
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING SUPPORT FOR THE GOAL OF EFFECTIVELY MANAGING THIRTY
PERCENT OF NEARSHORE WATERS BY 2030.

1 WHEREAS, Presidential Proclamation 9478, issued on August
2 26, 2016, emphasized the need to provide critical protections in
3 the nearshore areas around the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National
4 Monument for more than 7,000 marine species, including whales
5 and sea turtles listed under the Endangered Species Act and the
6 longest-living marine species in the world, black coral, which
7 live longer than 4,500 years; and

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9 WHEREAS, as ocean acidification, warming, and other impacts
10 of climate change threaten marine ecosystems, expanding the
11 Monument will improve ocean resilience, help the region's
12 distinct physical and biological resources adapt, and create a
13 natural laboratory that will allow scientists to monitor and
14 explore the impacts of climate change on these fragile
15 ecosystems; and

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17 WHEREAS, the expanded Monument area, including the
18 archipelago and its adjacent waters, is considered a sacred
19 place for the Native Hawaiian community, plays a significant
20 role in Native Hawaiian creation and settlement stories, and is
21 used to practice important activities like traditional long-
22 distance voyaging and wayfinding; and

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24 WHEREAS, to improve the resilience of corals and ensure
25 their continued benefit to the State, local stressors that are
26 within our control need to be effectively managed, including
27 sediment and nutrient runoff from land, invasive species, and
28 illegal and unsustainable fishing; and



1 WHEREAS, the State's commitment to effectively manage 30
2 per cent of Hawaii's nearshore waters by 2030 should be echoed
3 throughout all state and county agencies that manage coastal
4 zones; and

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6 WHEREAS, the Department of Land and Natural Resources
7 should exercise its stewardship responsibility for managing,
8 administering, and exercising control over lands, waters, and
9 natural resources within the State's jurisdiction; now,
10 therefore,

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12 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
13 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
14 of 2017, the Senate concurring, that this body urges the
15 Department of Land and Natural Resources to support the goal of
16 effectively managing 30 per cent of nearshore waters by 2030;
17 and

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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and
20 Natural Resources is urged to collaborate with the Office of
21 Hawaiian Affairs in the perpetuation of Hawaiian cultural
22 resources within the nearshore waters area, including the
23 customary and traditional rights and practices of Native
24 Hawaiians exercised for subsistence, cultural, and religious
25 purposes under Section 7 of Article XII of the State
26 Constitution; and

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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, by 2019, the Department of
29 Land and Natural Resources is requested to establish benchmarks
30 for the effective management of 30 per cent of nearshore waters
31 by 2030; and

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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and
34 Natural Resources is requested to report its findings and
35 recommendations, and any proposed legislation, to the
36 Legislature no later than twenty days before the convening of
37 each Regular Session of the Legislature; and

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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
40 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
41 Board of Land and Natural Resources and Chair of the Board of
42 Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

