portland, OR. The fish were then transported to the Hatfield Marine Science Center in Newport, OR where they resided for 6 months. My study shows 100% survival rate of these tangs during collection, holding in the export facility, air transport, and after a 6-month holding period. In fact, the fish have now become part of an exhibit at the Hatfield Marine Science Center about sustainability in the aquarium trade and I have received no reports of mortality after 2.5 years.

~Sincerely,

Emily S. Munday, M.S.
Washington State University

As far as aquarium related mortality in Hawaii goes here's a quote from a Cesar 2002 study "Mortality rates of aquarium fish are low and have gone down considerably since the last survey in 1984. Currently, mortality rates from collection to wholesaler are estimated at 0 to 1 percent. In the wholesaler's tanks, mortality rates range from close to 0% up to 2%. During shipment, rates range from 0.75% to 2%. This give a current total of between 1% and 5%, down from a range of 5% to 8% in the early 1980's (van Poolen and Obara, 1984; estimates of wholesalers and collectors, own study).

~ Dr. DAN A. POLHEMUS

These studies quoted are old and much better technology and care techniques now exist so we are sure it is an even lower rate today. Decreased transport times due to better roads and more airline flights make it even easier to ship shipments with no DOA at all. Life extension techniques are used by the hobbyist at all times. Customers demand such care. Life spans of fish can be greatly increased in captivity. Many aquarium fish hobbyists tout their ability to increase fish pets life spans. Several cases have pet fish owners keeping fish alive for 15 years.

Life span of the average fish in the wild can be very short. Without enough food and the predators eating many smaller fish survivability to adult breeding state is only 2%. In 2014 a much bigger percentage survived due to increases in plankton due mainly to changes in currents. If the food is there the 1-5 million fry per adult pair spawning can result in astronomical population growth. This has resulted in biblical increases in fish populations in fall of 2014. A few species like Angels only produce 10,000 fry per spawning which is way below the norm for most reef fish. Even those species are doing great in population numbers. Fish are very efficient breeders.

~ Ron Tubbs B.S. N.D.
University of Hawaii

Tina Owens executive director of the LOST FISH Coalition, Member West Hawaii Fisheries Council says:

A great deal of the "sky is falling" news you've heard about the reef recently is just plain not true. Try giving credit to the thousands of volunteer hours given by your neighbors to the West Hawaii Fisheries Council to get the gains you are now free to enjoy. (done with the help of Aquarium Fishermen on the council who agreed to the laws)

Lost Fish Coalition, through the venue of the West Hawaii Fisheries Council, has been working with many stakeholders to get a reasonable settlement to the long-standing problem of the aquarium industry harvest. In almost 16 years, we have accomplished the following management actions:

- *We have 55-plus miles of coastline where reef fish cannot be taken. These areas allow the fish to grow large enough to be very successful breeders. These areas — Fish Replenishment Areas — are the nurseries for the reef fish to spread out to the rest of the reefs.*

Thanks to these measures, West Hawaii has more fish than most every other widely accessed reef in the state, especially the beautiful ornamentals that give tourists and residents so much

delight. If someone says that nothing has been done in West Hawaii, they are either lying, unaware or are being duped by someone else's lies about the situation. There are a few "outsiders," by which I mean people who don't live here, who have decided that West Hawaii doesn't know what it's doing. This group, headed by Maui resident Robert Wintner, and Wintner's frontman Rene Umberger, decided it was going to be the ones to get aquarium collecting banned, to make themselves the "rescuers of the reef."

Clearly if the goal is to get rid of the industry and management prevents that goal being reached, then discrediting the benefits and successes of management would seem the only way left to go. And so they have taken that path.

They have held community meetings and displayed a lot of false or twisted data, quoting from papers outdated by more than 15 years, and "re-interpreting" data from scientific papers. They have been telling people that "there are no fish left," which is patently untrue. I once had a woman tell me with great passion and assurance that there are no fish left anywhere in West Hawaii. I asked her why she thought that, and she replied that everyone knew it. I asked if she swam in the ocean. No. Did she dive? No. Did she know anything about the management strategies in place? No. She had, however, just come from an "information session" in which she heard these things from Wintner's frontman Rene Umberger.

Which brings me back to the wide-screen TV. The TV runs a 90-minute loop of undisturbed, natural activity of fish on the reef. Apparently, the footage was filmed on West Hawaii reefs. The article states: "Wintner praised the videos. 'It shows what abundance looks like,' Wintner said." At least he got that right.

~ Tina Owens, executive director of the LOST FISH Coalition, Member West Hawaii Fisheries Council and resident of Kailua-Kona.

See for yourself News links:

<http://www.hawaiiensnow.com/story/26454840/videos-show-tropical-fish-swarming-states-reefs>

<http://www.reef2rainforest.com/2014/08/29/biblical-spawning-event-on-hawaiian-reefs/>

<http://westhawaii.com/news/setting-record-straight-fish-collecting>

Tropical Fish Are Thriving in Hawaii

To

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

3:00 P.M.

Conference Room 308

I am testifying in Opposition to SB 1240

DLNR fish counts are way up and aquarium fishery is sustainable!

Past Testimony I have read in favor comes from snorkelers who only go tourist areas or shallow. Aquarium fishermen do not dive shallow, they do not go to tourist areas and they do not even dive most of the Islands in question. Collection only occurs from Oahu and the Big Island. It is very clearly a user conflict with just a few small vocal groups who oppose the fishery for business reasons.

The sustainable fishery worked with the State of Hawaii DLNR officials from 2012 to 2015 and together new rules for the fishery were created to ensure sustainability for forever. Catch limits, bag limits for many species and net restrictions were created; all of these laws are now in force.

In 2015 a Biblical bloom in fish populations happened increasing the oceans of Hawaii with so many fish that they are now everywhere years later! Fish populations in Hawaii are better than ever.

Please do not pass SB 1240

Thanks!

Dr. Rossitor Waikiki Aquarium in testimony: "even if the number of fish collectors greatly increase they will still be sustainable" "aquarium fishermen should be commended for doing the new rules with the state".

Dr. Bill Walsh October 2014:

In my capacity as the West Hawai'i Aquatic Biologist for the Division of Aquatic Resources I have been involved in the management and biological monitoring of the West Hawai'i aquarium fishery for over 15 years.

I would like to share with you some of the results of our latest monitoring efforts as they relate to the issue at hand. Two species, the Yellow Tang and Kole make up over 93% of all aquarium fish caught in West Hawai'i. Since the no-aquarium collecting Fish Replenishment Areas (FRAs) were established in 1999 (protecting 35% of the coastline), the numbers of Yellow Tang have increased in the FRAs by almost 65% while not significantly decreasing in the remaining Open Areas. In the 30'-60' depth range alone, the numbers of Yellow Tang in West Hawai'i have increased by 1.3 million fish. Similarly Kole populations have increased not only in the FRAs (by 24%) but also in the Open Areas as well (by 28%). Kole populations in the same depth range have increased by over 2 million fish! Clearly resource management efforts are working in West Hawai'i.

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~ Dr. William Walsh
Division of Aquatic Resources
State of Hawaii DLNR

So, in the grand scheme of things, the aquarium take on Maui is literally a drop in the bucket, representing less than 2% of the total mortality of reef animals that year. This serves to point out that undue focus and hyperbole about aquarium collecting and its impact on the reefs is dangerously shortsighted and counterproductive. We need to think and act holistically.

Hope I didn't overwhelm you with numbers. (as of 2014 no aquarium fish collectors were taking fish on Maui and the number of collectors state wide have decreased and so has catch.)

~ Dr. DAN A. POLHEMUS
Division of Aquatic Resources
State of Hawaii DLNR

There are a few "outsiders," by which I mean people who don't live here, who have decided that West Hawaii doesn't know what it's doing. This group, headed by Maui resident Robert Wintner, and Wintner's frontman Rene Umberger, decided it was going to be the ones to get aquarium collecting banned, to make themselves the "rescuers of the reef."

Clearly if the goal is to get rid of the industry and management prevents that goal being reached, then discrediting the benefits and successes of management would seem the only way left to go. And so they have taken that path.

They have held community meetings and displayed a lot of false or twisted data, quoting from papers outdated by more than 15 years, and "re-interpreting" data from scientific papers. They have been telling people that "there are no fish left," which is patently untrue. I once had a woman tell me with great passion and assurance that there are no fish left anywhere in West Hawaii. I asked her why she thought that, and she replied that everyone knew it. I asked if she

swam in the ocean. No. Did she dive? No. Did she know anything about the management strategies in place? No. She had, however, just come from an “information session” in which she heard these things from Wintner’s frontman Rene Umberger.

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~ Tina Owens, executive director of the LOST FISH Coalition, Member West Hawaii Fisheries Council and resident of Kailua-Kona.

<http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/story/26454840/videos-show-tropical-fish-swarming-states-reefs>

Fishery Sustainable Dr. Bill Walsh, Richard Pyle and NOAA Video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=50L6JcMOVLQ&t=219s>

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 7:20 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: ryan.tfehi@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ryan Rothwell	Tropical Fish Emporium	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.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 12:12 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: saltywatershawaii@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
salty water hawaii	salty waters llc	Oppose	No

Comments: This law will put DLNR under pressure to fund \$50M a year for two years with out money? Where do you think this money will come from ? From ticketing the people who use the ocean it will be two years of no stop harassment of fishermen , boaters, jet skiers and anyone else anywhere near DLNR police state authority.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 12:34 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: anncrotsley@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
AnnMarie Crotsley	Live Tanks Aquarium	Oppose	No

Comments: Please do no pass SB1240.

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Committee on Finance

4/1/17

Chair: Sylvia Luke

Vice Chair: Ty J.K. Cullen

Tues , April 4, 2017

I strongly oppose SB 1240, SD2, HD 1

As a tropical fish collector and tropical fish store owner for the past 40 years, I strongly oppose SB 1240.

The bill is both unjustifiable and not scientifically driven.

If the bill were to pass, and a moratorium is placed on all new permits, I would ask that a crew member without an aquarium permit be allowed to accompany the boat captain while diving for safety sake.

Thank you for your consideration,

Randy Fernley / Coral Fish Hawaii

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 10:09 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kcrane@kimsrane.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kimberly	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: No new permits or a complete ban on aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 5:02 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: oceanrespectcampaign@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laura	ORCa	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support SB1240.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:26 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: dsilverla@me.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dan Silver	Endangred Habitats League	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support for SB1240 and ask for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 10:16 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: robertposch323@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Posch	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in full support of SB1240 There should minimally be no new permits for the aquarium trade, with full consideration of a complete ban.

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TESTIMONY FOR SB1240, HDI

PROTECT REEF WILDLIFE/END COMMERCIAL AQUARIUM EXTRACTION

Aloha, and thank you for your consideration of my testimony. I am a local gal born and raised (fourth generation), in Kona-Hawaii. My dad was a rancher and had keys to many of the most desolate beaches where I would spend my days snorkeling. From the Kailua-Kona Pier as far as Milolili etc., there were thousands of beautiful reef fish, too many to count. Yellow tangs, butterfly fish, and numerous ono fish my family speared, sat around the fire and ate an ono meal, never taking more than what we would eat for the time we were there. Now, I never see these beautiful fish, rarely do we catch lobsters, or other fish to grill etc. I personally know local boys that do aquarium extraction for a living, since this is how they put food on the table. Now with high tech equipment, in a fraction of time, they can use vacuum hoses to just suction the fish right out of the reef, puncture their sacks (makes them supposedly live longer for transport). Horrible, just think of someone taking your entire family away. It's big business I know, people need to make a living, but do we need them to come to Hawaii, our home, taking our fish from our ocean? Now, with so much at stake, can we just agree that we can save something, instead of having them taken for greed and sale? Please, you are the only one that can stop this. I want my grandchildren, and the next generation to have an opportunity to see them thrive, and to be left alone, to breed and populate. Not taken like prisoners, most that die in transport, just so that someone with money will throw them in a tank for their selfish pleasure. Hawaii knows better than to lose any more of our precious sea life, and other monuments, and other species.

Mahalo Leilani Pacheco-Datta

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 10:25 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: ang.zalben@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Angeline Zalben	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade. Thank you for your time, Angeline Zalben

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 10:21 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: miss_bmw2007@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Line Ringgaard	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support SB1240 and ask for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade. Sincerely, Line Ringgaard

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 10:32 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: go2pako@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul Kohman	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please pass SB1240 to ban collectors from extracting coral reef fishes. The reef ecosystem is suffering greatly due to reduced fish populations.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 10:22 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: tvulture@gmx.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Diann MacRae	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Local waters are being overfished. There is no need for commercial aquaria to use these fish and this type of operation should not be allowed.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 10:19 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: marylw5044@att.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Louise Whitlow	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support for SB1240 and ask you to pass a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 10:18 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: MikeHaskell@maine.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Haskell	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Hello, Please protect Hawaii's reefs and fish. The bill to end the commercial aquarium trade and protect Hawaii's wildlife fish is reaching a boiling point. Acting to save and protect fish and sea turtle habitat. Thank you Michael Haskell

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 10:16 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: LIN7U@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Linda Umans	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I fully support this bill. It is imperative that no new permits be granted. Better still would be a complete banning of the aquarium trade. The oceans and ocean life need our absolute protection.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 10:12 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: catlver5@att.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hollie Hollon	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support SB1240 and ask for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade. A new law is the only way to save and protect Hawaii's fish and turtle habitat for the future or they will be gone forever.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 10:09 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: samituretsky@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Samantha Turetsky	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am writing today to express my support for SB1240 and ask for no new permits to be issued or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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To
Hawaii State legislature
April 2017

From
Kenneth J. Matsui
Individual
Other roles
Hawaii State Advisory Committee Plants and Animals
Fish Collector Permit Holder
Petland President
Pets Pacifica President

Regarding

Testimony against SB1240

Warning I am writing as an individual and my opinions are not necessarily representative of Hawaii State Advisory Committee on Plants and Animals. I do have a conflict in that the bill will increase the value of my fish collector permit significantly if passed. I write because this bill is wrong in just about every other way other than my self-interest.

For over 20 years, every Hawaii governor has asked for my recommendations on live organisms challenges facing the state. I have volunteered my time to help reduce the impact of these problems. My experience caring for thousands of fish, plants and other organisms for over 50 years helps me better than most understand the problems we face.

Let us start with the beginning we are the cause of our algae growth problem. We pump millions of gallons of fertilizer out of our sewage system every day. We drive cars that release CO₂ that aerate algae every day from our mouths, our power plants, and our cars. We eat fish like mahi, papio, kumu and tuna which if not eaten would consume smaller fish primarily herbivorous at 3% of body weight every day. Over a year that makes the 1 lb. of fish eaten today mean 10 lbs. of herbivorous fish probably not eaten just over the next year alone.

Our population explosion from half million when I was born to over a million now means much more load on our environment. Take this fluorescent bulb above us. The mercury eventually ends up in the ocean poisoning our kids if we allow them to eat fish. If the fish collectors send aquarium fish out of state the mercury does not build up as quickly in our food fish.

For another example think about the soda you drank recently. The soda probably contained phosphoric acid. The phosphorus is an important fertilizer for plants as it is released from the sewage outfall. The ammonia is converted from our protein to nitrite and nitrate in our sewage treatment plant. Nitrate is released into the ocean which is a valuable nitrogen fertilizer like the phosphorus.

You will see that most experts share my opinion that fish collection and exporting in most cases does no harm to environment. You will also find they are experts because they have studied the live organisms involved. By cutting off access to live fish you limit their ability to learn more. You also limit the ability of future experts to learn more about their care. Most public schools lack live animals or plants. They are not the schools of the 60s and 70s that had science curriculum improvement studies to expose kids to the complexity of real life organisms and the interrelationships that are so important. Do you really want your next generation of experts to learn solely through tamogochi computer learning?

Already the younger generation is often so poorly informed they create dishonest ads such as sponsored by our state of Hawaii Department of Health such as the sugary drinks ad or the vaccination ads.

In the sugary drinks ads the state argues to not gain weight you should not drink sugary drinks but low fat milk and juice. As a practical matter both alternatives contain about the same calories as the sugary drinks. Protein and non-sugar carbs generally contain the same calories as sugar. Fat contains twice the caloric density of sugar.

In the vaccine ad the government argues that all kids should get their free DOE vaccinations so no kids get sick. In reality there are no cure-all vaccines. In fact vaccines work only about 50% of the time for diseases they are supposed to prevent. They have little effect on non-targeted disease. Vaccines do make kids allergic to eggs or sensitive to vaccine sick. Vaccines are usually cultured in eggs. Some people develop overreactions to vaccines causing serious damage.

I hope you can see from my testimony that real contact with live organisms really makes a difference.

I think that our overdependence on imported goods results in a trade imbalance that we only can remedy by selling our land resulting in richer foreigners. Hence our kids leave to become foreigners so they can afford homes of their own. By harvesting our own home grown fish we recycle and better care for our environment. We keep our wealth here rather than exporting our wealth so others can own our Hawaii.

Please stop sb 1240.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 10:19 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: zampathas.james@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Zampathas	Individual	Support	No

Comments: IT IS TIME TO END COMMERCIAL AQUARIUM CAPTURE AND TRAFFICKING TO PROTECT HAWAII CORAL REEF WILDLIFE Our reefs, vital for cultural tradition, recreation, tourism and storm surge protection are increasingly threatened by rising temperatures, pollution and acidification. A bill moving forward in the legislature (SB1240 HD1) may address long-standing concerns about the impacts of commercial aquarium trade on Hawaii reef health. Many people already testified and asked the State to stop issuing new permits and to phase out aquarium extraction of Hawaii reef wildlife. Commercial capture of reef wildlife (e.g., tangs, surgeonfishes, seahorses, eels, shrimp, lobster) for aquarium use is poorly regulated with no limit on permits, no environmental review, no real enforcement. In contrast, corals are protected by law. Aquarium collectors extract mostly herbivores, imperative to reef balance and resiliency. The narrow fringing reef of Hawaii is the world's third largest source, 2.6 times higher the reported catch than from Australia's Great Barrier Reef. Catch reports show 650,000 animals extracted on average, per year; catch report compliance is known to be low and brings the estimated number to between one and five (1-5) million animals/year. Most wildlife extracted will die within a year of extraction, from cumulative trauma in capture, handling, long transits, and unhealthy conditions. Catch methods like tickle sticks, sand-mimicking tarps as well as anchors and equipment on reefs damage corals (which are protected by law). State government "management" promotes reef wildlife scarcity in sharp contrast to how Native Hawaiians traditionally managed nearshore waters, to promote abundance, and in contrast to Hawaiian values of respect and responsibility for our natural resources. Currently, wildlife is taken practically for free, undermining incentives for successful aquaculture, which could help conserve wildlife and create jobs. Healthy reefs and wildlife provide a broad range of economic benefits for local residents and businesses throughout Hawaii, including our number one industry - tourism. We must take action fast. Let's get it right! ECOLOGY AND ETHICS: Reef experts (MacNeil, 2015), (Marshall, 2015) agree that herbivores are key to reef balance and resiliency. Aquarium collectors take herbivores, allowing algae suffocation. Reefs near populated/ polluted areas often decline with herbivore removal (Dybas, 2016). Hawaii has far less reef area than the Great Barrier Reef (0.3%) but is the world's third largest aquarium trade source—with 25% of Hawaii take in endemic

reef species. Endemics have less habitat and subpopulation exchange, with far greater risk of decline. A reef status report on the Kona Coast (Gove, 2016) shows significant decline in average fish size and herbivore biomass. The ratio of calcifying organisms—an indicator of coral development—also declined. Hundreds of dead fish captured by aquarium collectors found in a Big Island harbor dumpster. More than 80% of aquarium take is yellow tangs, herbivores vital to reef balance. Targets are juveniles, more susceptible (Thornhill, 2012) to unhealthy conditions, temperature spikes, and toxic chemicals in long transit. Cumulative trauma leads to premature death, with a mortality at 80% (Livengood, et al, rev 2014). More reef wildlife is taken to offset those losses. Hawaii food fish species are managed with catch quotas, monitoring protocols and mandatory dealer reports. In contrast, nearly unlimited aquarium extraction removes a vital link from the food chain. Other Hawaii reef wildlife (corals, live rock) is also protected in HAR 13-95. To ensure a healthy reef future, the state legislature must take action to, at minimum, end new aquarium permits and make existing non-transferable.

ECONOMY Our reefs are vital to subsistence gatherers, Hawaiian culture, recreation, tourism, and natural protection from waves and storm surge. The economic value of healthy Hawaii reefs is estimated at \$ 10 billion. From 2000 to 2012, total catch and value for the industry have increased by 39% and 59% respectively (Walsh, 2013). According to the DLNR, Division of Aquatic Resources, the number of aquarium collection permits “has ballooned in recent years”. And while DLNR rates the Yellow Tang population as “strong”, an estimated 2 million Yellow Tangs are missing from West Hawaii reefs alone. It is not clear how other aquarium targeted species are impacted (Radway, 2008); see collapsing catch data for butterflyfishes in the graph below. Accounting only for the reported legal collection of reef wildlife in 2006, reported landings were over 990,000 animals at a value to collectors of \$1.93 million. The overall economic value including wholesalers is estimated to be around 3-6 times higher, about \$12 million. In contrast, the reef based industry was reported to be approximately \$800 million a year in 2002 (Friedlander, 2008) accruing to Hawaii people through thousands of jobs. This by far surpasses aquarium trade revenue serving an out of state industry.

CULTURE AND TRADITION For centuries Hawaiians managed reefs for optimal health, with a connection to natural balance. *Kokua* (cooperation for the common good) and *kuleana* (caring for the common good) made exploitation contrary to spiritual values. Land division into *ahupuaa* provided sustainable harvest with severe consequence for theft (Jokiel, et.al 2011). Only inhabitants had access rights to resources for subsistence and tribute. Take was limited to the need to sustain life at all levels. In contrast, aquarium collectors extract vast amounts of wildlife without catch limits or permit limits. Hawaiian culture and tradition protect corals. Collectors break them, often dropping anchors and chains, buckets, or underwater scooters on corals, or poking them to flush exotic wildlife. Weight belts and lack of a Scuba buoyancy control device “ensure” a solid stomping on fragile corals. “I have seen with my own eyes how these intruders pound and rake our reefs to extinction. These aquarium collectors have no connection or respect to the 'aina, the people, or the ocean,” said Kaimi Kaupiko from the Miloli'i fishing village. “They have destroyed our reefs, killed our fish, and are taking away a cultural practice that we, Kanaka maoli, have practiced since we inhabited the Hawaiian Islands. A ban is needed.”

http://www.humanesociety.org/news/press_releases/2012/06/hawaii_reef_collection_pol

I_061312.html The kapu system established temporary and seasonal reef closures as well as species specific closures to allow fish-population recovery. Present closures, like the rotational closures on Oahu, do not provide sufficient recovery from declines during open periods. Ancient ponds supplemented food production when reefs were under kapu. Currently, wildlife is taken almost for free, undermining incentives for a successful aquaculture. Targeted species like yellow tang are hard to breed in captivity and more research is needed. This alternative can reduce pressure on reef wildlife and reefs and create jobs. With reefs in drastic decline, pono reef management must return. To ensure a healthy future for Hawaii reefs, bill HB 1457 and SB 1240 must be amended to permanently END THE COMMERCIAL AQUARIUM EXTRACTION OF HAWAII REEF WILDLIFE.

