### A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO LABELING REQUIREMENTS.

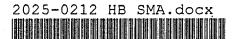
#### BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that local tuna fisheries
- 2 and associated seafood markets are an important sector of the
- 3 State's economy and food production and that the identification
- 4 of foreign imported tuna is critical to inform and safeguard
- 5 consumers.
- 6 According to statistics from the United States Department
- 7 of Commerce, the annual dockside value of commercial yellowfin
- 8 and bigeye tuna (marked as ahi) landed in Hawaii's ports is
- 9 around \$100,000,000, making tuna the highest valued food
- 10 commodity produced in the State. Even with these impressive
- 11 landings, previously frozen and carbon monoxide-treated foreign
- 12 imported tuna dominates sales at local retail establishments.
- 13 Due to a loophole in federal country of origin labeling
- 14 requirements for seafood, retail establishments are not
- 15 providing consumers with information on where the ahi tuna
- 16 originates. The legislature is therefore concerned that most
- 17 consumers that buy ahi at local retail establishments falsely



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- 1 believe that previously frozen, gas-treated ahi is caught by
- 2 Hawaii fisheries.
- 3 Moreover, the legislature further notes that the majority
- 4 of raw ahi sold at local retail establishments is in the form of
- 5 poke and sushi products. Consumers of poke are commonly
- 6 subjected to misleading advertisements and in-store terminology,
- 7 such as "prepared fresh", "freshly made", and "locally made",
- 8 while the ahi used to prepare the poke is foreign-sourced,
- 9 previously frozen, gas-treated, and imported in pre-cut cubes.
- 10 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to extend country
- 11 of origin labeling requirements for certain ahi tuna products at
- 12 Hawaii retail establishments.
- 13 SECTION 2. Chapter 486, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 14 amended by adding a new section to part V to be appropriately
- 15 designated and to read as follows:
- 16 "\$486- Raw ahi; labeling requirements; retail
- 17 establishments. (a) No retail establishment shall keep, offer,
- 18 display, expose for sale, or solicit for the sale of any raw
- 19 ahi, including any raw ahi that has been combined, mixed,
- 20 marinated, or otherwise prepared for human consumption, without
- 21 a label stating the country in which the ahi was landed.



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1	(b) As used in this section:
2	"Ahi" means yellowfin tuna or bigeye tuna, including farm-
3	raised fish and ahi that meets the definition of "wild fish and
4	shellfish" as defined in title 7 Code of Federal Regulations
5	section 60.133, as amended.
6	"Farm-raised fish" has the same meaning as defined in
7	title 7 Code of Federal Regulations section 60.106, as amended.
8	"Retail establishment" means an establishment licensed
9	under the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act of 1930, which
10	includes any retail establishment that purchases over \$230,000
11	of fresh or frozen produce per calendar year."
12	SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.
13	SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.
14	Δ ΔΔ° Δ. Δ
	INTRODUCED BY: The Miyale

# H.B. NO. 534

### Report Title:

Measurement Standards; Uniform Packaging and Labeling; Food Labeling; Country of Origin; Tuna; Raw Ahi

### Description:

Prohibits the sale of raw ahi and raw ahi products in retail establishments without a label that states the country where the ahi was landed.

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