

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, January 30, 2019  
1:15 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

**In consideration of  
SENATE BILL 489  
RELATING TO SHARK AND RAY PROTECTION**

Senate Bill 489 proposes to establish an offense of knowingly capturing, taking, possessing, abusing, entangling, or killing a shark in state marine waters, along with penalties and fines; expands the existing prohibition on knowingly capturing or killing a manta ray in state marine waters to apply to all rays and to also include knowingly taking, possessing, abusing, or entangling a ray; and provides certain exemptions. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure and offers the following comments.**

The Department recognizes the important role sharks and rays play in maintaining healthy marine ecosystems, and the detrimental impact from significantly depleting their populations in our waters. The Department also recognizes the importance of these species for native Hawaiian cultural beliefs and practices, as well as their value for ocean recreation and tourism.

The Department supports regulating the take of sharks and rays, and will implement this measure by adopting regulations through the administrative rulemaking process to evaluate and apply scientific management principles, give due consideration to public interests, and carefully craft language to avoid conflict with existing state and federal laws.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

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

**ROBERT K. MASUDA**  
FIRST DEPUTY

**M. KALEO MANUEL**  
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



**SB489**  
RELATING TO SHARK AND RAY PROTECTION  
Senate Committee on Water and Land

January 30, 2019

1:15 p.m.

Room 229

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The Administration of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) will recommend that the Board of Trustees **SUPPORT** SB489, which would prohibit the killing, capturing, or otherwise harming of any shark or ray species in state waters.

**OHA supports strong protections for culturally important species that also serve critical ecological functions.** As this bill recognizes, Hawai'i's shark and ray species may hold special cultural significance for Native Hawaiians. For example, sharks and rays are recognized as kinolau for Kū and Kanaloa, and certain individuals and species can be regarded as 'aumakua by some families. Sharks and rays are also featured in mo'olelo, 'ōlelo no'eau, and other cultural narratives that inform the Hawaiian understanding of the world and our natural environment. OHA also understands that the ecological services provided by apex predators such as sharks promote a healthy ocean environment, which is necessary for the continuation of Native Hawaiian cultural and subsistence practices. **Accordingly, OHA appreciates the proposed enhanced protections for shark and ray species in state waters.**

OHA notes that sharks and rays are also used for traditional and customary practices, including in the crafting of implements, weapons and ceremonial objects; OHA accordingly further appreciates the proposed statutory language explicitly allowing for the continuation of such cultural practices.

Finally, OHA appreciates the inclusion of Hawaiian names for sharks and rays, specifically the use of manō (shark) and hīhīmanu (ray) in the respective section titles of the measure. OHA notes that while Hawaiian language references confirm the name hīhīmanu for various classes of rays, there are at least two other names commonly associated with rays: hāhālua and hailepo. OHA respectfully suggests that all three names commonly associated with rays be included in the appropriate section title to ensure Hawaiian terms are consistent with the measure's purpose to expand protection to all species of rays.

Accordingly, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** SB489. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





**TO:** Honorable Chair Kahele and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land  
January 30, 2019, 115pm

**SUBMITTED BY:** Inga Gibson, Policy Consultant, West Hawaii Humane Society  
[ponoadvocacy@gmail.com](mailto:ponoadvocacy@gmail.com), 808.922.9910

**RE: STRONG SUPPORT for SB489, Relating to Shark and Ray Protection**

The West Hawaii Humane Society respectfully urges your support of SB489 which would prohibit the capture or killing of sharks or rays in state waters (within 3 nm) except for research purposes, under DLNR issued Special Activity Permits, the use of shark parts/products for native Hawaiian cultural purposes and at the discretion of DLNR if necessary for emergency purposes.

In 2010, Hawaii became the first state in the world to enact a prohibition on shark-finning and the sale of shark-fins or fin products. This measure would complement this existing law, which has now become a global initiative, by again poising Hawaii to be a leader in shark and marine conservation. While current laws prohibit the possession or sale of shark fins or fin products there is no law preventing the capture or killing of sharks.

Tens of millions of sharks are estimated to be killed annually for their fins. While anti-finning laws have improved shark populations, many species are still threatened and face possible extinction. Recent research from the University of Hawaii has shown that many species of shark, such as tiger and hammerhead, frequent state waters, especially the marine shelf around Maui, and are faced with numerous threats, most notably human activity and pollution (SEE: Hawaii Scientists Study Threatened Shark Species)

There is no directed commercial shark fishery in Hawaii waters so this would not be expected to have a negative economic impact on commercial fishing interests. Evidence suggests that juvenile reef sharks are taken in small numbers by Hawaii's aquarium trade for personal aquariums outside Hawaii, but, citing confidentially, DLNR does not release any specific data on the numbers of sharks taken for aquarium purposes. Further, this measure does NOT preempt or impact federal fishing laws, and only applies to Hawaii state waters (3 nm).

With the growing number of interactions between ocean users and sharks this measure would

prevent consideration of any ineffective culling efforts including individuals who may target sharks due to misinformation about their importance in overall ocean health and resiliency.

Finally, sharks are apex predators; when they are removed our entire marine ecosystem is negatively impacted. In addition, sharks and rays are not a staple human food source as other fish species are. Below is a list of the 40 species of sharks that may be found in Hawaii waters. DLNR notes that it is difficult to distinguish between certain species of shark thus this measure applies to all sharks.

Current law prohibits the take of only Manta Ray species. This measure would extend this protection to all species of rays in state waters (listed below), including Torpedo, Stingray, Devilray and Eagleray, *Manta alfredi* (reef mantas) and *Mobula tarapacana* (sicklefin devilray).

While the trade has not yet hit Hawaii, China and other countries have begun mass harvesting of rays for their gills/gill soup, especially since shark populations are still facing serious decline and many states and island nations now prohibit selling shark fin products. This measure would prevent any future trade in harvesting Hawaii rays as we saw in 2015 with the mass commercial harvesting of our sea cucumbers for international interests (DLNR has since prohibited the commercial harvest of sea cucumbers).

Rays are known to be among the slowest marine species to reproduce. For example, new data on manta ray reproduction suggest that they may reproduce even more slowly than previously believed, with a maximum lifetime reproduction potential estimated at only 5 to 15 offspring. Such extremely low reproductive capacity shows that manta and mobula rays are far more vulnerable to exploitation than previously known, and that immediate investment in their conservation is necessary to avoid continued rapid declines (SEE: <http://www.wildaid.org/mantas>)

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important marine animal protection measure.



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY  
OF THE UNITED STATES**



**HUMANE SOCIETY  
INTERNATIONAL**

**TO: Honorable Chairs Rhoads, Taniguchi and Committee Members  
Senate Committee on Water and Land**

**January 30, 2019, 1:15 p.m.**

**FROM: Heather Carpenter, Western Regional Director, The Humane Society of the  
United States, [hcarpenter@humanesociety.org](mailto:hcarpenter@humanesociety.org), Phone number: 702.929.2999**

**RE: SUPPORT FOR SB 489; Relating to Shark and Ray Protection**

On behalf of The Humane Society of the United States, Humane Society International and our members and supporters across Hawaii, we urge your support of SB 489 which would impose penalties for anyone who knowingly captures, takes or kills sharks or rays in state waters except for a few specific exemptions, such as research purposes, under DLNR issued Special Activity Permits, exercising native Hawaiian gathering rights and cultural practices and at the discretion of DLNR for specific, emergency public safety reasons.

**Why sharks and rays need protection:**

- Hawaii is one of the first states to prohibit shark finning. In 2010, Hawaii became the first state to enact a ban on the sale of shark-fins or fin products. To this date, 13 states have adopted similar measures following Hawaii's footsteps. SB 489 would further complement existing law, which has now become a global initiative, and further maintain Hawaii's global conservation leadership in shark and marine conservation. While current laws prohibit the possession or sale of shark fins or fin products there is no law preventing the capture, abuse or killing of sharks in state waters.
- With the growing interest and number of commercial tour operators involved in ray diving tours, this measure would ensure that protections are afforded to ray species. If enacted, with SB 489 Hawaii would establish another "first in the world" record by prohibiting the take, capture and killing of ray species in state waters.
- The number of shark and ray landings globally increased by 227% from 1950 to 2003.<sup>1</sup> However, actual number of animals killed is much larger since these data represent when animals are caught and brought to shore (landed) and do not account for illegal catches or discards.

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<sup>1</sup> IUCN Shark Specialist Group. Questions and Answers.

- One quarter of shark and ray species are threatened with extinction due to overfishing and other fishing threats. Five out of the seven most threatened Chondrichthyan species are rays.<sup>2</sup>
- Tens of millions of sharks are estimated to be killed annually for their fins. While anti-finning laws are designed to halt further shark population declines, many species are still threatened and face possible extinction. Recent research from the University of Hawaii<sup>3</sup> has shown that many species of shark, such as tiger and hammerhead, frequent state waters, especially the marine shelf around Maui, and are faced with numerous threats most notably humans and pollution.
- There is no directed commercial shark fishery in Hawaii state waters. SB 489 would not be expected to have a negative economic impact on commercial fishing interests. Commercial fisheries operating in federal waters reported catching 85,067 sharks and releasing 84,441 of them.<sup>4</sup>
- This measure does NOT preempt or impact federal fishing laws, and only applies to Hawaii state waters.
- With the growing number of interactions between ocean users and shark and rays, this measure would prevent consideration of ineffective mass culling efforts and those individuals who may target sharks due to misinformation. Cases involving cruelty against sharks in recent years<sup>5</sup> have prompted public outcry and highlighted public desire for strong penalties for cruelty against sharks.<sup>6</sup>
- Sharks are apex predators and play a vital role in maintaining the balance of marine ecosystem. Research has found that massive removal of sharks has a cascading effect throughout the ecosystems that they inhabit.
- Current law prohibits the take of *only giant oceanic* Manta Ray species. SB 489 would extend this protection to all species of rays in state waters (listed below), including Torpedo, Stingray, Devilray and Eagleray, Manta alfredi (reef manta ray) and Mobula tarapacana (sicklefin devilray).
- Rays are killed in massive numbers for their meat, gill rakers, gill plates, and fins (called “wings” and also used in shark fin soup) and traded worldwide. The significant increase in global demand for these parts poses a major threat to multiple species of vulnerable elasmobranchs.<sup>7</sup> SB 489 would prevent any future trade in harvesting rays in the Hawaii state waters as we saw recently with the mass commercial harvesting of our sea cucumbers by international companies. DLNR has since prohibited commercial harvest of sea cucumbers.
- Sharks and rays share life history traits that make them particularly vulnerable to overexploitation and population collapse.<sup>8</sup> These include slow growth; low fecundity;

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.iucnssg.org/global-conservation-status-of-sharks-and-rays.html>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.voanews.com/a/2641635.html>

<sup>4</sup> [http://www.pifsc.noaa.gov/fmb/reports/hlreports/areport\\_items.php?yr=2014&type=tbl&num=1](http://www.pifsc.noaa.gov/fmb/reports/hlreports/areport_items.php?yr=2014&type=tbl&num=1)

<sup>5</sup> Video of tiger shark torture sparks outcry in Hawaii. [https://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/09/13/shark-torture-video-n\\_3922319.html](https://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/09/13/shark-torture-video-n_3922319.html)

<sup>6</sup> Three Florida men charged for shark dragging. <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2017/12/12/3-florida-men-charged-in-shark-dragging-video.html>

<sup>7</sup> Ellis, J. R., S. R. McCully Phillips, and F. Poisson. 2017. A review of capture and post-release mortality of elasmobranchs. J. Fish Biol. 90:653–722.

<sup>8</sup> Ebert, D.A. 2001. Sharks, Rays, and Chimaeras of California. University of California Press.

few, well-formed young; long gestation period; and delayed age at first reproduction that together are known in the ecological literature as a “K-selected life history”.<sup>9</sup>

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important marine conservation issue. We urge swift passage of SB 489.

Below is a list of the 40 species of sharks and rays that may be found in Hawaii waters. DLNR notes that it is difficult to distinguish between certain species of sharks and rays thus this measure applies to all sharks and rays.

**Hawaii Shark and Ray Species List:** <http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/sharks/hawaii-sharks/species-list/>

(EN: Endangered; VU – Vulnerable; NT – Near Threatened; LC: Least Concern; DD – Data Deficient)

## **Sharks**

### **Order Orectolobiformes**

#### **Family Rhincodontidae**

Whale shark, *Rhincodon typus*, VU

### **Order Carcharhiniformes**

#### **Family Scyliorhinidae**

Sponge-headed cat shark, *Apristurus spongiceps*, DD

#### **Family Pseudotriakidae**

False cat shark, *Pseudotriakis microdon*, DD

#### **Family Carcharhinidae**

Bignose shark, *Carcharhinus altimus*, DD

Gray reef shark, *Carcharhinus amblyrhynchos*, NT

Silky shark, *Carcharhinus falciformes*, NT

Galapagos shark, *Carcharhinus galapagensis*, NT

Blacktip shark, *Carcharhinus limbatus*, NT

Oceanic whitetip, *Carcharhinus longimanus*, VU

Blacktip reef shark, *Carcharhinus melanopterus*, NT

Sandbar shark, *Carcharhinus plumbeus*, VU

Tiger shark, *Galeocerdo cuvier*, NT

Blue shark, *Prionace glauca*, NT

Whitetip reef shark, *Triaenodon obesus*, NT

#### **Family Sphyrnidae**

Scalloped hammerhead, *Sphyrna lewini*, EN

Smooth hammerhead, *Sphyrna zygaena*, VU

### **Order Lamniformes**

#### **Family Odontaspidae**

Smalltooth sand tiger shark, *Odontaspis ferox*, VU

Bigeye sand tiger shark, *Odontaspis noronhai*, DD

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<sup>9</sup> Hoenig, J.M. and Gruber, S.M. 1990. Life-History Patterns in the Elasmobranchs: Implications for Fisheries Management in Elasmobranchs as Living Resources: Advances in the Biology, Ecology, Systematics, and the Status of the Fisheries (H.L. Pratt Jr., S.H. Gruber, and T. Taniuchi, eds.) NOAA Technical Report 90 (1990).

**Family Pseudocarchariidae**

Crocodile shark, *Pseudocarcharias kamoharai*, NT

**Family Megachasmidae**

Megamouth shark, *Megachasma pelagios*, DD

**Family Alopiidae**

Pelagic thresher shark, *Alopias pelagicus*, VU

Bigeye thresher shark, *Alopias superciliosus*, VU

**Family Lamnidae**

White shark, *Carcharodon carcharias*, VU

Short-finned mako, *Isurus oxyrinchus*, VU

Longfin mako, *Isurus paucus*, VU

**Order Hexanchiformes****Family Hexanchidae**

Frilled shark, *Chlamydoselachus anguineus*, NT

Bluntnose sixgill shark, *Hexanchus griseus*, NT

**Order Squaliformes****Family Echinorhinidae**

Prickly shark, *Echinorhinus cookei*, NT

**Family Dalatiidae**

Combtooth dogfish, *Centroscyllium nigrum*, DD

Kitefin shark, *Dalatias licha*, NT

Blurred smooth lantern shark, *Etmopterus bigelowi*, LC

Blackbelly lantern shark, *Etmopterus lucifer*, LC

Smooth lantern shark, *Etmopterus pusillus*, LC

Hawaiian lantern shark, *Etmopterus villosus*, LC

Pygmy shark, *Euprotomicrus bispinatus*, LC

Cookiecutter shark, *Isistius brasiliensis*, LC

Viper dogfish, *Trigonognathus kabeyai*, DD

Velvet dogfish, *Scymnodon squamulosus*, DD

**Family Centrophoridae**

Mosaic gulper shark, *Centrophorus tessellatus*, DD

Gulper shark, *Centrophorus granulosus*, VU

**Family Squalidae**

Shortspine spurdog shark, *Squalus mitsukurii*, DD

**Rays****Order Torpediniformes****Family Torpedinidae**

Torpedo ray, *Torpedo sp.*, DD or LC, depending on species

**Order Myliobatiformes****Family Plesiobatidae**

Giant stingaree, *Plesiobatis daviesi*, LC

**Family Hexatrygonidae**

Sixgill stingray, *Hexatrygon bickelli*, LC

Longnosed deepwater ray, *Hexatrygon longirostra*, IUCN uncertain whether separate species

**Family Dasyatidae**

Diamond stingray, *Dasyatis dipterura*, DD

Brown stingray, *Dasyatis lata*, LC

Pelagic stingray, *Pteroplatytrygon violacea*, LC

**Family Myliobatidae**

Spotted eagle ray, *Aetobatus narinari*, NT

**Family Mobulidae**

Manta ray, *Manta birostris*, VU

Spinetail devil ray, *Mobula japonica*, NT

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/25/2019 5:18:10 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cathy Goeggel	Testifying for Animal Rights Hawai'i	Support	Yes

Comments:

The health of our oceans, which surround our island state is vital to our reefs, and sharks play an important role in keeping our waters clean. We are in strong support!



## In Support Of SB489



On behalf of Keiko Conservation and our international supporters, I would like to voice our support for Bill SB489 to further protect sharks and rays in Hawaiian waters.

Of particular concern to us is Hawaii's scalloped hammerhead shark population, a species classified as endangered in other parts of the world, and severely vulnerable to at-vessel (Morgan, A. and G. H. Burgess. 2007) or post-release mortality due to the stress of struggling on a line and build up of lactic acid. Although the tropical fish on Hawaii's reefs have gained protection from the aquarium fish trade this past year, sharks are still vulnerable to this practice. Sharks caught for aquariums are usually juveniles, as the smaller they are, the longer they tend to live in a confined space. This takes many sharks out of Hawaiian waters long before they have a chance to reach sexual maturity and reproduce. Studies have show that the survival rate of juvenile sharks can play the largest role in that animal's overall population rate (Heppell et al. 1999, Cortes 2002). Unfortunately, the mortality rate is very high during the capture (Morgan, A. and G. H. Burgess. 2007) and transport of these animals, so multiples have to be caught which could be anywhere from 20 to 90 animals for one aquarium (Keyes, R. 2000, Arai 1997), making the impact on our reefs even higher. Scalloped hammerheads in Kaneohe Bay have been taken for aquariums and shipped everywhere from Louisiana to Tokyo (Young, F. A., Kajiura, S. M., Visser, G. J., Correia, J. P.S. and Smith, M. F.L. 2002), profiting few but impacting many.

The fight to save sharks is not just to save sharks. It is a fight for to help save the overall health of the oceans as well. No matter how landlocked we may find ourselves on this planet, more than half of the oxygen we breathe still comes from the ocean. Marine ecosystems are fragile and intricate. Every organism has a role. Sharks have arguably one of the most important roles in the ecosystems they inhabit. Removing them can inadvertently cause a domino effect that can lethally impact organisms all the way down the food chain, wiping out everything from bivalves to plankton. The same plankton that produces the oxygen we breathe. The ocean is being attacked from all angles by human action. It has never been so important to give sharks as much protection as we possibly can and we hope you will consider the passing of this bill.

Mahalo!

Natalie Parra

Co-Founder of Keiko Conservation

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 6:40:54 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lisa Bishop	Testifying for Friends of Hanauma Bay	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Kahele and committee members,

Friends of Hanauma Bay strongly support SB489 which provides much needed and overdue protection to rays and sharks swimming in State marine waters.

Mahalo,

Lisa Bishop

President

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 6:19:36 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kelly Deuser	Testifying for One Ocean Diving	Support	No

Comments:

**From:** [Paul Friese](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: 2018 commercial Shark poaching reports - SB 489  
**Date:** Sunday, January 27, 2019 8:49:56 AM  
**Attachments:** [Kyoshin Maru case.pdf](#)  
[Keehi Hammerheads notes.pdf](#)

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Please accept the following reports as they pertain to SB 489.

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Paul Friese** <[pfhawaii@gmail.com](mailto:pfhawaii@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Sat, Jan 26, 2019 at 3:50 PM  
**Subject:** 2018 commercial Shark poaching reports  
**To:** <[sengabbard@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:sengabbard@capitol.hawaii.gov)>

Aloha MIke,

I have done fisheries investigation out of Asia for the past 8 years while managing the Bali Sharks Rescue center. Attached are 2 important reports as even though Hawaii has a finning law, commercial fisheries has its own laws, black market, mafia etc. Sharks are just a small sub category of IUU (Illegal Unregulated, Unreported) Fishing. Hope this not only details the needs to saving these animals, but also expose the larger transnational crime issues Hawaii is a hub for. Besides the basic cultural and environmental reasons, sharks fishing draws other massive crimes such as human and drug trafficking which state authorities appear to be oblivious too.

Thanks,  
Paul Friese  
366.9365

## The KYOSHIN MARUs' and Shark Fin Smuggling Bust in Hawaii (The IUU Files)

On November 8, 2018, Hawaii News Now reported that Indonesian nationals had been apprehended at Honolulu's International Airport with suitcases full of shark fins. The US Fish & Wild Services filed a federal complaint as it violates the Hawaii [§ 188-40.7] Shark fins prohibited law along with the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. §§ 1538(c)(1) and 1538(g) which makes it illegal to possess, trade, sell, ship, export, etc. any endangered species.

### Agents bust alleged shark fin smuggling ring at Honolulu's airport

The men reportedly had the shark fins in their luggage



The men, with their suitcases boarded the bus to the federal jail Thursday afternoon (Kawano, Lynn)

(link = <https://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/2018/11/09/agents-bust-alleged-shark-fin-smuggling-ring-honolulu-airport/>)

According to court documents, 18 fishermen from the Japanese vessel **KYOSHIN MARU #20** were picked up by a water taxi and taken to Pier 36 in Honolulu Harbor. The 18 foreigners were then taken to HNL airport for an ANA (All Nippon Airways) flight back to Indonesia through Japan. However, 10 of the nationals were arrested with 962 shark fins in "their" luggage. Fins from the Oceanic Whitetip Shark, a protected species were found in the batch.

