



SB2848
RELATING TO BOTTOMFISH
Senate Committee on Water and Land

February 14, 2018

2:45 p.m.

Room 224

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **OPPOSES** SB2848, which imposes a vague, inappropriate, and virtually unattainable standard for the management of our bottomfish resources, and may inadvertently invalidate fisheries regulations that indirectly “regulate” bottomfish fishing.

“Environmental necessity” is a vague and inappropriate standard for natural resource management. This measure would require any rule restricting the take of bottomfish to be based on a finding of “environmental necessity,” by peer-reviewed “scientific evidence.” The standard of “environmental necessity,” however, is inherently vague, and inconsistent with sound management principles as well as the nature of scientific inquiry itself. For example, it is unclear what outcome would give rise to an “environmental necessity” for regulatory action; management actions “necessary” to prevent imminent extinction or extirpation may be vastly different in scope and nature than management actions that are “necessary” to ensure long-term fisheries abundance. **In addition, regardless of whether a finding of “environmental necessity” is based on the risk of extinction, decimation, or ecological imbalance, management actions that take place only after a showing of “environmental necessity” would likely be highly reactive, and potentially far too late to avoid long-term and potentially irreparable fisheries collapse.** Finally, the nature of scientific inquiry itself is not to establish certainty or the “necessity” of action, but to test hypotheses which are continuously questioned, refined, or rejected; scientific “evidence” therefore does not establish the “necessity” of any action, but merely provides an indication as to whether a particular supposition may or may not be potentially true. **Accordingly, this measure’s proposed standard of scientifically-indicated “environmental necessity” would significantly tie the hands of the State, in fulfilling its constitutional public trust duties to conserve and protect our natural bottomfish resources.**

In addition, this measure may impact the State’s ability to manage fisheries generally, by invalidating any rule that even indirectly “restricts the fishing of bottomfish,” without the requisite showing of “environmental necessity.” **Commercial marine license rules, gear regulations, and a number of other existing restrictions applicable to fishing generally, all indirectly “regulate” bottomfish fishing, and would be invalidated under Section 2 of this measure.** Accordingly, this bill may have the further unintended

consequence of repealing regulations that provide critical protections for ocean resources throughout Hawai'i.

Accordingly, OHA urges the Committee to **HOLD** SB2848. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE, 2018**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

S.B. NO. 2848, RELATING TO BOTTOMFISH.

BEFORE THE:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

DATE: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 **TIME:** 2:45 p.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 224

TESTIFIER(S): Russell A. Suzuki, Acting Attorney General, or
Colin J. Lau, Deputy Attorney General

Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General appreciates the intent of this bill but notes the following comments.

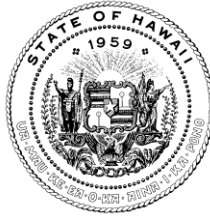
This bill adds a new section to chapter 187A, Hawaii Revised Statutes. Subsection (b) of the new section provides that any rule adopted under section 187A-5 regarding fishing for bottomfish "shall be deemed void and unenforceable" unless supported by "peer-reviewed, scientific evidence and statistics on current status of stocks," and indicating an "environmental necessity" for the regulation, as required by subsection (a).

The bill does not define the latter terms of art for the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). If undefined, there are no objective criteria to apply, nor guidance as to who should make the determination that a rule is void, nor the procedure to make the determination.

Finally, we recommend that the bill make clear whether or not it is intended to apply retroactively to existing rules. If yes, then we note that DLNR has many existing administrative rules regulating bottomfish management, fishing gear, catch reporting requirements, and even regarding taking marine life in the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. A retroactive application could have broad and unpredictable effects on existing rules, rights, duties, or pending enforcement proceedings.

