

MAR 11 2022

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO DEVELOP PROGRAMS TO RECAPTURE, RETAIN, AND SHARE THE CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL KNOWLEDGE OF LIMU KALA.

1 WHEREAS, limu is an important component of a healthy and
2 productive reef ecosystem; the base of the marine food chain; a
3 key indicator of the health and resilience of an ahupuaa; and a
4 critical part of many marine life habitats, especially limu
5 kala; and

6
7 WHEREAS, four endemic species of limu kala are found in
8 Hawaii: *S. echniocarpum*, *S. hawaiiensis*, *S. obtusifolium*, and
9 *S. polyphyllum*; and

10
11 WHEREAS, limu is used as a vitamin-, mineral-, and fiber-
12 rich food source; in traditional medicine, especially as a
13 treatment for minor cuts and scratches; and in cultural
14 ceremonies, with limu kala specifically being used in the
15 conflict resolution process of hooponopono and in the protection
16 of ocean voyagers; and

17
18 WHEREAS, limu kala is seasonally abundant and commonly
19 found in many intertidal and subtidal habitats, including
20 tidepools and reef flats in areas with moderate to high wave
21 action; and

22
23 WHEREAS, limu kala is used as a traditional bait for reef
24 fish, including the kala unicornfish; and

25
26 WHEREAS, much of limu-based cultural knowledge has been
27 lost over many generations due to a lack of knowledge and
28 awareness of the significance of limu, hindering work or efforts
29 to increase the State's population of nearshore fish; and
30



1 WHEREAS, there has been a steep decline of limu throughout
2 the State and a correlating decline in the number of nearshore
3 fish in the waters of the State; and
4

5 WHEREAS, learning, retaining, and sharing cultural and
6 environmental knowledge about limu will benefit nearshore
7 fisheries and all residents of the State for many generations;
8 now, therefore,
9

10 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
11 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022, the
12 House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislature,
13 recognizing the Governor's declaration that the year 2022 is the
14 year of limu, urges the Department of Land and Natural Resources
15 to develop programs to recapture, retain, and share the cultural
16 and environmental knowledge of limu kala for the people of
17 Hawaii; and
18

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
20 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and
21 Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.
22
23
24

OFFERED BY:

Dil Ruvier

