

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
WATER AND LAND
and
AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

**Friday, March 23, 2018
2:15 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 123/SENATE RESOLUTION 82
URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO
PROHIBIT INDIVIDUALS FROM APPROACHING WITHIN FIFTY FEET OF A
HAWAIIAN MONK SEAL EXCEPT WHEN PROVIDING AID TO THE HAWAIIAN
MONK SEAL**

Senate Concurrent Resolution 123/Senate Resolution 82 urges the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to prohibit individuals from approaching within fifty feet of a Hawaiian monk seal except when providing aid to the Hawaiian monk seal. **The Department appreciates the intent of these measures.**

The Department recognizes the importance of Hawaiian monk seal protection and to that effect already works closely under a Joint Enforcement Agreement with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to enforce federal laws that prohibit the harassment of monk seals and federal marine wildlife viewing guidelines that recommend remaining at least 50 yards away.

The Department recommends that these resolutions be directed toward NOAA, the primary agency responsible for establishing regulations and guidelines to protect monk seals and humans from harmful interaction.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these measures.

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

SCR-123

Submitted on: 3/21/2018 9:41:17 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/23/2018 2:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

SCR-123

Submitted on: 3/20/2018 2:42:39 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/23/2018 2:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cathy Goeggel	Testifying for Animal Rights Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

SCR-123

Submitted on: 3/22/2018 3:22:46 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/23/2018 2:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Inga Gibson	Testifying for West Hawaii Humane Society, For the Fishes	Support	No

Comments:

SCR-123

Submitted on: 3/21/2018 7:26:31 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/23/2018 2:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

Volunteers had to work overtime to protect Kaimana last year. Additional protection by DLNR with a specific distance for a buffer would help protect our endangered mammal. Please pass this and ST 82! Mahalo!

SCR-123

Submitted on: 3/20/2018 5:06:36 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/23/2018 2:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

SCR-123

Submitted on: 3/22/2018 8:44:49 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/23/2018 2:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrea Nandoskar	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass SCR123,SR82 protecting monk seals with a 50' buffer. As a resident of Waikiki, it became evident that more protection is needed to keep monk seals safe from curious bystanders, even those who are well intentioned. Volunteers had to work overtime to protect Kaimana last year. Additional protection by DLNR with a specific distance for a buffer is direly needed to help protect our endangered mammal. Please pass this resolution! Mahalo for your consideration.

SCR-123

Submitted on: 3/22/2018 3:46:42 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/23/2018 2:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shyla Moon	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: