

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 House Committee on
CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

Thursday, February 24, 2022
2:00 PM

State Capitol, Via Videoconference, Conference Room 329

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1988, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO CORAL

House Bill 1988, House Draft 1 proposes to prohibit the sale, import, or export of coral products, with certain exceptions and requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to amend its administrative rules accordingly no later than 12/31/2022. **The Department appreciates the intent of this bill and offers the following comments.**

Live stony corals (order Scleractinia) are fully protected in Hawaii. Pursuant to Section 13-95-70, Hawaii Administrative Rules, it is unlawful for any person to take, break, or damage any stony coral. State law also prohibits the sale of stony coral, with exceptions that allow the sale of imported stony coral fragments for jewelry or legally dredged stony coral rubble for agricultural or other industrial uses.¹ The Department is not aware of any illegal commercial coral harvesting activity within the State that would be addressed by this bill, so we are uncertain what impacts this bill would have on the health of coral reefs in Hawaii. On the other hand, this bill would likely modify existing legal uses of stony coral material. For example, the bill would effectively end the use of stony coral material for agricultural purposes or the manufacture of coral jewelry.

The bill's definition of coral includes species of deep water "precious coral," such as black coral (Order Antipatharia), gold coral (genus Gerardia), and pink or red coral (genus Corallium). State

¹ Hawaii Administrative Rule (HAR) § 13-95-70(a)(3) states: "It is unlawful for any person to sell any stony coral; except that stony coral rubble pieces or fragments imported for the manufacture and sale of coral jewelry, or dead stony coral obtained through legal dredging operations in Hawaii for agricultural or other industrial uses, may be sold."

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

law currently regulates the take of black coral through a minimum size limit² and prohibits the take, possession, or sale of pink or gold coral without a permit.³ Over the past five years, less than three Commercial Marine Licensees have reported harvesting black coral. Over the past 7 years, the Department has issued special activity permits to four individuals/institutions to collect black, gold, or pink coral for research or educational purposes. Both state and federal regulations are in place to protect against overharvest. It is unknown whether illegal/unreported harvesting of precious corals is occurring in Hawaii, so the bill's conservation benefit for Hawaii's precious coral resources is uncertain. However, the bill would likely have significant adverse impacts on individuals that commercially harvest black coral and businesses that sell precious coral jewelry.

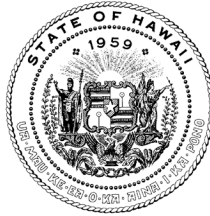
Finally, if the committee is inclined to pass this measure, the Department requests that the deadline for rulemaking be pushed back to December 31, 2024. The Department has a long list of active and planned rulemaking priorities that are aimed to improve the sustainability of coral reef species for ecosystem health, local food security, cultural practices, and recreation. Even absent other rulemaking priorities, a 2022 deadline is highly ambitious considering the procedural requirements of chapter 91, HRS.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

² HAR § 13-91-2(b) states: "No person shall take, destroy or possess any black coral with a base diameter of less than 3/4 inches from State marine waters."

³ HAR § 13-91-2(a) states: "No person shall take, or destroy any pink or gold coral in State marine waters, or possess, sell, or offer for sale such corals in the State except as provided in §13-91-3, provided that any approved harvest shall not be made using nets, dredges, trawls, mops, explosives, or any other destructive, or non-selective methods, and all such corals taken in State marine waters shall be landed in the State."

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 House Committee on
CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

Thursday, February 24, 2022
2:00 PM

State Capitol, Via Videoconference, Conference Room 329

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1988, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO CORAL

House Bill 1988, House Draft 1 proposes to prohibit the sale, import, or export of coral products, with certain exceptions and requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to amend its administrative rules accordingly no later than 12/31/2022. **The Department appreciates the intent of this bill and offers the following comments.**

Live stony corals (order Scleractinia) are fully protected in Hawaii. Pursuant to Section 13-95-70, Hawaii Administrative Rules, it is unlawful for any person to take, break, or damage any stony coral. State law also prohibits the sale of stony coral, with exceptions that allow the sale of imported stony coral fragments for jewelry or legally dredged stony coral rubble for agricultural or other industrial uses.¹ The Department is not aware of any illegal commercial coral harvesting activity within the State that would be addressed by this bill, so we are uncertain what impacts this bill would have on the health of coral reefs in Hawaii. On the other hand, this bill would likely modify existing legal uses of stony coral material. For example, the bill would effectively end the use of stony coral material for agricultural purposes or the manufacture of coral jewelry.

