

FEB 28 2008

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## SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO PROCLAIM JUNE 8TH OF EVERY YEAR AS  
WORLD OCEAN DAY.

1           WHEREAS, the concept of World Ocean Day was established in  
2 1992 at the United Nations Earth Summit; and

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4           WHEREAS, it is an opportunity for the world to celebrate  
5 and recognize the significance of the world ocean to our lives;  
6 and

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8           WHEREAS, the world ocean is critical to maintaining our  
9 planet's ecosystem and essential to human health and well-being;  
10 and

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12           WHEREAS, the world ocean encompasses seventy per cent of  
13 the surface of our planet, yet less than one per cent of the  
14 world ocean habitat is protected; and

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16           WHEREAS, ocean environments around the world are  
17 collapsing, primarily due to over-fishing, pollution, and  
18 unsustainable coastal development; and

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20           WHEREAS, Hawaii's isolation in the middle of the Pacific  
21 Ocean and its distinction as being the farthest removed islands  
22 from any other body of land in the world make it an appropriate  
23 participant in World Ocean Day; and

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25           WHEREAS, the ocean is an integral part of every facet of  
26 the lives of the people of Hawaii; and

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28           WHEREAS, Hawaii is the proud steward of the largest portion  
29 of protected ocean in the world with coral reef ecosystems that  
30 contain over five thousand known species of marine plants and  
31 animals; and  
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1 WHEREAS, World Ocean Day is an opportunity to educate the  
2 public, adults and children alike, about conserving and  
3 protecting our fragile marine environment; now, therefore,  
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5 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth  
6 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008,  
7 that the Governor is requested to proclaim June 8th of every  
8 year as World Ocean Day; and  
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
11 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Hawaii's  
12 congressional delegation, and to the Mayor and the Chairperson  
13 of the Council of each county.  
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