

gabbard2 - Donna

From: T Y <zoantharia@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 4:20 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

LATE

Hello,

I am in support of the Anti-Shark Fishing Bill because I understand the great importance sharks play within the delicate ecosystems of our oceans. I am a sophomore majoring in marine biology with a 4.0 GPA. I was recently accepted to the University of Hawaii at Manoa and at Hilo. I intend to earn a PhD in marine biology and work in conservation.

Should shark fishing be legalized, the number of these alpha predators will continue to be in decline. There is very little reason to fish for sharks aside from their fins. While shark fins produce an immense amount of revenue in other countries, it would provide little if any taxable income for the State of Hawaii. An increase of shark fishing could also foster their illegal and over collection from fishermen who travel to Hawaii from other countries. This is already being witnessed as a problem in the Galápagos Islands.

An increased number of sharks within the Hawaiian waters would mean a flourishing ecosystem, rather than one in decline. Top predators like sharks are essential for the healthy balance of all marine ecosystems.

I am not frightened when I go swimming and see a shark. I am however terrified when I swim on a reef and fail to see any.

Please vote to support SB2642.

Sincerely,

-Timothy Yakubowski

gabbard2 - Donna

From: McKenna Matthews <believer23x@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 4:20 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: support sb2642; sharks and rays

I support the anti-shark fishing bill because fishing sharks will contribute to the dwindling shark population and it is unnecessary to fish for. If they are planned to be eaten it's not healthy for humans to consume because they contain high levels of mercury. ego over ego, the earth gave you a home don't disrespect it like this because the things we are killing off are irreplaceable and after those things are gone, what will we have left?? thank you -nj

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Antonio Mariño Lemus <antoniom_06@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 4:06 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

I strongly support anti-shark fishing bill because sharks are a vital species to any marine ecosystem. They have been around for more than 400 years, which means they have survived and managed to evolve over time more than any other animal on earth. They are the ultimate predator, however their future is in our hands now! There is still time and hope for all us who love nature and want for our planet the best.

From my Android phone on T-Mobile. The first nationwide 4G network.

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Karen Lapizco <anaklapizco@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 4:06 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642

To whom this may concern,

I support the Anti Shark Fishing Bill because we need to protect the shark population before they dip too low that it effects the ecosystems of our oceans to where it is irreversible. Not only will it save money in the future, it will help gain population of creating other bills that protects other species needed.

Thank you,

Karen

Sent from my iPhone

From: Tori Coelho <toricoelho94@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 3:56 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642; SHARKS AND RAYS

Imagine being dragged out of the ocean tangled in a net... unable to escape... unable to breathe. The first thing you see are people standing over you with cleavers and sharpened spears. Imagine a jagged hook digging into your flesh, cutting you and ripping gashes in your skin as each movement only caused it to drive farther into you. Then they cut off your arms and legs and throw you back in, still alive, but with no hopes of survival. All you can do is slowly sink, deeper and deeper... slowly... as you watch the surface grow farther away. As you lie in the sand, you watch as other predators are drawn to the smell of blood, picking at you and adding to the already searing pain flooding your senses.

This is what sharks experience when we fin them. Can you really justify such torture?

Those that aren't caught alive die on hooks attached to strings stretching miles across the ocean, or in nets set out beneath the water. They get snagged, and without the ability to swim they slowly suffocate and die. If it were a human this were happening to, there would be an uproar. If people were having their arms and legs cut off, there would be cries of nausea and outrage. Why is it okay for sharks or rays? They feel pain just as we do. They feel fear just as we do. Yet it's okay to kill and mutilate them, throwing their bloodied bodies back into the salty abyss without so much as offering relief by killing them first. There is no excuse for such brutality.

Avoiding such inhumane acts of torture are why I support the Anti-Shark Fishing Bill. You should, too.

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Margaux Hustinx (STUD) <mhustinx@stud.phzh.ch>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 3:53 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: SB2642; Sharks and Rays

STOP SHARK FISHING!!!

From: humanity1777189 . <arsenal17771@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 11:59 AM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

LATE

Well first of all I'm from Mexico, but I watch and I read this proposition and I always believe that the real smart people one of their talents or virtues is the protection of the environment and the flora and fauna of a certain place, I think Hawaii is one of the most richest places on earth in that matter, beautiful flora and fauna, the sharks and rays are incredibly important for the wellness of the ocean and I don't think killing them for amusement made us very civilized. Killing animals are truly disrespectful even for our humanity we are better than that. Protect the sharks and in the future the next generation will do it normally. Teach the children's why we are better as humans protecting all the species.

