

SB 2642

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committees on
WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE
and
JUDICARY AND LABOR**

**Wednesday, February 10, 2016
3:20 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 2642
RELATING TO SHARK AND RAY PROTECTION**

Senate Bill 2642 proposes to establish penalties and fines for any person who knowingly captures, kills, or takes any shark or ray within state marine waters and makes it a misdemeanor. This measure provides exemptions for native Hawaiian gathering rights and cultural practices, special activity permits, research purposes, and public safety. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (“Department”) appreciates the intent of this measure and offers the following comments.**

The Department prefers to establish regulations through the administrative rulemaking process in order to evaluate the available science, give due consideration to all interests, and to carefully craft language to avoid conflicting with existing state and federal laws. For example, regulations are in place in West Hawaii to regulate the take of sharks under Section 13-60.4-4(1), Hawaii Administrative Rules.

Sharks and rays should be evaluated separately, as they are different species with different roles in the ecosystem and facing different conditions and threats. The Department recognizes the important role sharks and other apex predators play in maintaining healthy marine ecosystems, and the detrimental impact from significantly depleting their populations in our waters. Similarly, rays play a unique role in the marine environment and should be reviewed in that context.

Regarding the penalties, we note the bill proposes higher penalties than what exists for other violations in this chapter. We believe this is unnecessary in light of our existing criminal and civil

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

KEKOA KALUHIWA
FIRST DEPUTY

JEFFREY T. PEARSON P.E.
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

penalty authorities. In 1999, the Department's Division of Aquatic Resources went through a review of its criminal penalty statutes and revised them after consulting with the Department of the Attorney General and the City and County of Honolulu's Department of the Prosecuting Attorney. This review standardized most criminal penalties as petty misdemeanors to ease prosecution.

Also, in 1998, the Legislature established administrative penalties for aquatic resource violations. Violators face up to \$1,000 per violation and an additional \$1,000 per specimen for a first offense. Repeat violators are subject to even higher fines. In 2004, the Department implemented a civil resource violations system (CRVS), as authorized under Chapter 199D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to deal with violations through an internal administrative process rather than the criminal court process. This system, which utilizes a civil penalty schedule carefully developed based on resource value and the nature of the violation, has worked well, and we are looking to expand the scope of CRVS within the Department.

In summary, we believe our administrative rulemaking process and the existing suite of criminal and administrative penalties is more than sufficient to give us the flexibility to regulate these resources appropriately.



WILDAID



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**TO: Honorable Chairs Gabbard and Keith-Agaran and Committee Members
Senate Water, Land and Agriculture and Judiciary Committees
February 10, 2016, 3:20pm**

**FROM: Inga Gibson, Hawaii Senior State Director, The Humane Society of the
United States, igibson@humanesociety.org, 808.354.3211**

RE: SUPPORT FOR SB2642; Relating to Shark and Ray Protections

On behalf of Wild Aid, Shark Stewards, the Center for Biological Diversity, The Manta Trust, The Humane Society of the United States and Humane Society International's members and supporters across Hawaii and The HSUS's international arm, Humane Society International (HSI), we urge your support of SB2642 which would prohibit the capture or killing of sharks or rays in state waters (within 3 nm) except for research purposes, under DLNR issued Special Activity Permits, the use of shark parts/products for native Hawaiian cultural purposes and at the discretion of DLNR for specific, emergency public safety reasons.

Why sharks need protection:

- In 2010, Hawaii became the first state in the world to enact a prohibition on shark-finning and the sale of shark-fins or fin products. This measure would complement this existing law, which has now become a global initiative, by again poising Hawaii to be a leader in shark and marine conservation. While current laws prohibit the possession or sale of shark fins or fin products there is no law preventing the capture or killing of sharks.
- Tens of millions of sharks are estimated to be killed annually for their fins. While anti-finning laws have improved shark populations, many species are still threatened and face possible extinction. Recent research from the University of Hawaii has shown that many species of shark, such as tiger and hammerhead, frequent state waters, especially the marine shelf around Maui, and are faced with numerous threats most notably humans and pollution (SEE: [Hawaii Scientists Study Threatened Shark Species](#))
- There is no directed commercial shark fishery in Hawaii waters so this would not be expected to have a negative economic impact on commercial fishing interests. Commercial fisheries operating in federal waters reported catching 85,067 sharks and releasing 84,441 of them (SEE: http://www.pifsc.noaa.gov/fmb/reports/hlreports/areport_items.php?yr=2014&type=tbl&num=1) This measure does NOT preempt or impact federal fishing laws, and only applies to Hawaii state waters (3 nm).

