
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AQUATIC RESOURCES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that international trade
2 in coral, live rock, and other coral reef organisms contributes
3 to the decline and degradation of reefs. According to the Coral
4 Reef Alliance, coral reef species are removed from the reef and
5 traded in numerous domestic and international markets for use as
6 curios, limestone, traditional medicines, live marine
7 ornamentals, coral and "live rock" for aquaria, and construction
8 materials. The legislature finds that the United States is a
9 primary consumer and importer of coral reef associated species
10 for the aquarium, home décor, and jewelry industries.
11 Furthermore, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered
12 Species of Wild Fauna and Flora states that the United States is
13 the largest importer of live coral and reef rock, bringing in
14 more than eighty per cent of the live-coral trade (more than
15 four hundred thousand pieces a year) and more than half of the
16 marine aquarium fish sold worldwide. United States and other
17 international demand for corals, coral products, and reef-



1 associated species has drawn concern about the damaging effects
2 on the health of coral reef ecosystems, other marine life, and
3 the environment.

4 The purpose of this Act is to prohibit the import of coral
5 products into the State and the sale of coral products in the
6 State.

7 SECTION 2. Chapter 187A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
8 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
9 and to read as follows:

10 "§187A- Sale, import, or export of coral products;
11 prohibition. (a) It shall be unlawful to sell or offer for
12 sale any coral product in the State, import any coral product
13 into the State, or export any coral product out of the State.

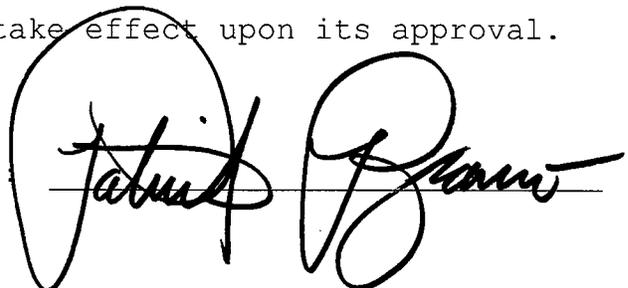
14 (b) For purposes of this section, "coral product" means
15 any product made from dead coral, including curios, jewelry,
16 limestone and construction materials, cosmetics, medicines, and
17 other novel commercial products."

18 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

19 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY



H.B. NO. 414

Report Title:

Coral Products; Sale or Import; Prohibition

Description:

Prohibits the sale of coral products in the State and the importing and exporting of coral product.

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