

**LATE**

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 2, 2017 10:09 PM  
**To:** WTL Testimony  
**Cc:** erinrutherford815@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1150 on Feb 3, 2017 14:45PM\*

**SB1150**

Submitted on: 2/2/2017  
Testimony for WTL on Feb 3, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Erin Rutherford	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i  
Supporting S.B. 1150 Relating to Preserving Coral Reefs  
Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Friday, February 3, 2017, 2:45PM, Room 224

**LATE**

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*The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i is a private non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which life depends. The Conservancy has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i. We manage 40,000 acres in 14 preserves and work in 19 coastal communities to help protect the near-shore reefs and waters of the main Hawaiian Islands. We forge partnerships with government, private parties and communities to protect Hawai'i's important watershed forests and coral reefs.*

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The Nature Conservancy supports S.B. 1150 that would prohibit the use of sunscreen and other products containing oxybenzone on beaches and in the ocean in Hawai'i. Preliminary research indicates that there may be a connection between oxybenzone and degraded reef health, and the precautionary principle suggests that we do what we can to minimize this potential threat. However, while removing oxybenzone from Hawai'i's beaches may help our reefs, it is only a first step. Support for this measure should not stop us from doing the hard work that is needed to protect our coral reefs and nearshore fisheries from the clear and present danger of additional chemicals, nutrients and sediment entering our nearshore waters, invasive algae smothering our reefs, and unsustainable fishing practices depleting our local fisheries. With the added threats from global climate change predicted to increase over the next 50 years, the need to protect our reefs and other aquatic resources has never been more urgent.

Hawai'i's nearshore waters are home to more than 7,000 forms of marine life, a quarter of them found nowhere else on Earth. Our vast coral reefs and entire near shore ecosystem are valuable assets that contribute culturally and economically to Hawai'i's future. Coral reef ecosystems create habitat for many fish species with important subsistence, recreational and commercial value; support tourism and recreational industries; and shelter coastlines from natural disturbances. Our life and lifestyle in Hawai'i depends upon a healthy and thriving marine environment.

While we appreciate the many bills this session proposing to prohibit or regulate oxybenzone, we also urge the Legislature to continue supporting efforts to address the full range of threats to our reefs, fisheries and other marine resources. These actions include:

- Sufficient funding and personnel for the Department of Land and Natural Resources to:
  - Implement existing and develop additional marine management rules to protect and restore our coastal fisheries;
  - Build compliance with and enforcement of existing marine management rules and laws;
  - Collaboratively develop a strategic plan to address coral bleaching and guide management decisions;
  - Obtain the information needed to continue adaptively managing coastal resources based on the best available science and traditional knowledge; and
  - Build on its on-the-ground and in-water management work with partners to care for coastal and marine resources.
- Supporting the efforts of coastal communities around the islands that are working to co-manage their resources in partnership with the DLNR.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 2, 2017 8:30 PM  
**To:** WTL Testimony  
**Cc:** shyla.moon@ymail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1150 on Feb 3, 2017 14:45PM

**SB1150**

Submitted on: 2/2/2017

Testimony for WTL on Feb 3, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Shyla Moon	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: What alternatives are being considered for sun protection?

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 2, 2017 5:39 PM  
**To:** WTL Testimony  
**Cc:** mendezj@hawaii.edu  
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**SB1150**

Submitted on: 2/2/2017  
Testimony for WTL on Feb 3, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, February 3, 2017 1:18 PM  
**To:** WTL Testimony  
**Cc:** malamaopuna@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1150 on Feb 3, 2017 14:45PM

**SB1150**

Submitted on: 2/3/2017  
Testimony for WTL on Feb 3, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rene Siracusa	Malama O Puna	Support	No

Comments: Malama O Puna is a 501(c)(3) environmental nonprofit that has been working for the aina since 1990. We are very concerned about the multiple stresses being experienced by our corals, which not only include ocean warming, bleaching, but human-generated impacts. Corals are not just organisms, they are also ecosystems that provide nursery habitat for our fishery. We can do very little about some of those impacts, but we can easily eliminate the use of Oxybenzene. There are many sunscreen products on the market that do not have it as an ingredient, so there are viable options to protect our skin from UV rays. I, for one, am using up my old sunscreen when I am working in my garden and have purchased sunscreen without Oxybenzene for when I go down to the ocean. It's not difficult and a ban will pose no hardship on anyone while benefiting our corals. Please support this bill. Mahalo, Rene Siracusa, President

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**LATE**

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
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**Cc:** octopus@maui.net  
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**SB1150**

Submitted on: 2/3/2017  
Testimony for WTL on Feb 3, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rene Umberger	For the Fishes	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair and Committee members, As a Hawaii non-profit dedicated to protecting Hawaii's coral reefs and wildlife, we support this measure. While we do recognize the enforcement and PR challenges posed by such a ban, we believe that we must take numerous and meaningful steps toward protecting our nearshore reefs to mitigate climate change impacts such as the severe bleaching that killed so many of our corals in recent years. We thank you for considering this measure and urge you to support it for today's and future generations who rely on healthy, beautiful and abundant coral reefs. Mahalo, Rene Umberger Executive Director

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