- With the growing number of interactions between ocean users and sharks this measure would prevent consideration of ineffective mass culling efforts and those individuals who may target sharks due to misinformation (see: [Local Shark Experts Explain Shark Attacks](#))
- Sharks are apex predators; when they are removed our entire marine ecosystem is negatively impacted. In addition, sharks and rays are not a staple human food source as other fish species are. Below is a list of the 40 species of sharks that may be found in Hawaii waters. DLNR notes that it is difficult to distinguish between certain species of shark thus this measure applies to all sharks.

Why Rays need protection:

Current law prohibits the take of *only* Manta Ray species. This measure would extend this protection to all species of rays in state waters (listed below), including Torpedo, Stingray, Devilray and Eagleray, Manta alfredi (reef mantas) and Mobula tarapacana (sicklefin devilray).

- With the growing interest and number of commercial tour operators involved in ray diving tours this measure would further protect all of these species.
- While the trade has not yet hit Hawaii, China and other countries have begun mass harvesting of rays for their gills/gill soup, especially since shark populations are still facing serious decline and many states and island nations now prohibit selling shark fin products. This measure would prevent any future trade in harvesting Hawaii rays as we saw recently with the mass commercial harvesting of our sea cucumbers by international companies (DLNR recently prohibited commercial harvest of sea cucumbers).
- Rays are known to be among the slowest marine species to reproduce. For example, new data on manta ray reproduction suggest that they may reproduce even more slowly than previously believed, with a *maximum lifetime reproduction potential estimated at only 5 to 15 offspring*. Such extremely low reproductive capacity shows that manta and mobula rays are far more vulnerable to exploitation than previously known, and that immediate investment in their conservation is necessary to avoid continued rapid declines (SEE: <http://www.wildaid.org/mantas>)

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important marine conservation issue.

Hawaii Shark and Ray Species List: <http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/sharks/hawaii-sharks/species-list/>

