

MAR 10 2016

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## SENATE RESOLUTION

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URGING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO DENY ANY REQUEST TO  
EXPAND THE PAPAĀNAUMOKUĀKEA 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  
6

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  
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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  
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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



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  
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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  
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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



1 WHEREAS, large open ocean marine protected areas do not  
2 provide any buffering from the effects of climate change since  
3 ocean warming and ocean acidification can occur regardless of  
4 spatial boundaries; and  
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6 WHEREAS, there is no scientific justification or  
7 conservation benefit to support expanding the Monument; now,  
8 therefore,  
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10 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth  
11 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2016,  
12 that the President of the United States is urged to deny any  
13 request to expand the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument  
14 and oppose any action to expand the Monument; and  
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
17 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States,  
18 Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
19 Administration, Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife  
20 Service, Hawaii's Congressional Delegation, the Governor, and  
21 the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.  
22  
23  
24

OFFERED BY: 

By Request