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Erin Peterson <eripeterss@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 11:54 AM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to support bill **SB2642** regarding anti-shark fishing. Overfishing in general is ruining our oceans. Shark fishing will only further expedite the process. It will also contribute to ruining the delicate balance of the ecosystem. If Hawaii took the step in the direction of banning fishing that will directly impact the ocean's ecosystem (like shark fishing will), it would be a step in the right direction for other states to develop stricter laws in protecting our oceans. It will also bring revenue by creating other more eco-friendly options for consumers and those in the fishing industry.

Thank you for your consideration,

Erin Petersson

Erin Petersson
L.H.C.

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Andrew Foerster <Andrew.Foerster@Dal.Ca>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 11:57 AM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: SUPPORT HB1734 SHARKS & RAYS & SUPPORT SB2642

Hi,

To be quite honest I'm shocked that emails like this one even need to be sent to governments of western nations like Hawaii, USA. You guys are supposed to be a developed American State. As a hegemonic power in the world, you guys are supposed to set precedents and lead the international community. Sure, I could understand this questionable action among smaller pacific nations that are less developed, but Hawaii? What a joke, I didn't know the Hawaiian people enjoyed shark fin soup all of a sudden.

Although I've never been to any of your islands, I've always planned on travelling there. As a scuba diver enthused with large pelagic species. I hope I can visit sooner than later because it seems you guys are putting a rush on shark extinction. Any scuba diver can see nice corals in tropical waters, but larger species are getting harder and harder to find making Hawaii a must see location. This is why I scratch my head in confusion about why you guys wish to eliminate beautiful creatures from your islands? Is it because you side with emasculated Americans who like having apex predators hung above the fireplace? So typical, and disturbing.

I guess your board of tourism doesn't see the value in keeping these big fish alive? If this law passes, I bet (and hope) your tourism takes a dive after you kill off all the Sharks and rays in your area.

Please don't be so stupid,

Andrew Foerster
Halifax, NS, Canada.

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Aisha Mu <aisham90@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 11:56 AM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

To Whomever This May Concern,

I have recently been reviewing this bill, and I have come to the conclusion that I fully support anti-shark fishing. Sharks are a valuable part of the marine ecosystem, which just so happens to be the ecosystem that the planet derives half of it's oxygen from. With the protection of sharks and rays being implemented, we will be one step closer in putting an end to shark finning and other cruel acts that not only take a toll on our oceans but on ourselves.

I highly encourage you to consider the consequences that this bill could have if or if not passed. You either have the choice to help secure the future or help destroy it. The choice is yours.

Sincerely,
Aisha Muhammad

From: Nelson, Ashley <ANELSON24@MY.APSU.EDU>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:01 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

Dear Capitol of Hawaii,

I support the Anti-Shark Fishing Bill. Why? I am passionate about sharks and raising awareness about them to the public. The public is slowly becoming less afraid of sharks because of how well researchers have been doing on their studies. Researchers cannot continue their studies if there are no sharks left. We need to stop all shark fishing and finning. If you as the board have a duty to protect the people and the environment. By banning shark fishing you are saving the ocean's ecosystem. Without the ocean's ecosystem, people will be affected greatly not only food choices but also by the beauty of the ecosystem. Let kids grow up to aspire to be marine biologist so they can discover the wonders of the mysterious ocean. Let there be an environment where technology and science can discover more. Most importantly, help these gorgeous creatures be protected and not deplete in numbers any further.

Sincerely,

Ashley Nelson

Biology Major

Austin Peay State University

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Jen Layer <jenllayer@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:03 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642; SHARKS AND RAYS

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Raegan Diane <raeganteneyck@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:01 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

Why do I support the anti shark fishing bill? The answer is simple, they're just too amazing to let go. Sharks have been on this planet for an estimated 400 million years, they've survived five mass extinctions. Are we really going to be the ones to allow such beautiful creatures to go extinct? This bill may not seem like much, but it's honestly such an important step in changing the future of sharks. We can't stand around hoping someone else will keep them safe, we cannot let such an important species slip through our finger tips.

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Erik BATEMAN <erikjbateman@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:04 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

I support this bill. No sharks... No ocean... Please pass this.

Erik Bateman

From: baitmastah@gmail.com on behalf of Veronica Gibson <vgibson@hawaii.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:04 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

Aloha, to whom in may concern,

As a lifetime resident of Hawaii and a graduate student in marine ecology I testify in support of limiting shark and ray fishing in Hawaii. As stewards of our island ecosystems and our fisheries we need to recognize the importance of these species on our coastlines. As apex predators these species keep fisheries healthy, maintaining a healthy balance of individuals and species. They also protect other species from over-consumption by other predators. Rays also play a key role in our coastal ecosystems. With human impacts on coastal ecosystems increasing worldwide, these species are threatened by habitat destruction. Thus we should aim to protect those populations that reside here in Hawaii. Many other islands have limited or stopped shark fishing in their waters, including Palau and French Polynesia, and have benefited in increased fishery viability.

Above the ecological responsibilities we have to maintain our fisheries, is our responsibility to stop cruelty towards intelligent life. The more we learn about the cognitive abilities of these creatures, the more similarities between ourselves and them arise. We limit human cruelty to pets because we identify with them, however, it is likely that these species are even more intelligent and social than the pets we protect from this kind of harm. It is cruel to harm these animals, we should, instead, be respecting the environmental benefits we receive from their existence and using our power to protect them.

In Palau, a focus on ecotourism has boosted the local economy. People from all over the world now visit Palau specifically to visit their local shark populations for diving. As a tourism driven economy, Hawaii is set to benefit in the same way by protecting our local shark populations. The manta ray night dive in Kona is the only of it's kind worldwide, and is visited by thousands of divers every year. Sharks are worth much more to Hawaii alive than they are dead.

Ue ka lani, ola ka honua; when the heavens cry, the earth lives,

Veronica Gibson

Graduate Student, Teaching Assistant

Website: www2.hawaii.edu/~vgibson

Botany Department

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

From: Alexander Nhan <alexandernhan1995@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:05 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

I support the SB2642 act not only because of my love for sharks and rays, but also for my broader love for all aquatic animals. Without sharks and rays food chains would be dramatically disrupted, since they are keystone species that balance out our oceanic ecosystems. This is enough of an argument for fishers to stop fishing for sharks. Driving an already fragile species further into extinction will only make things worse and poses as a great example of how anthropocentric representations and actions only harm our beautiful planet and the great many wondrous animals that populate it.

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Noil Buscaglia <Nbuscaglia@HSBA.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:05 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

Aloha!

I support the anti-shark fishing bill because I know and whoever reading this knows, shark fishing is not beneficial in any way.

Mahalo for reading.

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Rachel Kinga Johns <rkjohns1316@email.arizona.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:06 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

Dear Hawaii...

Please, please, PLEASE ban all shark and ray fishing! I support the anti-shark fishing bill as it is *imperative* that we do not destroy the fragile oceanic ecosystems that surround Hawaiian islands and extend beyond into the Pacific. By allowing shark and ray fishing, you will only exacerbate already-dire problems that our oceans and world faces. Sharks and rays are apex predators that are in a way the cornerstone of many ocean food chains. Without them, Hawaiian waters will never be the same, and ecosystems will be thrown 'out of whack'. Finally, for those who do want to hunt them, **they are not yours to take!** They belong to nobody, though we owe it to future generations of both humans (and sharks and rays) to ensure their protected habitat.

Sincerely, Rachel Johns

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Carson Homuth <carsonhomuth@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:07 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642

I truly believe that we should not kill sharks in Hawaii. People have this stigma that sharks are man eaters. The truth is that sharks have evolved to survive in the water. They eat what they need to survive and are not greedy like human beings. We need to respect the water which is their territory and not try to kill them for pleasure.

Sincerely, Carson Homuth.

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Bree chapman-mayne <bree_mayne@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:09 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; sharks and rays.

To whom it may concern,

I support the anti shark fishing bill because sharks are a necessary part of life, we need sharks to live, as it stands we have already lost 90% of the oceans sharks we can not stand to lose any more or we risk human extinction! We need sharks but sharks need us even more! Ban shark fishing for good Hawaii and teach the world how to peacefully co-exist!

Sincerely yours, Bree Chapman-Mayne.

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Tara Marie Phillips <taramariefate@me.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:09 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642 Sharks and Rays

To whomever it may concern;

I support this bill for a very simple reason. No sharks, no ocean. BAN ALL SHARK FISHING. We need the ocean, this is a global problem.

Thanks for your time,

TMP.

Sent from my iPhone

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Cesar Tucker <ctuckervelarde@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:10 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: support sb2642;sharks and rays

From panama city, panama we support the importance of the sharks in the marine life!!