Sharks

Order Orectolobiformes

Family Rhincodontidae

Whale shark, *Rhincodon typus*, VU

Order Carcharhiniformes

Family Scyliorhinidae

Sponge-headed cat shark, *Apristurus spongiceps*, DD

Family Pseudotriakidae

False cat shark, *Pseudotriakis microdon*, DD

Family Carcharhinidae

Bignose shark, *Carcharhinus altimus*, DD

Gray reef shark, *Carcharhinus amblyrhynchos*, NT

Silky shark, *Carcharhinus falciformes*, NT

Galapagos shark, *Carcharhinus galapagensis*, NT

Blacktip shark, *Carcharhinus limbatus*, NT

Oceanic whitetip, *Carcharhinus longimanus*, VU

Blacktip reef shark, *Carcharhinus melanopterus*, NT

Sandbar shark, *Carcharhinus plumbeus*, VU

Tiger shark, *Galeocerdo cuvier*, NT

Blue shark, *Prionace glauca*, NT

Whitetip reef shark, *Triaenodon obesus*, NT

Family Sphyrnidae

Scalloped hammerhead, *Sphyrna lewini*, EN

Smooth hammerhead, *Sphyrna zygaena*, VU

Order Lamniformes

Family Odontaspidae

Smalltooth sand tiger shark, *Odontaspis ferox*, VU

Bigeye sand tiger shark, *Odontaspis noronhai*, DD

Family Pseudocarchariidae

Crocodile shark, *Pseudocarcharias kamoharai*, NT

Family Megachasmidae

Megamouth shark, *Megachasma pelagios*, DD

Family Alopiidae

Pelagic thresher shark, *Alopias pelagicus*, VU

Bigeye thresher shark, *Alopias superciliosus*, VU

Family Lamnidae

White shark, *Carcharodon carcharias*, VU

Short-finned mako, *Isurus oxyrinchus*, VU

Longfin mako, *Isurus paucus*, VU

Order Hexanchiformes

Family Hexanchidae

Frilled shark, *Chlamydoselachus anguineus*, NT

Bluntnose sixgill shark, *Hexanchus griseus*, NT

Order Squaliformes

Family Echinorhinidae

Prickly shark, *Echinorhinus cookei*, NT

Family Dalatiidae

Combtooth dogfish, *Centroscyllium nigrum*, DD

Kitefin shark, *Dalatias licha*, NT

Blurred smooth lantern shark, *Etmopterus bigelowi*, LC

Blackbelly lantern shark, *Etmopterus lucifer*, LC

Smooth lantern shark, *Etmopterus pusillus*, LC

Hawaiian lantern shark, *Etmopterus villosus*, LC

Pygmy shark, *Euprotomicrus bispinatus*, LC

Cookiecutter shark, *Isistius brasiliensis*, LC

Viper dogfish, *Trigonognathus kabeyai*, DD

Velvet dogfish, *Scymnodon squamulosus*, DD

Family Centrophoridae

Mosaic gulper shark, *Centrophorus tessellatus*, DD

Gulper shark, *Centrophorus granulosus*, VU

Family Squalidae

Shortspine spurdog shark, *Squalus mitsukurii*, DD

Rays

Order Torpediniformes

Family Torpedinidae

Torpedo ray, *Torpedo sp.*, DD or LC, depending on species

Order Myliobatiformes

Family Plesiobatidae

Giant stingaree, *Plesiobatis daviesi*, LC

Family Hexatrygonidae

Sixgill stingray, *Hexatrygon bickelli*, LC

Longnosed deepwater ray, *Hexatrygon longirostra*, IUCN uncertain whether separate species

Family Dasyatidae

Diamond stingray, *Dasyatis dipterura*, DD

Brown stingray, *Dasyatis lata*, LC

Pelagic stingray, *Pteroplatytrygon violacea*, LC

Family Myliobatidae

Spotted eagle ray, *Aetobatus narinari*, NT

Family Mobulidae

Manta ray, *Manta birostris*, VU

Spinetail devil ray, *Mobula japanica*, NT

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: cathyg@animalrightshawaii.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2642 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 4:49:29 PM

SB2642

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cathy Goeggel	Animal Rights Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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From: [Ginger Towle](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: [Inga Gibson](#)
Subject: SB2642 - Water, Land, Agriculture and Judiciary Committees SUPPORT
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 10:04:46 AM

To - Chairs Gabbard & Keith-Agaran - Water, Land, Agriculture and Judiciary Committees

Subject SB 2642 - Protection of sharks and rays - SUPPORT

to be heard Feb.10th at 3:20p.m.

We need to repeat our support of this bill and any other that supports our ecosystems. We need to do this over and over in every committee so that everyone understands the importance of these animals to our ocean. Sharks are the police of our ocean responsible for keeping it healthy. Much research and testimony has gone before so we, the people, have to make sure proper measures are taken to protect these animals. It is our responsibility.

Please support this bill!!

Thank you for your attention.

Ginger Towle - President
West Hawaii Humane Society
Box 1208
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96745
towle@hawaiiantel.net
808-329-2051

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: mz@conservehi.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2642 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM
Date: Wednesday, February 03, 2016 7:43:04 PM
Attachments: [CCH testimony SB 2642.pdf](#)

SB2642

Submitted on: 2/3/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marjorie Ziegler	Conservation Council for Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

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National Headquarters

1130 17th Street, N.W. | Washington, D.C. 20036-4604 | tel 202.682.9400 | fax 202.682.1331
www.defenders.org

DATE: February 9, 2016

TO: Honorable Chairs Gabbard and Keith-Agaran and Committee Members of the Senate Water, Land and Agriculture and Judiciary Committees

FROM: Rosa Indenbaum, International Policy Analyst, Defenders of Wildlife,
rindenbaum@defenders.org

