JAN 2 7 2016

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE GENERAL EXCISE TAX.

#### BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaiian loko i'a
- 2 (fishponds) are unique aquacultural systems that are an integral
- 3 part of Hawaiian culture. Loko i'a are environmentally
- 4 sustainable aquacultural enterprises which also provide cultural
- 5 benefits to Hawaii, employment opportunities, and fishstock
- 6 enhancement. Fishpond production provides a highly desirable
- 7 food source for local communities and offers income for the
- 8 fishpond operator. While fishpond production is potentially
- 9 profitable, profit margins are small.
- 10 The legislature further finds that products produced by
- 11 Hawaiian loko i'a should be taxed at the wholesale rate of one-
- 12 half of one per cent to help promote the cultivation of loko i'a.
- 13 SECTION 2. Chapter 237, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 14 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
- 15 and to read as follows:
- 16 "§237- Products produced by Hawaiian loko i'a; wholesale
- 17 rate. (a) The wholesale rate of one-half of one per cent shall



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- 1 apply to all of the gross proceeds or income arising from the
- 2 sale of all products produced by Hawaiian loko i'a.
- 3 (b) For purposes of this section, "Hawaiian loko i'a" shall
- 4 have the same meaning as "Hawaiian fishponds" as defined in
- 5 section 183B-1."

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- 6 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.
- 7 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2016.

INTRODUCED BY:

2016-0575 SB SMA-2.doc

# S.B. NO. 2973

### Report Title:

General Excise Tax; Loko I'a; Hawaiian Fishpond

### Description:

Establishes a general excise tax at the wholesale rate of one-half of one per cent for the gross proceeds or income from all products produced by Hawaiian loko i'a.

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