

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

**3784**

Honolulu, Hawaii

**APR 10 2026**

RE: H.B. No. 2101  
H.D. 1  
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2026  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Commerce and Consumer Protection and  
Judiciary, to which was referred H.B. No. 2101, H.D. 1, S.D. 1,  
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL AQUARIUM  
COLLECTION,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit the:
  - (A) Harvesting of aquatic life for commercial aquarium purposes, regardless of the method of collection, in counties with a population greater than five hundred thousand; and
  - (B) Consideration of rules for the issuance of permits for the harvesting of aquatic life for commercial aquarium purposes; and
- (2) Repeal these prohibitions upon promulgation of certain rules by the Department of Land and Natural Resources for counties with a population greater than five hundred thousand.



Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; two members of the Hawai'i County Council; Kupuna for the Mo'opuna; Kihei Community Association; Kohala Divers; Big Island Reef Keepers Hui; Sustainable Kohala 'Ohana; Aloha Animal Advocates; Ohana Unity Party; Earthjustice; HULI PAC; Pōhaku Pelemaka; Marine Genetics LLC; Clean the Pacific; Marine Advocates Collaborating for Sustainable Aquatic Life through Action and Discipline; Puako Community Association; FreediveSafe! Hawaii; Napili Bay and Beach Foundation; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Kauhako Ohana Association; Animal Rights Hawai'i; Ali'i Pauahi Hawaiian Civic Club; Keli'ipio-Kuamo'o Foundation, Inc.; Big Island Aviation, LLC; South Kohala Reef Alliance; Build Team 50 LLC; Makahanaloa Fishing Association; The Nature Conservancy Hawai'i and Palmyra; Kia'i Kanaloa; Hawaii Marine Education and Research Center; Miloli'i Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area; Hawai'i Ocean Legislative Task Force; Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana; Green Party of Hawai'i; WAI: Wastewater Alternatives and Innovations; Advanced Operation Solutions LLC; Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce; Maui Humane Society; Biota Group; For the Fishes; Moana Ohana; Kalanihale; Center for Biological Diversity; Kai Palaoa; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawaiian Humane Society; Friends of Hanauma Bay; Conservation Council for Hawai'i; Fair Wind Cruises and Kona Sunrise Charters; Surfrider Foundation, Hawai'i Region; Keiko Conservation; Legacy Reef Foundation; Haereticus Environmental Laboratory; Ocean Defenders Alliance Hawaii; Oceanic Preservation Society; Kai Kuleana on behalf of 'Ike Lawai'a, Hui Aloha Kīholo, Ruddle 'Ohana, KUPA Friends of Ho'okena Beach Park, Ho'ola, Ka 'Ohana Kipapa, Hui 'Ohana o Hōnaunau, Hui Kahuwai, Lee 'Ohana of Kohanaiki, Kauhakō Ohana Association, Nā 'Ōiwi o Pu'uanahulu, Puakō For Reefs, and Ho'āla Kealakekua Nui, Inc.; and numerous individuals.

Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Native Hawaiian Gathering Rights Association, and numerous individuals.

Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Organization for Progress and Equity, Ka Ohana O Na Pua, and seven individuals.



Your Committees find that the capture and sale of the State's native reef wildlife for ornamental display and commercial profit directly undermines reef ecosystem functions and is inconsistent with foundational Hawaiian values of mālama 'āina, aloha 'āina, and kuleana. Your Committees further find that decades of extraction have reduced reef fish populations and degraded the reef ecosystem health that local communities rely on. Your Committees further find that healthy reef systems protect the State's shorelines from erosion and storm surge, support subsistence fishing and traditional practices, and sustain a tourism industry that depends on vibrant, living reefs. This measure would help contribute to the protection of reef health, water quality, long-term coastal resilience, and cultural practices for future generations.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Commerce and Consumer Protection and Judiciary that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2101, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and recommend that it pass Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committees on Commerce and  
Consumer Protection and  
Judiciary,



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KARL RHOADS, Chair



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J. BRETT NEOHOKALOLE, Chair