We respectfully ask the Committee to hold or revise this bill.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on
WATER AND LAND

Wednesday, February 14, 2018
2:45 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224

In consideration of
SENATE BILL 2848
RELATING TO BOTTOMFISH

Senate Bill 2848 proposes to require that regulations of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) related to bottomfishing are supported by peer-reviewed scientific evidence and the current status of stocks, indicating an environmental necessity for the regulation. **The Department appreciates the intent of this measure to support science-based management and provides the following comments.**

The Department is responsible for managing the fisheries resources of the State. In the case of the Deep 7 bottomfish fishery, the Department shares management responsibility with the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Western Pacific Fisheries Management Council. To the extent possible, the Department uses peer-reviewed scientific evidence in its management decisions. Where scientific evidence is conflicting or not well-developed, the Department takes a precautionary approach in management.

Federal fisheries agencies manage deep 7 bottomfish stocks using an annual catch limit based on fishery landings data. The process for determining that limit is currently under review and subject to change. The Department has established bottomfish restricted fishing areas to protect stocks from fishing pressure. Research is currently being conducted, using acoustic tagging and tracking, to study the movement patterns of opakapaka. Preliminary results show that these fish have relatively small home ranges. The State continues to take a precautionary approach, and will consider new information as it becomes available.

The Department is unclear on what "environmental necessity" means. Again, we believe that the continued need for restricted areas should be based on biological data, such as reliable stock

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

ROBERT K. MASUDA
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

assessments over an extended period of time, rather than an “environmental necessity.” It is also unclear who would make the determination that a regulation should be “deemed void and unenforceable.” The Department defers to the Attorney General regarding any legal issues with this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

SB-2848

Submitted on: 2/14/2018 11:31:52 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/14/2018 2:45:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brendt Chang	Akira Power LLC	Support	No

Comments:

Fisheries managent in Hawaii must be managed by science and not by politics. We need the law makers of Hawaii to agree to sound science and proof when managing our ocean resources.



February 12, 2018

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Hearing Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2018
Hearing Time: 2:45PM
Regarding: SB 2848 RELATING TO BOTTOMFISH

SUPPORT of SB 2848 Relating to Bottomfish

HFACT is a not-for-profit, IRS 501c (5) organization, that advocates for small boat commercial, non-commercial, and recreational fishermen throughout Hawaii. HFACT board members sit on a number of international, regional, and federal fisheries management and endangered species advisory committees as well as state marine and coastal zone advisory committees; and, HFACT is thoroughly familiar with and participates in ocean and marine resource management in Hawaii and the Western and Central Pacific.

HFACT **SUPPORTS HB 2848** as it supports management of Hawaii's fisheries utilizing peer-reviewed science, which is a foundational principle of Hawaii Fishermen's Alliance for Conservation and Tradition.

HFACT believes that conservation of Hawaii's fisheries must embrace science. To that end, HFACT participates in a number of advisory committees to encourage the utilization of science as the bases of fisheries regulations.

The bottomfish fishery has existed as a commercial fishery since the 1930's. In the 1980's the fishery expanded with a large number of part-time participants, which led to a state of overfishing. However, through management, regulation, and voluntary rotation of fishing grounds, the bottomfish stocks rebounded. Today, bottomfish stocks are healthy and overfishing has stopped.

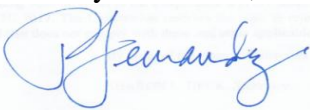
HFACT supports bottomfish fishery regulations, including registration of all bottomfish vessels, marking of bottomfish vessel with a visible "BF" markers, commercial minimum size for certain species, daily bag limits for recreational/subsistence fishing, annual catch limit for the entire fishery, and timely catch reporting.

Hawai'i Fishermen's Alliance for Conservation and Tradition, Inc.
75-796 Hiona Street, Holualoa HI 96725

Going forward, Hawaii's bottomfish stocks need continued management through science-based analysis and formulation of regulations. Today, an Annual Catch Limit is established by utilizing scientific data collected by fisheries scientists and bottomfish fishery participants. Some regulations, established in the 1990's continue to linger and remain on the books with no scientific basis. Review of these lingering regulations with scientific rigor may help in streamlining management of this important fishery. HFACT encourages the state to improve management of bottomfish stocks by utilizing science.