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 10:01 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: lklepek@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Klepek	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I fully support SB1240 and ask for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 9:56 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mireille.dumont@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
mireille dumont	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support SB1240. There must be no new permits and a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 9:52 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: wendluk7@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wendy Lukowitz	Individual	Support	No

Comments: In order to preserve Hawaii's marine life, there should be a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 9:51 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: john@johnbarger.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Barger	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I strongly support measure SB1240 and ask for no new permits or better yet a complete ban on the aquarium trade. We need to treat our oceans like the finite resource that they are! Thank you.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 9:51 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: debenhagen@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Debora Longenhagen	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am asking for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 9:47 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: vic.reyes2712@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
victoriargarza	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Hi support sb1240

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 9:46 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: fsharpe1075@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Frederick Sharpe	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am testifying in Opposition to SB 1240 DLNR fish counts are way up and aquarium fishery is sustainable! Past Testimony I have read in favor comes from snorkelers who only go tourist areas or shallow. Aquarium fishermen do not dive shallow, they do not go to tourist areas and they do not even dive most of the Islands in question. Collection only occurs form Oahu and the Big Island. It is very clearly a user conflict with just a few small vocal groups who oppose the fishery for business reasons. The sustainable fishery worked with the State of Hawaii DLNR officials from 2012 to 2015 and together new rules for the fishery were created to ensure sustainability for forever. Catch limits, bag limits for many species and net restrictions were created; all of these laws are now in force. In 2015 a Biblical bloom in fish populations happened increasing the oceans of Hawaii with so many fish that they are now everywhere years later! Fish populations in Hawaii are better than ever. Please do not pass SB 1240
Thank you

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 9:31 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: yeehaw7@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Harriet Cohen	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I write to request that you please protect fish and sea turtle habitat. I support SB1240 and ask for no new permits and a complete ban on the aquarium trade. Thank you for your consideration.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 9:30 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: faboo1028@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
jennifer valentine	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support for SB1240 and ask for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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April 3, 2017

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Ty JK Cullen, Vice Chair,
and Members of the House Finance Committee

From: Patrick Conant, P.O.B. 1172 Volcano, HI 96885

Subject: Testimony in Support of SB1240 SD2 HD1

I support this bill, and I would like to ultimately see funding for U.H. to develop methods for captive breeding for the most valuable species, such as is being done with yellow tangs.

Currently, DLNR-DAR is not equipped to plan, manage or enforce collecting of wild marine life for sale and therefore such collecting should not be issued. Personally, I am opposed to all such collecting for profit, but if it is allowed, it must be very strictly regulated. I see this bill as a step in the right direction.

Hawaii residents use reef fish for food and viewing while snorkeling, and many tourists pay to come here and see them while snorkeling. Let's not sacrifice our "cash cow" for the profit of a few people. Marine resources in Hawaii belong to all of us.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 9:25 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jongriff@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jonathan Griffiths	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am a frequent visitor to Hawaii to enjoy the diverse marine environment that is central to the tourist industry essential to the State. I support SB1240 with no further issuing of aquarium permits for the capture of Hawaiian reef wildlife. I urge the legislature to end permits for a trade that allows a few to profit at the expense of everyone and depletes marine life in an unsustainable way.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 9:21 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: woodsgood1@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rob Simonsen	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: NO NEW PERMITS EVER! Freeze current permits till DLNR can manage this renegade reef pillage with MEANING.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 9:17 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: louis@freerangestudios.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Louis Fox	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hello, I'm writing to say I strongly support SB1240 and feel that it is the state's duty to protect its true, un-replaceable wealth from those who would sacrifice it for short term financial gain. Please pass this bill. thank you, Louis Fox

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 9:17 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: barnacleb@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chaplain Bill	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As the President and owner of Barnacle Bill Enterprises, Inc, a Kona Charter business for over 25 years, I strongly urge you to STOP PERMITTING THE THEFT OF OUR REEF FISH!!!! The waters of the Kona Coast (my mooring is in beautiful Honokohau Harbor) have been decimated by fish collectors who have no "aloha" for our environment (the health of our critical reef systems throughout the State of Hawaii), but just take our fish and sell them for short term aquarium display, as the fish die a terrible death. Save our reef fish, and our tourism industry, banning any new collection permits, and not renewing those that expire. We do not need to export our valuable resource! Mahalo, and please do the right thing, for the sake of our keiki. Aloha, Barnacle Bill, Capt and Chaplain.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 9:16 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: ken-schultz@cox.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ken Schultz	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am a frequent visitor to Hawaii and find that your reef fish are a wonderful reason to visit. Please pass SB 1240 to protect these reef fish from the commercial aquarium trade. Thank you Ken Schultz

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**PET INDUSTRY JOINT
ADVISORY COUNCIL**
1615 Duke Street, Suite 100
Alexandria, VA 22314
Tel: 202-452-1525

**TESTIMONY OF THE PET INDUSTRY JOINT ADVISORY COUNCIL
FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE HAWAII STATE LEGISLATURE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1240 SD2 HD1
To be heard April 4th at 3:00 PM**

April 3, 2017

Position: OPPOSED

The Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council (PIJAC) appreciates the opportunity to offer our views regarding SB 1240, a bill that would place an indefinite moratorium on fishing for the aquarium trade, to the House Committee on Finance. As the country's largest pet trade association, representing the interests of all segments of the pet industry throughout the United States, PIJAC counts among its members national associations, organizations, corporations and individuals involved in the commercial pet trade. More specifically, PIJAC represents the interests of pet stores, suppliers, distributors, pet supply manufacturers, breeders, retailers and pet owners throughout the state of Hawaii and across the country.

Let me start by saying that nobody cares more about healthy and safe pets than do PIJAC and our members. We have for many years provided a well-respected animal care certification program that is widely utilized by not only persons in the commercial pet trade but shelters, humane societies and institutes of higher education as well. Our association has long been recognized as the voice for a responsible pet trade, and we routinely advocate legislative and regulatory proposals establishing governmental mandates where appropriate to advance the public interest and welfare of pets and the environment. PIJAC works closely with US Department of Agriculture and Department of the Interior to ensure effective enforcement of the federal Animal Welfare Act, management of threatened or endangered species and control of invasive species, and have since its inception. We regularly work with federal and state agencies as well as local governments to advance animal welfare and environmental interests.

In this case, a moratorium would be no less destructive than a ban. The idea that the state of Hawaii would kill an entire trade and shut down Hawaiian businesses that have been responsibly operating for decades is unfathomable. To justify the killing of an entire industry, this legislation cherry picks data describing a 2014 drop in the populations of some species of fish while ignoring the fact that populations have been climbing for years and that they rebounded in 2015.

A moratorium would also force fishermen to choose between safety and earning a living. As aquarium fishermen leave the trade due to retirement and other factors they cannot be replaced. This means that, in a time when work place safety is an increasing concern, fishermen will be forced to dive alone in order to earn their livelihood. This is directly contradictory to Professional Association of Diving

Instructors (PADI) and National Association of Underwater Instructors (NAUI), the two largest diving certification bodies in the world. Not only would these fishermen be without their dive buddy, they would not even have a non-diver in their boat to identify a problem and call for help.

SB1240 asserts that the risk of over-exploitation of marine species is high. In fact, the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) found that the West Hawaii “no-aquarium collecting” Fish Replenishment Areas (FRAs), implemented in 1999, have been very successful in increasing populations of Yellow Tang (*Zebrasoma flavescens*) — the most heavily targeted aquarium fish accounting for 84% of the total catch. Fifteen years after closure, the population of Yellow Tang has increased 64.5% in the FRAs while their abundance in the Open Areas has not declined significantly.” Overall Yellow Tangs have increased substantially with a current population in excess of 3.6 million fish. Further, aquarium fisheries harvest the plentiful juvenile fish rather than mature adults, further protecting the ability of the different species to reproduce. In fact, the DLNR, based upon the effectiveness of the West Hawai’i FRAs for aquarium fish, recommends that it establish MPAs for non-aquarium fish species. The data clearly show that Hawaii’s current management practices are resulting in increased, not decreased, fish populations.

We are also greatly concerned that the legislature is being encouraged to take this action based on a flagrant misrepresentation of scientific findings. The referenced MacNeil et al., study reported in Nature, April 2015 stated that “reef fish **biomass** has the potential to recover within 35 years on average and less than 60 years when heavily depleted.” Biomass is primarily altered by the taking of food and game fish, particularly since mature adults are targeted. Aquarium fishing, contrarily, targets rapidly replaced adolescent specimens. The same study found that for well managed fisheries such as Hawaii, “alternative fisheries restrictions are largely (64%) successful at maintaining biomass above 50% of B0, sustaining key functions such as herbivory.” Further, a simple search of Fishbase.org, a non-stock, non-profit, non-governmental organization engaged in the development and management of global databases on aquatic organisms, including their distribution and ecology, finds that the species in question, such as the Yellow Tang, has “Resilience (Ref. 69278): High, **minimum population doubling time less than 15 months.**”

Hawaii’s aquarium industry is considered one of the best regulated near-shore fisheries in the world. The DLNR, pursuant to State law, submits a report every five years to the legislature entitled “Relating to the West Hawaii Regional Fishery Management Area.” The 2015 Report found that the “The Hawaii marine aquarium fishery is currently the most economically valuable commercial inshore fishery in the State with FY 2014 reported landings greater than \$2.3 million.” The regulatory mechanisms covering the Hawaiian aquarium fishery supports the tenets of the sustainable use of renewable natural resources supported in the IUCN’s Policy Statement on sustainable use. PIJAC strongly opposes SB1240 and encourages the House Committee on Finance to side with science over unfounded accusations. We ask that the committee decline to take up, or defeat, SB1240.

Thank you for considering our concerns.

Robert Likins
Vice President of Government Affairs
Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council (PIJAC)
bob@pijac.org

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 9:07 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jillmulato@cox.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jill Mulato	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill and ask that no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade. It is high time we make the environment and the wild life that lives on this planet a priority. It is our responsibility as inhabitants of this earth to respect and let be the wild beings that live here with us.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 9:05 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: deane@maps.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Deane Plaister	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Legislators I am writing again today in reference to SB1240, to reiterate my support. I urge you to end the destruction of Hawaii's reefs by issuing no further permits for taking fish by the aquarium trade, or better yet, banning the take altogether. What good will it do to have fish in little glass boxes in buildings, and none on the vibrant reefs of Hawaii? Please protect the fish in their natural habitat. Thank you.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 9:04 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: marcewalsh@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marce Walsh	Individual	Support	No

Comments: no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:53 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: marmaidspirit@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
minakotail	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I disagree this bill1240.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:52 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: marmaidspirit@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
minakotail	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I disagree with this bill 1240.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:51 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: allfishlover@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
jim hugos	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I disagree with this bill. All the study show this is sustainable industry. Why are blinded to the science and studies?

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I am writing to express my support for SB1240 and ask for no new permits to be granted and for a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:48 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: konakaihale@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
halekonakai	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I disagree this bill for so many reasons.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:47 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: konaoccean1@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
konaoccean	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose this bill. It is wasting money and forcing divers to dive alone.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:46 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: barretostanley@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stanley Barreto	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I am very much in support for SB1240 and ask for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade. The ocean and it's ecosystem are already being stretched very thin by unsustainable fishing practices. This is the least we can do to minimize some of the negative impact.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:43 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: balihai7@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lilinoe Smith	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Aloha Lawmakers, Please do not issue any new permits for the aquarium trade. Better yet, place a ban on this disruptive environmental industry. We need to protect, not deplete Hawaiian waters. Mahalo, Lilinoe Smith Kalaheo, Kauai

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:39 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: annkindfield@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann Kindfield	Individual	Support	No

Comments: no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:38 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: phillip.hope@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Phillip Hope	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I am writing to express support for SB1240. I am also asking for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:37 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: boopin411@cox.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Irene Huskisson	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: support SB1240 and no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:35 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mfriessen@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
mfriessen	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I visit Hawaii to see fish in the ocean. Please disallow new permits and initiate a complete ban on the aquarium trade. Thank you!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:35 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: dougkrause@mts.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
doug krause	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I ask for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:34 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: lkoehl@snet.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Koehl	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please express your support for SB1240 and ask for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:34 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: rachel_chaput@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
rachel chaput	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: no new permits to extract wildlife from the reefs. protect these fish! there should be a ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:32 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mtarcher@yahoo.co.uk
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Martin Archer	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support SB1240 and believe there should be no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:32 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: angelab133@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Angela Black	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please pass a complete ban on the aquarium trade. It is detrimental to sea wildlife.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:31 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: twinsgirl33@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ashley Ihrke	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this bill and request that no new permits be given for the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:31 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: claudiawornum@comcast.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Claudia Wornum	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please vote to save the sea turtles, the dolphins, the sharks, and their magnificent ocean habitats. Vote yes on this proposal (SB1240)

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:31 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: sampsun@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dorian Bowen	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support for SB1240! Please ensure there are no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:30 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: nemesis_33012@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sarai Porretta	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support Bill SB1240 and ask that no new permits be issued or for a complete ban on the aquarium trade. Thank you.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:30 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: rsisyh@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Stern	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support SB1240. I support no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade. Thank you.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:29 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mark@rootsrealty.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Wheeler	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support SB1240 and ask for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:27 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: carolhoke08@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carol Hoke	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I strongly support SB1240, and I ask that you either issue no new permits or impose a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:26 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: anitabanana@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cookie wintner	Individual	Support	No

Comments: No new permits! Stop the unregulated taking of reef fish by aquarium collectors. Mahalo

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:13 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: curtbiz@msn.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Curtis Bisby	Individual	Support	No

Comments: NO NEW PERMITS! Stop before it's too late. Freeze current permits until DLNR can manage this renegade reef pillage with MEANING.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:11 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: txgirl125@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Raeann Scott	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am writing in support of SB1240 and feel strongly that the State must stop issuing commercial aquarium permits for reef wildlife extraction.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:01 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: malamahawaii17@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susanne Spiessberger	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Aloha Chair Luke and FIN Committee Members! I support a stop to the issuance of new aquarium permits and a non-transferability of existing permits. The bill repeatedly got 90% of testimonies in support of phasing out aquarium permits – supporters coming from all walks of life. Scientists, community associations, professionals who are like the collectors in the water every single day to make a living, former employees of the trade, or just concerned Hawaii lovers. I am a scientist and have been working on environmental sustainability for a long time. Our reefs, which are vital for Hawaiian culture, recreation, tourism, and protection from waves, are already being threatened by rising water temperatures, pollution, and ocean acidification. Reef wildlife like Yellow Tang and other surgeonfishes are proven to play an imperative role for reef balance, resilience, and recovery. Yet those exotic, rare, and often endemic species are being removed in unlimited numbers by the aquarium industry. Most of them die a premature death through cumulative trauma in long transits and inappropriate tank set ups, ensuring an ongoing demand. Catch methods like tickle sticks, or dragging anchors and equipment across reefs, further damage corals that are protected by law (HAR 13-95). DLNR keeps on failing to protect critical public resources. There is no limit on permits for aquarium collection and no environmental review of this program. Enforcement is ineffective, catch report compliance low. Claims that “only” parrotfish – and not surgeonfishes - are important algae eaters contradicts recent scientific publications (Marshall et al., 2015, MacNeil et al., 2015). The economic value of a healthy reef for the local people by far outweighs the value of a trade that removes wildlife from an already compromised ecosystem and serves it to an off-island décor industry. Aquarium collection is in contrast to Hawaiian values, which recognize the importance of corals and reef wildlife. Please vote yes to a phasing out of aquarium collection! Thank you!

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: tooquiet2b@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
rhonda caffrey	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Rhonda Caffrey 4518 Green Palm Ln Tampa FL 33610 813-690-1227

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: konanebrothershawaii@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Edward Dowling	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: again let's be pono with our ocean. I support this bill sB1240

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Lee Ann Donner Hauenstein
5 Hagan Drive
Essex Junction, VT 05452

March 12, 2017

Aloha'ano 'Aha'ōlelo,

Dear Kind Legislators,

I support SB1240, and I implore you to do the same. Please stop live export of Hawaii reef wildlife now! Commercial aquarium hunters damage the reef in multiple ways. The removal of the fish equals certain death for 90 % of them. For each one that actually makes it to market, nine or more die in transit. The removal of reef fish upsets the ecosystem and it is killing the reef. The hunters damage coral, and kill fish and habitat. The reef is the very essence of what makes Hawaii special, and your tourism economy depends on the health of the reef.

Mahalo nui loa

Lee Ann

617 480-8215

PS, I sincerely hope to celebrate my 20th anniversary snorkeling what's left of the Hawaii reefs, which is how I celebrated my 5th and my 10th. Please save the reefs!

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 6:05 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: michael.lauterman@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
michael lauterman	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support SB1240

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 5:57 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: Ryan.liz2010@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elizabeth Caffrey	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This will majorly increase the price of live stock in the aquarium trade privately own local fish stores will be forced to close their doors it will ultimately destroy the hobby I love .

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PO Box 97, Gila, NM, 88038, USA
T: 1.845.373.9696 W: www.IntlTrans.com
E: PRiva@IntlTrans.com

To: The Hawaii Legislature

Re: SB1240

From: Peter Riva,

Date: Monday, April 03, 2017

A Death Toll Impossible To Overlook

Sometimes it takes a number to shock us into reality. The number of fish removed from a national and state-controlled water, the small number of people profiting from that removal, the number of non-Hawaii corporations profiting from that removal, and the tiny fraction of fish that survive capture/transportation/weeks in an aquarium. A visit behind the scenes of any PetCo store in my state reveals that the few Hawaii fish that survive transport that they put on sale die off at what one employee told me was "a depressing rate."

Look this is simple. Hawaii's main public image, the very *raison d'être* for the tourism industry is its natural beauty. If you talk to any tourist they will affirm that beauty starts at the reefs and extends to the lush highlands. Remove the beauty from the one and it will affect a negative impression on the whole.

The aquarium trade is pilaging your natural beauty. They have no regard for the balance of natural beauty underwater. That is not their job. Their job, like the forest lumberjacks in the California Redwoods (some 2,000 years old), is to harvest a free resource for their own livelihood. The problem is, every fish they take as a free resource is actually eating into the asset value of Hawaii. They profit, Hawaii loses, one fish at a time.

If I came to Hawaii and cut down a tree on public land for my own use - would you not stop me? So why would you allow private and corporate privateers to cut down your reef abundance, steal your coral assets? The morality aside, why would you forsake your own welfare underwater when you already protect your above sea-level assets?

Hawaii really cannot afford, especially in these times, to overlook the die-off and pillaging of this asset. The death toll you see today underwater may be nothing compared to the Hawaiian human die-off if the tourist industry erodes in lock-step with the destruction of this underwater asset, one that is publically recognized across the globe.

Please pass SB1240 before it is too late.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 5:14 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: field37@comcast.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Field	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please discontinue issuing commercial aquarium permits for reef wildlife extraction. Thank you for your consideration of this request, Brian Field

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 5:04 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: louiepolsinelli@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Louie Polsinelli	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am testifying in Opposition to SB 1240 DLNR fish counts are way up and aquarium fishery is sustainable! Past Testimony I have read in favor comes from snorkelers who only go tourist areas or shallow. Aquarium fishermen do not dive shallow, they do not go to tourist areas and they do not even dive most of the Islands in question. Collection only occurs form Oahu and the Big Island. It is very clearly a user conflict with just a few small vocal groups who oppose the fishery for business reasons. The sustainable fishery worked with the State of Hawaii DLNR officials from 2012 to 2015 and together new rules for the fishery were created to ensure sustainability for forever. Catch limits, bag limits for many species and net restrictions were created; all of these laws are now in force. In 2015 a Biblical bloom in fish populations happened increasing the oceans of Hawaii with so many fish that they are now everywhere years later! Fish populations in Hawaii are better than ever. Please do not pass SB 1240 Thanks! Dr. Rossitor Waikiki Aquarium in testimony: "even if the number of fish collectors greatly increase they will still be sustainable" "aquarium fishermen should be commended for doing the new rules with the state". Dr. Bill Walsh October 2014: In my capacity as the West Hawai'i Aquatic Biologist for the Division of Aquatic Resources I have been involved in the management and biological monitoring of the West Hawai'i aquarium fishery for over 15 years. I would like to share with you some of the results of our latest monitoring efforts as they relate to the issue at hand. Two species, the Yellow Tang and Kole make up over 93% of all aquarium fish caught in West Hawai'i. Since the no-aquarium collecting Fish Replenishment Areas (FRAs) were established in 1999 (protecting 35% of the coastline), the numbers of Yellow Tang have increased in the FRAs by almost 65% while not significantly decreasing in the remaining Open Areas. In the 30'-60' depth range alone, the numbers of Yellow Tang in West Hawai'i have increased by 1.3 million fish. Similarly Kole populations have increased not only in the FRAs (by 24%) but also in the Open Areas as well (by 28%). Kole populations in the same depth range have increased by over 2 million fish! Clearly resource management efforts are working in West Hawai'i. Scientific studies which have indeed found high levels of mortality among aquarium fishes have typically been conducted in remote areas with poor handling capabilities. That is clearly not the case in Hawai'i. ~ Dr. William Walsh Division of Aquatic Resources State of Hawaii DLNR So, in the grand

scheme of things, the aquarium take on Maui is literally a drop in the bucket, representing less than 2% of the total mortality of reef animals that year. This serves to point out that undue focus and hyperbole about aquarium collecting and its impact on the reefs is dangerously shortsighted and counterproductive. We need to think and act holistically. Hope I didn't overwhelm you with numbers. (as of 2014 no aquarium fish collectors were taking fish on Maui and the number of collectors state wide have decreased and so has catch.) ~ Dr. DAN A. POLHEMUS Division of Aquatic Resources State of Hawaii DLNR There are a few "outsiders," by which I mean people who don't live here, who have decided that West Hawaii doesn't know what it's doing. This group, headed by Maui resident Robert Wintner, and Wintner's frontman Rene Umberger, decided it was going to be the ones to get aquarium collecting banned, to make themselves the "rescuers of the reef." Clearly if the goal is to get rid of the industry and management prevents that goal being reached, then discrediting the benefits and successes of management would seem the only way left to go. And so they have taken that path. They have held community meetings and displayed a lot of false or twisted data, quoting from papers outdated by more than 15 years, and "re-interpreting" data from scientific papers. They have been telling people that "there are no fish left," which is patently untrue. I once had a woman tell me with great passion and assurance that there are no fish left anywhere in West Hawaii. I asked her why she thought that, and she replied that everyone knew it. I asked if she swam in the ocean. No. Did she dive? No. Did she know anything about the management strategies in place? No. She had, however, just come from an "information session" in which she heard these things from Wintner's frontman Rene Umberger. Which brings me back to the wide-screen TV. The TV runs a 90-minute loop of undisturbed, natural activity of fish on the reef. Apparently, the footage was filmed on West Hawaii reefs. The article states: "Wintner praised the videos. 'It shows what abundance looks like,' Wintner said." At least he got that right. ~ Tina Owens, executive director of the LOST FISH Coalition, Member West Hawaii Fisheries Council and resident of Kailua-Kona.