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Freia Greggersen <Freia.Greggersen@web.de>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:11 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: support SB2642;sharks and rays
Attachments: Freia Greggersen.vcf

Good Evening,

My name is Freia Greggersen. I am originally from Germany but living in Denmark now.

I SUPPORT THE ANTI SHARK FISHING BILL! The ocean is a eco system which follows the rules of 'supply and demand'.

The eco system regulates itself! Therefore, it is not clever at all to kill sharks because they play an important role.

Besides, in my opinion sharks have a really bad reputation which is why humans are afraid of getting killde by a shark.

Therefore, sharks are getting killed, just because we are scared and afraid of them, even though the chance of getting killed by a shark is not very high! Humans are not even their prey.

Wake up and stop it!

Best regards,
Freia Greggersen!

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Laurie <alohabug@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:11 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642; SHARKS AND RAYS

Hi Folks,

Please support this, I never thought the day would come where Hawaii would not support the sea and all that keep her clean and healthy.

Appreciate your consideration -

Laurie

--

Live Well
Laugh Often
Love Much

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Deb A <kiwippear@live.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:12 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

Hello,

I support the anti-shark fishing bill because it's wrong and these animals are integral part of the food web and health of the ocean. We are really behind on this. Stop shark fishing now; it's really unnecessary. I saw the call to action to email on Instagram in the next 4 hours and hope this email helps.

Deb A.

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Alexandra Colpack <colpack@hawaii.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:13 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

To whom it may concern,

I support the anti-shark fishing bill because we need to protect our sharks and rays in order to sustain our oceans and world.

Thank you,

Alexandra Colpack

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Carolina Scheele <carolina.scheele@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:14 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks & Rays

I am in support of the anti-sharks fishing bill !!
Please at LEAST let this bill through until shark populations have been restored !!

Sent from my iPhone

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Settler Sims <setsims@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:15 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642; SHARKS AND RAYS

Just like all hawaiians, I love the ocean and everything about it, and that includes sharks and rays. They are beautiful creatures, and their importance to the ocean can't be remotely overstated. So in the end it's just a logical conclusion that a state such as hawaii should protect them. Without sharks and rays, there simply is no ocean.

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Nada Haddad <nadahaddad3@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:16 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

Aloha beautiful Hawaii from Los Angeles, Ca:

I support the holy and prestigious anti-sharks imaging bill. Sharks and Rays have been long tormented and disregarded as crucial, critical and sound earthlings of our oceans. It is mental barbarism and has long past since those days of not realizing how all breathing lives matter a great deal to the forward movement of a prosperous and breath-taking planet Earth.

Hawaii, has long been known for its Spiritual connection to Gaia. Please lead the way. Please protect your wildlife, as it is a clear indication to the vast world where Hawaii will stand here on out.

Hawaii, is my dream destination for scuba diving. Please keep your waters thriving and keep locals and tourists alike raving your kind, caring preservation enforcements. Be the leader, show your people and people globally how Oneness looks and sounds like.

-Nadia Haddad

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Adam Siddiq <adammsiddiq@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:17 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642; SHARKS AND RAYS

Hi,

I support the anti-shark fishing bill because sharks are necessary to provide the bio sustainability for the ocean.

Eliminating sharks and rays will dramatically reduce the amount of fish and biodiversity in the ocean, which directly influences world hunger.

Best,
Adam

Sent from my iPhone

From: Emily Saculla <emily.saculla@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:14 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

My name is Emily Saculla and I am currently studying Marine Biology with an emphasis on sharks at Texas A&M at Corpus Christi. I believe it is of great importance to insure the safety of our marine life, especially sharks. They have been a part of this planet well before we ever came along. For four-hundred million years, they have dominated the oceans, virtually unchanged. They have kept the same magnificent features, qualities and skills for all this time. These glorious creatures are a very important part of our planet. As apex predators of the oceans, their roles are to keep a healthy balance and regulate all of marine life. Without predators like them, we could see devastating effects in other species of marine life. There is no denying that if we do not put forth strenuous efforts to keep these creatures alive, they will reach extinction in the nearby future. We must not let this happen. This is why I support the Anti-Shark Fishing bill. It is a step towards encouraging other governments to do the same, so that we may all work together one day in protecting the species of the seas. We were put on this earth with a duty. That is, we need to take care of all life on this planet, in order to help our own species survive. Please join us in our fight against their extinction.

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Zach McCaslin <mccaslinzach@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:19 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

Good Afternoon,

I'm here giving my support for SB2642 for a few very important reasons.