RE: Support for SB 2646; Relation to Shark and Ray Protections

Dear Hon. Chairs Gabbard and Keith-Agaran and Committee Members,

On behalf of Defenders of Wildlife, I write to urge you to support SB 2642, a measure that would prohibit knowingly capturing, killing or taking sharks or rays within the state waters of Hawaii. Reasonable exceptions for research, special permitted activity, use in native Hawaiian cultural practices and public safety reasons would exist. This measure would provide greatly needed comprehensive protection for more than 40 species of sharks and rays that are known to frequent the state waters of Hawaii and still suffer from knowing capture, kill and take. I urge Senators to support this bill with a change to the definition of “shark” in Section 2(f) to refer to any species of shark within the sub-class “*elasmobranchii*” and the definition of “ray” in Section 3(f) to refer to any species of ray within the sub-class “*elasmobranchii*” excepting manta rays already covered under HRS 188-39.5.

Since 2000, anyone under U.S. jurisdiction has been prohibited from shark finning. In 2010, Hawaii became the first state in the nation to enact a prohibition on the sale of shark fins and fin products. In January of 2011, the Shark Conservation Act of 2010 was signed in to law, requiring that all sharks have their fins naturally attached when landed. Now, Hawaii has the opportunity to continue its role as a leader in U.S. marine conservation by closing one of the remaining loopholes in federal and state shark and ray conservation law: prohibiting the knowing capture, kill and take of sharks and rays altogether within Hawaii state waters. Shark and ray conservation needs to go beyond finning and prohibitions on the sale of products. True conservation efforts require the protection of sharks and rays from all negative human impact, including fishing, such as is proposed by SB 2642.

Many species of shark are known to be found in the state waters of Hawaii, including whale sharks, cat sharks, reef sharks, silky sharks, oceanic water tip sharks, tiger sharks, hammerhead sharks, thresher sharks, and mako sharks, among others. Additionally, multiple species of rays frequent Hawaiian waters, including stingrays, eagle rays, devil rays and mantas rays.¹ With the exception of manta rays, none of the above listed species, nor any other species of the subclass *elasmobranchii* (sharks, rays and skates), currently enjoy protection from knowing capture, kill or take in state waters under Hawaiian law. Furthermore, because shark and ray species can be difficult to identify, this measure, with the proposed changes to the definition of “shark” and “ray,” would avoid potential

¹ Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, Hawai'i Sharks, Species list for Hawaiian waters.

enforcement issues by including all shark and ray species that have been or may be found in Hawaiian waters. The proposed measures, SB 2642, would offer greatly needed protection to many sharks and rays without confusion.

Unfortunately, despite growing international, nation and state-level protection for sharks and rays, a fourth of all shark and ray species are still threatened with extinction.² Although the largest impact on sharks and rays likely stems from intentional catch for the fin and gill raker trade and bycatch in commercial fisheries, intentional and knowing take still occurs in Hawaii in the form of sport hunting and spearfishing, among other activities. This measure would eliminate the impact of such knowing capture, kill and take of sharks and rays, with an exception for native Hawaiian cultural practices. As sharks and rays are among the slowest reproducing species, reducing the negative impact on their populations is extremely vital to their recovery and survival.

By passing this measure, Hawaii would be the first U.S. state to ban shark and ray fishing. The concept of a ban on shark fishing has been gathering momentum since Israel prohibited the fishing of all sharks and rays in 1980. Since that time, another 16 countries and territories have implemented various bans on shark and ray fishing.³ Using this measure, with the proposed changes in definitions, Hawaii could take the first step for the United States towards a comprehensive national ban on shark and ray fishing that reflect the broad level of conservation needed for these species. On behalf of Defenders of Wildlife, I urge you to support SB 2642.

Sincerely,
Rosa Indenbaum
International Policy Analyst
Defenders of Wildlife
rindenbaum@defenders.org

Suggested Amendments:

- 1) Section 2(f), Page 4, line 10: “(f) For the purposes of this section, “shark” means any species of ~~selachimorpha~~ shark in the sub-class *Elasmobranchii*.”
- 2) Section 3(f), Page 6, line 3: “(f) For the purposes of this section, “ray” means any species of ~~Batoidea~~ ray in the sub-class *Elasmobranchii*.”

² IUCN, *Extinction risk and conservation of the world’s sharks and rays*, 2014.