Case 1:18-mj-01253-RLP Document 2 Filed 11/09/18 Page 1 of 13 PageID #: 6

**ORIGINAL**

FILED IN THE  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF HAWAII  
NOV 9 2018  
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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF HAWAII

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ) MAG. NO. 18-01253 RLP  
Plaintiff, )  
 ) CRIMINAL COMPLAINT  
vs. )  
 )  
ABDIRAHMAN (01), )  
DEAN ANDRIYANTO (02), )  
YULI HARYANTO (03), )  
TAUFIK HIDAYAT (04), )  
BUDI MELYANA (05), )  
DENI NURYANTO (06), )  
PURWANTO (07), )  
MAMAN RUKMANA (08), )  
TEGUR IMAM SANTOSO (09), and )  
IBNU FAHMI ZAKI (10), )



### Shimizu Port

The **KYOSHIN MARU #20** originated from, then after fishing and making its Hawaii drop, headed back to Japan's Shimizu Port. The port is 154 kilometers away from Narita Airport (NRT) which is All Nippon Airway's connecting hub from Honolulu. It makes no sense for a vessel headed to Tokyo to drop foreign workers off in Hawaii spending \$1000 per ticket to fly them back into Tokyo without some sort of massive benefit or cover up. Perhaps exploiting Hawaii's relaxed enforcement towards smuggling contraband and human rights labor laws are less risk than bringing foreign Indonesian workers back to fly out from Japan.



### Smugglers or Mules?

Foreign crews are usually contracted through agents and not by the deep water fishing vessels they are placed on. They do not speak English. Furthermore fishermen do not have suitcases when they are out at sea and would not be able to book flights much less be able to pay for airfare.

- Who gave them new suitcases upon arrival in Hawaii to place fins in?
- Who booked & paid for their ANA tickets?
- Where was the final destination for the luggage and travelers?
- Who arranged their water taxi pick up & airport transfer?
- Who hired the Attorney that represented one of the fisherman?

Based on how organized the incident was and past pattern of consistency, it appears to be an ongoing crime with domestic involvement.



**Kyoshin Marus’ (21 times since 2012)**

According to Global Fishing Watch’s platform we can cross reference the **KYOSHIN MARU #1, #20, and #31** past movements. Since 2012, the boats have pulled up 10-15 miles off Honolulu Hawaii 21 times avoiding Harbor entry.

(Video link = <https://youtu.be/DfsYtbOQYow>)



**WCPFC Finning & Transshipping violations**

The Western Central Pacific Fishery Commission (WCPFC) considers it a violation to have over a 5% weight of shark fin too carcass ratio. The act of transporting fish product from a Japanese fishing vessel to another boat, even a water taxi, in USA’s Economic Zone (EEZ) is considered a transshipping violation.



**SEVENTH REGULAR SESSION**

Honolulu, Hawaii, USA

6-10 December 2010

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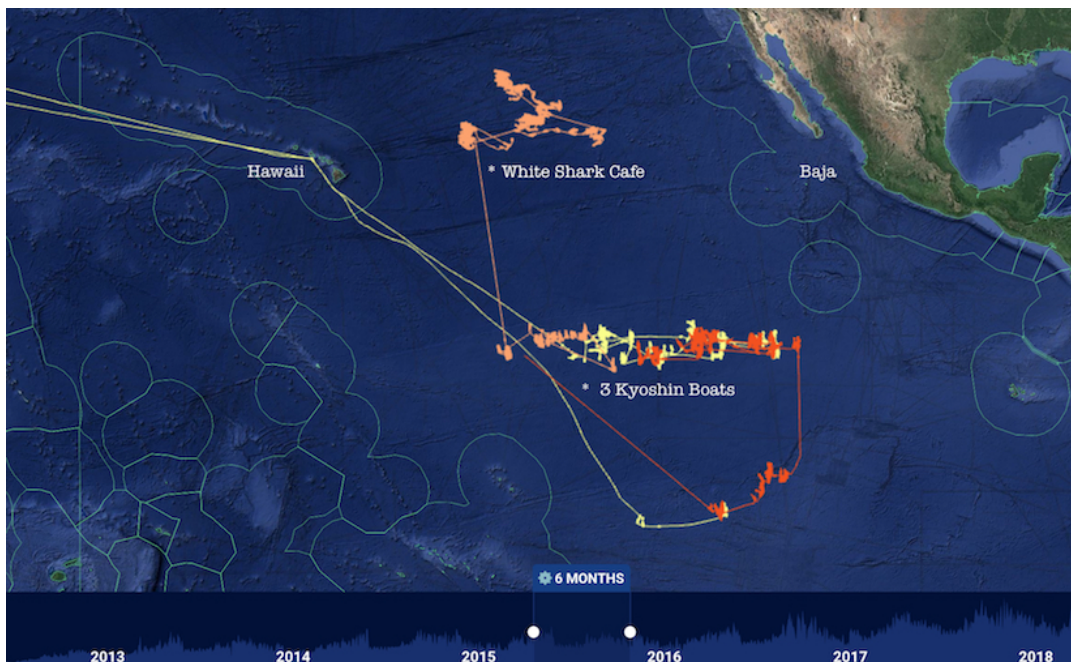
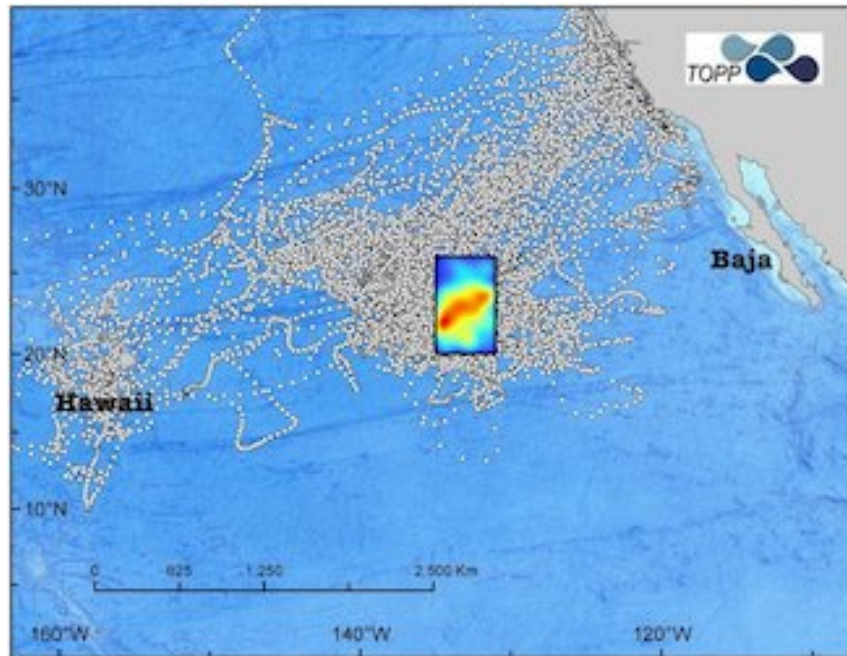
**CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURE FOR SHARKS**

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7. CCMs shall require their vessels to have on board fins that total no more than 5% of the weight of sharks on board up to the first point of landing. CCMs that currently do not require fins and carcasses to be offloaded together at the point of first landing shall take the necessary measures to ensure compliance with the 5% ratio through certification, monitoring by an observer, or other appropriate measures. CCMs may alternatively require that their vessels land sharks with fins attached to the carcass or that fins not be landed without the corresponding carcass.

**Poaching the White Shark Cafe** (Targeting sharks - part 1)

According to Schmidt Ocean Institute and Stanford University’s Center for Ocean Solutions, an area of research between Hawaii and Baja, California is considered “the White Shark Cafe.” It is named after a Great White Shark aggregation site being studied in hopes of turning it into a UNESCO World Heritage Site.





### **No Dorsal or Caudal fins. (Targeting sharks - part 2)**

Based on evidence provided it appears “the smugglers” were not in possession of premium higher valued fins such as the larger Dorsal & Caudal (tail) fins. They most likely remained on the **KYOSHIN MARU** headed back to Japan.



### **Other Potential Relevant Law Infractions**

Based on evidence it would appear the Indonesians were mules for a much larger fishery syndicate consistent with other Illegal, Unregulated, Unreported (IUU) violations. These violations include human rights issues such as modern day slavery laws and international fishery violations such as transshipping violations.

- **Shark Finning Prohibition Act** On December 21, 2000, United States Congress enacted the law making it unlawful for vessels to catch & cut off shark fins within United States Exclusive Economic Zone. (EEZ)
- **U.S. Code, Title 22, Chapter 78 - Trafficking Victims Protection** Protecting against transnational crime including forced labor and involves significant violations of labor, public health, and human rights standards worldwide.
- **The Victims of Trafficking and Violence Prevention Act** (TVPA) combats trafficking in persons, especially into the sex trade, slavery, and involuntary servitude.

### **\*\*December 14, 2018 Court Filing update**

[http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/2018/12/14/indonesian-fishermen-caught-trying-smuggle-shark-fins-hawaii-get-off-with-fine/?fbclid=IwAR2\\_VoHITzD6Ah-2Cc1OKJoJxV-H9zctKDK4bf-hv5AtNwVr2r9HJw2JRd4](http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/2018/12/14/indonesian-fishermen-caught-trying-smuggle-shark-fins-hawaii-get-off-with-fine/?fbclid=IwAR2_VoHITzD6Ah-2Cc1OKJoJxV-H9zctKDK4bf-hv5AtNwVr2r9HJw2JRd4)

### **\*December 11, 2018 Court Filing update**

<https://www.kitv.com/story/39627208/five-japanese-nationals-charged-with-smuggling-nearly-1000-shark-fins-in-and-out-of-hawaii>

*Not much has changed...*

### **Hawaii's Shark Fin smuggling History**

Although its difficult to detect when shark finning originated within Hawaii, the first documented case gets interesting. In what was anticipated as a huge possible drug bust, became Hawaii's first exposure to a massive shark fin trade. Carroll Cox, a former U.S. Fish & Wildlife Special Agent recounts the 1999 incident,

*“an illegal shipment of 11 tons of shark fin with the commercial long line fishing vessel ‘Two Star.’ The ‘Two Star’ met the foreign vessel ‘M/T Unam Poseiden’ on 1/15/99, 0800 hours, at N17.55 / West L59.35, approximately 271 miles from Honolulu, where the fins were ‘transshipped.’ The shark fins were spread over the pier because they were accidentally exposed to sea water during the transfer. The owners informed officials that they were sorting the tainted fins and would be dumping them. Subsequently the entire load was placed on the tractor trailer and shipped out of the United States.”*

Prior to that, in April 1998 National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS) documents American fishing vessels in Hawaii, transshipping thousands of pounds of shark fin from foreign fishing vessels. As explained by a shipping agent at the time,

*“A supply vessel roams the world's oceans, refueling and resupplying fishing boats. The fishing boats sell their shark fins to the supply vessel, where they are accumulated until they rendezvous with an American fishing vessel approximately 200 miles from Hawaii, on the high seas. The American vessel transports the fins to Honolulu where they are placed in containers and shipped out.”*



©Carroll Cox/Envirowatch



Indonesian near shore shark poaching comparisons  
for 6/26/18 Hammerhead dump incident @ Keehi Lagoon



1. Gill net damage on Black Tip Reef pup in Bali.
2. Dermal pigmentation darkening shark's skin from sun.
3. Neonate's (newborn) fins stretched out and firm from swimming.



© SoulWater Productions

1. Unborn Hammerheads gutted from pregnant mother in Lombok.
2. Shark skin pale w/out any darkened pigmentation from sun.
3. Skin is pink from rubbing inside womb.
4. Undeveloped fins are soft and wrinkled.

“Aging the Pups”  
The Keehi Hammerheads - page 2



1. Appear to be (endangered) Scalloped Hammerhead species.
2. Fins wrinkled and not yet stretched out from swimming.
3. Pale skin with no coloration from the sun.
4. Sharks have “3rd party” dried blood indicating some sort of processing.





“Open Umbilical Scars”  
The Keehi Hammerheads - page 3



1. Fresh umbilical scars appears visible in several stills taken from news video.
2. Disfiguration is consistent with “scrunched” sharks removed from a womb.



\*scars naturally close within a few days of birth and do not remain open





Gill net possibility?  
The Keehi Hammerheads - page 5



There was no visible gill net damage on any of the sharks.  
No other net debris (seaweed, trash, by-catch) found at location.  
Pups take 20 to 40 minutes each to be born.  
75 pups would equate to taking at least 25 hours to be born.  
HammerHeads birth an average 20 to 30 pups.  
Based on volume 75 pups most likely came from 2-4 different mothers.  
Multiple litters or not, all sharks would have stayed grouped together after birth.  
If this was the case, it has scientific ramifications based on shark behavior.



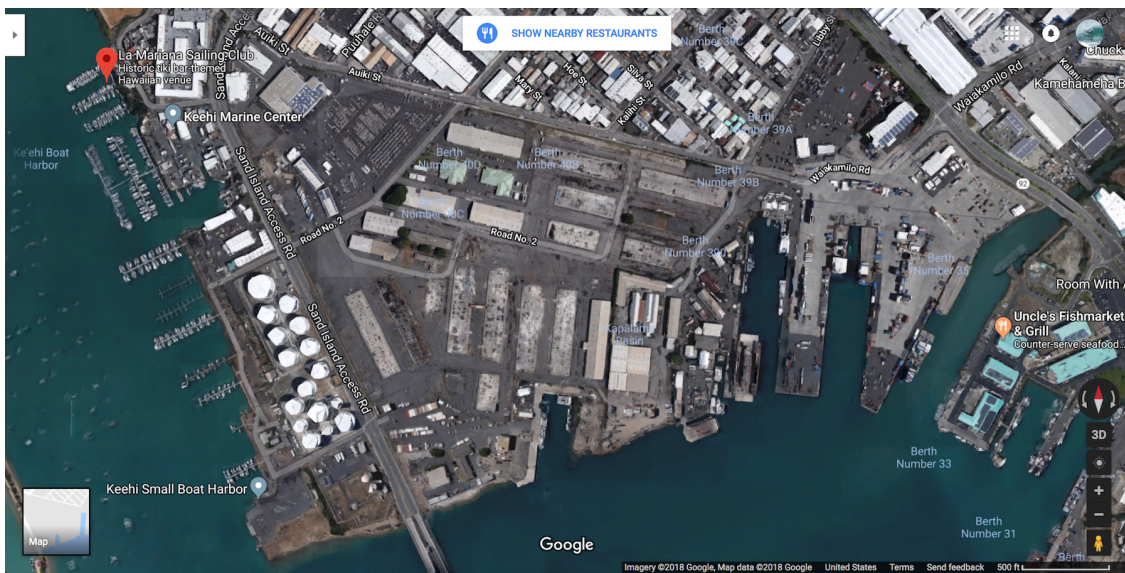


## Commercial Fisheries probability? The Keehi Hammerheads - page 6



The dumping was species specific.  
The evidence is consistent of unborn neonates.  
The Hammerheads were reported at 7:30 am in morning.  
Commercial boats arrive & unload overnight night for the fish auction.  
Convenient access from fish auction & longliner's pier too La Mariana.  
They were dumped against a street parking piling.

Adult Hammerhead fins are worth \$2,000 or more on black market.  
Hawaii offers no financial opportunity for dead pups such as pet food &/or fertilizer markets.





Longliner activity over night Monday, June 25th

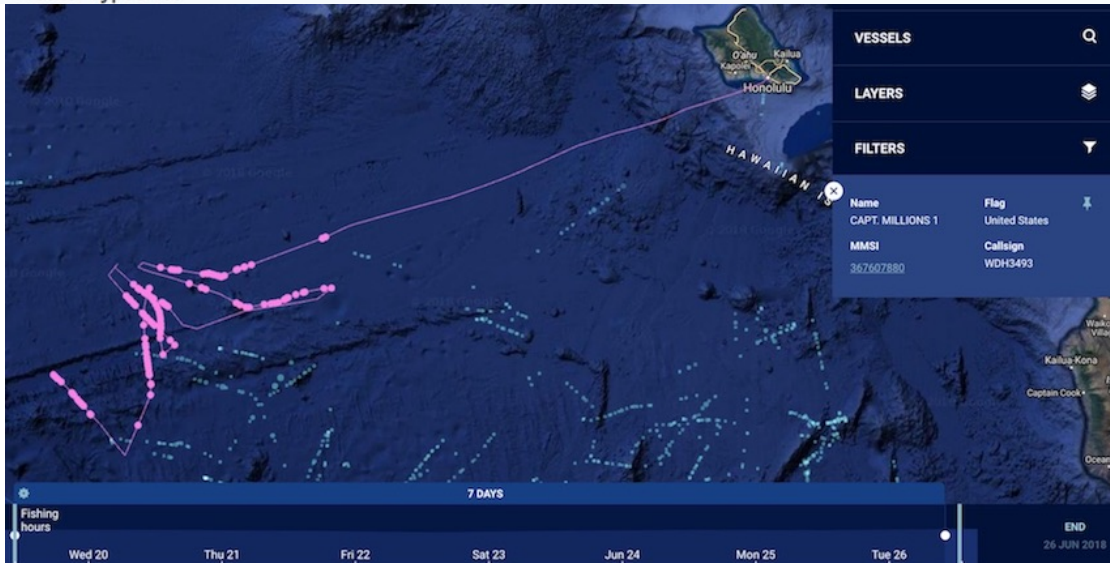
Although there may be CCTV in the area, Hawaii's Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) data would show boats that came in overnight Monday, June 25, 2018. Alternatively using Automatic Identification System (AIS) boats can also be tracked. Using GlobalFishingWatch.org it does appear several boats came in around the time of the incident. Some of the boats include;

- Captain J3
- Captain Kevin
- Jennifer Lynn
- Lady Alice
- Miss Julie
- Captain Millions I (sample tracking below)

**CAPT. MILLIONS I**

**Owner Name:** CAPT T LLC  
**Owner Address:**  
1019 MCCANDLESS LANE APT. B, HONOLULU, HI 96817, USA  
**Master Name:** HOANG, JEFFERSON  
**Master Nationality:** United States of America  
**Reg Port:** Honolulu  
**Built in Country:** United States of America  
**Built in Year:** 1989  
**Crew:** 6  
**Length:** 78.40  
**Length Units:** Feet  
**Length Type:** REGISTERED  
**Moulded Depth:** 10.30  
**Moulded Depth Units:** Feet  
**Beam:** 24.10  
**Beam Units:** Feet  
**Tonnage:** 132.00  
**Tonnage Type:** GRT  
**Engine Power:** 660  
**Power Units:** HP  
**Freezer Types:** Ice

**Flag:** United States of America  
**Registration Number:** 944388  
**IRCS:** WDH3493  
**Vessel Type:** Tuna longliner  
**WIN:** WDH3493  
**IMO-LR:** 8847844  
**VID:** 5700  
**Submitted by CCM:** United States of America  
**Attachments:**



.zip file available

### REPORT OF CHEMICAL TEST

No : 17237219410  
 Applicant : BALI SHARKS  
 JL. TUKAD PUNGGAWA  
 Date Received : February 14, 2017  
 Date of Testing : February 16, 2017  
 Sample Submitted by : Applicant

Method reference				: Mercury Analysis System "Mercury/MA-2000 - Japan, (NIC-600 -2009 -05)
Code of Sample	Kind of Sample	PDC	Sample Group	Mercury (ppm)
				Result
1	Bull Shark Meat		Individual Test	2.780
2	Bull Shark Liver			3.564

Remarks: The test results valid for samples received at the laboratory  
 ppm : part per million

..... End of Report .....

Bali, 16 January 2017  
 Respectfully issued by PT. Seafood Inspection Laboratory  
 Head of Laboratory



*\* World Health ORG  
 -suggested safe level of mercury 0.5 ppm  
 (parts per million)*



Contact: Lucia Ticoalu  
+62 85857320471  
[balisharks@gmail.com](mailto:balisharks@gmail.com)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **SHARK MEAT FROM INDONESIA - CONTAMINATION WARNING!**

**Unregulated, tainted shark product being exported and consumed Worldwide.**

DENPASAR, INDONESIA, Feb. 2, 2017 – Shark tissues tested in Indonesia reveal mercury levels above regulatory limits of 0.5 / 1.0 ppm – parts per million. Since inception in 2012, the Seafood Inspection Laboratory test Tuna, Marlin, Groupers, and Mahi-Mahi, and other popular restaurant fish. They have confirmed the toxicity levels are more common each year which is consistent with the increasing ocean pollution. Until last year, the lab had yet to test shark meat due to specialized processing for the additional body parts such as fins, liver oil, skin, jaw bone and teeth. The meats eventually are put back into the distribution channel mixing with fish and ending up in the marketplace.

While fins may fetch up to 2.5 million rupiah (approx. \$200 usd) per set, the meat sells for as little as 25k (approx. \$2 usd) rupiah per kg. Indonesia considers shark meat to be lower class cuisine and used in street foods like sate, fish cakes and meat balls for soup. Skins are deep fried to make chips called kerupuk.

This seems to be a case of the old saying “One man's garbage is another man's treasure...”, fillets are exported to neighboring Australia, New Zealand, Singapore and other Countries. The meat is often breaded and deep fried into fish burgers or Fish 'n' Chips, known in Australia as flake. Consumers are unaware of the type of fish being sold and ultimately ingested. In November 2014, Shark documentary filmmaker Madison Stewart tested a store bought fillet labelled as Tiger Shark. The test results were positive at 1.0 ppm mercury and 39.0 ppm arsenic level, but the DNA test revealed it was a sevengill shark.