The bill's definition of coral includes species of deep water "precious coral," such as black coral (Order Antipatharia), gold coral (genus Gerardia), and pink or red coral (genus Corallium). State

¹ Hawaii Administrative Rule (HAR) § 13-95-70(a)(3) states: "It is unlawful for any person to sell any stony coral; except that stony coral rubble pieces or fragments imported for the manufacture and sale of coral jewelry, or dead stony coral obtained through legal dredging operations in Hawaii for agricultural or other industrial uses, may be sold."

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

law currently regulates the take of black coral through a minimum size limit² and prohibits the take, possession, or sale of pink or gold coral without a permit.³ Over the past five years, less than three Commercial Marine Licensees have reported harvesting black coral. Over the past 7 years, the Department has issued special activity permits to four individuals/institutions to collect black, gold, or pink coral for research or educational purposes. Both state and federal regulations are in place to protect against overharvest. It is unknown whether illegal/unreported harvesting of precious corals is occurring in Hawaii, so the bill's conservation benefit for Hawaii's precious coral resources is uncertain. However, the bill would likely have significant adverse impacts on individuals that commercially harvest black coral and businesses that sell precious coral jewelry.

Finally, if the committee is inclined to pass this measure, the Department requests that the deadline for rulemaking be pushed back to December 31, 2024. The Department has a long list of active and planned rulemaking priorities that are aimed to improve the sustainability of coral reef species for ecosystem health, local food security, cultural practices, and recreation. Even absent other rulemaking priorities, a 2022 deadline is highly ambitious considering the procedural requirements of chapter 91, HRS.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

² HAR § 13-91-2(b) states: "No person shall take, destroy or possess any black coral with a base diameter of less than 3/4 inches from State marine waters."

³ HAR § 13-91-2(a) states: "No person shall take, or destroy any pink or gold coral in State marine waters, or possess, sell, or offer for sale such corals in the State except as provided in §13-91-3, provided that any approved harvest shall not be made using nets, dredges, trawls, mops, explosives, or any other destructive, or non-selective methods, and all such corals taken in State marine waters shall be landed in the State."

HB-1988-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2022 6:38:24 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Nedi McKnight	Rights of Nature Hawai'i	Comments	No

Comments:

Please amend the bill to protect our coral and reefs by prohibiting the commercial sale of Hawaii-sourced coral as well.

HB-1988-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2022 8:45:48 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Robert Culbertson	Big Island Reef Keepers Hui	Comments	No

Comments:

Aloha Representatives!

While we support and applaud the intention of this bill, we feel it remains flawed until it is amended to **prohibit the commercial sale of *Hawaii-sourced coral* as well.**

Thank you for your utmost attentions!

R A Culbertson

Honokaa



Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawai'i

To: The Honorable Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair
The Honorable Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair
House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Re: **HB 1988, HD 1 – RELATING TO CORAL**

Hearing: Thursday, February 24, 2022, 2:00 p.m., Conference Room 329 and Via Videoconference

Position: Strong Support

Aloha, Chair Johanson and Vice Chair Kitagawa and Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce:

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i strongly supports HB 1988, HD1 and requests that this measure be PASSED by your Committee. This bill would prohibit the sale, import, or export of coral products, with certain exceptions. It would require the Department of Land and Natural Resources to amend its administrative rules accordingly no later than 12/31/2022.

The commercial use of coral contributes to the decline and degradation of the State's coral reefs. Further, the sale, import and export of coral jewelry in the State continues to threaten coral reefs and reef ecosystems in Hawaii and other parts of the world; therefore, this bill would offer protections to our coral reefs.

Mahalo nui loa for this opportunity to testify. Please pass this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

Melodie Adyja

Alan Burdick

Co-Chairs, Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i

Email: legislativepriorities@gmail.com



2/24/2022

CPC Committees
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair Lisa Kitagawa and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce,

Position: Support HB1988 HD1 with proposed amendment.

The Surfrider Foundation is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of our ocean, waves, and beaches. Surfrider maintains a network of over 150 chapters and academic clubs nationwide, including 4 chapters in the Hawaiian Islands. The Surfrider Foundation focuses on many aspects of the environment such as coastal protection, plastic pollution, and water quality.

The Surfrider Foundation Hawaii Region supports HB1988 HD1 with the amendment to get rid of the exemption to allow for the continued commercial sale of coral if the coral was harvested in Hawaii.