HFACT thanks the chair, vice-chair, and committee members for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely and Aloha,



Phil Fernandez
President

SB-2848

Submitted on: 2/9/2018 4:16:51 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/14/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Arthur Kamisugi	fishing	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2848

Submitted on: 2/9/2018 4:50:42 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/14/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Troy A. Ogasawara		Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill as it will provide for sustainable fishery management to be based on peer-reviewed scientific evidence of stock. Additionally, it will ensure that when a State and Federal management system is implemented it will be consistent with the Magnuson-Sevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

SB-2848

Submitted on: 2/9/2018 5:20:54 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/14/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
ray shirakawa		Support	No

Comments:

I AM SUBMITTING MY TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF THIS BILL. THE BRFA AREAS THAT THE STATE HAS CLOSED SHOULD ALL BE REOPENED. WE ALREADY HAVE A QUOTA IN EFFECT SO WHY SHOULD THESE AREAS BE CLOSED? A MAJOR CONSIDERATION THAT THE STATE SHOULD CONSIDER IS THAT THERE IS NO SCIENTIFIC DATA SUPPORTING THE CLOSURE OF THESE FISHING AREAS. THERE IS NOT ONE PIECE OF SCIENCE SUPPORTING WHY THESE AREAS SHOULD BE CLOSED. IF THIS WERE A COURT OF LAW HOW CAN THIS BE ENFORCED WITHOUT ANY EVIDENCE. I FISH AT SOUTH POINT ON THE BIG ISLAND AND THE STATE HAS DOUBLED THE CLOSED AREA WITHOUT ANY REASON. WHEN I WAS AT A WESPAC MEETING I ASKED A SCIENTIST WHO WAS INVOLVED IN THIS AND I ASKED HIM HOW DID HE GET TO THE DECISION OF DOUBLING THE CLOSED AREA AT SOUTH POINT ON THE BIG ISLAND. DO YOU KNOW WHAT HIS ANSWER WAS? OH I JUST FLIPPED THE CLOSED AREA OVER TO THE OTHER SIDE. "FLIPPED THE CLOSED AREA OVER TO THE OTHER SIDE" IS THIS SCIENCE? IS THIS EVIDENCE THAT THIS AREA IS OVERFISHED? HOW CAN YOU COME TO A CONCLUSION TO IMPACT LIVELIHOODS OF COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN WITH THIS KIND OF THINKING. I FLIPPED THE CLOSE AREA OVER TO THE OTHER SIDE TO DOUBLE THE AREA. THIS IS TYPICAL OF THE BRFA RIGHT NOW. THERE IS NO SCIENCE BACKING THE REASON FOR CLOSURE AND THERE ARE ALREADY QUOTAS IN PLACE WITH SCIENCE BACKED DATA SUPPORTING WHAT IS A SUSTAINABLE CATCH FOR THE FISHERY. THE STATE SHOULD OPEN ALL THESE AREAS BECAUSE WE ALREADY HAVE SCIENCE BACKED DATA SUPPORTING THE FISHERY. THE STATE HAS NO DATA WHATSOEVER OR NO SCIENCE TO BACK ALL THEIR CLAIMS AS TO WHY THESE AREAS SHOULD BE CLOSED. PLEASE RECONSIDER THESE CLOSURES AND OPEN ALL THE AREAS WHICH WOULD BE PROTECTED WITH THE QUOTAS THAT ARE MANDATED.

SB-2848

Submitted on: 2/9/2018 5:25:04 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/14/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Edwin Watamura	Watamura	Support	No

Comments:

I am in strong support of this bill. The bottom fishermen of Hawaii have been penalized by these unfair area closures for too many years and it is time to remove all of these BRFA's. We are already fishing under the federal management's Annual Catch Limit. The most recent peer reviewed stock assessment concludes that the Deep 7 bottom fishery is neither overfished or in the state of overfishing therefore the BRFA's are even more unneeded. In addition the BRFA's are unenforceable.

SB-2848

Submitted on: 2/9/2018 5:50:29 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/14/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randy Cheung		Support	No

Comments:

The BFRAs are wholly ineffective at protecting deep 7 bottomfish. Many unscrupulous fishermen fish within the BFRAs every year. None of their catch is recorded as coming from the BFRA. None of these fishermen are penalized for fishing within the BFRAs. Knowing this, any conclusions based on scientific data gathered from the BFRA program is COMPLETELY BUNK.

Its time to stop hurting honest fishermen and deep 7 bottomfish stocks with bad science!

Removing the BFRAs will allow for more accurate data, stock assessment, and annual catch limits. The end result is healthier stocks and happier fishermen. There is no downside! Please pass this bill!

SB-2848

Submitted on: 2/9/2018 8:53:43 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/14/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William K. Chang	Citizen	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2848

Submitted on: 2/10/2018 9:15:53 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/14/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Capt. Jeff Rogers		Support	No

Comments:

The (so called) "science" that was originally used to calculate the over fishing of Hawaii's bottom fish was flawed from the start. The flawed statistics used stated that recreational bottom fishermen were taking more than double that of the commercial (reported) fishermen. This instigated the requirement for a recreational bottom fishing permit. The statistics that have since been derived from this recreational permit have proven that the original statistics used to access the fishery were deeply flawed. Now the complaint from anti bottom fishing activists is that a large portion of the bottom catch is going unreported. This is NOT science but mere speculation! I support SB2848 because real science and stock assessment should be used to regulate Hawaii's bottom fishery.

SB-2848

Submitted on: 2/10/2018 9:28:29 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/14/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shyla Moon		Support	No

Comments:

SB-2848

Submitted on: 2/10/2018 10:38:09 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/14/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Watamura		Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose SB2848. Providing sustainable fishing is the goal of all Hawai`i people. When statements like "the fishermen would wipe them (the deep 7) out" are made, it only proves how out of touch our leaders are. Do some research with fishermen involved and provide real data backed by real science and you will find our fisheries are healthy and can be sustained with minimal disruption to our way of life.

SB-2848

Submitted on: 2/10/2018 10:24:41 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/14/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erica Scott	Cuddle Party	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2848

Submitted on: 2/11/2018 11:13:29 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/14/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dean Sensui	Hawaii Goes Fishing	Support	No

Comments:

I am in full support of SB2848.

Gov. David Ige is hoping the State of Hawaii can double food production in 20 years, and this helps acheive that goal.

At the present time, 12 areas are closed to bottomfish fishing, the existence of which make it harder for fishermen to get to the grounds. One of the BRFAs forces them 20 or more miles out to sea, unnecessarily exposing fishermen to higher risks when the weather turns rough.

More than a decade of expensive studies in the BRFAs proved inconclusive, and there has been no measurable benefit from the closures.

Generations of bottomfish fishermen have long understood the need take care of their resource to make sure they can always bring fish back to the dock.

Fishermen know that if there are no fish, they have no job, and they don't eat.

The creation of these BRFAs was a redundant attempt to force fishermen to save fish for the future. What fishery managers at the time didn't realize was that most bottomfish fishermen already understood that basic prinicple.

Meanwhile, steps have been taken by Federal and State fishery management agencies to ensure sustainable fishing. The annual catch limit has been established through peer-reviewed science protects the entire statewide stock, and makes the BRFAs unnecessary. The Deep 7 bottomfish are not in an overfished condition. And overfishing is not taking place.

It should be kept in mind that these fishermen harvest fish from the sea on behalf of the rest of us who can't fish. Commercial fishermen aren't fishing for themselves. It's only because of them that there is any seafood in the markets.