Bali Sharks Rescue Center, partnered with Green School Bali, to collect and tested a sample of shark from the local Jimbaran Fish Market. On May 2<sup>nd</sup>,2016, the Seafood Inspection Laboratory tested their first shark sample, which resulted in a 1.368 ppm mercury. A Bronze Whaler, commonly used for flake, resulted in a level of 1.829 ppm on January 20, 2017 and recently on January 26, 2017 a bull shark tested at 2.431 ppm mercury level. All samples in Bali were collected after the sharks had been processed and sent for consumption. Both Indonesia's and Australia's maximum level for mercury consumption is 1.0 ppm for any fish species.

more





### Seafood Inspection Laboratory Mercury PPM results

Jan. 27, 2017	Bull Sharks	2.018 parts per million
Jan. 26, 2017	Bull Sharks	2.431 parts per million
Jan. 20, 2017	Bronze Whaler	1.829 parts per million
May 2, 2016	Bull Shark	1.368 parts per million

Shark fins also continue being exported to Hong Kong, Taiwan, China, and Singapore markets. On Dec. 15, 2014, Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority of Singapore (AVA) rose their maximum safe level of mercury in predator fish to 1.0 ppm up from 0.5 ppm in all other fish. AVA reasoned most fish consumed in Singapore are smaller non-predator fish. All sharks species are categorized as predatory while Singapore continues to be a top per capita shark fin consumer. Fillets are distributed to supermarkets and restaurants, and entire sharks can be found in wet markets avoiding any regulatory measures. Shark Rescue Center's Founder points out, "While logically larger sharks contain higher levels of toxicity, common sense tells us as seas become more polluted, fish contamination will outpace regulatory level increases." Seafood Inspection Laboratory confirmed this trend looking over their five years of testing.

Bali Sharks Rescue Center will continue to work with Education Institutions and Government Regulators in efforts to keep consumers updated with health and fishery issues.

###

Please contact [balisharks@gmail.com](mailto:balisharks@gmail.com) for supporting media document requests.

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Unity, Equality, Aloha for all



To: SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

For hearing Wednesday, January 30, 2019

Re: SB 489 RELATED TO SHARK AND RAY PROTECTION.

Establishes an offense of knowingly capturing, taking, possessing, abusing, entangling, or killing a shark in state marine waters, along with penalties and fines. Expands the existing prohibition on knowingly capturing or killing a manta ray in state marine waters to apply to all rays and to also include knowingly taking, possessing, abusing, or entangling a ray. Provides certain exemptions.

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION, UNLESS THE BILL IS AMENDED TO ENSURE RACIAL EQUALITY IN THE PERMISSIVE EXEMPTIONS

This bill provides good reasons why sharks and rays should be protected. The bill provides severe penalties for anyone who captures, kills, or takes a shark or ray within state waters.

The problem with this bill is that it contains language strongly implying that exceptions should be made only for members of one particular racial group. But those exceptions should not be based on race. The exceptions should be for the exercise of traditional or customary cultural or religious practices which were done by some native Hawaiians prior to 1778 but which are now done by some Hawaii residents of many races and cultures. The exceptions should be defined by cultural or religious practices regardless of the race of today's Hawaii residents who engage in those practices.

There are four places in this bill where the language should be amended to make the exceptions culture-based or religion-based rather than race-based.

Page 1, line 17 should be amended to say "valued figures in certain cultures or religions and are important"

Page 2 line 7 should be amended to say "industry, and for their value to specific cultural or religious"

Page 5, section 2(f) lines 7-10 should be reworded to say "Nothing in this section shall be construed to restrict the exercise of traditional and customary cultural or religious practices engaged in by some native Hawaiians prior to 1778 which now are engaged in by Hawaii residents of various races, as protected by article XII, section 7, of the Hawaii State Constitution."

Page 7, section 3(f) should be reworded to say "Nothing in this section shall be construed to restrict the exercise of traditional and customary cultural or religious practices engaged in by some native Hawaiians prior to 1778 which now are engaged in by Hawaii residents of various

racess, as protected by article XII, section 7, of the Hawaii State Constitution."

The point of these amendments is that the exceptions should include all people regardless of race who are exercising practices which were traditionally and customarily engaged in by the native Hawaiians who lived in that ahupua'a prior to 1778.

Let me illustrate with an example. We know that in ancient times native Hawaiians, who were the entirety of the population in Hawaii, had the right to gather food and building materials from anywhere in the land controlled by their ali'i or konohiki, and also had the right to cross any land for the purpose of going to the ocean. Such rights were preserved after the Mahele, when royal patent deeds were awarded to create private ownership of land — but the gathering rights and shoreline access rights were preserved for the tenants (residents) of each ahupua'a. Those rights were race-neutral; i.e., every person (kanaka) who was a tenant (hoa'aina) had those rights regardless of race. Although such rights for hunting and fishing and gathering were probably not exercised very often by wealthy foreigners, there was no prohibition against them. The words "kanaka" and "hoa'aina" were race-neutral words not limited to people with native blood.

Today the laws of Hawaii recognize that all residents (hoa'aina), regardless of race, have the right to cross public lands as well as undeveloped or even partially developed private land to go to the beach. This right survives from ancient times right up to the present, for all residents regardless of race.

There are many residents of Hawaii whose heritage is from various Pacific island nations such as Samoa, Tonga, Marshall Islands who engage in Polynesian or Micronesian cultural practices, and should be allowed to continue doing so, even if they have no Hawaiian native ancestry. Likewise there are thousands of residents of Hawaii of Asian or Caucasian ancestry, with no Hawaiian native blood, who participate actively in hula halaus, for example, where their kumu hula might

expect them to make their own sharkskin drums or sharktooth martial weapons.

So if this committee wishes to make an exception, then the exception should NOT be for people on account of their race, but rather should be for the traditional and customary activities formerly engaged in by native Hawaiians before 1778 but which are now engaged in by residents of all races. If you are unwilling to allow the exceptions for cultural activities regardless of race, then I believe the U.S. Constitution, 14th Amendment Equal Protection clause, requires you to entirely delete any exceptions based on culture or religion.

There is no good reason to make the exemption racial. The exemption should be based on preservation of historic skills or ongoing cultural or religious uses, regardless of race. Examples of acceptable circumstances for automatic exemption would include harvesting sharkskin for making a drum, or harvesting shark teeth to make an ornament for personal adornment or a replica of an ancient weapon for use in museum displays or school lessons.



**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 8:34:50 AM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nadine Lane	Testifying for Keiko Conservation	Support	Yes

Comments:

please help pass this bill to further protect sharks and rays. I see they hold a special place for the locals. The ocean needs them to thrive.



**TO:** Honorable Chair Kahele and Senate Water and Land Committee members

**SUBMITTED BY:** Inga Gibson, Policy Consultant, For the Fishes  
[ponoadvocacy@gmail.com](mailto:ponoadvocacy@gmail.com), 808.922.9910

**RE: STRONG SUPPORT for SB489, Relating to Shark and Ray Protection**

For the Fishes respectfully urges your support of SB489 which would prohibit the capture or killing of sharks or rays in state waters (within 3 nm) except for research purposes, under DLNR issued Special Activity Permits, the use of shark parts/products for native Hawaiian cultural purposes and at the discretion of DLNR for any specific, emergency purposes..

**Why sharks need protection:**

In 2010, Hawaii became the first state in the world to enact a prohibition on shark-finning and the sale of shark-fins or fin products. This measure would complement our existing law, which has now become a global initiative, by again poising Hawaii to be a leader in shark and marine conservation. While current laws prohibit the possession or sale of shark fins or fin products there is no law preventing the intentional capture or killing of sharks.

Most notably, there have been a number of cases in recent years where sharks appear to have been intentionally entangled, injured and harmed and current law does not provide for adequate enforcement or prosecution of such cases. In addition, the Hawaii aquarium industry continues to take baby sharks for the aquarium pet trade, as seen in the below photo. Sharks are not appropriate animals to be kept in home aquaria due to their complex needs and growth rates.

Rsearch from the University of Hawaii has shown that many species of shark, such as tiger and hammerhead, frequent state waters, especially the marine shelf around Maui, and are faced with numerous threats most notably human interactions and pollution.

Finally, sharks are apex predators; when they are removed our entire marine ecosystem is negatively impacted. In addition, sharks and rays are not a staple human food source as other fish species are. Below is a list of the 40 species of sharks that may be found in Hawaii waters. DLNR notes that it is difficult to distinguish between certain species of shark thus this measure applies to all sharks.

### **Why Rays need protection:**

Current law prohibits the take of only Manta Ray species. This measure would extend this protection to all species of rays in state waters (listed below), including Torpedo, Stingray, Devilray and Eagleray, Manta alfredi (reef mantas) and Mobula tarapacana (sicklefin devilray).

While the trade has not yet hit Hawaii, China and other countries have begun mass harvesting of rays for their gills/gill soup, especially since shark populations are still facing serious decline and many states and island nations now prohibit selling shark fin products. This measure would prevent any future trade in harvesting Hawaii rays as we saw in 2015 with the mass commercial harvesting of our sea cucumbers by international companies.

Rays are known to be among the slowest marine species to reproduce. For example, new data on manta ray reproduction suggest that they may reproduce even more slowly than previously believed, with a maximum lifetime reproduction potential estimated at only 5 to 15 offspring. Such extremely low reproductive capacity shows that manta and mobula rays are far more vulnerable to exploitation than previously known, and that immediate investment in their conservation is necessary to avoid continued rapid declines (SEE: <http://www.wildaid.org/mantas>)

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important marine conservation issue.

Baby shark captured in Hawaii for the aquarium trade:



***\*4 additional shark species and all devil rays were included in Appendix II of CITES at the 17th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP17, Johannesburg) in 2016. They joined 10 other sharks, rays and sawfishes (elasmobranchs) that had already been included in the CITES Appendices over the past decade.***

- [\*Silky shark \(Carcharhinus falciformis\)\*](#)
- [\*Thresher sharks \(Alopias spp.\)\*](#)
- [\*Devil rays \(Mobula spp.\)\*](#)

## SPECIES LIST FOR HAWAIIAN WATERS

Common name, *Scientific name*, IUCN status worldwide

(DD=data deficient; LC=least concern; NT=near threatened; VU=Vulnerable; EN=Endangered)

### SHARKS

#### Order Orectolobiformes

##### **Family Rhincodontidae**

Whale shark, *Rhincodon typus*, VU

#### Order Carcharhiniformes

##### **Family Scyliorhinidae**

Sponge-headed cat shark, *Apristurus spongiceps*, DD

##### **Family Pseudotriakidae**

False cat shark, *Pseudotriakis microdon*, DD

##### **Family Carcharhinidae**

Bignose shark, *Carcharhinus altimus*, DD

Gray reef shark, *Carcharhinus amblyrhynchos*, NT

Silky shark, *Carcharhinus falciformes*, NT

Galapagos shark, *Carcharhinus galapagensis*, NT

Blacktip shark, *Carcharhinus limbatus*, NT

Oceanic whitetip, *Carcharhinus longimanus*, VU

Blacktip reef shark, *Carcharhinus melanopterus*, NT

Sandbar shark, *Carcharhinus plumbeus*, VU

Tiger shark, *Galeocerdo cuvier*, NT

Blue shark, *Prionace glauca*, NT

Whitetip reef shark, *Triaenodon obesus*, NT

##### **Family Sphyrnidae**

Scalloped hammerhead, *Sphyrna lewini*, EN

Smooth hammerhead, *Sphyrna zygaena*, VU

#### Order Lamniformes

##### **Family Odontaspidae**

Smalltooth sand tiger shark, *Odontaspis ferox*, VU

Bigeye sand tiger shark, *Odontaspis noronhai*, DD

##### **Family Pseudocarchariidae**

Crocodile shark, *Pseudocarcharias kamoharai*, NT

##### **Family Megachasmidae**

Megamouth shark, *Megachasma pelagios*, DD

##### **Family Alopiidae**

Pelagic thresher shark, *Alopias pelagicus*, VU

Bigeye thresher shark, *Alopias superciliosus*, VU

##### **Family Lamnidae**

White shark, *Carcharodon carcharias*, VU

Short-finned mako, *Isurus oxyrinchus*, VU

Longfin mako, *Isurus paucus*, VU

#### Order Hexanchiformes

**Family Hexanchidae**

Friilled shark, *Chlamydoselachus anguineus*, NT

Bluntnose sixgill shark, *Hexanchus griseus*, NT

**Order Squaliformes****Family Echinorhinidae**

Prickly shark, *Echinorhinus cookei*, NT

**Family Dalatiidae**

Combtooth dogfish, *Centroscyllium nigrum*, DD

Kitefin shark, *Dalatias licha*, NT

Blurred smooth lantern shark, *Etmopterus bigelowi*, LC

Blackbelly lantern shark, *Etmopterus lucifer*, LC

Smooth lantern shark, *Etmopterus pusillus*, LC

Hawaiian lantern shark, *Etmopterus villosus*, LC

Pygmy shark, *Euprotomicrus bispinatus*, LC

Cookiecutter shark, *Isistius brasiliensis*, LC

Viper dogfish, *Trigonognathus kabeyai*, DD

Velvet dogfish, *Scymnodon squamulosus*, DD

**Family Centrophoridae**

Mosaic gulper shark, *Centrophorus tessellatus*, DD

Gulper shark, *Centrophorus granulosus*, VU

**Family Squalidae**

Shortspine spurdog shark, *Squalus mitsukurii*, DD

**RAYS****Order Torpediniformes****Family Torpedinidae**

Torpedo ray, *Torpedo sp.*, DD or LC, depending on species

**Order Myliobatiformes****Family Plesiobatidae**

Giant stingaree, *Plesiobatis daviesi*, LC

**Family Hexatrygonidae**

Sixgill stingray, *Hexatrygon bickelli*, LC

Longnosed deepwater ray, *Hexatrygon longirostra*, IUCN uncertain whether separate species

**Family Dasyatidae**

Diamond stingray, *Dasyatis dipterura*, DD

Brown stingray, *Dasyatis lata*, LC

Pelagic stingray, *Pteroplatytrygon violacea*, LC

**Family Myliobatidae**

Spotted eagle ray, *Aetobatus narinari*, NT

**Family Mobulidae**

Manta ray, *Manta birostris*, VU

Spinetail devil ray, *Mobula japanica*, NT

**CHIMAERAS****Order Chimaeriformes****Family Chimeridae**

Purple chimaera, *Hydrolagus purpureescens*, DD

**Family Rhinochimaeridae**

Longnosed chimaera, *Rhinochimaera pacifica*, LC

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 10:59:05 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jayna Westbrooks	Testifying for Wipe-crew of Kaiser High School	Support	Yes

Comments:

I believe that causing harm, especially knowingly, to both sharks and rays are absolutely horrible and unnecessary. I would like to use what ever power I have to help prevent such things and I think this bill is a great way to do that.



**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 11:07:45 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
chelsea	Testifying for Wipeout Crew	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 9:09:06 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lawrence Komo	Testifying for Wipeout Crew	Support	No

Comments:



## O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities (OCCLP)

COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND  
Sen. Kaiali`i Kahele, Chair  
Sen. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

**LATE**

DATE: Wednesday, January 30, 2019  
TIME: 1:15 p.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 229 State Capitol

RE: HB 489 Relating to Shark and Ray Protection

Aloha mai kakou Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land:

The O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities (OCCLP) of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i (DPH) hereby submits its testimony in **SUPPORT of HB 489 relating to Shark and Ray Protection.**

SB 489 establishes an offense of knowingly capturing, taking, possessing, abusing, entangling, or killing a shark in state marine waters, along with penalties and fines. Expands the existing prohibition on knowingly capturing or killing a manta ray in state marine waters to apply to all rays and to also include knowingly taking, possessing, abusing, or entangling a ray. SB 489 provides certain exemptions.

The Democratic Party of Hawaii's 2018 Platform makes it clear that "Democrats oppose efforts to undermine the effectiveness of the Endangered Species Act to protect threatened and endangered species." *Democratic Party of Hawai`i Platform (2018), p. 18, In. 50-51.*

For the foregoing reasons, OCCLP supports HB 489 and urges its passage out of the Committee on Water and Land.

Mahalo nui loa  
Me ka `oia`i`o

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja

Chair, O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of  
Hawai`i

Ph. (808) 258-8889

Email: [legislativepriorities@gmail.com](mailto:legislativepriorities@gmail.com)

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/25/2019 6:21:36 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gillian Boss	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/25/2019 6:23:30 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

Mahalo for protecting our culturally and ecologically significant apex predators and vulnerable native species!

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/27/2019 3:53:05 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ted Bohlen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Sharks and other apex predators are critical for the health of coral reefs and other marine ecosystems. These protections for sharks and rays are needed! Mahalo

**From:** [Amy Cady](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY in support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 9:58:18 AM

---

I SUPPORT SB489.

Amy Cady  
Ewa Beach



**From:** [Andriana Fragola](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 10:07:13 AM

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I am in support of this bill to protect the sharks and rays of Hawaii. They are vital for ecosystem functioning and the oceans which stimulate Hawaiian economy would no longer be healthy without them. Their populations are declining at such a high rate that any bill to protect them is necessary to allow them to continue to exist in the future.

Thank you for your time and consideration,  
Andy

**From:** [mermaidhighonlove@gmail.com](mailto:mermaidhighonlove@gmail.com)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 9:59:48 AM

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Please please protect our sharks and rays!  
Save the ocean, save us all.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Cherine Baumgartner](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY in support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 11:01:09 AM

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Dear Sir or Madam

I support SB489 because sharks are indispensable for a healthy **ecosystem ocean**.

Thank you for helping the mano.

Kind regards

Chérine Baumgartner

Marine Biologist at Kewalo Marine Laboratory

**From:** [Dylan James](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY In Support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 10:17:29 AM

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Hello!

I'd just like to voice my support for the proposed bill for protecting sharks and rays. As human populations expand - our impact on the earth will only increase exponentially without regulations like this one.

Cheers,  
Dylan

**From:** [Ernesto Ribeiro](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 9:54:52 AM

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I support Bill SB489, we cannot let greedy or anything to destroy our oceans our lives rely on it!



**From:** [Laura R.](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY in support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 10:15:04 AM

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To whom it may concern,

I love sharks and support this bill whole heartedly. They are an amazing and important part of the ecosystem. We have so much to learn from them. So count me in for the sharks because they deserve all the help we can give them.

Kind regards, a passionate shark lover,

Laura Rader

**From:** [LISA](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 10:12:52 AM

---

I support SB489

Thank you,  
Lisa Sumner

Sent from my iPad Lisa Sumner

**From:** [Marina Woieni](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 10:26:15 AM

---

Support!

Отправлено с iPhone

**From:** [megan.cowley](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY in support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 10:41:50 AM

---

Hawaii should ban the purposeful fishing of sharks and rays.

**From:** [Paul Friese](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: 2018 commercial Shark poaching reports - SB 489  
**Date:** Sunday, January 27, 2019 8:49:56 AM  
**Attachments:** [Kyoshin Maru case.pdf](#)  
[Keehi Hammerheads notes.pdf](#)

---

Please accept the following reports as they pertain to SB 489.

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Paul Friese** <[pfhawaii@gmail.com](mailto:pfhawaii@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Sat, Jan 26, 2019 at 3:50 PM  
**Subject:** 2018 commercial Shark poaching reports  
**To:** <[sengabbard@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:sengabbard@capitol.hawaii.gov)>

Aloha Mike,

I have done fisheries investigation out of Asia for the past 8 years while managing the Bali Sharks Rescue center. Attached are 2 important reports as even though Hawaii has a finning law, commercial fisheries has its own laws, black market, mafia etc. Sharks are just a small sub category of IUU (Illegal Unregulated, Unreported) Fishing. Hope this not only details the needs to saving these animals, but also expose the larger transnational crime issues Hawaii is a hub for. Besides the basic cultural and environmental reasons, sharks fishing draws other massive crimes such as human and drug trafficking which state authorities appear to be oblivious too.

Thanks,  
Paul Friese  
366.9365



## The KYOSHIN MARUs' and Shark Fin Smuggling Bust in Hawaii (The IUU Files)

On November 8, 2018, Hawaii News Now reported that Indonesian nationals had been apprehended at Honolulu's International Airport with suitcases full of shark fins. The US Fish & Wild Services filed a federal complaint as it violates the Hawaii [§ 188-40.7] Shark fins prohibited law along with the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. §§ 1538(c)(1) and 1538(g) which makes it illegal to possess, trade, sell, ship, export, etc. any endangered species.

### Agents bust alleged shark fin smuggling ring at Honolulu's airport

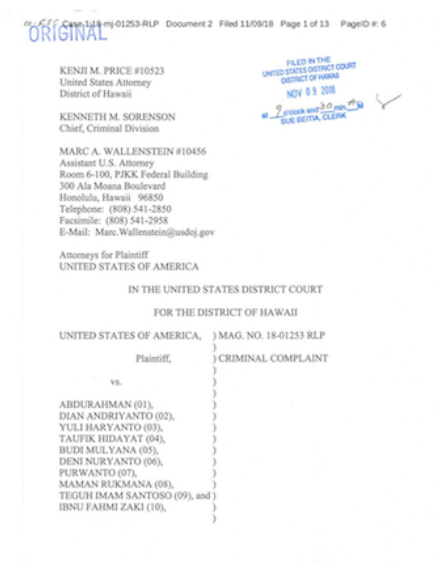
The men reportedly had the shark fins in their luggage



The men, with their suitcases boarded the bus to the federal jail Thursday afternoon (Kawano, Lynn)

(link = <https://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/2018/11/09/agents-bust-alleged-shark-fin-smuggling-ring-honolulu-airport/>)

According to court documents, 18 fishermen from the Japanese vessel **KYOSHIN MARU #20** were picked up by a water taxi and taken to Pier 36 in Honolulu Harbor. The 18 foreigners were then taken to HNL airport for an ANA (All Nippon Airways) flight back to Indonesia through Japan. However, 10 of the nationals were arrested with 962 shark fins in "their" luggage. Fins from the Oceanic Whitetip Shark, a protected species were found in the batch.