1) Sharks worldwide are highly overfished.

- Sharks in most places have no limit on the number that can be caught simply for the fact that people are afraid and see their removal as a good thing. Taking a predator out has horrible consequences on its environment.

Which brings me to:

2) Sharks are the regulator of their ecosystems

- look at Yellowstone national park. The wolves there were driven away by hunting and human interaction. The deer population exploded which caused the grass to go away, trees to not grow, birds to leave, etc.
- once the wolves were brought back deer populations took a hit which allowed grass to grow, trees to grow, birds came back, etc.
- nature has a way of balancing things where human interaction destroys. Please don't allow sharks and rays to be eliminated and let nature keep its balance.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best Regards,

Zach McCaslin
Bentonville, AR

Sent from my iPhone

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Blake Wild <bwildbase@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:19 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: support sb2642; sharks and rays

I love fishing, but removing top apex predators from our waters will have drastically negative effects on the entire ecosystem! The more sharks, the healthier our reefs, the healthier our reefs, the more fish, the more fish the more we can fish!

Shark is not a viable food source as mercury remains in the systems of animals and continues to accumulate down the food chain until you reach top apex predators that harbor significantly higher levels of mercury. Why is this even a question?

Blake Wild

Lahaina HI.

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Austin Peele <peeleca@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:20 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642; SHARKS AND RAYS

To whom it may concern;

As a traveler who enjoys the magnificent beauty of Hawaii, my travels are that of ecotourism. Please support the health of the oceans and keep people like myself coming to your pristine waters by ending shark fishing.

Vr

Christley Peele

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Hicks-Veach, Whitney Clarissa (MU-Student) <wchhh9@mail.missouri.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:22 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642; SHARKS AND RAYS

Ban shark fishing! Sharks are an important part of our oceanic ecosystem. They are a keystone species because they are an apex predator. If you are unfamiliar with what this is, let me educate you: a keystone species is a species that keeps all other trophic systems below it in check. This is a kind of checks and balances, like our government. If you remove sharks from the ecosystem, you see an influx in their natural prey (i.e. what they eat) we will call this prey species 1. Prey species 1 population will increase out of control because they will have no more natural predators, and so they will demolish their prey species in turn, and we shall call that prey species 2. With prey species 2 gone, prey species 1 will have to adapt and find a new food source, or will starve and die out. Then you have prey species 3 which was prey species 2 natural prey. That species is going to increase uncontrollably and then wipe out whatever their natural prey is, and then in turn starve and die out. It is a snoball effect. Do you get the big picture now? STOP WIPING OUT OUR KEYSTONE SPECIES. This is going to have huge negative impacts globally.

Respectfully,

Whitney C. Hicks-Veach
Fisheries and Wildlife Undergraduate
University of Missouri-Columbia
wchhh9@mail.missouri.edu
+1 (573) 915-7992

From: Nitza Love <nitzalove@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:23 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Cc: Alexa Bowen
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

Dear Hawaii Senators,

I write to you all the way from Sunny Arizona. As an animal lover and advocate of all animals land and sea alike, I am pleading with you to put an end to shark fishing. This is a cruel and and an unnecessary sport. Please consider passing a ban on this horrific sport.

With much gratitude and hope,
Nitza Linn

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Lulu Andrighetti <la2401@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:23 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

To whom it may concern,

Hi, my name is Lulu Andrighetti and I am currently in year 10 at St Columbas College, Victoria, Australia. I strongly support the anti shark fishing bill as I believe sharks and rays are some of the most beautiful, astonishing and precious creatures in this world and deserve so much more than to be fished and killed. They deserve to be honoured, discovered and loved for all that they are and not slaughtered so that a few peoples stomachs are satisfied for an hour or so. If people continue to treat these great creatures like this, one day they will all die and that may seem like it's sometime away but continuing to kill these creatures is only going to bring that devastating day closer and closer. Is a future without sharks really what you want? Because I know for me, for millions of people and for billions of the marine animals and the marine life that rely on them, it is definitely not. These Sharks don't have a voice and that is why we have to speak for them, I hope you can consider this email towards passing the bill.

Thankyou so much,
Lulu Andrighetti :)

Sent from my iPhone

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Sacha .Guggenheimer <sacha.guggenheimer@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:24 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642 Sharks and Rays

Please support the ban on shark fishing. Sharks are fundamental in maintaining healthy ocean ecosystems. They're keystone species and without them we will witness major shifts in species distribution and abundance. Sharks are heavily fished all over the world, they need more protection and sanctuaries. Please lead the world with your actions.

