
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CORAL.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the commercial use
2 of coral contributes to the decline and degradation of coral
3 reefs. The import and export of coral for jewelry, curios, and
4 other products leads to overharvesting and risks damage to
5 vulnerable reef ecosystems. The legislature recognizes that,
6 while stony corals are legally protected in Hawaii, the import,
7 export and sale of coral jewelry in the State threatens coral
8 reefs and reef ecosystems in other parts of the world.

9 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to prohibit the
10 sale, import, or export of coral products, with certain
11 exceptions.

12 SECTION 2. Chapter 187A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
13 amended by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately
14 designated and to read as follows:

15 "§187A- Sale, import, or export of coral products;
16 prohibited. (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to import



1 into, export from, sell, or offer for sale in the State any
2 coral product.

3 (b) For purposes of this section, "coral product" means
4 any product made from dead coral or coral skeleton, including
5 curios, jewelry, and other novel commercial products.

6 (c) This section shall not apply to coral products
7 imported, exported, sold, or offered for sale for the purposes
8 of:

9 (1) Research or scientific identification by an accredited
10 museum or university;

11 (2) Rehabilitation or restoration of historic and
12 culturally significant Hawaiian sites;

13 (3) Cultural practices and sacraments performed by native
14 Hawaiians;

15 (4) Use as limestone or construction materials, cosmetics,
16 or medicines; or

17 (5) Education."

18 SECTION 3. No later than December 31, 2022, the department
19 of land and natural resources shall amend its administrative
20 rules in accordance with chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
21 and this Act.



H.B. NO. 1988

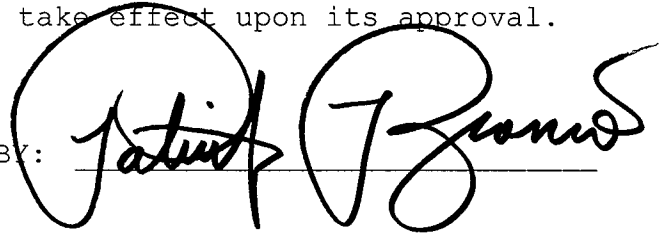
1 SECTION 4. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
2 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
3 begun before its effective date.

4 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

5 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

6

INTRODUCED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick J. Ziemke", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

JAN 24 2022



H.B. NO. 1988

Report Title:

Coral Products; Coral Skeletons; Sale; Import; Export;
Prohibition; DLNR

Description:

Prohibits the sale, import, or export of coral products, with certain exceptions. Requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources to amend its administrative rules accordingly no later than 12/31/2022.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

