

Testimony to the House Committee on Economic Development and Business April 5, 2013

Testimony in opposition to HCR 91

To: The Honorable Clift Tsuji, Chair The Honorable Gene Ward, Vice-Chair Members of the Committee

My name is Stefanie Sakamoto, and I am testifying on behalf of Fishing Tales with Mike Sakamoto, a company that was founded by my father in 1985. In addition to producing a fishing show in Hawaii for 15 years, Mike Sakamoto was a tireless fishing advocate, whose philosophy was the preservation of fishing rights and ocean resources for future generations.

We are in opposition to HCR 91 HD1, Requesting the Dept. of Land and Natural Resources to Convene a Marine Game Fishing Task Force to Develop a Proposed Regulatory Scheme for Requiring Licensure for Marine Game Fishing. This resolution aims to study the feasibility of establishing a marine game fishing license for recreational fishermen. While we have no comment on the concept of a marine game fishing license, we are opposed to the proposed framework of the task force, which would study licensing, fees, and related issues. Without science-based data on fish stock assessment, it makes no sense to convene a task force to study this issue.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

Stefanie Y. Sakamoto