Hawaii's coral reefs face numerous threats from ocean warming and acidification, bleaching from harmful sunscreen chemicals, damage from pollution and runoff, overfishing, and more. HB1988 is an important measure to protect our irreplaceable coral reefs from yet another threat, overharvesting coral for consumer goods and other uses. The Surfrider Foundation Hawaii Region supports HB1988 HD1 but is asking to please amend the bill to protect our coral and reefs by prohibiting the commercial sale of Hawaii-sourced coral as well. The legislature must protect our coral reefs from further harm and degradation.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony in support of HB1988 with the aforementioned amendment, submitted on the behalf of the Surfrider Foundation's 4 Chapters in Hawaii and all of our members who live in the state and visit to enjoy the many coastal recreational opportunities offered by all of the islands' coastlines.

Sincerely,

Camile Cleveland
Volunteer Policy Coordinator
Surfrider Foundation, O'ahu Chapter



February 23, 2023

COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair

Rep. Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

February 24, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.

VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE

**Re: COMMENTS AND REQUESTED AMENDMENTS FOR HOUSE BILL 1988 -
RELATING TO CORAL.**

Aloha Chair Johanson and Members of the Committee,

Please accept these comments submitted by the Center for Biological Diversity (Center) requesting **crucial amendments to House Bill 1988 HD1**, which would prohibit the commercial import, export and sale of coral jewelry and trinkets (less for research, restoration & education).

The Center is a non-profit 501(c)(3) membership corporation dedicated to the protection of native, threatened, and endangered species and the habitats they depend on to survive. Through science, policy, and environmental law, the Center is actively involved in conserving marine ecosystems. The Center has more than 88,000 members throughout the United States, including Hawai'i, with a direct interest in ensuring that imperiled species are properly protected from destructive practices in our oceans. In pursuit of this mission, the Center has worked extensively to protect ocean ecosystems in Hawai'i and nationwide from various threats including improper commercial exploitation. The Center is highly invested in conserving fragile and impacted Hawaiian coral reef ecosystems and the marine species that depend on them.

Coral reefs are in crisis. The world has lost a third of its coral reefs due to climate change and other factors in the past 30 years. Ocean warming and acidification, caused by greenhouse gas emissions, has caused large-scale coral bleaching events resulting in unprecedented coral mortality and associated reef decline during the past decades. These mass bleaching events have increased in frequency, severity, and magnitude, and are projected to continue. We must do all we can to protect our coral reefs.

The Center would like to support this bill, however, the amendments made in the earlier WAL Committee unfortunately added an exemption allowing for the continued commercial sale of coral if the coral was harvested in Hawai'i (under a federal permit). It is imperative that this legislature protect our coral for scientific and cultural reasons. Native Hawaiians have long

recognized the importance of our coral. In the Kumulipo (Hawaiian creation chant) for example, coral is revered as the first organism created:

*Hanau ka 'Uku-ko'ako'a, hanau kana, he 'Ako'ako'a, puka
Born was the coral polyp, born was the coral, came forth*

The Center humbly asks this committee to **amend HB 1988 HD1** to protect our coral and reefs by prohibiting the commercial sale of Hawai'i sourced coral.

Mahalo for your consideration,

/s/ Maxx Phillips

Maxx Phillips, Esq.

Hawai'i Director and Staff Attorney

Center for Biological Diversity

1188 Bishop Street, Suite 2412

Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

(808) 284-0007

MPhillips@biologicaldiversity.org



*Dedicated to the conservation of coastal and marine environments,
emphasizing stewardship of the natural resources of Hanauma Bay*

To: Representative Aaron Johanson, Chair; Representative Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair;
and Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

Date: Thursday, February 24, 2022

Time: 2 pm

Place: Conference Room 329 & Via Videoconference

Re: **SUPPORT FOR HB1988 HD1 Re Coral Products WITH AMENDMENTS**

Aloha Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and CPC Committee Members,

Friends of Hanauma Bay supports HB1988, to prohibit the import, export and sale of coral products with the **simple but critical amendments noted in red below**:

SECTION 2. Chapter 187A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"§187A- Sale, import, or export of coral products; prohibited. (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to import into, export from, sell in, or offer for sale in the State any coral product.

(b) This section shall not apply to:

(1) Coral products imported, exported, sold, or offered for sale for the **non-commercial** purposes of:

(A) Research or scientific identification by an accredited museum or university;

(B) Rehabilitation or restoration of historic and culturally significant Hawaiian sites;

(C) Cultural practices and sacraments performed by native Hawaiians;

(D) Use as limestone or construction materials, cosmetics, or medicines;

(E) Education; or

(F) State-permitted harvesting **for non-commercial purposes**; and

(2) Coral products expressly authorized by federal law or federal permit **for non-commercial purposes**.

