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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO DEVELOP AND ADOPT ADMINISTRATIVE RULES REGARDING THE CREATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF LIMITS FOR THE COLLECTION OF ORNAMENTAL REEF FISH AND URGING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FISH REPLENISHMENT AREAS FOR THE WATERS OF OAHU AND MAUI TO REGULATE THE COLLECTION OF ORNAMENTAL, NON-CONSUMPTIVE FISH ONLY.

1           WHEREAS, the International Coral Reef Initiative has  
2 designated the year 2008 as the International Year of the Reef;  
3 and  
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5           WHEREAS, various events are scheduled throughout the year  
6 to commemorate the International Year of the Reef that will  
7 focus on increasing awareness about the economic, social,  
8 ecological, and cultural value of Hawaii's coral reefs; and  
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10           WHEREAS, the International Year of the Reef designation is  
11 an opportunity to bring attention to the threats that could or  
12 are currently endangering the health of Hawaii's marine  
13 ecosystems and propose and take action on international and  
14 local levels to mitigate or avoid these threats; and  
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16           WHEREAS, the State is home to a majority of the nation's  
17 coral reefs, including the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National  
18 Monument established in December 2006; and  
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20           WHEREAS, Hawaii's reefs are vibrant, living organisms,  
21 which support over seven thousand known species of marine plants  
22 and animals; and  
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24           WHEREAS, the ocean and its living creatures who occupy its  
25 reefs and waters held great significance and continue to hold  
26 great importance in Native Hawaiian culture; and  
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1           WHEREAS, the health of Hawaii's reefs and the ecosystems  
2 associated with these reefs are an integral part to the health  
3 of Hawaii's largest economic engine - the visitor industry; and  
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5           WHEREAS, large volumes of ornamental reef fish, which are  
6 all critical to the health of Hawaii's reefs, are being  
7 collected for aquariums, including herbivores such as yellow  
8 tang and other surgeon fish, Hawaiian cleaner wrasse, and  
9 butterfly fish; and  
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11           WHEREAS, the collection of reef fish for aquariums is not  
12 effectively regulated and enforced as it is difficult to  
13 quantify the exact number of ornamental reef fish taken from the  
14 State's reefs; and  
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16           WHEREAS, the development and implementation of rules  
17 regarding the regulation of taking ornamental reef fish for  
18 aquarium use will assist in the protection and conservation of  
19 Hawaii's reef fish and the health of their delicate ecosystems;  
20 now, therefore,  
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22           BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth  
23 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, the  
24 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of Land  
25 and Natural Resources, in consultation with the University of  
26 Hawaii School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology,  
27 Department of Oceanography, Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology,  
28 and the Waikiki Aquarium, is urged to develop and adopt  
29 administrative rules regarding the collection of ornamental reef  
30 fish for aquarium use from Hawaii's reefs; and  
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32           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and  
33 Natural Resources is urged to develop and adopt administrative  
34 rules, that will recommend to the Board of Land and Natural  
35 Resources appropriate and reasonable limits on the collection of  
36 ornamental reef fish, including the establishment of limits to  
37 facilitate the restoration and preservation of reef fish in  
38 Hawaii's waters; and  
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40           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and  
41 Natural Resources is urged to establish fish replenishment areas  
42 for the waters surrounding Oahu and Maui, the purpose of which  
43 shall be limited to the replenishment of ornamental, non-  
44 consumptive fish. The fish replenishment areas for Oahu and



1 Maui are requested to be modeled after the program established  
2 by the West Hawaii Fisheries Council; and  
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
5 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; the  
6 Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources; the  
7 Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; the  
8 Administrator of the Division of Aquatic Resources; the  
9 Administrator of the Division of Conservation and Enforcement;  
10 the Administrator of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; the Mayor,  
11 City and County of Honolulu; the Mayor, County of Hawaii; the  
12 Mayor, Maui County; the Mayor, Kauai County; the City Council  
13 Chairperson of the Honolulu City Council; the County Council  
14 Chairperson of the Hawaii County Council; the County Council  
15 Chairperson of the Maui County Council; the County Council  
16 Chairperson of the Kauai County Council; the President and Chief  
17 Executive Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority, and  
18 representatives of the University of Hawaii School of Ocean and  
19 Earth Science and Technology, Department of Oceanography, the  
20 Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, and the Waikiki Aquarium.