### Shimizu Port

The **KYOSHIN MARU #20** originated from, then after fishing and making its Hawaii drop, headed back to Japan's Shimizu Port. The port is 154 kilometers away from Narita Airport (NRT) which is All Nippon Airway's connecting hub from Honolulu. It makes no sense for a vessel headed to Tokyo to drop foreign workers off in Hawaii spending \$1000 per ticket to fly them back into Tokyo without some sort of massive benefit or cover up. Perhaps exploiting Hawaii's relaxed enforcement towards smuggling contraband and human rights labor laws are less risk than bringing foreign Indonesian workers back to fly out from Japan.



### Smugglers or Mules?

Foreign crews are usually contracted through agents and not by the deep water fishing vessels they are placed on. They do not speak English. Furthermore fishermen do not have suitcases when they are out at sea and would not be able to book flights much less be able to pay for airfare.

- Who gave them new suitcases upon arrival in Hawaii to place fins in?
- Who booked & paid for their ANA tickets?
- Where was the final destination for the luggage and travelers?
- Who arranged their water taxi pick up & airport transfer?
- Who hired the Attorney that represented one of the fisherman?

Based on how organized the incident was and past pattern of consistency, it appears to be an ongoing crime with domestic involvement.

**Kyoshin Marus’ (21 times since 2012)**

According to Global Fishing Watch’s platform we can cross reference the **KYOSHIN MARU #1, #20, and #31** past movements. Since 2012, the boats have pulled up 10-15 miles off Honolulu Hawaii 21 times avoiding Harbor entry.

(Video link = <https://youtu.be/DfsYtbOQYow>)



**WCPFC Finning & Transshipping violations**

The Western Central Pacific Fishery Commission (WCPFC) considers it a violation to have over a 5% weight of shark fin too carcass ratio. The act of transporting fish product from a Japanese fishing vessel to another boat, even a water taxi, in USA’s Economic Zone (EEZ) is considered a transshipping violation.



**SEVENTH REGULAR SESSION**  
Honolulu, Hawaii, USA  
6-10 December 2010

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**CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURE FOR SHARKS**

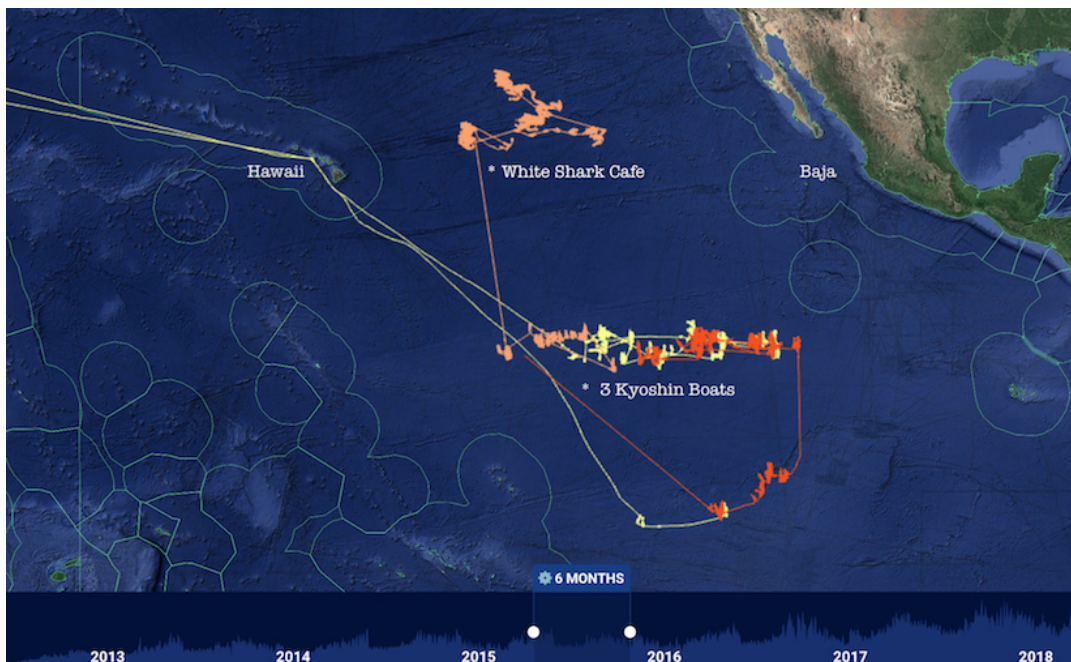
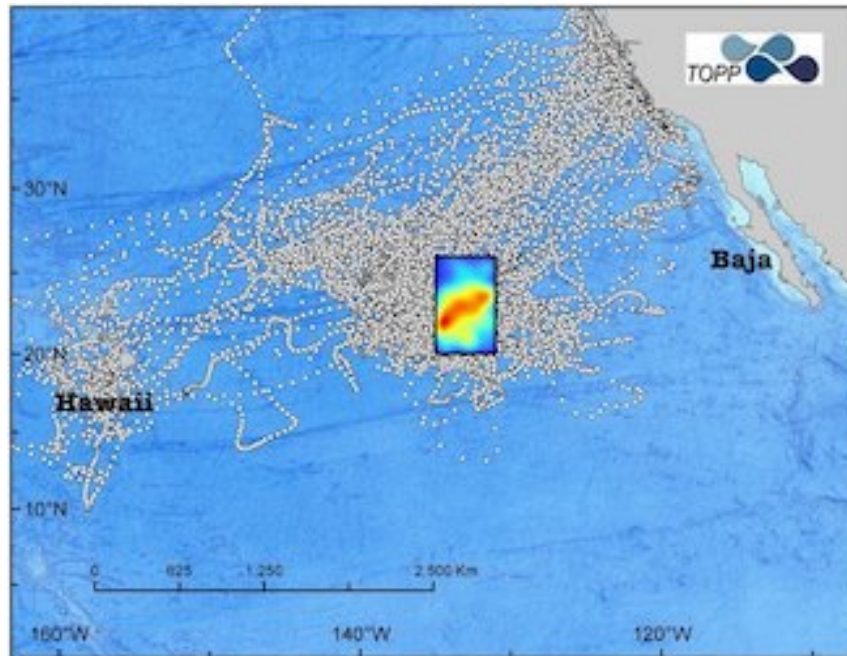
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7. CCMs shall require their vessels to have on board fins that total no more than 5% of the weight of sharks on board up to the first point of landing. CCMs that currently do not require fins and carcasses to be offloaded together at the point of first landing shall take the necessary measures to ensure compliance with the 5% ratio through certification, monitoring by an observer, or other appropriate measures. CCMs may alternatively require that their vessels land sharks with fins attached to the carcass or that fins not be landed without the corresponding carcass.



**Poaching the White Shark Cafe** (Targeting sharks - part 1)

According to Schmidt Ocean Institute and Stanford University’s Center for Ocean Solutions, an area of research between Hawaii and Baja, California is considered “the White Shark Cafe.” It is named after a Great White Shark aggregation site being studied in hopes of turning it into a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



### **No Dorsal or Caudal fins. (Targeting sharks - part 2)**

Based on evidence provided it appears “the smugglers” were not in possession of premium higher valued fins such as the larger Dorsal & Caudal (tail) fins. They most likely remained on the **KYOSHIN MARU** headed back to Japan.



### **Other Potential Relevant Law Infractions**

Based on evidence it would appear the Indonesians were mules for a much larger fishery syndicate consistent with other Illegal, Unregulated, Unreported (IUU) violations. These violations include human rights issues such as modern day slavery laws and international fishery violations such as transshipping violations.

- **Shark Finning Prohibition Act** On December 21, 2000, United States Congress enacted the law making it unlawful for vessels to catch & cut off shark fins within United States Exclusive Economic Zone. (EEZ)
- **U.S. Code, Title 22, Chapter 78 - Trafficking Victims Protection** Protecting against transnational crime including forced labor and involves significant violations of labor, public health, and human rights standards worldwide.
- **The Victims of Trafficking and Violence Prevention Act** (TVPA) combats trafficking in persons, especially into the sex trade, slavery, and involuntary servitude.

### **\*\*December 14, 2018 Court Filing update**

[http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/2018/12/14/indonesian-fishermen-caught-trying-smuggle-shark-fins-hawaii-get-off-with-fine/?fbclid=IwAR2\\_VoHITzD6Ah-2Cc1OKJoJxV-H9zctKDK4bf-hv5AtNwVr2r9HJw2JRd4](http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/2018/12/14/indonesian-fishermen-caught-trying-smuggle-shark-fins-hawaii-get-off-with-fine/?fbclid=IwAR2_VoHITzD6Ah-2Cc1OKJoJxV-H9zctKDK4bf-hv5AtNwVr2r9HJw2JRd4)

### **\*December 11, 2018 Court Filing update**

<https://www.kitv.com/story/39627208/five-japanese-nationals-charged-with-smuggling-nearly-1000-shark-fins-in-and-out-of-hawaii>

*Not much has changed...*

### **Hawaii's Shark Fin smuggling History**

Although its difficult to detect when shark finning originated within Hawaii, the first documented case gets interesting. In what was anticipated as a huge possible drug bust, became Hawaii's first exposure to a massive shark fin trade. Carroll Cox, a former U.S. Fish & Wildlife Special Agent recounts the 1999 incident,

*“an illegal shipment of 11 tons of shark fin with the commercial long line fishing vessel ‘Two Star.’ The ‘Two Star’ met the foreign vessel ‘M/T Unam Poseiden’ on 1/15/99, 0800 hours, at N17.55 / West L59.35, approximately 271 miles from Honolulu, where the fins were ‘transshipped.’ The shark fins were spread over the pier because they were accidentally exposed to sea water during the transfer. The owners informed officials that they were sorting the tainted fins and would be dumping them. Subsequently the entire load was placed on the tractor trailer and shipped out of the United States.”*

Prior to that, in April 1998 National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS) documents American fishing vessels in Hawaii, transshipping thousands of pounds of shark fin from foreign fishing vessels. As explained by a shipping agent at the time,

*“A supply vessel roams the world’s oceans, refueling and resupplying fishing boats. The fishing boats sell their shark fins to the supply vessel, where they are accumulated until they rendezvous with an American fishing vessel approximately 200 miles from Hawaii, on the high seas. The American vessel transports the fins to Honolulu where they are placed in containers and shipped out.”*



©Carroll Cox/Envirowatch



Indonesian near shore shark poaching comparisons  
for 6/26/18 Hammerhead dump incident @ Keehi Lagoon



1. Gill net damage on Black Tip Reef pup in Bali.
2. Dermal pigmentation darkening shark's skin from sun.
3. Neonate's (newborn) fins stretched out and firm from swimming.



© SoulWater Productions

1. Unborn Hammerheads gutted from pregnant mother in Lombok.
2. Shark skin pale w/out any darkened pigmentation from sun.
3. Skin is pink from rubbing inside womb.
4. Undeveloped fins are soft and wrinkled.



“Aging the Pups”  
The Keehi Hammerheads - page 2



1. Appear to be (endangered) Scalloped Hammerhead species.
2. Fins wrinkled and not yet stretched out from swimming.
3. Pale skin with no coloration from the sun.
4. Sharks have “3rd party” dried blood indicating some sort of processing.



“Open Umbilical Scars”  
The Keehi Hammerheads - page 3



1. Fresh umbilical scars appears visible in several stills taken from news video.
2. Disfiguration is consistent with “scrunched” sharks removed from a womb.



\*scars naturally close within a few days of birth and do not remain open





Gill net possibility?  
The Keehi Hammerheads - page 5



There was no visible gill net damage on any of the sharks.  
No other net debris (seaweed, trash, by-catch) found at location.  
Pups take 20 to 40 minutes each to be born.  
75 pups would equate to taking at least 25 hours to be born.  
HammerHeads birth an average 20 to 30 pups.  
Based on volume 75 pups most likely came from 2-4 different mothers.  
Multiple litters or not, all sharks would have stayed grouped together after birth.  
If this was the case, it has scientific ramifications based on shark behavior.



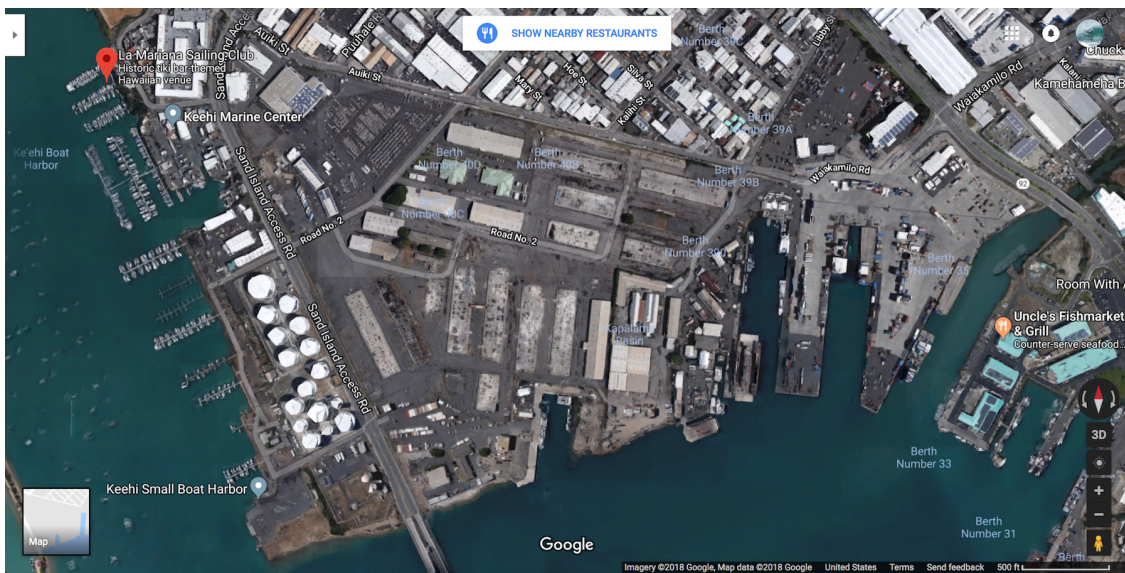


## Commercial Fisheries probability? The Keehi Hammerheads - page 6



The dumping was species specific.  
The evidence is consistent of unborn neonates.  
The Hammerheads were reported at 7:30 am in morning.  
Commercial boats arrive & unload overnight night for the fish auction.  
Convenient access from fish auction & longliner's pier too La Mariana.  
They were dumped against a street parking piling.

Adult Hammerhead fins are worth \$2,000 or more on black market.  
Hawaii offers no financial opportunity for dead pups such as pet food &/or fertilizer markets.



Longliner activity over night Monday, June 25th

Although there may be CCTV in the area, Hawaii's Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) data would show boats that came in overnight Monday, June 25, 2018. Alternatively using Automatic Identification System (AIS) boats can also be tracked. Using GlobalFishingWatch.org it does appear several boats came in around the time of the incident. Some of the boats include;

- Captain J3
- Captain Kevin
- Jennifer Lynn
- Lady Alice
- Miss Julie
- Captain Millions I (sample tracking below)

**CAPT. MILLIONS I**

**Owner Name:** CAPT T LLC  
**Owner Address:**  
1019 MCCANDLESS LANE APT. B, HONOLULU, HI 96817, USA  
**Master Name:** HOANG, JEFFERSON  
**Master Nationality:** United States of America  
**Reg Port:** Honolulu  
**Built in Country:** United States of America  
**Built in Year:** 1989  
**Crew:** 6  
**Length:** 78.40  
**Length Units:** Feet  
**Length Type:** REGISTERED  
**Moulded Depth:** 10.30  
**Moulded Depth Units:** Feet  
**Beam:** 24.10  
**Beam Units:** Feet  
**Tonnage:** 132.00  
**Tonnage Type:** GRT  
**Engine Power:** 660  
**Power Units:** HP  
**Freezer Types:** Ice

**Flag:** United States of America  
**Registration Number:** 944388  
**IRCS:** WDH3493  
**Vessel Type:** Tuna longliner  
**WIN:** WDH3493  
**IMO-LR:** 8847844  
**VID:** 5700  
**Submitted by CCM:** United States of America  
**Attachments:**



.zip file available

**From:** [Shannah Smith](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 10:47:00 AM

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Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony on this important issue. I fully support this bill to penalize inappropriate treatment of sharks and rays.

We must do our best to protect already delicate ecosystem in our oceans. I've unfortunately seen some very disturbing behavior with sharks, in particular, and I believe that penalties/fines can help to make a big statement about who we are as a culture and what we value. Passing this bill can be one step that our future generations can look back at and be proud.

Mahalo,  
Shannah Smith



**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 11:19:04 AM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rylee Brooke Kamahele	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I Support Bill SB 489 Protect Hawaii's Sharks. I am testifying on behalf of two programs run under my organization, as a One Ocean Ambassador, and most importantly, as a voice for future generations, including my own. The decisions that you make in this hearing regarding the protection of sharks is so important. Humans need the ocean to survive. Our lives literally depend on it! Between pollution and humans killing off sharks, their populations are declining and this scares me. It should scare all of us! In school we learn about photosynthesis as the way that humans get the air we breathe. What I didn't learn until I started doing ocean conservation is that most of the air that we breathe actually comes from the ocean. In fact, around 85% of the air we breathe is from the ocean so I don't understand why ocean conservation isn't more important to everyone. Losing the apex predator of our seas will cause a domino effect and it won't be good. Certain sea animals can grow uncontrollably and many fishes and other animals will go extinct Mid-level predators will increase and eat most of our algae eaters Our seas will be overrun with algae and the gross stuff that comes with algae making the water slimy Sunlight will have a harder time penetrating the water The overgrowth of algae would also suck the oxygen out of the water and marine life will suffocate to death Algae can produce toxins that are harmful, even for people, and toxins will lead to mass die offs in the ocean Coral reefs will start to die and many will go extinct Without sharks to eat the ill or the weak, diseases will spread among fishes and animals and this could also cause mass die offs Without sharks controlling other predators, their prey will be overeaten and will cause other species to disappear The ocean regulates the carbon cycle of the planet because carbon is stored in marine plants. Without sharks, the animals and fish that eat marine plants would not have a predator and they will grow out of control. They will eat all the marine plants and our carbon levels will go up. This will speed up global warming and climate change. So you see, every thing has a role in the ecosystem of the ocean and sharks are one of the most important things keeping that ecosystem functioning. We need to protect sharks! If you enjoy breathing and you want your kids and your kid's kids and generations after that to have air to breathe, we need you to PLEASE protect our oceans. Please pass this bill. Thank you!

**From:** [Rodriguez, Jasmin](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 11:43:08 AM

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Aloha,

**I am writing in support of the bill to protect sharks and rays simply because they are vital to not just our marine ecosystems, but to our livelihood.** They are so vital to marine ecosystems and their removal can cause many direct and indirect effects. The over exploitation of sharks has been shown to result in trophic cascades. By eliminating an apex predator, mesopredators are no longer contained and can become hyperabundant which in return means bi-valves are excessively being preyed upon. Bi-valves are suspension feeders that offer many ecosystem services including, filtering particles from the water column and discharging biodeposits which clarifies the ocean and transfers organic nutrient-rich particulates to the bottom. In return, this helps fertilize benthic micro- and macro algae leading an increase in oxygen production. Now marine plants produce about 70% of the oxygen we breath, which is one of the big reasons sharks are so important and should be respected and protected. Without sharks, trophic cascades can result to an unhealthy ecosystem, and without a healthy ecosystem, life may struggle to exist.

Please understand how critical it is to take the step in protecting our oceans in order to ensure a future for many generations.

Mahalo,  
Jasmin

--

**Jasmin Rodriguez**

**From:** [Kate Allcock](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in Support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 11:44:09 AM

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To Whomever It May Concern,

I am emailing in regards to the recent proposal of bill SB489 which will ban purposeful fishing of sharks and rays in Hawaii's state waters. I support this bill and hope it is both taken seriously and enacted to the fullest extent by lawmakers. Sharks and rays are fundamental for a functioning ecosystem, and play a large role in the ecotourism industry tropical places like Hawaii benefit from. I hope that more bills such as this one can be created and used to protect what is left of the oceans wildlife and resources.

Thank you,  
Kate Allcock

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [vilmer.jansson@gmail.com](mailto:vilmer.jansson@gmail.com)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 12:01:00 PM

---

I support SB489!

Sincerely,  
Vilmer Jansson

**From:** [grisha.mouromtsev@gmail.com](mailto:grisha.mouromtsev@gmail.com)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 12:21:40 PM

---

I support this because sharks and rays are vital to the environment and play a major role in preserving a healthy ecosystem! Sharks are worth more alive than dead! Let's save them!

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Claire Strand](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 1:21:36 PM

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Aloha,

This is my testimony in SUPPORT of the state bill 489 (sb489) that calls for the protection of all sharks and rays within the state of Hawai'i.

Without sharks there is no viable ocean, and without a viable ocean, there is no Us.

Mahalo,

Claire Strand

Phone: (509)5543525

Email: [cestrand@hawaii.edu](mailto:cestrand@hawaii.edu)

**From:** [Felicia Kyles](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 1:23:19 PM

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I support SB489!

Felicia Kyles



**From:** [Lauren Lilly](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 1:27:12 PM

---

Sharks and rays need and deserve better protection, they are vital to maintaining a healthy and balanced ecosystem. It's sad that sharks have been around since before the dinosaurs, and it is us as humans that are causing their numbers to dramatically decrease.

Lauren Lilly

**From:** [Luke Osthus](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 1:36:42 PM

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Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Melissa Fischl](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 12:55:18 PM

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Aloha,

The protection of sharks protects the entire ocean's ecosystem. They're being fished at unsustainable rates for wasteful use in international and Hawaiian waters. I support SB489, and so do 10s of thousands of people.

