

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committees on
OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
AND
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**Wednesday, April 12, 2017
11:15 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 312**

**In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 96, SENATE DRAFT 1
REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, IN
COLLABORATION WITH THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC
ADMINISTRATION, TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF USING AUTONOMOUS
UNMANNED SURFACE VESSEL TECHNOLOGY TO DETECT AND CLEAN UP OCEAN
DEBRIS BEFORE IT REACHES HAWAII'S REEFS AND BEACHES.**

Senate Concurrent Resolution 96, Senate Draft 1 requests the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department), in collaboration with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to explore the possibility of using autonomous unmanned surface vessel technology to detect and clean up ocean debris before it reaches Hawaii's reefs and beaches. **The Department offers the following comments.**

The Department supports all efforts to help clean the State's near shore waters and beaches including the use of autonomous unmanned surface vessel technology as used by Clear Blue Sea, a non-profit entity. The Department notes that its jurisdiction is from the shoreline to three miles offshore. The Department is willing to work with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to explore the possibility of using autonomous unmanned surface vessel technology to detect and clean up ocean debris before it reaches Hawaii's reefs and beaches.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

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



To whom it may concern,

This testimony is in support of Hawaii State Resolution SCR96 and SR40 requesting the Department of Land and Natural Resources to support the use of Autonomous Unmanned Surface Vessel technology to detect and clean up ocean debris before it reaches Hawaii's reefs and beaches.

My family has been long time residents of Kailua, HI. I have witnessed ever increasing amounts of trash being washed up on our island's beaches over the last 30 years. I strongly support and applaud the State's efforts to become a world leader in the mitigation of floating man-made ocean pollution. This ever increasing environmental disaster of mostly plastic debris must be addressed and actions taken before it does irreparable harm to Hawaii's beaches, near shore environment and economy. The pollution of our ocean's environment is a high priority problem that directly effects the lives, livelihood and culture of the people of Hawaii. The quality of our lives is tied to the quality of our ocean.

This Hawaii State legislation is the beginning of an effort that will greatly benefit future generations of Hawaii's people and preserve its environment for many years to come.

Very Respectfully,

Mark Ott

President/CEO

Clear Blue Sea Inc. (a 501c3 non-profit)

In Support of SCR 96

Dear Members of the Hawaii House Ocean Marine and Hawaiian Affairs Committee and Energy and Environmental Protection Committee.

Thank you for your interest in supporting SCR 96 a resolution asking for support to evaluate a system of marine debris cleaning drones in Hawaii. It supports the efforts of CLEAR BLUE SEA <https://clearblueseas.org/> to clear the oceans of pollution.

Each day the problem of marine debris and plastic pollution on our beaches and in our near shore waters gets worse. It kills marine life, disfigures our beautiful beaches and is a threat to us, our children and grandchildren.

For the past twenty years people in Hawaii have asked that something be done. But we lacked the technology to deal with the scope of the problem. The marine debris is located in remote gyres hundreds of miles from our shores and trickles in on ocean currents.

Retrieving the debris was thought to be too labor and energy intensive to be economical. But new technology in the form of satellite controlled marine robots designed by long time Kailua resident Mark Ott of Clear Blue Sea, has now changed that. It is now possible to cost effectively remove plastic waste, nylon nets and small pieces of floating plastics by means of moving offshore platforms that can collect it and then transfer the waste to ships that will bring it to processing centers.

This is a technology that will not only help save our ocean but will also provide high tech jobs in Hawaii. I urge you to support SCR 96

Mahalo

Michael Markrich
Clear Blue Sea Hawaii
Kailua Resident

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 1:30 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: launahele@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR96 on Apr 12, 2017 11:15AM*

SCR96

Submitted on: 4/12/2017

Testimony for OMH/EEP on Apr 12, 2017 11:15AM in Conference Room 312

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

Comments:

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

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 12:23 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR96 on Apr 12, 2017 11:15AM*

SCR96

Submitted on: 4/12/2017

Testimony for OMH/EEP on Apr 12, 2017 11:15AM in Conference Room 312

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

Comments:

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