<http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/story/26454840/videos-show-tropical-fish-swarming-states-reefs> Fishery Sustainable Dr. Bill Walsh, Richard Pyle and NOAA Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=50L6JcMOVLQ&t=219s>

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Cc: asteinerny@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
A.L. Steiner	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please pass this legislation and stop issuing commercial aquarium permits for reef wildlife extraction. It's high time to END commercial aquarium capture and trafficking, and protect Hawai'ian coral reef wildlife for the sake of living beings and planet Earth. Our reefs, vital for cultural tradition, recreation, tourism and storm surge protection are increasingly threatened by rising temperatures, pollution and acidification. This bill, SB1240 HD1, addresses long-standing urgencies, problems and concerns about the impacts of commercial aquarium trade on Hawaii reef health. Our communities testified and asked the State to stop issuing new permits and to phase out aquarium extraction of Hawaii reef wildlife. Commercial capture of reef wildlife (e.g., tangs, surgeonfishes, seahorses, eels, shrimp, lobster) for aquarium use is poorly regulated with no limit on permits, no environmental review, no real enforcement. In contrast, corals are protected by law. Thank you , in advance, for doing the humane and logical thing by passing this legislation.

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 4:29 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: lilomama@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lily Lau-Enright	Individual	Support	No

Comments: IT IS TIME TO END COMMERCIAL AQUARIUM CAPTURE AND TRAFFICKING TO PROTECT HAWAII CORAL REEF WILDLIFE. Please vote YES to SB1240. Our reefs, vital for cultural tradition, recreation, tourism and storm surge protection are increasingly threatened by rising temperatures, pollution and acidification. A bill moving forward in the legislature (SB1240 HD1) may address long-standing concerns about the impacts of commercial aquarium trade on Hawaii reef health. Many people already testified and asked the State to stop issuing new permits and to phase out aquarium extraction of Hawaii reef wildlife. Commercial capture of reef wildlife (e.g., tangs, surgeonfishes, seahorses, eels, shrimp, lobster) for aquarium use is poorly regulated with no limit on permits, no environmental review, no real enforcement. In contrast, corals are protected by law. Aquarium collectors extract mostly herbivores, imperative to reef balance and resiliency. The narrow fringing reef of Hawaii is the world's third largest source, 2.6 times higher the reported catch than from Australia's Great Barrier Reef. Catch reports show 650,000 animals extracted on average, per year; catch report compliance is known to be low and brings the estimated number to between one and five (1-5) million animals/year. Most wildlife extracted will die within a year of extraction, from cumulative trauma in capture, handling, long transits, and unhealthy conditions. Catch methods like tickle sticks, sand-mimicking tarps as well as anchors and equipment on reefs damage corals (which are protected by law). State government "management" promotes reef wildlife scarcity in sharp contrast to how Native Hawaiians traditionally managed nearshore waters, to promote abundance, and in contrast to Hawaiian values of respect and responsibility for our natural resources. Currently, wildlife is taken practically for free, undermining incentives for successful aquaculture, which could help conserve wildlife and create jobs. Healthy reefs and wildlife provide a broad range of economic benefits for local residents and businesses throughout Hawaii, including our number one industry - tourism. The kapu system established temporary and seasonal reef closures as well as species specific closures to allow fish-population recovery. Present closures, like the rotational closures on Oahu, do not provide sufficient recovery from declines during open periods. Ancient ponds supplemented food production when reefs were under kapu. Currently, wildlife is taken almost for free, undermining incentives for a successful aquaculture. Targeted species

like yellow tang are hard to breed in captivity and more research is needed. This alternative can reduce pressure on reef wildlife and reefs and create jobs. With reefs in drastic decline, pono reef management must return. To ensure a healthy future for Hawaii reefs, bill HB 1457 and SB 1240 must be amended to permanently END THE COMMERCIAL AQUARIUM EXTRACTION OF HAWAII REEF WILDLIFE. We must take action fast. Please listen to science and not the loud naysayers of the voracious aquarium trade. Thank you for your enlightened awareness of the need for strong protection of marine life in Hawaiian waters.

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 4:16 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: lowrider3111@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
marilyn evenson	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I cannot make it to the hearing on Tuesday as I am too far away. I am a concerned citizen for our environment & oceans. I support SB1240 wholeheartedly. Please strengthen the language in this bill to end the commercial extraction of reef wildlife. No more aquarium permits. No more live export of reef wildlife. The Hawaii reefs are dying because of man's interference. Soon the aquatic wildlife will not have homes in the reefs if they are not protected. Once again, leave the wildlife in their habitat. They are not on this Earth for our entertainment in aquariums, zoos, etc. Thank you.

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:59 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: adenarosmarin@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Adena Rosmarin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support SB1240 for both ecological and economic reasons. My family and I travel to the Big Island every year to experience the wildlife living free on Hawaii's reefs. During our visits we contribute to the local economy -- housing, restaurants, and shopping as well as rental of cars, snorkel gear, and charter boats. On our first trip our charter boat captain described how the waters used to run golden because there were so many Yellow Tang but that now we must search to find even a small school of Yellow Tang. We have since learned that this decimation of the reefs, so rich in endemic species, is a result of the out-of-control aquarium trade. This is shocking and tragic. The Hawaiian reefs—unique, famous, and fundamental to the tourist economy--deserve protection. Please give SB1240 your full support. Thank you! Adena Rosmarin

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: wendiknapp@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
wendi knapp	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: The state must stop issuing commercial aquarium permits for wildlife extraction. The environmental pressure on the reef is to great. Already we see bleaching that is devastating our reefs and the added pressure of commercial wildlife extraction will be a death knell.

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: bostonaqua1@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Howard Mallowes	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: To COMMITTEE ON FINANCE Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair Tuesday, April 4, 2017 3:00 P.M. Conference Room 308 I am testifying in Opposition to SB 1240 DLNR fish counts are way up and aquarium fishery is sustainable! Past Testimony I have read in favor comes from snorkelers who only go tourist areas or shallow. Aquarium fishermen do not dive shallow, they do not go to tourist areas and they do not even dive most of the Islands in question. Collection only occurs form Oahu and the Big Island. It is very clearly a user conflict with just a few small vocal groups who oppose the fishery for business reasons. The sustainable fishery worked with the State of Hawaii DLNR officials from 2012 to 2015 and together new rules for the fishery were created to ensure sustainability for forever. Catch limits, bag limits for many species and net restrictions were created; all of these laws are now in force. In 2015 a Biblical bloom in fish populations happened increasing the oceans of Hawaii with so many fish that they are now everywhere years later! Fish populations in Hawaii are better than ever. Please do not pass SB 1240 Thanks! Howard Mallowes

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: hung-vo@sbcglobal.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hung Vo	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 2:19 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: nahacky@ilhawaii.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ulla Carmiencke	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha, The big island has a chance for a diversified economy with agriculture and fisheries playing a major role. The aquarium fisheries is well managed and studied on the big island. This bill is not applicable to the Big Island as it does not develop a scientific based limited entry program for the big island. Thank you

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 2:09 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: nahacky@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

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

Comments: Please consider that this bill does not develop a science based limited entry fishery program developed by fishery scientists. Please consider that this bill does not properly address the issues of algae growth in areas such as Maui that have serious issues with algae. Please consider the consequences to public aquariums in Hawaii and elsewhere along with educational impacts. I respectfully request the management of Hawaii fisheries be left to the DLNR fisheries scientists.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 1:42 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: gail.sweeney.1@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gail Sweeney	Individual	Support	No

Comments: YES, I support SB1240 and no new aquarium permits or the transfer of existing aquarium permits. I'm a frequent visitor to Hawaii and I want to see Hawaii reef wildlife living free in the wild on Hawaii reefs, not captive in glass tanks.

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 12:05 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: captstephen@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
stephen howard	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: So as divers retire you will be forcing the remaining divers to dive alone ! This is and always has been the most important dive safety rule! And the State of Hawaii will be forcing fisherman to dive alone. This sounds like a law suite waiting to happen .

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Kevin Thai Baptiste
46-270 Kahuhipa Street #A418
Kaneohe, HI
808-392-8370

Aloha,

I am a concerned resident of this state and have come to express my concerns about S.B.1240 I am writing this testimony to you, the esteemed members of the Hawaii State Legislature, because S.B. 1240 is written and authored with unfounded bias against the entire aquaria fish collection industry in Hawaii.

Firstly, the bill cites concerns over a declining fish population and directly attributes the loss due to “increasing threats from climate change, ocean acidification, habitat degradation, and pollution diminish prospects for their proliferation. However, these are not direct evolutions derived solely from aquarium fish collection activities.

Figures 6, 13, and 20 of The 2014 DLNR Report on the Findings and Recommendations of Effectiveness of the West Hawai'i Regional Fishery Management Area clearly illustrates density data monitoring of several target species of reef fish for aquaria collection over several years and between regulated (Fish Replenishment Areas), and Open (Non-regulated Areas). The premise that fish species were disappearing and hence not “sustainable.” is a MISLEADING INTERPRETATION that has transformed into “ALTERNATIVE FACTS” creating emotional bias against the aquarium collection industry.

The data truly shows that fish densities vary cyclically between years. Furthermore, when comparing density values between open and regulated areas we see they trend in the same direction between years. This actually indicates that other factors contribute to the universal change and shift of population. Those other factors make it impossible to define any particular activity, such as fish collection, as “unsustainable” and therefore should not be held solely accountable for any decline in population.

Placing a moratorium on issuing aquarium fish permits of near shore aquatic life until legislature can define “sustainable” and propose policy of collection practices and set catch limits solely targets and deliberately cripples the fish aquarium collection industry in Hawaii indefinitely.

I will support more restrictive legislation if required, but retort the total “temporary” ban. I believe that we have not yet fully developed the economic capacity for this industry to the State.

This bill should receive no support from you because it solely, and falsely blames the aquarium fish collection industry for a disappearing near shore fish population. The decline is actually distinctly attributed, within the bill, to climate change, ocean acidification, habitat degradation and pollution. These are natural phenomenal processes and stressors not caused by fish collection. This attempt to develop legislature based on the goal of accomplishing a definition to “sustainability” is emotionally driven with bias and will indefinitely undermine the industry from ever developing if enacted. This bill should be rejected in all its forms, past, present and future, because it is based on fundamental misinterpretations of scientific data which favorably supports the industry to continue with the current regulations of Fish Replenishment Areas, statutes of bag limits, catch reporting, and permitting.

Yours Truly,

Kevin Thai Baptiste

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 9:54 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: katc31999@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kat Culina	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: kris.bordessa@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kris Bordessa	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Freeze current permits till DLNR can manage the renegade reef pillaging.
End the aquarium trade!

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Cc: billx@unforgettable.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bill Watts	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support SB1240. >> No new permits, starting now. >>Freeze existing permits until DLNR can develop a meaningful management plan. The aquarium trade is not fishing - its plundering. It deprives the many for the financial benefit of the few. It imposes cruel and often fatal punishment on Hawaii's indigenous wildlife. It damages and depletes Hawaii reefs. It damages Hawaii's economy by reducing tourism revenue and taxes.

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Cc: lisakaddas@comcast.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
lisa simonsen	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Support sB1240. Ban the aquarium trade now.

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: fishfinder@live.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
andy walters	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Greetings, my name is andy walters phone number is: 808-351-1913

I am a concerned resident of this state and have come to express my concerns about S.B.1240 I am writing this testimony to you, the esteemed members of the Hawaii State Legislature, because S.B. 1240 is written and authored under MISLEADING INTERPRETATIONS of already valid State-level studies and findings. These findings have been transformed into "ALTERNATIVE FACTS" by those who seek to unduly influence our government and lead to regulations that can possibly hurt Hawaii's ecosystem, businesses and its people. In a previous draft of this bill, a DLNR report, "Report on the Findings and Recommendations of Effectiveness of the West Hawai'i Regional Fishery Management Area" was used to establish the premise that fish species were disappearing and hence not "sustainable." This concern over sustainability drives the current draft of S.B.1240. However, upon review of this source document, the conclusions of the report show that the species of fish under concern were flourishing under the current aquarium fish practices. This is in direct contradiction to the supposition that S.B.1240 makes. Here are a few, un-redacted quotes from the DLNR report: "Overall Yellow Tang abundance in the 30'-60' depth range over the entire West Hawai'i coast has increased 58% (over 1.3 million fish) from 1999/2000 to 2012-2013 to a current population of 3.6 million fish." "Overall Kole abundance in 30'-60' depth range over the entire West Hawai'i coast increased 49% (over 2.1 million fish) during this time period with a current population of about 6.5 million fish" "Two of three sites at long-term studies in South Kohala and South Kona have found Yellow Tang populations have increased to levels found over three decades ago before the expansion of aquarium collecting" "Eleven species showed no consistent pattern and 17 species were consistently more abundant in the Open Areas." "While the latter two species declined in the Open Areas, they also declined in one or the other of the protected areas (FRA or MPA) suggesting that factors other than aquarium collecting were also affecting their populations." "it seems unlikely that the declines are due primarily to aquarium collecting." According to these conclusions, there is no data supporting the year over year reduction of fish species in

the areas in question. In fact, there is an INCREASE IN THE OVERALL POPULATION when aquarium fish collection is allowed. In fact, there is no supporting data that growth of fish population number occurs with efforts to curtail or ban fish collection. In fact, areas of banned collection show LACK OF POPULATION GROWTH. What this data lead us to conclude is that THE PRESENCE OF AQUARIUM COLLECTION IS CONNECTED TO PRODUCTIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECOSYSTEMS. What this data leads us to conclude is that AQUARIUM BANS & LIKE LEGISLATION HAVE NO MEASURABLE EFFECT IN INCREASING PRODUCTIVITY OR SUSTAINABILITY FOR OUR ECOSYSTEMS. I understand that these findings make not make emotional sense. Indeed, how does collection of a species lead to the sustainable long term growth of a species? A plausible answer lies in the fact that OVERPOPULATION can lead to a species demise, just as quickly as other environmental factors. In fact, as we know, when an organism's needs outstrip the environment ability to support them, it becomes necessary to have a way to thin out the population for its overall benefit. Aquarium collectors, because of current regulation already in place during shipping and transport, provide that controlled vehicle for population control and environmental benefit. The study that S.B. 1240 misinterprets shows us that the aquarium collectors are already positive influence and not a negative one. More restrictive legislation is not required, is wasteful and possibly encourages an unchecked population explosion that would be truly harmful to our ecosystem. Additionally, uncalled for regulation also limits a promising revenue stream from successful Aquarium fish collectors. I believe that we have not fully development the economic capacity for this industry to the State. Finally, there is the issue of the credibility of our State's legislative process. At this point, this bill, S.B. 1240 was first allowed to progress by first misinterpreting a valid, state commissioned study. Then the bill was allowed to continue through the legislature by obfuscating the presence of the DLNR study and editing it out of the bill, because it directly refutes the needs and premise of this bill. I hope that the actions of this panel will not be stained by this academic and legal chicanery and fraud that the bill currently represents. This bill should receive no support from you because is it not based in fact and shows no promise to accomplish the goals of sustainability. In fact, there is a cause for concern that the ban of aquarium collection could actually hurt the ecosystem. This bill should be rejected in all its forms, past, present and future, because it is based on fundamental misrepresentation and lies. The negative costs and repercussions of passing S.B.1240 are truly unknown and possibly dangerous on an ecological level and unduly limiting on an economic one. WE SHOULD NOT BAN ANYTHING BASED ON THE CONCEPT OF ALTERNATIVE FACTS. We should reject this bill, and all others like it, until real data and truth back it up. Yours Truly, Andy walters

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SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Colin Kop	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Greetings, my name is Colin Kop. I am a concerned resident of this state and have come to express my concerns about S.B.1240 I am writing this testimony to you, the esteemed members of the Hawaii State Legislature, because S.B. 1240 is written and authored under MISLEADING INTERPRETATIONS of already valid State-level studies and findings. These findings have been transformed into "ALTERNATIVE FACTS" by those who seek to unduly influence our government and lead to regulations that can possibly hurt Hawaii's ecosystem, businesses and its people. In a previous draft of this bill, a DLNR report, "Report on the Findings and Recommendations of Effectiveness of the West Hawai'i Regional Fishery Management Area" was used to establish the premise that fish species were disappearing and hence not "sustainable." This concern over sustainability drives the current draft of S.B.1240. However, upon review of this source document, the conclusions of the report show that the species of fish under concern were flourishing under the current aquarium fish practices. This is in direct contradiction to the supposition that S.B.1240 makes. Here are a few, unredacted quotes from the DLNR report: "Overall Yellow Tang abundance in the 30'-60' depth range over the entire West Hawai'i coast has increased 58% (over 1.3 million fish) from 1999/2000 to 2012-2013 to a current population of 3.6 million fish." "Overall Kole abundance in 30'-60' depth range over the entire West Hawai'i coast increased 49% (over 2.1 million fish) during this time period with a current population of about 6.5 million fish" "Two of three sites at long-term studies in South Kohala and South Kona have found Yellow Tang populations have increased to levels found over three decades ago before the expansion of aquarium collecting" "Eleven species showed no consistent pattern and 17 species were consistently more abundant in the Open Areas." "While the latter two species declined in the Open Areas, they also declined in one or the other of the protected areas (FRA or MPA) suggesting that factors other than aquarium collecting were also affecting their populations." "it seems unlikely that the declines are due primarily to aquarium collecting." According to these conclusions, there is no data supporting the year over year reduction of fish species in the areas in question. In fact, there is an INCREASE IN THE OVERALL POPULATION when aquarium fish collection is allowed. In fact, there is no supporting data that growth of fish population number occurs with efforts to curtail or ban fish collection. In fact, areas of banned collection

show LACK OF POPULATION GROWTH. What this data lead us to conclude is that THE PRESENCE OF AQUARIUM COLLECTION IS CONNECTED TO PRODUCTIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECOSYSTEMS. What this data leads us to conclude is that AQUARIUM BANS & LIKE LEGISLATION HAVE NO MEASURABLE EFFECT IN INCREASING PRODUCTIVITY OR SUSTAINABILITY FOR OUR ECOSYSTEMS. I understand that these findings make not make emotional sense. Indeed, how does collection of a species lead to the sustainable longterm growth of a species? A plausible answer lies in the fact that OVERPOPULATION can lead to a species demise, just as quickly as other environmental factors. In fact, as we know, when an organism's needs outstrip the environment ability to support them, it becomes necessary to have a way to thin out the population for its overall benefit. Aquarium collectors, because of current regulation already in place during shipping and transport, provide that controlled vehicle for population control and environmental benefit. The study that S.B. 1240 misinterprets shows us that the aquarium collectors are already positive influence and not a negative one. More restrictive legislation is not required, is wasteful and possibly encourages an unchecked population explosion that would be truly harmful to our ecosystem. Additionally, uncalled for regulation also limits a promising revenue stream from successful Aquarium fish collectors. I believe that we have not fully development the economic capacity for this industry to the State. Finally, there is the issue of the credibility of our State's legislative process. At this point, this bill, S.B. 1240 was first allowed to progress by first misinterpreting a valid, state commissioned study. Then the bill was allowed to continue through the legislature by obfuscating the presence of the DLNR study and editing it out of the bill, because it directly refutes the needs and premise of this bill. I hope that the actions of this panel will not be stained by this academic and legal chicanery and fraud that the bill currently represents. This bill should receive no support from you because is it not based in fact and shows no promise to accomplish the goals of sustainability. In fact, there is a cause for concern that the ban of aquarium collection could actually hurt the ecosystem. This bill should be rejected in all its forms, past, present and future, because it is based on fundamental misrepresentation and lies. The negative costs and repercussions of passing S.B.1240 are truly unknown and possibly dangerous on an ecological level and unduly limiting on an economic one. WE SHOULD NOT BAN ANYTHING BASED ON THE CONCEPT OF ALTERNATIVE FACTS. We should reject this bill, and all others like it, until real data and truth back it up. Yours Truly, Colin Kop

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: kaya.w@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kaya	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We must give our oceans time to heal from the tremendous damage man has caused. Water covers over 70% of our planet and it is our job to not only protect which we have failed at thus far but to revive and nurse back to health starting in the reefs, by blocking the need to capture these creatures from the ir homes we are helping towards getting our oceans ecosystems back to health.

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: slwsurfing@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

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

Comments: The reefs and fish are dying / sewage, warming, bleaching... Protect what we have left please.

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Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 3:22 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: fishtal@comcast.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tal Sweet	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: As the leader of The Marine Breeding Initiative (MBI) I oppose this bill. The MBI is a worldwide organization that promotes sharing information about captive breeding marine organisms. The Hawaii fisheries are one of most sustainable and well-regulated fisheries in the world as science has proven over and over. There have been amazing strides made in the realm of captive breeding in recent years. One of the biggest ones was accomplished at the Oceanic Institute in Hawaii where they successfully raised hundreds of yellow tangs. This would not be possible without access to wild-caught broodstock. OI has also had success with many other fishes including the Hawaiian cleaner wrasse. As a hobbyist myself I've had a Hawaiian yellow tang in my care for over 11 years. Many activists feel that aquarium hobbyists are cruel and uncaring people that have no regard for marine life but it's quite the opposite! Hobbyists care deeply about the lives we have in our care and go to great lengths to make sure they thrive. Before enacting this type of legislation I suggest that you consider the science and data rather than emotional responses. Thank you.

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: sandy.c.maui@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cheryl King	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support SB1240 to help save Hawaiian reefs!

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COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

April 4, 2017

Testimony on SB 1240 SD2 HD1

Bruce A. Carlson, Ph.D.

Honorable members of the House Committee on Finance:

I am opposed to this bill.

PERMITS vs. LICENSES:

The intent of this bill is to place restrictions on the commercial collection of fishes for aquariums. But this bill bans the issuance of new PERMITS rather than LICENSES and that will mean that no school teacher, parent or child seeking a new permit will be able to legally collect even one fish for a home or classroom aquarium.

A live fish in an aquarium has much more value than a dead fish. I support the educational value of aquariums to help people of all ages to learn about marine life, and especially for the many people who cannot venture into the ocean. For that reason, I oppose the purpose of this bill which is to ban the issuance of new permits.

TRANSFERABLE PERMITS:

I am also opposed to the provision in this bill that prohibits the transfer of existing licenses. A better option would be to limit the number of licenses that can be issued, but allow them to be transferable.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 2:35 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: cathyg@animalrightshawaii.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

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Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cathy Goeggel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: helgaonmaui@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

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Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Helga Fiederer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 2:12 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: lokiwolf80@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cindy Coker	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Stop the aquarium trade NOW, before it's too late.

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: tmelcher9403@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Thomas Melcher	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support SB1240. Stop stripping the Hawaiian reefs of their beautiful fish! What would the Hawaiian ancestors say?

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: bob-marion@hawaiiintel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marion McHenry	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this bill! We need to end the aquarium trade around our islands. This is unfair that a few are making money from destroying the fish populations on our reef. These are public resources that need to be protected!

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Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 12:39 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: hiannikki@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
jenna spellman	Individual	Support	No

Comments: protect our fisheries!

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Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 12:30 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: matthines321@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
matthew hines	Individual	Support	No

Comments: YES, I support SB1240 and no new aquarium permits or the transfer of existing aquarium permits. The aquarium trade is not sustainable. It is not about catching fish to feed Hawaii and not about the future. It is extraction of reef wildlife for export and entertainment. Yes! I support SB1240 and no new aquarium permits or the transfer of existing aquarium permits. Stop export of Hawaii reef wildlife now! Hawaii's reefs aren't for sale. YES, I support SB1240 and no new aquarium permits or the transfer of existing aquarium permits. My family and I travelled all the way from the UK to Hawaii to see its amazing reefs and wildlife. I want to see Hawaii reef wildlife living free in the wild on Hawaii reefs, not captive in glass tanks.