³ Humane Society International, *National Laws, multi-lateral agreements, regional and global regulations on shark protection and shark finning*, last updated March, 2014.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: aandrea99@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2642 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM
Date: Sunday, February 07, 2016 4:05:37 PM

SB2642

Submitted on: 2/7/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrea Quinn	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this bill. Sharks and rays are incredibly important to the marine ecosystem and there is no reason to hunt and kill them.

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From: [Anna Östrand](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642; Sharks and Rays
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 6:31:54 PM

To whom it may concern,

Dear Madam/Sir,

Let me ask you a question. Who do you want to be? What morals do you keep? Tomorrow there is a decision to be made that will speak far more to the world than you might think. You might believe that the decisions you make aren't of much importance but let me remind you that every decision taken affects everything and everyone. So tomorrow I ask you to look into your heart and to make the decision to save our sharks, save our seas and therefore save our planet. It's not just for you or for a few people on a group of islands you make this decision. It's for all of us. Near and far. We all depend on healthy seas, take away sharks and well, you cost us our life. So please do this for all of us.

Kind regards,
Anna Ostrand,

Colombia/Sweden

From: [Ashley Guzman](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642; Sharks and Rays
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 1:55:33 PM

Hello,

I'm writing this on the behalf of my support HB1734. After taking many marine courses at UH here in Hawaii I've learned how important these animals are to not only our oceans and reefs, but also Hawaiian culture. There should be laws in place to help protect these creatures that give us so much here in our homes and keep our oceans healthy.

Thank you for your time.

Ashley Guzman

From: [Bella Ornaf](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Fwd: Delivery Status Notification (Failure)
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 2:07:10 PM

Bella

Bella Ornaf

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Begin forwarded message:

From: Mail Delivery Subsystem <mailer-daemon@googlemail.com>
Date: February 9, 2016 at 7:05:21 PM EST
To: bellaornaf@gmail.com
Subject: Delivery Status Notification (Failure)

Delivery to the following recipient failed permanently:

wlatestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

Technical details of permanent failure:

DNS Error: 1552272 DNS type 'mx' lookup of capitol.hawaii.gov responded with code
NXDOMAIN

Domain name not found: capitol.hawaii.gov

----- Original message -----

DKIM-Signature: v=1; a=rsa-sha256; c=relaxed/relaxed;

d=gmail.com; s=20120113;

h=from:content-type:content-transfer-encoding:mime-version:subject

:message-id:date:to;

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NUwg==

X-Gm-Message-State:

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X-Received: by 10.37.96.65 with SMTP id u62mr18065891ybb.78.1455062720965;

Tue, 09 Feb 2016 16:05:20 -0800 (PST)

Return-Path: <bellaornaf@gmail.com>

Received: from ?IPv6:2600:1017:b429:f504:5dd5:cc3:d5c6:8ef1?

([2600:1017:b429:f504:5dd5:cc3:d5c6:8ef1])

by smtp.gmail.com with ESMTPSA id f126sm484445ywc.22.2016.02.09.16.05.20

for <wlatestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov>

(version=TLSv1/SSLv3 cipher=OTHER);

Tue, 09 Feb 2016 16:05:20 -0800 (PST)

From: Bella Ornaf <bellaornaf@gmail.com>

Content-Type: multipart/alternative;

boundary=Apple-Mail-BD86DD57-81E4-4718-A915-42569818FABF

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Mime-Version: 1.0 (1.0)

Subject: Support sb2642; sharks and rays

Message-Id: <3E3A2A05-90CF-4C14-A1DC-58D52472DF88@gmail.com>

Date: Tue, 9 Feb 2016 19:05:18 -0500

To: wlatestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

X-Mailer: iPhone Mail (13D15)

Sharks and rays are vitally important to our oceans please support this bill!!

Bella

Bella Ornaf

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(c) 914 320 4344

"The ocean is a mighty harmonist." Wordsworth

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: launahale@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2642 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM*
Date: Saturday, February 06, 2016 10:35:42 AM

SB2642

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: [Beth Parent](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642; Sharks and rays
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 4:42:32 PM

Dear friends;

Please pass a law to ban shark fishing in Hawaii. I have been in the waters off Oahu and been snorkeling with these beautiful and peaceful creatures. It frightens me that the shark population is declining so rapidly.