Mahalo,  
Melissa

**From:** [Ocean Ramsey](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [Ocean Research](#); [Juan](#); [Business Urgent](#)  
**Subject:** Attn: Senator Kahele. I am In Support of bill SB489 to help protect Hawaii's sharks and Rays  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 1:38:20 PM

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Senator Kahele, Water & Land Committee

I am strongly in support of bill SB489 to help protect Hawaii's sharks and Rays. Growing up in Hawaii I have been privileged to get to know many individual sharks and rays and through my studies on population and behavior I have come to realize how few sharks and rays we actually have. I have personally seen the devastation and impacts from local and longline fishing. I constantly cut and remove fishing line off sharks another marine life. Sharks are very misunderstood creatures who need protection now, more than ever, because of the decimation of their populations. If you search social media you will find that there are still many night fishermen who catch and kill baby hammerhead pups and use them as bait for ulua. Some fishermen kill them and leave them on the beach because they perceive them as a nuisance or competition for fish when in fact, scientifically or ecologically we know they are actually the ones keeping our fish stocks healthy by picking off the weak, wounded, and sick keeping diseases from spreading and encouraging the evolution with the strongest and healthiest traits.

Traditional Hawaiian culture respects Mano but it is a fact that we have more people than ever visiting or moving to Hawaii and not all of them were raised to respect sharks, even some of the guys I grew up with have lost that traditional respect. Please help sharks and rays, help Hawaii, and Hawaii's future by passing this law in support of desperately needed protection. I have data showing continual declines in shark populations at 3 mile aggregation sites. You can survey the block anyway to see the the commercial longline fisheries are still catching sharks and even a couple months ago hard evidence that they are still finning them came into local news with the fishermen who were trying to smuggle fins out of Hawaii. These men got away without a fine so even the current law to ban finning is still not enough protection. We could supplement the cost of enforcing this new law with a voluntary tax from the shark tourism operators. The people wanting to go see sharks alive could help pay for any additional costs to enforce their protection with a \$5 donation/tax/fee :)

Please contact me if you have any questions or need any help to get this bill passed.

Mahalo nui loa,  
Ocean Ramsey

Aloha,  
Ocean Ramsey  
1-808-722-0969

Senior Researcher & Dive Safety Officer for One Ocean Research and Diving  
Co-founder of Water Inspired conservation group.  
President of Save The Sea Turtles International.  
Advisor for the International Shark Project and HSC.  
PADI MSDT #197766  
E02 & AED Instructor  
1st Aid & CPR EFR Instructor

Find out more about my work and check out my TED talk on:

[OneOceanResearch.Org](http://OneOceanResearch.Org)

[WaterInspired.Org](http://WaterInspired.Org)  
[OceanRamsey.com](http://OceanRamsey.com)  
[HelpSaveSharks.Org](http://HelpSaveSharks.Org)

Social Media:

Instagram: @OceanRamsey  
@OneOceanDiving  
@WaterInspired  
@OneOceanResearch  
@OneOceanEducation  
@OneOceanConservation  
@OneOceanGlobal  
@OneOceanDesigns

Twitter: @OceanRamsey

Facebook: Ocean Ramsey Water Inspired

Aloha

“In the end, we will conserve only what we love; we will love only what we understand and we will understand only what we are taught.”

— **Baba Dioum**

“It may feel that what you do is only a drop in the ocean but the ocean would be less without that drop.” -Mother Teresa

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 2:29:52 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Carl M Jellings Sr	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

Honorable Senate WTL

We have testified against this bill not in opposition for the protection of Rays but in opposition of certain protections for sharks, This we oppose especially entanglement, we have many aerial videos showing many sharks mostly sand bar sharks possibly oceanic white tips mixed in with massive schools of akule, historically this occurrence is some what common, how ever rare entanglement may occur we can almost guarantee 99.9 percent of the time these sharks will be released unharmed, but the way this bill is written mentions entanglement as a crime this does not even give us a chance to release these sharks unharmed before we could be charged with a crime, Akule Fishers produce a very valuable and affordable food resource for Hawaii's People We Very Humbly ask that akule operations be exempt from this legislation.

Mahalo,

Carl Jellings Sr Capt CFV Henry J II

**From:** [amber gain](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 1:54:37 PM

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I support SB489



**From:** [Ashley Demaline](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 2:16:11 PM

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Aloha,

Requesting more support for Hawaii's sharks and rays. They are just as important to our ecosystem and economy to keep them both thriving. Knowingly capturing, taking, possessing, abusing, entangling, or killing a shark or ray in state marine waters should absolutely be prohibited.

Mahalo nui,  
Ashley Demaline

**From:** [dcady97@gmail.com](mailto:dcady97@gmail.com)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 2:07:04 PM

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To the Committee Chair, Committee Members, and other legislators.

I support SB489.

Sharks are essential to the health of the ocean and therefore the environment as a whole. We in Hawaii are economically and recreationally tied to the ocean.

Sharks are sentient beings. To fish (hook, fight for hour(s), exhaust, and drag sharks onto land) for sharks is cruel. And completely unnecessary . Many released sharks still die and the shark populations are being decimated. How can we be a world leader in shark and marine conservation and not address this issue?

Thank you for your consideration. Respectfully,

David Cady  
(Ewa Beach)

**From:** [roy lewis](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** In support of sb489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 2:35:42 PM

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In support of sb489

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Moir Bauer](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** In support of SB589  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 2:25:03 PM

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I support the bill that's protects the sharks and Rays from beginning killed in Hawaii because they are the oceans creatures and they are endangered species so we should stop the murdering of sharks and rays before they become like the dinosaurs. Sharks and rays help the oceans go around they are only dangerous creatures they are more then that they one of the most important souls of the seas -MAB  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Camila Jaber](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 2:54:20 PM

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Please support this Bill, sharks are crucial to their ecosystem and their populations have been diminishing exponentially in the last decade! Be an example to the world by protecting your rays and sharks!

Thank you,  
Camila Jaber

**From:** [Kayleigh Burns](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY SUPPORT SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 3:02:02 PM

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Aloha Committee Members,

I strongly support SB 489 in granting more protection for sharks and rays in Hawaiian waters. As a shark naturalist for One Ocean Research & Diving, I understand the ecological importance of sharks in marine ecosystems, the economic benefit to “swim with shark” programs, and the cultural value of sharks in Hawaiian tradition.

From 2000-2010 Sharks around the world have been decimated at a rate of about 100 million sharks per year (Worm & Gruber 2013). With only about 3% of the worlds ocean as a marine protected area (MPA) there exists few safe havens for these animals around the globe (Department of State Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs 2016).

Sharks and rays are especially vulnerable to exploitation due to slow growth rate, late attainment of sexual maturity, long life spans, & low fecundity (Steves et al 2000)

As apex predators, sharks are at the top of the food chain, therefore maintaining the balance of the ecosystem by regulating the abundance of marine life in lower trophic levels while acting as the immune system of our oceans by picking off the weak, sick and overpopulated keeping fish stocks healthy.

Additional research indicates that the removal of shark and rays may alter size, structure and population parameters in response to changes in species abundance (Stevens et. al 2000).

Sharks are a clear sign of a healthy reef and marine ecosystem due to their predatory status.

Hawaiian tourism relies greatly on our natural environment. It is our responsibility as a community to conserve our natural world for generations to come and those around the globe to enjoy. I have personally interacted with countless tourists from around the world traveling specifically for aquatic tourism with a focus on sharks and rays between Oahu and Hawaii island. Studies in the Maldives, Bahamas, and South Africa have clearly outline the value of a live shark to severely outweigh the value of a dead shark.

“In the Maldives, for example, divers engaged in over 76,000 shark-observing dives in just one year, bringing in an estimated US \$2.3 million to the local economy in 1993 alone (Anderson & Ahmed, 1993; Anderson & Waheed, 2001). This same study also estimated that a single grey reef shark was worth an average of \$3,300 per year, and over \$35,000 per year at the most popular dive sites.” Anderson and Ahmed (1993) concluded a grey reef shark was worth 100 times more when alive than dead.

Our team of conservationists at Keiko Conservation and One Ocean Research and Diving urge your committee to lead by example not only for the state of Hawaii but the entire nation and preserve Hawaii’s natural assets by passing SB489.

Mahalo nui loa,

**Kayleigh Burns**  
**PADI Divemaster**  
**One Ocean Diving**  
**Water Inspired Conservationist**  
**Mobile: (215) 208-5432**  
**IG: @mermaid\_kayleigh**

**FB: Kayleigh Nicole Burns**



**From:** [k8 Pfohl](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 2:58:14 PM

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If you kill the sharks what will eat the overgrowth of toxic fish that are so because of the large amount of waste being dumped in our oceans... We need sharks and I swim with them and live them .

**From:** [k8 Pfohl](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 3:27:15 PM

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If you allow ignorant ppl to continue to kill the sharks what will eat the overgrowth of toxic fish and carcasses that are so, mostly because of the large amount of waste being dumped in our oceans... Because of human ignorance. They are absolutely necessary for our survival! Over the past 20 yrs I've swam with wild hammerheads, bull sharks, grey reef tip sharks and nurse sharks, one day I will swim with a great white... we need them and I love them . Stop shark fin soup!

**From:** [Camila Carrasco](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 3:11:38 PM

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SAVE THE SHARKS AND RAYS!!!!!!!!!!

**From:** [James williams](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY In Support of SB489.  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 3:10:29 PM

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Sharks and rays and all sea life for that matter are a vital link for our survival as mammals  
On this planet, I implore you as another citizen of this amazing earth we live on together to  
look within yourself to put aside desires to please your senator their boss and whoever they  
are working for etc to think about sparing lives for the sake of monetary gain  
These ancient creatures are massive and deserve to be revered and held in the utmost esteem  
for they are great and powerful sheriffs of the oceans

**From:** [Taryn Wigal](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 3:32:25 PM

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I support bill SN489. Sharks are a huge importance to our eco systems. I would love to see Hawaii set the path for ocean conservation!

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 3:57:59 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Fawn Liebengood	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 4:34:43 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Crystal Dombrow	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony. I am a graduate student at Scripps Institution of Oceanography studying marine conservation policy and fisheries management and I support the passage of SB489 to protect sharks and rays in Hawai'i State waters.

Sharks are a crucial top predator in our oceans. They keep ocean communities healthy, which yields a robust food supply with fish as a top source of protein for much of the world. They are likewise vital to maintaining marine ecosystems which are of high commercial value for ecotourism revenue in Hawai'i.

Many species have already declined to the brink of extinction over the past 3-4 decades. The evidence is empirical: as a diver, seeing a Tiger shark is rare. Many large species are popular for sport fishing because of the "fight" they put up when hooked. Unfortunately, catch and release has been shown to result in high post-release mortality often due to high lactate buildup and that these species require constant swimming to breathe.

The passage of this bill can in turn help transform public opinion of sharks so we can coexist with these keystone species of our ecosystem. The State of Hawai'i, therefore, will benefit from protecting its shark populations from recreational angling, which may account for higher shark mortality worldwide than commercial industries.

**From:** [todd.corns](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 3:46:53 PM

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I support bill SB489 to help save the lives of sharks so we can have healthy oceans.

Todd Corns  
cbr954\_20@yahoo.com

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Taylor Barr](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 4:12:48 PM

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Sharks need as much protection as they can get. We need them in our oceans and it is where they belong. They should not have to live in fear of humans or be tortured and caught for human pride entertainment or any reason. Please help the sharks

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Denise Wheatley](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 4:14:38 PM

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I support the bill SB489, I believe all of our oceans resources need protection and that every species plays a role in the health of our oceans.

Denise Wheatley

**From:** [Sunshine Eckstrom](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** In support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 4:21:01 PM

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To Whom It May Concern,

I'm writing to voice my support for SB489.

It should be illegal to kill, capture/take, possess, entangle, or otherwise abuse a shark in Hawaiian waters. Sharks are being killed worldwide at an astronomical rate. They are absolutely vital to the health of our ocean ecosystems. Without a healthy shark population, the oceans (and ultimately the rest of us) won't survive.

Hawaii should be a leader in conservation and demonstrate its respect for sharks and the ocean by passing SB489.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Sunshine Eckstrom, DVM

**From:** [Carissa Cabrera](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 4:24:22 PM

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Aloha,

I would like to support the bill SB489. As a marine biologist, conservationist, and educator based on Oahu, the importance of sharks in a healthy ecosystem is well known to most here. However, shark fishing is decimating populations and need to heavily enforced and regulated. Ongoing research links shark fins that are illegally harvested to fisheries all over the U.S., including Hawaii. In order to actually prioritize ocean health, this bill is essential. Instead of claiming environmental values as an island; we should show that we are taking active steps to protect the environmental through actions. The nation and ocean DOES NOT need anymore representatives without core values aligned with a sustainable future for our planet.

Best,  
Carissa

**From:** [Taylor Cunningham](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY Support for SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 4:39:49 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I'm sure that you have been told in many other testimonies about the incredible importance of sharks to keeping ocean ecosystems healthy but I urge you to consider their economic importance. Sharks act as the "white blood cells" of the ocean by eating the sick, injured, or dying animals and leaving behind a healthy ecosystem. Without sharks our fisheries would be plagued with diseased fish. The fishing industry in Hawaii accounts for a significant portion of the economy. A quarter of the Hawaiian population takes part in fishing activity at least once a year and Hawaii's commercial fishermen have brought up to \$64.3 million in fish in previous years. The Hawaiian fishing industry is the 6<sup>th</sup> largest in the US and without the presence of sharks, it could potentially collapse. Tourism is the largest source of private capital into the Hawaiian Islands and contributes \$1 billion in tax revenue. Ecotourism accounts for a large portion of tourism within Hawaii, much of which involves sharks or coral reef ecosystems. It has been proven that by protecting sharks, overall reef health improves. For example, the protection of sharks in the Bahamas has led to a healthier food chain and increased shark-related ecotourism, earning the title of "Shark Diving capital of the world". The shark diving industry in the Bahamas brings in approximately \$78 million a year to the local economy. The protection of sharks and rays in the Maldives has led to a huge ecotourism business among the islands. In Palau, each living reef shark contributed almost \$2 million to the economy within their lifetime via ecotourism. On the other hand, that same shark would be worth a one-time pay out of a couple hundred dollars if killed by a fisherman in Palau. A LIVING SHARK IS WORTH MORE THAN A DEAD ONE! Even if you ignore all the biological and ecological benefits of the presence of sharks & rays within the Hawaiian reef and ocean ecosystems there is an extremely compelling economic reason to protect sharks and rays in Hawaiian waters. I urge you to pass bill SB489 and join the Maldives, Honduras, and the Bahamas in efforts to prevent the recreational fishing of sharks.

Mahalo,

Taylor Cunningham



**From:** [Matthew Street](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY in Support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 4:47:33 PM

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I am in support of SB489

**From:** [Sara Pearce](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 3:53:55 PM

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Aloha,

We need to SUPPORT and protect our sharks and rays that cannot speak for themselves!

Thank you,  
Sara Pearce

**From:** [Mark MacLeod](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 4:48:00 PM

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Aloha and to whom it may concern,

I'd like to submit my voice in support for SB489 which would take further steps to protect Sharks and Rays which visit and are found in the waters of Hawaii.

Although I'm a resident of Canada, I find this cause an important one. I recently visited Hawaii for the first time (Oahu) on vacation and subsequently a trip primarily for marine ecotourism. I can't say enough about my experience (with OneOceanDiving) and hope the steps taken to protect Sharks and Rays under this bill will allow other visitors to discover the beauty of marine life in their natural environment in your beautiful waters.

Mahalo for your time and letting me share my voice.

Aloha from Canada

Mark N. MacLeod

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [b.thompson1222@gmail.com](mailto:b.thompson1222@gmail.com)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for sb489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 4:48:06 PM

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Please support this bill relating to shark and ray protection! Shark populations are in decline globally, they are vital to the health of marine ecosystems, and they have very little functional protection here in Hawaii.

Mahalo,  
Blake Thompson

**From:** [brittany.arvizu@h-mar.org](mailto:brittany.arvizu@h-mar.org)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 4:50:20 PM  
**Attachments:** [bottom.letterhead](#)

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The science has proven time and time again that healthy ecosystems have apex predators. Sharks are an essential part of keeping Hawaii's oceans healthy. Please help protect them.

Brittany K Arvizu, [M.Sc.](#)  
Field Response Manager  
Hawaii Marine Animal Response  
[brittany.arvizu@h-mar.org](mailto:brittany.arvizu@h-mar.org)  
(808)371-2199



**From:** [Briana Miller](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony In support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 4:57:20 PM

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In support of SB489

**From:** [brycemiller@live.com](mailto:brycemiller@live.com)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** In support of SB489 to help protect Hawaii's beautiful sharks and rays  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 4:20:18 PM

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Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [Jack Ahearn](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 4:39:01 PM

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In Support of SB489

**From:** [Bella Ornaf](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 4:59:22 PM

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I support SB489

Bella

**Bella Ornaf**

**FIN Montauk**

[www.finmontauk.com](http://www.finmontauk.com)

**Facebook:** [finmontauk](#)

**Instagram:** [@Finmontauk](#)

(c) [914 320 4344](tel:9143204344)

"The ocean is a mighty harmonist." Wordsworth

**From:** [J Lea-Plante](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 3:51:54 PM

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To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to show you my support for this bill. Sharks are much to important to our ecosystem to go without protections. Please pass this bill so that future generations can continue to enjoy sharks in the ecosystem.

Thank you,

J. Lea-Plante  
Rhode Island

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 5:42:22 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mary James	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 7:08:56 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Paul Balazs	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 7:24:04 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SB489. Sharks are a most vital resource for our Hawaiian and global waters, and with the worldwide number of sharks dropping rapidly due to inhuman, unnecessary, and unsustainable human behaviors, it is absolutely crucial that Hawaii takes a leading stance on the protection of sharks. The decline in shark populations is a most serious ecological concern, being that their primary role is to keep our oceans at sufficient health levels that enable the existence of life on land. As a community, we must do everything we can to protect this very important resource. We are asking you as our government to take a step in the right direction...to pave the way toward a sustainable future.

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 7:38:15 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

Sharks and Manta Rays are keystone species whose lives are critical to the sustainability of Hawaii's fishing economy. No sharks, No fish, no food.

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 8:27:57 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brianna Pak	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 9:02:19 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mike Nakachi	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 9:12:27 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lei Shimabukuro	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this testimony.

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 10:02:41 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
emily ramirez miranda	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

More than 1,000 species of sharks and rays are beginning to become a risk in extinction since many are being fished, habitat loss, and many more. These extraordinary species should be protected because sharks keep prey populations healthy more on the sick and weak preys. As for rays, they are known to possess the largest brain out of all the world's fishes and to be kind in nature. We need to help the sharks and rays to survive. Thank you.

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 10:07:59 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tara Morisato	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 10:29:32 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jourdin W	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 11:00:02 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 11:09:59 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
marina kulakova	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support sharks, rays and good eco system in Hawaii.

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 2:57:36 AM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Randy Gonce	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 5:40:20 AM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jaclyn Horton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Sharks are an incredibly important part of ocean ecosystems and play a large role in maintaining the health of reefs. Hawaii, as an island, should have a much more educated position on the impact of fishing and bycatch on the shark population. It is incredibly naive of the state to not protect sharks and rays because these species are so much more valuable alive than being slaughtered and caught on hooks. There is so much scientific research that highlights not only the critical role of sharks in a healthy ecosystem but also the financial worth of a live shark. Whatever financial metrics fishing companies are using to support their ability to catch sharks are wrong and will cause serious long term damage to Hawaii's local economy. This is such a serious issue because we are in a moment in history where we have enough information to make the correct decision to put in place more protection for these species. I hope that the State Legislation of Hawaii will make the right decision and pass this act which will create long term financial and environmental benefits for the state.

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 7:03:09 AM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

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

## Comments:

Mahalo Chair Kahele, Vice-chair Agaran, and committee members for considering this important measure! These apex predators are critically important to the coral reef and ocean ecosystems that support Hawaii. The Fourth National Climate Assessment issued in Nov. 2018 warns that NOAA projects ocean warming from climate change will cause annual severe bleaching of most of Hawaii's reefs by 2040. We simply must begin now to repair and heal imbalances so that health and resiliency can be increased in time. We are no longer talking about saving Hawaii's reefs for future generations. This is going to happen in our lifetime. Will global emissions be cut in time to prevent annual severe coral bleaching in Hawaii? Who knows? But we must certainly hope for the best, but plan for the worst. Protecting sharks is a necessary step forward.

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 7:12:11 AM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
amandarae gauci	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hello,

Sharks and rays are very misunderstood creatures that are vital to our ecosystem. Sharks are also very culturally important and also great for ecotourism. Please seriously consider this bill and stand up for some of our ocean's important animals. I personally love them and they NEED to be better protected.

Thank you,

Amandarae Gauci

**From:** [thahawitha curotte](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY in support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 2:05:42 AM

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**From:** [Alec James](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY In Support of SB489.  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 8:34:25 AM

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I support SB489!

**From:** [De Leo](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 8:08:24 PM

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I support SB489. Sharks are vital to saving our planet, a place that is very near an unstoppable decline. If the least we can do is protect these beautiful creatures, let's make it happen. There is no reason to ever catch or kill sharks; not for food, not for protection, not for sport.

Mahalo,

Alex De Leo

**From:** [Alexander Filardo](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 7:29:07 AM

---

Aloha

I support SB 489. Sharks are vital to ecosystem health. We can either live in a world with oceans filled with fish, invertebrates, mammals, and sea birds or we can live with an ocean dominated by microscopic plankton dominated by the bacterial loop. I know what I would prefer...

Thanks

Alex Filardo

**From:** [Alex Choyce](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 7:14:18 PM

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To Whom It May Concern:

I fully support the ban of purposeful fishing of sharks and rays in Hawaiian waters. Sharks are so incredibly valuable to our ecosystem and play a vital roll in keeping our oceans healthy. They are being needlessly slaughtered all over the world and it's truly heartbreaking. I've swam with several different varieties of sharks, both in a cage and without, and these magnificent creatures deserve to be as protected as possible. Sharks have survived several major cataclysmic world events, but this generation could wipe them out. How horrible is that?