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Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 12:14 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: joanl@snorkelbob.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joan Lloyd	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: The time is now to determine the future of Hawaii's reefs and its people. Please finalize SB1240 with existing language.

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Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 11:20 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jahflyingfrenchman@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brendon	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support sb1240 with existing language - No new aquarium permits, and no transfer of existing permits. Hawaii's reefs need to recover. Please finalize sb1240 to end aquarium permitting in hawaii, thank you.

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COMMENTS ON BILL SB1240 SD2 HD1 APRIL 4 2017

Chairperson Luke and Committee Members,

My name is Dennis Yamaguchi and I am a full-time collector of marine aquarium fish in Hawaii. I have no objections to the State of Hawaii establishing a definition of sustainability, a policy for sustainable collection practices, limits, or other management strategies governing our fishery. Reasonable rules and regulations are part of the covenant an individual or entity willing agrees to for the privilege of utilizing a public trust such as fishing.

That being said, I have the following concerns about SB1240 as presently written:

- 1) Given the limited resources available to the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the deadline of 2019 may not be very realistic.
- 2) "Aquatic Life" is a very broad term as defined by Hawaii Revised Statutes. "Aquatic life" as written in SB1240 could apply to fish, invertebrates, and seaweed we do not and have never used in our fishery. Unintended consequences may very well create restrictions and rules to the various other user groups that have nothing to do with the aquarium fish industry.
- 3) The term "historic levels" should be used very carefully. It's use implies there were a lot more fish in the past. This is far from true, especially when dealing with aquarium type fish. Aquarium fish historically were not an important fishery and therefore not well studied. There are, however, a fair amount of scientific studies and anecdotal evidence showing large variability in yearly populations of aquarium fish worldwide.

Thank you for the opportunity to present comments.

Dennis Yamaguchi

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 11:03 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: joeritter3@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joe Ritter	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 10:40 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: shannonkona@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	No

Comments: STRONGLY SUPPORT!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 10:39 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: larrythompson1014@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Larry Thompson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Yes! I support SB1240 and no new aquarium permits or the transfer of existing aquarium permits. Stop export of Hawaii reef wildlife now! Hawaii's reefs aren't for sale. We need to preserve wildlife as best we can. This bill must pass. Thank you

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: diannec@snorkelnet.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dianne Cannon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: irishlarry787@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Larry Williams	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support sb1240 and no new aquarium permits or the transfer of existing permits. The aquarium trade is not sustainable. Not about catching fish to feed Hawaii, its an extraction reef wild life for amusement.

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Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 10:11 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: etienne.delgado@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Diego Delgado	Individual	Support	No

Comments: YES, I support SB1240 and no new aquarium permits or the transfer of existing aquarium permits. The aquarium trade is not sustainable. It is not about catching fish to feed Hawaii and not about the future. It is extraction of reef wildlife for export and entertainment.

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: mahojv@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jamie Vandenberg	Individual	Support	No

Comments: It is damaging to both the ocean and our islands' economy to allow the aquarium trade to continue unchecked. Without a healthy sea, our home would not be the paradise it is. It is our responsibility to protect the creatures we share the earth and ocean with.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 9:15 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: tulsigreenlee@icloud.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tulsi Greenlee	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I strongly support this bill. Ban the aquarium trade now. Thank you for supporting this bill. Tulsi Greenlee

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Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 9:04 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: matiasm001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
paul matias	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support SB1240 and no new aquarium permits or the transfer of existing aquarium permits. Stop exports of Hawaii reef wildlife now please!

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Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 8:52 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: matiasm001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
paul matias	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Yes I support SB1240 and no new permits or the transfer of Existing aquarium permits. Stop exports of Hawaii reef wildlife please!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 8:42 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: melissab@snorkelbob.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
melissa bukoski	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support SB1240 and no new aquarium permits or the transfer of existing aquarium permits. Stop export of Hawaii reef wildlife now! Hawaii's reefs aren't for sale.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 8:34 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: dkg1031@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Debra Koonohiokala Norenberg	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 8:21 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kamij9@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kami carter	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: The aquarium trade is decimating our reefs! If we continue this path there will be nothing left for us to protect. Time for common sense to prevail and protect our reefs now! The data is out there and time stand up and protect Hawaii's future.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 8:17 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: begoniabarry@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Barry	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I strongly support HB1240. Leave our marine creatures alone. They do NOT belong to the Aquarium trade. Mahalo, Ms. Barbara Barry Ha'iku

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 7:57 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: richardr@snorkelbob.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
richard rosenblum	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill. No new permits for the aquarium trade and no transfers of existing permits because the aquarium trade is not sustainable. thanks

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Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 7:18 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: sgajate@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Serafina Gajate	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 5:53 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: deirdrarogers@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Deirdra Rogers	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: One of the reasons I travel to Hawaii (and many in my business and personal circle of contacts) is for snorkeling and scuba diving. It has been apparent for years that the reef fish population is in decline, and one of the reasons is the absolute pillage of this PUBLIC NATURAL RESOURCE for the profit of the aquarium business without regard to sustainability. It is time Hawaii protects its valuable resource! The health of the reef eco system and Hawaii's tourism industry is at stake for the profit of a few. I support this bill to freeze current permits until DLNR can manage reef pillage meaningfully.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 4:17 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: ktmcgo81@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Katie Gostel	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this bill to protect the life of Hawaii's reefs and end the aquairum trade that is exploiting these animals and contributing to the de-stabilization of this precious ecosystem. The environmental benefits speak for themselves, but even beyond those we must consider what will happen to Hawaii's economy if we continue to pillage it's natural wonders, what will happen to the Aloha spirit of the citizens, and the beauty we have enjoyed peacefully will become only legend to future generations. Please pass this bill to protect Hawaii! Aloha!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 2:44 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kallygos@mac.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kally	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support SB 1240 save the beleaguered reefs from over harvesting. I'm very concerned about the state of the reefs and the lack of fish. The reefs are stressed from so many directions overharvesting can easily be limited . I am not a resident this year but hope you will support SB1240.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 12:02 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: naniomerod1@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/2/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
MaryAnn Omerod	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support Prohibiting issuance of new aquarium permits and the transfer of existing aquarium permits. We need to establish sustainable collection practices and limits, to ensure the sustainability of Hawaii's native near shore aquatic life before it's too late!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2017 11:40 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: tbohl8@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/1/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ted Bohlen	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Comments: Please pass this bill to help protect our precious coral reefs, which are currently stressed by multiple factors. Herbivorous fish are critical to reef health; there should be a moratorium on taking these fish. Private profiteers should not be allowed to cruelly snatch this key public trust resource for their short term financial gain in selling our fish for aquariums worldwide. Before any more reef fish are taken (traditional and customary practices aside) there needs to be a showing that it can be done sustainably (with no harm to fish ecosystems and the precious coral reefs on which our environment and recreational economy depend.) Past practices, including unlimited number of licenses with no maximum fish takes, have reduced fish numbers in fished areas from what they would have been. We have to do better in protecting the reefs or answer to future generations for our short sightedness. Mahalo!

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Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2017 10:39 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: solidazabouldah@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/1/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leimana Abenes	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support SB1240 and the protection of our reefs and marine life. Please stop the pillaging of our marine resources which we as Hawaiians rely on for sustenance and stop the cruel and disrespectful treatment and killing of them. Sincerely, Leimana Abenes

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Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2017 10:39 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: lorraineparis@msn.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/1/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lorraine Garnier	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Chair and Vice-Chair, I am in complete Support of SB1240. We have watched for years, the senseless take of Aquarium trade permits and illegal take on our reefs, fights ensue, reefs are ruined, fish disappear not to return, and the need for legislation lingers. Now is the time. We are already far behind, this needed to begin in the 1980's when people were bleach bombing our reefs for catch and ruining their habitat. I support SB1240. —NO NEW PERMITS EVER!!! Freeze current permits till DLNR can manage the renegade reef pillaging. Mahalo nui loa for Hawaii Nei! Lorraine Garnier

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Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2017 7:53 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: rstewart99489@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/1/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Roxane Stewart	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2017 7:19 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: ponosize@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/1/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pono Kealoha	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2017 5:00 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: lanny.sinkin@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/1/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lanny Sinkin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The exploitation of the natural resources of the Islands of Hawai'i is out of control. While this bill has a timeline that leaves excessive time for taking any truly effective action, at least the bill is a start. Banning new aquariums here will not prevent the industrial exploitation of local fish stocks. I write to support the bill.

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Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2017 4:59 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: hapagurl7669@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/1/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Theodora Akau Gaspar	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

3:00 P.M.

Conference Room 308

I am testifying in Opposition to SB 1240

DLNR fish counts are way up and aquarium fishery is sustainable!

Past Testimony I have read in favor comes from snorkelers who only go tourist areas or shallow. Aquarium fishermen do not dive shallow, they do not go to tourist areas and they do not even dive most of the Islands in question. Collection only occurs from Oahu and the Big Island. It is very clearly a user conflict with just a few small vocal groups who oppose the fishery for business reasons.

The sustainable fishery worked with the State of Hawaii DLNR officials from 2012 to 2015 and together new rules for the fishery were created to ensure sustainability for forever. Catch limits, bag limits for many species and net restrictions were created; all of these laws are now in force.

In 2015 a Biblical bloom in fish populations happened increasing the oceans of Hawaii with so many fish that they are now everywhere years later! Fish populations in Hawaii are better than ever.

Please do not pass SB 1240

Thanks!

Dr. Rossitor Waikiki Aquarium in testimony: "even if the number of fish collectors greatly increase they will still be sustainable" "aquarium fishermen should be commended for doing the new rules with the state".

Dr. Bill Walsh October 2014:

In my capacity as the West Hawai'i Aquatic Biologist for the Division of Aquatic Resources I have been involved in the management and biological monitoring of the West Hawai'i aquarium fishery for over 15 years.

I would like to share with you some of the results of our latest monitoring efforts as they relate to the issue at hand. Two species, the Yellow Tang and Kole make up over 93% of all aquarium fish caught in West Hawai'i. Since the no-aquarium collecting Fish Replenishment Areas (FRAs) were established in 1999 (protecting 35% of the coastline), the numbers of Yellow Tang have increased in the FRAs by almost 65% while not significantly decreasing in the remaining Open Areas. In the 30'-60' depth range alone, the numbers of Yellow Tang in West Hawai'i have increased by 1.3 million fish. Similarly Kole populations have increased not only in the FRAs (by 24%) but also in the Open Areas as well (by 28%). Kole populations in the same depth range have increased by over 2 million fish! Clearly resource management efforts are working in West

Hawai'i.

Scientific studies which have indeed found high levels of mortality among aquarium fishes have typically been conducted in remote areas with poor handling capabilities. That is clearly not the case in Hawai'i.

**~ Dr. William Walsh
Division of Aquatic Resources
State of Hawaii DLNR**

So, in the grand scheme of things, the aquarium take on Maui is literally a drop in the bucket, representing less than 2% of the total mortality of reef animals that year. This serves to point out that undue focus and hyperbole about aquarium collecting and its impact on the reefs is dangerously shortsighted and counterproductive. We need to think and act holistically.

Hope I didn't overwhelm you with numbers. (as of 2014 no aquarium fish collectors were taking fish on Maui and the number of collectors state wide have decreased and so has catch.)

**~ Dr. DAN A. POLHEMUS
Division of Aquatic Resources
State of Hawaii DLNR**

There are a few "outsiders," by which I mean people who don't live here, who have decided that West Hawaii doesn't know what it's doing. This group, headed by Maui resident Robert Wintner, and Wintner's frontman Rene Umberger, decided it was going to be the ones to get aquarium collecting banned, to make themselves the "rescuers of the reef."

Clearly if the goal is to get rid of the industry and management prevents that goal being reached, then discrediting the benefits and successes of management would seem the only way left to go. And so they have taken that path.

They have held community meetings and displayed a lot of false or twisted data, quoting from papers outdated by more than 15 years, and "re-interpreting" data from scientific papers. They have been telling people that "there are no fish left," which is patently untrue. I once had a woman tell me with great passion and assurance that there are no fish left anywhere in West Hawaii. I asked her why she thought that, and she replied that everyone knew it. I asked if she swam in the ocean. No. Did she dive? No. Did she know anything about the management strategies in place? No. She had, however, just come from an "information session" in which she heard these things from Wintner's frontman Rene Umberger.

Which brings me back to the wide-screen TV. The TV runs a 90-minute loop of undisturbed, natural activity of fish on the reef. Apparently, the footage was filmed on West Hawaii reefs. The article states: "Wintner praised the videos. 'It shows what abundance looks like,' Wintner said." At least he got that right.

~ Tina Owens, executive director of the LOST FISH Coalition, Member West Hawaii Fisheries Council and resident of Kailua-Kona.

<http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/story/26454840/videos-show-tropical-fish-swarming-states-reefs>

**Fishery Sustainable Dr. Bill Walsh, Richard Pyle and NOAA
Video:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=50L6JcMOVLQ&t=219s>

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2017 3:25 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mrgach@att.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/1/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Reed Gach	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Over the past 25 years it has been so sad to see a drastic decline in the numbers of reef fish. As a resident of Kihei Maui, we both whole hearted support this vital SB1240 bill. - Barbara Gach - Michael Reed Gach Residents of Kihei Maui

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2017 3:24 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: tpvet@optonline.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/1/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tom Polehinke	Individual	Support	No

Comments: There isn't an endless supply of fish! The abuse must end!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2017 2:56 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: michelleanderson@usa.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/1/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
michelle anderson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please stop the theft of Hawaii reefs.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2017 2:40 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: marcw@snorkelbob.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/1/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marc Walske	Individual	Support	No

Comments: SUPPORT SB1240. BAN THE AQUARIUM TRADE NOW!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2017 2:09 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: aeriewaters@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/1/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
aerie waters	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please!!!! Protect our reef fish. No-one has the right to remove these fish for profit. There is a balance and it is being disturbed by these unconscionable laws. Act now to protect our heritage. Thank you.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2017 2:03 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: anitabanana@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/1/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
anita wintner	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please pass SB1240. The permits for collecting reef fish for the aquarium trade should have been stopped years ago. No one is limiting how many more permits are sold, how many fish are taken and what types are being caught and shipped out of Hawaii. Our endemic fish are dissapearing, other reef fish are fewer than years, our reefs are suffering. Stop selling anymore permits and stop collecting until a complete EIS is done so we know what species are in danger and how to stop the extraction. If you do nothing, the reefs will suffer and future generations will not enjoy what we had in the past. Please pass this bill. Mahalo

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2017 1:46 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: keithchristie3@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/1/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keith Christie	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am a longtime Maui resident of 30 years and have been employed in the tourism industry. Yes! I support SB1240 and no new aquarium permits or the transfer of existing aquarium permits. Stop export of Hawaii reef wildlife now! Hawaii's reefs aren't for sale. Extracting marine life from the reefs for the aquarium trade is not fishing to feed a family. It is taken critical reef wildlife that is part of a vital ecosystem from the reef for entertainment. And now even more importantly at a time when the worlds reefs including Hawaii's are being devastated by many other issues, every one of these critical reef inhabitants are needed for a healthy reef future. VOTE YES for SB1240!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2017 12:45 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: drdwleung@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/1/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Doug Leung	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: To COMMITTEE ON FINANCE Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair Tuesday, April 4, 2017 3:00 P.M. Conference Room 308 I am testifying in Opposition to SB 1240 DLNR fish counts are way up and aquarium fishery is sustainable! Past Testimony I have read in favor comes from snorkelers who only go tourist areas or shallow. Aquarium fishermen do not dive shallow, they do not go to tourist areas and they do not even dive most of the Islands in question. Collection only occurs form Oahu and the Big Island. It is very clearly a user conflict with just a few small vocal groups who oppose the fishery for business reasons. The sustainable fishery worked with the State of Hawaii DLNR officials from 2012 to 2015 and together new rules for the fishery were created to ensure sustainability for forever. Catch limits, bag limits for many species and net restrictions were created; all of these laws are now in force. In 2015 a Biblical bloom in fish populations happened increasing the oceans of Hawaii with so many fish that they are now everywhere years later! Fish populations in Hawaii are better than ever. Please do not pass SB 1240 Thanks! Dr. Rossitor Waikiki Aquarium in testimony: "even if the number of fish collectors greatly increase they will still be sustainable" "aquarium fishermen should be commended for doing the new rules with the state". Dr. Bill Walsh October 2014: In my capacity as the West Hawai'i Aquatic Biologist for the Division of Aquatic Resources I have been involved in the management and biological monitoring of the West Hawai'i aquarium fishery for over 15 years. I would like to share with you some of the results of our latest monitoring efforts as they relate to the issue at hand. Two species, the Yellow Tang and Kole make up over 93% of all aquarium fish caught in West Hawai'i. Since the no-aquarium collecting Fish Replenishment Areas (FRAs) were established in 1999 (protecting 35% of the coastline), the numbers of Yellow Tang have increased in the FRAs by almost 65% while not significantly decreasing in the remaining Open Areas. In the 30'-60' depth range alone, the numbers of Yellow Tang in West Hawai'i have increased by 1.3 million fish. Similarly Kole populations have increased not only in the FRAs (by 24%) but also in the Open Areas as well (by 28%). Kole populations in the same depth range have increased by over 2 million fish! Clearly resource management efforts are working in West Hawai'i. Scientific studies which have indeed found high levels of mortality among aquarium fishes have typically been conducted in remote areas with poor handling capabilities. That is clearly not the case in

Hawai'i. ~ Dr. William Walsh Division of Aquatic Resources State of Hawaii DLNR So, in the grand scheme of things, the aquarium take on Maui is literally a drop in the bucket, representing less than 2% of the total mortality of reef animals that year. This serves to point out that undue focus and hyperbole about aquarium collecting and its impact on the reefs is dangerously shortsighted and counterproductive. We need to think and act holistically. Hope I didn't overwhelm you with numbers. (as of 2014 no aquarium fish collectors were taking fish on Maui and the number of collectors state wide have decreased and so has catch.) ~ Dr. DAN A. POLHEMUS Division of Aquatic Resources State of Hawaii DLNR There are a few "outsiders," by which I mean people who don't live here, who have decided that West Hawaii doesn't know what it's doing. This group, headed by Maui resident Robert Wintner, and Wintner's frontman Rene Umberger, decided it was going to be the ones to get aquarium collecting banned, to make themselves the "rescuers of the reef." Clearly if the goal is to get rid of the industry and management prevents that goal being reached, then discrediting the benefits and successes of management would seem the only way left to go. And so they have taken that path. They have held community meetings and displayed a lot of false or twisted data, quoting from papers outdated by more than 15 years, and "re-interpreting" data from scientific papers. They have been telling people that "there are no fish left," which is patently untrue. I once had a woman tell me with great passion and assurance that there are no fish left anywhere in West Hawaii. I asked her why she thought that, and she replied that everyone knew it. I asked if she swam in the ocean. No. Did she dive? No. Did she know anything about the management strategies in place? No. She had, however, just come from an "information session" in which she heard these things from Wintner's frontman Rene Umberger. Which brings me back to the wide-screen TV. The TV runs a 90-minute loop of undisturbed, natural activity of fish on the reef. Apparently, the footage was filmed on West Hawaii reefs. The article states: "Wintner praised the videos. 'It shows what abundance looks like,' Wintner said." At least he got that right. ~ Tina Owens, executive director of the LOST FISH Coalition, Member West Hawaii Fisheries Council and resident of Kailua-Kona.

<http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/story/26454840/videos-show-tropical-fish-swarming-states-reefs> Fishery Sustainable Dr. Bill Walsh, Richard Pyle and NOAA Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=50L6JcMOVLQ&t=219s>

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2017 12:43 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kurt@oceandefenders.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/1/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kurt Lieber	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Support SB 1240. BAN THE AQUARIUM TRADE, NOW AND FOREVER!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2017 12:41 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: cbaileyretired@outlook.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/1/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cliff	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I am completely in favor of the elimination of all collectin of reef fish for aquariums. It seems to me that this is an easy decision to come to for the leadership of Hawaii. The almost wholesale taking of this asset of your state and it's residents and your visitors is absolutely unthinkable. Please do the right thing for all of us who love this almost perfect place.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2017 12:37 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: msch4@ccmaui.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/1/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Madge Schaefer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please end the aquarium trade taking of our reef fish. Vote to end issuing new permits and phase out the old permits. Provide enforcement. On behalf of the fish and our reefs, please support this Bill. Thank you.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2017 12:37 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: rlrogers05@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/1/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robin Rogers	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: NO NEW PERMITS EVER & FREEZE CURRENT PERMITS!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2017 12:18 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: nishone@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/1/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nishone Weymouth	Individual	Support	No

Comments: My mom was born on Oahu and I was married on Kauai. I love Hawaii and I love snorkeling. I support SB 1240 because it is our civic duty as humans to protect what we love, especially when it does not have a voice of it's own! Trafficking is a horrendous and disrespectful business. No new reef permits! No transfer of aquarium permits! I want to protect the reef because I want to be able to snorkel during my retirement in one of the most beautiful locations in the world, but retirement is still 17 years away. The highlight of that is seeing an abundant amount of underwater wildlife!! I hope you choose to protect this special and sacred habitat!!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2017 11:58 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: duberstem001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/1/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeanne Duberstein	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2017 11:46 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: damack.3@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/1/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
david amack	Individual	Support	No

Comments: It is time to recognize that "aquarium collectors" is another term for "poachers." Those involved in this ruinous activity are doing the same thing to the natural environment as poachers who export parrots from South America. As for the argument that aquarium collecting is an industry and stopping it would be taking away jobs, I suppose those who break into homes and steal could make the same case. But a little common sense tells us this is not so. The practice of large-scale removal of an integral component of the fragile reef ecosystem is not a sustainable practice, and never has been. The ancient Hawaiians knew this, and declared areas KAPU, with severe punishment for offenders. SB 1240 is your chance to do the right thing and revoke all aquarium collecting permits and ban the practice altogether. By acting, you can restore the natural balance of life on Hawaii's reef ecosystem.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2017 11:44 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: chacopress@earthlink.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/1/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marnie Gaede	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: NO NEW PERMITS EVER! Freeze current permits till DLNR can manage this renegade reef pillage with meaning. I SUPPORT SB1240. BAN THE AQUARIUM TRADE NOW!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2017 11:06 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: stephmanera@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/1/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephanie Manera	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: Chai Massage Therapy <hilomassage@mac.com>
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 10:23 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: SB1240 SD2 HD1; Testimony for FIN; 4/4/17 3PM Conference Room 308

I SUPPORT Bill SB1240. It's time to protect reefs from unsustainable taking of herbivorous fish for the aquarium trade. There needs to be a moratorium set so reefs have a chance to reflourish and proper sustainable practices / limits are in place. These fish are critical to balanced reef ecology when the reefs are stressed.

Mahalo,

Wil McClaren

To
Hawaii State legislature
April 2017

From
Kenneth J. Matsui
Individual
Other roles
Hawaii State Advisory Committee Plants and Animals
Fish Collector Permit Holder
Petland President
Pets Pacifica President

Regarding

Testimony against SB1240

Warning I am writing as an individual and my opinions are not necessarily representative of Hawaii State Advisory Committee on Plants and Animals. I do have a conflict in that the bill will increase the value of my fish collector permit significantly if passed. I write because this bill is wrong in just about every other way other than my self-interest.

For over 20 years, every Hawaii governor has asked for my recommendations on live organisms challenges facing the state. I have volunteered my time to help reduce the impact of these problems. My experience caring for thousands of fish, plants and other organisms for over 50 years helps me better than most understand the problems we face.

