HB 1846
RELATING TO FISHING IN CERTAIN WATERS

Statement for
House Committee on
Ocean and Marine Resources

By
Doak C. Cox, Environmental Center
James Parrish, Hawaii Cooperative Fishery Research Unit
Edward D. Stroup, Oceanography

HB 1846 would amend the section of Hawaii Revised Statutes that restricts fishing in certain coastal waters (HRS 188-35). This statement on the bill does not reflect an institutional position of the University of Hawaii.

HRS 188-35 prohibits fishing in the waters specified in the section except:

a) by single lines with no more than five hooks per line;
b) by no more than ten nets for fishing of crabs;
c) by small nets, under license, for the taking of shrimp for bait or in the Ala Wai Canal for non-commercial taking of fish;
d) by nets for the purpose of fish-pond stocking; and

e) by nets, under license, for the taking of bait fish.

HB 1846 would add Waimea Bay, Oahu, and all commercial small-boat harbors to the areas in which the provisions of HRS 188-35 applies. The addition would, of course, add to the protection of fishery resources.

With respect to the proposed extension of the provisions of HRS 188-35 to Waimea Bay we note that, in addition to being a conservation measure, the proposal would contribute to the safety of the swimmers and surfers. However, a greater safety contribution would result from the passage of HB 1749-86 which would allow, among the exceptions to the prohibition in HRS 188-35, only the use of single lines with no more than two hooks per line, and would, in addition, prohibit the use of motorized vessels and devices in the Bay.
The attached statement on HB 1846 is equally applicable to the companion bill, SB 2025.