Please ban shark and ray fishing.

No good comes from it.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Alexandra Choyce



**From:** [Amanda Neumeyer](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 6:49:46 PM

---

I support bill SB489 because it further ensures the health of our oceans.

**From:** [Ana Catarina Avila Vitorino](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY In Support of SB489.  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 2:14:57 AM

---

Specialists have said multiple times, we need sharks for a healthy ocean!

**From:** [Andra Janieks](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY In Support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 8:36:02 AM

---

To whom it may concern,

I wholeheartedly support SB489. Sharks and rays are crucial for ocean health, and the ocean is already negatively impacted by humans in so many other ways like overfishing, plastic pollution and rising temperatures. Let's not add another thing to the list with purposeful fishing of sharks and rays.

Thanks,  
Andra

**From:** [Andre Borell](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** In Support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 7:08:12 PM

---

Hi,

As a frequent foreign visitor to Hawaii, I wanted to express my very strong support for SB489.

Unfortunately, I come from a country a little less forward thinking than yours (Australia) on this topic, and can only but express my support and envy for this bill.

Kind regards,  
Andre Borell

**From:** [Annika Young](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 7:21:36 PM

---

I strongly support SB489. Sharks are a most vital resource for our Hawaiian and global waters, and with the worldwide number of sharks dropping rapidly due to inhuman, unnecessary, and unsustainable human behaviors, it is absolutely crucial that Hawaii takes a leading stance on the protection of sharks. The decline in shark populations is a most serious ecological concern, being that their primary role is to keep our oceans at sufficient health levels that enable the existence of life on land. As a community, we must do everything we can to protect this very important resource. We are asking you as our government to take a step in the right direction...to pave the way toward a sustainable future.

**From:** [Ashley Larson](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 9:31:44 PM

---

In support of SB489 save the sharks please

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Barbara](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 10:12:08 PM

---

Please help stop the killing of sharks and rays in Hawaii. We need to protect these beautiful creatures !

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Bella Evans](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 6:42:22 PM

---

Save the sharks, save the earth.

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [Bilgehan Aktas](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY in support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 2:15:43 AM

---

I am in support of SB489.

These creatures do not have a voice to speak up for themselves, so we need to be it. We rely on the ocean, we need it for survival. It is our job to understand, to help preserve, not destroy. You have the power to make change, please make one that will help protect our planet.

Kind regards from Australia.

**From:** [Starry Medicine](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 5:13:13 PM

---

Hello,

My name is Bonnie Sharkey and I support SB489. Thank you so much!  
Warmly,  
Bonnie

**From:** [Brittyn Lindsey](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 5:51:17 PM

---

I support bill SB489. I love Hawaii and want sharks and rays to be protected from such harmful fishing.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Cambren Sievert](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 5:04:07 AM

---

Sharks and rays numbers are drastically plummeting and need your protection! Please help protect these amazing and beautiful creatures because if not they will soon be extinct. It would make me very happy to see this happen and would help these animals out tenfold.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Cameron Choi](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY is Support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 11:33:42 PM

---

I'm voicing my support for sharks to receive better protection and respect as they are amazing creatures and crucial to our oceans' health.

Kind regards,  
Cameron

**From:** [Candace Narvaez](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY In Support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 7:34:44 PM

---

Aloha Committee Members,

My name is Candace Narvaez and I am writing to you today to show my strong support of SB489 to help protect sharks and rays in Hawaii. As a current marine biology undergraduate student and future shark ethologist, I have learned just how important sharks and rays are to the marine ecosystem. The need for apex predators in a declining ocean is becoming greater everyday and we cannot waste any time in granting our oceans the protection and preservation they desperately need! While it may seem like sharks and rays only contribute to declining fishery populations, in fact the opposite is true. Sharks act as the “white blood cells” of the ocean by feeding on sick, weak and dying individuals. Without the presence of sharks, we could face entire fishery collapse in the global ocean ecosystem because sharks are not there to eliminate illnesses before they spread. This could be devastating both economically and in terms of resources as hundreds of millions of people worldwide rely on fish as their primary source of nutrition. In Hawaii, fish are a main staple in the Hawaiian diet so it only makes sense that Hawaii should serve as an example to other communities by highlighting their commitment to protecting the ocean. Furthermore, sharks also hold great cultural significance throughout many Polynesian cultures and many people to this day believe they are descendants of sharks. There is numerous research out there supporting the protection of sharks, and the protection of our ocean, but one presentation that recently stood out to me was given by Dr. Enric Sala. In his TEDTalk entitled, “Glimpses of a Pristine Ocean,” he discusses how our perspectives on biomass distributions in healthy reef ecosystems are wrong and uses historical evidence to support his claim. When we think of a healthy reef, we think of a large number of herbivorous fish and lower level food chain organisms. However, for a reef to be pristine and healthy, we need an abundance of top predators, such as sharks, in order to maintain that healthy ecosystem. Through his research at various reef ecosystems around the world, Dr. Sala found that reefs with more complex food chains were able to recover faster after disturbances. What this means is that with increased presence of sharks, and other top predators, coral reefs were better able to adapt to warming ocean temperatures. I think an important point here is that by bringing back one species, you can save many because the ocean is always connected. I urge you to please take this step in protecting sharks and rays because the ocean needs them, and we need the ocean. Mahalo nui loa for considering my testimony and I hope you have a wonderful year!

**From:** [Carolin Roßkopf](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY In Support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 10:39:41 PM

---

We need sharks and rays for our oceans to clean them. We can't live without them! The ecosystem can't be the same without sharks and so many other animals need them to survive. Please ban the shark fishing!!!  
Mahalo

**From:** [Caroline G Castillo](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 8:54:57 PM

---

I support SB 489  
Please help save sharks and rays.

Caroline G Castillo  
Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [Caroline Quill '18](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 8:25:57 AM

---

In Support of SB489

**From:** [catalina rebolo](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** In Support SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 5:06:35 PM

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**From:** [Charnele Peat](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 6:06:04 PM

---

Aloha Legislative Committee,

As an individual who has spent the last 6 years working in Marine Tourism, studied Marine Biology and is an avid shark diver, I can attest to the importance of sharks in marine ecosystems and would like to vouch my support for the SB489 - a bill to protect sharks and rays in Hawaiian waters.

It is essential that we continue to pursue conservation efforts for our marine environment as it suffers at the hands of an increasing human population. Sharks ensure a healthy, balanced ecosystem by removing the sick, dead or dying from their prey species ultimately contributing to flourishing fish stocks.

Sharks in Hawaii provide income and additional funds to the local economy with a year-round tourism industry. These operators rely solely on a few species of sharks to swim with each day. The detrimental effects over-fishing, shark fishing and shark finning can have on not only this population but shark species Island wide, will eventually collapse the ecosystem starting from the top.

Sharks or mano are regarded in high honor as Hawaiian 'aumakua or family guardians and ancestors. These figures are deeply ingrained in Hawaiian culture and are known to provide protection for native Hawaiians. To defend and seek to spend time with these animals is a cultural right in Hawaii.

I support SB489 and expect that with sound reason, science and cultural conservation in mind you will too.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Charnele Peat

**From:** [Christel Fritz](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 7:02:52 AM

---

I am absolutely in support of this bill to protect sharks! Please keep the health of our oceans at the forefront of decision making! Our oceans will not survive without these apex predators playing their part to properly balance the ecosystem. They need our help, and we need them!

Sincerely,  
Christel Schultz

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

**From:** [Christine Hara](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 11:33:57 PM

---

Good morning representatives of Hawaii,

I'm writing in my full support of bill SB489 to prevent the purposeful fishing of sharks and rays in Hawaiian waters. Hawaii must lead the United States in the conservation and protection of marine habitats and sharks are a critical and endangered part of this ecosystem. Please take the necessary steps to protect our marine environment for future generations and support bill SB489.

Thank you,  
Christine Hara

**From:** [Chloe Edmonds](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Support for SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 2:41:56 AM

---

We have to do what can be done to stop the unsustainable fishing of sharks in all international waters to avoid the irreversible disruption to the ecosystems of our precious oceans.

Mahalo

**From:** [Dan Vallentyne](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [Midori fugu](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 10:28:13 PM

---

Greetings representatives of Hawaii,

I'm writing in my full support of bill SB489 to prevent the purposeful fishing of sharks And rays in Hawaiian waters. Hawaii must lead the United States in the conservation and protection of marine habitats and sharks are a critical and endangered part of this ecosystem. Please take the necessary steps to protect our marine environment for future generations and support bill SB489.

Thank you,  
Dan Vallentyne

**From:** [Debi Meier](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY In Support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 3:31:59 AM

---

Hello from Switzerland

As a landlocked ocean-lover I have found my way to the Islands of Hawai'i for a few times.  
I love the diversity of the wildlife, on land and in water.

To protect sharks and rays I support SB489. Let's Keep your beautiful waters wild and stop the overfishing those creatures have endured in past years.

Mahalo,

Debi



**From:** [Diana Pelc](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 7:41:59 PM

---

I support bill SB489! Sharks are vital to our ecosystem and purposeful killing should be punishable.

**From:** [danielleahunt03@gmail.com](mailto:danielleahunt03@gmail.com)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 3:27:25 AM

---

I support SB489. Sharks are a huge impact on keep our ecosystem healthy, wealthy and wise. Rays are perfect and angelic, no touch.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Emilee Cadwell](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** In support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 6:55:24 AM

---

Please choose to give fair representation to the sharks of Hawaii!! I support SB489!

Emilee Cadwell  
Washington State Resident

**From:** [Emilie Remman](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY In Support of SB489.  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 11:00:21 PM

---

I support SB489

Best regards

Emilie Remman

---

AECC University College, Parkwood Campus, Parkwood Road, Bournemouth. BH5 2DF. Tel: 01202 436200 Fax: 01202 436312

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**From:** [Erik Stinnett](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Bill  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 8:36:20 AM

---

In Support of SB489

**From:** [Erin Whalen](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 7:02:49 AM

---

I support Bill SB489.  
Please no more fishing rays and sharks.  
Aloha,  
Erin Whalen

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Erin Rodriguez](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 7:32:24 PM

---

I support SB48

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

**From:** [Farah Manna](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 11:02:25 PM

---

To whom it may concern,

Kindly, find that I'm one of many people that used to be really scared to go for a swim in the sea because of sharks, but now after following people that are swimming peacefully in Hawaii with sharks, I want to overcome my fear and come to visit Hawaii just to see these sharks.

I'm contacting you from a small city called Amman in Jordan (Middle East), so far away from Hawaii. We need a big campaign to raise awareness on how to deal with sharks and not killing them because I do believe that we can co-exist.

I hope you take my email into consideration.

Best Regards,  
Farah Manna



**From:** [Giavanna Marchese](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 6:19:05 PM

---

To Whom It May Concern,

As humans, it is our responsibility to protect and preserve the beautiful creatures of the sea (and all animals for that matter). I am writing to you because it is imperative that we support Bill SB489 in order to ban fishing on the beautiful animals of the sea, some for instance sharks and sting rays. They have no voice but they deserve to be safe and protected and as humans it is as I said before, our responsibility to be humane and be the voices the animals don't have. I truly hope this letter expresses how important it is to save these animals.

Sincerely,  
Giavanna Marchese

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Helene lund bang](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 9:27:44 PM

---

I support SB489! Because we need to start taking some seroius actions to safe our oceans before it is too late! A healthy ocean is a healthy shark and ray population. Please ban fishing now!

Kind regards Helene Bang from Denmark

**From:** [Federico Rojas Holzer](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SUPPORT FOR SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 2:24:45 AM

---

Good morning! I am in support of bill SB489.

Sharks and rays deserve to be free and do not be sacrificated. Stop killing them.

Best regards,

--

Ing. Federico Rojas Holzer

**From:** [Jack Woods](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 6:14:24 AM

---

Good morning,

I support the Bill for SB489

Although sharks are incredibly misunderstood, you don't need to love sharks to still respect them for the important animals that they are! Sharks help keep our primary source of oxygen, the ocean, balanced and healthy by keeping the food chain in balance, preventing diseases from spreading, and believed to help regulate prey behavior, too!

Thank you

Regards,

Jack Woods  
Advanced Filtration Co.  
PH: [\(732\) 901-6676](#)  
FX: [\(732\) 901-6677](#)

**From:** [cortesjennifer78@gmail.com](mailto:cortesjennifer78@gmail.com)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** In Support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 6:51:55 PM

---

Sharks and rays are crucial in maintaining a healthy and balanced ocean. They deserve our respect and protection.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Jay Gunter](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 1:11:07 AM

---

I support SB489! As apex predators, sharks play an important role in the ecosystem by maintaining the species below them in the food chain and serving as an indicator for ocean health. They help remove the weak and the sick as well as keeping the balance with competitors helping to ensure species diversity.

Looking forward to hearing good news about passing legislation to protect and preserve sharks and Rays!

Best regards,

Jay Gunter  
Raleigh, North Carolina  
919.521.1596

**From:** [Jayde Couzyn](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SB489 support  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 2:48:03 AM

---

To whom it may concern,

I am emailing in support of the SB489 which supports the legislation of offense to kill, capture, take, entangle or abuse sharks.

Anything I can do to express my support of further, I would appreciate to know. I am a supporter of conservation and the knowledge that the protection of sharks is both a natural and economical necessity for the human race.

Without sharks, the ocean will starve and eventually it will die.

Warm regards  
Jayde Couzyn

**From:** [Jayme Schlimper](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 4:38:43 AM

---

I support SB489 because these sharks and rays are vital to our oceans' ecosystem and need to be protected, not murdered!



**From:** [Jennifer Hirsiger](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 7:25:31 PM

---

Testimony in support of SB489

[Outlook für Android](#) herunterladen

**From:** [Jessica Goodin](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 8:34:00 AM

---

Sharks help the ecosystem.  
I support SB489  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Jill Brethouwer](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 3:26:21 AM

---

I support SB489 because I love Sharks and swam with some black tip reef sharks last year since I did my divers license.  
Ocean Ramseys posts literally took my fear about sharks away!

**From:** [JSartori88@Gmail](mailto:JSartori88@Gmail)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 6:23:04 AM

---

I support Bill SB489 and the protection of sharks and rays. This bill, if passed, will demonstrate a positive example to other policy makers that protection of these key species in all waters, including those off Hawaii, is critical and necessary.

Please pass this bill and announce to the world that Hawaii's leadership are innovative, thoughtful and exceptional among their global peers. It's your time to show your best self.

Sincerely,

JP Sartori  
Roswell, GA

**From:** [Juan David Ospina Sáenz](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY In Support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 6:21:50 PM

---

I support SB489 Helps!!! Because sharks and rays are necessary for the ecosystem, we must protect this sanctuary.

Enviado desde mi HUAWEI P20 lite

**From:** [Kajsa Strömberg](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY in support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 1:33:49 AM

---

Hello.

Please make it illegal to kill the sharks and rays in Hawaii. Let animals live in peace on this Earth and let us live with them and not against them.

**From:** [Kali Marino](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I support SB489!  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 6:56:13 PM

---

Thank you for considering this bill! I give my full support to protect the sharks and rays in Hawaiian waters. Both are so important for the reef life and deserve our protection.

Kali Marino

**From:** [Katie Demsey](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 5:07:56 PM

---

I support bill SB489!!

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [kellyjelly227@gmail.com](mailto:kellyjelly227@gmail.com)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 8:42:50 PM

---

Please protect the sharks and rays because the oceans need all the help we can give them. Every species is on this earth for a reason and if we don't protect our sharks and rays we could run into huge problems that we aren't even aware of yet. We know that if the oceans die, we die, but what if we could stop this from happening? We need to conserve our planet and protect all of its inhabitants especially the ones in danger of being wiped out. 100 million sharks are killed yearly by humans so how much longer until they're all gone? My guess is not long at all please help

Sincerely,  
Kelly Saad

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Kieran Boobyer](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 1:08:07 AM

---

Hello my name is Kieran I believe it should be illegal to fish In Hawaii waters for sharks and sting rays. They play a crucial role to the ecosystem being one of the oceans top predators, keeping everything in line and helping keeping everything in order. By sharks being fished for nothing other than pointless reasons and being a “danger to humans” is a complete outrage. I’m a huge lover of sharks and the facts of how harmful sharks are are little to none. Why fish/kill a species that does nothing other than keep to itself, and protect our oceans. Rays also should be protected for near enough the same reasons , in a huge believer in live and let live so please take everyone’s emails into consideration to protect these beautiful creatures. All you have to do is look at all the amazing conservation work happening to stop this, thank you.

Kieran

**From:** [Kirstin Merriment](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 6:17:17 PM

---

Sharks and rays need better protection because without them the oceans delicate ecosystem will fail

Kirstin Merriment

**From:** [Krista London](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY in support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 5:54:13 PM

---

SAVE THE SHARKS!!!!

**From:** [Lauren Cordell](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** In support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 6:03:51 AM

---

Hi there,

I would like to urge you to please help better protect sharks and rays in Hawaii to maintain healthy ocean ecosystems for future generations. Their rapid decline in numbers due to the short-term reward that their capture represents is unsustainable and extremely worrying in the long-term. Please use your power to help facilitate real environmental change for our children and help to support and instigate alternative income streams to fishermen instead of allowing this continued practice.

Kind regards

Lauren Cordell

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Lindsay](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 7:18:35 AM

---

Hello,

Sharks and rays need better protection they are crucial to our oceans ecosystem and they need our help now! They are being killed at a rate of 70,000,000 to 100,000,000 per year! Sharks are at the top of the food chain; they are needed to keep the ecosystem balanced as well as regulate the population of other marine life. Without sharks and rays our oceans are doomed! It's bad enough pollution is making a huge impact on the condition of our oceans and the animals that call the ocean home; we don't need to contribute to its decline anymore!! We need to all make strides to help rebuild it! It's not too late! Please pass this law and do what's right not only for our sharks and rays, but for the ocean and ultimately for the earth!

Thank you  
Lindsay Di Miceli

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Liv The Great](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 7:38:42 PM

---

Hello!  
I support SB489.

**From:** [Lizzie Youmans](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I support SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 6:45:27 AM

---

Good Morning,  
I am a resident of Georgia, United States. I believe that the shark and ray population declining is a big factor in whether not our younger generations will survive. Sharks is the top of the oceanic food chain. We need them to survive. The hunting of sharks needs to stop.  
Thanks,  
Lizzie Youmans



**From:** [Luc Rocchia](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** In Support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 1:01:11 AM

---

Good morning/afternoon

Im a French students and I want to help you in this fight I mean, I want to show to the whole world that the shark need to be protected and have the same right to live than us, I want to give my life for them and I'm ready to move everywhere to help you and the shark as well

I'm boring to do the same thing in my college because I know that, all I want is to help those shark or even the fish. I hope you will receive my message. Thanks a lot

Sent using [Zoho Mail](#)

**From:** [Lyndsey Butler](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 5:03:02 AM

---

To Whom it May Concern,

I support bill SB489 because sharks and rays are an important part of the ocean's ecosystem. Without them, the oceans biodiversity and health would be at risk. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Lyndsey Butler

**From:** [Madison Terry](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY in support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 3:35:26 AM

---

I support SB489

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [matteo migliori](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** In support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 10:56:20 PM

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**From:** [max mah](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** testimony in support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 5:34:38 PM

---

I am from Canada and I support SB489. Although there aren't many incidents in Canada of fishing, the laws here are weak and allows a loophole for a trophy shark fishing derby on the east coast of Canada called the Yarmouth Shark Scramble:  
<http://www.yarmouthsharkscramble.com>

I have written a petition to the Canadian federal government department of oceans and fisheries which has received 64,000 signatures:  
<https://www.thepetitionsite.com/407/839/403/stop-the-trophy-hunt-of-sharks-in-nova-scotia/>  
however the federal government has dismissed this petition using the excuse of catch and release, scientific research and questionable numbers of non-endangered blue sharks that are targeted.

We all know that sharks are the apex predator of the oceans and keep the marine ecosystem in balance. They have survived for millions of years but they are not surviving the dangers that humans place on them. For the state of Hawaii, please do the opposite of Canada and put strong legal protections in place to protect all species of sharks.

thank-you,  
Maxwell Mah  
488 Ebbers Way  
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada  
T5Y 3B2

**From:** [Mhairi Mushroom](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 8:44:54 PM

---

I am in support of bill SB489. Save our seas!!

**From:** [pacific](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 5:37:04 PM

---

My name is Michael Loeffler. I am an avid diver and sailor since 45 years. My son is set on studying marine biology and I believe we understand the ecological significance of sharks and rays. The same goes for the madness of commercial whale killings in Japan.

In the interest of my son I plea to the old and valuable American Spirit (not represented in the current administration), to protect the helpless and vulnerable and to preserve the oceans for generations to come. America should be first in line on these efforts, not last.

Thank you for hearing my voice

Michael Loeffler

**From:** [Mike Barney](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 6:51:47 PM

---

Trade in your suit and tie for a mask and fins. Jump in with some sharks. Experience one of the greatest natural highs of your life. They are worth protecting.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)



**From:** [Miranda Adams](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 6:29:41 PM

---

I am in support of this bill! Please protect Hawaii's oceans and sharks!

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [moritz.chladek](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY In support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 10:24:50 PM

---

Hello Senator Kahele,

I write in support of the bill SB489, which is really important in my opinion to protect sharks!

I'm not from Hawaii or close to a ocean at all where I'm from but I think it is important to protect the marina life and especially sharks as such as much as we can!

I am just someone who's concerned about how we treat sharks.

The way they are presented in the media and how we treat them is bad, as they are a vital part of the eco system in the oceans.

My hope is that this bill is going to improve the situation with sharks around Hawaii which would already be really good start.