Let us start with the beginning we are the cause of our algae growth problem. We pump millions of gallons of fertilizer out of our sewage system every day. We drive cars that release CO₂ that aerate algae every day from our mouths, our power plants, and our cars. We eat fish like mahi, papio, kumu and tuna which if not eaten would consume smaller fish primarily herbivorous at 3% of body weight every day. Over a year that makes the 1 lb. of fish eaten today mean 10 lbs. of herbivorous fish probably not eaten just over the next year alone.

Our population explosion from half million when I was born to over a million now means much more load on our environment. Take this fluorescent bulb above us. The mercury eventually ends up in the ocean poisoning our kids if we allow them to eat fish. If the fish collectors send aquarium fish out of state the mercury does not build up as quickly in our food fish.

For another example think about the soda you drank recently. The soda probably contained phosphoric acid. The phosphorus is an important fertilizer for plants as it is released from the sewage outfall. The ammonia is converted from our protein to nitrite and nitrate in our sewage treatment plant. Nitrate is released into the ocean which is a valuable nitrogen fertilizer like the phosphorus.

You will see that most experts share my opinion that fish collection and exporting in most cases does no harm to environment. You will also find they are experts because they have studied the live organisms involved. By cutting off access to live fish you limit their ability to learn more. You also limit the ability of future experts to learn more about their care. Most public schools lack live animals or plants. They are not the schools of the 60s and 70s that had science curriculum improvement studies to expose kids to the complexity of real life organisms and the interrelationships that are so important. Do you really want your next generation of experts to learn solely through tamogochi computer learning?

Already the younger generation is often so poorly informed they create dishonest ads such as sponsored by our state of Hawaii Department of Health such as the sugary drinks ad or the vaccination ads.

In the sugary drinks ads the state argues to not gain weight you should not drink sugary drinks but low fat milk and juice. As a practical matter both alternatives contain about the same calories as the sugary drinks. Protein and non-sugar carbs generally contain the same calories as sugar. Fat contains twice the caloric density of sugar.

In the vaccine ad the government argues that all kids should get their free DOE vaccinations so no kids get sick. In reality there are no cure-all vaccines. In fact vaccines work only about 50% of the time for diseases they are supposed to prevent. They have little effect on non-targeted disease. Vaccines do make kids allergic to eggs or sensitive to vaccine sick. Vaccines are usually cultured in eggs. Some people develop overreactions to vaccines causing serious damage.

I hope you can see from my testimony that real contact with live organisms really makes a difference.

I think that our overdependence on imported goods results in a trade imbalance that we only can remedy by selling our land resulting in richer foreigners. Hence our kids leave to become foreigners so they can afford homes of their own. By harvesting our own home grown fish we recycle and better care for our environment. We keep our wealth here rather than exporting our wealth so others can own our Hawaii.

Please stop sb 1240.

finance8 - Joy

From: Rosemary Karlsson <rosemarykarlsson@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2017 6:13 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: Support SB1240

I ask you to support SB1240 to prohibit the issuance of new aquarium collection permits. No one needs to have fish in tanks, they are only for decoration or entertainment. If people want to see fish, they can go snorkeling or SCUBA diving.

Rosemary Karlsson
16-1885 Uilani Drive
PO Box 492266
Keaau, HI 96749
808-966-6589
rosemarykarlsson@gmail.com

Rep.S.Luke Chair
Rep.T.Cullen V.Chair

4/04/17

K.Rhoads
Baker
Keith-Agaran
Espero
Inouye

The jewel of the Pacific, the Northwestern islands Papahanaumokuakeas' reefs are protected from activities except for research or data gathering and maybe cultural reasons. Lets keep it that way but because of its northern and unpopulated location, these reefs will still succumb to bleaching, algae growth, unknowing imbalances, reef destroying surf, and other unknown environmental conditions. But on the populated Hawaiian Islands we'll stop the taking of fish so everything is good right. Everything is so political nowadays. LOOK at the more than 40 years of fishing, and stop these bills at the source. DLNR have more important task to perform than these feel good laws that will not solve a thing, but destroy our industry and jobs. And a new direction by younger bolder lawmakers may cause many problems, clogging our courts rather than solving long ongoing problems affecting our tax paying citizens.

Glenn

Fukuda

662

Hoohulu PI

Pearl City, HI 96782

finance1 - Ian

From: Alexis Jamison <jamisona@hawaii.edu>
Sent: Sunday, April 2, 2017 12:59 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: Support SB1240

Please stop the aquarium trade. It is crucial that we protect our environment and the creatures that live in it, including in our oceans. Hawaii is a unique place and it cannot be taken for granted that we have ocean wildlife that need our protection from the aquarium trade. Please pass SB1240.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 10:21 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: lregan@duluthmn.gov
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laura Regan	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I would like to express my support for SB1240 and am asking for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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I am writing to express my support for SB1240 and ask for no new permits to be granted and for a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 1:05 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: gwendellyn@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gwendellyn Cruise	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Honorable Committee, I am in support of SB 1240. When I first heard about aquarium collection in the State of Hawaii and the numbers involved, I was shocked. I had no idea that this was going on and it feels to me like a rape of our cherished natural treasures. It's shocking that our reef fish are not better protected. It's shocking that the people of Hawaii have gained nothing from the depletion of our fish for the aquarium trade. This is something that should be stopped now, and the citizens of this State should be able to have input as to how to proceed, if at all. This feels very personal to me, not because I am a fisherman or an aquarium owner or a scientist or benefit in any commercial way from reef fish. It feels personal because my family and I have always deeply treasured the reef fish around our Island home. It's heartbreaking to see them taken in this way and, on top of that, to learn that most of them die within a year. Please cast your vote in support of SB 1240 to stop this madness. Thank you.

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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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 1:05 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: leeseve@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elissa Wagner	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I want to express my support for SB1240 and ask for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade. Thank you.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 1:04 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: craiglom@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Craig Lomnicki	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please vote to prohibit the issuance of new aquarium permits and the transfer of existing permits. Millions of visitors travel to Hawaii each year and many of them are exploring our unique reef system. Millions of dollars are spent and the islands economy depends on a healthy and sustainable reef system. Please pass this sensible measure that will gradually reduce the commercial harvesting of Hawaii's natural resources. Mahalo for you consideration

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 12:58 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jvaret@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joseph Varet	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I visit my wife's family on the Big Island 2-3 times each year, and I urge that you please vote to support SB1240 and BAN THE AQUARIUM TRADE FROM HAWAII once and for all! Hawaii's priceless natural ocean resources are far more important now and to future generations than the amusement of fish collectors. Please be on the right side of history and protect Hawaii's splendor by fighting the pointless destruction of reefs for aquarium collection. Your children and grandchildren and great grandchildren will thank you!! thank you, Joseph Varet

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 12:56 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: walterk74@comcast.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Walter Kuciej	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support SB1240, and no new permits for the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 12:53 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: consulraaj@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carmen Elisa Bonilla-Jones	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I think it is great that Hawaii is showing the way on protecting not only tropical fish but the oceans (once the ban on the commercial aquarium trade goes into effect there should be no more harvesting and polluting of the ocean). I definitely support SB 1240 and ask that no new permits be authorized and a ban be placed on the aquarium trade. Thank you for reading my comment.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 12:48 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: starriderhi@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gregg Gruwell	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The reef fish are in great decline! I am a retired Naval Officer as well as UH employee. I started vacationing in Kona starting in the early 80s. You could walk down Ali Drive and see schools of Yellow Tang from the sidewalk. Those fish are long gone. I spent three months in Kona last winter and was horrified to see such few fish. Many species seem to have disappeared! Boxfish, puffers and many wrasses were nowhere to be seen. It is time for the State to sop this horrible practice. Stop issuing permits and stop collection! DLNR HAS NO IDEA how many fish are left. Their stance that it is a sustainable practice is a joke. They have never counted the fish. Alton Miyasaka is a aquarium hobbyist himself and wrote a booklet on how to collect and remove fish rrom Hawaii. He is not a neutral party. (https://books.google.com/books/about/Hawaii_s_Aquarium_Fish_Industry.html?id=61BGGwAACAAJ) Please save the fish before it's too late. Mahalo

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 12:44 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: cwesterberg@earthlink.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
cathy westerberg	Individual	Support	No

Comments: YES, I support SB1240 and no new aquarium permits or the transfer of existing aquarium permits. The aquarium trade is not sustainable. It is not about catching fish to feed Hawaii and not about the future. It is extraction of reef wildlife for export and entertainment.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 12:42 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: m3magda@buziaczek.pl
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Magdalena Szaszorowska	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am writing to express my support for SB1240 and to ask for no new permits and a complete ban on the aquarium trade. Yours Sincerely, Magdalena Szaszorowska.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 12:39 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: nomargarciaparra372@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Caputo	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Protect fish and sea turtles!!!!!!!!!!!!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 12:38 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: myworld728@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Caroline	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Our reefs, vital for cultural tradition, recreation, tourism and storm surge protection are increasingly threatened by rising temperatures, pollution and acidification. Hawaii must stop issuing commercial aquarium permits for reef wildlife extraction. One compromise is to allow existing permittees to be able to renew their permits (but not transfer them) and to not allow any new permits.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 12:38 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: lindsmuggl@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lindsay Mugglestone	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support SB1240 and ask for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 12:31 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: doglady8@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cristy Murray	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am writing in support of SB 1240 and asking for no new permits and a complete ban on the aquarium trade Thank you.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 12:29 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jimmieleelunsford@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jimmie Lunsford	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I express my support for SB1240 and ask for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 12:29 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: gardenwisdom@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cathyann Jones	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please do the responsible thing with our reefs and our fishes and our planet, and pass SB1240 today. Thank you. I love diving in Hawaiian waters and will continue to do so if there are beautiful fish to enjoy. Thank you.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 12:20 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: konakatr@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kathryn Reynolds	Individual	Support	No

Comments: BAN THE AQUARIUM TRADE NOW!!!!!!! For Hawaii for the ancestors for the life of the ocean. Tourists don't come here to see NOTHING or to watch people steal the fish from their home. Nature should ALWAYS have the attention of "elected" officials....unbiased by bribes or campaign donations. Once they are gone..they are gone. Do not make it YOUR fault. Do what is PONO for the Land of Hawaii ...for the Life of the Oceans.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 12:19 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: doctord@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
diane shepherd	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support SB 1240. Given the ongoing degradation of Hawai'i reefs, it is unconscionable to allow reef fish to be taken for the frivolous aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 12:17 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jhoaglund@earthlink.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Judith Hoaglund	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I express my strongest support for SB1240. I ask that no new permits be granted and/or a complete ban on the aquarium trade be enacted to protect what little remains of this magnificent and irreplaceable sea life.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 12:10 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: csaverino@cox.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
cassio saverino	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support and pass this bill to protect Hawaii's national treasure, it's wildlife. As a annual tourist to your fine state, I would be sorely disappointed if you did not.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 11:59 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: lisaclarkkahn@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Clark-Kahn	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please do all you can to make sure there are no more new permits or a complete ban on the inhumane immoral aquarium trade. We should be moving away from this behavior not supporting and creating more of this behavior.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 11:49 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: arbarello@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Fernando Lopez Arbarello	Individual	Support	No

Comments: SUPPORT SB1240. BAN THE AQUARIUM TRADE NOW!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 11:49 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: nicole4770@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nicole Weber	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support SB1240.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 11:45 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: emmytwin2@cox.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Emily Dickinson-Adams	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support SB1240! Thank you.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 11:41 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kmetevier@dickinsonwright.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kathleen Metevier-Rizza	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support the passage of SB1240, and further, I support a complete ban on the taking of fish from the wild to use in the aquarium trade. Thank you.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 11:35 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: luddite33dirk@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kirk francis	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: My family and I wholeheartedly SUPPORT SB1240 !!!! Mahalo, Kirk Francis and family Laupahoehoe.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 11:31 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jrmccoy598@sbcglobal.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joan Ellen Mccoy	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support SB1240 and would ask for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 11:28 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: noenoebc@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
noenoe barney-campbell	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support SB1240 and ask for no new permits and a complete ban on the aquarium trade. We must protect our coral reefs as well as sea turtles, dolphins, sharks, and their ocean habitats. They form the basis for life on our islands and must be preserved and protections enhanced in order to protect against the effects of climate change that are happening at a pace faster than originally thought. If we lose this fight, we lose our ability to live on our islands. Mahalo, Noenoe

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 11:27 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: brwrj1@msn.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John R Brewer	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support for SB1240 and am asking you to support no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 11:23 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: teddylucylinda@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Linda Fighera	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please end the commercial aquarium trade and protect Hawaii's wildlife. Respect our creatures and our water. Balance is the key to survival, and each creature serves a purpose and has the right to live freely and healthfully. Thank you.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 11:23 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: hooppole@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jodi Rodar	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I strongly support SB1240 and ask for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important issue. Sincerely, Dr. Jodi Rodar

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 11:18 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: csssadek@gte.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
CARMEN SÁNCHEZ SADEK	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support SB1240 and ask for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 11:16 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: star3609@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gina Bates	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The State must STOP issuing commercial aquarium permits for reef wildlife extraction. The reefs & other sea creatures NEED & DESERVE PROTECTION!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 11:15 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: bonnie7us@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bonnie Hudsick	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support SB1240, requesting no NEW permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 11:12 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mark.hollinrake@ntlworld.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Hollinrake	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I want to express my support for SB1240 and ask for no new permits and a complete ban on the aquarium trade

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 11:11 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: bjlgrobertson@bellsouth.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Robertson	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: We support SB1240 and ask for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 11:06 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: biotiki@comcast.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eada Webb	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Our oceans are in danger from human activities and I oppose stripping wildlife from it's natural environments which support healthy ecosystems and the health of our planet. I therefore support a complete ban on the aquarium trade. Thank you, Eada J Webb

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 11:05 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: buena.80@mail.ru
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alisa	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I want to express my support for SB1240! We need to end the commercial aquarium trade and protect Hawaii's wildlife thank you!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 11:04 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: amontapert@roadrunner.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
anthony montapert	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support SB 1240 and I ask for a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 10:58 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: bmacraith@reninet.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bonnie MacRaith	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support SB1240 as a way to protect native Hawaiian fish, reefs and other marine life, especially turtles! These treasures can and must be protected! Thank You, Bonnie MacRaith

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 10:59 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: pamdenhartog@cox.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pam Den Hartog	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I want to express my support for SB1240 and ask for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 10:58 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: oahu@snorkelnet.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carley Barrick	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I SUPPORT SB1240! BAN THE AQUARIUM TRADE NOW! Please save our reefs!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 10:58 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: nativeofny1@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peter Wood	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As one who visits Hawaii, I support SB1240 and a complete ban on the aquarium trade! Thank you!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 10:52 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: margebonar@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marjorie Bonar	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The success of population rebound in exclusion areas highlights the importance of protecting our reefs from human predation. Collecting for the aquarium trade destroys the reef by removing grazers, kills far more fish than can be replenished and prevents the edible reef fish from growing to table size. Just as flowers can last and delight in the garden far longer than in a vase, tropical fish are best viewed in the ocean, not behind glass.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 1:23 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jaenl@andell.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jaen Lawrence	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support SB1240 and allow no new permits. Better yet, please enforce a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 1:23 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: fanning_susan@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Fanning	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please support SB1240 and please do not issue any new permits or a put a complete ban on the aquarium trade. Let's create groundswell to save the sea turtles, the dolphins, the sharks, and their magnificent ocean habitats.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 1:09 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: Ruheef@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ruhee Baltz	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support SB1240 and request that no permits are issued along with a complete ban on the aquarium trade!!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 1:09 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kshimata@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kathy Shimata	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I believe our reef fish need protection from the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 1:47 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jgeiger@mrwlaw.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Geiger	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please pass the bill so that the near shore aquatic life in Hawaii can be sustained for our children and future generations.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 1:55 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: swsibemom2@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Angela Buckley	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support for SB1240 and and no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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I oppose the SB1240 bill. Growing up in New Orleans and in Colorado I would never have had the chance to learn about reefs if collection permits did not exist. Particularly, Hawaiian reef fish have led me to follow them to their source to better understand their environment around the big island. Pictures alone do not convey the importance of protecting the reef. I know I would not have moved to Hawai'i to study marine science at the University of Hawaii at Hilo if I did not have an aquarium growing up. Having an aquarium allows the inhabitants to be completely dependent on you. The objective of having an aquarium is to enjoy the life inside of it; therefore, aquarists want the best conditions possible to enjoy their aquarium as long as possible. Like our aquariums, we want the ocean to survive and thrive for as long as possible. Unlike fishing, aquariums allow the fish to live and even breed once they are taken from the ocean. There are no regulations regarding fishing for food consumption, which go after the largest breeding fish; however, there are strict regulations over the collections of aquarium fish, which do not take out the largest breeders. Additionally, our appetites will never cease; unlike aquariums which have a maximum capacity. Tourists come each year to visit the beautiful Hawaiian reefs but only the people who are financially able to travel. Moreover, only physically fit people may swim in the ocean to see the reefs and for those that do not necessarily have an affinity for the ocean, aquariums show the importance of the reefs without being present in them. Places like the Mokupapapa Discovery Center in downtown Hilo have educated many bystanders about the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands and atolls, a place which the majority of residents will never see. The Mokupapapa Discovery Center's aquarium also showcases newly discovered species found at depths that only heavily trained scientific divers will reach. Furthermore, in my own experience Hawaiian reef fishes have inspired me to learn how to captive breed them in order to lower the number of fish taken from the ocean for the aquarium trade. Without adding new fish to the breeding population, their offspring develop mutations and unfit individuals. I hope the bill does not pass as it will negatively affect me, the aquarium trade, and future marine scientists.

Mahalo,

Andrea Ehlers

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 1:59 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: dougmillerhawaii@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

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

Comments: Stop the aquarium trade from taking our fish please. It is the right thing to do and no individuals should be able to capitalize on living creatures that belong to everyone here on the Islands.

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From: Nalani Merrill <nalanim@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 11:45 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: Fw: SB1240

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Nalani Merrill <nalanim@yahoo.com>
To: "sintestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov" <sintestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 10:26 AM
Subject: SB1240

Aloha Kakou,

I wish to testify on the reef fish bill SB1240. My position is the state is entrusted to care for the health of the Hawaiian waters and that trust has been violated. Allowing the Tropical Reef Fishermen to devastate the populations of fish unchecked for so many years has had a detrimental affect . Our reefs supports the entire ocean ecosystem and by disrupting the natural growth patterns the fishermen have affected all the fishing industries in Hawaii and the Pacific ocean.

As a resident of Ho'okena in South Kona, I have noticed a slow rejuvenation of our reef here at Ho'okena beach. Members of our Community association KUPA have participated with DLNR to close our area to the Tropical Fish collectors. The regrowth of many species is slow.

Sadly the Hawaiian cultural value of taking only what one needs from the ocean to survive is not followed by commercial enterprises. The raping of our reefs state wide has gone unchecked for years.

I understand that the lively hood of many fishermen is at stake. Like the construction worker who must seek employment else where when a job is completed. Now the Fishermen involved in the destruction of our reef populations state wide, need to look else where for their lively hood.

Please eliminate or at least severely limit those who continue the mass destruction of our State's reef populations.

DLNR has paid thousands of dollars on studies that may not accurately reflect the true devastation of our reefs. These studies are done like a Kodak picture. A sample today, and perhaps again in three months and continuing. A report is developed with an outcome that was predetermined before the study began to support an issue with a political agenda. It is difficult to have confidences in our political system when the health of our state is involved.

Please make every effort to preserve what remains of our reefs here in Hawaii. The health of the generations yet unborn are counting on you to do the pono (right) thing. Hawaii's health is in your hands!

Malama Pono,
Charmaine Nalani Merrill
86-4237 Mamalahoa Hwy
Captain Cook, Hawaii 96704
Mailing address:
P.O. Box 723
Honaunau, Hawaii 96726

FIN-Jo

From: Beth Leeds <bethleeds@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 12:52 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: SB1240BAN aquarium taking of fish

Aloha!

Re: SB 1240 SD2 H1
Conference room 308
Hearing 4/4/17
Submitting Testimony from
Beth Leeds

I ask you emphatically to ban the taking of fish from our Hawaiian ocean and reefs as our fish need to be swimming in their home waters and not locked up in a fish tank or dying en route to a tank. We have a delicate ecosystem surrounding our islands and this activity does not benefit is... only takers profiteering from our nature!

**BAN
PROTECT OUR RARE AND BEAUTIFUL FISH!**

Mahalo,
Beth Leeds
North Shore resident

Sent from my iPhone

April 3, 2017

RE: Testimony in support of SB1240, HD1

Aloha Chair Luke and Committee Members:

I strongly support SB1240 HD1, that will “humanely” end the barbaric policy and practice of allowing Hawaii reef wildlife to be captured for the commercial aquarium industry - in unlimited numbers (for almost all species) and an unlimited number of permits. The “humanely” part is for the collectors, as the bill is a compromise that grandfathers’ in all existing permittees. In the last hearing with these proposed changes, only one person (a collector) testified against the bill, at least in part and if it included any temporary moratorium language; all other testifiers were in support, and there were many. The written testimony also reflects support for the concept of this bill from many fishermen, some collectors themselves (and some with comments), as well as many advocates in the Native Hawaiian community and environmental organizations.

In the last hearing, DLNR deferred to the legislature on policy but continues to deny that there are environmental effects each and every time they grant a a commercial aquarium collection permit; they have never limited the total number of permits that can be granted and each collector can extract unlimited numbers of reef wildlife to sell. It seems bizarre today, that anyone would argue that taking of reef wildlife out of the wild has no significant effect on the environment, but it is egregious given the reality that the agency in charge of protecting the public resources actually allows the unlimited taking of Hawaii reef wildlife for commercial aquarium collectors.

I am concerned there has been no recent public discussion about the science or any peer review of the DLNR collected data from the few areas where they have surveyed (even though the Environmental Council informed the agency of new scientific information in October 2015).

The economic effects are shocking as well. The legal reported value of what permittees make each year selling Hawaii reef wildlife for commercial aquarium purposes is about \$2 million per year (although the estimated total including legal and illegal Hawaii reef wildlife is about \$20 million per year). Tourism benefits from keeping the wildlife in the wild far outweigh the commercial aquarium industry, even if we included the estimated illegal trafficking values. And tourism is just the tip of the iceberg, in terms of economic benefits from reef wildlife. We cannot continue to give it all away, exporting what’s most valuable for pennies to the dollar (not quite) while also sending the reef wildlife out of state and to a death, likely within the year.

In the last hearing, DLNR stated it “could not possibly establish catch limits for all reef species by 2019,...” I agree. DLNR should not have to do any report. They don’t need any funding to promote commercial activities, at least. They should shift their funds or lose the funds they currently use to promote commercial activities (at least until they are shown to benefit the state). The staff could instead take the initiative to work with the existing permittees to establish protocols as well as goals for how to assist permitted collectors with new job opportunities - if they so desire.

We know so little about our precious reef wildlife. The collectors themselves would make excellent researchers and scientists as we begin to look at more ways to conserve and protect what limited resources we have left.

Please keep the language as is or strengthen the language to more quickly end the commercial collection and sale of Hawaii reef wildlife; the DLNR report is not relevant.

Mahalo for providing the opportunity to testify.