Sharks are the white blood cells of the ocean. They help keep the delicate balance of our oceans' Eco system. Without them our oceans will be unhealthy and unhealthy oceans equal unhealthy humans.

A live shark is worth far more to Hawaii than a dead shark. Eco tourism is a great way for Hawaii to capitalize on a shark protection program. It would help the shark population and put money back into hawaii's economy.

Please consider these things as you vote. I believe in a healthy ocean with sharks and rays in it.

Thank you,
Beth Parent

Sent from my iPhone

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Brenda Wood](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642; Sharks And Rays
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 7:32:47 PM

Dear Hawaiian Government,

I am writing this email to testify in support of banning shark fishing in Hawaii.

I believe the fishing of sharks in Hawaiian waters is an unsustainable practice that serves no purpose to our oceans or to ourselves. In order to maintain healthy oceans, and in turn, a healthy earth, sharks and rays are a mandatory component.

They are what keep our marine ecosystems in balance.

Sharks are not an animal that should be feared, but more so, respected for it's power and dominance in the animal kingdom. Just as a lion has the capability to hurt a human, we don't hunt them in their natural habitat just because they may, "pose a threat". We inform people about them and advise the use of caution and respect, if or when we ever enter their territory.

The public needs to be educated about sharks. With some knowledge about the creatures we share the oceans with, so many incidents could be prevented.

Please, please, pass this bill. We have already lost so many sharks to over fishing and shark fin soup.

Sharks are my most favourite animal, and I would be heartbroken if I never even got the chance to see one in the wild.

Thank you for reading my testimony,

Brenda Wood

From: [Carole Richelieu](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642; Sharks & rays
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 7:44:59 AM

--

Carole R. Richelieu
crr@hawaiiantel.net

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: chevyriderhhh@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2642 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM
Date: Friday, February 05, 2016 1:30:08 PM

SB2642

Submitted on: 2/5/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chris Wells	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Sharks are dangerous pests.

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From: craiggabrielson@gmail.com
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 2:27:02 PM

To whom it may concern,

It makes me so happy to see the progression of protection for animals that desperately need it. Sharks have suffered such a bad reputation over the last few decades and numbers have suffered along with it. The ocean needs sharks for a healthy ecosystem and we need a healthy ocean for our survival. Bills like this are exactly the direction we need to go and I will gladly support it. Thank you for your consideration.

Craig Gabrielson

Sent from my iPhone

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: dhorgs@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2642 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 3:09:16 PM

SB2642

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Daniel Horgan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Hawaii, Long - line fishing and "bycatch" decimate shark populations worldwide. Making matters worse, they are cruelly hunted solely for their fins while the handicapped still-living remains are barbarically discarded to die a tragic death. It is well documented that the broth that is created with the shark fins does not supplement any nutritional diet nor benefit humans in any way. Please help our civilization evolve towards conservation and respect towards all species, they need help like never before (as do we). P.S. Sharks are CRITICAL predators, by continuing to remove them from the habitats, the chain reaction causes other species to suffer as well. Sincerely, Daniel Horgan, 215 Wichita Ave #203, Huntington Beach, CA 92648

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From: [Diana Crow](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642; Sharks & rays
Date: Saturday, February 06, 2016 8:06:04 PM

SUPPORT SB2642; Protect Sharks & rays

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: douglasperrine@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2642 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM*
Date: Sunday, February 07, 2016 11:04:40 AM

SB2642

Submitted on: 2/7/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Douglas Perrine	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: GerritOsborne@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2642 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 3:36:40 PM

SB2642

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gerrit B Osborne	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Of all the animal-related bills before the State Legislature this year, none is more important than the bill to protect sharks and rays. These magnificent creatures have been in our oceans for millions of years, yet, with an estimated 100 million sharks killed annually just for their fins (not to mentioned the uncounted millions that die as the result of "by-catch"), many species of shark will have disappeared within the next decade. Please pass SB2642 and ensure that it is vigorously enforced. An excellent reference is at <http://www.sharkwater.com/index.php/shark-education/>

