
SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES 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, protecting the world ocean is critical to
9 maintaining our planet's ecosystem and essential to human health
10 and well-being; 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, invasive
18 species, and 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 early Hawaiians were masters at understanding
26 and respecting the ocean through long distance voyaging and
27 careful resource management; and

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29 WHEREAS, Hawaii is the proud steward of the largest
30 portions of protected ocean in the world with coral reef
31 ecosystems that contain over five thousand known species of
32 marine plants and animals; and



1 WHEREAS, roughly twenty-five per cent of the marine plants
2 and animals found in Hawaii's ocean are found nowhere else in
3 the world; and

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5 WHEREAS, World Ocean Day will help commemorate the progress
6 toward the effective management of Hawaii's native ecosystem;
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9 WHEREAS, the ocean is an integral part of every facet of
10 the lives of the people of Hawaii; and

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12 WHEREAS, World Ocean Day is an opportunity to promote
13 public awareness and educate the public, adults and children
14 alike, about conserving and protecting our fragile marine
15 environment; now, therefore,

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17 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
18 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008,
19 that the President of the United States is requested to proclaim
20 June 8th of every year as World Ocean Day, to promote and help
21 increase awareness of our ocean's fragile ecosystem through
22 cultural exchanges, educational projects, and mindful
23 consideration by all; and

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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
26 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States,
27 the Governor of the State of Hawaii, Hawaii's congressional
28 delegation, the Mayor and the Chairperson of the Council of each
29 county, the United States Department of Fish and Wildlife
30 Services, United States National Marine Fisheries Services,
31 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of
32 Land and Natural Resources and its divisions of Aquatic
33 Resources and Boating and Ocean Recreation, United States
34 Environmental Protection Agency, Kai Makana, Malama Hawaii, Save
35 Honolulu Coalition, Polynesian Voyaging Society, Hawaii Wildlife
36 Fund, Girl Scouts of America, Parents and Children Together
37 Program, Youth Conservation Corp, Damien High School, Farrington
38 High School, Punahou High School, Radford High School, Chaminade
39 University, Hawaii Pacific University, Keahiakahoe Canoe Club,
40 and Pearl Harbor Canoe Club.