Thank you very much

Best regards

Moritz Chladek

**From:** [Naykarem Acosta](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 3:26:17 AM

---

Enviado desde mi iPhone

**From:** [Nicola Fielding](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY In Support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 10:48:21 PM

---

I live in the UK and would visit Hawaii specifically to encounter sharks and rays alive in their natural habitat. These incredible, important, intelligent animals need our protection, and I believe they are worth so much to Hawaii in terms of both eco-tourism and wider environmental concerns. As apex predators, sharks have a vital role in the health of our oceans. I am fully in support of SB489.

**From:** [Nicole Milenkova](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY in support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 7:46:31 PM

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Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Pelin B.](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY In Support of SB489.  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 10:51:14 PM

---

I support SB489.

**From:** [Savannah](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 6:30:59 AM

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I, Savannah Bryson, support SB489.

**From:** [Sha Peterson](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 9:28:08 PM

---

With our shark popular dropping 90% in the last 40 years because of us humans making shark fin soup, shark cartilage pills, that aren't really even working, even cosmetics, we can't afford not to. We owe it to them. They shaped this planet. They survived 5 mass extinctions and look what WE have done to them. To ourselves. To our oceans. How greedy and selfish we are. Please help us protect what we have left. I support SB489.

Sent from my pocket computer.



**From:** [Siena](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 11:13:32 PM

---

Aloha to whom this may concern:

I am writing testimony in strong support of Bill SB489. As a Biologist and Master of Environmental Management candidate at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, and as a constituent of Kalihi-Palama district, it is my strong opinion that this bill should be passed. Sharks especially should be protected for the generational sustainability of our nearshore reef environments. I have witnessed unsustainable fishing practices on the island of O'ahu for the last 6+ years and can attest that not all fishermen are created equally and that they are surely not all stewards of our oceans. I believe that this bill will strengthen the statutes and regulations that manage and protect our delicate nearshore ecosystems and I hope that this bill will spark other protective bills for our valuable environmental assets.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Siena I. Schaar  
Master of Environmental Management Candidate  
Natural Resources and Environmental Management Dept., University of Hawai'i at Manoa

Kalihi-Palama Constituent

**From:** [slavka](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY In Support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 1:05:19 AM

---

To Whom It May Concern,

I support SB489.

I believe we have the power to stop the 6th mass extinction caused by humans.  
As Natural Scientist, I have a hope for a thriving marine ecosystem. Please help to protect and save SHARKS and RAYS.

Thank you  
With Regards  
Slavka Sopkova PhD.  
(Hydrogeologist)

**From:** [sfreelund@yahoo.com](mailto:sfreelund@yahoo.com)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** In support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 8:08:43 PM

---

I am in support of the bill! Our Sharks and Rays need to be protected at all costs! Another animal can not go extinct because we didn't help when they needed it most.

Stori Freelund  
206-427-0166  
Sfreelund@yahoo.com

**From:** [Tahlia Sablan](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 11:06:58 PM

---

To Whom it May Concern,

Sharks and rays have every right to be protected as are other animals of Hawaii. Its efforts in conservation are great, but Bill SB489 will further the state's reputation to be one of supporting environmental preservation. Many other countries do not advocate for sharks and rays; let's not make Hawaii one of them.

**From:** [pocock\\_taylor](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 6:49:11 PM

---

I support this bill!!

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

**From:** [Therese](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 11:52:01 PM

---

I'm in support of the bill!

Br,  
Therese Gaatde

**From:** [Living In The Flow Maui](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 8:19:10 AM

---

Please support the ban on fishing for sharks and rays  
Tim Ferguson  
[8088561329](tel:8088561329)

*Sent from my Verizon LG Smartphone*

**From:** [Tracie Sugo](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY In Support of SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 7:06:27 PM

---

## I Support SB489

Sharks keep marine ecosystems healthy by feeding on weak, sick and dying animals. When there are more sharks, there are more fish. As predators, they play a vital role in balancing the food chain.

Protect Hawaii's natural beauty (which in turn is an anchor in much of Hawaii's tourism) by protecting sharks. Support SB489!

Thank you,  
--  
Tracie Sugo



**From:** [Wes Proctor](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 1:44:39 AM

---

Good Morning,

Sharks and rays needs as much protection as possible. Globally, their numbers continue to dwindle to ever alarming figures. Mantas typically mate once every two years, so it is very difficult for them to rebuild populations. Sharks are critical to the overall health of practically every marine ecosystem.

Besides these pragmatic reasons, they are wonderful animals which I pay to spend time with in the wild all around the world wherever they still can be found. They deserve all of the protection that we can provide.

Best Regards,  
Wes

**Wes Proctor**  
**GeoBlue Senior Sales Manager, Midwest – South Region**  
**M:** +1 346 330 0947 | **E:** [wproctor@geo-blue.com](mailto:wproctor@geo-blue.com) | **W:** [www.geo-blue.com](http://www.geo-blue.com)  
**Houston, TX**

**From:** [Zeline Hanson](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for SB489  
**Date:** Monday, January 28, 2019 8:21:47 PM

---

To Whom It May Concern:

I implore you to pass bill SB489. I am not a scientist of any kind. I can't give you statistics about the rapidly declining shark & ray numbers. What I am is a mother & grandmother, a lover of Mother Earth, who knows we are destroying these beautiful fish. We have the power to do something about it. At first I didn't want to send this email. I thought it would do no good. But my love for sharks & rays is so vast, I could not NOT send it. I had to at least try to speak out on their behalf. Please, I respectfully ask you to pass bill SB489. Please help keep our oceans alive for generations to come.

Mahalo,  
Zeline Hanson

**From:** [Alvaro Gil](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 9:29:06 AM

---

Sharks are being slaughtered and fished at uncontrollable rates. Hopefully this bill could help.  
Thank you from Mexico!

**From:** [Maring, Brittany](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 9:33:16 AM

---

I support SB489!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

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Brittany Maring  
Wollmuth Maher & Deutsch LLP  
500 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York 10110  
Tel: 212-382-3300  
Fax: 212-382-0050  
[www.wmd-law.com](http://www.wmd-law.com)

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**From:** [Carissa Jansen](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 9:49:50 AM

---

Sharks are a vital part of the oceans ecosystem and need more protection

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Hayley Hamm](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** In support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 9:51:04 AM

---

I would like to state my support of the bill SB489 to help protect Hawaii's shark population.

Hayley Hamm  
Lincoln Nebraska 68506  
Scuba Diver  
Tourist of Hawaii

**From:** [Jonathan Ensing](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 9:44:15 AM

---

Dear sir and/or madam,

I hereby offer my support in getting bill SB489 passed. Sharks and rays play a vital role within the underwater circle of life. Passing this bill means that these beautiful and fascinating creatures will get the protection they deserve and definitely need. If not, it will be another proof of men's desinterest in our planet and its inhabitants.

With kind regards,

Jonathan Ensing

**From:** [Karen Cheung](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 9:48:34 AM

---

Starting from here ! To make legislation to protect 20% of ocean area from 2020.



**From:** [Keolani Bandmann](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY In Support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 9:31:59 AM

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I support SB489. Aloha, I am just a small town, locally grown Hawaiian woman who feels this is an important issue to resolve. I am a free-diver and ocean addict. I support this bill because sharks are vital to keeping the oceans healthy and therefore the earth. I have traveled to 20 states here in the U.S and another country. I travel to multiple places a year. Just even in the U.S there are so many states that are lacking in green. As in trees and plants. Hawaii of course is covered in green, but why should we allow the fishing, abuse, possession, or killing of an animal that is vital to the health of the earth? Just like trees and plants give us oxygen, they are vital to survival. So many trees and plants have been removed within time. It's scary how many fires and worldly events are happening that result in less and less green and air pollution. Half of our oxygen comes from the seas and oceans around the earth. So again I ask, why should it be legally okay to harm or possess a shark? The answer is .. it shouldn't. Anything good for the earth and keeping balance should be protected. Sharks keep the oceans clean and in balance. The fishing of Sharks is not like the fishing of your ordinary fish. I come from a family of fishermen and we fish to eat. Just like any animal, if you're going to harm it at all, or kill it, it should be put to important use. Normally this means food, and in some cases clothing for survival purposes. As a Hawaiian family we fish a lot and feast. But never have we fished for Sharks. We just don't eat them. I have personally done a lot of research on Sharks and this issue. A lot of sharks that are used for food, are just used for their fins. Fin soup. Most of the time when this happens the rest of the shark is tossed aside and it's not even used. What a waste. Let's stand up for sharks. Stop killing these animals that aren't even good use in captivity or when they are dead. Do better for the earth we live on. Mahalo nui.

**From:** [madi.collins](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY In support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 9:33:54 AM

---

I support the further protection of sharks and rays because they are killed everyday and cannot live in peace! I support SB489!

**From:** [Michelle Bennett](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SUPPORT FOR SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 9:01:08 AM

---

Aloha,

I am writing in support of SB489.

Sharks and rays are integral parts of our oceans ecosystems and a part of Hawaii's history and cultures for thousands of years. But of the millions that live on and visit Hawaii, less and less understand how important these animals are to Hawaiians and don't realize how wasteful and disrespectful it is to harass, fish for, and kill them for nothing. Especially since that shark or ray could be a family's 'aumakua.

Sharks undergo an intense amount of stress when caught on a fishing line. They are literally fighting for their life. During this fight, which can take hours, the sharks isn't taking in enough water through its gills and therefore not enough oxygen is spreading through its body, lactic acid builds up, and when/if the shark is dragged onto the shore or even the boat, gravity causes the sharks body to collapse on itself with its organs being crushed by the sharks weight. And, of course, the shark is suffocating. If the shark is released, all is still not well. The shark is tossed back into the water and it will either sink right away or it may swim off with adrenaline keeping it moving, but many sharks, especially our endangered scalloped and smooth hammerheads, will succumb to exhaustion and die.

Sharks face many more problems at the hands of humans, mainly from longline fisheries that indiscriminately catch anything that swims by (mostly sharks) and those animals are dead when the fishermen get to them, the shark fin trade, many deep sea species harvested for their liver oil (squalene or squalene) to put in beauty products, and even shark and ray skins are used for sandpaper or fashion called shagreen. Their jaws and teeth are

taken to sell in souvenir shops, their meat is sold around the world as flake, huss, rock salmon, dogfish, fish and chips, etc. In places like South America it is openly sold as shark meat and it is usually some of the apex sharks like mako, thresher, blue, and so on that have high build ups or mercury and other toxins(that we put in the oceans like PCBs) that we don't want to be consuming.

Giving sharks and rays protection in Hawaii would set a great example around the world and to other states where only endangered shark and ray species are protected. Their protection is really in our best interest. They keep our oceans clean, they shape stronger and more numerous fish stocks, and their presence brings in thousands of people every year to the islands solely because they want to see these animals alive, for themselves.

Mahalo for taking the time to read all testimonies and for considering the importance of passing this bill,

Michelle Bennett

**From:** [Morgan Rodgers](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 9:17:42 AM

---

I support SB489 because the future of marine life and the health of all oceans depend on our apex predators. They are the building blocks of our oceans, and without their careful protection we will see devastating results affecting not only the megafauna of the oceans, but the minuscule organisms as well. This will ultimately affect all other ocean-dependent land organisms as well, including and leading up to our own human species.

Thank you,  
Morgan Rodgers.

**From:** [myranda bedard](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 9:28:34 AM

---

Sharks and rays are immensely important to the entire ecosystem!! They need all the protection they can get!! Thankyou

**From:** [Niamh Shanahan](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 8:57:13 AM

---

I support SB489

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Resa Weber](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 9:13:43 AM

---

Hello! Thank you for hearing my voice. I want our oceans to be healthy for and with sharks and rays. I support Bill SB489! Please do too!!!

Theresa Weber  
Beaufort NC 28516

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [Tobi Jakobi](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY In Support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 9:03:18 AM

---

Aloha Legislative Committees,

although I am not sure I qualify as someone from Germany to give a testimony, I kindly ask you to please help pass SB489.

As a recreational Scuba Diver, I am very concerned about the current state of shark populations. Sharks and rays are extremely important to ocean ecosystems. As ocean predators near the top of the food chain, sharks keep the ecosystem balanced, regulate populations of other marine life, and ensure healthy fish stock and reefs. Sharks and rays are more vulnerable than most other fish species. They are long-lived and slow-growing, start reproducing at an advanced age, and produce relatively few offspring per year. If the food chain is disrupted by a decline in the shark population, it affects the entire ocean ecosystem, known as a trophic cascade. Protection for sharks and rays ultimately means healthier, more resilient oceans and reefs that are better able to withstand other pressures on the ocean ecosystem from climate change and pollution.

Sharks are important economically to ocean recreation industries and to tourism in Hawaii since many Scuba Divers – myself included – want to visit Hawaii inter alia because of opportunities to dive with these fascinating creatures. Sharks and rays not only play important ecological roles but I am told that they are also valued figures in Hawaiian culture. To defend and seek to spend time with these animals is a cultural right in Hawaii.

The benefits of maintaining viable populations greatly outweigh any value that would be gained by killing these species. Fellow Scuba Divers from Hawaii tell me that Sharks have very little functional protection in Hawaii. With shark populations dropping rapidly around the world the time for action is now.

I support SB489 and I hope you will, too.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Tobias Jakobi

**From:** [Travis Starr](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY In Support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 8:58:17 AM

---

"I support SB489"

I do believe that we need to stop the senseless killing of sharks. There has to be better alternatives to ingredients in makeups, soups etc than a beautiful creature like them. These are not man eating monsters as some portray them. They are important to our oceans health and I do support keeping our oceans healthy myself!

Short and sweet I do support SB489.

Travis

**From:** [William Clisham](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 9:26:17 AM

---

Hello,

I support SB489. Our sharks are important and we must protect them !

All the best,

William Clisham

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 9:20:43 AM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kelly Costas	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please help us pass SB489.

I spend a lot of time in the ocean on Maui and have the great privilege of sharing the water with many sharks and rays. They are magnificent animals that deserve and need protection. I recently came across a baby white tip reef shark that someone had caught, cut loose and left to die on the beach. I sat down and cried, thinking about how this perfect and beautiful animal died in suffering, needlessly. Please make this illegal.

Sharks and rays are extremely important to ocean ecosystems. As ocean predators near the top of the food chain, sharks keep the ecosystem balanced, regulate populations of other marine life, and ensure healthy fish stock and reefs. Sharks and rays are more vulnerable than most other fish species. They are long-lived and slow-growing, start reproducing at an advanced age, and produce relatively few offspring per year. If the food chain is disrupted by a decline in the shark population, it affects the entire ocean ecosystem, known as a trophic cascade. Protection for sharks and rays ultimately means healthier, more resilient oceans and reefs that are better able to withstand other pressures on the ocean ecosystem from climate change and pollution.

The benefits of maintaining viable populations greatly outweigh any value that would be gained by killing these species. Sharks have very little functional protection here in Hawaii, and with shark populations dropping rapidly around the world the time for action is now.

I support SB489 and I hope you will, too.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Kelly Costas

**From:** [Erin Bergevin](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 9:56:44 AM

---

I support Bill SB489!

The ocean is undeniably important for our lives, it's so important to protect it from further human destruction.

Sincerely,

Erin Bergevin

**From:** [Hayley Hamm](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** In support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 9:51:04 AM

---

I would like to state my support of the bill SB489 to help protect Hawaii's shark population.

Hayley Hamm  
Lincoln Nebraska 68506  
Scuba Diver  
Tourist of Hawaii

**From:** [Rachel Wacker](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 9:57:40 AM

---

Please pass this bill to protect sharks and rays. These animals are amazing and beautiful and a necessity for our ecosystem.

Thank you,  
Rachel Wacker

--

Rachel

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 11:03:32 AM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
RICKY BAKER	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**From:** [Blake Martinez](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** In support of SB4889  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 11:17:39 AM

---

Hello! I wanted to write in a testimony to protect hawaii's Rays and sharks. I recently moved to the mainland, but I worked out in Waianae for 4 years as a tour guide. In that time I only saw 2 sharks while out Snorkeling. I would love to see the natural beauty of the reefs restored, and that starts with protecting the top of the food chain thank you so much for your time and your protection of these incredible animals, next time I come back home I would love to see more sharks swimming freely around the island

Mahalo,  
Blake Martinez

**From:** [Eva Peters](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY In Support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 11:28:41 AM

---

I write to you in support of SB489. I'm not an American citizen. I'm one of the many tourists that likes to visit this beautiful place and would love to see as many happy and live sharks and rays during that time as possible. Among scientists it's well known that every living shark is way more valuable in terms of revenue through tourism than a dead shark. So not even from a point of view which knows money to be the sole incentive killing sharks and rays makes any sense at all. I'm urging you to protect that wonderful place that you're allowed to call your home better than you do now. Apex predators are crucial for a healthy environmental system.

Regards,

Eva Peters

Hamburg, Germany

**From:** [Kassandra Rose](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY in SUPPORT of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 11:28:31 AM

---

I am writing this email in support of the SB489 bill. Sharks and Rays are crucial to our ecosystem. 70,000,000-100,000,000 Sharks alone are being killed each year for no reason. There is no health benefit to eating them and they are becoming so endangered so quickly that killing for sport also needs to be prohibited. Just like other endangered species on land are protected, sharks and rays need us to step in and end these unnecessary killings.

Thank you for your time,

Kassandra Bergstrand

**From:** [Parker746](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 11:24:13 AM

---

I am writing to show my support for SB489, and the further protection of sharks and rays in Hawaii. These animals are critical to not only our oceans echo system, but ours as well. Sharks play an important role by maintain the species below them in the food chain and serving as an indicator for ocean health. By taking sharks out of the coral reef ecosystem, the larger predatory fish, such as groupers, increase in abundance and feed on the herbivores. With less herbivores, macroalgae expands and coral can no longer compete, shifting the ecosystem to one of algae dominance, affecting the survival of the reef system. I am a big supporter for SB489 and believe our government will make the right choice in choosing to help protect these animals.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Mahalo,

Parker

**From:** [Patrick Lally](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 11:13:35 AM

---

I support the bill SB489 because without sharks and rays driving marine ecosystems, there would be an imbalance of species within the ocean, which could subsequently have a worldwide impact on the changing of climate and warming of the world!

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Rebecca Garrett](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** In support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 11:37:01 AM

---

Good afternoon,

My name is Rebecca Garrett and I am in support of SB489. We need sharks and rays living in our oceans and not on our plates. Sharks are like garbage cans of the sea. They eat dead, dying, and diseased animals. Not to mention they also have no interest in human beings unless you look like a sick seal. Please, please stop the deaths of these important animals. Mahalo.

Rebecca Garrett  
Wildlife Photographer @Dolphins and You  
Sports Photographer @ Big Wave Dave's  
[rbllunicrn@gmail.com](mailto:rbllunicrn@gmail.com)  
971-563-6164

**From:** [Rebecca Lee](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY in support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 11:10:13 AM

---

I support SB489! We need our sharks and rays for a healthy, thriving ecosystem, both in th water and out!

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** [Ana Sophia Serrano Velarde](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY in support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 11:51:22 AM

---

Hello ,  
Please ban the purposeful of fishing sharks and rays in Hawaiian waters.  
Thank you  
ANA SOPHIA SERRANO



**From:** [Morgan](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 11:53:35 AM

---

Sharks are arguably the most important animal to our society. The majority of the world relies on fish as their main food source and the decline of sharks is damaging fish populations because of the disruption to the trophic levels. It is extremely important to protect sharks especially since sharks have already declined in population but over 90%! Please help us save sharks!

**From:** [miguel lelo de larrea](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY in support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 11:53:22 AM

---

Hello ,  
Ban the purposeful of fishing sharks and rays in Hawaiian waters.  
Thank you  
Miguel Larrea

**From:** [Kristan Kelly Williams](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY In Support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 11:57:09 AM

---

To all the decision makers,  
I am writing in regards to Bill SB489, to protect the sharks and rays from being fished around your homes. I have been a huge shark advocate since my 9 year old daughter taught me how important they are for our ecosystem. Without sharks, our oceans will get sick. Without oceans, we will die.

I understand there are some people who would like to have the freedom to fish whatever they want and it may be for family traditions, sport or even food. What I like about this bill is it would bring awareness to the importance of sharks. If you are saying they need to be protected, then others will respect sharks and rays too. They would ask questions, research and learn for themselves why they are important.

I am writing this so we can give our oceans a chance, so people can have a chance to survive and find other sources of sport or food.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to seeing what the outcome is.

Respectfully,  
Kristan

Kristan Kelly Williams  
SOPTV  
Student Showcase Producer  
541-326-9755

Kristan Kelly Images  
[www.kkellyimages.com](http://www.kkellyimages.com)

**From:** [Dylon Bell](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** In support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 11:54:04 AM

---

Good afternoon,

My name is Dillon Bell and I am in support of SB489. Please stop killing rays and sharks here in Hawaii. We need these animals in our oceans. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me via email.

Dillon Bell

**From:** [Zoe Williams](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY In Support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 12:07:06 PM

---

Hello,

My name is Zoë Williams and I am a shark and ocean conservationist. It is so important to me that bill SB489 is passed to protect the sharks and rays. It is my dream to be a marine biologist and study sharks, rays, oceans and everything in the oceans.

I am only 9 years old and want to come to Hawaii to swim with sharks, learn about sharks and someday go to college there. I will be visiting in April to swim with sharks, please don't let any more get fished.

I wish I could be there in person to tell you all this, but I live in Oregon. Please protect these important animals from fishing.

Thank you,  
Zoë "Shark" Williams  
"Sharks are our Friends"

**From:** [Spencer Lum](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 12:02:18 PM

---

I am in support if bill SB489. It is awful what happens to sharks, they should be protected.

Spencer

**From:** [Seth Womble](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY in SUPPORT of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 12:16:12 PM

---

I want my support recognized for SB489.  
Sharks need our protection! They are non-malicious apex predators.

Thank you!

