

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
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**Testimony of  
SUZANNE D. CASE  
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committees on  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM, AND TECHNOLOGY  
and  
AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

**Friday, March 23, 2018  
1:20 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of  
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 171/SENATE RESOLUTION 100  
REQUESTING THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH A  
CAMPAIGN TO EDUCATE VISITORS TO THE STATE ABOUT THE HARMFUL  
EFFECTS OF OXYBENZONE SUNSCREEN ON CORAL REEFS AND TO  
ENCOURAGE VISITORS TO THE STATE TO REFRAIN FROM USING  
OXYBENZONE SUNSCREENS**

Senate Concurrent Resolution 171/Senate Resolution 100 requests the Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA) to establish a campaign to educate visitors to the state about the harmful effects of oxybenzone sunscreen on coral reefs and to encourage visitors to the state to refrain from using oxybenzone sunscreens. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports these measures.**

The Department conducts outreach efforts to help the public understand the issues regarding using oxybenzone and similar chemicals in the ocean so they can be better informed and make better choices regarding sun protection. These efforts include information on the Department's Division of Aquatic Resources website, focused one-on-one outreach and distribution of oxybenzone-free sunscreen samples at public events, outreach at the 'Āhihi-Kīna'u Natural Area Reserve, news releases, videos, interaction with partner organizations, and meetings with boat tour operators and vendors who sell sunscreen to spread the word. A campaign by HTA to educate visitors about oxybenzone use would greatly expand the reach of this message.

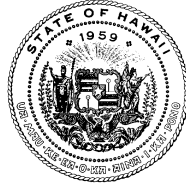
Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these measures.

**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



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**Testimony COMMENTING on SCR 171 and SR 100**  
**REQUESTING THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH A**  
**CAMPAIGN TO EDUCATE VISITORS TO THE STATE ABOUT THE HARMFUL**  
**EFFECTS OF OXYBENZONE SUNSCREEN ON CORAL REEFS AND TO**  
**ENCOURAGE VISITORS TO THE STATE TO REFRAIN FROM USING**  
**OXYBENZONE SUNSCREENS**

SENATOR GLENN WAKAI, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM, AND  
TECHNOLOGY

SENATOR MIKE GABBARD, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Hearing Date: March 23, 2018  
Time: 1:20 P.M.

Room Number: 224

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** No funding is provided to implement this measure and the Department
- 2 defers to the Governor's Supplemental Budget Request for appropriation priorities.
- 3 **Department Testimony:** The Department supports the intent of these resolutions and defers to
- 4 the Hawaii Tourism Authority to determine the resource needs and feasibility of establishing a
- 5 public education campaign to inform visitors about actions they can take to protect Hawaii's
- 6 coral reefs, while enjoying our beaches and staying safe from the sun's harmful rays.
- 7 The Department encourages public education efforts that offer simple, voluntary measures like
- 8 applying water resistant, oxybenzone-free sunscreens, mineral sunblocks and/or wearing
- 9 protective clothing while at the beach to protect both our precious coral reefs and our health.
- 10
- 11 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

**SCR-171**

Submitted on: 3/20/2018 4:57:24 PM

Testimony for ETT on 3/23/2018 1:20:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Leimomi Khan	Testifying for Democratic Party of Hawaii, Hawaiian Affairs Caucu	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-171**

Submitted on: 3/21/2018 7:07:12 PM

Testimony for ETT on 3/23/2018 1:20:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Circe Carr	Individual	Support	No

Comments: