WHEREAS, the Hawaii seafood industry is a multimillion-dollar industry that employs an estimated 2,500 residents throughout the wholesale/retail and import/export industries; and

WHEREAS, on August 5, 1952, Matsujiro Otani founded UNITED FISHING AGENCY, also known as the Honolulu Fish Auction, at the site of the old A'ala Market; and

WHEREAS, due to the redevelopment of the A'ala area, UNITED FISHING AGENCY relocated to Kewalo Basin in 1977 and, in 2004, relocated to its present location at Pier 38 "Commercial Fishing Village"; and

WHEREAS, UNITED FISHING AGENCY provides independent fishermen with a marketing service through which they can sell their daily catch at a fair price, thereby providing the freshest fish to the wholesale, retail, and restaurant sectors, and providing fishermen with same-day payment for their catch; and

WHEREAS, UNITED FISHING AGENCY is the only fish auction between Tokyo and Maine and the only fresh tuna auction of its kind in the United States, processing as much as 160,000 pounds of fish at its daily auction; and

WHEREAS, UNITED FISHING AGENCY has enjoyed the support of fishermen and marketers throughout its history and, today, processes approximately twenty-five million pounds of fish worth approximately seventy million dollars annually; and
WHEREAS, UNITED FISHING AGENCY is a Transportation Security Agency-certified packer and screener for the export of fresh fish to the continental United States and around the world, including Japan, Canada, and Europe; and

WHEREAS, UNITED FISHING AGENCY is headed by Akira Otani, Board Chairman; Danny Otani, President; Floyd Otani, Vice-President; Dexter Okada, Vice-President and Director; Frank Goto, Secretary and General Manager; and Brooks Takenaka, Treasurer and Assistant Manager; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, that this body hereby honors and commends UNITED FISHING AGENCY for its dedicated service to Hawaii's fishing industry and to the people of Hawaii, and extends its warmest aloha and best wishes for continued success in all future endeavors.

OFFERED BY: 

MAR 29 2010