Jessica Wooley

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 2:30 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: boyne@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jonathan Boyne	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I ask for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 2:19 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: am.curious.sometimes@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maureen Porcelli	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support SB1240 and ask for no new permits, or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 2:11 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jgbrenner1@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jared Brenner	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support SB1240 and hope you will allow no new permits or institute a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 2:08 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: safutrell@ucdavis.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sherrill Futrell	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a frequent tourist who is terribly saddened by the devastation of Hawaii's reefs and the steep decline in numbers of fish I've noticed in the past 4 decades, I totally support SB1240 and ask for A COMPLETE BAN on the aquarium trade. It is sickening to me to see fewer fish every time I snorkel off the Kona Coast. Hawaii has always been lax in protecting its natural heritage, and I'm angry about it. I have been spending more of my money in the Caribbean, where countries commonly care much more for their wildlife than Hawaii does! Sad and silly!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 2:01 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: williampmcmullin@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William McMullin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill because it ends the commercial aquarium trade and protects Hawaii's wildlife fish, their habitat and sea turtle habitat.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:11 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: allens@snorkelnet.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
allen schipper	Individual	Support	No

Comments: NO NEW PERMITS EVER! Freeze current permits till DLNR can manage this renegade reef pillage with MEANING.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:08 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: abv5@cornell.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alex Vollmer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As an active SCUBA diver, I strongly support SB1240 and ask for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:07 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: bob@wescraft.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Halem	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Though not a resident of Hawaii, I am a frequent visitor. I come for the scuba diving. Over the last decade I have noticed a severe drop in the presence of the fish I have come to love on the reefs. Just the reduction in the number of yellow tangs is startling. If the fish populations are further reduced, it will be a strong incentive to go other places for my diving. Mexico is closer and less expensive. But I love Hawaii. Please stop the fish collectors.

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 2:55 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: Dancingbl@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Beth Levine	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please support SB1240 and request that there are no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:19 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: gecko.hale@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sherron Bull	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support passage of SB1240. A healthy reef and aquatic life are critical to both Hawaii culture and our environment, as well as in attracting tourism dollars. Our reefs are one of the most beautiful and striking aspects of life in Hawaii and should be nurtured, not exploited. I also strongly urge that a complete ban on reef collections for the aquarium trade also be imposed, and that no new permits be issued for such collections. It is a tragedy that so many of our reef fish collected for the aquarium trade die in capture and/or transit, some of which cannot even survive without the local food sources they depend on. Once in an aquarium, they are doomed to die. This fish collections depletes our natural resources and reef life, leads to damage to the coral, and lessens the beauty of our reefs -- both to locals and to tourists. We must keep our fish home here in Hawaii where they belong and benefit all our citizens. Mahalo for your consideration, Sherron Bull Kona

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:18 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: fishermud@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
scott	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha Legislators, I oppose sb1240 for how the bill is being ramrodded through the lawmaking process. All the opposing testimonials are non-factual and based hearsay or second-hand story-talk aimed at emotionally bullying those in favor of the aquarium fish trade. Phrases such as "the aquarium trade is unnatural, unnecessary, and wasteful with high levels of wildlife mortality" or "It saddens me when I am near a reef and there is little or no sea life" are emotional switches that are meant to hide the fact that the FACTS all points to a healthy, sustainable, and humane industry. There would be no aquarium trade left if all the fish were gone, or even seriously depleted. While I am not surprised that those private citizens ranting against the industry are both ignorant of the true facts and/or choose to ignore the facts, I am sorely disappointed in the way our State legislature has handled this issue. By intentionally failing to inform and educate themselves on the issues by not reading the mountains of scientific evidence available, and by ignoring the State's own scientists as well as those from the mainland, Hawaii's State legislators are doing a huge disservice to the State as well as showing yet again that those with the deep pockets (snorkel bob, nature conservancy, sierra club., etc) are the ones who really make the laws. If Hawaii's legislators truly want to save Hawaii's oceans and reefs, why don't they shut down the hundreds of golf courses that pollute the ocean with toxic runoff throughout the State? What about dealing with the industrial waste from Honolulu and its environs? Please stop being hypocritical and politically correct by ignoring the facts of the case. Look at the facts, base your opinions on them, and then have a backbone to vote the just way, not the way the money and politically correct winds blow. Hawaii workers and families' livelihoods are at stake and in your hands. Mahalo,

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: tashie4you@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
natasha exner	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please help keep Hawaii's coral reefs, fish, and ocean beautiful and protected!!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:15 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

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

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:15 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: bfriswold27@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
brooke friswold	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:14 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: evelynb40@yahoo.ca
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Evelyn Ball	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support SB1240 and no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: vharrison15@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victoria Harrison	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:24 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: Jwilchacky@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Wilchacky	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Fish and other wildlife should be kept in their natural habitats.

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:24 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: gracekunze18@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Grace Kunze	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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IT IS TIME TO END COMMERCIAL AQUARIUM CAPTURE AND TRAFFICKING TO PROTECT HAWAII CORAL REEF WILDLIFE

Our reefs, vital for cultural tradition, recreation, tourism and storm surge protection are increasingly threatened by rising temperatures, pollution and acidification. A bill moving forward in the legislature (SB1240 HD1) may address long-standing concerns about the impacts of commercial aquarium trade on Hawaii reef health. Many people already testified and asked the State to stop issuing new permits and to phase out aquarium extraction of Hawaii reef wildlife.

Commercial capture of reef wildlife (e.g., tangs, surgeonfishes, seahorses, eels, shrimp, lobster) for aquarium use is poorly regulated with no limit on permits, no environmental review, no real enforcement. In contrast, corals are protected by law.

Aquarium collectors extract mostly herbivores, imperative to reef balance and resiliency. The narrow fringing reef of Hawaii is the world's third largest source, 2.6 times higher the reported catch than from Australia's Great Barrier Reef. Catch reports show 650,000 animals extracted on average, per year; catch report compliance is known to be low and brings the estimated number to between one and five (1-5) million animals/year.

Most wildlife extracted will die within a year of extraction, from cumulative trauma in capture, handling, long transits, and unhealthy conditions. Catch methods like tickle sticks, sand-mimicking tarps as well as anchors and equipment on reefs damage corals (which are protected by law).

State government "management" promotes reef wildlife scarcity in sharp contrast to how Native Hawaiians traditionally managed nearshore waters, to promote abundance, and in contrast to Hawaiian values of respect and responsibility for our natural resources.

Currently, wildlife is taken practically for free, undermining incentives for successful aquaculture, which could help conserve wildlife and create jobs.

Healthy reefs and wildlife provide a broad range of economic benefits for local residents and businesses throughout Hawaii, including our number one industry - tourism.

We must take action fast. Let's get it right!

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:29 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: cafw@yandex.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Celeste W.	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support SB1240 and ask for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade. Protect Hawaii's wildlife fish! Protect fish and sea turtle habitat.

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: evaunit2001@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Yazmin Gonzalez	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support SB1240 and ask for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:30 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: brookeashleyreina@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
brooke reina	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:31 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: august.michaelle@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
auggie michaelle	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: we have to make a stand & be strong against the annihilation of our beautiful ocean & its unique inhabitants....don't choose allowing the continuing destruction of our waters or we'll end up like the phillipines, california or puerto rico who have destroyed their marine life & health... keep our waters pure, blue & not sell it out

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:33 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: dharmaproctor@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dharma	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:34 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: paynele@g.cofc.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
lexie Payne	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:34 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: gavelgoddess@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Janet Thew	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support a full ban on the aquarium trade in Hawaii. Sustaining wildlife and tourism are far, far more important than this industry and its lobbyists.

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:51 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: flyingcat95033@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michelle Waters	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Hello, My husband and I are frequent visitors to Hawaii who love snorkeling and Hawaiian reefs. We support SB1240 and would like to see no new capture permits be issues, and complete ban on the aquarium trade be enacted. Thank you. Sincerely, Michelle Waters Los Gatos, CA

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 4:06 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jettholladay@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jett Holladay	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Save the fish because they are cool. Also we are killing them which effects the planet in a negative way.

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 4:07 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: allison.huba@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Allison	Individual	Support	No

Comments: If our oceans die, we die.

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:52 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: erinkohout@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erin Kohout	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a frequent visitor to Hawaii, with family on Oahu, the beauty and diversity of the oceans are very important to me.

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 Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 4:34 PM
 To: FINTestimony
 Cc: lyndsey.ec@gmail.com
 Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lyndsey Butler	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 4:17 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: terence_griffin@sbcglobal.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
terence griffin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support SB1240 and ask for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.
Sincerely, Terence Griffin

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LATE

William Tovey South
47-657 Hui Ulili Street
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

April 3, 2017

RE: Testimony of support for SB1240, HD1

Dear Committee Members:

I wholeheartedly support the revised SB1240, HD1. I am a businessman. I have a BS in Zoology and a MS in Tropical Agriculture. Both my undergraduate and graduate studies involved interactions between species.

I have learned to appreciate the powerful symbioses that evolved with living creatures on Earth. The existence of most plants, animals, and fungi are so intertwined that with the elimination of one seemingly small player, an entire ecosystem can collapse. This was illustrated when the California sea otter was nearly wiped out. The great schools of fish disappeared from the Pacific Ocean off the California coast, followed by the fishermen. Scientists discovered that sea otters ate species of sea urchins that dined on kelp forests that, in turn, provided sanctuary to fish species. And kelp forests take CO₂ out of the atmosphere through photosynthesis! I think you can see where I am going with this argument.

Many herbivorous fish species have symbiotic relationships with coral reefs. Just one of many examples is the Yellow Tang that eats algae that would otherwise smother the coral reefs. The unchecked growth of algae can contribute to coral bleaching and, potentially, the collapse of the entire ocean ecosystem. The Yellow Tang is apparently the favorite species for the local aquarium collectors. The reduction in their numbers alone could greatly harm Hawaii's ocean ecosystem.

The collection of Hawaii's reef fish must be limited, pending more intensive independent research to determine various species populations and dynamics. SB1240, HD1 helps address another part of the puzzle in our quest to determine the importance of all these interactions.

I support modifications to the Bill that prohibit issuance of new aquarium permits and transfer of existing aquarium permits. Lastly, I also support modifications to the Bill that were added to implement an increased responsibility by DLNR to collate and discharge information relevant to improved reef protection.

LATE

Dale Jamison
3179 Shawnigan Lake Road
Cobble Hill, B C
Canada
V0R 1L6
dalejamison3179@gmail.com

Yes, I support SB1240 My family and I are frequent visitors to Hawaii. A primary reason for our visits is the ability to observe and swim with the reef wildlife in their natural habitat. I support a moratorium on aquarium licenses until a comprehensive and sustainable management plan can be implemented. The profits from the aquarium industry are only short term gain, and they do not compare to the long term loss of tourism dollars when the wildlife is gone.

Dale Jamison

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:51 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: denright@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Danielle Enright	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hawaii needs reef fish to maintain a healthy ecosystems and provide balance to our reefs. Having fish in a tank at the dentist or a sushi restaurant is not as important as having an actual reef in the ocean. We need to really think about if this is really the most sustainable and intelligent way to deal with our reef fish.

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:48 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: quagliaj@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jodie Quaglia	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: alexgstall@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alexandra Stallings	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:44 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: arkadyv84@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Arkady Vyatchanin	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support this bill. Please, issue a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
 Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:43 PM
 To: FINTestimony
 Cc: fedorovaalisa@yahoo.com
 Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alisa Fedorova	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I believe that this bill will allow us, as people who live on this planet to realize that everything comes with a price and if we start now to protect what we believe in then maybe we will save species and the planet we call home.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:42 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: agpanlilio98@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
autumn panlilio	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
 Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:41 PM
 To: FINTestimony
 Cc: cspellman@hawaii.rr.com
 Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
CSpellman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
 Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:40 PM
 To: FINTestimony
 Cc: aharlib@earthlink.net
 Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amy Harlib	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: IT IS TIME TO END COMMERCIAL AQUARIUM CAPTURE AND TRAFFICKING TO PROTECT HAWAII CORAL REEF WILDLIFE Our reefs, vital for cultural tradition, recreation, tourism and storm surge protection are increasingly threatened by rising temperatures, pollution and acidification. A bill moving forward in the legislature (SB1240 HD1) may address long-standing concerns about the impacts of commercial aquarium trade on Hawaii reef health. Many people already testified and asked the State to stop issuing new permits and to phase out aquarium extraction of Hawaii reef wildlife. Commercial capture of reef wildlife (e.g., tangs, surgeonfishes, seahorses, eels, shrimp, lobster) for aquarium use is poorly regulated with no limit on permits, no environmental review, no real enforcement. In contrast, corals are protected by law. Aquarium collectors extract mostly herbivores, imperative to reef balance and resiliency. The narrow fringing reef of Hawaii is the world's third largest source, 2.6 times higher the reported catch than from Australia's Great Barrier Reef. Catch reports show 650,000 animals extracted on average, per year; catch report compliance is known to be low and brings the estimated number to between one and five (1-5) million animals/year. Most wildlife extracted will die within a year of extraction, from cumulative trauma in capture, handling, long transits, and unhealthy conditions. Catch methods like tickle sticks, sand-mimicking tarps as well as anchors and equipment on reefs damage corals (which are protected by law). State government "management" promotes reef wildlife scarcity in sharp contrast to how Native Hawaiians traditionally managed nearshore waters, to promote abundance, and in contrast to Hawaiian values of respect and responsibility for our natural resources. Currently, wildlife is taken practically for free, undermining incentives for successful aquaculture, which could help conserve wildlife and create jobs. Healthy reefs and wildlife provide a broad range of economic benefits for local residents and businesses throughout Hawaii, including our number one industry - tourism. We must take action fast. Let's get it right! ECOLOGY AND ETHICS: Reef experts (MacNeil, 2015), (Marshall, 2015) agree that herbivores are key to reef balance and resiliency. Aquarium collectors take herbivores, allowing algae suffocation. Reefs near populated/ polluted areas often decline with herbivore removal (Dybas, 2016). Hawaii has far less reef area than the Great Barrier Reef (0.3%) but is the world's third largest aquarium trade source—with 25% of Hawaii take in endemic reef species. Endemics have less habitat and subpopulation exchange, with far greater risk of decline. A reef status report on the Kona Coast (Gove, 2016) shows significant decline in average fish size and herbivore biomass. The ratio of calcifying organisms—an indicator of coral development—also declined. Hundreds of dead fish captured by aquarium collectors found in a Big Island harbor dumpster More than 80% of aquarium take is yellow tangs, herbivores vital to reef balance. Targets

are juveniles, more susceptible (Thornhill, 2012) to unhealthy conditions, temperature spikes, and toxic chemicals in long transit. Cumulative trauma leads to premature death, with a mortality at 80% (Livengood, et al, rev 2014). More reef wildlife is taken to offset those losses. Hawaii food fish species are managed with catch quotas, monitoring protocols and mandatory dealer reports. In contrast, nearly unlimited aquarium extraction removes a vital link from the food chain. Other Hawaii reef wildlife (corals, live rock) is also protected in HAR 13-95. To ensure a healthy reef future, the state legislature must take action to, at minimum, end new aquarium permits and make existing non-transferable.

ECONOMY Our reefs are vital to subsistence gatherers, Hawaiian culture, recreation, tourism, and natural protection from waves and storm surge. The economic value of healthy Hawaii reefs is estimated at \$ 10 billion. From 2000 to 2012, total catch and value for the industry have increased by 39% and 59% respectively (Walsh, 2013). According to the DLNR, Division of Aquatic Resources, the number of aquarium collection permits “has ballooned in recent years”. And while DLNR rates the Yellow Tang population as “strong”, an estimated 2 million Yellow Tangs are missing from West Hawaii reefs alone. It is not clear how other aquarium targeted species are impacted (Radway, 2008); see collapsing catch data for butterflyfishes in the graph below. Accounting only for the reported legal collection of reef wildlife in 2006, reported landings were over 990,000 animals at a value to collectors of \$1.93 million. The overall economic value including wholesalers is estimated to be around 3-6 times higher, about \$12 million. In contrast, the reef based industry was reported to be approximately \$800 million a year in 2002 (Friedlander, 2008) accruing to Hawaii people through thousands of jobs. This by far surpasses aquarium trade revenue serving an out of state industry.

CULTURE AND TRADITION For centuries Hawaiians managed reefs for optimal health, with a connection to natural balance. Kokua (cooperation for the common good) and kuleana (caring for the common good) made exploitation contrary to spiritual values. Land division into ahupuaa provided sustainable harvest with severe consequence for theft (Jokiel, et.al 2011). Only inhabitants had access rights to resources for subsistence and tribute. Take was limited to the need to sustain life at all levels. In contrast, aquarium collectors extract vast amounts of wildlife without catch limits or permit limits Hawaiian culture and tradition protect corals. Collectors break them, often dropping anchors and chains, buckets, or underwater scooters on corals, or poking them to flush exotic wildlife. Weight belts and lack of a Scuba buoyancy control device “ensure” a solid stomping on fragile corals. “I have seen with my own eyes how these intruders pound and rake our reefs to extinction. These aquarium collectors have no connection or respect to the 'aina, the people, or the ocean,” said Kaimi Kaupiko from the Miloli'i fishing village. “They have destroyed our reefs, killed our fish, and are taking away a cultural practice that we, Kanaka maoli, have practiced since we inhabited the Hawaiian Islands. A ban is needed.”

http://www.humanesociety.org/news/press_releases/2012/06/hawaii_reef_collection_poll_061312.html The kapu system established temporary and seasonal reef closures as well as species specific closures to allow fish-population recovery. Present closures, like the rotational closures on Oahu, do not provide sufficient recovery from declines during open periods. Ancient ponds supplemented food production when reefs were under kapu. Currently, wildlife is taken almost for free, undermining incentives for a successful aquaculture. Targeted species like yellow tang are hard to breed in captivity and more research is needed. This alternative can reduce pressure on reef wildlife and reefs and create jobs. With reefs in drastic decline, pono reef management must return. To ensure a healthy future for Hawaii reefs, bill HB 1457 and SB 1240 must be amended to permanently END THE COMMERCIAL AQUARIUM EXTRACTION OF HAWAII REEF WILDLIFE.

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:40 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: Mallorierstefan@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mallorie Stefan	Keiko	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
 Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:39 PM
 To: FINTestimony
 Cc: rebecca.sahim@gmail.com
 Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
rebecca sahim	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I have been coming to Hawaii for 20 years as a snorkeller and lover of wildlife. In these last 10 years especially - I've witnessed a shockingly drastic decline of aquatic life, coral reef and fish. My last visit in 2015 was the worst decline by far. I barely saw the usual vibrant fish, sea turtles and illustrious reefs that My family and I travelled every year for. Even the tide pools were barren. With the changing environments, pollution, global warming etc - the state of Hawai needs to make every conscious effort to preserve its beautiful wild aquatic life. Through stricter fishing policies, preservation efforts and licensing - we can lead by example for future wildlife preservation efforts. Mahalo.

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 3:38 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: stephb1297@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephanie S Brix	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 4:50 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: cmcvolz@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Candace Volz	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Hawaii food fish species are managed with catch quotas, monitoring protocols and mandatory dealer reports. In contrast, nearly unlimited aquarium extraction removes a vital link from the food chain. Other Hawaii reef wildlife (corals, live rock) is also protected in HAR 13-95. **To ensure a healthy reef future, the state legislature must take action to, at minimum, end new aquarium permits and make existing non-transferable.**

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 4:46 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kateygallagher@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
katarina gallagher	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 4:41 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: Odaisg2@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Odais Gonzalez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
 Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 4:55 PM
 To: FINTestimony
 Cc: teagan.yaremchuk@gmail.com
 Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
teagan yaremchuk	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 4:58 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: rkurz@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robertl Kurz	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I respectfully urge you to support SB 1240 and not issue any new Aquarium permits or institute a complete ban on Aquarium trade. As a former resident and frequent visitor to Hawaii it is important to institute measures that will ensure healthy reef fish populations. Deminished biodiversity ultimately means fewer tourists and reduced economic growth.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 5:01 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: FlippedFW@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Corbin Marshall	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please protect our marine life!!

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Aloha Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Cullen and Committee Members,

I write in strong support of SB1240. Coral reefs all over the world are extremely important resources to the people who live near them. They are crucial to the protection of coastlines, providers of food and, of course, seats of biodiversity and beauty. Hawaii's reefs are at risk from climate change, pollution from coastal run-off and over-exploitation. Most of the reef fish species collected for aquaria are herbivores. They graze algae. Algae left unchecked smothers coral. There is a growing understanding of how the loss of reef fish, especially herbivores, impacts reef health (Hay 1981, 1985, Lewis & Wainwright 1985, Lewis 1986, Hixon 1996, McCook 1996, Hughs et al. 1999, Aronson and Precht 2000).

With the exception of West Hawaii (Big Island) the State has done an abysmal job "managing" the aquarium fish industry under the guise of it being a "sustainable" undertaking. There is no data or report to support this claim. Just because fish have been may have been taken from the reef for "a long time" or "in the same amount" does not mean an activity is sustainable. There are concerns among scientists about stock sustainability (Rhyne et al 2012, Fujita et al 2013). In addition the tools and techniques for removing fish improve all the time, so catch can stay constant (or even increase) as we develop means to remove ever-rarer fish.

The way to determine if fish are depleted is to compare areas where there is no removal with similar areas where there is removal. Friedlander & DeMartini (2002) found that "Hanauma Bay, the first no-take marine protected area established in Hawaii in 1967, had the highest biomass on the island of Oahu." Specifically it had a biomass of fish 8.4 times higher than that of the surrounding south shore area of Oahu. Williams and Walsh (2007) in an HCRI Project Final Report found that "of the 20 most collected aquarium species, 18 declined in abundance ($p < 0.001$) with the species facing the heaviest fishing pressure typically showing the greatest declines."

Something needs to be done now about aquarium fish collection and here are my recommendations:

- (1) Since all of the species collected from the wild can either now or in the future be bred and reared in captivity, we have a great entrepreneurial opportunity in Hawaii to create a commercial means of providing people with a lovely saltwater aquarium that does not put the reef at risk. By allowing the capture and removal of wild fish from the reef we are not only putting our reef at risk, we are stifling a business opportunity that Hawaii could lead the world in. Hawaii has the highest percentage of unique fish species (25%) ever recorded in the world (Randall 1998, 2007, Friedlander et al 2008). This makes our fish something special not only to the reef but potentially as aqua-cultured pets. Check out the App "Tank Watch" if you want to learn how many marine fish are already aqua-cultured. Many aquarists prefer to buy fish they know were bred in captivity.

- (2) Extraction from reefs should stop until the State completes a sustainable management plan based on sound science and indigenous practice and values. Recent data (Walsh 2014) from the Big Island's FRAs (Fish Replenishment Areas) found that *Z. flavescens* (yellow tang) abundance has increased by 64.5% in the FRA's since the closure to aquarium collection in 2000. "Prior to the year 2000, the areas which would become the FRA's were not significantly different than the Open Areas [areas open to all fishing] in terms of Yellow Tang [*Z. flavescens*] abundance...." Serious science-based citizen-involved management works. Oahu is overdue for it on this issue.

In summary: I am in complete agreement with an SB 1240 version that promises developing and implementing a management plan that absolutely ensures sustainability. That is, nothing should be allowed unless we are *sure* it is sustainable. Short of that, collection should be stopped. The reef is a public trust that we cannot afford to gamble with. In addition, the State should do all it can to incentivize the aquaculture of marine fish. Stocking aquaria with fish bred in captivity makes good business, reef and future-security sense.

