# I A T E SB 1377

# <u>SB1377</u>

Submitted on: 2/13/2015 Testimony for WTL on Feb 13, 2015 15:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erik Vuong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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# <u>SB1377</u>

Submitted on: 2/13/2015 Testimony for WTL on Feb 13, 2015 15:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Reno Young	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Thielen, My name is Reno Young and I strongly oppose SB 1377. Spearfishing is very selective and many spear fishermen do not aim for fish if they are going to hit or even come close to the reef because it damages not only their gear, but the reef itself. In addition to this spear fishermen do not come close to the reef. They glide above the reef. Another point to add is that spear fishermen rather not come close to living coral most of the fish they are going to target do not live around the live coral, but instead around the rubble and caves that were created from dead coral. Thank you for your time and have a great day! Aloha, Reno Young

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# <u>SB1377</u>

Submitted on: 2/16/2015 Testimony for WTL on Feb 18, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rick Warshauer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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### COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND

Senator Laura H Thielen, Chair

Hearing in Room 224, 18FEB2015, 2:45PM

### Good Day Senators,

My name is Rick Warshauer, and I am offering my support for SB1377, relating to the Waikiki-Diamond Head Fisheries Management Area. It adds a moratorium on spearfishing in the subject area until DLNR verifies that damage to the reef from this activity has ended and the reef is recovered. This simple and straightforward action should further effectuate the goals of this management area. My personal opinion is that the restriction should be permanent in this location.

The reefs and reef life of O'ahu have suffered terribly over the last few decades from overuse and cumulative abusive activities, and this small example area can be used to evaluate the potential beneficial results from the bill's limited curtailment of spearfishing. It is tragic that the rich reef life that I enjoyed as a youth on O'ahu has been degraded for so long that most of its current users do not know what they are missing. The only hints of this former reef condition come from restrictive management areas, and the subject area already is an intermediate one in restrictions, with alternate-year openings for fishing. Even this odd-year closure has not been adequate to result in more than a brief pulse of fishing success, and more restrictions are worth evaluating. Clearly, neither we as citizens nor the regulatory authorities have yet arrived at optimal management regimes for our reefs' health. More options such as that proposed in this bill need to be evaluated. Given that we cannot control or prevent the additional assaults on our reefs resulting from global climate changes, this simple management restriction on human behavior in this limited area might make a big difference in understanding the future health of our reef in the management area and beyond. We will only know if we try. Please pass this bill. Please do not ask the DLNR to effectuate the intent themselves—we all know that this would be tantamount to no action.

Thank you