
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO DENY ANY REQUEST TO
EXPAND THE PAPAHAŌNAUMOKUĀKEA MARINE NATIONAL MONUMENT AND
OPPOSE ANY ACTION TO EXPAND THE MONUMENT.

1 WHEREAS, the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine National
2 Monument was established on June 15, 2006, by Presidential
3 Proclamation 8031 and was officially designated as the
4 Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (Monument) in 2007;
5 and
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7 WHEREAS, the Monument provides permanent protection for
8 nearly 140,000 square miles of reefs, atolls, and shallow and
9 deep sea in the Pacific Ocean out to fifty miles offshore, which
10 are habitats and ecosystems for many species of coral, fish,
11 birds, marine mammals, and other flora and fauna, including
12 endangered species; and
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14 WHEREAS, the President of the United States has been asked
15 to expand the area covered by the Monument from fifty miles to
16 two hundred miles offshore; and
17

18 WHEREAS, the Monument overlays the fifty nautical mile
19 Protective Species Zone of the Western Pacific Fishery
20 Management Council and the use restrictions that apply within
21 the Monument's boundaries eliminated Hawaii's bottomfish
22 fishery, which consisted of seventeen permits, including permits
23 dedicated to indigenous native Hawaiian fishing communities; and
24

25 WHEREAS, an expansion of the Monument's area would cause
26 further harm to Hawaii's fishers and fishing industry which
27 includes wholesalers, retailers, fish cutters, equipment
28 operators, provisioners, and ground transportation, ice, and
29 fuel facilities as well as shipping and boat maintenance service
30 providers; and
31



1 WHEREAS, expansion of the Monument's area would also harm
2 Hawaii residents and tourists who depend on fish for sustenance
3 and cultural uses, such as sashimi for the holidays and poke;
4 and
5

6 WHEREAS, Hawaii is second only to Japan in fish consumption
7 and, although residents prefer the iced fresh fish caught by
8 Hawaii fishers, sixty percent of the seafood consumed in Hawaii
9 is imported; and
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11 WHEREAS, the value of commercial fishery landings that
12 enter the marketplace through Honolulu Harbor annually ranks in
13 the top ten for all United States ports due to the value of the
14 fish caught by Hawaii fishers; and
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16 WHEREAS, an arbitrary expansion of the Monument could
17 potentially result in an annual loss of \$10,000,000 in landed
18 (ex-vessel) value for Hawaii's long-line fishery and an annual
19 \$30,000,000 loss to the State's retail seafood markets; and
20

21 WHEREAS, any reduction in the amount of fish caught by
22 Hawaii's long-line fleet will be supplanted by seafood imports,
23 thereby increasing reliance on unregulated foreign seafood
24 sources; and
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26 WHEREAS, twenty-three percent of the waters surrounding the
27 Hawaiian Islands and the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands are
28 already no-take marine protected areas, which exceeds the twenty
29 percent global standard for marine protected areas, and an
30 expansion of the Monument to two hundred miles offshore will
31 increase the no-take area to sixty-seven percent of the United
32 States exclusive economic zone waters surrounding the Hawaii
33 archipelago; and
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35 WHEREAS, existing county, state, and federal management
36 regimes currently provide comprehensive protections for coral
37 reef ecosystems and other vulnerable marine habitat including
38 deep-water coral and the seabed, sea turtles, seabirds, marine
39 mammals, sharks, and other marine species; and
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41 WHEREAS, large open ocean marine protected areas do not
42 provide any buffering from the effects of climate change since



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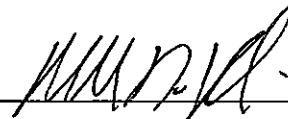
1 ocean warming and ocean acidification can occur regardless of
2 spatial boundaries; and
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4 WHEREAS, there is no scientific justification or
5 conservation benefit to support expanding the Monument; now,
6 therefore,
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8 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth
9 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2016, the
10 House of Representatives concurring, that the President of the
11 United States is urged to deny any request to expand the
12 Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument and oppose any action
13 to expand the Monument; and
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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
16 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
17 United States, Administrator of the National Oceanic and
18 Atmospheric Administration, Director of the United States Fish
19 and Wildlife Service, Hawaii's Congressional Delegation, the
20 Governor, and the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural
21 Resources.
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23
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OFFERED BY: _____



By Request