Please open all 12 BRFAs.

Thank you for your consideration.

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Aloha,

Dean Sensui, executive producer

Hawaii Goes Fishing

SB-2848

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 1:58:32 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/14/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Geof Walker	COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN	Support	No

Comments:

There is no science or rationale to determine which six so SB2848 is needed if we are ever to have our BRFA opened especially when the Chairman of the DLNR said in testimony that "the fishermen would wipe them (the deep 7) out" if the BRFA were opened. THERE IS NO SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE OF THIS, THIS IS SOMETHING SHE PULLED OUT OF THE AIR. Now is golden opportunity to get evidence. We know what was caught in these areas before the closure, we have the closure and now we have a base line. Lets open it and if the fishermen "wipe out all the fish" it will be evident in say 3 years. If this is the case it can always be closed again! Geoffrey Walker commercial bottomfisherman all over Hawaii since 1981!

SB-2848

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 6:02:12 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/14/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Senkus	Garden Island Trollers, Member	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB2848 and believe that this will benefit the Kauai fishing community.

February 9, 2018

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Hearing Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2018
Hearing Time: 2:45PM
Regarding: SB2848 RELATING TO BOTTOMFISH
Place: Conference Room 224

STRONG SUPPORT OF SB2848

Honorable Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard and Members of the Senate Water and Land Committee

My name is Roy Morioka, a commercial bottomfish fisherman and following provides a brief summary of **WHY PASSAGE OF SB2848 IS NEEDED.**

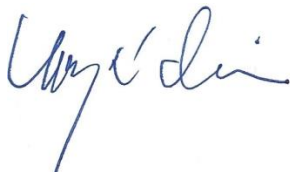
1. Hawai'i's bottomfish are **NOT OVERFISHED** (not enough fish) and **NOT EXPERIENCING OVERFISHING** (too many fishermen).
2. In 1997-98 the federal fishery management policy required monitoring of the sustainability of bottomfish utilized Spawning Potential Ratio (SPR) that favored spatial closures where larger more fecund fish were generally caught. In 2006, the policy was changed to manage the fishery through Annual Catch Limits (ACL) that utilizes temporal or season closures that ends all bottomfish fishing statewide when the catch limit reached. All fishing, retention and sale of bottomfish are prohibited once the ACL is reached. The ACL for Hawai'i's bottomfish has not been reached since implementation in 2007 and continues to today as we currently stand at 54% of the ACL.
3. The state failed to established resource baselines necessary to scientifically monitor and assess changes in bottomfish resources within and without the BRFA when initially established in 1998 and again when revised in 2006 advising that utilizing bottom structure as their preference. However, not all similar bottom structure results in holding bottomfish as bottomfish fishermen will assert.
4. The state also failed to report the efficacy of the BRFA in five (5) years in 2003 as required in the original rule established in 1998 and removed this requirement by BLNR action in 2010 advising that none was necessary as the date for that report had passed.
5. The state subsequently initiated a study beginning in 2010 that was found to be inconclusive by the Scientific and Statistical Committee of the federal fishery management entity as it failed to assess all 12 BRFA; of the four BRFA assessed two showed more and larger fish within while the third showed the opposite results and the fourth failed as the assessment gear was lost; additionally, the technology used to monitor the bottomfish were not conducted during the same period each year and failed to consider the distribution of bottomfish in the water column as the cameras were deployed 10-feet from the seafloor. Bottomfish is perhaps a misnomer as some species prefer different depths and are caught high off the bottom.