Seth Womble  
Bent Tree Anomaly, LLC  
[www.sethwomble.com](http://www.sethwomble.com)  
IG, FB, Twitter, YouTube & Patreon @sethcre8s  
...Tell me something you are grateful for...

**From:** [Rick and Cindy Rogers](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 12:06:39 PM

---

Dear Sir,

I urge you to pass Bill SB489, to prevent the purposeful killing of sharks. Many shark species are threatened with extinction and need protection now. Hawaii is synonymous with Ocean, and should protect it, serving as an example to the rest of the world.

Sincerely,

Rick Rogers

[117 Skyline rd.](#)

[Ontario, Canada](#)

[KOM2M0](#)

[\(705\)357-1540](#)

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [Benny](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY in support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 12:13:50 PM

---

Dear Reader,

I would like to voice my support for SB489 to ban sportfishing of sharks and rays in Hawaiian waters. I love the Hawaiian Islands and all life within and surrounding her. Except for indigenous people who rely on fishing for sustenance, fishing sea creatures that support the fragile ecosystem for sport makes no sense. License fees will never replace life. Thank you for reading.

Mahalo,  
Benny Rodriguez

Sent from my mobile office

**From:** [Erin Daniels](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 11:58:55 AM

---

My name is Cash and I'm 9. I know we need sharks for the health of our oceans! They are important and without them life on earth will suffer. We are killing sharks at a rate that is dangerous and it must stop. Please do what is right for my generation because we will suffer without sharks!

Thank you.

Cash Daniels

**From:** [Deborah Foster](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY In Support of SB489.  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 12:01:54 PM

---

I support SB489

Please put the oceans first!

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Debbie Raw](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY in support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 12:17:49 PM

---

I am in support of the Bill to ban purposeful fishing of sharks and rays in Hawaiian waters.  
Please save the ocean.

Thank you  
Sincerely,  
A girl in Britain

Sent from my Sony Xperia™ smartphone

**From:** [Ethan Hensel](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 12:58:29 PM

---

I support Bill SB489 because sharks are an important part of marine ecosystems that help keep everything in check. Without sharks everything would spiral out of balance. Furthermore sharks pick off weak and sick fish ensuring a healthier ecosystem. Sharks also play an important cultural role not only in Hawaii but in many other cultures as well. The war that mankind has waged against sharks must come to an end.

**From:** [Paco Pedrayes](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY in support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 12:07:05 PM

---

Hi,  
Ban the purposeful of fishing sharks and rays in Hawaiian waters.  
Thank you  
Francisco Pedrayes

**From:** [Heather Hodgen](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** In Support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 12:26:41 PM

---

To whom it may concern:

I, Heather Hodgen, am in support of SB489. Sharks and Rays are a very important part of our oceans life and we need them to be protected from dangerous threats to their environments caused by humans. Please support and pass SB489.

Sincerely,

Heather Hodgen  
Former Animal Care Specialist| SOAR Wildlife Center  
541-215-9228  
[heatherhodgen@gmail.com](mailto:heatherhodgen@gmail.com)

**From:** [Helinor Stead](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 12:15:01 PM

---

I support SB489. I support the protection of sharks & rays. Our ocean needs them! Please, hear us!

Helinor Stead.

CREATIVE | DRIVER GUIDE | DREAMER



**From:** [Kristan Kelly Williams](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY In Support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 11:57:09 AM

---

To all the decision makers,  
I am writing in regards to Bill SB489, to protect the sharks and rays from being fished around your homes. I have been a huge shark advocate since my 9 year old daughter taught me how important they are for our ecosystem. Without sharks, our oceans will get sick. Without oceans, we will die.

I understand there are some people who would like to have the freedom to fish whatever they want and it may be for family traditions, sport or even food. What I like about this bill is it would bring awareness to the importance of sharks. If you are saying they need to be protected, then others will respect sharks and rays too. They would ask questions, research and learn for themselves why they are important.

I am writing this so we can give our oceans a chance, so people can have a chance to survive and find other sources of sport or food.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to seeing what the outcome is.

Respectfully,  
Kristan

Kristan Kelly Williams  
SOPTV  
Student Showcase Producer  
541-326-9755

Kristan Kelly Images  
[www.kkellyimages.com](http://www.kkellyimages.com)

**From:** [Kenna C.](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in Support for SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 12:54:07 PM

---

Aloha,

I support SB489 because I believe that sharks and rays are worth saving. But it's more than just me believing this. Many of us are becoming more and more aware of the important roles these animals play in our oceans, and losing them would not only be devastating to the beauty of Hawaii's beaches, but could also have devastating effects on the whole ecosystem. As their populations continue to drop worldwide, sharks and rays need more protection and soon. Let's make Hawaii a leader in shark and ocean conservation! :) Please help us get this bill passed into law.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,  
Mackenna Cady

**From:** [Mason Wong](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY In Support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 12:07:57 PM

---

Sharks are a keystone species in the Hawaii marine environment and must be protected. I support SB489.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** [Nick Fenyo](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** In support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 12:14:01 PM

---

I'm a Canadian, planning on travelling to Hawaii in a few months. The reason I chose Hawaii for my next adventure was because it is my dream to freedive with sharks and I've been following a few incredible organizations that provide this incredible experience. Thus I obviously support bill SB489, and support Hawaiian waters becoming a protected zone for sharks. Thank you for stepping forward as a world leader on such an important issue.

Kind Regards,

Nick Fenyo

**From:** [Paula Santos](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 12:27:13 PM

---

Please stop fin soup, sharks are essential organisms to the marine ecosystem and their niche is being threatened by their hunting and killing to make this dish.

Sent from pauli (:

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 1:10:38 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
jade lewis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**From:** [Dylan Laicher](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 1:06:18 PM

---

To whom it concerns,

I absolutely support SB489! The protection of our sharks and rays is vital for the health of our oceans. Let's take the steps needed to conserve our planet and animals that may not be able to protect themselves from human impact.

Kind Regards,

Dylan Laicher

**From:** [Justine Kne](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** In support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 1:08:29 PM

---

Hello,

My name is Olivia Kneer I live in Portland, Oregon. I am in support of SB489! Sharks are amazing creatures that clean our oceans of other dying, diseased, & deceased creatures. Millions of sharks are killed all over the world each year which is decreasing their population. Laws on banning & regulating the fishing of sharks have already been set in some places, studies show how the shark populations increased from doing so. I trust & believe you will save our ocean & our ocean life. Thank you so much for taking the time to hear me. I appreciate it. Have a beautiful day. Thank you!

Olivia Kneer

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)



**From:** [walker.robinson](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 1:09:43 PM

---

I support SB489!!

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Oliver Fulton](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** In Support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 1:13:33 PM

---

Hi there,

My name is Oliver Fulton and I am a current student at the University of Denver as an Environmental Science major. I am heavily invested in the oceans and sustainability and am in full support of SB489. I hope cumulatively that our support can make a change.

Best,  
Oliver Fulton



**From:** [Shannon McNally](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 1:41:26 PM

---

Sharks and rays are such an important part of the ecosystem. It's time to stand up for the world and support its wonderful creatures. I support bill SB489.

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [Brittany Nelson](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SB 489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 1:34:47 PM

---

I am in support of SB489, to help protect Hawaii's sharks and rays!

I believe that sharks and rays are important to the ecological balance of the Pacific Ocean. Being at the top of the food chain sharks keep populations of fish healthy and in proper proportion in their biome. Historically human disruption of top predators habitats and well beings (for example wolves) has had catastrophic effects on herbivore, plant (or algae), and human health.

In protecting these species, we are protecting an entire ecosystem, an ecosystem that us humans rely on so heavily.

Thank you,  
Brittany Nelson

**From:** [Biviana Yepes Grajales](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY in support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 1:43:24 PM

---



TESTIMONY in support of SB489

**From:** [Corbin Marshall](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 1:53:25 PM

---



As an ocean advocate and a Hawaii resident I strongly support passing Bill SB489 to protect sharks and rays.

I'm out in the water every day at work and on my days off and sharks and rays are almost non-existent. It's very sad to see so much decline in ocean wildlife, especially such important species that play an important role in the ecosystem. Please make the right decision and pass this bill!!!

-Corbin Marshall

**LATE**

**From:** [Dr. Kristopher Wiebe](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** In support of bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 1:33:20 PM

---

Concerned tourist and citizen -

Hawaii's shores and wildlife **MUST** be protected for future generations. The time for action is now .

I will spend my \$25g tourist \$\$ per year elsewhere if this bill is rejected

Dr. Kristopher Wiebe  
**MD, FCFP (EM)**  
**Emergency Physician, CGH**  
**Medical Director, Refresh Skin | Laser**  
**Clinical Assistant Professor, UBC**

**From:** [Jennifer Dukes](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 2:06:48 PM

---



I am in support of the bill SB489.

Jennifer Dukes



**LATE**

**From:** [jandstrand@charter.net](mailto:jandstrand@charter.net)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for SB 489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 2:01:17 PM

---

I urge you to support and pass the subject bill. The Hawaii aquatic ecosystem does not work if the apex predators are removed. Commercial and recreational fisheries are both affected if the normal ecological relationships are disrupted by removal of one or more connections (species) in the food web.

Thanks you,

John A. Strand, Ph.D.  
Fisheries Biologist, Retired.



**From:** [Jessica Athorn](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 2:16:19 PM

---

Please I hope this email contributes amongst many thousands who adore sharks and see how important they are to us. I support SB489 my name is Jessica Athorn I'm 22 and sharks mean the world to me

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Luke Osthus](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 2:14:21 PM

---



Sent from my iPhone

**LATE**

**From:** [lynee.cavanaugh](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 2:21:05 PM

---

Hello,

As an American who is deeply concerned about the wellbeing of our oceans, I want to express my support for SB489. We have very limited time to help our oceans and it is more important than ever to protect our marine life.

Thank you for your hard work.

Best,

Lynne Cavanaugh

**LATE**

**From:** [Radhika Baldwa](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Relating to shark and ray protection.  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 2:34:03 PM

---

sharks and rays are more vulnerable than most other fish species. They are long-living and slow-growing, start reproducing at an advanced age, and produce relatively few offspring per year. If the food chain is disrupted by a decline in the shark population, it affects the entire reef system. Protection for sharks and rays ultimately means healthier, more resilient oceans and reefs that are better able to withstand other pressures on the ocean ecosystem from climate change and pollution.

**LATE**

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 3:09:07 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ryuko Miura	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**From:** [Gianna Felix](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 3:16:10 PM

---

To whomever it may concern,

I am in support of Bill SB489. I believe sharks and rays should be protected. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely, Gianna Felix

**LATE**

**From:** [Samantha Berberich](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY In Support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 3:11:29 PM

---

Aloha,

Please support bill SB489. Shark and ray populations are in rapid decline and anything we can do to help ensure their survival should be done.

Mahalo,  
Samantha Berberich



**LATE**

**From:** [Joey Riso](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 4:02:37 PM

---

I support Bill SB489!! Beaufort NC

**From:** [Rachel Cahan](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY In Support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 4:18:38 PM

---



I support this bill or SB489. Please pass this bill, it is so important to save the sharks and rays out there in the ocean.

Thank you,  
Rachel

Sent from my iPhone

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 7:29:51 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM



<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Janelle Van Ruiten	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in full support of SB 489 for the critical protection of Hawaii's sharks and rays because they are a vital part of Hawaii's fragile ecosystems.

**LATE**

**Opposed to SB 489 as it stands.**

**WTL, JDC Hearing 1-30-19 1:15pm room 229**

**Also opposed to HB 851 and SB 931 fishing bans not backed in facts or science and unconstitutional to restrict public access to public preservation lands. Manage do not ban fisheries.**

First I would like to explain. I do not take sharks or fish for eating fish; I am an aquarium fisherman with 40 year of ocean experience in Hawaiian waters. My main concern is that smaller sharks be able to be taken for public aquariums for education and study. The past shark laws did not address this issue leaving those who collect those to face a lengthy DLNR special activities permit application. Please change the law to address this issue.

That said I will try and educated you about sharks in Hawaii so that a comprehensive factual bill can be done.

I have seen and talked to fishermen who have accidently hooked up to a report 40 baby hammerhead sharks per day each. This is very common especially during summer months when 10,000 baby hammerheads fill K bay; lots of sharks are landed from Hea Kea Pier.

They immediately throw them back but the catch usually kills the hammerhead sharks. This delicate continuous swimmer dies easily when caught. Is this an issue? NO!

Why? Well a few hundred accidental deaths is just that accidental.

**To prosecute someone for something that can't be avoided while fishing is not what the law should be about.**

One study showed an estimated 10,000 baby hammerheads in Kaneohe Bay at any given time. Study available upon request.

Anywhere you go in the bay and fish you are more than likely to catch a shark very quickly.

To make those many pups, at 6 pups per birth, means there is at least 1700 or so adult breeding females and that is just the females. Then you add in a vast number of adult fertile males to fertilize them!

Off Kaena point over the past 10 years we have seen the big school of great Hammerheads increase from 100 to 200. Video on request.

What about other shark species? I assure you there are lots of all species of sharsk in Hawaiian waters. The recent whale carcass feeding frenzy proves that.

**To protect sharks maintain their sustainability and prevent intentional take I believe we can all agree with that idea.**

**Warm waters in 2014 and 2015 increased reef fish populations biblically. Warmer waters promote fish spawning. Fish breeders use it to increase production. There are major ocean ecology concerns but fish populations overall at this time are not an issue! Ask I can provide more video!**

With healthy fish populations comes healthy shark populations we now have both! Video Link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IGCFKU22dMU&t=404s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Q74gcSX2Xk>

Shark attacks data

<http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/sharks/shark-incidents/incidents-list/>

## **Great White shark populations increase along the East Coast and West coast. Why? What about Hawaii?**

Yes Hawaii too has had a huge increase in shark populations. The Kaena point hammerhead school increased from 80 in 2013 to nearly 150 in 2016 when I personally saw this huge school swim past me. What a sight! They seem to gather every mid-December at this location. I have seen more of every species of shark too. White tips, grey reefs, Tiger sharks all seem to be much more abundant. Why are seeing more sharks than ever?

With warmer temperatures comes increase fish breeding. They breed earlier in the year and more algae and other foods supplies also increase. Currents can change bringing even more foods in. With most reef fish producing 1 to 5 million per fry per spawning pair if conditions are right then large fish blooms will occur. All these fish from our 2014 2015 bloom supply food for bigger predators. Unprecedented numbers of Uku ( grey snapper) and Tuna at shallower depths are also being seen and caught.

Increases not in just sharks but in many other species especially predators like tuna are also seeing increases in numbers and catch. WESPAC reported increased takes for many of Hawaii's fisheries and asked for reductions in limits. Their assumption that fish are taken more means we need to limit the take is wrong due to these increased fish populations. Reductions can't hurt but at this point there is simply just more fish to be taken so more fish are caught.

Corals and the bleaching has recovered for now but we need to be ready when any issue return. DLNR created a coral recovery plan.

We have empowered DLNR to act if needed with emergency rules but if they are not properly funded and the studies are not done we may miss an opportunity to understand fully what is happening here.

As for fishing restrictions or more regulations, many fisheries especially the aquarium fishery do not require any more rules at this time. One example is SB 489, was not based in science and most scientists oppose these rules for this fishery.

Hawaii videos of sharks (5 white tips and diver):

<https://video.search.yahoo.com/yhs/search?fr=yhs-arh-001&hsimp=yhs-001&hspart=arh&p=ron+tubbs+you+tube#id=1&vid=891ef8162363d7b008786501bb54fe61&action=click>

**By Ron Tubbs B.S. N.D.**



**LATE**

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 11:20:07 PM  
Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Erica Scott	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**From:** [Adaleigh Martin](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** In support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 5:36:20 PM

---

Hello there,

My name is Adaleigh Martin and I am in support of SB489. Sharks and Rays should be in the ocean, and not our stomachs. Sharks are the garbage cans of the sea which eat dead, dying, and diseased animals. They also have no real interest in humans unless said human happens to look like a sick animal. Please stop the deaths of these wonderful animals. We need policies like SB489 to save our sharks and rays by curbing overfishing and pollution.

I hope you consider my opinion,

Adaleigh Martin  
206-483-9843  
[adaleigh.martin@gmail.com](mailto:adaleigh.martin@gmail.com)



**From:** [Cristina D. Garcia A.](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY in support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 5:53:43 PM

---



Hello,

Please ban the purposeful fishing of sharks and rays in Hawaiian waters

Thank you!!!

Cristina

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Emily Vance](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for SB489  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 4:43:38 AM

---

**LATE**

Hello!

Thank you so much for taking the time to read this email!

I just want to express my support for bill SB489. Shark and rays are vital to our oceanic ecosystems, despite the negative connotations around them. They are in vital need of protection. An estimated 100 million sharks are killed by humans every year, which is dangerous to the ocean for many reasons:

Sharks and rays help in keeping our oceans healthy and maintaining biodiversity by killing off sick and diseased animals. This is far more important than it may sound. Without sharks and rays, species would overpopulate, diseases would spread, resources would deplete, the natural food chain would be unbalanced, and humans will be effected because we rely on healthy oceans for survival. We need a healthy ocean, and protecting sharks and rays will help encourage that.

Emily Vance  
12th grade student

**LATE**

**From:** [Hannah Gabrielson](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF Bill SB489  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 8:20:07 AM

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Hello,

I support bill SB489.

Sharks a vital part of Hawaii's ecosystem and need help to recover. They are essential to health reefs and healthy reefs are important for Hawaii tourism.

Please support Bill SB489

Hannah Gabrielson

Beneath the Blue

**LATE**

**From:** [Isabel T. F. Sampaio](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF Bill SB489  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 12:02:40 AM

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Please free the whales!  
Captivity kills!  
It's animal cruelty and exploitation.  
STOP!

Enviado do meu iPhone

**From:** [Jessica Hodgen](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** In Support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 10:42:49 PM

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Good evening,

My name is Jessica Hodgen and I am in support of SB489. We need sharks and rays living in our oceans, as they are essential to the ecosystem. They eat dead, dying, and diseased animals and have minimal human interest. Sharks have killed a very small percentage of humans, yet humans have killed thousands and thousands for an unjustified “delicacy” of having them on their dinner plates.

Sharks have survived millions of years of evolution and climate change, and humans should not be the reason they go extinct. Mahalo.

Jessica Hodgen  
jessica.hodgen123@gmail.com



**From:** [Kaitlynn Showalter](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** In support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 7:14:17 PM

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Hello,

My name is Kaitlynn Showalter, from Portland OR. I support SB489, because sharks are essential to ocean wildlife preservation. I trust that you will do what's best for our planet and it's resources.

Best wishes,  
Kaitlynn S.

**From:** [Lindsay Kiefaber](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 4:52:58 AM

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I support SB489!! Please do the same.

Kindest Regards,

Lindsay Wing

**From:** [Melissa Mahoney Saville](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** testimony in support of SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 10:53:35 PM

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supporting this cause!!!

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Melissa Mahoney Saville  
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**From:** [Rachel White](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 8:35:51 PM

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I support SB489. With our oceans in need of extra care as much as they are, this should be obvious. Much love.

**From:** [Sara Gernsbacher](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF Bill SB489  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 10:06:09 PM

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We must aid in curbing the needles killing of sharks and rays and protect our waters. I support SB489!



**From:** [Alan Campbell](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF Bill SB489  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 8:57:31 AM

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I fully support this bill to protect sharks and rays in Hawaiian waters.

This is an opportunity for Hawaii to show leadership in the protection of the apex predators that are so vital in ensuring the health of our oceans.

The benefits will extend beyond the oceanic ecosystem to the Hawaiian Islands in the shape of increased tourism and public awareness.

Thank you.

Alan Campbell

**LATE**

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 12:37:51 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ashtyn Cummings	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 12:56:00 PM  
Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joshua DeMello	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

The bill does not state the problem to be solved. Sure sharks are important and should have some protection from bad actions. I love shark week too. However, this bill is dealing with state marine waters. What are the threats?

Shark finning? legislation was passed already in the state and federal levels.

Harassment? by who? shark tours that provide education, research and an economic boost in tourism?

Fishing? fact is people eat shark, some catch and use for bait, others may take shark parts for cultural purposes.

The bill would make criminals out of our local people doing their job, feeding their family, or practicing their culture.

What happens to the surfer or diver being attacked? does punching it in the nose count as harassment or intent to injure? under this bill it does.

We also dont know the population status of the sharks. This is exemplified by all the new reports of big sharks recently. How do we know there is a problem if we dont even know how many sharks there are and what is impacting them.

If the legislature is intersted in protecting sharks, direct DLNR, through DAR, to take a look and assess the shark population and report back to the legislature on any problems they could be solved. The legislature would then be wise to direct DAR to implement changes, because after all, its their jobs, they are the experts.

This bill does nothing but make us locals into criminals for no other reason than because people love sharks and think they are in trouble. I love sharks too, but I also love my people and to protect both, we need to take a harder look than implementing this potentially unnecessary approach

**From:** [Cara Phillips](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF Bill SB489  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 1:09:02 PM

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I support SB489! Sharks are vital to our ecosystem, they help maintain stability in our ocean and are beautiful creatures.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Connor Brooks](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 1:45:46 PM

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I support SB489

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [bridgettew6@gmail.com](mailto:bridgettew6@gmail.com)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SB489  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 1:48:39 PM

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I wanted to say I support SB489. I am not a resident of Hawaii, but have traveled there twice (from WI) to dive with sharks. It's a beautiful experience and a huge tourism draw.

Hawaii's wildlife is amazing and deserves all protections. Sharks are key to the ecosystem that we are a part of. Hawaii can be a leader in this movement!

Thanks!

Sent from my iPhone





**From:** [Shakira Ridolfi](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT Of Bill SB489  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 1:15:48 PM

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#savethesharks I support SB489

Sent from shakira

**LATE**

**SB-489**

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 2:35:31 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/30/2019 1:15:00 PM

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

Comments: