

MAR 12 2021

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT NORTHERN LARGEMOUTH BASS BE PERMITTED TO BE
IMPORTED BY THE STATE FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROMOTING BASS
SPORTFISHING.

1 WHEREAS, freshwater fishing, particularly bass fishing is a
2 popular sport in the United States; and

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4 WHEREAS, high school fishing is one of the fastest-growing
5 sports across the nation; and

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7 WHEREAS, bass fishing is recognized as a high school sport
8 in Arkansas, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan,
9 Mississippi, Missouri, New Hampshire, Texas, and Vermont; and

10
11 WHEREAS, the State has an existing population of largemouth
12 bass fish for which the Department of Land and Natural Resources
13 issues fishing licenses; and

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15 WHEREAS, nationally, bass fishing supports more than
16 828,000 jobs and generates more than \$48,000,000 annually in
17 retail sales; and

18
19 WHEREAS, local bass fishing led to the launch of the *Let's*
20 *Go Fishing* show in 1969 and has been featured on the popular
21 Animal Planet show, *Top Hooker*, in 2017; and

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23 WHEREAS, Hawaii has an established history with bass fish
24 beginning with the first observation on the island of Hawaii in
25 1856, followed by observations on Oahu, Maui, and Kauai in 1897;
26 and

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28 WHEREAS, a Kauai Economic Development Board survey compiled
29 in 2000 reported that anglers rated Hawaii as the second most
30 popular destination to visit for freshwater fishing; and

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1 WHEREAS, Oahu has a pre-established bass hatchery located
2 at Wahiawa Middle School, which is supplied by the Department of
3 Agriculture's Division of Aquatic Resources; and
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5 WHEREAS, the Division of Aquatic Resources receives federal
6 funding from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services' Sport Fish
7 Restoration Program fund; and
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9 WHEREAS, the Sport Fish Restoration Program provides grants
10 to the states for fishery projects, boating access, and aquatic
11 education to ensure the continuation of sport fish
12 opportunities, including freshwater sportfish; and
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14 WHEREAS, the State and the people of Hawaii would benefit
15 from a diverse bass fish population; now, therefore,
16

17 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
18 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021, the
19 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
20 Agriculture and its Division of Aquatic Resources are hereby
21 requested to complete the process necessary to place the
22 Northern Largemouth Bass (*Micropterus salmoides salmoides*) on a
23 list of conditionally approved animals that may be imported into
24 the State with a permit; and
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that once the species is granted a
27 place on the conditionally-approved list, the Division of
28 Aquatic Resources is requested to complete the process to obtain
29 a permit to import Northern Largemouth Bass; and
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Division of Aquatic
32 Resources ensure a fresh stock of Northern Largemouth Bass be
33 imported for use in state-supported bass hatcheries; and
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture
36 and its Division of Aquatic Resources are requested to
37 accomplish these tasks prior to the Regular Session of 2022; and
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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Division of Aquatic
40 Resources is requested to provide a report of its progress,
41 findings, and recommendations, including any proposed



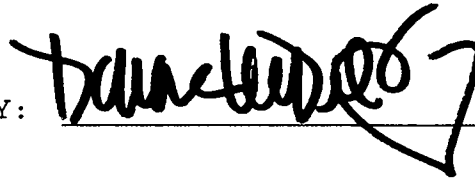
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1 legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior
2 to the Regular Session of 2022; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
5 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
6 Board of Land and Natural Resources and Chairperson of the Board
7 of Agriculture.

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OFFERED BY: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Clardy", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and includes a large, sweeping flourish at the end.