
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE YEAR 2022 BE DESIGNATED AS THE YEAR OF LIMU.

1 WHEREAS, limu is a crucial part of a healthy and productive
2 reef ecosystem; and

3
4 WHEREAS, limu is the primary producer and, therefore, the
5 base of the nearshore marine food chain; and

6
7 WHEREAS, limu is a key indicator of the health and
8 resilience of an ahupuaa, filtering runoff from the land, and
9 providing protection for juvenile fish; and

10
11 WHEREAS, limu was once the third important component, along
12 with fish and poi, of the traditional Native Hawaiian diet; and

13
14 WHEREAS, limu was used for food and medicinal, cultural,
15 and religious purposes, such as the conflict resolution process
16 of hooponopono; and

17
18 WHEREAS, most limu-based cultural knowledge has been lost
19 throughout many generations due to a lack of knowledge and
20 awareness of limu's significance; and

21
22 WHEREAS, there has been a steep decline of limu throughout
23 the State and a correlating decline in the amount of nearshore
24 fish due to the pressures related to the climate crisis,
25 proliferation of non-native algae, urbanization pressures, and
26 polluted and diverted stream flows; and

27
28 WHEREAS, the lack of knowledge and awareness about limu
29 hinders efforts to increase Hawaii's population of nearshore
30 fish due to the loss of cultural connection to limu and limu
31 practices; and



1 WHEREAS, despite the historic trauma caused by the loss of
2 culture, land, and identity, native Hawaiians remain resilient
3 and are determined to transmit to future generations the
4 knowledge and practices by limu practitioners and kūpuna, whose
5 passion for limu perpetuate the deep sociocultural ties of limu
6 to the people of this State; and
7

8 WHEREAS, Dr. Isabella Aiona Abbott was the first native
9 Hawaiian woman to receive a doctoral degree in science and was
10 considered the world's leading expert on limu, discovering over
11 two hundred species of seaweeds; and
12

13 WHEREAS, Uncle Henry Chang Wo, Jr., was a recognized loea
14 limu (limu expert) who worked to create a limu management area
15 in Ewa Beach and who worked tirelessly to call attention to the
16 detrimental effects of government policy and development
17 projects to limu and to the nearshore marine environment; and
18

19 WHEREAS, grassroots organizations such as Kua‘āina Ulu
20 ‘Auamo help to empower and create capacity among limu
21 practitioners, while others, such as the Waimānalo Limu Hui,
22 work tirelessly to regrow limu and, thus, reclaim their cultural
23 space; and
24

25 WHEREAS, recapturing, retaining, and sharing cultural and
26 environmental knowledge about limu will benefit nearshore
27 fisheries and all the people of Hawaii for many generations;
28 now, therefore,
29

30 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
31 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021, the
32 House of Representatives concurring, that this body requests the
33 Governor to declare the year 2022 as the Year of Limu; and
34

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
36 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor,
37 Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,
38 Chairperson of the Board of Directors of Kua‘āina Ulu ‘Auamo, and
39 Limu Hui Coordinator of Kua‘āina Ulu ‘Auamo.