Thank you.

Sacha Guggenheimer
Marine Biologist, Curtin University, WA

--

Sacha Guggenheimer

BSc(Honours)
King Ningaloo Reef Tours |

Exmouth, Western Australia
Tel: (+ 61) 421 497 919

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Rebecca Burns <rburn15489@wildcats.wilmu.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:25 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays
Attachments: Persuasive speech final .docx

To whom this may concern,

I am sending this email to show my support for the anti-shark fishing bill.

I went free diving with oneoceandiving back in June 2015 when I visited Oahu and they completely changed my opinion on sharks. I was terrified going into the water, and absolutely amazed and at ease coming out. They are not only not the monsters that everyone portrays them to be, but they are IMPORTANT to the health of our ocean.

I was so inspired by oneoceandiving that I wrote my persuasive speech assignment for one of my online classes on shark preservation. I have attached it to this email if anyone is interested in reading it.

Thank you for taking this bill into consideration. PLEASE save our sharks! Don't ever forget how important they are!

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Philip Waller <philwaller5@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:32 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

I support the the anti-shark fishing bill because our sharks need to be protected. Our ocean needs sharks and it's up to you to do whats right. Pass this bill and give our ocean a chance. Stupid humans seem to be running the planet right now. Please don't be one of those people. Be smart. Realize how important this bill is and please protect our sharks from stupid humans.

Thank you
Philip Waller

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Vanessa <sftballv24@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:33 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642 Sharks and Rays

Where sharks are eliminated, the marine ecosystem loses its balance. In the parts of the ocean where sharks have been fished out of existence, we can see the dangerous result of removing the top predator from an ecosystem. The lesson is important. Sharks are being killed for their fins for shark fin soup, a food that has assumed cultural value but is not important for human survival or health. However, removing the sharks can result in the loss of important foods that we do depend upon for survival. Sharks have survived for 450 million years, but may be gone within the next decades. Life within the oceans, covering 2/3rds of our planet, has enjoyed a relationship with sharks for about 450 million years. Our growing demand for shark fin soup has increased the slaughter of sharks to such a great extent that many shark species are already nearing extinction. What will the health of oceans be like when such an important group of animals have been destroyed? Do we want the destruction of sharks and the oceans to be the legacy we leave for our children?

Sent from my iPhone

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Jack North <jackxnorth@outlook.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:34 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642; SHARKS AND RAYS

Because a healthy ocean needs sharks and rays!

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Zoe Gibson <paperclip14@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:35 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support sb2642; sharks and rays

Sharks are magnificent creatures and play a vital part in our eco system. On average, we kill more sharks than sharks killing us. I believe that killing these marvellous creatures for sport would be the biggest mistake you make. Don't kill the sharks.

Sent from my iPhone

gabbard2 - Donna

From: George Celentano <georgecelentano18@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:36 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: SUPPORT SB2642; Sharks and Rays

I support the anti-shark fishing bill.

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Kaitlin Buckham <kaitlin.buckham@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:33 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642;SHARKS AND RAYS

These animals deserve protection not the threat of extinction and are a valuable part of the ocean Eco system. As one of the only states having a reef Eco system you should be taking extra care of the animals that live there.

gabbard2 - Donna

From: sapuc58@gmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:37 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642; Sharks and Rays

To Whom it may concern,

I'm sending an email to show my support for the passing of the bill to protect the sharks and rays. It is unnecessary for people to go out and kill these creatures for their own personal sport, especially when they put the animals death to waste. It is highly cruel and unfair to let these animals continue to go through this terrible act. We should be helping them not hurting them. If this practice continues, we may start to see these local habitants go extinct. I don't think you would want that to lay on your shoulders. So please take all of this into consideration when you meet to discuss further advancement on the bill. Hopefully you see the dangers present and make the right choice.

Sincerely,

Craig Saputo

gabbard2 - Donna

From: Lucy Ash burner <itslucyash@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:37 PM
To: WLA Testimony
Subject: Support SB2642 Sharks and Rays

Hi everyone!

Sharks have been my favourite animal ever since I was 7, when I went to Discovery cove Florida, and saw them up close. In my opinion sharks play a really important role in the oceans Eco system and it would be such a really really really big shame and it would be really sad if they were to not exist anymore because they had been 'fished out'. I really hope that you can come to your senses and ban this horrific act because I would hate to see this amazing animal die out because of stupid people who fish them for fun or for their stupid soup.

Lucy Ashburner
16, UK