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2642 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM*
Date: Sunday, February 07, 2016 8:54:34 PM

SB2642

Submitted on: 2/7/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: [Jenny Davis](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642; Sharks and Rays
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 6:56:15 PM

The killing of sharks isn't just an ecological issue, but an economic and health issue for humans as well. The complicated ecosystem underwater is fragile and if sharks are out of the equation, it will have a detrimental impact on every other species in the ocean. Billions of people around the world depend on fish for food and income. We have an obligation to create a sustainable ocean now and for generations to come. Protecting sharks is urgent to this cause. Help to end shark fishing once and for all.

From: [Jerry Derrick](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: SB2642
Date: Saturday, February 06, 2016 8:50:51 PM

I SUPPORT SB2642; Sharks & rays

Aloha, Jer

[808 357 1527](tel:8083571527)

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Premier Scuba

<http://www.GoDiveMaui.com>

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: jessdunn24@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2642 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM
Date: Wednesday, February 03, 2016 9:26:10 PM

SB2642

Submitted on: 2/3/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jessica Dunn	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Sharks are vital for a functional ecosystem. Fully support this bill as it will penalize those that unlawfully kill sharks.

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From: jillcaitlin@gmail.com
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Sb2642
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 6:46:00 PM

Please listen to the people of this state when they say they want to end purposely killing sharks and rays in Hawaii. I myself frequently swim with these beautiful creatures and know that their survival depends on us!!
Jillian wenderlich

Sent from my iPhone

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: jfischer@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2642 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM
Date: Thursday, February 04, 2016 3:36:06 PM

SB2642

Submitted on: 2/4/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
joel fischer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: SB2642: PLEASE PASS THIS BILL. Thank you again for introducing and hearing this bill. I testified at the very first hearing on the original shark protection bill that eventually became law in Hawai'i, and that prompted similar legislation all over the US. You just cannot imagine how happy and proud I was to be part of that ground-breaking process. As always, though, it is an unfortunate fact that penalties have to be assigned for infractions. The penalties have to be severe for killing or harming our beautiful ocean creatures, the rays and sharks. So, I say: GO FOR IT!! Thank you so much for passing this bill to help save our sharks and rays. Aloha, joel Dr. Joel Fischer Professor (RET.) UH, Manoa

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From: [John Donovan](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642 Sharks and Rays
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 4:29:59 PM

Hello:

I am writing concerning the above mentioned bill up for consideration in your State Legislature. I have visited your beautiful State twice and have always been astounded by it's natural beauty. Sharks and Rays play a pivotal role in our ecosystem. Allowing them to be targeted and further endangering them will cause irreversible, long-term damage. Please use your voting power to prevent this from happening.

Thank you,
John Donovan
Hawaii Tourist

From: [hndrxfan14](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: SB2642
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 6:46:00 PM

Although I'm not a resident of Hawaii, I feel conservation efforts towards sharks are imperative for a multitude of reasons.

As an apex predator on this Earth, humans should use their position to preserve other species. The balance and continued survival of ANY species is predicated on conservation and preservation. When one species is removed from an ecosystem, the remaining species will suffer dire consequences, as each being's survival is contingent upon the other.

If humans want to protect the Earth and all her living creatures (humans included), we **MUST** take a stand and be a voice for those who cannot speak for themselves.

A concerned human,
Kara Yancey

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: petrask001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2642 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 9:41:45 PM

SB2642

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karen Petras	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please stop the senseless slaughter of these animals for any purpose other than public safety (and then, only when absolutely necessary and effective). Please make the penalties SIGNIFICANT. A paltry fine and non-felony conviction will not be as effective as deterring this bad behavior as would major fines and charges.

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From: [Kristen Moux](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: Feb 10, 2016 Hearing at 3:20 for SB2647, SB2642 and SB2512
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 9:05:34 AM

Aloha Senate,

This is in support of SB2647, SB2642 and SB2512. Endangered sea animals should be protected! These animals which provide such valuable support to our ecosystem need a chance to regain their population and grow their numbers before their species is disappeared from our earth forever. My grandchildren and their grandchildren deserve to grow up in a world where they can see these animals, too! Please represent the people and vote in support of SB2647, SB2642 and SB2512!