HD1 currently provides an exemption for the sale of Hawaii-sourced coral if the coral is collected under a NOAA issued federal permit. Hawaii should lead by example and clearly exclude the commercial sale of any and all Hawaii-sourced coral as well. This is consistent with other laws (shark fins, ivory products) where federal agencies may issue



*Dedicated to the conservation of coastal and marine environments,
emphasizing stewardship of the natural resources of Hanauma Bay*

permits for take/harvest or import or export, but the state prohibits the commercial sale of such products.

Prohibiting the commercial sale of Hawaii-sourced coral and coral products would still allow for the harvesting of Hawaii corals for research, replanting and education purposes, issued under both state (DLNR-Division of Aquatic Resources) and federal permits. Further, according to NOAA, there is a “stockpile” of existing harvested coral that coral dealers enter into the market as needed, based on consumer demand. There is no reason to continue to allow new harvesting for jewelry or trinkets, especially when there is already a surplus of previously harvested coral.

The laudatory intent of the the Bill is to protect Hawaii’s corals and marine environment. However, allowing the sale of Hawaii coral products is contrary to the intent of the bill, so we urge the Committee to adopt the proposed amendments.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

With Aloha,

Lisa Bishop
President

HB-1988-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 1:35:44 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Ted Bohlen	Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition	Support	No

Comments:

To: The Honorable Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair, the Honorable Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair, and members of the House Consumer Protection and Commerce Committee

From: Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition (by Ted Bohlen)

Re: Hearing: HB1988 HD1 **RELATING TO CORAL.**

Hearing: Thursday, February 24, 2022, 2:00 p.m., Rm. 211 and by videoconference

Position: **SUPPORT, but with PROPOSED AMENDMENTS below!**

Aloha Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and members of the House Consumer Protection and Commerce Committee:

The Hawaii Reef and Ocean Coalition (HIROC) was formed in 2017 with coral scientists, educators, legislators, filmmakers and advocacy groups to protect coral reefs and marine life.

The Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition (HIROC) **SUPPORTS** this bill, but requests **amendments as follows:**

1. Include protection for live coral here in Hawai'i as well as dead coral, by adding on Page 2, Line 2, "coral product, dead or alive," and on Page 3, Line 9, in the definition of "coral product," "live or dead coral or coral skeleton." This is essential to protect against harvesting and killing our precious live black, gold and pink corals.

2. Re commerce clause concerns raised by the Attorney General, delete the reference in the Preamble (Page 1, Line 9) to "and other parts of the world." Add that Hawai'i has a local interest in protecting our corals by preventing sale of any live or dead corals from Hawai'i or elsewhere, since it is nearly impossible to determine origin in many cases and Hawai'i corals can be sold as falsely originating elsewhere.

3. Delete in Section 2 item (B)(1)(D) on Page 2, Lines 12-13, as unnecessary and destructive, the exemption for "Use as limestone or construction materials, cosmetics, or medicines;" and

4. Clarify that this section shall not apply to **non-commercial** purposes on **Page 2, Line 5** ("for sale for the **non-commercial** purposes of:"), **Page 2 Line 15** (State-permitted harvesting for **non-commercial purposes**; and"), and Page 2 Line 17 ("federal permit for **non-commercial purposes**.")

Corals in Hawai'i are part of the public trust, not to be taken for private profit. As another testifier noted: "When the corals die, so will we. It is critically important to recognize the cultural component here, as in our Kumulipo, the first things to emerge from the pō, was the coral polyps. This is critical in our understanding to ensure that we do everything we can to protect them."

Please pass this bill with proposed amendments noted above!

Mahalo!

Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition (by Ted Bohlen)



February 24, 2022, 2pm

To: Chair Johanson and House Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee members

Re: HB1988 HD1; Coral Products SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS

For the Fishes, dedicated to the protection of coral reef wildlife, supports HB1988, to prohibit the import, export and sale of coral products with the **simple but critical amendments noted below**.

The HD1 currently provides an exemption for the sale of Hawaii-sourced coral if the coral is collected under a NOAA issued federal permit. Hawaii should lead by example and clearly exclude the commercial sale of any and all Hawaii-sourced coral as well. This is consistent with other laws (shark fins, ivory products) where federal agencies may issue permits for take/harvest or import or export, but the state prohibits the commercial sale of such products.

