H.R. NO. (81

HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, DIVISION OF AQUATIC RESOURCES, TO DETERMINE THE POPULATION OF THE AKULE SPECIES AND ESTABLISH A MANAGEMENT PRACTICE TO PRESERVE THE SPECIES.

WHEREAS, the akule, or big-eye scad, is among Hawaii 1 residents' favorite fish to consume, for it can be eaten raw, 2 fried, sun dried, or fermented; and 3 4 WHEREAS, there is a growing fear among commercial and 5 recreational fishermen that the akule population is declining at 6 an unusually fast rate and the resource will be depleted for 7 future generations; and 8 9 WHEREAS, a "Management Plan for Hawaii's Akule Fishery" was 10 prepared by the Department of Land and Natural Resources, 11 Division of Aquatic Resources, in 2001; and 12 13 WHEREAS, the management plan, while successfully 14 establishing boundaries that restrict commercial fishermen and 15 setting bag limits on the amount of akule that may be caught, 16 did not include a study of the population of akule in Hawaii; 17 anđ 18 19 WHEREAS, a population study of akule, including its 20 migration habits, reproduction patterns, and natural and 21 unnatural predators, would help alleviate the fishing 22 community's concerns about the dwindling supply of akule and 23 ensure the survival of the species; now, therefore, 24 25 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 26 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session 27 of 2011, that the Department of Land and Natural Resources, 28 Division of Aquatic Resources, is urged to determine the 29 population of the akule species; and 30 31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that once a determination has been 32 made as to the akule population, the Department of Land and 33



Page 2

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H.R. NO. 181

Natural Resources, Division of Aquatic Resources, is urged to
consult and confer with commercial and recreational akule
fishermen to establish a management practice to preserve the
akule species for future generations; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this 7 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of 8 Land and Natural Resources.

OFFERED BY:

the Cuton

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