Thank you for hearing my testimony,

Dr. Gail Grabowsky
Environmental Studies Program Director
Chaminade University
ggrabows@chaminade.edu

Papers Cited:

- Aronson B.A. & W.F. Precht. 2000. Herbivory and algal dynamics on the coral reef at Discovery Bay, Jamaica. *Limnology & Oceanography* 45(1):251-255.
- Friedlander A.M. & DeMartini, E.E. (2002) Contrasts in density, size and biomass of reef fishes between the northwestern and main Hawaiian islands: the effects of fishing down apex predators." *Marine Ecology Progress Series* **230**: 253-264.
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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 5:07 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jamesdemasi@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
james demasi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in support of SB1240 and I respectfully request that there be no new permits issues or there be a complete ban on the aquarium trade in Hawaii Thank you James DeMasi

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 5:22 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kevin@rolfes.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kevin Rolfes	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hawaii is a uniquely beautiful place, and Hawaii's reefs and wild fish are a significant part of this beauty. SB 1240 helps to protect these vital natural resources. I urge you to support SB 1240 tomorrow and pass it on to the full Senate for consideration. Sincerely, Kevin Rolfes

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 5:21 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: marie.mc@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marie McCarthy	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I would like to submit testimony regarding measure SB1240. In our 11 years of living and scuba diving in these Hawaiian waters we have noticed a huge dwindling tropical fish population. You barely see reef fish swimming around the coral and near shore anymore. We believe part of this is due to the collection of tropical fish for the aquarium trade. This is why I support limits or a complete ban on the collection of reef fish for the aquarium trade.

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 5:13 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: lindaswtzr@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Linda Switzer	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I am writing in support of SB1240 to stop the harvesting of Hawaii's sea life for use in aquariums. Please pass this bill. My children live in your beautiful state and we visit regularly. The unique and precious habitats and ocean life must be protected for all time.

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 5:27 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: alex@homesurgery.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alex Benjamin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support SB1240. I disapprove of allowing any more new permits for capturing native reef fish. A complete ban on the aquarium trade would be even better, in my opinion.

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 To: FINTestimony
 Cc: crystalkpaul@yahoo.com
 Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Crystal Kia Paul	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: HAWAI`I STATE LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and Committee Members, Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony today. I humbly ask that you read all the way through my testimony. My story is unique in that I am Kanaka Ma`oli, a former aquarium fish collector license holder, a current business owner who provides Aquarium service and I am opposed to this bill. Approximately 25 years ago I began submitting Testimony to the Hawai`i state legislators on behalf of the Aquarium Fish Collectors. This industry like many others has good and bad people in it. The Oahu island collectors do not have as many anti- trop collector people as the Hawai`i Island people do and as a result Hawai`i Island has had their collecting areas further restricted. We have been called reef rapers and other horrible names, had horrible things happened to our boats, equipment and vehicles doing what we love catching fish for the Aquarium Trade. My husband and I are no longer aquarium fish collectors not because we are anti-collectors, but because we were hit head on by a drunk driver on Saddle Road in 1993. Four years later the doctors would not release my husband to scuba dive professionally again, because they did not want the liability if he should die while diving. The brain is a very interesting organ that science has a small understanding of. We chose to relocate to the continent because of this accident. The one LOVE my husband has is FISH! Not to eat them but to admire them in an aquarium. We began an Aquarium Service business similar to the show Tanked on the Animal Planet channel. We service many clients in their homes, businesses and a children`s hospital. This year we celebrate bringing 17 years of joy to the children at this children`s hospital with Hawaiian fish among others. I read through the testimony submitted to the Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources & Hawaiian Affairs. There was testimony stating how this industry has a negative impact compared to the tourist industry based only on dollar amounts. The testimony didn`t state how "The Tourists" have negative impact on the oceans. I travel annually to Maui for Celebration of the Arts, while there I will do "tourist things" maybe a snorkel cruise or just snorkeling around the island. Maui has been closed to the tropical fish industry for over 5 years. The fish counts appear about the same to me year to year in the areas I travel to and you can check with DLNR for any changes. However, what has NOT changed from year to year is the BEHAVIOR of the "Tourists." Hawai`i is a once in a lifetime destination. When on a snorkel cruise no matter which island you are on each crew will instruct the tourists NOT TO TOUCH the coral, chase the turtles or feed the fish. And for those of you who have keiki how much success do you have when you tell them Not to touch something? Not much I am sure. Yes Tourists do more damage to corals and the reef than an Aquarium Fish Collector. The same testimony said that the aquarium fish trade only

contributed \$25 million to the economy in Hawai`i compared to tourist dollars. However, many of the more affluent tourists have home aquariums with Hawaiian fish? Why do they want Hawaiian fish? Besides the obvious of being gorgeous, it's the way they are caught. Hawai`i collectors do not use chemicals or bleach to get the fish, like other collectors around the world. You have to have skill and talent to collect them. 25 years ago I brought up the following concerns about the conditions of the reefs and aquarium fish collectors. In someone's infinite wisdom non-Hawaiian fish Blue Line Snapper, Blue Argus Grouper and others were introduced to Hawaiian waters to help us feed ourselves. Us Hawaiians didn't need these fish introduced. We already knew which fish and when to fish for them. Tourists come and do not respect the water or reef. They come with their sunscreen and suntan products which are petroleum based and we don't have an understanding how that impacts the reef. The sheer number of snorkel cruises(cattle boats) that will drop off 20-30-40 or more people in a single area for snorkeling 2 and 3 times a day and if they could drop them all 365 days of a year they would. Thankfully Mother Nature only allows them to go out between 275 and 300 days a year. And my biggest concern that gets swept under the mat by the legislature is Pesticides and Chemicals rolling down the sides of the mountains into the ocean. Do you recall Ciguatera Poisoning? I believe it's a direct effect of pollution run off. It may seem I am anti- tourist and that's the furthest from the truth. We have to look at EVERYONE'S Kuleana not just the aquarium fish collectors. The aquarium industry is a multi-billion dollar industry WORLDWIDE which also brings the tourists dollars. They see the fish in the ocean and want it in their home. In my past experience with our Hawai`i Legislators is that you will close an area under a cool title with the original intent of the bill to re-open the area at a later date. The Red Hill area on Hawai`i Island was closed under Fish Management Fishery. In 23 years it has not been reopened with the fish counts being good. \$25 million dollars may be a drop in the bucket, but I want you to think about these questions: How will you make up for this money to the state coffers? The fish collectors live, shop and do business everyday of the year in Hawai`i not just for 7-10- 14 days. How do you plan on helping these collectors transition to a new job? What do you plan to do for legacy collectors that planned on sharing their mana'o with their children? People are disgruntled about welfare services but if they don't have a job they will have to come to the state for assistance. And can the state afford more people on an already taxed system? Many of the collectors are multi-generational Hawai`i locals maybe not Kanaka Ma`oli but have been here for a long time. Hawai`i is the only home they have known and many married Kanaka Ma`oli and have keiki. I humbly ask that you vote No and add amendments to this bill to include ALL ocean users not just single out one user. Sincerely, Crystal Kia Nae`ole Paul

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SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Caitlin Anders	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elaine Becker	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please do not allow any new permits for the aquarium trade - or ban taking fish for the aquarium trade.

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LATE

To the reviewing committee,

The aquarium business is one of the most wasteful businesses in the fish industry. Not only does it harm our ecosystem but it also delivers unsuspecting marine and freshwater wildlife to the hands of mostly inexperienced home aquarium owners who won't come even close to replicating what is in their natural habitat.

Reef fish are caught in many ways. The most popular of which is the use of a mild cyanide solution that is squirted into small crevices in the coral heads to drive the coral fish out. The solution stuns them altogether. It also kills the coral heads exposed to the solution. This method allows the brightly colored fish to be easily collected in waiting transport crates. Why most popular?, because it lessens the risk of fish getting damaged or injured when it struggles to free itself from nets. There is no regulation to control the number of fish captured and applying for a license to collect aquarium fish is at a very minimal cost.

When the fish are hauled out, they are placed in recovery basins for them to snap out of their momentary immobility. If the cyanide is prepared correctly during capture, the fish come out right. If the dosage was too high, the fish don't snap out and just dies to waste and are thrown out. It's nothing different from the selection process done to the dolphins in Taiji. The good ones are collected, the rest are doomed to die. Transport is another issue. The fish are placed in plastic bags with seawater and inflated with a fair amount of oxygen to last the trip. Not only is the process environmentally unfriendly because of the plastic bags and styrofoam boxes, but is also a hazard when the bags burst. The fish die painfully of suffocation. The surviving fish will have to endure a rough ride and high levels of noise, also contributing to their deaths. By the time they reach their destination, most would have already perished. The remaining few will be segregated into holding tanks, treated and later displayed in pet stores and aquarium shops.

The buyers will be a different issue altogether. Man has always been fascinated with the presence of marine life in their very homes. Most will be children and the first habitat would always be a fish bowl. Just imagine a vast ocean dwelling to a lowly fishbowl, or a 10Gal aquarium, 20Gal aquarium, 40Gal aquarium, etc. In a home environment, one needs a technical know-how to maintain marine or freshwater life. Even with all the science, we still fail to maintain life in our very homes. This not like raising a dog or a cat. Even established giant aquarium operators have a hard time maintaining life in their institutions. This is a testament of how wasteful the aquarium fish industry is. We, at Nakawe Project, stand in support of Bill SB 1024 to halt the issuance of more Aquarium Trade Collector Permits.

Vince Maestro
Director for Communications
Nakawe Project
Barcelona, Spain
communications@nakaweproject.org
www.nakaweproject.org

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
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SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
d friedman	Individual	Support	No

Comments: NO NEW PERMITS EVER! Freeze current permits till DLNR can manage this renegade reef pillage with MEANING!!! NO NEW PERMITS EVER!

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SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
jessi schultz	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I am standing alongside Keiko Conservation in saying that our reef fish belong in their natural environment and not in the aquarium of collectors. The reef in Hawaii is a balanced ecosystem that need not be messed with by people especially collecting large numbers for their own vanity and gain.

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SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lori Buchanan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Aida Marina	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I wholeheartedly support SB1240 and request that no new permits be issued, or else request a complete ban on the aquarium trade. This is quickly decimating our sea environment, as well as impacting all the beautiful sea life which we have taken for granted for much too long.

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SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shyanne Hirata-Freitas	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am a concerned resident of this state and have come to express my concerns about S.B.1240 I am writing this testimony to you, the esteemed members of the Hawaii State Legislature, because S.B. 1240 is written and authored under MISLEADING INTERPRETATION S of already valid State-level studies and findings. These findings have been transformed into "ALTERNATIVE FACTS" by those who seek to unduly influence our government and lead to regulations that can possibly hurt Hawaii's ecosystem, businesses and its people. In a previous draft of this bill, a DLNR report, "Report on the Findings and Recommendations of Effectiveness of the West Hawai'i Regional Fishery Management Area" was used to establish the premise that fish species were disappearing and hence not "sustainable." This concern over sustainability drives the current draft of S.B.1240. However, upon review of this source document, the conclusions of the report show that the species of fish under concern were flourishing under the current aquarium fish practices. This is in direct contradiction to the supposition that S.B.1240 makes. Here are a few, un-redacted quotes from the DLNR report: "Overall Yellow Tang abundance in the 30'-60' depth range over the entire West Hawai'i coast has increased 58% (over 1.3 million fish) from 1999/2000 to 2012-2013 to a current population of 3.6 million fish." "Overall Kole abundance in 30'-60' depth range over the entire West Hawai'i coast increased 49% (over 2.1 million fish) during this time period with a current population of about 6.5 million fish" "Two of three sites at long-term studies in South Kohala and South Kona have found Yellow Tang populations have increased to levels found over three decades ago before the expansion of aquarium collecting" "Eleven species showed no consistent pattern and 17 species were consistently more abundant in the Open Areas." "While the latter two species declined in the Open Areas, they also declined in one or the other of the protected areas (FRA or MPA) suggesting that factors other than aquarium collecting were also affecting their populations." "it seems unlikely that the declines are due primarily to aquarium collecting." According to these conclusions, there is no data supporting the year over year reduction of fish species in the areas in question. In fact, there is an INCREASE IN THE OVERALL POPULATION when aquarium fish collection is allowed. In fact, there is no supporting data that growth of fish population number occurs with efforts to curtail or ban fish collection. In fact, areas of banned collection show LACK OF POPULATION GROWTH. What this data lead us to conclude is that THE PRESENCE OF AQUARIUM COLLECTION IS CONNECTED TO PRODUCTIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECOSYSTEMS. What this data leads us to conclude is that AQUARIUM BANS & LIKE LEGISLATION HAVE NO MEASURABLE EFFECT IN INCREASING PRODUCTIVITY OR SUSTAINABILITY FOR OUR ECOSYSTEMS. I understand that these findings may not make emotional sense. Indeed, how does collection of a species lead to the sustainable long

term growth of a species? A plausible answer lies in the fact that OVERPOPULATION can lead to a species demise, just as quickly as other environmental factors. In fact, as we know, when an organism's needs outstrip the environment ability to support them, it becomes necessary to have a way to thin out the population for its overall benefit. Aquarium collectors, because of current regulation already in place during shipping and transport, provide that controlled vehicle for population control and environmental benefit. The study that S.B. 1240 misinterprets shows us that the aquarium collectors are already positive influence and not a negative one. More restrictive legislation is not required, is wasteful and possibly encourages an unchecked population explosion that would be truly harmful to our ecosystem. Additionally, uncalled for regulation also limits a promising revenue stream from successful Aquarium fish collectors. I believe that we have not fully development the economic capacity for this industry to the State. Finally, there is the issue of the credibility of our State's legislative process. At this point, this bill, S.B. 1240 was first allowed to progress by first misinterpreting a valid, state commissioned study. Then the bill was allowed to continue through the legislature by obfuscating the presence of the DLNR study and editing it out of the bill, because it directly refutes the needs and premise of this bill. I hope that the actions of this panel will not be stained by this academic and legal chicanery and fraud that the bill currently represents. This bill should receive no support from you because is it not based in fact and shows no promise to accomplish the goals of sustainability. In fact, there is a cause for concern that the ban of aquarium collection could actually hurt the ecosystem. This bill should be rejected in all its forms, past, present and future, because it is based on fundamental misrepresentation and lies. The negative costs and repercussions of passing S.B.1240 are truly unknown and possibly dangerous on an ecological level and unduly limiting on an economic one. WE SHOULD NOT BAN ANYTHING BASED ON THE CONCEPT OF ALTERNATIVE FACTS. We should reject this bill, and all others like it, until real data and truth back it up.

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SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Thomas Ray	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please vote to issue no new permits for Hawaii fish species. Better yet, please consider a ban on aquarium fish being harvested for sale. As a part time resident of one of the most unique ecosystems in the world, and a respectful observer of a culture entwined in its ecosystem, I intend to help the preservation of species and culture alike. I implore you to act in the interest of Hawaii and its culture. Please protect what is sacred and important to the Hawaiiin people.

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Cc: niloflightrn@msn.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Beverly Antonio	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: A ban on the aquarium trade will help protect and preserve the beauty and variety of Hawaii's marine life.

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SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Diane Ware	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Senators, I am in strong support of SB1240 SD2. I urge you to consider a critically important amendment that places a moratorium on wildlife capture for aquarium purposes until sustainability measures are enacted. My thoughts when I now snorkel is "where have all the fish gone"? Is this the legacy we want to leave our children or for that matter how do we keep our ocean tourism viable with the deterioration of our reefs and the fish as a sustainable ecosystem? Our butterflyfish were among the top 10 most captured fish for aquariums for decades. By 2016 take had dropped 91%. Unprecedented coral bleaching events killed many of the corals these fish rely upon for food and shelter. Can populations recover? I urge you to vote yes on this bill! Mahalo nui, Diane Ware 99-7815 Kapoha Volcano 96785

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Cc: loveabugtoo@gmail.com
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SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kerry C. Kelso	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I would like to express my support for SB1240 and I ask for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alexis Araw	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill. As a diver I want to see our reefs healthy and I want to see fish in the ocean not in a tank!

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SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Snyder	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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FIN-Jo

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 7:53 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: meganmh2002@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM
Attachments: IMG_8873.JPG



SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
megan harder	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Help future generations continue to see the beauty of reefs and fish wild life IN THE WILD. Save our oceans. ♥

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SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kaimi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha I am from Milolii, my community has been torn on this issue and I strongly support this bill and request NO NEW PERMITS EVER! Freeze current permits till DLNR can manage this renegade reef pillage. We want to protect the resource so it can sustain our people. mahalo, Kaimi Kaupiko 8089371310

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SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
judith cohen	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please vote yes on SB1240. No new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade. Protect fish and sea habitat.

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SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kira Braun	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: mr.furley@live.com
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Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sharon	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I ask you to support SB1240 for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade. Thank you.

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
angelo sturino	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: for the viability and value of ecological life in the Pacific Ocean area.

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Cc: sturino.angelo21@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
angelo sturino	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: for the viability and value of ecological life in the Pacific Ocean area.

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Cc: michaela.puder@outlook.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
michaela pudet	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: clintongott@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Clinton Gott	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: No new permits. Better yet, complete ban on aquarium trade. I cannot support the damage to the fish populations and their habitats. Please do what's right and protect them!

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 Cc: cattshannon@yahoo.com
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SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Catt	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please support SB1240 and no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: katiecouvion@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
katie couvion	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 5:40 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: sydney.lilo@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sydney	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: dawnie_angel@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dawn M. Albanese	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support SB1240 & ask for no new permits OR a complete ban on the aquarium trade. Thank you.

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Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 5:24 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: cdillfly@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christopher Dill	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I've never been to Hawaii but have wanted to visit this jewel in America's crown, all my life. I just turned 61 and hope to reach the land of Aloha before my life is over, and when I do, I pray it is as pristine as I've always envisioned it. Please pass this and preserve the precious resources in one of the most places on this planet. Thank you, Christopher Dill

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Art Shervs	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I would like to express support for SB1240 and ask for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: cwalljr@gt.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
CHARLES WALL	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: As a yearly visitor to the islands, I love the opportunity to catch a few fish for my home aquarium and do not see how my action could injure the fish population. Also, I think that professionals should be allowed to catch tropical fish for resale to the aquarium trade subject reasonable regulation. I have seen no reduction in tropical fish in my 20+ years visiting the islands.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
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 To: FINTestimony
 Cc: design4114@aol.com
 Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lori Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments: It is well known that wildlife trade has high rates of mortality. It is also well-known that all reefs around the world are in trouble - Hawaii's reefs are NO EXCEPTION! But Hawaii's reefs contains some species that are found no where else in the world, just as your rich flora and fauna, birds and wildlife are found only on Hawaii. You should do everything in your power to protect these unique assets of Hawaii!!! My preference would be to ban the collection of marine life from your reefs for the aquarium trade. I understand from reading the Testimony from 3/14/17 that your committee is perplexed by what numbers to state as acceptable for sustainable. You can't keep pondering this "number" while your fish are being depleted by the collectors for aquarium trade. If you do, you will find yourself, in 2019 or soon thereafter, having some of your species disappearing and going extinct - if not before then. That is a risk you cannot take. The time is NOW to make a decision. If you cannot, at least PLEASE include language calling for a moratorium until a definition of "sustainable" and sustainable practices and limits are proposed to the legislature and enacted. I am sure that you know which species are in trouble. Place the moratorium on those FIRST! If commercial wildlife collectors were removing native Hawaiian birds – even common ones – from your forests to be sold as caged-bird pets, the public would be up in arms. You should feel the same way about removing marine life from your reefs for commercial sale to aquarium enthusiasts. The practice of removing marine life for the aquarium trade is unnatural, unnecessary, and wasteful with high levels of wildlife mortality. Please protect your reef ecosystems and pass SB 1240 SD 2. Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to comment.

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Lewis	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please issue no more permits or ,better yet, BAN ALL AQUARIUM TRADE.

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: eecdolphin@yahoo.ca
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Em	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 2:48 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: chanti@odie.be
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chantal Buslot	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I want to express my support for SB1240 and ask for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade. Thank you,

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 Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 1:54 AM
 To: FINTestimony
 Cc: kay.norman@comcast.net
 Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kay Norman	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please support a complete ban on aquarium trade.

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: duyshoev01@mail.ru
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kudaiberdi	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: good

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
 Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 1:08 AM
 To: FINTestimony
 Cc: highsmith@charter.net
 Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Beavers	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I am writing in support of a new law that will protect fish and sea turtle habitat, and asking for implementation requiring that no new permits are issued and imposing a complete ban on the aquarium trade. Please end the commercial aquarium trade and protect Hawaii's wildlife fish. Thank you.

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Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 12:55 AM
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Cc: cielomartinez@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
cielo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: PLEASE save the reef and animals you might not see it but they are the base of ocean life thus the worlds life. Future generations deserve to see the world in its full glory

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Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 12:19 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: wolfgang@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leesa Wolfgang	Individual	Support	No

Comments: SUPPORT SB1240. BAN THE AQUARIUM TRADE NOW!

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Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 12:00 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: sunshine4kid@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gail Caswell	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please help save fish and sea turtles! I am in favor of ending the issuance of permits and the end of the aquarium trade. Thank you for reviewing my comment.

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 11:54 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: merylpinque@yahoo.fr
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Meryl Pinque	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support for SB1240 and ask for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: shayla@blissfulhat.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shayla Middleton	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: NO NEW PERMITS EVER! Freeze current permits till DLNR can manage this renegade reef pillage with MEANING. PLEASE! SUPPORT SB1240. BAN THE AQUARIUM TRADE NOW!

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 11:17 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: almathieu18@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amanda Mathieu	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Reef fish are important to ecosystems in Hawaii and do not need to be captured and transported (where many of the individuals will die) to be sold in aquariums. This needs to be highly regulated to preserve the diversity found in reef ecosystems in Hawaii.

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Zoie Pena	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 9:54 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jld215@sbcglobal.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Janet Delaney	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support SB1240. Please don't issue any new permits or better yet, completely ban the aquarium trade. Thank you!

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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 9:35 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: yaelorlovsky24@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Yael Orlovsky	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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LATE

My name is Rufus Kimura, owner of Kaihi Tropical Fish and I oppose SB1240. I was born and raised on the Island of Molokai and began collecting aquarium fish while I was still in high school. My father, who was also born and raised in Hawaii, taught me how to dive for fish and how to keep them alive and healthy. With the money I earned from diving for aquarium fish I was able to send myself to college. When I returned from college, I started Kaihi Tropical Fish. Our company is one of the few in the world to use cutting edge technology such as closed circuit rebreathers and portable decompression chambers to collect deep-water fish in a healthy and sustainable manner. I was recently asked to give a talk at the Marine Aquarium Council of North America to an audience of thousands of people who are enthralled by Hawaii's aquatic biodiversity.

The scientific studies commissioned and carried out by the state of Hawaii show that the aquarium industry is the only sustainable local fishery. Those opposed to the aquarium industry would rather you ignore the science and facts and instead give in to their belief that this is a moral or emotional issue. Personally, I do not agree with tourism or the mass marketing of our island to outsiders, but this does not give me the right to try and push through legislation that might jeopardize the livelihoods of those involved in tourism or real estate sales. The future of the aquarium fishery, like all of Hawaii's fisheries, should be left up to the management and guidance of the state appointed custodians of the sea, the Department of Land and Natural Resources. The DLNR has checks and balances and management practices in place to insure that the nearshore reefs are not over-harvested by aquarium collectors.