Prohibiting the commercial sale of Hawaii-sourced coral and coral products would still allow for the harvesting of Hawaii corals for research, replanting and education purposes, issued under both state (DLNR-Division of Aquatic Resources) and federal permits. Further, according to NOAA, there is a "stockpile" of existing harvested coral that coral dealers enter into the market as needed, based on consumer demand. There is no reason to continue to allow new harvesting for jewelry or trinkets, especially when there is already a surplus of previously harvested coral.

In consideration of Maui Divers Jewelry, who is the leading local seller of Hawaiian black coral jewelry products, we would not object to an extended effective date to allow for the sale of existing coral products harvested prior to the effective date of this bill, with supporting documentation corresponding to each item noting when the raw coral was initially harvested and purchased. This extended effective date for commercial sales is similar to laws enacted regarding the sale of shark fin soup, ivory products and other parts and products from wildlife now prohibited from commercial sale in the state.

SECTION 2. Chapter 187A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"§187A- Sale, import, or export of coral products; prohibited. (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to import into, export from, sell in, or offer for sale in the State any coral product.

(b) This section shall not apply to:

(1) Coral products imported, exported, sold, or offered for sale for the **non-commercial** purposes of:

- (A) Research or scientific identification by an accredited museum or university;
- (B) Rehabilitation or restoration of historic and culturally significant Hawaiian sites;
- (C) Cultural practices and sacraments performed by native Hawaiians;
- (D) Use as limestone or construction materials, cosmetics, or medicines;
- (E) Education; or
- (F) State-permitted harvesting **for non-commercial purposes; and**

(2) Coral products expressly authorized by federal law or federal permit **for non-commercial purposes.**

Permitting the sale of Hawaii coral products is contrary to the intent of the bill, to protect Hawaii's local reefs, corals and marine environment, thus we urge the Committee's adoption of the proposed amendments.

Sincerely,

Inga Gibson, For the Fishes
Policy@FortheFishes.org

HB-1988-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2022 6:28:00 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Cynthia Punihaole Kennedy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice-Chair, and members of the CPN Committee:

I strongly support HB 1988 HD1, but amendments made in the WAL committee added an exemption to allow continued commercial sale of coral harvested in Hawaii (under federal permit). **Please amend the bill to protect our coral and reefs by prohibiting the commercial sale of Hawaii-sourced coral.**

HB-1988-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2022 7:00:19 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Andrea Nandoskar	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

Please amend the bill to protect our coral and reefs by prohibiting the commercial sale of Hawaii-sourced coral as well.

Mahalo nui loa!

HB-1988-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 6:53:20 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Maki Morinoue	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha

My name is Maki Morinoue and I am from the Big Island of Hawai'i.

HB1988 HD1 WOULD and COULD be great, yet because of the *amendments* that side with the commercial sales of coral this is no longer something to support. Our community is doing what we can from non Pono business models that rake and take and destroy our environment. This should never be allowed. Whether the coral is dead and especially if it's alive. I am an artist, we find new mediums to use as knowledge and values at time outway the personal urge to use a certain material or process. If we do not stop chasing the money to appease consumers without understanding the impact, we are headed down the wrong path.

I would like to strongly support this measure *BUT*, unfortunately, amendments made in the earlier WAL Committee *added an exemption* to allow for the continued commercial sale of coral *if* the coral was harvested in Hawaii (under a federal permit), due to opposition from a jewelry company.

CPN Committee, Please amend the bill to protect our coral and reefs by prohibiting the commercial sale of Hawaii-sourced coral as well.

Let's lead by example not exemption!

Mahalo for your time.

Maki Morinoue

Holualoa

96725

HB-1988-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 10:13:10 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Douglas Perrine	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Coral reefs are under threat around the world, and especially in Hawaii. Hawaii should not permit the trafficking of coral any more than we should allow trade in ivory, rhinoceros horn, or feathers from our endangered forest birds. Please pass HB1988.

HB-1988-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2022 11:31:06 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Diane Ware	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

I'd like to strongly support this measure but, unfortunately, amendments made in the earlier WAL Committee added an exemption to allow for the continued commercial sale of coral **if** the coral was harvested in Hawaii (under a federal permit), due to opposition from a special interest jewelry company. Passing this measure would likely greatly increase the extraction of corals, black and otherwise which are a public trust for native Hawaiians, their culture, and all residents. Our precious reef ecosystems should not be robbed for mere profit!

Please honor our collective kuleana and defer or revert to the original text.

Diane Ware, 99-7815 Kapoha Pl, Volcano Hi 96785

Please take a moment to submit comments urging the CPN Committee to: **Please amend the bill to protect our coral and reefs by prohibiting the commercial sale of Hawaii-sourced coral as well.**

Let's lead by example not exemption!