
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PROTECTING HAWAII'S FISHERIES.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the population of
2 native 'ama'ama, also known as the striped mullet, has been in
3 decline. Many factors contribute to the decline in 'ama'ama,
4 including the presence of the invasive Kanda mullet and the
5 prized nature of 'ama'ama in Hawaii. The legislature further
6 finds that the lifecycle of the 'ama'ama is complex, as 'ama'ama
7 must reach three or four years of age before spawning, which
8 occurs only during the winter months.

9 Although the department of land and natural resources
10 regulates the fishing season for 'ama'ama, there is no statewide
11 bag limit to prevent overfishing of 'ama'ama.

12 The legislature additionally finds that one of the most
13 effective ways to help increase the population of 'ama'ama is to
14 establish a statewide bag limit. A bag limit for 'ama'ama has
15 already been successfully implemented in Hilo Bay.



1 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to require the board
2 of land and natural resources to adopt rules no later than June
3 30, 2027, establishing a statewide daily bag limit of ten
4 ‘ama‘ama per person during the open season.

5 SECTION 2. No later than June 30, 2027, the board of land
6 and natural resources shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91,
7 Hawaii Revised Statutes, to establish a statewide daily bag
8 limit of ten ‘ama‘ama (striped mullet) per person during the open
9 season.

10 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

11

INTRODUCED BY:


JAN 22 2026



H.B. NO. 1817

Report Title:

BLNR; Fishing; Striped Mullet; 'Ama'ama; Bag Limit

Description:

Requires the Board of Land and Natural Resources to adopt rules no later than June 30, 2027, establishing a statewide daily bag limit of ten 'ama'ama per person during the open season.

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