Aquarium fishermen are incredibly good stewards of the sea. They know that if an area is overfished or the coral is damaged, the fish that they make their living off of will not return to that area in the future. Therefore, aquarium divers exercise great care when collecting fish. They leave large breeding pairs alone and never fully deplete an area of any type of fish. Aquarium fish have an incredibly high fecundity rate. Many of them can spawn almost every night, sending out tens of thousands of eggs. Unlike food fish that take years to reach market size, aquarium fish are more prized in the juvenile state. Most of them can be harvested in as little as four to five months of age. As soon as aquarium fishes are removed from the reef, the larvae from new spawns are already settling in to take their place.

Currently, Kaihi Tropical Fish provides employment for eight local divers, one warehouse manager and a handful of divers in Christmas Island, Tahiti and Australia.

It is my request that you leave the management of the ocean and its resources to those who have the skills and scientific back ground to properly manage it. This should not be a knee-jerk emotional issue but a sound action plan based on scientific studies and resource management. Let the Department of Land and Natural Resources continue to do the job that they were tasked by the State of Hawaii to do. If the legislature wants to interfere within the DLNR's realm of responsibility, where will it stop? If you allow people to take away my livelihood just because they have an emotional problem with it, how is that right?

LATE

Testimony for SB1240

On behalf of Keiko Conservation Japan, I would like to strongly voice our support for SB1240.

The state of Hawaii is internationally known for the natural resources it provides and attracts many tourists from worldwide. The main attraction is to experience the beauty of the environmental assets including the beautiful reefs surrounding the islands.

There are more than 400 species of reef fishes inhabiting these coastal waters and each species takes on a crucial role in the nearshore ecosystem. With rising water temperature and pollution, these habitats are already under massive threats to sustain it's healthy environment. On top of this, many of these fishes are being taken at great numbers for aquarium pets. Without any regulation or limit set in place to harvest these wildlife, I am deeply concerned of the effect this will have in the entire nearshore ecosystem.

Activities such as snorkeling and SCUBA diving are very popular amongst tourists, where they can witness these aquatic life in their natural environment. If we don't set proper regulation and work to protect this fragile environment, the state of Hawaii will soon be surrounded by degraded reefs with empty wildlife. This will have a huge impact on the tourism industry and by the time the state decides to rebuild this, it will be met with difficulties and cost.

If you are leaning towards opposing this bill, please consider the importance and the responsibility our generation has to protect Hawaii's most valuable natural assets for our future generation. We want our children and our grandchildren to be able to experience these amazing wildlife in their natural environment. I urge you to support this bill and to require the department of land natural resources to define "sustainable" and establish sustainable collection practices and limits, to ensure the sustainability of Hawaii's native near shore aquatic life.

Sincerely,
Kasumi Shishido
Keiko Conservation Japan



LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 9:19 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kissimmeeconnie@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Connie Rohal	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: I support SB1240. After reading much about what is necessary for the health and life of Hawaii's reefs, and realizing that the aquarium trade is endangering them by the sheer magnitude of fish they can remove every day, I can come to no other conclusion, but that the unregulated, and unlimited ability to remove fish from Hawaii's reefs needs to be prohibited, with no more aquarium permits being issued now and forever. Thank you

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: mamrhein5@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Amrhein	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Our marine life in Hawaii is an essential part of our ecosystem and beauty, and I am in full support of measures that seek to create more sustainable practices protecting our wildlife. Without more stringent measures, I worry that our current practices may result in irreparable harm for countless marine life species and the overall health and well-being of our oceans. I hope that Hawaii can continue to lead by example for the rest of the country in implementing practices that support the long-term health of our environment, rather than making short-term decisions that only profit a few individuals or organizations.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
 Sent: Monday, April 3, 2017 8:40 PM
 To: FINTestimony
 Cc: sydbarrett74@gmail.com
 Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/3/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victor Escobar	Turtle Island Restoration Network	Support	No

Comments: As a member of the Turtle Island Restoration Network, I support SB1240 and ask for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 8:12 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: dkg1031@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Debra Koonohiokala Norenberg	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 9:01 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: dennis@geckohale.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dennis Painter	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I strongly support SB1240. Hawaii's reefs and their fishes are a not just a "resource" but a state treasure and must be protected. Strong protection is needed to prevent the chipping away and erosion of this tressure and I most STRONGLY support this legislation. There should be NO new permits to protect what belongs to all citizens of Hawaii. /s/Dennis Painter

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 9:35 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: robin@mauirobin.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robin Newbold	Maui Nui Marine Resource Council	Support	No

Comments: Maui's coral reefs need our help if they are to survive and continue to protect our coastal areas from storm waves, and provide food and recreational opportunities for local families and visitors. Coral reefs are especially significant to Hawaii's rich cultural heritage. Each unique species of Hawaii's reef fishes plays a critical role in maintaining the health of our coral reefs. The coral and fish need each other to survive. Please ban the take of Hawaii's precious reef fish for shipment out of Hawaii. Instead, encourage people to come to Hawaii to see fish, which live nowhere else in the world. These fish are a critical part of why people come to Hawaii; like the whales, they attract visitors and thus support our economy.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
 Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 10:02 AM
 To: FINTestimony
 Cc: Pamelabigisland@gmail.com
 Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pamela Small	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Committee Members: I support SB1240,HD1 moving forward and being strengthened, so that all native reef wildlife is protected from commercial extraction by aquarium collectors, as are Hawaii rocks and corals. The current situation is untenable and can not be supported. Our reefs are being depleted at an alarming rate with no oversight. The State government has failed to protect these critical public resources from commercial extraction for aquarium collection over the years. Tourists that I meet no longer want to snorkel/dive our Hawaiian waters due to lack of fish. My family no longer snorkels/dives the oceans of the Big Island because the fish have all been taken. I have not bothered to scuba dive my home waters in about seven years. YOU have the ability the change this by stopping the wholesale taking of our fish for the aquarium trade. Allow our reefs to recover from the unlimited, unregulated and unsustainable takes of the aquarium collectors. The Department of Land and Natural Resources currently does not have the resources or funding to develop a plan, manage, enforce and/or protect reef wildlife in any meaningful way. The agency has never even *defined* sustainable nor placed any limit on the number of permits issued to aquarium collectors. DLNR has never said no to any permit applicant or commercial collector. To add insult to injury, the lack of a program, rules monitoring or enforcement means un-permitted, illegal traffickers go unchecked and have become an established part of this export industry. DLNR needs to stop this program that uses state resources to promote commercial extraction of reef wildlife for aquarium collectors. Now is an important time to change policy, protect what we have left and potentially witness a return of reef wildlife, for ourselves, the economy and future generations and to give reef wildlife a chance. Please do the right thing and protect our reefs and ocean. Pamela Small Kamuela, Hawaii 96743

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: Quinwalworth70@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Quin Walworth	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The systematic destruction of our oceans will only be one of the reasons future generations will look at the people alive now and shake their heads. If we have the ability to stop it shouldn't we? If we have the ability to speak for those who can't, don't we have the responsibility to do so? Being at the top of the food chain means we can do as much good as we do harm, it's simply a matter of choice. Make the right one.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 10:54 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: stefanschumacher@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM*

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stefan Schumacher	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: sollmon@comcast.net;

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Samantha Solomon	Turtle Island Restoration Network	Support	No

Comments: I support restriction of new permits and other efforts, that either in part or full, will ban the aquarium trade.

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Tue 4/4/2017 1:13 PM

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Cc: shannonkona@gmail.com;

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Strongly Support!

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Cc: ELITEHAWAII@AOL.COM
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
DONNIE BECKER	Individual	Support	No

Comments: SHAME ON ANYONE IN HAWAII FOR ALLOWING THIS TO EVER HAPPEN.....AND TO GET A PERMIT TO DO THIS..~!! SHAME...

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LATE

Martha Lyddon Letter to Senate Committee, April 4, 2017
Subject: SB1240

Pg. 1 of 7

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Dear Senate Committee:

I am a homeowner in Maui of 43 years. I urge you to unequivocally approve SENATE BILL AB1240.

I reference other testimony below, to highlight what for me the DLNR and DAR themselves have already recognized and stated about the “cart-before-the-horse” absurdity of the situation now in Hawaii. I was shocked by my discovery years ago that there have been no laws protecting the coral reef ecosystems here in Hawaii in place – this makes Hawaii akin to a third world banana republic where the ruling forces are solely interested in exploitation without considering the local citizenry, or the sustainability of their practices and the consequences for all life on these beautiful and unique in all the world, Hawaiian Islands.

I offer first, a part of the testimony of SUZANNE D. CASE, Chairperson, DLNR, which was presented to the Senate Committee on JUDICIARY AND LABOR, Thursday, March 2, 2017 9:30 AM, State Capitol, Conference Room 016, in consideration of SENATE BILL 1240, SENATE DRAFT 1 RELATING TO AQUATIC LIFE.

“Senate Bill 1240, Senate Draft 1, proposes to require the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to submit proposed legislation to the legislature by the 2019 regular session including a definition of ‘sustainable’, a policy for sustainable collection practices of near shore aquatic life, and limits on the total number of species and sustainable rates of collection.

“The Department supports sustainable collection practices and appreciates the intent of the measure but has concerns about the requirement to establish catch limits for all reef species by 2019.

The Department provides the following comments.”

“The Department is currently engaged in statewide marine planning efforts, and plans to **incorporate sustainable collection** ** practices into all of our fisheries

management policies in accordance with the intent of this measure. However, determining take limits for all species (presumably fish species) based on existing data will be practically impossible given that relatively little is known about the life cycle of most local species, large data gaps on the abundance of most reef species in waters around the State, and very limited resources to answer develop the necessary information (i.e., stock assessments, etc.). The Department would not be able to comply with this provision given its existing resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.”

My/Martha Lyddon comments below:

****The DLNR herein reveals the very conflicted, illogical, and contractory circular conundrum they are in – this by the above admission themselves, a “management they are funded to undertake but that by their own statements is a “giordian knot”.**

If they firstly state as in the last paragraph, above, that “determining take limits” for all species will be ***practically impossible given that relatively little is known about the life cycle of most local species***, (thus also, in parallel, taking this to the obvious further larger ecosystem of relationships, *relatively little is known and certainly nowhere comprehensively, are ecosystems and all of their parts well understood – so the importance and contributory nature of a fish species in and to the health, maintenance and “abundantly robust” well-being of offshore ecosystems as part of the chain, is not well understood, as a corollary.*)

The DLNR above defensively suggests the reason for their lack of knowledge and incapacity to know the importance of a species’ contributions to an ecosystem, is “existing resources”. (Last sentence, and prior sentence references above it, offer these revelatory, defensive justifications for their self-admittedly then, dubious and ungrounded, baseline fishery “take” levels.

*They **themselves** admit to **not** “having the resources to do the necessary work to evaluate and clarify the true ecosystem role in its entirety of a given species, or to conduct a species-wide evaluation and clarification”.) See above DLNR statements. Since the DLNR makes these statements, they admit that they do not have a relative and meaningful basis established for determining when and where the ecosystem is impacted by the removal of fishery components, and therefore, they have no hard data on what at the ecosystem level to the species level, defines*

a growing and robust, in all cycles of nature – self-sustaining over decades, ecosystem.

Yet, the DLNR takes exception and goes on the defensive with the Aquarium Trade Bill, because it suggests from hard facts that they do not know what they are doing and so they are enabling an out-of-control exploitation of reef fisheries by the aquarium trade that their management has been aiding with irresponsible at best, inadequate analyses and baseline knowledge of the individual species' roles in the larger aquatic and coral reef ecosystems. They have as they state, insufficient data to recognize let alone coherently understand how the “parts of the whole” function, are co-dependent, interconnected and/or at what level their declining populations – mature to juveniles - cease to be effective in the roles they play within the ecosystem - particularly when this decline is a systematic exploitation for human profiteering that has nothing to do with natural ebbs and flows of Nature – disease, storm, flood. An abundance is what Nature strives to produce in every aspect of ecosystems – and this should be just so repetitively obvious to humans that I still go nuts thinking how few recognize this basic, Earth-wide fact within the wisdom of Nature. Instead, human beings see this abundance and immediately seek to claim it as a booty to profit from, never thinking there is perhaps a purpose in all things alive, natural, mineral, that have evolved over billions of years into complex and interconnected systems of life, energy exchanges, with humans, the “Johnny-come-latelies”.

The human being has stripped “Nature’s abundance” wherever easiest and accessible, first, and then “digging deeper” – in a methodical reduction of Nature’s bounty and abundance, we as a human species, have blindly continued “to take and to exploit”, turning robust and bountiful ecosystems into fragile struggling ones, we’ve a colonial history worldwide of desecrating entire forested mountainsides into to barren slopes and eroded top soils, we’ve killed free-flowing rivers, and by damming them up for power and wealth and human development, we’ve nearly obliterated entire animal, plant, bird, fishery ecosystems on land and in sea. Above the sea and below it, habitats are destroyed for fortune and profiteering by human beings in an unprecedented rape of the entire Natural Earth – billions of years of ecosystem development is being crippled and compromised without restraint or wise recognition of the secret to life... to strength, resiliency – this being the generating of more than is needed by each part, for the whole.... And this is not recognized enough by a species who arrived only recently in Earth in geological time.. a rather short-sighted, myopic, anthropocentric human species...

A quote from one “letter’s discussion of facts” regarding the DAR (Division of Aquatic Resources) underneath the DLNR umbrella, is this: “In fisheries management terms, ‘sustainable’ typically refers to ‘maximum sustainable yield’ (MSY), which is the highest possible annual catch that can be sustained by a species over time.”

“In some cases, populations may be reduced by up to 80 percent and the DAR/DLNR say that the catch may still be considered ‘sustainable’.

But this terminology does not take into account the role of the species in its ecosystem and negative impact on ecosystem function when populations of one or more species are reduced to such an extent. In complex ecosystems such as coral reefs, the reduction of a population of one fish—such as an herbivore that plays an important role in keeping algae from covering coral — can have negative, cascading effects on the function and resiliency of the entire reef ecosystem. This, in turn, will not only negatively impact the coral reef ecosystem but the people who rely on that ecosystem.”

And I add: and impact even land-based or broader ocean-dwelling elements that may be tied into the reef’s vitality and roles in a myriad exchanges and ways not yet fully recognized or understood by humans or our sciences.

To historically further make the obvious again, my point:

In 2014, DLNR’s Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR) leadership called into question the sustainability of the collection of fish for the aquarium trade.

BLNR thereafter, approved the aquarium trade’s counter proposal, “a maximum take/rule package” despite strong opposition.

At the request of two BLNR board members, an agreement was made to explore additional steps in informal meetings with stakeholders, (including The HSUS and HSI) and scientists who had been left out of the process.

Two separate meetings of stakeholders and scientists were subsequently held in the following months.

After one of the meetings, acting DAR administrator Alton Miyasaka disseminated notes from the meeting to the stakeholders demonstrating that DAR does not know what sustainable means or how it should be measured: “...The main management questions remained unanswered.

Those questions are:

What does sustainable mean, how do you measure it, what are the management goals, and, how do you know if you are meeting those goals?” (emphasis added).

As a 43-year resident of Kaanapali, Maui, who has regularly snorkeled the entire off shore coastline and reef systems between Honokowai and the Sheraton Hotel's "Black Rock" peninsula and "end" of a @1.5 mile long beach that begins at the Embassy Suites, Honokowai, I have directly and personally experienced the depletions of this one marine area of everything from juvenile trigger fish/Humu humu's to tangs, butterflies, wrass, box fish to goatfish to parrotfish – this area was a "juvenile kindergarden", but no longer – and an abundance of starfish, sea urchins (the short-spined ones that are harmless to pick up and that have disappeared from being everywhere here in the 70's, and that one sees sold dead and spineless in stores, their soft pink-to-lavender shells, filled with candle wax & a wick as a tourist curio item.) – All the above in healthy numbers, have disappeared. The occasional medium-sized fish one will see – and rarely if you see one of any species, will you see it with another – Moorish Idols, the Kikapapu, Raccoon butterfly, the Ornate Butterfly, the Needle-nosed "na wiliwili nukunuku oi'oi", now one only usually if lucky to see one of the above, will see it solo, pairs of butterflies are rarely now to be spotted. And always for 20 years, I'd see pairs of everything – all along my snorkel routes.

I am a diver from the age of 18, and I am 67 now. I have been swimming this coastline again, all the way down from Honokowai, and walking the beach back, on a regular weekly and yearly basis since 1974. I attempted to "blow the whistle" in the 1990's after learning of a "PHD" consultant for some Hawaiian State government agency – perhaps DLNR or DAR – who was on Maui from Oahu to evaluate and collect data on the "state of the reef systems here" – and one in particular he was to look at was Kaanapali, West Maui.

Aquarium takes are only part of the problem. But they are the now most blatant, illogical one. We also have run-away development with a sewage treatment plant in Kaanapali that is pumping partially-treated sewage directly down injection wells into/onto a sloped terrain that carries it to the sea just a quarter mile away. This is undeniably a source contributing to reef pollution and that is another part of the problem. We have culverts created from the 1965-70's onward by developers that when storms occurred, would redirect excess water looking for a place downhill to go, into concrete viaducts, these sending soils – and in the soils, chemical pesticides from the slopes of ag lands of West Maui directly into the offshore ocean and reef habitats. These ag lands run-off before major residential housing and new road development of the late 60's and 70's boom, would seep into the soils, not reaching for the most part, the ocean itself. Now the opposite is occurring. No one gave a thought to the choking of the living corals by this, or to

the chemicals and how these would impact both the reef and its inhabitants. We suddenly began to have a “mini-greenhouse” effect – and more so in the summer than winter. This “effect” was a 0-6-inch in winter to 6-12-inch in summer, film of brown-tinted, sediment-filled water resting on the top of the ocean offshore waters from Black Rock to Honokowai, the top layer warmer than the clear water beneath it, an inversion layer of warm “muddy” water on the surface. If one dived beneath it, the visibility was endless, but snorkeling on the surface, the visibility was a filtered one of 15 feet-30 feet at most while looking down or around and swimming with mask and snorkel.

The “PHD” came and left. He interviewed me and I interviewed him, too... Nothing came of this effort as far as I could recognize.

Now, we are looking at a reef badly damaged that is being blamed on multiple factors – yet the one consistent exploitation I would see over years, were the fish-takers, either quickly from a land-based shaded area beside the beach, where they would launch their work, free diving or with a tank, boldly and swiftly, or by small Boston-Whaler type vessels, moving in and out in a matter of 1 hour from an area, with divers dropping over the side, 3 on board, two collecting and back on board and disappearing around Black Rock, in a short span of 1 hour, then to return say on a morning weekday again when most people are working, no one on beaches paying attention or wondering – and those who were on beaches, believed rightly to be tourists preoccupied, and pleasantly distracted.

If signs in all hotels had a simple statement: “Please help us keep Hawaii’s reefs alive and vibrant! Please report any activity by divers or snorkelers from land or on fishing boats you may see swimming or on the beach, persons who appear to be collecting live animal or shell specimens of any kind, and call us immediately, and help us to insure that they have a license to do so. Phone 24 hours: --- --- ----.

Mahalo for helping us on all Hawaii’s beaches, protect our coral reefs and marine life for our children’s children, and insure our coral reefs are supported in sustaining themselves!” -- DLNR & DAR

In Conclusion:

I urge an OVERWHELMINGLY UNANIMOUS vote of support for SB1240, and offer into testimony and record, the above review and commentary, which includes a thunderously transparent admission in writing by them both, DLNR & then DAR in the last one, that I repeat here because it is goes to the heart of the entire out-of-control situation still in 2017 and critical importance of this bill:

After one of the meetings, (2014) acting DAR administrator Alton Miyasaka disseminated notes from the meeting to the stakeholders **demonstrating that DAR does not know what sustainable means or how it should be measured:**

“...The main management questions remained unanswered.

Those questions are and remain:

What does sustainable mean, how do you measure it, what are the management goals, and, how do you know if you are meeting those goals?” (emphasis added).

Ladies and Gentlemen of the House and Senate, until we have an informed governance by the DLNR & DAR of the fisheries at risk, we are correct to call it an unrestricted rape and pillage of our reefs for profit-taking by the aquarium trade. WE cannot blame the DLNR or the DAR but we must take action and determine what steps to take to get the information that establishes “healthy and sustainable ecosystem factors” and not expect a government fishery management agency to invent and drive the rules governing their domain ***when they by their own admission, defensively, haven’t the resources to do so and when also admittedly, they lack in fact the underlying knowledge of what sustainability means in these off-shore reef and fishery ecosystems.***

Sincerely,

Martha Lyddon

Citizen, Businesswoman, Homeowner, Diver of 47 years

Kaanapali, Maui

Off: 415-332-6262



From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 2:56 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: elizabeth.watts@verizon.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elizabeth Watts	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please know that I support SB1240 and ask that you grant no new permits or better yet, issue a complete ban on the aquarium trade. Thank you.

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Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2017 3:47 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: debbie@saveturtles.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1240 on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM

SB1240

Submitted on: 4/4/2017

Testimony for FIN on Apr 4, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

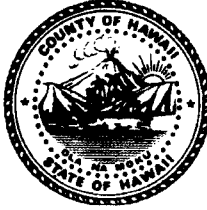
Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Debbie Sherman	Save the Turtles	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support SB1240 and ask for no new permits or a complete ban on the aquarium trade. Hawaii is so beautiful and it is an urgent need to protect the ocean and the marine life in the ocean. Thank you, Debbie Sherman Save the Turtles

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Harry Kim
Mayor



Wil Okabe
Managing Director

Barbara J. Kossow
Deputy Managing Director

County of Hawai'i Office of the Mayor

25 Aupuni Street, Suite 2603 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 • (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553
KONA: 74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy., Bldg. C • Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740
(808) 323-4444 • Fax (808) 323-4440

LATE

April 3, 2017

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Committee on Finance
Hawai'i State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Luke and Members:

**RE: SB 1240 SD2 HD1
Relating to Aquatic Life**

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on SB1240, SD2, HD1.

I agree with the findings of a prior committee that "ensuring the sustainability of aquatic life and the protection of coral reefs in Hawaii waters is vital to the long-term interests of the people of Hawaii; the economic and environmental benefits of protecting the marine environment cannot be overstated."

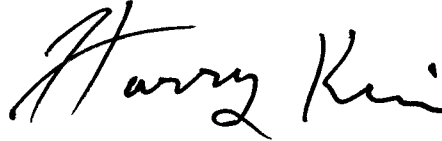
SD2 would seem to have been a relatively modest attempt to get a handle on what sustainability means and requires. I hope that the Legislature will move forward with that concept, while providing DLNR what it needs to fulfill its directives.

But HD1 does not stop there. SB 1240 started life as a moratorium on the issuance of commercial aquarium fish permits, until the department of land and natural resources could define "sustainable" and establish sustainable collection practices and limits. The Senate Committee on Water and Land removed the moratorium and simply provided for data collection. Now HD1 has gone further than even the original SB1240 by creating an outright prohibition on the issuance of new aquarium fishing permits or the transfer of existing permits. This obviously is a dramatic change from the prior drafts, may not have received adequate consideration in the Senate, and would go beyond what our aquatic experts believe is necessary to assure a healthy fish population. Therefore, regardless of my personal views on fish collection, I cannot support the prohibition.

S. Luke
April 3, 2017
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I urge that the language of SD2 be restored.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Harry Kim". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Harry Kim
Mayor