6. The state's (Bottomfish Restricted Fishing Areas) BRFA are unnecessarily large and occur in more than 50-percent in federal waters.
7. The state has failed to comply with the intent of HRS 187A-5.5 Consistency of state and federal fisheries regulations by not disestablishing BRFA as the bottomfish has not been overfished or experiencing overfishing since 2011.
8. Hawai'i's Bottomfish are currently managed under a coordinated management regime between the state and federal management authorities utilizing the federal Annual Catch Limit (ACL) protocol that provides extraordinary safety margins to avoid overfishing and overfished stocks with harvest rates >than 50-percent below the available biomass.
9. The Pacific Islands Science Center (PIFSC) the federal science agency is required to monitor bottomfish stocks in both state and federal waters and is required to provide peer reviewed stock assessments every five (5) years used to determine the (ACL) for bottomfish.
10. The state's BRFA management rule denies the effective assessment of bottomfish stocks within the BRFA for inclusion in PIFSC stock assessment used to establish the ACL as no fishery dependent data is available.
11. Finally, the state's BRFA rule fails to consider federal social, economic and safety at sea standards as prescribed by the Magnuson Stevens' Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) in federal waters that it encumbers. With the implementation of the BRFA Island bottomfish fishermen are required to travel further from port, across treacherous channels, burn more fuel and lose valuable fishing time causing many of the old timers to leave the fishery due to the loss of efficiency and increased operating costs.

As such, I strongly urge that this committee pass this measure and DIS-ESTABLISH all twelve (12) of the state's BRFA as they are superfluous as the ACL based management protocol is superior because it is based upon peer reviewed science, provides comprehensive analysis with effective reductions in allowable catch based upon scientific uncertainty, is highly and easily enforceable, effective and definitive management regime. **Under the coordinated state and federal ACL, fishing is closely monitored with landings reported within five (5) days of the catch and ends all fishing, sale or retention of bottomfish when the ACL is reached during the season.**

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on this long overdue relief from unnecessary and duplicative management protocols.

Respectfully Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Roy Morioka', written in a cursive style.

Roy Morioka

SB-2848

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 11:11:31 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/14/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
dennis kamikawa		Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support SB2848 as it is needed to open bottomfish areas closed for no reason as the ACL manages the fishery sustainably and effectively.

SB-2848

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 11:45:21 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/14/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Milholen	Kokua Hawaii Foundation	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2848

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 4:34:27 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/14/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brealand Tam		Support	No

Comments:

I as a local bottom fisherman support this bill. I have seen the data and scientific research and I believe having a quota is sufficient enough to have a sustainable fishery similar to Alaska

SB-2848

Submitted on: 2/13/2018 10:37:17 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/14/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
BOB LI		Support	No

Comments:

As a licensed commercial deep-7 bottom fisherman, I fully support SB2848.

I believe that any rule adopted by the department pursuant to section 187A-5 that regulates the fishing of bottomfish shall be supported by peer-reviewed, scientific evidence and statistics on current status of stocks, indicating an environmental necessity for the regulation.

Part of my livelihood comes from commercial bottomfishing activities. To arbitrarily impose rules on areas which are restricted for bottomfishing without scientific evidence of those areas is not fair.

I strongly believe that the current system of an annual catch limit is sufficient and fair to all fishermen. Thank you for your time.

SB-2848

Submitted on: 2/13/2018 1:22:19 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/14/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
jeff muir		Support	No

Comments:

I am a part-time commercial bottomfisherman and I support this measure.

SB-2848

Submitted on: 2/13/2018 1:48:36 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/14/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cynthia King		Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this measure, which would ensure that applied management actions and regulations for bottom fish stocks are driven by robust scientific data.

LATE

SB-2848

Submitted on: 2/13/2018 3:23:33 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/14/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
C. Pang		Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in support of SB2848 and disestablishing ALL present bottom fishing restricted areas. I believe the BFRAs should be eliminated because there is no reason supporting their continued existence. Originally they were meant as a hedge against overfishing but since then there has been established an annual catch limit which limits the overall quantity of bottom fish caught to a scientifically determined sustainable amount, so the BFRAs are no longer needed and their continued existence skews the scientific data unfairly since there is no accounting for the biomass of bottom fish within those existing BFRA.