A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE STATE SHRIMP.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1   SECTION 1. Anchialine pools, also known as wai ʻōpae, are

2 considered to be wahi pana, or culturally sacred, special

3 ecosystems in Hawaii. Of the seven hundred recorded anchialine

4 pools in Hawaii, over six hundred fifty pools are located in the

5 county of Hawaii, mostly in the districts of north and south

6 Kona and Kaʻū.

7   The ʻōpae ʻula is a species of shrimp endemic to Hawaii's

8 anchialine pools. The population of ʻōpae ʻula is an important

9 indicator of the health of an anchialine pool. In healthy

10 anchialine pools, the population of ʻōpae ʻula is abundant.

11   The legislature finds that the designation of the ʻōpae ʻula

12 as the state shrimp will raise awareness of the ʻōpae ʻula and

13 support efforts to protect anchialine pool ecosystems throughout

14 the State as a natural resource. In designating the ʻōpae ʻula

15 as the state shrimp, the legislature does not intend to prevent

1   or impact the traditional and ongoing practice of harvesting

2   ʻōpae to be used in ʻōpelu fishing.

3   SECTION 2. Chapter 5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended

4   by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to

5   read as follows:

6   "**§5-   State shrimp.** The ʻōpae ʻula (Halocaridina rubra),

7   also known as the red shrimp, is established and designated as

8   the official shrimp of the State."

9   SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

10   SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

11

INTRODUCED BY: _____

JAN 1 8 2019

Report Title:
Wai ʻŌpae; ʻŌpae ʻUla; Ecosystem; Conservation

Description:
Establishes the ʻōpae ʻula as the state shrimp to protect anchialine pool ecosystems throughout Hawaii.

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