With Love,

Kristen Moux
Kristen Moux Events
Chat: 389-7421
Write: hello@kristenmouxevents.com
www.kristenmouxevents.com

From: [Laurie Pottish](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: SB2642
Date: Saturday, February 06, 2016 9:49:59 AM

I SOPPORT SB2642.

Laurie Pottish
2892 iwalani St.
Makawao, Hi 96768

From: [M. Markl](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: SB2642
Date: Sunday, February 07, 2016 10:15:07 PM

So many sharks have been killed for frivolous reasons, please protect them and the rays.

From: [Mary James](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: SB2642 Feb 10, 2016, hearing
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 7:48:19 PM

I support this bill to protect sharks, an important part of the ocean ecosystem.

Mary James
felinitous@yahoo.com

From: [Michael Roberts](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642; Sharks & rays
Date: Sunday, February 07, 2016 7:18:07 AM

Please support this bill. I do.
Michael Roberts
Lahaina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: mmmmahalo2000@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2642 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM
Date: Saturday, February 06, 2016 6:29:50 PM

SB2642

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Moran	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Worldwide headlines scream "shark attack," but not a back page line as sharks are getting wiped out worldwide. We can make a difference right here to set the example. Please support. Mahalo, Mike Moran Maui

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: octopus@maui.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2642 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM*
Date: Sunday, February 07, 2016 9:02:41 AM

SB2642

Submitted on: 2/7/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rene Umberger	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

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From: [Rosemary Karlsson](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: SB2642 - protect sharks & rays
Date: Saturday, February 06, 2016 10:41:06 AM

Protect the sharks and rays. They live and belong in the ocean, the humans are only visitors into their territory and should do no harm or damage to the sharks and rays.

Rosemary Karlsson

PO Box 492266

Keaau, HI 96749

808-966-6589

Physical address: 16-1885 Uilani Drive, Keaau.

Aloha,

I am writing to express my opposition to SB 2647 and SB2642. I do not support exceptions to this prohibition for traditional cultural practices. Incent, infantice were also cultural practices I do not support. Please vote againsy SB 2647 and SB2642.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Russell Keller Laros III

Kailua-Kona, Hawaii

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: sayuriy@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2642 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 5:24:38 PM

SB2642

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sayuri	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha legislators. I strongly support SB2640. I believe that no living creatures should suffer a senseless death at the hands of humans. We must protect creatures who cannot defend themselves.

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From: [Sue Leonard](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642
Date: Sunday, February 07, 2016 9:40:38 AM

Support SB2642

Sue Leonard
1425 Liliha Street #11D
Honolulu, HI 96817

310-344-8282

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: tbohl8@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2642 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM
Date: Sunday, February 07, 2016 9:35:22 PM

SB2642

Submitted on: 2/7/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ted Bohlen	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Sharks and rays and their ecosystems need the protections in this bill.
Please pass it. Mahalo!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: SHIRAIJRT001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2642 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 9:27:08 AM

SB2642

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
THOMAS T SHIRAI JR	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Gabbard & Cmte, I support SB2642 (Relating to Shark and Ray Protection). The Sharks and Rays are dieties within with Hawaiian Cultural and are Aumakua along with being members of an Ohana. Therefore, having shared this sentiment, an amendment should be made to this bill that will include some prison time. In regards to cultural practice, it should be highly regulated and a permit process done within the DLNR along with a fee. Thank you for your time and opportunity to provide testimony supporting SB2642. Malama Pono.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: tonyhunstiger@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2642 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 3:13:29 PM

SB2642

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
tony hunstiger	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please protect Hawaii's sharks and rays. The oceans are dying because of out of control over - fishing and exploitation. Please be part of the solution.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: vanderso@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2642 on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 6:25:11 PM

SB2642

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/JDL on Feb 10, 2016 15:20PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victoria Anderson	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Please pass this bill to prevent the needless killing of sharks and rays in Hawaii State waters. Hawaii was the first state to ban shark-finning, and we need to strengthen and continue our leadership in protecting these animals who are critical to the health of our ecosystems. Mahalo.

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